



SOUTH BURNETT
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan 2018-2028



ross
planning



recreation
open space
and sport
specialists

This report has been prepared
by:

ROSS Planning Pty Ltd
ABN 32 508 029 959
Upper floor, 63 Bay Terrace
Wynnum QLD 4178

PO Box 5660
Manly QLD 4179

Telephone: (07) 3901 0730
Fax: (07) 3893 0593

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Mayor's Foreword

There has been an enormous effort contributed by Council officers, Councillors and the community in developing the 10 year plan to guide the support and development of sport and recreation opportunities across the South Burnett region.

The Sport and Recreation plan provides a strategic approach to sustainably deliver diverse opportunities for residents and visitors while reflecting changing community needs and demographics. The plan has been developed to assist Council in preparing future budgets, quickly evaluate community requests, and ensure shovel ready projects when funding becomes available. Ultimately it provides data and direction to ensure Council is making informed decisions with a strategic focus. Other Council planning processes have been taken into consideration during the development of the plan to ensure actions and recommendations align with Council's over-arching Corporate Plan and strategic direction.

Sport and recreational facilities create the opportunity to contribute to well-being and healthy living for our residents. We want this plan to meet current and emerging needs as well as repurpose spaces that could be considered for other recreational purposes.

The ultimate goal of the plan is to create a strategic network of sport and recreation parks across the South Burnett to meet the needs of the community as it develops and changes over the next 10 years, and that can be sustainably managed to a standard encouraging active use by residents and visitors.

Mayor Keith Campbell

Table of contents

Section 1 - Background	1
Purpose and scope	2
Approach, plan inputs and outputs	3
Defining key terms (glossary)	4
Benefits of physical activity	5
South Burnett community	6
Understanding Council's role	8
Community involvement in decision making	9
Asset and project management	10
Section 2 - South Burnett Regional Council	11
Council's achievements	12
Current supply of places	13
Positioning - community service obligations	17
Strategic direction	18
Engagement summary	20
Key issues	21
Open Space Classification	23
Section 3 - State Government priorities	27
Section 4 - Emerging trends	29
Open space/play trends	30
Informal recreation/physical activity trends	31
Sporting trends	32
Outdoor recreation trends	34
Community halls and activity spaces	35
Section 5 - Analysis of recreation and sport	37
Council-wide analysis	38
Recreation and physical activity analysis	42
Outdoor recreation analysis	44
Sport analysis	50
Community halls and activity spaces analysis	54
Section 6 - Community - town and village priorities	57
Kingaroy	58
Nanango	68
Murgon	76
Wondai	82
Blackbutt	88
Villages	91
Section 7 - Local Government collaboration	103
Section 8 - Implementation Plan	105
Section 9 - Appendices	123
Appendix one - Open space typologies and levels of service	124
Appendix two - Outcomes of community consultation	132





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Section one - Background

Purpose

Scope

Approach

Defining key terms (glossary)

Plan inputs and outputs

Benefits of physical activity

Understanding Council's role

Community involvement in
decision making

Asset and project management



Purpose

South Burnett Regional Council sought to develop a Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan (the Plan) to provide a current status of sport and recreation facilities and usage, and develop a strategic plan to sustainably deliver diverse opportunities for residents and visitors. Additionally, the Plan will address recent trends and reflect changing community needs and demographics.

The Plan's development coincided with similar planning processes for neighbouring Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council providing opportunities for strategic collaboration across the three Councils. In addition, the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (WBBROC) developed a regional plan to identify regionally significant opportunities to support sport and recreation.

A successful open space network and quality sport and recreation facilities are the result of considerable planning and an understanding of local influences (recreation preferences and demographics). This Plan is based on the foundations that consider and embrace these matters. It has been developed giving thought to what we know about the LGA's open space, an understanding of local preferences to different open space types and functions and Council's (and the community's) capacity to deliver the infrastructure.

The Plan will assist Council in preparing future budgets, in quickly evaluating community requests, and in ensuring shovel-ready projects for when funding becomes available. Additionally, it will provide data and direction to ensure that Council is making informed decisions with a strategic focus, rather than ad-hoc reactions to immediate issues.

The Plan will provide realistic actions and solutions that reflect Council and community resources, and contribute to increased sport and recreation participation (and community health and well-being).

Scope

The Plan focuses on Council owned and/or managed public open space (community land, Crown land under Council control and road reserve). However, natural areas (including State Forests and National and Conservation Parks), have been considered for their role in providing for nature-based recreation and tourism while privately-owned sport facilities have also been included given the pressure they take off Council for provision. The information and analysis contained in the plan will contribute to development of Council's Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) for public parks and land for community purposes, acknowledging further work is required to deliver the infrastructure plan.

This Plan does not necessarily provide detailed analysis of each individual Council reserve nor detailed operational actions. However, it provides strategic guidance on key identified issues from the open space network and includes actions to encourage opportunities for increased participation in sport and recreation by a broad cross-section of the community.

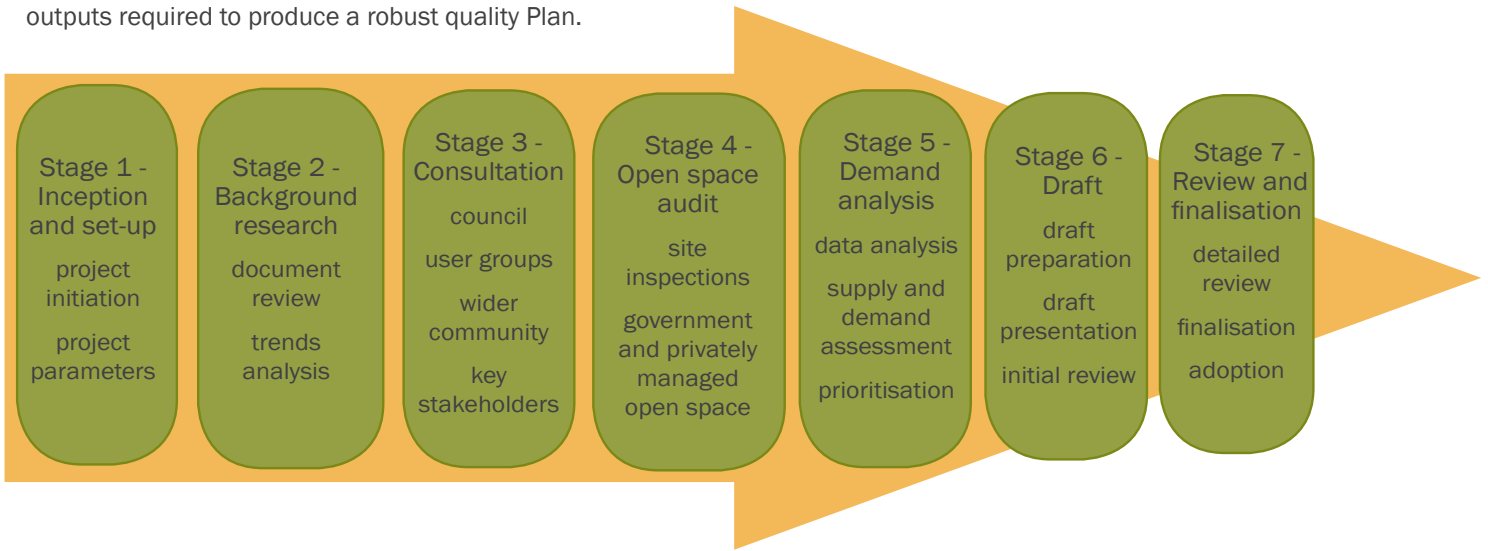
Information contained within this Plan is based on an audit and assessment of the Council's open space network and recreation facilities, and is a snapshot in time only. This information is accurate as at February 2018. Any open space and/or recreation facility developments or data updates since this time may not have been taken into account.

Wide-ranging engagement was undertaken to ensure community and Council perception and preference assisted to identify demand. A summary of the engagement strategy and key outcomes is included in a separate section.

It is also essential that Council is open and honest with the community regarding what it can afford to build and maintain and what the community will be required to contribute in order to provide sport and recreation opportunities. Innovative and pragmatic funding models and clear funding responsibilities need to be applied to deliver the Plan.

Approach

The methodology used in the development of this Plan has been broken down into seven stages. The figure below shows the sequential development of the project. The information gathered and generated throughout this process provides the various outputs required to produce a robust quality Plan.



Plan inputs and outputs





Defining key terms (glossary)

For ease of reference, key terms and their definition have been provided below as these terms may be new, uncommon or specialised to the reader, as they relate to sport and recreation strategic planning.

Active recreation	recreation activities that require physical exertion but are unstructured, that is not part of a competition
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)	independent statistical agency of the Government of Australia
Census	an official count or survey of a population
CPTED	crime prevention through environmental design outlines how physical environments can be designed to lessen the opportunity for crime
Embellishment	services, facilities and infrastructure that allow a recreation or sport park to be used for its intended purpose e.g. turf irrigation, goal posts, shelters, picnic table and chairs, playgrounds, change rooms
Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP)	part of Council's planning scheme that identifies plans for trunk infrastructure necessary to service urban development at a desired standard of service in a coordinated, efficient and financially sustainable manner
Master Plan	a planning outcome providing a vision for a site, identifying what it should look like and how it should function into the future. It establishes a strong and consistent direction, providing a framework for ongoing improvement
Open space	council-managed land and water bodies that are broadly available for public recreation, pedestrian and cycle movement, sport or for nature conservation purposes. Open space is the over-arching term for sports parks and recreation parks.
Outdoor recreation	range of unstructured activities undertaken in more natural settings that are not reliant on built infrastructure
Passive recreation	range of unstructured activities and social interactions undertaken for enjoyment, relaxation, and mental health, with limited physical exertion
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS)	business unit of the Queensland State Government Department of Environment and Science
Rail Trail	rail trails are shared use paths for walking, cycling and horse riding, created on railway corridors that are no longer used for rail transport.
Rationalise	re-purposing as an alternate use, 'planting out' with trees to reduce maintenance, sale of the land or returning the land to the State
Recreation park	settings for informal recreation and social activities that enhance physical and mental health through activity that provides relaxation, amusement or stimulation.
Reserves	crown land (typically owned by the State Government) managed as open space. May include sports parks, recreation parks and showgrounds.
Sport	a range of structured activities capable of achieving a result requiring physical exertion and/or skill, that is competitive or training for competition
Sport park	designed to primarily support a range of formal structured sport activities such as competitions, physical skill development and training. These parks are designed to accommodate the playing surface and infrastructure requirements of specific sports
Universal Design	the design and composition of an environment so that it can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of their age, size, ability or disability
Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (WBBROC)	Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils Inc (WBBROC) was formed in 1999 to represent the interests of councils in the region including: Bundaberg, Cherbourg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, North Burnett and South Burnett

Benefits of physical activity¹

Regular physical activity is one of the most important influences on personal health. Physical activity levels directly affect physical and mental health as well as contributing to social, economic and environmental benefits. The natural areas and open space network in South Burnett influences physical activity levels of residents and visitors by encouraging recreation in parks and public places.



1.0 Physical health

- 1.1 reduced risk of chronic disease
- 1.2 reduced risk of developing and dying from a variety of cancers
- 1.3 prevention of weight gain when coupled with healthy nutrition and improved weight management
- 1.4 reduced risk of osteoporosis and osteoarthritis
- 1.5 increased energy
- 1.6 improved sleep quality
- 1.7 improved mobility flexibility and functional ability
- 1.8 reduced risk of falling and fracturing bones



2.0 Mental health

- 2.1 prevention and treatment of anxiety and depression
- 2.2 stress reduction
- 2.3 improved mood and sense of well-being
- 2.4 improved concentration, enhanced memory and learning and better performance
- 2.5 increased vitality, psychological well-being and improved body image
- 2.6 improved cognitive functioning including motor function, cognitive speed, auditory and visual attention



3.0 Social benefits

- 3.1 improved family and community connectedness
- 3.2 development of communication, interpersonal, leadership and cooperation skills
- 3.3 creation of friendships
- 3.4 lessons on how to deal with winning and losing
- 3.5 better concentration at school and improved academic performance
- 3.6 reduction in unhealthy behaviours (such as tobacco smoking, drug use)
- 3.7 prolonged, independent living



4.0 Economic benefits

- 4.1 creation of employment in the sport, recreation, fitness and tourism industries
- 4.2 attraction of tourism through destination marketing and recreation activities
- 4.3 reduction in household expenditure when choosing active transport options (walking and cycling)
- 4.4 support for local businesses when pedestrian and cyclist activity is improved through creation of spaces and places encouraging physical activity



5.0 Environmental benefits

- 5.1 reduced stormwater runoff through on site capture in open spaces
- 5.2 lower daytime temperatures in large shaded parks compared with surrounding streets
- 5.3 reduced air pollution and greenhouse gases through fewer cars on the road
- 5.4 reduced impacts of road infrastructure when short trips are walked or cycled instead of driven
- 5.5 improved local neighbourhood amenity when traffic is reduced

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2018. Australian Government Department of Health, 2017. AUSPORT, 2001. WA Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, 2018

The South Burnett community

Steady population growth

The estimated resident population of South Burnett was 32,186 in 2016. Population projections developed by the State Government in 2012 project that South Burnett will be home to 36,439 residents by 2026 (low series). This represents an additional 3,692 residents over a ten year period, or low steady growth.

Year	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031
Population (recorded/projected)	31,803	32,186	35,283	36,439	37,599

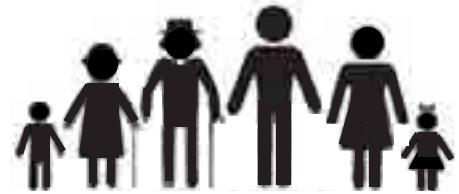
Age and life cycle stage

The median age of the South Burnett population is 45, which is significantly older than the Queensland median of 37. The population pyramid from the 2016 census shows that South Burnett has an aging population, with a high proportion of people already at retirement age. There is also a reasonably high proportion of children. The middle cohort is smaller, likely due to young adults migrating to metropolitan areas for tertiary education and employment. The age profile of the community helps in understanding the types of recreation opportunities that will be most in demand in the future.

Figure 1: Population pyramid of South Burnett 2016



32,186



estimated resident population of South Burnett in 2016

Children (0-14)



children aged 0-14 make up 19%

Seniors (65+)



seniors aged 65+ make up 23%

45

median age

\$925

median weekly household income

5.5%

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people

8,511

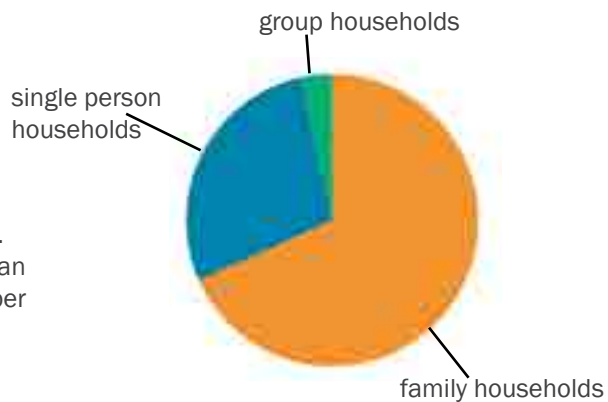
families in South Burnett
1.9 children per family with children



Family status and household structure

Of the families in South Burnett, 33.8% were couple families with children, 47.9% were couple families without children and 16.9% were one parent families. Of single parents, 19.8% were male and 80.2% were female.

Of household structures, family households were the most common at 68%, followed by single person households (28.2%) and group households (3.5%). The number of single person households in South Burnett is much higher than the state average of 23%. One contributing factor could be the greater number of people at retirement age.



Ethnicity indicators

9.1% of the population were born overseas, and 3.4% came from countries where English was not their first language.

The most common birthplaces outside of Australia were the United Kingdom, New Zealand, the Philippines and Germany. The largest group of non-English speaking country of birth is the Philippines.

Physical mobility barriers

9.1% of the population reported a need for assistance to undertake core activities. These activities include self-care, mobility and communication, because of a disability. This is an indicator of health/mobility barriers to accessing sport and recreation.



Understanding Council's role

South Burnett Regional Council is committed to supporting the community to be healthy and active. This Plan reconfirms Council's endeavours to work in partnership with community organisations, private providers and Government agencies to achieve shared goals.

It is important for Council to be clear about its role and the role of other organisations in the provision of recreation and sport to the community. Council's role is explored in more detail below.

Strategic direction

Council's role is to take a long-term view to planning sustainably for the provision of recreation opportunities through:

- » planning scheme and LGIP provisions
- » strategic planning and partnership development
- » policy development
- » master planning for open space, active transport, infrastructure and facilities
- » sustainable asset management practices.

Research and trend identification

Strategic direction requires evidence-based planning and policy development. Council has a responsibility to ensure its decision making is based on research including:

- » social planning and demographics
- » community specific research.

Partnerships and advocacy

Collaboration, co-operation and forming strategic partnerships with Government, business and community sectors to support the provision of recreation and sport to the community including:

- » identifying key stakeholders in the provision of recreation and sport and building and maintaining strong working relationships that are action and results driven
- » encouraging and supporting community organisations to increase awareness of their products and services to the community
- » supporting funding applications by organisations that are consistent with Council's strategic direction
- » developing strong relationships with State and Federal Government departments including:
 - Department of Public Works and Housing (formerly National Parks, Sport and Racing)
 - Queensland Health
 - Department of Transport and Main Roads
 - Department of Education and Training.

Financial support

Council provides strategically targeted funding opportunities to community organisations and individuals to support the provision of recreation and sport including:

- » rate concessions and subsidies
- » community and event sponsorship
- » elite performance grants for state and national representation
- » physical and healthy programs and activities sponsorship
- » provision of equipment and resources via in-kind sponsorship
- » unique projects or programs aimed at building capacity to deliver services activities and programs
- » public liability insurance grants and subsidised hire of Council facilities including hall hire.

Provider and facilitator

Council delivers services to meet community, recreation and sport club's needs by:

- » undertaking community consultation to inform strategic direction and policy position
- » providing quality sporting grounds that are under lease, licence or user agreements with Council
- » providing a range of recreation parks catering for all age groups across the LGA
- » providing regional recreation parks and corridors providing outdoor recreation facilities, opportunities and events.



Community involvement in decision making

While this Plan provides Council with strategic direction for the provision of recreation and sport over the next 10 years, further information sharing, consultation and involvement of the community in decision making will be necessary. Council will need to determine the level of public participation in decision making and communicate this clearly to provide appropriate opportunities for input and feedback as well as being able to confidently make and act on decisions for the benefit of the whole community.

An example framework is provided below that may assist Council determine different levels of public participation depending on the goals, time frames, resources and levels of concern in the decision to be made. Importantly, the spectrum below clearly defines the ‘promise’ being made to the public to clarify expectations and promote transparent decision-making. The *Public Participation Spectrum* was developed to help define the public’s role in any public participation process, by the International Association for Public Participation Federation¹.

¹ International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) International Federation 2014

Increasing impact on the decision

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions	To work directly with the public to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	To place final decision making in the hands of the public
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will work with you to ensure your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible	We will implement what you decide

Asset management

Development of asset management plans for *parks and open space* and *buildings and other structures* (or similar) has commenced and will provide Council with an opportunity to have an honest and robust discussion with the community regarding the Level of Service (LOS) the community expects from the open space network, and the Cost of Service (COS) to deliver on those expectations.

This Plan identifies 'need' at a strategic level and provides recommendations regarding desired standards of service (DSS) as a basis for development of Council's *Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) for public parks and land for community facilities*. The DSS can also be used to establish the LOS for asset management purposes (type of park and embellishments).

The asset management cycle is continuous and at its core aims to achieve the highest value for money from assets providing services to the community. This Plan should be referred to when developing relevant asset management plans.



Project management

Council demonstrates that it has established systems and strong skills in project management. Community members and organisations can benefit from these skills.

This Plan identifies the need to ensure sound project management practices are followed for projects in recreation and sport parks to build the capacity of the community to manage projects to a high standard.

Project management consists of distinct phases and Council can use these to partner with the community and communicate required steps to achieve the best outcomes. Project management phases include:

- » Initiation - identify stakeholders and involve them
- » Planning - involve users in concept and detailed design
- » Executing - construction and commissioning
- » Monitoring and controlling - tracking progress and making minor adjustments during works
- » Closing and evaluating - documenting and learning for continuous improvement



The project management triangle refers to the three main drivers of projects. There is usually one or two main project drivers, and early identification of key drivers can assist avoid potential project management issues.



Section two - South Burnett Regional Council

Council's achievements

Overview of recreation sites

Positioning - community service
obligations

Strategic direction

Engagement summary

Key issues

Open space classification





Council achievements

Sport, recreation and open space plays a vital role in enhancing quality of life. Appropriately planned, developed and managed open space provides numerous opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and the community, as well as bringing people together to develop social networks and friendships.

In 2010 Council developed the *South Burnett Healthy Communities Plan (2010)* with the 'primary purpose of improving the health and community outcomes in the South Burnett Regional Council area'¹. The plan included strategic goals and objectives covering strategic planning, infrastructure and facilities, programs and services, promotion and awareness and healthy eating. Major achievements of Council from the *Healthy Communities Plan* relevant to the current planning process include:

- » design and construction of the Killkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail
- » development of a master plan for Memorial Park, Kingaroy and commencement of implementation
- » development of a master plan for Pioneer Park, Nanango and commencement of implementation
- » further development of recreation and camping facilities at BP Dam and Lake Boondooma
- » installation of exercise stations on key walk/cycle paths
- » implementation of some of the key walk/cycle connections identified in the Kingaroy Shire Sport and Recreation Plan 2007
- » service, tenure and management review of public swimming pools
- » development of a main town park in Murgon
- » construction of a skate park in Murgon
- » improvements to the skate park in Wondai.

Council has developed a community plan to inform a range of strategic and operational planning documents. All of the recommendations of this Plan link with the themes, and will assist achieve the goals of, the *South Burnett Community Plan 2032*:

- » enhancing our community life
- » enhancing our environment
- » building our economy
- » decision making and implementation.

The overarching vision of the community plan underpins the strategic direction provided by the Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan:

*'In 20 years time, the South Burnett will be a friendly region of connected communities that celebrates its heritage and enjoys a country lifestyle with sustainable development and growth.'*²

1 *South Burnett Healthy Communities Plan 2010*
2 *South Burnett Community Plan 2032*



Current supply of places

Council has an in-depth knowledge of its individual communities and can influence recreation and sport participation outcomes through its role as a strategic and land-use planning authority, a provider and manager of facilities and services, and a community leader.

Open space network

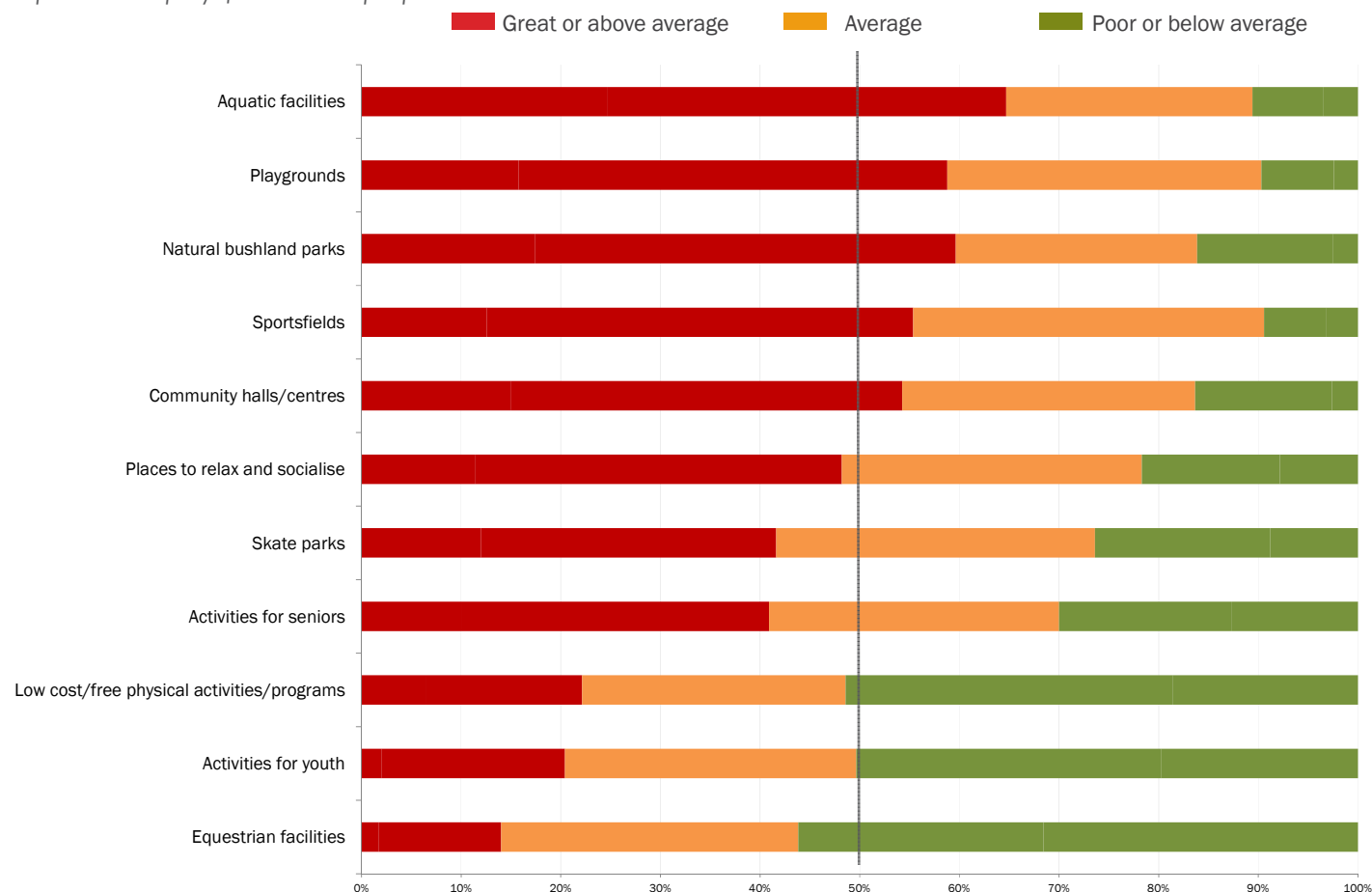
Community engagement to inform this Plan included a community survey. Survey responses revealed that Council has created an environment where:

- » 66% of respondents visit the open space network once a week or more
- » 90% of respondents view open space as *important* or *very important*
- » 84% of respondents perceive recreation, sport and open space as a *high* or *very high* priority for Council¹.

During the development of this Plan, residents were asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and open space opportunities/facilities in the LGA. While the results above note that the open space network is well-used and is considered an important priority, respondents indicated mixed satisfaction in quality. Combined satisfaction ratings of *great* and *above average* of at least 55% (see graph below) were noted for aquatic facilities, playgrounds, natural bushland parks, sports fields and community halls/centres. However, respondents were generally displeased with the Council's equestrian facilities, activities for youth, lack of low cost/free physical activities/programs, activities for seniors and skate parks. Places to relax and socialise were also rated as below average by the majority of respondents. It is important to critically analyse these results as they represent expressed opinions and may not accurately reflect the provision of facilities and activities.

¹ SBRC Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan community survey, 2017

Graph 1 Overall quality of recreation and sport parks





Outdoor recreation

In addition to the network of recreation and sport parks available to residents, there are rail trails, lakes, dams, waterways, as well as national, state and conservation parks and forests providing a range of outdoor recreation opportunities. Council has an opportunity to leverage these natural assets in addition to the open space network it manages directly, to extend the recreation, nature-based and ecotourism opportunities available to residents and visitors.

Rail trail

Sections of both the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail (KKRT) and the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT) run through the South Burnett LGA, with the KKRT being deliberately designed to complement, and not conflict with, the BVRT.

The Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail (KKRT) is a unique and valuable recreation corridor extending for 88km winding through picturesque rural and agricultural landscapes, and connecting several villages, towns, recreation parks, public spaces, natural areas and water features. The Murgon to Kingaroy section, referred to as the 'South Burnett Rail Trail', is managed by South Burnett Regional Council and the Kilkivan to Murgon section is managed by Gympie Regional Council. Access points (trail heads) at each town are located at the former train stations with varying facilities and services such as car parking, toilets, water, shops, pubs, cafes, visitor information centres and accommodation (dependant on the location). Interpretive signs tell historical stories of the railway at key locations.

The 'South Burnett Rail Trail' (Murgon to Kingaroy section) has a sealed surface making it highly accessible and use by residents and visitors for walking and cycling has been steadily increasing after construction was completed in August 2017 and its official opening in September 2017. As a recreation and transport route, the KKRT contributes to the livability and connectivity of South Burnett towns and villages, supporting walking and cycling as safe and realistic transport options for people of all ages, and particularly those living in villages not far from larger towns. For example, youth living in Memerambi can travel independently to Kingaroy, 11km along the rail trail, to use the skate park, access the cinema, meet friends at McDonalds, attend sport training or competition or attend high school or TAFE for further training and education. Horses and dogs are not permitted on the Murgon to Kingaroy section of the rail trail.

The BVRT follows the disused Brisbane Valley rail line and commences at Walkuraka Station near Ipswich, to Yarraman. The section between Toogoolawah and Moore has recently been constructed, completing 148km of recreation trails. The BVRT passes through Benarkin and Blackbutt in the South Burnett LGA with these communities benefitting from tourists and promotion.

The KKRT is part of the Theebine to Kingaroy rail corridor which is 131km long and has the potential to connect to the Brassall Bikeway, BVRT and Bicentennial National Trail. If developed, the rail corridor would provide a continuous recreation trail extending 350km from Ipswich to the Sunshine Coast passing through villages and towns in Somerset, Toowoomba, South Burnett and Gympie local government areas².

2 *Rail Trails Australia, 2017*



Blackbutt BVRT trail head



Lakes, dams and waterways

Within the South Burnett there are lakes, dams and waterways providing extensive outdoor recreation opportunities including nature appreciation, camping, swimming, canoe/kayaking, fishing and motorised boating activities, for example. Access to these water features typically requires walking along trails providing complimentary recreation experiences.

Council is one of six LGA members of the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (WBBROC), which has produced the *Water Trails of the Wide Bay Burnett* brochure. For the South Burnett, this document highlights inland freshwater rivers and creeks, lakes created by dams and wetlands including:

- » Broadwater Reserve
- » Coomba Falls
- » Ficks Crossing
- » Goodger Wetland
- » Gordonbrook Dam
- » Lake Barambah and Bjelke-Petersen Dam
- » Lake Boondooma
- » Wooroolin Wetland.

The Plan examines the available water-based recreation opportunities and provides strategic recommendations to enhance access, recreation experiences and promotion both locally and as tourism destinations.

National, state and conservation parks

State Forests as well as National and Conservation Parks exist within easy access to many villages and towns within the South Burnett and include opportunities for outdoor recreation. The increasing trend in unstructured activities compared with traditional activities such as sport, is leading more people to explore natural areas and 'get back to nature'. South Burnett's location within easy driving and flying distance from South East Queensland provides an opportunity to 'package' the diversity of recreation opportunities on offer for promotion locally and to visitors for either weekend getaways or longer stays. The formation of partnerships and commitment to a collaborative approach with relevant land managers will be required to maximise outdoor recreation opportunities and benefits while protecting natural area ecological and biodiversity values.

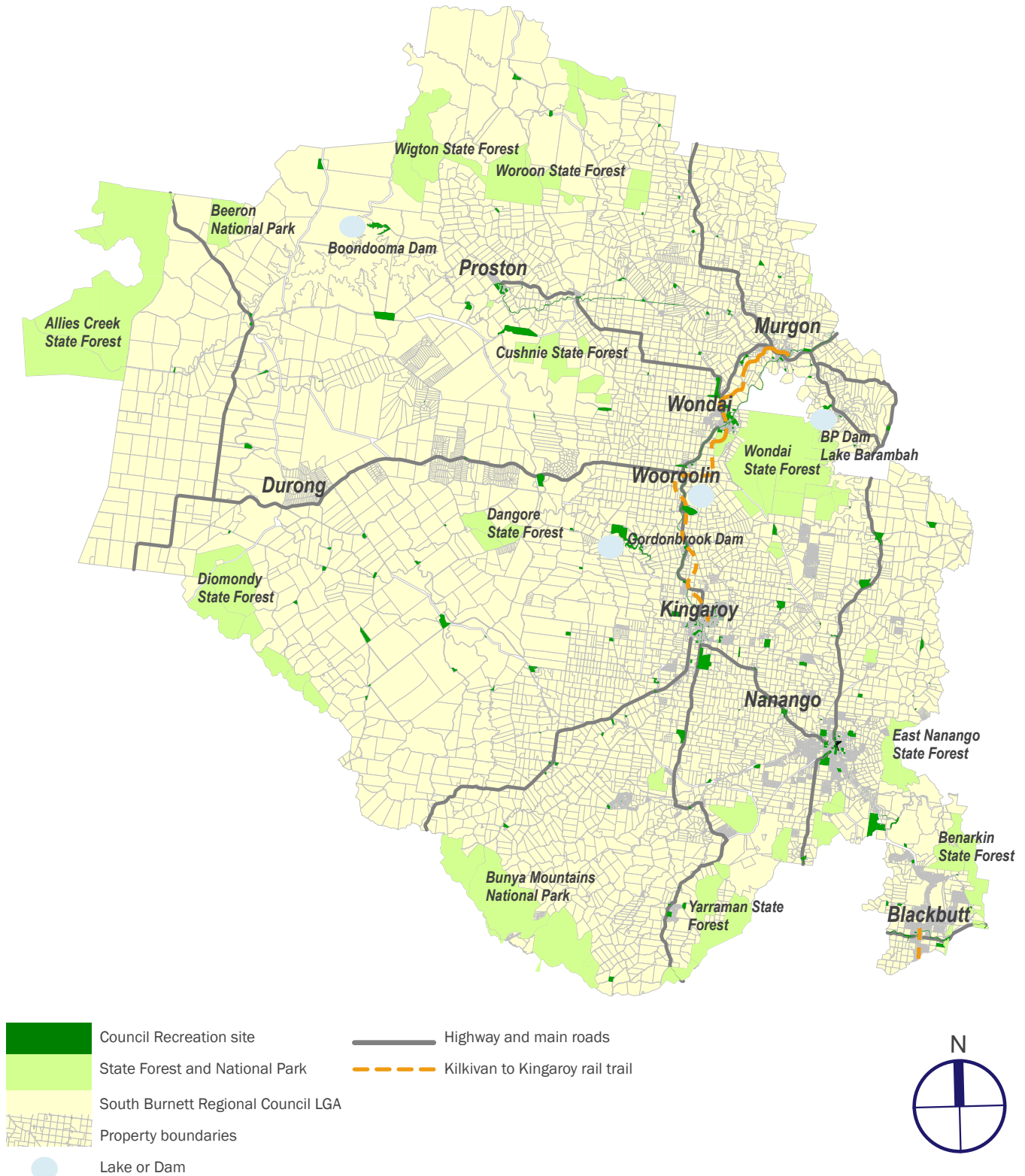


Coomba Falls



Overview of recreation sites in the South Burnett

Map 1 Overview of recreation sites and key localities in South Burnett LGA





Positioning - Community service obligations

Interviews with Council officers, discussions with individuals and user group representatives, and community survey outcomes appear to paint a picture of where recreation, open space and sport might be positioned within Council. Competing demands on limited resources result in challenging decision-making and prioritisation, and the provision of quality opportunities in recreation, open space and sport can at times be perceived as a lower level community service obligation, compared with roads, waste, water and wastewater management.

Inspections of existing facilities highlights the extensive breadth of the open space network and that a range of park embellishments are nearing the end of their useful life and/or in need of replacement. Further, there is an identified need for additional shade, improved connectivity of walk and cycle paths and identifying key town parks to avoid Council resources being stretched across competing demands and to ensure parks are fit-for-purpose.

Role clarification

The role of recreation, open space and sport planning and provision appears split amongst a number of areas of responsibility within Council. Officers across the areas of natural resource management, sport and recreation, property, and economic development and tourism all appear to be involved in this area without necessarily communicating effectively with one another when appropriate. A clear example of this is the natural resource management team having little influence on marketing and promotion of recreation opportunities and facilities at Bjelke-Petersen Dam and Lake Boondooma.

It is important to identify all Council staff impacted by service and program delivery and involve them in planning and decision making. This will increase efficient use of limited Council resources (staff and material/financial). Similarly, clarifying the first 'point of contact' for community, sport and recreation organisations within Council requires review as most groups reported uncertainty regarding who in Council to contact when seeking assistance. In many cases, when pressed, club members stated they contacted their local Councillor. While Councillors can provide a conduit to Council administration, it is not the most efficient means for clubs to access assistance. It can also divert Councillors from their core role of strategic planning and policy development, involving them in operational matters.

Planning and delivery

The planning and delivery of recreation, open space and sport opportunities has inherited legacies from local government amalgamations ten years ago. It is not uncommon for parochialism to surface and the 'squeakiest wheel' often gains traction with Council regardless of the actual level of demand.

This Plan will be the means to ensure that accurate demand-driven planning remains the focus for Council provision of recreation and sport outcomes.

The Plan outlines a need for Council to focus resources to support recreation activities with the highest participation rates including walking/bushwalking, recreational swimming, playing in the park, fishing, canoe/kayaking and cycling. Future development of playgrounds needs to continue to include a wide range of elements such as nature play, challenging climbing activities, opportunities to crawl and hide, active play such as ball rebound walls and bike activity tracks, and more contemplative areas for role play.

Further, the Plan highlights the need for far greater delivery and promotion of outdoor recreation opportunities. With a quality network of rivers, creeks and lakes and nearby access to renowned National and Conservation Parks and State Forests, the LGA is well-positioned as a hub on the fringe of SEQ for outdoor recreation activities and enthusiasts.

Policies and procedures

Council has existing policies to support delivery of recreation, sport, and event services and programs, and has in place formal lease, license and user agreements where appropriate. Council's considerable effort in this area needs to be recognised and supported in turn by the community.

Amendments to policies are recommended to:

- » require community, sport and recreation organisations to update contact details for the Community Directory via Council's website at least annually
- » require community, sport and recreation organisations to acknowledge SBRC as a sponsor for any grant, in-kind or subsidy assistance received including appropriate media promotion
- » require promotion of community, sport and recreation events via Council's online events calendar to improve awareness and encourage social connection.

The Plan also outlines two new policies to help the community and user groups to understand Council processes and resource constraints:

- » Community and commercial use of Council land
- » Public art in open space.



Strategic direction

Recreation and sport play an important role in achieving the community's aspirations and priorities for the future. It is important that the community's current and future values (balanced against resource realities) guide the provision and management of Council's open space network. The three key values, as identified throughout the Plan, include:

- » appreciation of and interaction with the natural environment
- » a place that appeals to all ages - where you can visit with family and friends and enjoy social interaction
- » a place where one can participate in a variety of activities and experiences¹.

¹ *SBRC Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan community survey, 2017*



Fundamental directions

The following directions are seen as fundamental in responding to the key values and guiding the overall open space network to provide recreation and sport opportunities at a strategic level:

1	Walking and cycling for short, medium and long trips
a	shared pathways connect high quality recreation parks with residential areas and key destinations (e.g. shops, schools)
b	inclusion of shade is an essential element of pathway design and construction (retention of existing and planting new trees)
c	trails connecting towns and villages, along rail trails and within natural areas including State and National Parks are identified and promoted
2	Outdoor recreation
a	strategically position the KKRT (particularly the South Burnett section) as a state and nationally recognised destination
b	strategically position Bjelke-Petersen Dam and Lake Boondooma as land- and water- based outdoor leisure and adventure destinations
c	recreation activities provided by natural areas and waterways are recognised as fundamental components of Council's infrastructure network
d	further establish partnerships with National Parks managers to facilitate greater public access and promotion
e	access to appropriate water-based and nature-based recreation opportunities are promoted
3	Open space and play
a	provide high quality feature recreation parks with a variety of play experiences that cater for all ages by upgrading a number of existing local-level facilities
b	play experiences should complement and embrace the surrounding natural environment
c	shade is provided in key activity areas, in green corridors and along walk and cycle routes
4	Informal recreation and physical activity
a	continue to maintain (and renew/replace) wheeled recreation device facilities (skate parks)
b	facilitate physical activity programs, community programs and community events across the open space network
5	Sport
a	sports parks are developed to a standard where players, officials and spectators can enjoy quality experiences at the facility
b	close liaison between Council and sporting organisations is maintained
6	Swimming pools
a	initiate the conversation with the community regarding the whole-of-life asset cost to the community of public swimming pools
b	identify options for alternate service delivery models to provide access to swimming pools
7	Community halls and activity spaces
a	activate community halls and activity spaces to ensure sustainable use.

Engagement summary

Community engagement

A wide ranging community engagement strategy was adopted during the development of the Plan to gain an understanding of the role recreation and sport play in the social fabric of the community. Additionally, the project coincided with the engagement phase of the Corporate Plan preparation. As a result, relevant consultation outcomes from this process have also been considered.

A range of tools and techniques were used to engage target groups and the general community, ensuring all interested people had multiple opportunities to comment during the development of the Plan.

Engagement with the general community and sport and recreation groups involved six key methods:

1. Community workshops
 - Blackbutt
 - Nanango
 - Murgon
 - Proston
 - Kingaroy
 - Wondai
2. Community survey online and hard copy surveys
 - Council received 196 community surveys. The majority of respondents lived in Kingaroy (37%) with Nanango (14%), Proston (12%) and Wondai (10%) participating well. 66% of respondents were aged below 50.
3. Sporting club online and hard copy surveys
 - Council received 38 surveys from local sport and recreation groups with a good cross-section of traditional and non-traditional sports responding.
4. Sport and community group interviews/site visits
 - Follow up interviews were conducted with clubs or groups that indicated a need for further investigation
 - Telephone interviews or site visits were conducted to gather additional information when required
5. School visits/interviews with eleven primary and four secondary schools as well as other hosted 'schools' targeting indigenous youth.
6. Service agencies including community development and outreach, tertiary education and private fitness providers.

Additional community engagement activities included intercept surveys at recreation and sport parks.

Council engagement

Council engagement activities included small group and individual interviews with Council officers and workshops with elected Councillors.





Key issues

Below is a summary of the key issues that arose from the engagement process.

Popular places and activities

Overall, the community report mixed perceptions regarding the quality of the open space and recreation opportunities available across the LGA. Areas such as local footpaths, swimming pool, parks, local roads and the rail trail were popular places to recreate. (Additionally, it should be noted that *home* was the most common venue for recreating).

Walking, swimming (for recreation not club), gardening, playing in the park and bushwalking are the most popular activities to participate in. Interestingly, with 21% participation noted, cycling (for recreation) was not as highly participated in as expected. This finding is in contrast to state and national level results¹ that show cycling as one of the highest participation activities (behind only walking, fitness/gym, running and swimming). It should also be noted that water-based activities were popular, with swimming (for recreation not club), fishing and canoe/kayaking filling three of the top seven responses.

More community events in public parks was identified as the highest priority for support over the next ten years.

Natural settings are highly valued

One of the opened-ended questions included in the survey asked respondents to identify their favourite open space/park. It is important to recognise that many of the most common responses relate to areas with key natural features - BP Dam/Lake Barambah, Lake Boondooma, Ficks Crossing, Coomba Falls and Wooroolin Wetland. Memorial Park in Kingaroy and the rail trail (trail heads in villages and towns) also received high volume responses, noting that Memorial Park is spacious with established mature trees, and the recreation setting along the rail trail is predominantly natural.

These findings are reinforced by:

- » *the natural setting* being the second most valued aspect of open space (only bettered by *they allow me to spend quality time with my family*); and by
- » *improved facilities at water bodies* being highlighted in the top five highest priorities for Council.

Lack of shade

The lack of shade throughout the open space network was a common theme identified throughout the engagement processes. Indeed, shade was a barrier to open space use for more than 34% of survey respondents (and was the highest barrier identified).

¹ ABS Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, 2013-2014

Maintenance standards

Almost a third of survey respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the standard of maintenance being undertaken in parks, along pathways and the rail trail. The size, geographic spread and amount of land making up Council's open space network creates a significant maintenance schedule of vegetation control (slashing, mowing, trimming), facility inspection, cleaning and maintenance. Council needs to either decrease the level of service (number of parks and/or maintenance standard) for open spaces, including recreation parks, or increase dedicated resources (staff and operational budget).

Lack of variety

Despite there being an abundance of open space across the LGA, the youth felt that there was a lack of variety of play opportunities, with many of the parks only catering for toddlers and young children. The community survey and workshop attendees also highlighted the lack of activities for youth, and the need for *provision of places/facilities for young people* was also identified as one of the highest priorities for Council.

Connectivity of walk and cycle paths

Lack of connectivity between pathways to key destinations was identified by 21% of respondents. With an ageing community and schools in close proximity to residential areas, provision of walk and cycle pathways can impact recreation participation significantly. A 'quick win' is achievable by identifying and completing short 'gaps' (50-100m) in otherwise continuous pathways.

Lack of supporting infrastructure

Despite an ageing community, increasing participation numbers in walking and access to existing natural scenery; the open space network is significantly lacking infrastructure that allows users to relax and enjoy the serenity. Additional walk/cycleways are required to link and loop these key assets. Further, bench seats and water bubblers along the walk/cycleways would create a more comfortable environment for users.

The lack of ancillary facilities was also identified as an ongoing issue at sports parks. Many clubs noted that simple upgrades such as spectator areas, shade covers and bench seats would improve their facility.



Accessible playgrounds and places

A local service club and community members have indicated a need for improved play opportunities for children with disabilities living in the South Burnett. It is important to aim for inclusive play opportunities rather than stand-alone 'modified' play equipment. Accessible play equipment can be incorporated into playgrounds and be used where children of all abilities can experience fun and challenging play alongside their friends and family members. 'Play for all' spaces use a range of natural and built elements to encourage different types of play experiences, such as active, exploratory, social and quiet play. Innovative approaches in the design and construction of these spaces create expanded opportunities for children with a disability. It is ideal for accessible play facilities to include the following features:

- adequate shading
- rubber softfall and under surfacing that is wheelchair and pram accessible
- access to a water fountain or bubbler
- adequate toilet amenities
- adequate access to disabled parking
- connecting pathways accessible by wheelchair and prams.

Universal Design Principles

There is a growing awareness and acceptance of universal design principles in development of community infrastructure. The benefits of doing so includes greater functionality, safety, flexibility and inclusiveness. The seven principles of universal design are:

- » equitable use
- » flexibility in use
- » simple and intuitive use
- » perceptible information
- » tolerance for error
- » low physical effort
- » size and space for approach and use.

Community use of school facilities

Community use of school facilities is increasingly recognised as a way to maximise the use of existing facilities and provide recreation and sport opportunities. Current examples of community groups utilising school facilities successfully include the South Burnett Little Athletics operating from Taabinga State School, futsal at St Mary's Catholic College and junior cricket utilising school ovals.

There are clear benefits when community organisations contribute to development and maintenance of school facilities including access to external grants and funding that schools may not be eligible for. In turn, school facilities are established and usually in locations central to residential areas in towns and villages.

The primary function of a school is as a place of learning and during school hours it is essential that schools are used for educational purposes. The Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment recognises that schools are valuable community resources (funded by taxpayers) that need to be used to their full potential. The *Community use of Queensland state school facilities* policy and procedure aims to streamline community use of schools and make clear that schools have an obligation to make their facilities available to the community outside of school hours. Requests to use school facilities must be made to the Principal and will require payment of a fee and providing evidence of public liability insurance.



Open space classification framework


Council’s open spaces have been classified according to their function (classification) and role (hierarchy) within that function. A summary of the hierarchy is included in the adjoining table and discussed in detail on the following pages.

Classification	Hierarchy
Recreation park	Local, town, regional
Sports park	Local, town, specialised, private
Other open space	Undeveloped, private, utility, camping

Recreation parks

Recreation parks are open space areas that have been modified to create an informal space to support community recreation, development and well being through a variety of informal/unstructured recreation activities. Recreation parks provide a range of embellishments such as play nodes, kick-about areas, picnic facilities, toilets, access to water bodies and car parking. In addition, they can support urban bushland as well as contain formalised walks, gardens and landscaped areas.

There are three hierarchies in the recreation parks classification. Detailed park typologies are described in the Appendix.

1	Local recreation park	<p>Located within a residential setting, these parks cater for the surrounding residents. They are often smaller in size and usually accessed by walking or cycling. The level of embellishment varies among parks and caters for short visits by very small groups or individuals.</p>	 <p>Butter Factory Park, Nanango</p>
2	Town recreation park	<p>Town recreation parks are recognised as ‘feature’ locations. They service several suburbs or whole communities depending on the surrounding population density. Some may experience high levels of visitation for short periods of time (such as during a community event), while others tend to have a more consistent level of visitation over the year. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and will host a variety of play opportunities, seating and picnic facilities, amenity lighting, paths and toilets. These parks may also include boat ramps, canoe launch facilities and fishing infrastructure.</p> <p>Local community events that require a park-based setting such as markets, musical events and film nights can usually be accommodated in a town recreation park.</p> <p>Ideally, town recreation parks are located near, or are well-connected to social infrastructure such as schools, community centres, halls and activity centres or along natural assets such as rivers and lakes.</p>	 <p>Memorial Park, Kingaroy</p>
3	Regional recreation park	<p>Seen as destination parks, regional recreation parks have high levels of visitation. Some may experience very high levels of visitation for short periods of time, such as an event or over the holiday season, while others tend to have a more consistent level of visitation over the year.</p> <p>Regional Parks are provided where the opportunity arises therefore they may not be distributed equally across the LGA. They have unique values that differentiate them from other types of recreation parks. They are usually associated with attractive natural landscapes that make them very popular with residents and visitors.</p> <p>Typically the park will offer a high order recreation experiences e.g. extensive outdoor recreation opportunities or play experiences for toddlers through to teenagers. The park should also contain a sufficient number of picnic facilities including barbecues and shelters, and clean, contemporary public amenities to keep visitors entertained and comfortable for several hours.</p> <p>Regional Parks generally require good public transport and pedestrian/cycle access or be capable of supporting significant car parking.</p>	 <p>Bjelke-Petersen Dam, Lake Barambah</p>

Sports parks

Open space that is designed to primarily support a variety of formal sporting activities through the provision of a range of training and competition infrastructure and ancillary infrastructure to support these activities.

Free, unrestricted access to the community is provided at times when formal sporting activities are not being conducted.

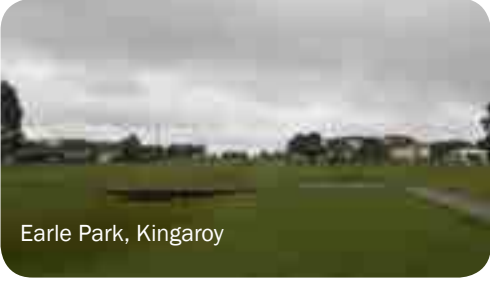
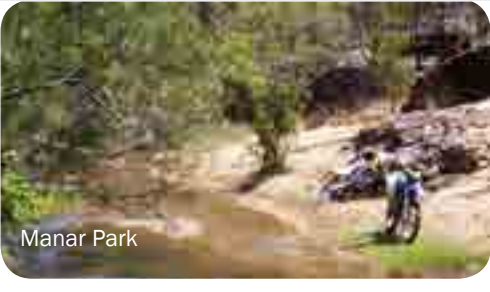
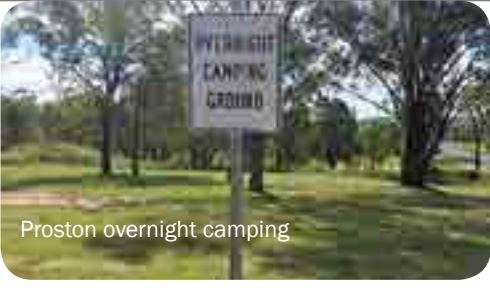

There are three hierarchies within the sports parks classification. Detailed park typologies are included in the Appendix.

1	Local sports park	<p>Local sports parks generally cater to one sporting code per season (summer and winter) and have one semi-formal to formal maintained sports field/oval. The facilities would be of a good standard but may not have the required playing surface or ancillary infrastructure of a town level facility nor comply with State regulations for the sport.</p> <p>Infrastructure at local sports parks is basic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » amenity block with no club facilities (e.g. no changerooms or canteen) » informal car parking » simple play node. 	
2	Town sports park	<p>Town sports parks generally contain one or more formally maintained sports fields/ovals/court areas that cater for a mixture of winter and/or summer sporting codes. The fields/ovals/courts are of a high standard.</p> <p>Town sports parks generally include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » basic spectator seating » amenities and canteen building » storage facilities » formalised car parking » floodlights that enable evening training » floodlights that enable evening competition games on at least one field/oval/court. <p>Playground equipment may be provided at town sports parks to enhance user experiences.</p> <p>The facility will be suitable to attract competition at a local- and district- level.</p>	
3	Specialised sports park	<p>Specialised sports parks are specific in nature, requiring particular infrastructure to make them usable. The nature of the sport precludes the easy transfer of use to an alternative sport, and the management arrangements generally preclude free, unrestricted access to members of the public.</p> <p>Typical specialised sports parks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » aquatic facilities » indoor sports facilities » tennis facilities. 	



Other open space

'Other open space' is land that contributes to the aesthetics of the open space network, but does not contribute towards the recreation value of the network. Where recreation values do exist, they are usually the secondary function of the land.




1	Undeveloped	<p>Land acquired or zoned for open space purposes to protect assets, or to be embellished in the future to meet community demand.</p> <p>The land may be a vacant (mown) or covered with vegetation (not of ecological significance).</p>	 <p>Earle Park, Kingaroy</p>
2	Private	<p>Privately owned open space facility that may provide frequent or infrequent access for sport and recreation purposes.</p>	 <p>Manar Park</p>
3	Camping	<p>Council-owned or -managed land developed as a camping (or caravan) facility.</p>	 <p>Proston overnight camping</p>
4	Utility	<p>Typically constrained open space with limited formal recreation value. May include telecommunication and electrical infrastructure easements, drainage corridors and water bodies.</p>	 <p>Drain adjacent to Butter Factory Park, Nanango</p>



Classifying open space parcels

An open space element can be comprised of one or multiple land parcels. Additionally, an open space element can have either one singular function, or multiple functions (such as a primary function of town sport, with a secondary function of local recreation).

The overall/final classification of the land parcel is determined by its primary function (depicted by the largest portion of the pie graphs below). The table below provides some examples:

Name	Composition		Classification
Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve (Kingaroy)	80% Town sports park 20% Local recreation park		Primary function: town sports park Secondary function: local recreation park
Pioneer Park (Nanango)	80% Town recreation park 20% Specialised sports		Primary function: town recreation park Secondary functions: specialised sports (skate park)
JA Gorton Memorial Park (Maidenwell)	60% Local sports park 40% Local recreation park		Primary function: local sports park Secondary function: local recreation park



EJ Burke Park, Kumbia



Section three - State Government priorities

At the time of this Plan's development, the Queensland State Government were in the process of developing a new Queensland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2019-2029. The aim of the strategy is to identify barriers to participating in sport and active recreation and improving the experience for those who do participate. The following four key focus areas have been identified for the strategy.

Healthy Queenslanders

Encourage and support Queenslanders to get moving earlier and keep moving for longer

Community connection and equality

Enhance community connection and social inclusion in vibrant places and spaces across the state

Economic growth and jobs

Deliver jobs and local economic benefits by investing in facilities, spaces and programs that meet the needs of Queenslanders now and into the future

Elite success

Support our athletes to achieve success in national and international sport and ensure our major sporting facilities are world class so that we continue to attract national and international audiences and events



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Section four - Emerging trends

Open space/play trends

Informal recreation/physical activity trends

Sporting trends

Outdoor recreation trends

Community halls and activity



Participation patterns in recreation are changing at a community level. Factors such as a move toward unstructured sport, increased use of technology, and increased time pressures have all had a significant impact on how people recreate. Understanding these trends (and their impacts) is important as Council looks to develop strategies, programs and facilities to encourage people to engage in recreation activities.

Open space/play trends

Open space planning is beginning to take a new direction. While people still value their local recreation park and the green escape they provide, many contain the 'kit playground', often described as boring, lacking in creativity and too safe. There is a growing trend towards more challenging and imaginative play for all age groups at the one location.

'Challenge' parks

Challenge parks are an emerging type of park. They generally feature multiple play nodes to cater for different ages, gardens, water play areas and lagoons, large open grassy spaces, shady picnic spots with quality facilities, ponds and water features, areas of natural woodland and vegetation and kilometres of shared paths and boardwalks to explore. High tree house structures, sky walks and natural elements are introducing risk back into play, enabling children to develop an awareness of limits and boundaries.

Currently, there is no facility that offers this level of recreation experience for all ages in the LGA. However there is potential to develop this in Kingaroy (Memorial Park), BP Dam or Lake Boondooma. A more challenging play node is needed within the LGA.

Nature play

In just one generation, there has been a dramatic shift in childhood activity from outdoors to indoors. This has been driven by factors such as computer technology, a significant reduction in the size of backyards and an increasingly risk-averse culture.

Nature play is an emerging trend particularly in urban environments, where access to nature is not as readily available as it is in the South Burnett. Residents and visitors should be encouraged to engage with their natural environment. Awareness of the benefits of children's contact with nature is also growing, and many councils are embracing the concept of developing nature play spaces within their parks and bushland reserves.

More natural play elements should be developed in conjunction with traditional play spaces across the LGA.





Informal recreation/physical activity trends

Ageing community

South Burnett is an aging community, with a median age of 45 years (higher than the State with a median age of 37 years)¹.

An ageing community requires:

- » greater emphasis on low impact physical activity
- » access to community infrastructure will require wider pathways, improved wheelchair/disabled access/parking, more lighting, shaded seats for resting along pathways and wider hallways
- » increased use of mobility scooters as a convenient method of transportation.

Impacts of technology

Technology remains one of the main contributors towards decreased physical activity and increased sedentary behaviour. However, active gaming is becoming a contemporary approach to exercise. In technology-based games, participants are engaged in physical movement by using their bodies as the controllers (while increasing their heart rate and burning calories).

There are also increasing expectations of technology within recreation areas including WiFi access in key parks, promoting existing geocaching and by using digital tools for information and marketing on tracks and signage.

Move towards informal recreation

National participation rates in organised sport have been declining for a number of years as participants move toward more social (drop-in drop-out) sport and informal recreation.

With outstanding natural areas for informal recreation (lakes, dams, rivers and bushland), South Burnett is well-placed to take advantage of this emerging trend.

Rationalisations

Where open space parcels are undeveloped, are poorly located, are attracting regular anti-social behaviour and/or are not providing recreation opportunities desired by the nearby catchment (and are thus sitting idle), opportunities may exist to rationalise the land. Depending on the land tenure, this may include re-purposing as an alternate use, 'planting out' with trees to reduce maintenance, sale of the land or returning the land to the State.

Councils are becoming more cognisant of not retaining (and maintaining) open space that does not serve a community recreation function.



Memorial Park, Kingaroy



Mt Wooroolin, Kingaroy

¹ ABS, Census data, 2016



Sporting trends

Field sharing

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, sharing of field space is becoming more difficult. Additionally, there is a trend toward year-round sport with a number of codes also providing alternate opportunities in the off-season (e.g. small-sided football conducted in the summer sporting season). While providers strive to maximise the use of community resources (and State Governments espouse field sharing), the reality is that shared use of ancillary facilities more so than fields (e.g. clubhouses, carparks) may be a more appropriate goal.

Field and court quality

Facility providers face an increasing trend to develop and re-develop sporting fields and courts to a higher level in order to increase carrying capacity. Upgrades, such as lighting and field irrigation, allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of turf playing fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear. Further, to achieve ongoing field quality, fields need 'rest periods' (of up to four weeks) where necessary maintenance can be undertaken.

Generally, the playing fields within the LGA are in appropriate condition, with some requiring irrigation upgrades to provide safe playing surfaces. However, it is important to note that a number of upgrades are proposed for ancillary facilities such as storage, spectator facilities, changerooms and/or clubhouses.

Volunteer sport organisations

The rate of volunteering in sport and recreation clubs has been declining for many years. Often, the responsibility for running clubs falls to one or two key personnel. To address this issue, there is a move toward amalgamations, with multi-sport clubs becoming more common. In other cases, organisations may become aligned to larger licensed clubs that take over some or all of the volunteers' roles as well as asset management responsibilities.

It is vital to note that 78% of the thirty-eight clubs that responded to the club survey indicated that *the same people volunteering/no new volunteers* was a high or medium issue for their club. Similarly declining number of volunteers was identified as a high (42%) or medium (29%) issue.

Lack of time

Shift work, increasing numbers in part-time and casual employment and family commitments influence participation as:

- » people do not have the time to commit to organised sport and social clubs as a regular member and/or volunteer
- » participants are seeking facilities with flexible hours.

However, it is important to note that *I just don't have time* was identified by only 8.5% of community survey respondents as a barrier to participation in the project survey suggesting that lack of time may not be a trend impacting the LGA.





Participation trends

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducted a nation-wide Children's (5 to 14 years) Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey every three years between 2000 and 2012. Overall, participation in organised sport has not changed significantly across these years with rates of between 59% and 64%, identified across the five surveys (2000, 2003, 2006, 2009 and 2012). For those children involved in organised sport, 32% are only involved in one sport.

At a national-level, the reduction in available leisure time has resulted in a trend for adults to move away from organised sport toward physical activity and non-organised (social) sport. The ABS has conducted a nation-wide Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation Survey for adults over 15 years of age in 2005/06, 2009/10 and 2011/12. The survey shows that participation in organised sport reduced slightly while non-organised sport reported increases.

Participation trends in organised sport in South Burnett is mixed depending on the location, level of promotion and type of activity (structured/social). Generally club survey responses indicate many sports maintaining or growing junior participation while senior participation results are declining. Club's not conforming to these trends are those experimenting with more social competitions, promoting the sport to target markets (e.g. women), or have formed strong management committees with clear priorities and focus. Despite limited population growth projected in the South Burnett, the majority of clubs expect membership to increase (71%); an aspiration that is not realistic for most of them. Almost a quarter of clubs expect membership to remain the same with 5% identifying declining membership as likely citing trends, the economy, ageing population and leaving the area as reasons.

The table below shows a summary of the national, state and local participation trends (across the last 3-5 years where data was available) in the South Burnett's most popular organised sports. Interestingly, South Burnett clubs reported increasing junior membership in cricket, athletics and rugby league, trends that are not consistent with the national and/or state trends for these sports. Additionally, 71% of clubs responding to the survey expected membership to increase over the next three years, while over half of the same clubs (55%) reported falling membership as a significant issue affecting the club¹. With limited population growth expected in the LGA, and clubs already experiencing falling membership, it is unlikely that over two thirds of sport clubs will increase membership significantly.

Sport	National participation trends		State participation trends		South Burnett participation trends*	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
Athletics	increasing	increasing	steady	steady	increasing	no competition
Basketball	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	steady
Cricket	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing	increasing	steady
Football (soccer)	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	steady
Netball	steady	steady	increasing	increasing	increasing	steady
Rugby league	decreasing	steady	decreasing	increasing	increasing	increasing
Tennis	decreasing	decreasing	steady	steady	steady	steady
Touch football	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing

* South Burnett participation trends are taken from sports club surveys and/or engagement with clubs undertaken throughout the development of the Plan and reflects information provided by sport clubs at a point-in-time.

1 South Burnett Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan Club Survey, 2017



Outdoor recreation trends

Increasing health and environmental awareness

People are becoming increasingly concerned about their health, with conditions such as obesity and stress on the rise. Surveys conducted in Melbourne and Sydney indicated that residents having good access to the natural environment reported a higher quality of life (regardless of public or private housing)¹ (and it is acknowledged that these areas are cities unlike the South Burnett). The surveys showed steady increases in people's preference for large, managed and accessible natural areas. This, combined with a growing awareness of the environment and its challenges (global warming, pollution and urbanisation), has led to a growth in visitation to natural areas. A term referred to as 'returning to nature' has emerged where people feel the desire to become reconnected to their natural environments.

The South Burnett enjoys vast amounts of lake-, dam-, river- and creek-side natural areas, unspoilt National Parks, Conservation Parks and State Forests. A relatively convenient 2-3 hour drive from Brisbane and South East Queensland results in it being well positioned to expand its role as an outdoor recreation hub.

Technology advances (apps)

Changes in technology for recreation are also bringing about an increasing divergence of outdoor recreation activities. Participants are able to map their route, record their times and upload digital images of their experience. This allows them to compete and compare results with past and/or future users (Strava, Map My Ride etc). Growth in these activities has encouraged research into more refined technologies to encourage wider participation in activities such as geo-caching and mountain biking.

From a Council perspective, a disadvantage of the growing trend in the use of technology for outdoor recreation is that it is difficult to monitor the information users share. It is through the means of social media, blogs and forums that users can promote areas as sites for inappropriate activities (despite them being considered unsafe or not preferred by authorities).

Increasing affluence and expectations of recreation

As a society, Australians are becoming more affluent - the proportion of income being spent on recreation goods and leisure is increasing. While outdoor recreation equipment such as kayaks, mountain bikes and camping goods may have previously been considered too expensive for many in the community, discount department stores (such as Kmart, Aldi and Target) are increasing access to affordable options. As people spend more money on outdoor recreation and associated equipment, an increase in outdoor recreation activities by individuals has been observed. (Previously, these activities were associated with commercial operators). As such, demand is increasing for a diversification of natural areas offering unique experiences and higher levels of infrastructure.

Tourism – cultural and nature appreciation

It is estimated that the market for nature-based tourism is increasing at six times the rate of tourism overall². Some of the factors that have contributed to this growing trend in nature-based tourism are that people are looking for new experiences, adding diversity to their experiences, combining business travel with holidays, and looking to "get back to nature".

The number of nature-based visitors to Queensland National Parks reached 51 million from domestic travellers and 7.9 million visits from international travellers in 2012³.

Interestingly, three of the top five most popular nature-based experiences that visitors seek are readily available in the South Burnett:

- » visit national parks/state forests
- » bushwalking/rainforest walks
- » cultural heritage experiences.

¹ SKM 2006, *Recreation Implication from Residential Densification*

² *Tourism Australia, 2015*

³ *Queensland Ecotourism Plan 2016-2020*



Community halls and activity spaces trends

The planning and provision of community infrastructure (and community halls and activity spaces more specifically) is changing:

Multi-purpose

- » there is a clear move away from single-purpose or dedicated buildings towards a more cost and land-use efficient model of multi-purpose and multi- activity buildings

Flexible and modern

- » flexible design is essential to cater for a variety of potential user groups. Councils (and community groups) have moved on from the stereotypical community hall with its single large room with timber floor, kitchenette, servery and fold-away plastic tables and chairs. Expectation is now for modern conveniences, multi-use breakout rooms and commercial-style kitchen and food preparation areas

Storage

- » there is an increasing demand for on-site storage to be provided to reduce the need for activity participants to carry equipment to- and from- the facility, making participation more convenient, particularly for activities attracting older aged people

Centralised

- » community halls and activity spaces are becoming more centralised - being built in shopping centres, as part of a leisure/aquatic centre or attached to education institutions.

Reflecting these trends, a sample review of hall hire usage, intercept surveys of residents and discussion with Council officers suggest that many of the community halls are not being utilised as well as they could be - sitting idle for much of the time. Anecdotally, the current fee structure may be a barrier to increased use.

Interestingly, in a number of councils where use of community halls is low but community attachment is high, some halls are being turned over to community groups under trust (with the community groups responsible for all maintenance and management).



Emerging trends - what this means for South Burnett

A	Open space and play
1	» need for more creative, challenging and natural play elements
B	Informal recreation and physical activity
1	» continue to develop recreation facilities attractive to all ages and abilities
2	» establish quality walk/cycle loops at key locations
3	» recognise a move away from traditional sport
C	Sport
1	» consider the need to develop training fields to relieve pressure on competition fields and share ancillary facilities
D	Outdoor recreation
1	» in addition to traditional sport planning and development, investigate opportunities to assist residents and visitors seeking outdoor recreation experiences (even where these may be on land outside Council's direct control)
E	Community halls and activity spaces
1	» based on current use, look to reactivate community halls and activity spaces by promoting them as key venues for community groups seeking meeting spaces, social areas and facilities for active and passive recreation (indoor bowls, card games, yoga, martial arts, playgroup, wet weather exercise/training etc.)





Section five - Analysis of recreation and sport

Council-wide analysis

Open space analysis

Recreation and physical activity analysis

Outdoor recreation analysis

Sport analysis

Community halls and activity spaces analysis



Council-wide analysis

Council is in the process of developing Local Government Infrastructure Plans (LGIP) as a requirement of the *Sustainable Planning (Infrastructure Charges) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014 (SPICOLA 2014)*. While the scope of this Plan does not extend to LGIP inclusions, the open space classification system previously described and the following open space analysis will contribute to Council's LGIP for public parks and land for community purposes. This section presents an overall analysis of open space, recreation and physical activity, outdoor recreation, sport and community halls and activity spaces at a whole of Council level. It forms the precursor to the town and village analysis and recommendations in the following Section. Further detailed analysis will be required to finalise Council's LGIP.

Open space analysis

Standards-based approach

Desired standards of service

It is important to develop open spaces that meet the needs of the community. It can also be important that development reflects desired standards of service (DSS) for provision. These standards articulate the preferred directions that Council strives to provide. DSS for open space are, generally, categorised under three broad measures:

- » quantity of land for open space
- » access to open space
- » level of embellishment.

The *quantity standard* identifies the recommended minimum standards for the provision of land for open space. Standards are generally presented as hectares/1,000 (population).

The *access standard* refers to preferred maximum distances between residential areas and each open space type.

The *level of embellishment standard* indicates preferred facilities and activities within each open space type.

The access and quantity standards are, traditionally, the two primary measures used to assess and plan for open space land demands. However, for a number of key reasons (outlined in the adjoining discussion) this 'traditional' approach to open space planning is not preferred for South Burnett Regional Council.

Needs-based approach

The standards-based approach (DSS) to open space planning is most effectively used in greenfield situations where significant population growth is forecast. However, in a number of instances, this approach is not necessarily the only approach for consideration. Alternate approaches may be appropriate when:

- » infill development (rather than greenfield development) is planned
- » limited population growth is expected
- » planning areas consist of a number of separate smaller towns and villages.

South Burnett is typified by

- » limited expectations of growth over the next 20 years
- » small villages and towns distributed across the LGA
- » generally larger residential block sizes.

Given these aspects of the LGA, the analysis presented in the Plan is a needs-based approach to open space planning as it relates to the provision of recreation and sport. While the standards-based approach outcomes for access and embellishment have been considered for each planning area, more weight is given to the planning area 'needs' as it considers the social, demographic and environmental characteristics of an area for which open space is needed and/or the type of embellishment required in an open space. Not only does the needs-based approach consider the number of people living in the area (more akin to standards-based planning), but importantly it also takes into account recreation preferences, demographic changes and existing facilities.



Access to experiences

For each town and village, the Plan considers the location, activities (or experiences) and embellishment of existing open space facilities and preferred outcomes for that planning area to address any demand.

The range of activities and experiences considered as key elements in the Council's open space network include:

- » water-based recreation
- » access to nature
- » escape, break out and recreation areas
- » comfort/safety
- » indoor recreation/community meetings
- » outdoor recreation
- » picnics
- » playgrounds
- » sport
- » activities
- » walking and cycling
- » cultural/community events.

It is recognised that not every locality will provide access to each of these experiences (especially given how small a number of the villages are). However, ensuring that each of these opportunities is, at least, available at a Council-wide level is a key component of the Plan.

Tiered approach to access and distribution

A tiered hierarchy of open spaces within the South Burnett has been proposed, in order to appropriately plan for the future sport and recreation needs of each community. The tiers provide detail on the level of facilities and embellishments that the community can expect, as well as indicative travel distances for the community to access additional facilities.

The sustainability of open space and sports facilities must be considered in the provision of future open space, with an important component being Council's ability to fund, operate and maintain the network and assets.

Tier	Recreation Parks			Sports Parks			Other Open Space		
	Regional	Town	Local	Town	Local	Specialised	Private	Utility	Camping
ONE									
Kingaroy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TWO									
Nanango		✓	✓	✓		✓ [^]	✓	✓	✓
Murgon		✓	✓	✓		✓ [^]	✓	✓	✓
Wondai		✓	✓	✓		✓ [^]	✓	✓	✓
Blackbutt		✓	✓	✓		✓ [^]	✓	✓	✓
THREE									
Benarkin			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ ^{^*}	✓	✓	✓
Kumbia			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓
Maidenwell			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓
Memerambi			✓ [*]						
Wooroolin			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓
Tingoora			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓
Hivesville			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓
Proston			✓ [*]		✓ [*]	✓ [*]	✓	✓	✓

* preferably shared use of the playground/oval at the local school (where they exist)

[^] only tennis courts, preferably shared use of the tennis courts at the local school (where they exist)



Embellishment

As previously noted, the Plan proposes an open space classification and hierarchy based around local and town level sport and recreation facilities (as the core open space). The table below outlines indicative embellishment standards (facility inclusions) for each of these five classifications of park. It assists to classify existing facilities and to guide future development and upgrade. Parks should be developed with appropriate facilities and embellishments to suit their intended roles and functions.

Embellishment standard	Recreation parks			Sports parks	
	Local	Town	Regional*	Local	Town
Playground (activity node)	●	●	●	●	●
Wheeled recreation device activity node (Skate park)		●			
Shade trees clustered near activity nodes	●	●	●	●	●
Lighting	●	●	●	●	●
Internal pathways	●	●	●		●
Bicycle racks		●	●	●	●
Shade structures	●	●	●	●	●
USB recharge stations	●	●	●	●	●
Tap/bubbler	●	●	●	●	●
Bench seating	●	●	●	●	●
Electric barbecue		●	●		
Picnic shelters		●	●		
Bins	●	●	●	●	●
Toilets		●	●	●	●
Internal road and car parking			●	●	●
Clubhouse				●	●
Spectator facilities				●	●
Sports fields				●	●
Sports courts				●	●

*Regional recreation parks in the South Burnett include BP Dam, Boondooma Dam and the KK Rail Trail and these regional recreation parks or corridors are predominantly natural in setting. In relation to embellishment of these parks, it is important that the natural setting is retained and installation of park furniture, buildings and signs does not negatively impact and detract from visitor's recreation experiences. Outdoor recreation activities should be facilitated at regional recreation parks.

Setting

People seek out different types of parks for different types of recreation experiences. The setting of a park has a direct relationship with the recreation experience being sought and is influenced by how developed or how natural a park or 'setting' is. A scale is provided below to demonstrate this further.

Wild/ remote/ natural		Very natural area			Disturbed site		Suburban park	Urban/ developed/ industrial
←	→							→
Examples Goodger		Coomba Falls			Carroll Recreation Reserve		Memorial Park	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9



Future direction for open space in South Burnett

The following guiding principles have been developed to lead the future provision and planning of open space across South Burnett:

- » provision and access to a range of recreation settings in order to meet the changing recreation needs and aspirations of the community
- » fair and equitable access to open space and activities for all members of the community
- » variety of play opportunities (including challenging play and natural play elements)
- » maintenance of open space continues to meet community expectations.

Priority actions

Council-wide	Develop the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) using the open space classification system, tiered approach and embellishment list as a basis
Council-wide	Identify core infrastructure required to support community events in parks
Kingaroy	Negotiate with the adjacent school to use and maintain part of Adermann Park for children's play and sport activities. If fencing occurs, retain a corridor on the western edge of the park (5m wide) for general pedestrian and cycling access
Nanango	Rationalise Green Park
Nanango	Rationalise Autumn Park
Wondai	Rationalise Parkside Park
Wondai	Rationalise Grant Crescent Park
Kumbia	Refurbish up to two tennis courts, consider marking one multi-sport
Kumbia	Redesign the layout of APEX Park to separate vehicle movements (caravans and motor homes) from pedestrians, particularly those accessing the toilets from the playground
Tingoorra	Repurpose the oval for use by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and drones due to its location outside of flight paths
Hivesville	Repurpose the Hivesville sports ground (cricket oval) to reflect recreation use rather than sport use, including planting of additional trees in a way to reduce maintenance in the long term



Recreation and physical activity analysis

Informal recreation and physical activity

With adult participation rates in organised sport appearing to be steady (or declining) for adults across the LGA, participation in informal recreation activities is increasing. Consistent with national and state sporting trends, walking is the most popular activity that residents enjoy. Council recognises and supports this growing trend. Development of a Walk and Cycle Strategy will see the existing footpath and shared path network expanded to provide greater connectivity and opportunities for safe active transport. With an ageing population and desire to continue to attract visitors, it is important that the network includes complementing infrastructure, such as bench seats, water bubblers and bike racks to allow users to rest. Directional and information signage will promote areas of recreation, scenic and/or cultural importance.

Play

Council has been progressively updating key playgrounds in town parks to provide challenging and interesting play opportunities. However, school workshops and respondents to the community survey identified limited opportunities for pre-teens and teens. Youth expressed the desire for larger, more challenging opportunities such as flying foxes, climbing nets and giant slides (such as those found on the coast and in Toowoomba). Continued development of higher-level destination parks at Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon, Wondai and Blackbutt should include challenging play opportunities that cater for all ages and abilities.

Water play opportunities were identified by primary aged and older youth, as well as adults responding to the community survey. Zero depth water play is becoming an increasingly popular play experience due to easy access and safety.

In the smaller villages, opportunities for community access to the high quality play facilities within the local public school is recommended for investigation, or collocation at trail heads adjacent rail trail recreation nodes.

Wheeled recreation device nodes

Wheeled recreation device node is the modern term for 'skate parks'. It more accurately reflects the fact that skateboards are generally a more infrequent use of the facility behind scooters and bmx.

As noted throughout the Plan, lack of activities for youth is a concern. These nodes are considered quality facilities to develop for youth - they are hard-wearing and require limited maintenance. Additionally, they not only provide an activity space for users but also an area for youth to socialise (particularly when suitable ancillary facilities such as shade, seating, bubblers and power are provided).

Facilities currently exist in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon, Wondai and Blackbutt. It is recommended that these areas are further developed with shade, seating, bubblers and USB recharge stations to activate their use as physical activity and socialisation hubs.

The facility in Kingaroy is well constructed, has ample shelter and is collocated with a bmx pump track and basketball half-court.

The Wondai facility is adjacent the pool and provides basic opportunities, however, would benefit from redesign in the medium to long term.

The Nanango, Murgon and Blackbutt facilities are well located in town key recreation parks with access to seating, water and shade. Access to toilet facilities at Wondai and Murgon requires resolution.

Physical activity programs

Council does not oversee any physical activity programs within the LGA and due to the population, geographic spread and resource constraints of the Council it is unlikely that resources will extend to program provision in the future.

Council currently provides annual funding through a competitive application process for individuals or groups wishing to provide a program or service to the community. Targeted promotion to qualified sports coaches and private fitness instructors and personal trainers could be undertaken to generate interest in providing programs for residents. Funding could be considered as 'seed funding' for equipment purchase, portable signage and promotion activities to activate parks and community halls.

In addition, Council could expand advertisement and promotion of existing relevant community activities undertaken through the libraries and the existing private physical activity providers (personal trainers, yoga, dance etc) under a new Active and Healthy banner. Activating the open space areas is a key recommendation of the Plan.



Future direction for recreation and physical activity in South Burnett

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future planning and promotion of recreation and physical activity within the South Burnett:

- » appropriate facilities are provided in line with the needs of the community and identified target groups
- » there is a diversity in the function, type and setting of recreation facilities
- » appropriate embellishments are provided within open space to encourage physical activity
- » recreation and physical activity opportunities are accessible to the whole community
- » recreation nodes are collocated with sports, community buildings and other public spaces where possible
- » regular activation of open space is encouraged and facilitated.

Priority actions

Council-wide	Use the information in this Plan to develop the South Burnett's Local Government Infrastructure Plan for public parks and land for community purposes
Council-wide	Develop a Walk and Cycle Plan to identify key destinations for walk and cycle trips and plan footpaths, shared paths and cycle lanes to support active transport and recreation
Council-wide	Continue to maintain (and renew/replace) wheeled recreation device facilities (skate parks)
Council-wide	Identify core infrastructure required to support community events in parks
Council-wide	Develop a shade tree planting program and consistently increase the number of shade trees in parks and along pathways throughout the LGA
Council-wide	Liaise with primary school principal's to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents
Kingaroy	Develop a master plan over Bjelke-Petersen Reserve to ensure coordinated development of structured and unstructured physical activity and recreation
Nanango	Develop a master plan over Pioneer Park incorporating a range of facilities that support recreation and physical activity
Wondai	Toward the end of its useful life (within the next 3-5 years) investigate suitable sites for replacement of the skate park using siting checklists contained in published skate facility guides



Outdoor recreation analysis

The South Burnett includes a wide range of natural open space assets including rivers, creeks, lakes, extensive bushland, State Forests, Conservation and National Parks. The Killivan to Kingaroy rail trail forms a green corridor winding through part of the LGA. Together, these areas have the potential to provide an array of outdoor recreation experiences. The Plan highlights the opportunity to embrace outdoor recreation as a key form of recreation that is becoming increasingly popular and sought after.

The natural setting of Council’s open space network and the opportunities it provides for interaction with the natural environment is highly valued by the majority of residents that completed the community survey. Dams, lakes, rivers, creeks, the rail trail and State and National Parks are some of the most popular places to recreate. It is no surprise that the vast majority of the top eight most popular activities that residents participate in while visiting the LGA’s open space network can be categorised as outdoor recreation. The top activities were:

- » walking
- » recreation swimming
- » gardening
- » playing in the park
- » bushwalking
- » fishing
- » recreation cycling
- » canoe/kayaking
- » golf
- » arts and crafts
- » running.

Council already promotes outdoor recreation opportunities available in the LGA and partner on initiatives of WBBROC, such as the *Water Trails of the Wide Bay Burnett* brochure.

This Plan recommends investigating opportunities to promote and build upon the existing outdoor recreation activities. In particular, master planning of the KKRT, BP Dam and Lake Boondooma as well as opportunities to provide additional non-motorised access to waterways, identify and promote bushwalking and walking trails and to further embed partnerships with managers of State and National Parks are all key aspects.

Level of impact

Each outdoor recreation activity has a potential level of impact on the natural area it occurs in. The level of impact of each activity has been determined through industry research and by assessing the level of infrastructure required for each, as well as the likely ongoing impact of the activity on a site. This categorisation should be used as a guide only, and should not be considered in isolation to a natural area’s unique ecological and biodiversity values.

Level of impact	Description
Low	When undertaken on a designated facility (i.e. bushwalking on a designated track) these activities have a relatively low level of impact on the natural area and typically require a low level of landscape modification
Medium	Medium impact activities may have a relatively low impact, however, may require vegetation clearing or low level infrastructure to support its use (e.g. camping)
High	High impact activities are those that affect a large area and are intensive in nature. These activities often cause environmental impact including erosion. They often require vegetation clearing or extensive infrastructure to support its use (e.g. four wheel driving)



The table below summaries the level of impact of the outdoor recreation activities available throughout the South Burnett. It also summarises the 'providers' of each form of outdoor recreation (or facilities that provide access to the opportunity).

Activity	Level of impact	Currently provided in the South Burnett			
		Council	Department of Housing and Public Works [#]	SunWater	Private
bushwalking	low	●	●	●	●
picnicking	low	●	●		●
nature study	low	●	●		●
bird watching	low	●	●		●
photography	low	●	●		●
sight seeing	low	●	●	●	●
camping	medium	●	●		●
horse riding (endurance and trail)	medium	●	●		●
recreational cycling (mountain bike touring)	medium	●	●		
downhill mountain biking	medium	●	●		
trail running	low*	●	●		
geocaching	medium*	●	●		
canoeing and kayaking	low^	●	●	●^	●
fishing	low^	●	●	●^	
boating, waterskiing and jet skiing	medium to high	●		●^	
motor/trail bike riding	high		●		●
four-wheel-driving	high		●		●
outdoor recreation events	low to high	●	●		

[#] formerly the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

* when undertaken as individuals or small groups i.e. not events

^ when access to the water body is by formal ramp or launch point



Kilkilvan to Kingaroy Rail Trail

The Kilkilvan to Kingaroy Rail Trail is part of the Theebine to Kingaroy rail corridor which is 131km long and has the potential to connect to the Brassall Bikeway, Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT) and Bicentennial National Trail.



Brisbane Valley Rail Trail

The Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT) is now the longest rail trail in Australia extending for 161km, following the disused Brisbane Valley rail line from Wulkuraka near Ipswich to Yarraman.

At its southern end, the BVRT passes through the villages of Benarkin and Blackbutt before terminating at Yarraman. Benarkin and Blackbutt are located within the South Burnett local government area.

Keen rail trail users have identified routes extending further north from Yarraman to connect with Nanango and then Kingaroy, making it possible for rail trail users to connect from the BVRT to the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail (KKRT).

These connecting routes are currently under investigation.

Map sourced from Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads





Future direction of outdoor recreation in South Burnett

The community and Council aspire to continue being a community that respects and values the natural environment. It also acknowledges the need to balance recreation and conservation values to ensure the sustainability of the natural environment.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future provision and management of outdoor recreation within the South Burnett:

- » the conservation prioritisation of natural areas be considered in determining appropriate levels of activity
- » determine the carrying capacity of each natural area to host sustainable outdoor recreation activities prior to permitting the activity (including the identification of restricted sensitive areas)
- » outdoor recreation activities are managed to take account for seasonal conditions and sensitivities
- » outdoor recreation activities are to include only low maintenance infrastructure
- » outdoor recreation should utilise previously disturbed areas/bushland reserves where possible to prevent further impact.

Priority actions

Council-wide	Partner with Gympie Regional Council to develop a master plan for the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail to leverage the recreation, social, tourism and economic benefits of this asset and ensure pragmatic, effective and efficient development, embellishment, activation, promotion and sustainability for the long term
Council-wide	Continue to investigate funding to connect the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail and the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail
Council-wide	Leverage opportunities to promote and connect other opportunities (e.g. Mt Wooroolin and Wooroolin wetland) with the rail trail experience
Council-wide	Develop master plans for BP Dam (Lake Barambah) and Boondooma Lake focussed on identifying current and potential future outdoor recreation activities to develop these sites into outdoor recreation leisure and adventure areas
Council-wide	Review the location and type of tourist attraction and drive signs across the LGA and develop a detailed plan for replacement and upgrade, carefully considering replacement with the most appropriate tourist attraction signs
Council-wide	Collaborate with WBBROC to develop a walking trails network across the LGA and related promotion including print, online, and potentially a digital application (app)
Council-wide	Foster a strong relationship with land managers of State and National Parks to identify, develop and promote outdoor recreation opportunities available in the LGA
Kingaroy	Install direction and information signage to encourage and promote walking and mountain bike trails at Mt Wooroolin
Wondai	Support the South Burnett Mountain Bike Club's efforts to develop mountain bike trails at McEuen Forest and formalise a mountain bike trail connection with the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail
Ficks Crossing	Establish improved access to the waterway (e.g. floating pontoon) to allow for fishing and non-motorised boat access (and tie-up)



Sport analysis

Council currently manages sports parks in towns and villages that provide a variety of traditional sporting opportunities for the South Burnett’s residents (and visitors).

Membership

Two relevant surveys (community and sports club) were available to the community during the project’s engagement phase. Just under one half of community survey respondents participated in organised sport. Participation trends identified by the sports clubs were generally consistent with the national and state participation trends with junior participation increasing since 2014, while senior participation held steady (or declined).

Optimistically, over two thirds of the sports club respondents predict an increase in membership over the coming years as a result of local club promotion efforts and introduction of social competitions to attract new members. In regards to membership, the main areas of concern for clubs were lack of female participation and lack of youth participation.

Quality sports parks

Two thirds of community survey respondents rate the quality of sport facilities as either *above average* or *great*. This was reflected by the sporting club with consistently two thirds of respondents to the club survey rating facilities as satisfactory or exceeding the club’s needs. Clubs were provided with a list of facilities most commonly found at the Council’s sports parks and asked to indicate whether the facilities that they used were suitable for their requirements. The facilities the clubs identified as not suitable included toilets, changerooms and spectator facilities including shade, seating and water. In Council-wide type analyses (such as this Plan) it is common for clubs to report their primary issue to be a lack of fields/ovals/courts available for use. However, in a positive outcome for Council, the majority of respondents indicated that the number of playing fields/ovals was suitable. The main concerns for clubs were themed around ancillary facilities such:

- » shade, seating and water
- » public toilets
- » canteen facilities
- » changerooms
- » storage.

Current and future desired facility improvements (provided in survey responses) were also themed around ancillary facilities. Simple improvements and/or new infrastructure requests included:

- » shade for players and officials
- » better quality changerooms and toilets
- » storage facilities
- » basic clubhouse upgrades.

	Exceeds needs	Suitable	Not suitable	Not required
Seating/shade/water	5%	38%	52%	5%
Public toilets	6%	50%	39%	5%
Canteen facilities	3%	46%	34%	17%
Changerooms	0%	40%	33%	27%
Storage	0%	53%	33%	14%
Lighting standards	0%	56%	30%	14%
Maintenance of buildings	0%	64%	28%	8%
Facilities provided (e.g. chairs / tables / stage)	5%	54%	27%	14%
Clubhouse	0%	54%	26%	20%
Spectator area	8%	54%	23%	17%
Car parking	8%	68%	22%	2%
Number of playing fields/ovals /courts	1%	56%	17%	25%
Access and circulation	3%	74%	15%	9%



New/upgraded infrastructure requests

Sporting clubs had mixed responses when asked who they contacted at Council regarding new/upgrading infrastructure and/or maintenance issues. Additional clarity should be provided by Council on its website and in other promotional material to increase awareness of what assistance is available from Council and the most appropriate section/Officer.

A Club Development Plan (or Business Plan) is a key tool to guide future planning for clubs. Any club that is serious about sustainability and future development should have a blueprint that shows the direction that it wishes to take. The plan should also justify why new and/or upgraded infrastructure is required and how the club plans to contribute financially to the development. Just under one half of South Burnett's sports clubs that responded to the survey indicated that they have a development plan. This level of planning could be improved and should be encouraged. Without a Club Development Plan (or similar) the organisation is likely to lurch in different directions as volunteers change over time. The Club Development Plan gives direction to the organisation and membership.

To prevent future ad-hoc development, Council should encourage clubs to prepare development plans, with assistance provided regularly by the State Government. Club Development Plans can then become requirements within Council's community grant and funding process.

Specialised sports

Aquatic facilities

Two thirds of community survey respondents rate the quality of aquatic facilities as *very good* or *great*. Perhaps even more encouraging, only 10% of respondents consider these facilities as *below average* or *poor*.

Key comments regarding the existing aquatic facilities included:

- » need for longer opening hours
- » complete maintenance in winter months
- » too many swimming pools for geographic area costing ratepayers a lot compared with usage.

Clearly, each of these suggestions is related to Council's ability to resource the aquatic facilities and what Council accepts as a suitable level of community service obligation.

It is important to note that Council owns and manages (currently via contract) the pools at Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon and Wondai. The pools at Blackbutt and Proston are owned by Education Queensland with Council funding management and supervision.

Council needs to undertake structural investigations of the swimming pools to determine: the condition of these assets, whether extension of the life of the assets is possible (and the costs involved), the cost to replace the pools when they reach the end of their asset lives and the ongoing maintenance costs year-on-year. This factual information will provide the basis for an informed conversation with the community regarding the level of service Council can afford to provide within existing budget constraints. Alternate methods to provide community access to pools (e.g. community bus) should also be investigated.

Indoor sport

Council owns the indoor sporting facility housing the South Burnett PCYC. Operations and programs at the PCYC are managed by the Queensland Police Citizens Youth and Welfare Association (PCYC). The PCYC services the entire South Burnett as well as the nearby Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council area and is open weekdays and closed on weekends and public holidays. PCYCs' have a strong focus on providing youth services using sport and recreation as an effective community development tool. A diverse range of activities are offered at the PCYC catering for all ages.

Responses from PCYC program providers, Council staff and respondents to the community survey indicated that the PCYC was not supported by the broader South Burnett community as well as it could be, with travel distance from other towns and villages cited as the main barrier. Interestingly the time to travel to Murgon from Wondai and Kingaroy is comparable, or less than, travel times required to access indoor sporting facilities in larger urban centres and cities.

With ample space in the facility and potential for extension of hours, if warranted, there is opportunity for Council to facilitate additional complementary sub-tenants at the PCYC to increase utilisation and create a hub for youth outreach services (or similar).

Basketball and netball in Kingaroy currently access the indoor sports hall at the local high schools with the full support of the current Principals. Access to these facilities provides an all-weather venue for training and competition for basketball, and training venue for netball.

It is recommended that Council develop and maintain a strong working relationship with the high schools in the South Burnett to identify opportunities for community use of school facilities, and support local clubs and schools to make suitable arrangements.



Master plans

Master plans (or concept plans) are important tools to guide facility decision-making. They are particularly important for sports facilities where changes in club officials can alter former preferred directions.

Given the number of existing users, the range of facilities and identified need for upgrade, simple master plans are proposed for the sport grounds at Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve, Murgon and Wondai sports grounds . It is important to point out that master planning of these sites can be completed quickly and inexpensively, provided open and honest communication with users and adherence to sport dimensions and safety distance occurs.

Extensive user group consultation and further site analysis should be the cornerstone for these planning activities.

Attracting events

During consultation, a number of sporting club representatives expressed a desire to attract more frequent regional- and State-level events and carnivals to the LGA. There are clear economic benefits that can be gained from hosting events of this nature. However, this Plan highlights that seeking to attract events for traditional sports is not a preferred directive.

State sporting organisations indicated that there are currently no traditional sports with a high enough level of infrastructure to attract events. Additionally, the proximity of the LGA to larger centres at Toowoomba and on the coast (Bundaberg and Hervey Bay), as well as Ipswich and South East Queensland make it unlikely for traditional sports to hold major events in the LGA.

With few clubs experiencing significant membership growth, there is little demand for higher levels of infrastructure (particularly if this is only being sought in an effort to attract events). Rather, the Plan recommends that Council supports non-traditional sporting groups (e.g. gliding) that have suitable existing facilities and are seeking to attract (or to continue hosting) state and national events.

Hard To Locate Sports (HTLS)

South Burnett will recognise the opportunities available for Hard To Locate Sports (HTLS) within the region. Hard to Locate Sports are defined as sports/recreation activities which do not traditionally or easily fit within an urban environment due to noise, dust, visual impact, or safety risks that are inherent in the activity.

Council will support a diverse range of accessible HTLS opportunities relevant to the targeted needs of the community and will support partnerships and external investment in existing facilities and future opportunities and precincts where they are deemed sustainable and appropriately located. Council encourages and supports HTLS to co-locate with compatible activities and facilities where possible.



Rugby League, Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve



Future direction of sport in the South Burnett

The community and Council aspire to be a healthy and active community that has access to a diverse range of places, spaces and activities that encourage and enable healthy lifestyle choices.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future provision and management of sport within South Burnett:

- » ensure maximisation of facilities (formal and informal activities)
- » base decision-making on sound data and demand
- » master planning of key sports parks to ensure there is a demonstrated need for infrastructure upgrades
- » provide ongoing support and education to sport and recreation clubs
- » ensure ancillary facilities reflect the needs of participants, officials and spectators.

Priority actions

Council-wide	Commission a structural investigation of Council owned public swimming pools ('pool proper') in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon and Wondai to identify the remaining life of the assets and options for extension of the asset lives, to enable a conversation with the community regarding long-term replacement
Council-wide	Create incentives to encourage clubs and organisations to provide updated details for the community directory
Council-wide	Promote opportunities for sport and recreation organisations to access the range of club administration, coaching and officiating education and grant writing workshops available
Council-wide	Provide support to non-traditional sports currently attracting state and national titles
Council-wide	Partner with and support sport and recreation organisations to provide improved shelter, seating and access to water for spectators
Kingaroy	Support the redesign and reconstruct the Kingaroy netball courts including car parking areas
Kingaroy	Support the South Burnett Rugby League to light an additional field at Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve for use by both rugby league and touch football
Kingaroy	Support Senior Soccer to upgrade field lighting and provide female-friendly facilities
Kingaroy	Support Kingaroy Tennis to upgrade court light fittings
Kingaroy	Support Senior Soccer to upgrade field lighting on two fields and develop female-friendly amenities
Kingaroy	Support Australian rules football to upgrade field lighting and develop female friendly amenities
Nanango	Support Nanango Netball Club with further redevelopment of courts and facilities
Murgon	Investigate opportunities for suitable additional tenants at the South Burnett PCYC to enhance utilisation and program delivery
Murgon	Upgrade training lights on one field and irrigation on playing fields
Wondai	Support the Shooting Complex to upgrade targets to meet current safety and competition standards
Kumbia	Refurbish two tennis courts (consider marking one as multi-sport)



Community halls and activity spaces

While community halls and indoor activity spaces do not fall ‘under the banner’ of parks and open space, they do provide key areas for recreation and socialisation. In smaller towns and villages, a well-programmed community hall can play an important role as the indoor sport and recreation hub. The term ‘community hall’ used here refers to halls owned by Council and halls owned by churches, schools, not-for-profit and private organisations.

Of particular note is the increasing use of community halls for activities including pilates, yoga and aerobics classes and various forms of martial arts including karate and judo for example. Various forms of dancing are also taught and practiced in halls such as the dance academy operating from the Nanango Showgrounds pavilion for example.

In the South Burnett, many older community halls are reaching the end of the asset’s useful life and require either major maintenance (at considerable cost), complete replacement, disposal (usually selling for private use) or demolition. This latter option is typically an emotional decision for users and the broader community to process due to memories made at these venues and the role the facilities played in creating social connections in the community. A range of social changes have contributed to changed use of community halls and has impacted on the number, size and distribution of halls in towns and villages.

Residents of towns and villages in the South Burnett have access to a community hall in most cases, with residents on rural properties required to travel into population centres. Anecdotally, the activities offered at different halls across the South Burnett draw people from across the area, for example residents of Cherbourg travel to Proston to participate in line dancing - a 40 minute drive each way.

Council has invested significant capital funds to ensure that residents in most towns and villages have access to high quality community halls. The cost to maintain and operate these facilities is considerable, with a key challenge being partial cost-recovery through hire fees and charges. Hire fees for Council owned halls varies across the local government area and can directly impact use of halls for recreation activities. Free or very low-cost access will not necessarily result in increased activation of community halls.

Activating existing facilities

Council is keen to have the existing network of community halls, libraries and community centres as vibrant and busy community recreation and event facilities. Currently, it appears that many of these facilities are largely under-utilised and there is no central role within Council driving this desire for well-activated spaces.





Future direction of community halls and activity spaces in South Burnett

The community and Council aspire to be a vibrant and engaged community that has access to a diverse range of places, spaces and activities.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future provision and management of community halls and activity spaces within the South Burnett:

- » assist to promote existing activities and opportunities
- » encourage greater use of existing facilities
- » base decision-making on sound data and demand.

Priority actions

Council-wide	Investigate opportunities to increase community access and programming at community halls and centres (particularly where it encourages socialisation for older residents)
Council-wide	Target promotion of Council's grants for services and programs to private providers of physical activity and fitness classes to encourage use of community halls (for all ages)
Council-wide	Expand the role of the libraries as community centres and activity spaces. (Consider after-school activities for children, activities for the unemployed, activities for those not interested in traditional sport and parents caring for very young children/infants)
Council-wide	Provide in-principle support to not-for-profit community groups applying for grants and funding to improve facilities such as halls (not owned by Council) and services that provide sport and active recreation benefits for residents



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Section six - Community - town and village priorities

Kingaroy

Nanango

Murgon

Wondai

Blackbutt

Key issues

Villages

Benarkin

Kumbia

Maidenwell

Memerambi

Wooroolin

Tingoora

Hivesville

Proston



Kingaroy

Kingaroy is the administrative centre of the LGA. With a 2016 population of 10,020 people, limited future growth is projected.

With a median age of 37, Kingaroy's population is only slightly older than Queensland's median age of 35. However, the proportion of children aged 0 to 14 years is slightly higher than the Queensland figures, suggesting there are a number of young families in the area. This is further supported by the fact that there are four primary schools and three high schools in the town.

Kingaroy's central business district is located 'centrally' in the town and includes the town's main sporting grounds, community and cultural facilities, retail and administrative services. Upgrades to the Kingaroy CBD are being considered that include activation of the area with improved vehicle and pedestrian movement as well as furniture to create an enhanced community meeting place.

Residential areas surround the CBD to the north, west and south with agricultural and industrial activities directly to the east.

Overall, Kingaroy is an active town and offers a variety of recreation and sporting opportunities to residents and visitors. The main sporting hub of the LGA, there is a large sporting precinct including a variety of field sports and tennis courts, showgrounds, a private golf course, netball courts and a public swimming pool adjacent the town's main recreation park and community event space.

Memorial Park, located a city block to the west of the CBD, is a key community asset and a popular location for informal recreation and community events. Swimming for sport and leisure at the pool located at the corner of the park is also popular. A well designed and shaded playground for toddlers through to pre-teens is a popular feature at the park with large shelters, tables and chairs and toilets in close proximity. The park is well shaded by trees with open areas and internal paths make it highly accessible.

Apex Park and Lookout, Mt Wooroolin and Carroll Nature Reserve also provide opportunities for recreation, with netball facilities being located at Rotary Park.

The recently developed Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail provides a recreation corridor extending north, and is fast becoming a popular recreation facility with an all weather sealed surface attracting walkers and cyclists, individually and in groups.

Further development of Kingaroy's recreation and sport parks is required to ensure the needs of the community are met, as well as extension of the town's walk and cycle pathway network to support these popular activities. Overall, Kingaroy's open space network is well established for the existing and future population.



Snapshot

Current population (2016)	10,020
0 - 14 years	21.7%
15 - 24 years	13.2%
25 - 34 years	12.7%
35 - 44 years	11.5%
45 - 54 years	11.4%
55 - 64 years	11.5%
65 years and over	18.2%
Median age (2016)	37
Households with children	56.6%
Unoccupied private dwellings	10.7%
Do not have a motor vehicle	7.1%

In addition to Kingaroy's open space network, residents and visitors have the opportunity to participate in a number of outdoor recreation activities, offered by the surrounding natural areas:

- » Bjelke-Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah)
- » Boondooma Dam (Lake Boondooma)
- » Gordonbrook Dam
- » Ficks Crossing
- » State and National Parks.



Recreation and sport in Kingaroy

Map ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Activity
Recreation parks			water
8	O'Neill Square	Town	walking, cycling, resting, trail head
4	Memorial Park	Regional	playground, picnicking, walking,
6	Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve	Local	walking, cycling, exercise stations
18	River Road Park	Local	playground, informal sport
17	Lions Park	Local	playground, picnicking, walking, cycling
12	APEX Park	Local	playground, picnicking, lookout
16	Senior Citizens Park	Local	picnicking, nature appreciation, bird watching, walking, cycling
3	Earle Park	Local	undeveloped
15	Youth Park	Local	wheeled recreation device facility
9	Rotary Park	Local	picnicking
10	Adermann Park	Local	playground
13	Carew Park	Local	undeveloped
14	Carroll Nature Reserve	Local	nature appreciation, bird watching, walking
2	Mt Wooroolin	Local	nature appreciation, bird watching, walking, mountain bike riding, sight seeing
Sports parks			
6	Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve	Town	rugby league, cricket, touch football, tennis, football (soccer), football (Australian rules)
9	Rotary Park	Town	netball
Specialised sports			
-	WJ Lang Memorial Olympic Pool	Aquatic	swimming, learn to swim
7	Kingaroy Showgrounds	Showgrounds	motor sports, equestrian, community halls
20	Kingaroy Soaring Club	Private	gliding
21	Kingaroy Golf Club	Private	golf
-	Kingaroy Pistol Club	Private	pistol shooting
Community facilities			
-	Kingaroy Town Hall	Community facility	indoor bowls, various
-	Kingaroy Town Common Hall	Community facility	yoga, various
-	Kingaroy Satellite Cinema	Private	squash
School facilities			
-	Kingaroy State High School	Education	netball, basketball, futsal, volleyball
-	St Mary's Catholic College	Education	futsal



Access to experiences

The open space network in Kingaroy offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these opportunities is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The experiences in the table adjacent are provided in Kingaroy and surrounding areas.

Residents have access to a variety of sport and recreation experiences. However, site inspections identified a lack of infrastructure to support informal recreation, such as connecting pathways, signage, and bench seats along walk cycle routes. Despite this, residents continue to be physically active and participate in a number of organised informal recreation activities.

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water based	Aquatic facility	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookout	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort/safety	Public toilets	●
	Signage	
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community halls	●
	Indoor sports hall	
	Indoor community space	●
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking	●
	Mountain biking	●
	Wheelchair friendly activities	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (electric)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals/courts (Council)	●
	School fields/ovals/courts (for public use)	●
	Horse friendly facilities	●
	Private	●
Activities	Skate park	●
	BMX track	●
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	
Cultural/ community events	Open space for markets	●
	Open space for events	●

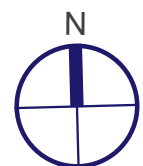


Kingaroy

Map 2. Recreation sites and key localities in Kingaroy



- Recreation site
- Property boundaries
- Highway and main roads





Use and values

Kingaroy's open space network is well used with two-thirds (66%) of survey respondents using the network once a week or more.

Consistent with State and national trends, walking remains the most popular activity participated in at 51% of respondents; 80% when combined with bushwalking. Other popular activities included:

- » swimming (recreation not club) 39%
- » gardening 36%
- » playing in the park 31%
- » fishing 27%

Of those surveyed, 43% also participated in organised sport.

Interestingly, the most popular place to recreate was at home (50%) followed by:

- » local footpaths 43%
- » swimming pool 41%
- » parks 37%
- » rail trail 34%

South Burnett's dams, lakes and surrounding natural areas were also important places for recreation (between 20% to 30% of respondents).

Respondents were also asked to note their favourite open space in the LGA. Kingaroy residents' favourite locations were:

- » Memorial Park 35%
- » APEX Park 10%
- » Mt Wooroolin 10%
- » Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail 7%
- » Bjelke-Petersen Dam/Lake Barambah 6%

The majority of respondents (90%) rated the importance of open space as either important or very important and valued their surrounding open space because:

- » it allows people to spend time with their family and friends
- » the natural setting and interaction with nature
- » place to unwind and relax and exercise
- » close to home.

The majority of respondents also believed that open space should be a high or very high priority for Council. If given the opportunity to improve open space network, Kingaroy survey respondents would support/improve/develop:

- » more community events in public parks
- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » shade across all parks and pathways
- » improved picnic facilities and facilities at water bodies
- » infrastructure development along the rail trail
- » enhancement of Senior Citizens Park ('duck pond park')

- » upgrade of the swimming pool
- » walk cycle track connection and upgrade of Mt Wooroolin
- » upgrade APEX Park lookout
- » access to sport facilities for social use.

Respondents were also in favour of rationalising small, under utilised parks in favour of larger quality town parks. They would also like to see Mt Wooroolin activated to reduce undesirable behaviour.

When asked if they had experienced any barriers to using open space, the top five responses were:

- » lack of shade
- » they are poor maintained and/or unclean
- » lack of connectivity between walk/cycle paths
- » there is a lack of variety/boring
- » there is a lack of toilets.

Respondents were asked to rate the quality of the LGA's sport and recreation facilities.

	poor quality	neutral	great quality	don't know
Aquatic facilities	10%	23%	60%	7%
Sportsfields	8%	31%	48%	13%
Equestrian facilities	18%	10%	4%	68%
Playgrounds	9%	29%	54%	8%
Skate parks	18%	22%	28%	32%
Natural bushland	14%	21%	52%	13%
Places to relax and socialise	20%	27%	43%	10%
Community hall / centre	13%	24%	45%	17%
Activities for youth	40%	24%	16%	20%
Activities for seniors	18%	17%	24%	41%
Low cost/free activities	39%	20%	17%	24%

If respondents were in charge of the provision of open space over the next 10 years, the top three priorities identified include:

- » more community events in public parks
- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » shade across all parks and pathways.



Analysis of open space

Land for recreation open space

Kingaroy has a range of recreation parks that provide a range of activities for all ages. However, younger children are seeking more challenging play opportunities while older youth need the skate park to be in a safer location, and generally more shade within parks and an improved path system.

Council has invested in a number of master and concept plans to guide contemporary development of recreation parks. To ensure implementation of these plans it is recommended they are reviewed by the community and Council and formally adopted to allow appropriate budget and resource allocation.

Improved connectivity through additional pathways will support activation of recreation parks, and additional directional and information signage and promotion is recommended to assist residents and visitors discover and explore the opportunities on offer.

Land for sport open space

Kingaroy has an adequate supply of land for outdoor sporting purposes. Some sports have expressed the need for 'home' grounds and these can be accommodated within existing grounds. New arrangements for collocation will require facilitation by Council to ensure equitably access for training and competition. Additional field and court lighting, upgrades or refurbishment of ancillary facilities and provision of spectator facilities will be a key requirement to support participation in sport. The exception to this is Kingaroy netball courts which require redevelopment in the near future.

Access to local high school indoor sport facilities is filling the need for indoor sport, and the PCYC in Murgon is a comparatively short driving distance providing additional opportunities. There is an opportunity for activity providers to arrange 'outreach' expansion of programs to other towns and villages in the LGA (e.g. gymnastics).

Community facilities

It is not necessarily Council's role to be a provider of activities. However, Council should take a more active role in recognising and promoting the activities that are currently undertaken by private providers particularly within community facilities.

Council facilities such as the town hall, town common hall, showground halls and library should also be further promoted as areas available for indoor community activities.

Kingaroy Airport is a certified airfield with the Civil Aviation and Safety Authority (CASA) for Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) services. Council is obliged under the Commonwealth Government's Aerodrome Local Ownership Plan (ALOP) to maintain and operate the Kingaroy Airport as an airport. Strategically, Council needs to retain certification of the airport for current commercial use, and for RPT or further commercial opportunities in the future.

When considering state and national gliding competitions and events, development at the Kingaroy Airport needs to occur without impacting the primary purpose of the airport.

Access and experiences

While there are a range of sport and recreation opportunities currently available for residents and visitors, enhanced promotion and activation are required. For example, the town is well-suited as a base to access outdoor recreation opportunities and yet activities such as mountain biking, bushwalking and kayaking have historically received very limited resourcing or attention.

Additionally, greater emphasis is required on the provision of directional and interpretive signage. Areas such as Mt Wooroolin, Apex Park Lookout and Carroll Nature Reserve are well-suited to interpretive signage such as flora and fauna species and other points of interest. As the walk/cycle network continues to be developed across the town, directional signage should be installed so that users understand how far it is to key areas such as the central business district, key sport and recreation facilities and other community facilities.



Memorial Park



Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve



River Road Park

Kingaroy priority actions

Town-wide	
K1	Develop and maintain strong working relationships with high schools in Kingaroy to support and facilitate continued use of indoor sport court facilities by local sport clubs
K2	Actively promote and encourage use of the South Burnett PCYC, supporting community-based solutions (e.g. car pooling to activities)
K3	Rationalise Adermann Park
Aquatic Centre	
K4	Within the life of this Plan, Council's public swimming pools will be at the end of their useful asset lives. In the next 3-5 years Council needs to investigate the feasibility of replacing its public pools in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon and Wondai in consultation with the community and with a clear picture of the probable capital cost of replacement and ongoing operations year-on-year
K5	Commission suitably qualified engineers to undertake a detailed and 'intrusive' investigation of the structural integrity of Council's public swimming pools, and provide a report on the remaining life of pool structures and associated plant and equipment. Include concrete testing of pool structures and balance tanks, intrusive CCTV inspection of in-ground pipe work and pool leak testing. The report should include recommendations to cost effectively extend the life of existing assets
K6	Develop a high level concept plan for redevelopment of WJ Lang Memorial Pool prior to works on the amenities, offices and kiosk, to allow a strategic approach to incorporation of potential future changes to the facility
K7	When redeveloping the amenities, offices and kiosk for the WJ Lang Memorial Pool consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » orientation of the kiosk to allow a serving window directly facing Memorial Park (preferably in clear sight of the playground) » access to the pool from Memorial Park » consideration and orientation of facilities to accommodate potential future experiences including water-play and leisure pool
Kingaroy Golf Club	
K8	Support the Kingaroy Golf Club to apply for external funding for improvements including upgrading of greens, irrigation system and refurbishment of the clubhouse (e.g. internal painting)

Memorial Park	
K9	Upgrade the dog off-leash area with improved fencing, seating, shade, water and agility equipment. Consider segregated areas for small and large dogs
K10	Identify core infrastructure requirements for community events (e.g. power, water) and make improvements to facilitate easier access for this purpose
K11	Construct internal pathways connecting play nodes, toilet, shelters, water bubblers and entry gate(s) to improve access
Kingaroy Airport	
K12	Develop clear terms of reference for the Kingaroy Airport Working Group including appropriate Council staff and representatives of the Kingaroy Soaring Club to identify options for redevelopment of facilities at the Airport to support ongoing success of the club, and that contributes to economic benefit to the South Burnett LGA
K13	Recognise and support the Kingaroy Soaring Club's efforts to regularly attract and secure state and national events to Kingaroy and leverage these events to promote broader attractions of the South Burnett region
K14	Develop a high level concept plan over land adjacent the Kingaroy Airport to cater for location/potential relocation of motor sports
Lions Park	
K15	Remove old existing signage. As the playground equipment reaches the end of its useful life, remove it and create a rest stop with basic all ages play equipment e.g. swings, as well as information and promotion signage encouraging visitors to explore the South Burnett
Mt Wooroolin	
K16	Install directional and information signage to encourage and promote walking and mountain bike riding on existing trails
K17	Incorporate allowance for widening of the verge (on Haly Street and Mt Wooroolin Road) in any civil works to allow off-road walking and mountain bike riding to Mt Wooroolin

Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve	
K18	Continue to implement the 'Town Common Master Plan' including recommendations from this Plan
K19	Identify core infrastructure requirements for community events (e.g. power, water) and make improvements to facilitate easier access for this purpose
K20	Identify locations for spectator shade and seating, and access points for drinking water
K21	Light an additional field to accommodate rugby league and touch football training
K22	Investigate the collocation of junior cricket with football (soccer) or alternative sites for junior cricket including use of school facilities
K23	Assess the condition of the toilets and canteen at the rugby league/touch football fields and tennis courts to determine if refurbishment or replacement is warranted
K24	Support the tennis club to develop a court lighting design using contemporary technology (e.g. LED), cost the design and support the tennis club to apply for external funding to replace light fittings
K25	Support football (Australian rules) to develop unisex or female friendly amenities and upgrade field lighting for training purposes
K26	Support the Senior Soccer Club to develop female/unisex change rooms including accessible toilets and showers, baby change facility and lockable shower cubicles
K27	Support the Senior Soccer Club to upgrade to LED lights on two training fields
Netball Courts	
K28	Support the redesign of netball courts (in accordance with Netball Australia specifications) to include required run off clear space at sides and end lines, resolve drainage issues and accommodate lighting and for at least one court, shade and spectator seating.
K29	Install low (500mm) fencing to prevent balls rolling into car parks and nearby roads. Fencing should not prevent access by residents for casual use
K30	Review/redesign the car park including entry and exit. Grade the unsealed car park in the short term to limit water pooling and potential damage to courts and consider sealing in the medium to long term
K31	Work in partnership with netball to co-fund refurbishment of the clubhouse, toilets and changerooms, particularly measures to increase security.
Rotary Park	
K32	In consultation with the Rotary Club, rationalise electric BBQs at Rotary Park to a maximum of two

APEX Park	
K33	Clear vegetation currently impeding the views from APEX lookout
K34	Provide simple directional signage to direct people from either end of APEX park e.g. playground to lookout; lookout to playground.
K35	Construct an accessible pathway to connect the car park to the toilet building
K36	Consult with residents in Farr and Mcdiarmid Streets regarding an additional small car park at the western entry to the park prior to design and costing
Senior Citizens Park	
K37	Remove timber BBQs and park furniture at the end of its useful life
K38	Install park benches with arms to support sitting and standing by older aged people
K39	Construct pathways to accommodate mobility scooters and connect pathways to bench seating locations
Carroll Nature Reserve	
K40	Install simple directional signage at key locations to guide people through the site
K41	Replace the property boundary fence
K42	Consider establishment of a 'Friends of Carroll Nature Reserve' group to assist Council to control weeds and plant native endemic specie
Youth Park	
K43	Investigate and secure tenure of the land that the Youth Park is constructed on
K44	Collaborate with the South Burnett CTC to develop a transparent agreement with Council regarding cleaning of the Youth Park and repairs and maintenance of assets, for the benefit of users
Carew Park	
K45	Investigate the development of a green space with the members of the Carew family and other community organisations.
Earle Park	
K46	Investigate the development of a green space in partnership community organisations.
Community Halls	
K47	Provide support to not-for-profit community groups applying for grants and funding to improve facilities (not owned by Council) and services that provide sport and active recreation benefits for residents.



Memorial Park, Kingaroy



Lyle Vidler Oval, Bjelke-Petersen Reserve, Kingaroy

Nanango



Located on the D'Aguilar Highway, Nanango has a history of timber-felling, farming and mining, and is the fourth oldest town in Queensland. With a population of 3,599 (as at the 2016 Census) Nanango is the LGA's second largest township.

Overall, the Nanango community is predominantly older, with a median age of 48, 3 years older than the South Burnett's median age of 45, and 5 years older than Kingaroy's median age of 37. Compared to the South Burnett (at 50.7%), Nanango has a lower proportion of families with children (48.7%), this is further reflected by two primary schools and single high school.

Similar to the South Burnett's population trend, Nanango's population is ageing, with limited growth predicted. The future planning of recreation and sport in the town will need to cater for both the youth and elderly, two different niches. Youth will require access to higher impact activities such as organised sports, interesting play elements that cater for a variety of ages and hang out spaces. The older population will prefer low impact activities such as walking and supporting infrastructure (bench seating, shade and formalised walking paths).

Nanango offers a variety of recreation and sporting opportunities for residents and visitors. There are sport fields and courts, playgrounds, walking tracks, skate park, aquatic centre, showgrounds, golf course, motor sport facility and community halls. A number of State Forests and National Parks are in close proximity to Nanango, most notably the Bunya Mountains to the south-west providing outdoor recreation opportunities for residents.

Recently upgraded, the main street of Nanango is pedestrian friendly and features many historic references and points of interest.

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,599
0 - 14 years	17.9%
15 - 24 years	10.0%
25 - 34 years	8.9%
35 - 44 years	9.3%
45 - 54 years	13.0%
55 - 64 years	14.4%
65 years and over	26.3%
Median age (2016)	48
Households with children	48.7%
Unoccupied private dwellings	12.7%
Do not have a motor vehicle	7.1%



Butter Factory Park,
Nanango

Recreation and sport in Nanango

Recreation and sport is well catering for in Nanango with a range of Council and privately provided opportunities available.

Map ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Activity
Recreation parks			
1	Pioneer Park	Town	wheeled recreation devices, picnicking, playground, nature appreciation
3	Lions Park	Local	playground, picnicking, tourist stop
9	Butter Factory Park	Local	playground, children's bike track, bmx, fishing
16	Reg McCallum Park	Local	rest
19	Mt Stanley Road Dog Park	Local	dog off-leash
17	Green Park	Local	playground
4	Tipperary Flat	Local	walking, bushwalking, cycling
20	National Serviceman's Park	Local	memorial
Sports parks			
12	Nanango Sports Ground	Local	cricket, football (soccer), dog obedience
6	Nanango Netball Courts	Local	netball
2	Kassulke Park	Local	rugby league
Specialised sports parks			
18	Nanango Golf Club	Private	golf
15	South Burnett Aquatic Centre	Aquatic	swimming, learn to swim
7	Nanango Showground	Showgrounds	equestrian, markets, dance (hall)
11	The Burnett Courts	Tennis	tennis
-	Burnett Equestrian Group Grounds	Private	equestrian
14	Nanango Bowling Club	Private	lawn bowls
5	Lee Park / Nanango Race Club	Private	equestrian, horse racing
13	Go-kart	Private	go-kart
Community facilities			
-	Nanango Cultural Centre	Community facility	indoor bowls, meetings
-	Nanango Blue Light Disco	Private	disco, skating
-	Nanango Darts Club	Private	darts, playgroup
-	Nanango Squash Courts	Private	squash, fitness
School facilities			
-	Nanango High School	Education	potential for indoor court sports



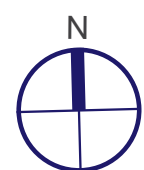
Nanango

Map 3. Recreation sites and key localities in Nanango



- 1 Pioneer Park
- 2 Kassulke Park
- 3 Lions Park
- 4 Tipperary Flat
- 5 Lee Park
- 6 Nanango Netball Courts
- 7 Nanango Showgrounds
- 8 Grey Street wetlands
- 9 Butter Factory Park
- 10 Mount Stanley Road Dog Park
- 11 Tennis courts
- 12 Nanango sports ground
- 13 Go-kart
- 14 Lawn Bowls
- 15 South Burnett Aquatic Centre
- 16 Reg McCallum Park
- 17 Green Park
- 18 Golf Course
- 19 Nanango Fauna Sanctuary
- 20 National Serviceman's Park

- Recreation site
- Property boundaries
- Highway and main roads





Access to experiences

The open space network in Nanango offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these opportunities is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in Nanango and surrounding areas.

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
	Aquatic facility	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Waterways	●
	Natural areas	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookout	
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
	Library	●
Comfort/safety	Public toilets	●
	Signage	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●
	Indoor sports hall	●
	Indoor community space	●
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	
	Camping	●
	Wheelchair friendly activities	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (electric)	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals/courts (Council)	●
	School fields/ovals/courts (for public use)	
	Horse friendly facilities	●
	Private	●
Activities	Skate park	●
	BMX track	●
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	
Cultural/ community events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	●
	Open space for events	●



Use and values

Overall, open space and recreation is rated as a high priority for Nanango residents (that completed the survey). Approximately 84% indicated this should be a *high to very high* priority for Council, while 72% noted that it was a *high* priority for themselves and their family.

Just over 56% of Nanango respondents visited the open spaces in the area at least once a week. The most popular open spaces to visit were:

1. Pioneer Park 53%
2. Lions Park 47%
3. local footpaths and at home 35%
4. local roads for walking and cycling 29%
5. park 24%

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. swimming (recreation not club) 56%
2. walking 50%
3. playing in the park and fishing 44%
4. gardening 39%
5. horse riding 28%.

Under half of the respondents indicated that they participated in organised sporting competitions within the LGA.

Consistent with the most popular activities and open space to visit, the residents valued the following attributes of the open space network:

- » they are close to my home
- » they appeal to the whole family
- » then encourage social interaction with the community
- » they allow me to spend quality time with my family
- » they provide me with a place to exercise
- » the interaction with the natural environment
- » the natural setting.

Respondents were asked what their favourite open space/park within the South Burnett was and why. Memorial and Apex Parks in Kingaroy, BP Dam and Butter Factory Park were popular places. Many liked the children's bike track at Butter Factory Park and the variety of play equipment in Memorial and Apex Parks (flying fox), while others preferred the natural environment and water-based recreation activities provided at BP Dam.

Despite 56% of respondents visiting the open space network at least weekly, some experienced a number of barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » they are poorly maintained and/or unclean 39%
- » no public access to sports grounds (football) 39%
- » there is no shade 33%.

Residents were asked to rate the quality of open space and recreation opportunities across the LGA.

	poor quality		great quality
Aquatic facilities	22%	50%	22%
Sports parks	28%	22%	50%
Equestrian facilities	22%	11%	17%
Playgrounds	44%	44%	11%
Skate parks	33%	33%	11%
Natural bushland	22%	17%	50%
Places to relax and socialise	33%	28%	33%
Community hall / centre	50%	22%	11%
Activities for youth	67%	0%	11%
Activities for seniors	33%	22%	11%
Low cost/free activities	61%	17%	6%

It should be noted that the Nanango Cultural Centre is an excellent venue, particularly for town the size of Nanango.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be for Council over the next ten years, priorities included:

- » new/upgraded playgrounds
- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » more community events in public parks

Respondents also noted the following open spaces in Nanango that they would upgrade:

- » Nanango Showgrounds for equestrian activities
- » Nanango netball courts
- » Pioneer Park.



Green Park, Nanango



Analysis of open space

Land for recreation open space

Overall, Nanango residents are well supplied with land for recreation. However, the quality and variety of embellishments within these parks is a growing concern among residents and users. Consistent with the results from the community survey, school visits also highlighted that the existing recreation parks did not meet school children's recreation needs. The dirt bmx track is located in a stormwater overflow and separate to the skate park located at Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park's play equipment is only suitable for toddlers and young children.

The creation of three recreation hubs in Nanango would provide separate spaces for the older youth and younger children. Pioneer Park has the opportunity to be developed as a space to cater for older children and teenagers with an upgraded wheeled recreation device facility, dirt bmx track, hang-out areas, and walk and cycle trails throughout the park. It is also recommended that the dog park is relocated from Mt Stanley Road to Pioneer Park, to increase its accessibility and the socialisation benefits of the facility. Lions Park should continue to cater for Nanango's toddlers and young children, along with Butter Factory Park, catering primarily for toddlers and preschool aged children.

The wetland area adjacent to Grey Street and Mount Stanley Nature Reserve are located in close proximity to residential areas in Nanango, however neither have been enhanced to provide informal recreation opportunities for residents. Simple developments such as directional signs and/or recreation paths connecting them to town, picnic facilities and bench seats could activate these spaces.

Green Park is a small 'pocket park' with a play unit for toddlers. Responses to the community survey indicated that this park is not valued, therefore rationalisation is proposed. Once the dog park is relocated to Pioneer Park, rationalisation of Mt Stanley Road Park is also proposed.

Land for sporting facilities

Nanango is well supplied with land for sporting facilities. The Nanango sports ground provides good local facilities for football (soccer) and cricket although improved irrigation is required to maintain turf to a safe standard. The toilets and change rooms at the sports grounds require refurbishment. Rugby league is well catered for at Kassulke Park with plans to develop a mini-mod field in the future for training and juniors. Burnett tennis courts are in good condition with serviceable amenities and clubhouse.

During development of this Plan the Nanango netball courts were identified as requiring urgent works, preferably reconstruction. Having secured a range of funding from different sources, the netball courts are in the process of being replaced. Ancillary facilities such as the clubhouse and toilets also require refurbishment.

Nanango Showgrounds provide facilities for a range of equestrian pursuits, as well as dance in its large hall, community markets, and host community and commercial events. The showgrounds has excellent facilities and is a well-managed and maintained site. Further development of the site has been planned and is recommended in this Plan.

As well as equestrian sports, other specialised sporting activities that are popular in Nanango included golf and lawn bowls.

Access to experiences

As previously mentioned, Nanango is lacking a variety of play experiences. *New/upgraded playground* and increasing the provision of *places/facilities for young people* were identified as the top two priorities respondents would focus on if they were in charge of Council's open space network planning. The upgrade of Pioneer Park as the older youth park and Lions Park and Butter Factory Park as the toddler and younger youth park will ensure that a variety of play experiences are provided and are age-appropriate for the desired users.

Nanango Showgrounds provides an excellent facility to hold community events. Upgrades to the showgrounds should include additional facilities and services that support community events, such as arena lighting.

Swimming is popular particularly during warmer months, and the hydrotherapy pool is used for learn-to-swim and other programs. All year access to the facility is valuable to users from across the LGA. A relatively new facility, it is recommended that attendance figures are recorded to inform annual operational and service reviews.

Nanango priority actions

Town-wide	
N1	Develop and maintain a strong working relationship with Nanango High School to support and facilitate potential future use of indoor sport facilities by local sport clubs
N2	Rationalise Green Recreation Reserve
N3	Rationalise unnamed and undeveloped open space (Lot 90 SP 122591)
N4	Rationalise Mt Stanley Road Park after relocation of the dog off-leash facility to Pioneer Park
Pioneer Park	
N5	Develop an overall concept plan for Pioneer Park including the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » upgraded play node incorporating inclusive elements (paths, sensory garden, tactile) » expand existing skate park » USB recharge points in shelters » circuit of walk/cycle trails throughout the park » off-leash dog area » directional, distance and information signs » gate/bollards to restrict vehicle access » planting plan to create additional shade, define entries and boundaries and create outdoor rooms
N6	Commence planting additional shade trees throughout the park at key locations where people gather
Butter Factory park	
N7	Construct a pathway to connect the park with the footpath across the road in front of the school
N8	Remove the dirt bmx pump track from the drainage reserve adjacent Butter Factory Park
N9	Construct an additional shelter with tables and chairs inside the fenced park area
N10	Plant shade trees within the fenced park area and along the creek bank to the rear of the park and install bench seating where people fish
Mt Stanley Road park	
N11	Remove the cricket nets
N12	Relocate the dog park to Pioneer Park

South Burnett Aquatic Centre	
N13	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the South Burnett Aquatic Centre to inform annual operational and service reviews
Tipperary Flat	
N14	Install signage to indicate the distance, time to walk, and markers along the pathway circuit
Showgrounds	
N15	Support the Nanango Showgrounds to seek external funding to light the main arena to facilitate sporting and community events
N16	Support the Nanango Showgrounds to seek external funding to reorient the smaller arena to accommodate additional equestrian activities and events
Nanango Netball Courts	
N17	Redevelopment of existing grass courts
N18	Work in partnership with netball to co-fund refurbishment of the canteen, toilet and change rooms sufficient for local use
Burnett Courts	
N19	Liaise with the club to arrange a pedestrian gate to remain unlocked to provide public access to a tennis court for social games
Nanango Cultural Centre	
N20	Promote the Cultural Centre as a key venue for recreation activities, meetings, social functions, training courses and wet weather training and exercise
Nanango Sports Ground	
N21	Design and seek external funding for upgrades to the clubhouse to achieve appropriate changerooms, toilets, canteen and storage facilities
N22	Support the sport clubs at the Nanango sports ground to seek external funding to upgrade the irrigation system for playing fields
Kassulke Park	



N23	Support South Burnett Rugby League to apply for funding to develop a mini-mod field at Kassulke Park
Lions Park	
N24	Develop Lions Park into a feature recreation park with an extended playground for toddlers and young children up to 8 years of age. Ensure embellishments area included to support parents and carers comfort and safety
Mt Stanley Nature Reserve	
N25	Install directional signage to guide people to visit the wetlands at Grey Street and Mt Stanley Nature Reserve. Install bench seating at sight seeing locations

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.



Indoor bowls at Nanango Cultural Centre

Murgon



Murgon the South Burnett's third largest town, with an estimated population of 2,378 as at the 2016 Census. It is located near the north-eastern side of the LGA and is the closest town to the neighbouring Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council area. Many of the 1,249 residents living in Cherbourg access sport and recreation opportunities in Murgon and planning needs to take this into consideration.

Despite a median age (44 years) higher than the Shire (37 years) average, Murgon is family friendly and boasts diverse and good quality outdoor sport facilities as well as the only indoor sport facility in the LGA.

The town's nine-hole golf course, sports ground with three turf cricket wickets also accommodating rugby league, soccer and touch football, tennis courts, swimming pool, skate facility, recreation parks and the South Burnett PCYC offer a range of formal and informal opportunities for residents and visitors.

The town is located within easy driving distance to Bjelke-Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah) providing water-based outdoor recreation activities such as boating, kayaking and fishing as well as bushwalking, picnicking and mountain bike riding, for example.

There are a range of services based in Murgon that use sport and recreation activities as a tool to engage youth and build the capacity of individuals and the community. There is an opportunity to improve coordination between these services, potentially through collocation.

An ageing community, residents will be seeking low impact recreation activities and complimentary infrastructure. Future planning needs to include consideration of walk and cycle pathways to support independent non-motorised transport.

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	2,378
0 - 14 years	12.7%
15 - 24 years	11.9%
25 - 34 years	9.2%
35 - 44 years	10.1%
45 - 54 years	13.5%
55 - 64 years	12.2%
65 years and over	24.8%
Median age (2016)	44
Households with children	49.6%
Unoccupied private dwellings	13.9%
Do not have a motor vehicle	9.8%



The mural was a collaborative effort of the South Burnett PCYC, independent arts coordinator Olivia Everitt and artists Bronte Naylor and Kane Brunjes

Murgon mural



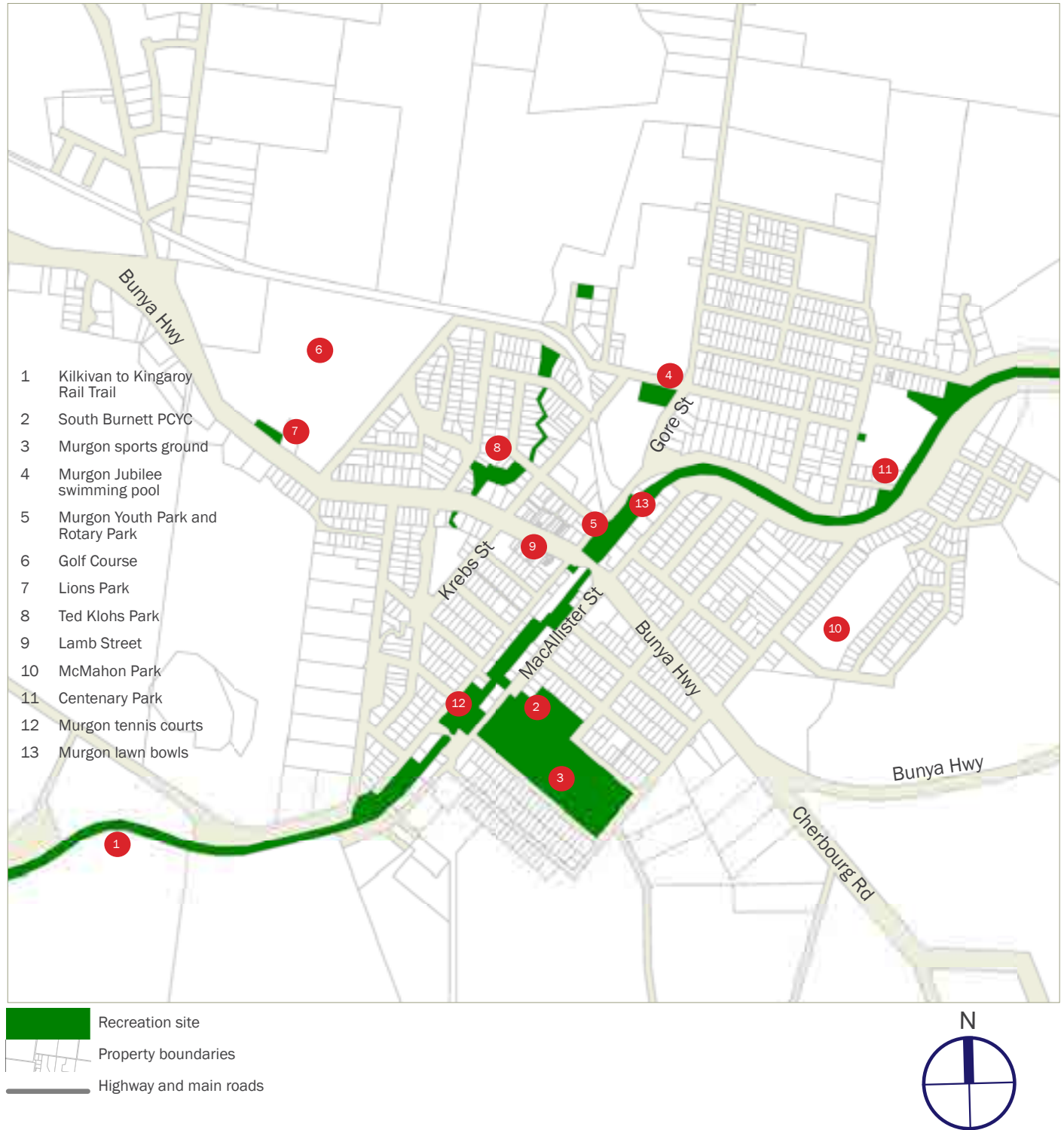
Recreation and sport in Murgon

Map ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Activities
Recreation parks			
1	Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail	Regional	walking, cycling, community events, horse riding (Murgon to Kilkivan)
5	Murgon Youth Park and Rotary Park	Town	wheeled recreation device node, playground, picnicking, community events
7	Lions Park	Local	playground, picnicking,
8	Ted Klohs Park	Local	escape, nature appreciation, walking
5	Old Rotary Park	Local	play
9	Lamb Street	Local	escape, community events
11	Centenary Park	Local	
10	McMahon Park	Local	playground, escape, walking
Sports parks			
3	Murgon Sports Ground (showground)	Town	rugby league, cricket, touch football, football (soccer)
Specialised sports parks			
2	South Burnett PCYC	Indoor	aerobics, basketball, bike education, dance, gymnastics, personal training, gym, squash, futsal, boxing, yoga, volleyball, physical activity and health programs
12	Murgon Tennis Club	Private	tennis
6	Murgon Golf Club	Private	golf, nature appreciation, walking
13	Lawn Bowls Club	Private	lawn bowls
4	Murgon Jubilee Swimming Pool	Aquatic	swimming, aquatic programs
Community facilities			
-	Murgon Town Hall	Town	indoor activities, meetings



Murgon

Map 3. Recreation sites and key localities in Murgon





Access to experiences

The open space network in Murgon offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these opportunities is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in Murgon and surrounding areas.

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities		Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps		Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	
	Jetties			Table, seats and shade	●
	Natural swimming holes	●		BBQ facilities (gas)	●
	Aquatic facility	●			
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●	Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Waterways	●		Young children	●
	Natural areas	●		Youth	
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookout		Sport	Fields/ovals/courts (Council)	●
	Shaded seating areas	●		School fields/ovals/courts (for public use)	
	Formal/structured gardens			Horse friendly facilities	●
	Library	●		Private	●
Comfort/safety	Public toilets	●	Activities	Skate park	●
	Signage	●		BMX track	
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community building			Outdoor fitness equipment	
	Indoor sports hall				
	Indoor community space				
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking	●	Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Mountain biking	●		Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Fishing facilities	●		Bicycle parking	
	Camping	●	Cultural/ community events	Open space for markets	●
	Wheelchair friendly activities			Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	
			Open space for events		





Use and values

A community survey was distributed around Murgon (and the entire South Burnett). The number of completed surveys from Murgon residents was almost the same as Nanango, showing an interest in contributing to this Plan and future development of the South Burnett.

Overall, Murgon's residents have a range of places to support them to be physically active. Walking was recorded as the most popular activity among all age groups, especially senior residents. Swimming for recreation and gardening completed the top three activities residents participated in.

Participation in organised sport, especially at the Murgon sports grounds, PCYC, and tennis courts, is relatively high in Murgon. The junior rugby league competition is strong. Discussions with school children identified that the majority of those that played some form of organised sport, did so at the facilities mentioned earlier.

The PCYC is well supported by the Murgon community, however support from residents of other towns and villages in the South Burnett is not strong. The travel distance (time and fuel cost) was the barrier most identified by people at the community workshops and respondents to the community survey. The range of programs on offer at the PCYC and the active presence of the manager in the community are commendable. Increased utilisation of the PCYC could be enhanced by collocating complementary services in the building, such as the South Burnett CTC, for example.

Murgon Youth Park and Rotary Park have been well developed into a youth space and is well used by the community, especially due to its location adjacent to the school. This 'hub' of play experiences creates an environment where children and youth of all ages can play at the same time. Park users require access to toilet facilities to enhance use.

The Murgon Jubilee Swimming Pool is a valued local asset, especially during the summer months. Ancillary facilities were recently updated at the facility and the pool structures, while older, remain in good condition currently. Many children travel from Cherbourg to use the Murgon swimming pool.

A large proportion of Murgon's parks are connected by the KKRT providing a well-connected and safe walking and cycling corridor between residential areas, health services, school and sport and recreation opportunities.

Residents noted the beauty of the surrounding natural area and the many outdoor recreation opportunities they offered. Improved maintenance at Ficks Crossing was a common comment provided by community survey respondents.





Analysis of open space

Land for recreation open space

Murgon is well supplied for land for recreation purposes. Focussing on development of a well-embellished recreation park has resulted in Youth Park and Rotary Park that attracts regular use. Investigations to provide access to well-managed amenities will help complete this area and further enhance its use. Other recreation parks in Murgon are either ageing or predominantly undeveloped and rationalisation of some of these will allow Council to continue the success of its focussed approach to developing key 'feature' recreation parks. McMahon Park is currently relatively undeveloped, however, it is well located and in the longer term will contribute to a well-connected network of diverse opportunities in the town.

Land for sporting facilities

With access to a quality outdoor fields at Murgon sports ground, indoor courts at the South Burnett PCYC, tennis courts being upgraded and a swimming pool, residents have access to a range of indoor and outdoor sporting opportunities. Targeted upgrades are required at the sports ground to support current sporting activities, including irrigation and lighting.

Community facilities

The PCYC provides a range of indoor sport, recreation, physical fitness and personal development programs and activities to residents of Murgon and the South Burnett. Greater promotion of the activities and profiling instructors/teachers, as well as dispelling the perception that the travel distance is too great may encourage broader support for this community asset. In a practical sense, collocation of suitable services may enhance utilisation of the PCYC.

Priority actions

Town-wide		Murgon Jubilee Swimming Pool	
M1	Develop a high level concept plan over McMahon Park recognising that development is proposed in the long term (10+ years)	M8	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Murgon Jubilee Swimming Pool to inform annual operational and service reviews
M2	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	South Burnett PCYC	
McMahon Park		M9	Investigate options and identify criteria for potential additional tenants to enhance utilisation and program delivery and uptake
M3	Seek feedback from the community on the McMahon Park master plan, incorporate changes and present to Council for formal adoption	M10	Develop a promotional campaign for the South Burnett PCYC advertising the scope of programs on offer and dispelling the 'travel distance' paradigm
M4	Implement the McMahon Park master plan in stages	Murgon Sports Ground	
Lions Park		M11	Upgrade the irrigation system for playing fields
M5	As the playground equipment reaches the end of its useful life, remove it and create a rest stop with basic all ages play equipment, eg swings	M12	Upgrade lighting to training standard on one field for 'large' ball sports
Youth and Rotary Parks		<div style="background-color: #8db600; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px;"> <p>Priority actions</p> <p>Refer to council-wide actions contained in the <i>Implementation Plan</i> as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.</p> </div>	
M6	Investigate access to toilet facilities to service the park. Consider CPTED and management considerations to minimise vandalism and misuse		
M7	Continue implementation of the Youth Park concept plan		

Wondai



Wondai has a population of 1,973 and is located approximately 16km (15 minutes drive) south from Murgon. A school provides education for students from primary to year 10. Some students travel to Kingaroy or Murgon for schooling.

Wondai sports ground, golf course, netball and tennis courts, showgrounds and recreation parks provide a good range of structured and unstructured recreation activities. In addition, specialised sports including shooting and equestrian are very well catered for by the South Burnett Shooting Complex and the Wondai Showgrounds.

Recreation parks vary in embellishment and condition. Similar to Murgon, Council has focussed on development of key 'feature' parks and increased use is evidence of the success of this approach. A number of undeveloped parks could be rationalised.

Wondai's swimming pool is ageing and further investigation is required to provide Council with information on which to base the future of this facility, particularly given the close proximity of the Murgon swimming pool. Similarly the skate park adjacent the pool is older and lacks interest for youth. While it is shaded, it lacks other support facilities and could be better located.

Wondai residents are fortunate to have access to the KKRT as well as McEuen and Wondai State Forests for walking and mountain bike riding; individually or joining organised club activities. Ficks Crossing, Boondooma Dam (Lake) and Bjelke-Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah) are also short distances from town providing water- and land-based outdoor recreation activities.

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	1,973
0 - 14 years	17.6%
15 - 24 years	9.5%
25 - 34 years	8.5%
35 - 44 years	8.4%
45 - 54 years	11.7%
55 - 64 years	11.9%
65 years and over	30.5%
Median age (2016)	49
Households with children	49.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	10.9%
Do not have a motor vehicle	6.1%



Recreation and sport in Wondai


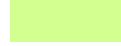


ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Activity
Recreation parks			
1	Coronation Park	Town	playground, community events, picnicking, walking, escape, public art appreciation
2	Grant Crescent park	Local	escape
3	Parkside Park	Local	undeveloped
4	Dingo Park	Local	playground, picnicking, nature appreciation
5	Bore Paddock Park	Local	playground, exercise equipment, walking
6	McKell Park	Local	playground, community events, picnicking, walking, escape, public art appreciation
Sports parks			
4	Wondai sports ground	Town	rugby league, motor sport, football (soccer), cricket
5	Sunstrup Park	Town	tennis, netball, cricket
Specialised sports parks			
6	Wondai Swimming Pool	Aquatic	swimming, aquatic programs, wheeled recreation device node adjacent
7	Wondai Golf Club	Private	golf
8	Wondai Showgrounds	Showgrounds	equestrian
9	South Burnett Shooting Complex	Private	shooting
Community facilities			
10	Wondai Memorial Hall	Community facility	indoor activities, meetings

Wondai

Map 4. Recreation sites and key localities in Wondai



- 1 Killkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail
- 2 Wondai showground
- 3 Dingo Park
- 4 Sunstrup Park (netball and tennis courts)
- 5 Wondai sports ground
- 6 Golf course
- 7 Wondai shooting complex
- 8 Wondai swimming pool and skate park
- 9 Grant Crescent Park
- 10 Wondai State Forest
- 11 McEuen State Forest
- 12 Parkside Park
- 13 Coronation Park
- 14 Bore Paddock Park
- 15 McKell Park

-  Recreation site
-  State Forest and National Park
-  Property boundaries
-  Highway and main roads





Access to experiences

The open space network in Wondai offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these opportunities is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in Wondai and surrounding areas.

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based activities	Aquatic facility	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Waterways	●
	Natural areas	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookout	
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	●
	Library	●
Comfort/safety	Public toilets	●
	Signage	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking	●
	Mountain biking	●
	Fishing facilities	
	Camping	●
	Wheelchair friendly activities	

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (electric)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals/courts (Council)	●
	School fields/ovals/courts (for public use)	
	Horse friendly facilities	●
	Private	●
Activities	Skate park	●
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	
	Bicycle parking	
Cultural/ community events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	●
	Open space for events	●



Use and values

Wondai residents provided opinions and insights when responding to the community survey and workshops, particularly school students, sport club administrators and residents. The number of completed surveys from Wondai was relative to its population size, compared with the number of responses from larger towns.

Overall, Murgon's residents have a range of places to support them to be physically active. Consistent with other towns in South Burnett, walking was recorded as the most popular activity among all age groups, especially senior residents. Swimming for recreation and gardening completed the top three activities residents participated in. The popularity and extent of the Wondai Garden Expo is evidence of this activity's popularity.

Participation in organised sport is relative to the population size and age groups, however ageing facilities in need of better maintenance impacts on participants enjoyment of sport. Discussions with school children identified that the majority of those that played some form of organised sport, played either rugby league, football (soccer) and netball.

Dingo Park has been well developed with a playground and picnic facilities located to complement the natural water feature and area shaded by trees to the rear of the park. Removal of old exercise stations, and relocation of the skate park from beside the pool, when the current facility is no longer useful, will further enhance this area. Development of a dirt bmx track could also be considered. Additional bench seating to allow residents and visitors to wander through the park and rest at key locations would encourage use.

Residents noted the outdoor recreation opportunities available to them in the surrounding State Forests, particularly for mountain bike riding. A new club has been formed and is growing quickly and steadily, providing opportunities for people from across the South Burnett to participate. Like Murgon, Wondai is in close proximity to Ficks Crossing and Bjelke-Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah) and therefore a range of water- and land-based outdoor recreation activities.

While the Wondai Swimming Pool is ageing, it remains a valued recreation location for residents, and current management has an impressive range of programs activating the facility. Council needs to commence detailed analysis of the cost of this facility in the medium-long term future.

Analysis of open space

Land for recreation open space

Wondai has a diverse range of sporting and recreation parks providing a broad scope of recreation opportunities. Most of the sport and recreation facilities and park embellishments in Wondai are ageing and due to the population size and limited growth, some of the undeveloped recreation parks can be rationalised. This will allow Council to focus on development of a well-embellished recreation park, such as Dingo Park.

Land for sporting facilities

With access to outdoor fields at Wondai sports ground, netball and tennis courts at Sunstrup Park, shooting at the South Burnett Shooting Complex, golf, showgrounds and a swimming pool, residents have access to a range of sporting opportunities. The South Burnett PCYC is located only 10 minutes drive away providing indoor sporting opportunities as well. Targeted upgrades are required at the sports ground to support current sporting activities, including irrigation, lighting and upgraded amenities.

Community facilities

Similar to all towns and villages in the South Burnett, the Wondai Memorial Hall is under-utilised and further activation of this indoor space would contribute to additional recreation opportunities, particularly (but not only) for preschool and older aged people. With access to the South Burnett PCYC in Murgon, Wondai is well served by community facilities.

Wondai's priority actions

Town-wide	
W1	Rationalise Parkside Park
W2	Rationalise Grant Crescent Park
Dingo Park	
W3	Remove the old exercise stations and timber amphitheatre
W4	Develop nature play opportunities for children utilising the natural features of the park
W5	Install up to four bench seats in locations throughout the treed parts of the park for rest, escape and nature observation
Skate Park	
W6	Toward the end of its useful life (within the next 3-5 years) investigate suitable sites for replacement of the skate park using siting checklists contained in published skate facility guides
Sunstrup Park	
W7	Assess the condition of the courts annually and undertake repairs to extend the life of the courts
W8	Install a large shelters and seating for participants and spectators
W9	Develop a fenced dog off-leash park on part of the park ensuring it does not impact on use of the cricket oval
Wondai Sportsground	
W10	Support the Wondai Sportsground Association to investigate sustainable irrigation options including safe use of treated wastewater to support improve playing surfaces
W11	Support the Wondai Sportsground Association to upgrade field lighting to support training during evenings for 'large' ball sports

Wondai Swimming Pool	
W12	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Wondai Swimming Pool to inform annual operational and service reviews
South Burnett Shooting Complex	
W13	Support the organisation to apply for external grants to fund upgrade of targets to required standards
McEuen State Forest	
W14	Support the South Burnett Mountain Bike Club to apply for external funding to develop mountain bike trails
W15	Create a trail connecting the KKRT with McEuen State Forest to facilitate rail trail users exploring mountain bike trails in the State Forest
Coronation Park	
W16	Plant additional shade trees to create a shaded and cool park environment in the long term
Bore Paddock Park	
W17	At the end of its useful life, review park embellishments including play and picnic facilities at Bore Paddock Park and consider limiting development to walking tracks and bench seating
McKell Park	
W18	Plant additional shade trees to create a shaded and cool park environment in the long term

● **Priority actions**

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Blackbutt



Blackbutt is a small town that is located in the south-eastern most corner of the South Burnett. Travellers from SEQ pass through Benarkin and Yarraman (Toowoomba Regional Council LGA) before reaching Blackbutt.

A key feature of Blackbutt is the continuous parkland created by Les Muller Park, the trail head for the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, and the showgrounds, to the north of the highway passing through town.

Despite being a small town, Blackbutt offers the community a variety of recreation experiences, including:

- » a local recreation park with a playground, shelters, picnic facilities and access to Council administration and library
- » youth skate park
- » tennis courts (not Council owned/managed)
- » showgrounds (private)
- » community hall
- » swimming pool (managed by Council/owned by Education Queensland).

Discussions with students and staff at the school, and residents who attended the community workshop, highlight a number of key issues and directions for consideration:

- » participation in organised sport is not high
- » children prefer to ride horses and trail bikes on private property
- » families travel to Nanango or Kingaroy to play competition sport or to access more exciting recreation parks
- » when the shade over the skate park was removed (destroyed in bad weather), use of the skate park declined due to heat and exposure
- » the swimming pool is not well patronised by residents and is a cost burden
- » activation of the community hall has commenced with 'yoga by DVD' and other innovative practices.

Blackbutt's priority actions

Recreation	
BL1	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages
BL2	Plant additional shade trees in Les Muller Park to enhance the appeal of this park and create a visual cue leading residents and visitors along the corridor of park, trail head, skate park, museum, community hall and showgrounds
BL3	Construct a hard shade structure over the Blackbutt skate park and install a shelter with seats and USB recharge stations
School facilities	
BL4	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Blackbutt pool to inform annual operational and service reviews

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	836
0 - 14 years	16.2%
15 - 24 years	6.3%
25 - 34 years	7.5%
35 - 44 years	8.4%
45 - 54 years	11.6%
55 - 64 years	17.2%
65 years and over	32.7%
Median age (2016)	55
Households with children	63.4%
Unoccupied private dwellings	10.4%
Do not have a motor vehicle	2.5%

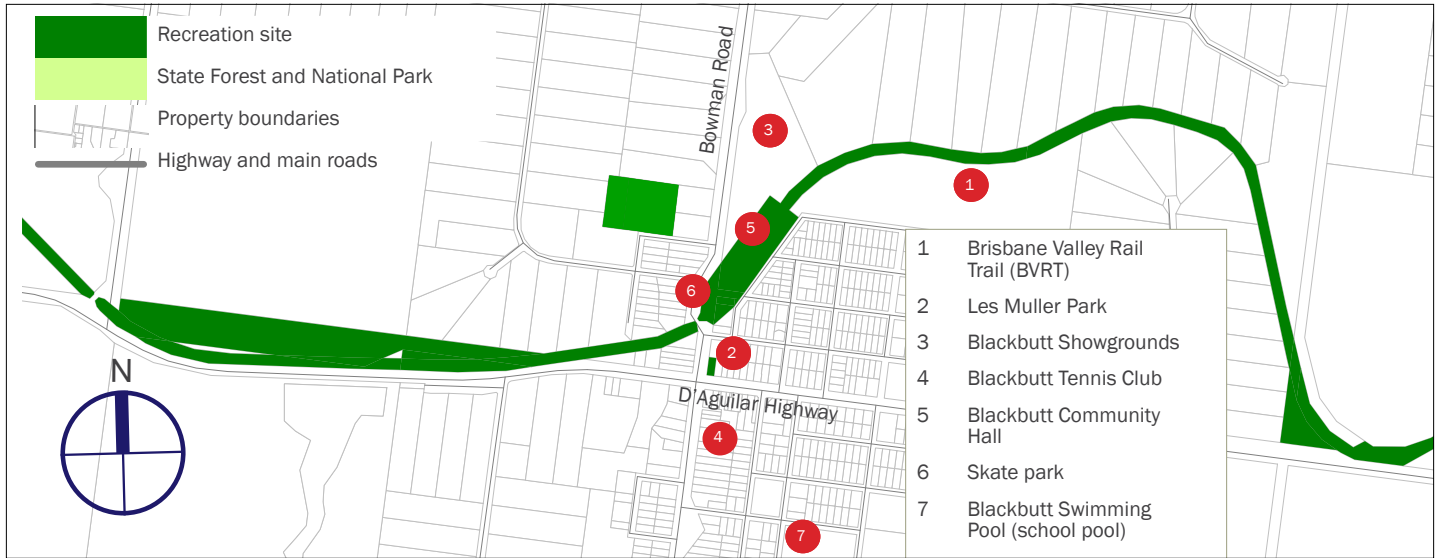
Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.



Blackbutt

Map 5. Recreation sites and key localities in Blackbutt





Les Muller Park



Blackbutt tennis



Blackbutt skate park



Benarkin

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	61
0 - 14 years	24.8%
15 - 24 years	10.4%
25 - 34 years	7.7%
35 - 44 years	12.2%
45 - 54 years	7.7%
55 - 64 years	19.0%
65 years and over	19.1%
Median age (2016)	41
Households with children	73.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	25.5%
Do not have a motor vehicle	4.1%

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Benarkin is located on the far south-eastern side of the South Burnett LGA. The small village includes a public school, a small number of shops and services. The village lies adjacent to the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail and the Bicentennial National Trail with overnight camping facilities at the First Settlers Park.

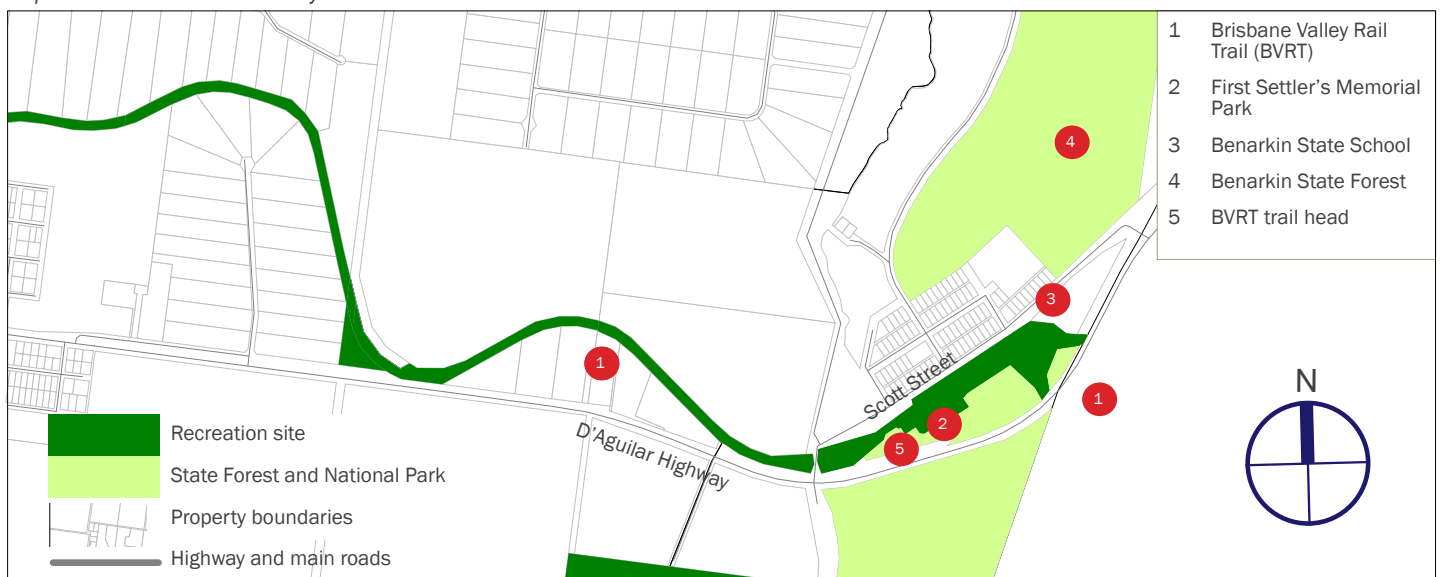
Recreation options available for residents and visitors have a predominantly outdoor recreation focus:

- » First Settlers Park provides a small range of covered, ageing play opportunities and a picnic node
- » walking, mountain bike riding, horse riding opportunities on the BVRT and Bicentennial National Trail
- » motor and trail bikes, and four wheel driving
- » Benarkin State Forest provides opportunities for nature appreciation, bird watching and approved recreation activities including use of tracks and trails.

Benarkin's priority actions

Village-wide	
BE1	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use
BE2	Rationalise the old and ageing playground from First Settlers Park at end of useful life and consider replacement with a new nature play area that aligns with master plans for the rail trail
BE3	Upgrade picnic facilities and shelters at First Settlers Park

Map 6. Recreation sites and key localities in Benarkin





Kumbia

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	294
0 - 14 years	17%
15 - 24 years	9.3%
25 - 34 years	9%
35 - 44 years	11%
45 - 54 years	12.7%
55 - 64 years	15.4%
65 years and over	14.3%
Median age (2016)	51
Households with children	48.5%
Unoccupied private dwellings	15.5%
Do not have a motor vehicle	2.4%

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Kumbia is located 32km south-west of Kingaroy, at the foothills of the Bunya Mountains. The statistics highlighted in the adjacent table have been sourced from the 2016 Census data for the 'suburb' of Kumbia. Residents of Kumbia and the surrounding district indicate that approximately 1,500 people access the village regularly.

Kumbia State School provides primary education to approximately 80 children in the school's catchment area. The school includes large open space play areas and a modern covered playground.

Kumbia's residents and visitors have access to a range of play and recreation opportunities including tennis courts, sports ground, community hall, racecourse and a playground. The sports ground may benefit from a community driven planning process to develop a simple concept plan to guide increased use and facility improvements (once demand is demonstrated through increased use).

Apex Park is small park and includes a basic children's playground that is fully fenced and a public toilet. The park has also been approved by Council for overnight camping for people travelling with motor homes and caravans. There are conflicts between these uses, particularly vehicle movement on an internal road within the park that crosses between the playground and toilet. Redesign of the park is proposed to separate people (particularly children) from vehicle movements within the park. Alternatively, consideration could be given to relocating the overnight camping to the sports grounds. Access to toilets would need to be resolved if this option was progressed. As this is a 10 year plan, it is also worthwhile liaising with the school principal regarding community use of school facilities, now and in the future.

A short drive away, outdoor recreation opportunities are available at the Bunya Mountains and include walking, nature appreciation and bird watching, for example.

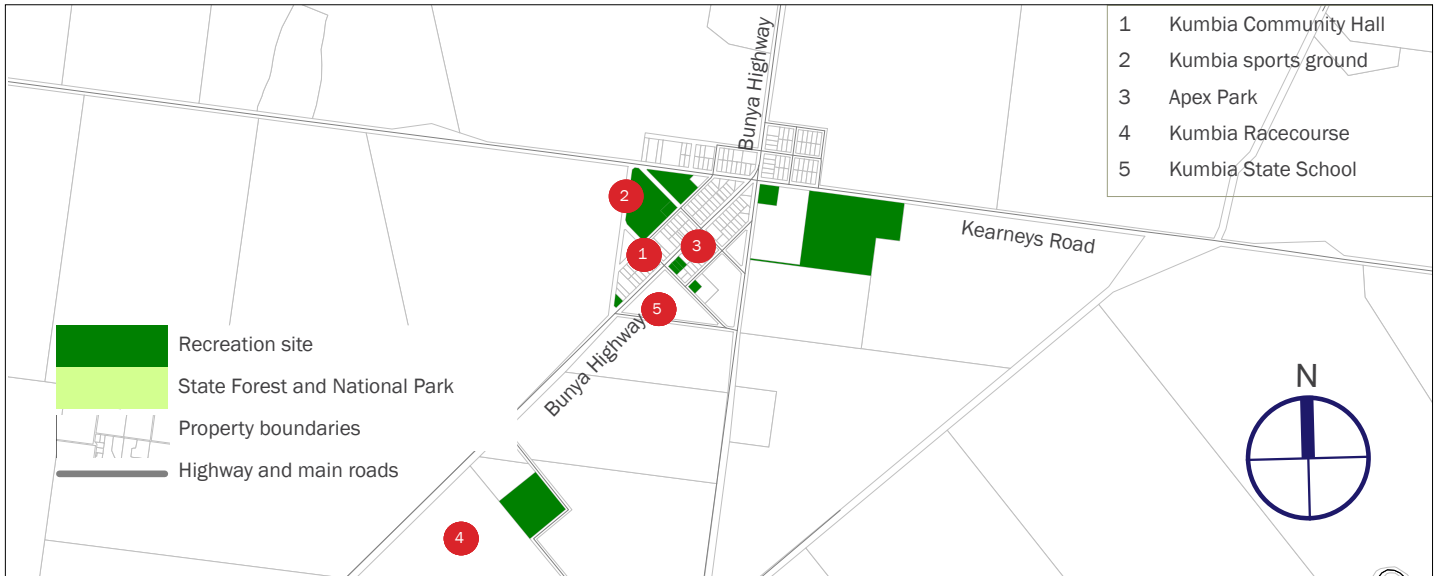
Residents in Kumbia are currently in the process of forming a community committee to distribute funds generated due to the Coopers Gap AGL wind farm. It is expected these funds will assist with projects identified in this Plan.

Kumbia's priority actions

Village-wide	
KU1	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use
KU2	Refurbish two tennis courts (consider marking one as a multi-sport court)
KU3	Engage the community to collaborative redesign APEX Park to separate internal pedestrian paths of travel from vehicle movements, particularly between the playground and toilet
KU4	As an alternative to KU3, consider relocating the overnight motor home and camping to the sports ground
KU5	Support the Race Club to seek external funding for upgrades to ancillary facilities
KU6	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages
KU7	Support the community to drive development of a single concept plan over the sports ground including a walking/cycling track



Map 7. Recreation sites and key localities in Kumbia



Maidenwell

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	199
0 - 14 years	9.9%
15 - 24 years	11.4%
25 - 34 years	4.7%
35 - 44 years	11.8%
45 - 54 years	13.3%
55 - 64 years	24.1%
65 years and over	24.6%
Median age (2016)	54
Households with children	31%
Unoccupied private dwellings	23.3%
Do not have a motor vehicle	0%

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Maidenwell is located in the southern part of the LGA and has a small population of 199 people. Maidenwell is ageing with a median age of 54 years. Almost half the population are over 55 years old.

Maidenwell is located on the intersection of the Bunya Highway and the Kingaroy-Cooyar Road. Its close proximity to Coomba Falls and the Bunya Mountains make it a destination for outdoor recreation enthusiasts, as either passersby or to obtain supplies. A master plan has been developed for visitor facilities at Coomba Falls.

A master plan has also been developed to guide upgrades and further development of the sports ground and village centre, with the community actively seeking external funding with the support of Council. It is recommended that these efforts are continued.

Maidenwell's priority actions

Village-wide

MA1	Support the Maidenwell Community Committee to continue to implement the Maidenwell master plan as funds become available
MA2	Implement the Coomba Falls master plan
MA3	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages

Map 8. Recreation sites and key localities in Maidenwell



Memerambi

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	272
0 - 14 years	22.7%
15 - 24 years	9.4%
25 - 34 years	8%
35 - 44 years	17.1%
45 - 54 years	10.8%
55 - 64 years	11.5%
65 years and over	20.1%
Median age (2016)	39
Households with children	60.6%
Unoccupied private dwellings	10.3%
Do not have a motor vehicle	5%

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Memerambi is a small village of 272 people located on the Bunya Highway just under 10km north of Kingaroy. A primary school existed in the village until 2006.

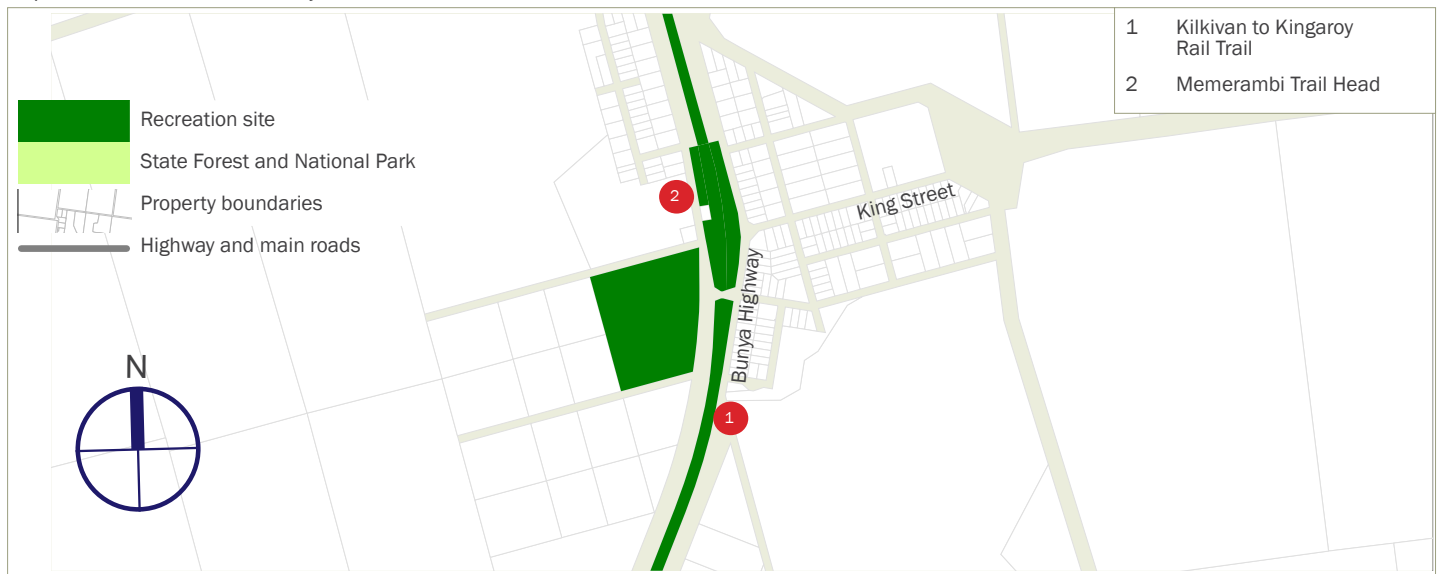
The recently constructed KKRT travels through Memerambi, running parallel with the Bunya Highway and a trail head with embellishments including a toilet, interpretive signs and a sheltered bench seat draw passers by to investigate further. A small general store is located across the road from the KKRT trail head.

Further planning of the KKRT is recommended by this Plan to leverage the recreation, social, tourism and economic benefits of this asset. Memerambi should be included in this planning.

Memerambi's priority actions

Village-wide	
ME1	Plant shade trees on both sides of the KKRT corridor
ME2	Consider development of a small recreation area node near the trail head at Memerambi in conjunction with the KKRT master planning process

Map 9. Recreation sites and key localities in Memerambi





Wooroolin

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	315
0 - 14 years	17.3%
15 - 24 years	8.5%
25 - 34 years	6.6%
35 - 44 years	13.4%
45 - 54 years	20%
55 - 64 years	15.1%
65 years and over	19.0%
Median age (2016)	48
Households with children	50%
Unoccupied private dwellings	9.7%
Do not have a motor vehicle	0%

Wooroolin's population is 315 people and the village is located almost 18km from Kingaroy and 13km from Wondai. The Wooroolin State School caters for 42 primary aged students.

The recently constructed KKRT travels through Wooroolin, running parallel with the Bunya Highway passing along the south-eastern flank of the village. Wooroolin Wetlands is the dominant natural feature of the village and walking trails and bird hides provides opportunities for nature observation.

Dalton Park is located adjacent the KKRT and includes toilets, shade trees, a fenced playground and caravan parking. A master concept plan has been developed over Dalton Park to guide future embellishment. The Grand Hotel Wooroolin looks over the KKRT and Dalton Park and cafes and stores are located directly across the highway.

Further planning of the KKRT is recommended by this Plan to leverage the recreation, social, tourism and economic benefits of this asset. Wooroolin should be included in this planning.

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Wooroolin's priority actions

Village-wide	
W01	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use
W02	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages
W03	Identify two locations around the perimeter of the Wooroolin wetlands to construct simple access points for launching non-motorised water craft (kayak/canoe) when conditions are suitable
W04	Install directional and information signage to assist visitors navigate the walking tracks and bird hides at the wetlands
W05	Investigate the construction of a boardwalk in the Wooroolin Wetlands



Map 10. Recreation sites and key localities in Wooroolin



Tingoora

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	273
0 - 14 years	17.7%
15 - 24 years	10.7%
25 - 34 years	7.6%
35 - 44 years	11.4%
45 - 54 years	11.8%
55 - 64 years	13.5%
65 years and over	27.3%
Median age (2016)	50
Households with children	41.9%
Unoccupied private dwellings	19.2%
Do not have a motor vehicle	0%

Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Tingoora has a population of 273 people and the village is located 22km from Kingaroy and 7km from Wondai. Tingoora has a primary school with approximately 30 students.

Similar to Wooroolin, the recently constructed KKRT travels through Tingoora, running parallel with the Bunya Highway passing along the south-eastern flank of the village. A sports ground (cricket oval) is located adjacent the KKRT and includes a basic amenities building with water tank, shade trees and a small shelter (dug out). Tingoora residents are 8km by walking or cycling from Wondai.

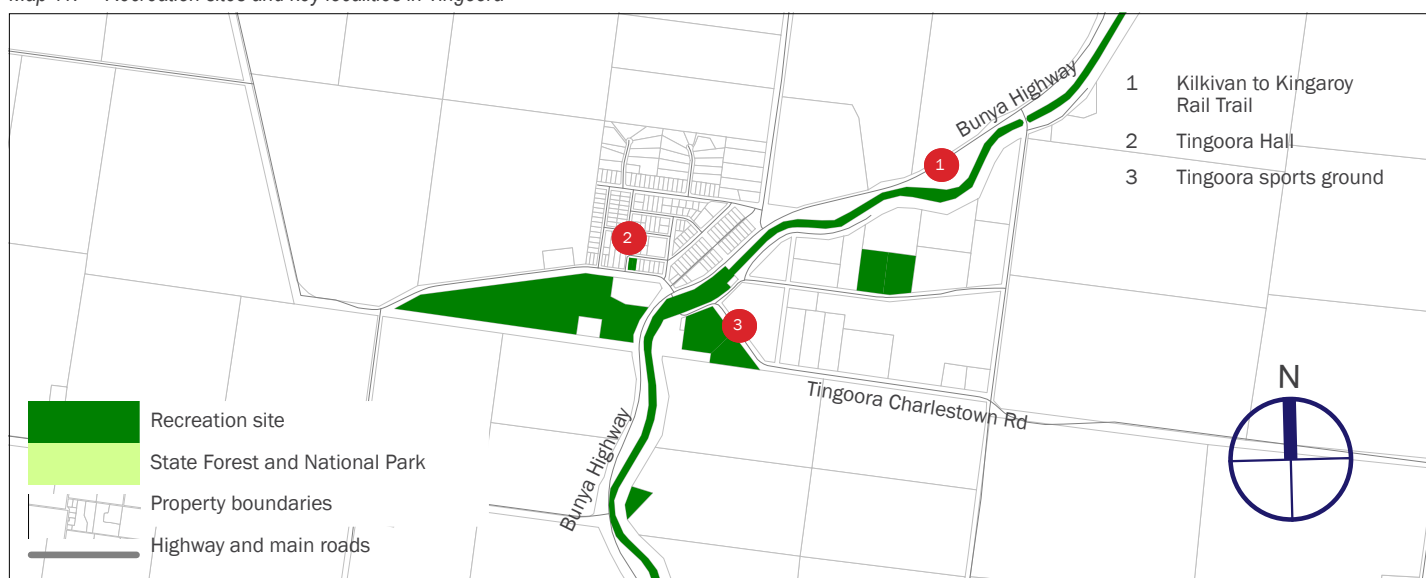
The Tingoora Hotel looks over the KKRT and sports ground from the slope above and is a prominent land mark in this otherwise small village.

Further planning of the KKRT is recommended by this Plan to leverage the recreation, social, tourism and economic benefits of this asset. Tingoora should be included in this planning.

Tingoora's priority actions

Village-wide	
T1	Plant shade trees on the KKRT corridor between the Bunya Highway and Hoares Road, and additional trees on the perimeter of the sports ground.
T2	Repurpose the oval for use by unmanned aerial vehicles and drones due to its location outside of flight paths. At the end of its useful life, remove the cricket nets and dugout at the sports ground

Map 11. Recreation sites and key localities in Tingoora



Hivesville

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	169
0 - 14 years	11.5%
15 - 24 years	6.3%
25 - 34 years	9.5%
35 - 44 years	7.0%
45 - 54 years	14.6%
55 - 64 years	23.5%
65 years and over	27.8%
Median age (2016)	56
Households with children	43.1%
Unoccupied private dwellings	8.9%
Do not have a motor vehicle	4.3%

Hivesville’s population is 169 people and the village is located 33km from Murgon and 11km from Proston. No school is located at Hivesville.

Residents currently use the sports ground for a range of recreation activities (e.g. walking, tai chi, social sport games) and markets, rather than structured competition sport. A relatively new amenities building at the sports ground serves the needs of recreation users and visitors attending the markets. It is recommended that part of the sports ground is planted with trees to repurpose this area into a recreation park, rather than sports park, and reduce maintenance in the longer term (i.e. slashing, mowing and trimming).

The Hivesville Hall was sold by tender and purchased for private use in early 2017. A public toilet is located across the road from the hall and is reported to be well used by travellers passing through the town.

With a median age of 56 years and over and half the community aged 55 years or older, there is very limited need or demand for additional sport and recreation facilities in the village as those provided are deemed sufficient for the current and future projected population.

Hivesville’s priority actions

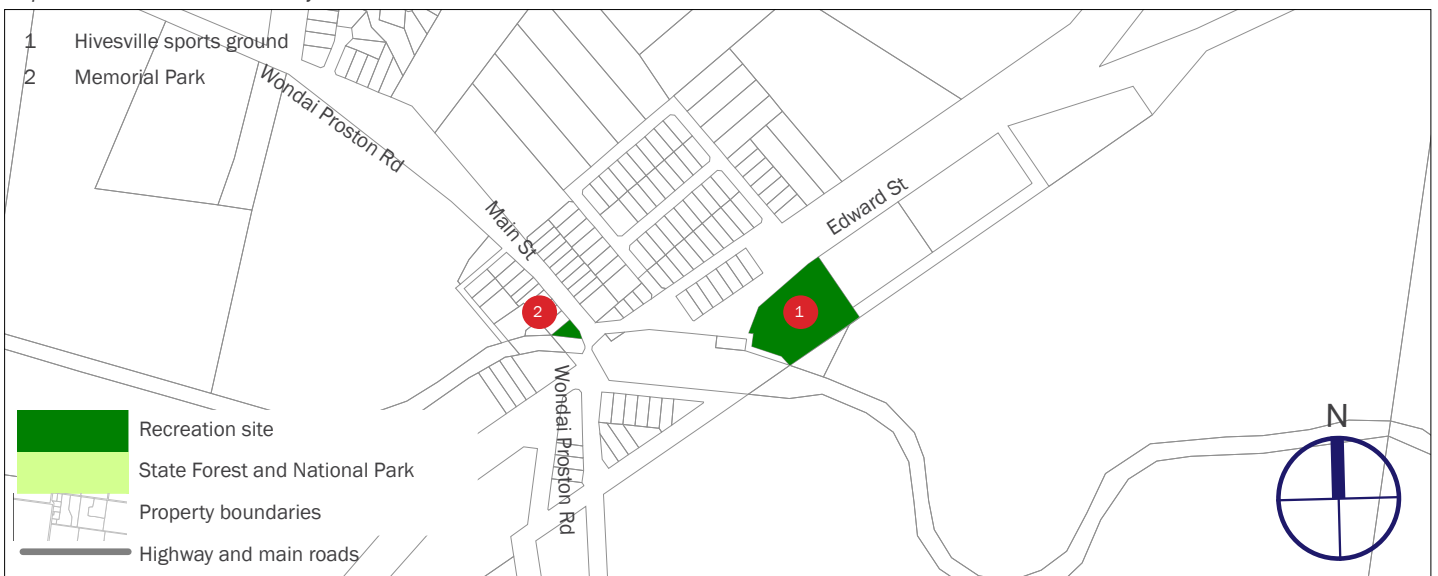
Priority actions

Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Village-wide

H1	Investigate the feasibility of a community bus to transport residents to larger towns to access sport, recreation and other services
H2	Repurpose the sports ground (cricket oval)

Map 12. Recreation sites and key localities in Hivesville





Proston

Proston is a small village located in the north-west of the LGA, geographically close to Lake Boondooma. About 20% of Proston’s population is aged between 0-24 years and over a third of the 379 residents are aged 65 years and older. As with other villages in the South Burnett, residents from surrounding rural properties visit Proston regularly and therefore the population size being serviced by this village is larger than the Census data presents.

For its size and population, residents in Proston have access to a range of recreation opportunities and facilities including: a new and large community hall, men’s shed, golf course, lawn bowls, showgrounds, a recreation park adjacent to the community hall that includes a playground, picnic facilities, dirt bmx pump track, and walk and cycle trails. Nearby Conservation Parks and Lake Boondooma provide access to further outdoor recreation opportunities.

Proston State School (prep to year 10) caters for approximately 110 students and school facilities include a 25m 6 lane swimming pool that is accessible by the village residents. While the pool facility is owned by Education Queensland, Council funds a pool manager to facilitate public access.

Activation to increase use of the community hall and provide recreation opportunities for all ages is recommended.

Snapshot

Current population (2016)	379
0 - 14 years	13.9%
15 - 24 years	6.2%
25 - 34 years	5.1%
35 - 44 years	9.2%
45 - 54 years	15.10%
55 - 64 years	15.9%
65 years and over	34.6%
Median age (2016)	55
Households with children	34.5%
Unoccupied private dwellings	13.0%
Do not have a motor vehicle	5.7%

Priority actions

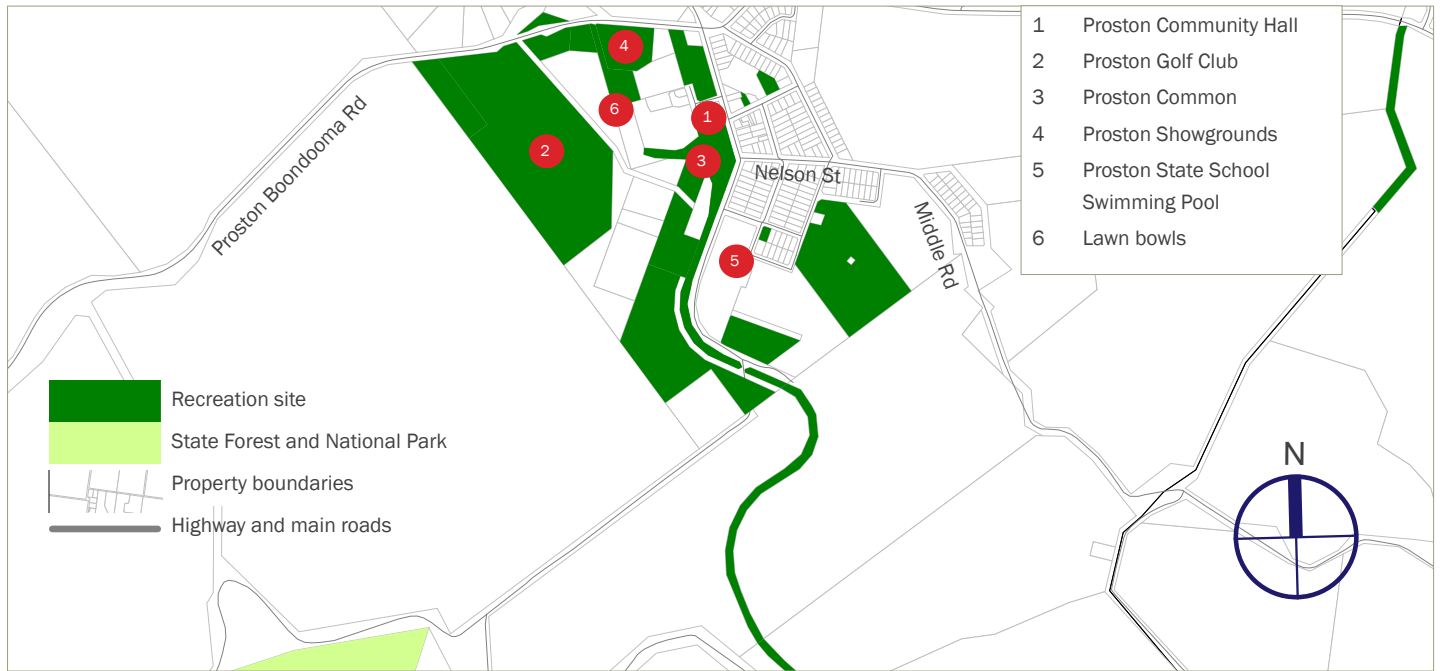
Refer to council-wide actions contained in the *Implementation Plan* as these apply to all towns and villages in the South Burnett.

Proston’s priority actions

Village-wide	
P1	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages
P2	Implement more accurate methods to record the number of visits to the Proston pool to inform annual operational and service reviews
P3	Investigate the feasibility of a community bus to transport residents to larger towns to access sport, recreation and other services



Map 13. Recreation sites and key localities in Proston







Section seven - Local Government collaboration

South Burnett Regional Council shares its boundaries with five separate local government areas. With stretched human and financial resources, opportunities for cross-council collaboration can assist to 'share the load' in developing and promoting quality sport and recreation products for residents and visitors.

The area has been proactive in networking and discussing sport and recreation issues and opportunities through the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils' Sport and Recreation Committee. As key outcomes, this group has prepared the Water Trails of the Wide Bay Burnett brochure and interactive webpage and led the development of the Wide Bay Burnett Sport and Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Strategy. Given this cross-council collaboration has proven successful in recent years, it augurs well for potential sub-regional collaboration between South Burnett Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council (that are all concurrently undertaking council-wide sport and recreation planning activities),

Preference for collaborative projects focuses on those sports and recreation activities where:

- » there is already one key feature facility located between the three councils (and no demand for duplication)
- » opportunity exists to attract regular patronage from outside the region.

The list of sports and recreation activities included below is not restrictive. As community sport and recreation preferences change, or as funding becomes available through additional sources, officers from the three councils can discuss potential additional opportunities.

Boxing

The Eidsvold Boxing Club has recently been re-formed with the development of a quality training facility. In a collaborative approach, the Club is being registered through South Burnett PCYC (Murgon) and the intention is for boxers to be able to train from the two venues. Further opportunity may exist for training and fights to also include the Gayndah Amateur Boxing Club and the recently established boxing group in Cherbourg.

Gliding

The Kingaroy Soaring Club is considered one of only three high-level gliding fields in Queensland suitable for hosting State and National Championships. Any future interest or expressed demand for additional gliding facilities in the Burnett area should be re-directed to the Kingaroy facility.

Motocross

The Central Burnett Motorcycle Club facility (located in Mundubbera) is a well regarded venue in a natural setting. The facility hosts regular motocross training and successful events and is centrally located within the Burnett area. The development of any additional facility for motocross is not supported.

Rail trails and mountain biking

Clear cross-council collaboration exists where trails travel from one council to another. The development of the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail is an example of a quality joint project between South Burnett Regional Council and Gympie Regional Council. Similarly, North Burnett Regional Council is partnering in an investigation of a potential Inland Rail Trail in a project being led by Gladstone Regional Council.

While not focussed on collaborations between the three Burnett councils, further opportunity exists to investigate a rail trail between Bundaberg Regional Council and North Burnett Regional Council (North Bundaberg to Mount Perry) and for extension of the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail.

Mountain bikers are key users of rail trails. Where mountain bike parks (natural areas where mountain bike trails are planned and developed) can be established adjoining (or near to) rail trails there is clear scope for high levels of usage. The works undertaken by South Burnett Regional Council and the South Burnett Mountain Bike Club in the McEuan State Forest should be further encouraged and are expected to see this facility become a popular venue for training and events.



As new mountain bike facilities are developed in the area, the councils should take a collaborative approach to ensure that these mountain bike opportunities are included in the relevant promotional publications updated regularly by Organised Grime.

Speedway

The Kingaroy Speedway (located within the Showgrounds) is a high-quality venue that hosts Australia's largest modified sedans race each year - a 3-day event attracting up to 150 competitors. There are no other speedway facilities in the Burnett area. With the popularity of the Kingaroy facility, the development of any new speedway facilities is not supported.

Additional considerations

Opportunities for cross-council collaboration extend beyond the planning and development of new facilities.

Reduced rates and subsidies

There is potential for councils to offer each other reduced rates (or subsidies) for asset usage where it is appropriate to do so. For instance, there is no public pool within Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council. However, a quality pool is located in Murgon (only 7km from Cherbourg yet owned by South Burnett Regional Council). As recognition of the popularity of this pool for Cherbourg residents, the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council has made contributions in the past toward the maintenance of the Murgon facility. Similarly, if (for example) South Burnett Regional Council was due to host a swimming event and all of its 50m pools were out-of-action for some reason, North Burnett Regional Council may make the Mundubbera or Gayndah pools available at a significantly reduced rate.

Joint sponsorship

Councils may consider joint sponsorship of activities and events that have potential for economic benefit across the Burnett area. For example, Bicycle Queensland conducts a number of multi-day cycle touring events. There may be potential to attract (or establish) an event within the Burnett (or Wide Bay Burnett) Region if a collaborative approach, including joint sponsorship arrangements, was undertaken.

Similar to the manner in which the Australian Campdraft Association conduct 'The Big 3' with events conducted on three consecutive weekends in Warwick, Condamine and Chinchilla, scope may exist to conduct fishing or skiing events across a number of locations throughout the Burnett area on consecutive weekends. Here again, would be an opportunity for joint collaboration and sponsorship that creates economic benefit across council areas.

Travel distances

While the Plan highlights key facilities that should not be duplicated and potential opportunities for facility-sharing, the reality is that the area covered by the three councils is particularly large. There is more than 5 hours drive time between the southern and northern ends of the North and South Burnett Regional Council boundaries. While it may seem a little inequitable that a gliding enthusiast in Biggenden is encouraged to travel to Kingaroy, limited resources dictate the importance of careful planning and development.



Section eight - Implementation plan

Council-wide

Operational matters

Rail trail

Lakes, dams and waterways

Community partnerships and activation

Community capacity building

Kingaroy

Nanango

Murgon

Wondai

Blackbutt

Villages

Benarkin

Kumbia

Maidenwell

Memerambi

Wooroolin

Tingora

Hivesville

Proston



The Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan represents an opportunity for Council to maintain and build upon the diversity of sporting facilities and recreation parks for locals and visitors.

Implementation of the recommendations outlined in this Plan will require strong leadership, appropriate resources from Council and a commitment to making some difficult decisions.

The dominant theme that came through the range of engagement processes and analysis is a direction to maintain and upgrade the existing network without necessarily focussing on building more facilities. There is limited population growth across the South Burnett. As a result, population-related demand for additional facilities is very limited. In essence, the focus of the Plan is to embrace the quality open space facilities that Council (and the community) has achieved - to further activate existing open spaces through programming and tailored facility upgrades and embellishment.

While this Plan presents a key guiding vision for Council (and the community), the overlaying issue will be the capacity to resource it. Exact individual project timing will be dependant on the availability of necessary funding (be it from local clubs, Council, State or Federal Governments).

The recommendations of this study are detailed below and are grouped by planning area - Council-wide first followed by each of the localities within the LGA. This allows interested readers easy access to those actions most directly related to them.

Priorities are assigned for each action. A high recommendation should be undertaken as soon as resources allow while medium (in the next 5 years) and low priorities (in the next 5-10 years) are not as urgent. The information provided is designed as a flexible guide—changes in user priorities or earlier opportunities for funding may alter development.

A project leader is assigned for each action. This indicates the responsible party to take action, form a project team and drive the project to its successful completion. It is recommended that project leaders identify other groups and individuals in the community for assistance and support to achieve projects identified in the Plan.

The term 'rationalise' has been used in recommendations contained in the implementation plan. For the purpose of this plan and depending on the land tenure, this may include re-purposing as an alternate use, 'planting out' with trees to reduce maintenance, sale of the land or returning the land to the State. Where open space parcels are undeveloped, are poorly located, are attracting regular anti-social behaviour and/or are not providing recreation opportunities desired by the nearby catchment (and are thus sitting idle), opportunities may exist to rationalise the land.



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE		
Operational matters		
CW1	Investigate opportunities to establish a new position to oversee planning and development of sport and recreation	SBRC
CW2	Ensure that the Sport, Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan informs Council's future Operational Plans and Budgets, recognising that the lead role for implementation of recommendations requires allocation to the most appropriate officer with the most relevant skill set/area of responsibility	SBRC
CW3	Engage operational staff in compiling an accurate list of park assets and embellishments, and utilise their knowledge to identify gaps in available information e.g. year of construction, cost of construction/replacement and remaining life of the asset, to inform the upcoming Parks and Open Space, and Building and Other Structures asset management planning processes. These tasks could potentially be commenced during months when vegetation control reduces (i.e. winter)	SBRC
CW4	Develop a campaign to promote specific destinations within the South Burnett to increase awareness and access to existing recreation and outdoor recreation opportunities to residents and potential visitors	SBRC
CW5	Develop a campaign to encourage community, sport and recreation organisations to update contact information via Council's website to ensure the Council's Community Directory is updated annually	SBRC
CW6	<p>Council has developed master or concept plans for a number of recreation parks. These plans have not been formally adopted by Council and consequently implementation to date has been inconsistent. Develop a simple process (online and hardcopy form) to seek community feedback on existing master/concept plans, collate community feedback and present it with master/concept plans for Council consideration and formal adoption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Memorial Park, Kingaroy » Kingaroy Town Common » Mt Wooroolin, Kingaroy » Blackbutt Rail Trail Head » Bore Paddock, Wondai » Butter Factory, Nanango » Dingo Creek Park, Wondai » McMahon Park, Murgon » Proston Common/Railway Park » Dalton Park and trail head, Wooroolin » Coomba Falls » Ficks Crossing 	SBRC
CW7	<p>Develop a shade tree planting program by undertaking a planning process to identify open spaces (particularly recreation and sport parks) and walking routes/circuits in each town that require shade. Identify suitable species (preferably native endemic) to reduce this barrier (lack of shade) to participation in recreation and physical activity.</p> <p>When nature strips or groupings of trees are mulched, this may also contribute to reduced vegetation control (slashing, mowing and trimming). Consider CPTED principles during planning.</p>	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (cont)		
CW8	Apply Universal Design principles to guide design of parks including embellishments, buildings, internal pathways and playground equipment	SBRC
CW9	Consider development of a Walk and Cycle Strategy for the towns of Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon, Wondai and Blackbutt. Community engagement will be an essential part of the process to identify suitable routes for shared paths (walk and cycle), footpaths and on-road cycle lanes to overcome barriers to active transport and connecting people to key destinations. Routes through open space and parks should help form the network	SBRC
CW10	<p>Conduct a detailed audit of the number and location of public toilets throughout the LGA to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » adequate provision of public toilets » the location minimises anti-social behaviour » cost effectiveness to provide and maintain » the needs of users are being met. <p>Consider using a ranking system to assist prioritise refurbishment/upgrade or rationalising including: environmental sustainable design, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), accessibility, efficiency, maintenance and features</p>	SBRC
CW11	Undertake a structural investigation of Council owned public swimming pools ('pool proper') in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon and Wondai to gather factual information on the current asset condition, remaining life and potential remedial work that can be undertaken to extend the life of assets in the short-medium term. Use the report to assist the community understand the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions. Use the report as evidence-based information to guide Council decision making.	SBRC
CW12	<p>Develop a Signage Strategy identifying the style and best locations for name, information, direction, interpretation and wayfinding signage to support independent and confident navigation to sport and recreation parks by residents and visitors.</p> <p>Standardise park signage across the region including park naming signs, park directional signs and walk/cycle opportunity signs</p>	SBRC
CW13	Conduct an information session for councillors, the executive team and senior officers regarding modern play opportunities (consider undertaking site visits of modern play nodes in nearby councils e.g. Toowoomba, Bundaberg or Hervey Bay)	SBRC
CW14	Identify locations and plan necessary infrastructure (fixed or portable) to support community events across the region (e.g. outdoor wedding ceremony on creek bank, family reunion picnic, family activity day, corporate Christmas party). Investigate a partnership approach with service clubs to provide support to community events	SBRC
CW15	Investigate the feasibility and delivery options (Council/private) to provide a community bus (21-28 seat) to transport residents from villages to larger towns to access pools, sport and recreation opportunities (e.g. skate parks)	SBRC
CW16	In recognition of the value to the community, provide support in-principle support to not-for-profit community groups applying for grants and funding to improve facilities (not owned by Council) and services that provide sport and active recreation benefits for residents	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (cont.)		
Policies		
CW17	Investigate options and implement a system to develop a new, or improve content and maintenance of an existing, Community Directory for the South Burnett to allow residents and visitors to find out about activities and events in the area and how to participate	SBRC
CW18	Amend the <i>Community Grants Program Policy</i> to require community, sport and recreation organisations to update contact details for the Community Directory to be deemed eligible to apply. Council could require online registration of organisations' expression-of-interest to receive the application form, simultaneously updating the Community Directory details required.	SBRC
CW19	Encourage qualified sports coaches and fitness instructors/personal trainers to apply for Healthy Communities Sponsorship funding under Council's <i>Community Grants Program Policy</i> to provide fun and engaging physical activity programs in Council's parks and community halls. Funding could be used for portable equipment, marketing, portable signage and relevant insurances, to 'kick-start' establishment/ expansion of small businesses. Aim to initiate privately run programs in different towns across the LGA	SBRC
CW20	Proposed new policy (or local law) - <i>Community and Commercial Use of Council Land</i> – to guide individuals and groups on issues such as: approval and building on Council land, donating structures/assets to Council (Rotary, Lions etc.), lease, licence or permit to occupy agreements between Council and sporting bodies, welfare organisations, churches, commercial business (e.g. using an open space area for bootcamp, yoga/pilates, marketing or promotional purposes)	SBRC
CW21	Proposed new policy - <i>Public Art in Open Space</i> – to activate parks and open spaces via murals, light projections on buildings, sculptures (including those that can be incorporated in play nodes as recreation elements). Ensure the policy provides rigour around matters including risk assessment (eg finger entrapment, climbing and fall zones etc), intellectual property, and community awareness of the need to decommission the artwork (asset) at the end of its useful life	SBRC
CW22	Clarify the process for sport, recreation and community organisations to obtain support letters from Council when seeking external funding for projects, particularly for facilities and infrastructure proposed for construction on Council owned or managed land. Ensure the process includes identifying and consulting internal Council stakeholders to ensure projects supported align with Council's adopted strategic, master, operational and other relevant plans.	SBRC
CW23	Encourage and support a diverse range of accessible HTLS opportunities relevant to the targeted needs of the community and support partnerships and external investment in existing facilities and future opportunities and precincts where they are deemed sustainable and appropriately located. Encourage and support HTLS to co-locate with compatible activities and facilities where possible.	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (Cont)		
Rail Trail		
RT20	<p>Partner with Gympie Regional Council to develop a Master Plan for the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail to leverage the recreation, social, tourism and economic benefits of this asset. Ensure the following elements are included in the scope of the master planning process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » clearly identify and articulate the ‘point(s) of difference’ that contribute to the uniqueness of the Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail » identify current and potential future private providers of accommodation, cafes, restaurants, bars, camping and recreation and tour activities and opportunities, to support use of the rail trail » identify complimentary activities and recreation opportunities in close proximity to the rail trail, to extend and expand visitor’s overall experience » identify trail heads, ‘recreation nodes’ and key embellishments to support access and use of the trail without over development risking deterioration of the ‘naturalness’ of the recreation experience being sought » develop a consistent approach for signage identifying locations for trail head, regulatory, warning, behavioural, information, interpretive, promotional and temporary signs » marketing and promotion including identification of target markets, branding, brand awareness and mobile marketing systems » identify indicators and measures that will allow Council to transparently communicate the economic benefit of the rail trail to the community 	SBRC
RT21	Continue monitoring use of the rail trail by counters and cross-reference gathered data with condition assessments of segments to identify maintenance priorities and potential locations for embellishments and signage (refer to master plan recommendation)	SBRC
RT22	Create a succinct (maximum four pages) fact sheet for entrepreneurial people stepping-out the process to apply for Council approval to operate accommodation, cafes, restaurants, bars, recreation and tour activities to support use of the rail trail, and include reference to other approval agencies e.g. liquor licensing	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (cont)		
Lakes, dams and waterways		
LDW1	<p>Develop a Bjelke-Petersen Dam/Lake Barambah Master Plan focussed on increasing outdoor recreation opportunities including water- and land-based opportunities, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » development of a network of tracks and trails for lookouts/sightseeing, walking/ bushwalking, mountain bike riding and trail running as well as complimentary activities (nature appreciation, bird watching, additional picnic areas etc.) » identification of locations for adventure activities including rock climbing for example » identification of commercial opportunities including guided tours and activities (e.g. adventure camps, corporate team building, youth personal development) 	SBRC
LDW2	<p>Thoroughly and systematically review the location and type of tourist attraction and drive signs across the LGA and develop a detailed plan for replacement and upgrade, carefully considering replacement with the most appropriate tourist attraction signs from those available. The overarching goal of the project should be to make it as easy as possible for locals and visitors to navigate to outdoor recreation opportunities (tourist destinations). Implementation is likely to be prioritised and progressive over a number of years and operational budgets. Approach Sunwater and the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (formerly National Parks) to partner with Council on this project and co-fund relevant signage.</p>	SBRC
LDW3	<p>Develop a Boondooma Dam Master Plan focussed on increasing outdoor recreation opportunities including water- and land-based opportunities, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » development of a network of tracks and trails for lookouts/sightseeing, walking/ bushwalking, mountain bike riding and trail running as well as complimentary activities (nature appreciation, bird watching, additional picnic areas etc.) » identification of locations for adventure activities including rock climbing for example » identification of commercial opportunities including guided tours and activities 	SBRC
LDW4	<p>Investigate installation of a non-motorised boat launching facility at Ficks Crossing to support kayaking/canoeing and other water-based recreation activities</p>	SBRC
LDW5	<p>Provide basic facilities for day users at Gordonbrook Dam, restrict access to the water and install signs with clear health notices (e.g. water quality), as well as regulatory and information signage (eg advising people to remove rubbish when they leave).</p>	SBRC
LDW6	<p>Implement the Coomba Falls master plan</p>	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (cont)		
Community, partnerships and activation		
CPA1	<p>Collaborate with user groups to develop master plans over the following sports grounds to ensure a planned approach to future development, avoid ad hoc development and support applications for external funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve » Wondai sports ground » Murgon sports ground. <p>Ensure sport court and field dimensions including run off clear areas and safety zones are included in master plan layouts.</p>	Sports Clubs
CPA2	Collaborate with the WBBROC to develop a regional database of qualified sport coaches (including contact details and school term availability) for distribution to schools to support local principals' implementation of the Sporting Schools program (Australian Sports Commission)	SBRC WBBROC
CPA3	Collaborate with the WBBROC to develop a promotion campaign (website, print and digital application) for tracks and trails within the region, particularly the Bicentennial National Trail (BNT), Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT), Kilkivan to Kingaroy Rail Trail (KKRT) and additional walking, mountain biking and horse riding trails throughout the region	SBRC WBBROC
CPA4	Partner with TAFE Queensland and local high schools to investigate completion of Certificate II in Sport and Recreation by senior students (years 11 and 12), coordinating practical components with primary schools (Sporting Schools Program) and local recreation and sport clubs/organisations e.g. PCYC, public swimming pools etc. Include qualified students in the database for primary schools, as a resource and to provide youth employment opportunities	SBRC
CPA5	Liaise with Education Queensland and local principals to 'activate' (outside school hours) the sport and play opportunities available at schools in smaller villages for local residents	SBRC
CPA6	Continue to activate the open spaces throughout the LGA by hosting and supporting community events	SBRC
CPA7	Educate sport and recreation organisations regarding the range of available funding opportunities and Council's role in facilitation of quality grant submissions	SBRC
CPA8	Support golf clubs in the South Burnett to incorporate sustainable design elements into golf course development, upgrades and operations such as waterwise strategies, water reuse and renewable energy sources, for example	Golf Clubs
CPA9	Support and encourage sport clubs to compile Development Plans detailing governance, membership, participation, land tenure, and facility development goals for the next 3-5 years	Sport Clubs
CPA10	Support showground management committees to access and leverage external funding by assisting them to secure appropriate land tenure and governance arrangements	Showground Committees



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
COUNCIL-WIDE (cont)		
Community capacity building		
CAP1	<p>Identify and promote resources (potentially via links on Council’s website) that support community organisation’s capacity building, particularly in the following focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » improving volunteer recruitment and training » volunteer roles and delegation of tasks » leadership succession » financial management » securing grants and other funding » updating technology » development or business planning » risk planning and management » governance models and arrangements. 	SBRC
CAP2	Consider collaborating with key stakeholders, such as sport, recreation and community organisations, South Burnett CTC, high schools and employment agencies (to name some), to hold an annual event(s) aimed at increasing awareness about and encouraging volunteering as well as connecting organisations with potential volunteers	SBRC
CAP3	Consider promotion and use of <i>Volunteering Queensland</i> (https://volunteeringqld.org.au/) in the South Burnett as a means to connect potential volunteers with organisations that require volunteers	SBRC
CAP4	Promote resources available through the Australian Sports Commission (https://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/clubs) particularly the <i>Club Health Check</i> and other club development tools and resources, and the Queensland Government sport and recreation resource website (https://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/clubs-organisations/)	SBRC
CAP5	Collaborate with health promotion agencies and media outlets in the South Burnett to promote <i>Australia’s Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines</i> , highlighting each of the guides applicable to age brackets and distinct groups (e.g. older adults, families), and promote current activities available in towns and villages	SBRC
CAP6	Maintain awareness of increasing pressures on the administration of community-based sport organisations as accountability increases. Investigate and remain open-minded about options for governance models for community sport organisations, including amalgamation of complementary incorporated organisations and the potential of corporate structures and/or ‘umbrella’ governance arrangements for multiple activities/sports. Facilitate connections and positive discussions between groups if/when required	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
KINGAROY		
Town-wide		
K1	Develop and maintain strong working relationships with high schools in Kingaroy to support and facilitate continued use of indoor sport court facilities by local sport clubs	SBRC
K2	Actively promote and encourage use of the South Burnett PCYC located at Murgon, supporting community-based solutions (e.g. car pooling to activities)	PCYC
K3	Rationalise Adermann Park	SBRC
Aquatic Centre		
K4	Within the life of this Plan, three of Council's four public swimming pools will be at the end of their useful asset lives. In the next 3-5 years Council needs to investigate the feasibility of replacing its public pools in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon and Wondai in consultation with the community and with a clear picture of the probable capital cost of replacement and ongoing operations year-on-year, and how these costs will impact rates.	SBRC
K5	Commission suitably qualified engineers to undertake a detailed and 'intrusive' investigation of the structural integrity of Council's public swimming pools, and provide a report on the remaining life of pool structures and associated plant and equipment. Include concrete testing of pool structures and balance tanks, intrusive CCTV inspection of in-ground pipe work and pool leak testing. The report should include recommendations to cost-effectively extend the life of existing assets.	SBRC
K6	Develop a high level concept plan for redevelopment of WJ Lang Memorial Pool prior to works on the amenities, offices and kiosk, to allow a strategic approach to incorporation of potential future changes to the facility	SBRC
K7	When redeveloping the amenities, offices and kiosk for the WJ Lang Memorial Pool consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » orientation of the kiosk to allow a serving window directly facing Memorial Park (preferably in clear sight of the playground) » access to the pool from Memorial Park » consideration and orientation of facilities to accommodate potential future experiences including water-play and leisure pools 	SBRC
Kingaroy Golf Club		
K8	Support the Kingaroy Golf Club to apply for external funding for improvements including upgrading of greens, irrigation system and refurbishment of the clubhouse (e.g. internal painting)	SBRC
Memorial Park		
K9	Upgrade the dog off-leash area with improved fencing, seating, shade, water and agility equipment. Consider segregated areas for small and large dogs	SBRC
K10	Identify core infrastructure requirements for community events (e.g. power, water) and make improvements to facilitate easier access for this purpose	SBRC
K11	Construct internal pathways connecting play nodes, toilet, shelters, water bubblers and entry gate(s) to improve access	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
KINGAROY (cont)		
Kingaroy Airport		
K12	Develop clear terms of reference for the Kingaroy Airport Working Group including appropriate Council staff and representatives of the Kingaroy Soaring Club to identify options for redevelopment of facilities at the Airport to support ongoing success of the club, and that contributes to economic benefit to the South Burnett LGA	SBRC
K13	Recognise and support the Kingaroy Soaring Club's efforts to regularly attract and secure state and national events to Kingaroy and leverage these events to promote broader attractions of the South Burnett region	Kingaroy Soaring Club
K14	Develop a high level concept plan over land adjacent the Kingaroy Airport to cater for location/potential relocation of motor sports	SBRC
Lions Park		
K15	Remove old existing signage. As the playground equipment reaches the end of its useful life, remove it and create a rest stop with basic all ages play equipment eg swings, as well as information and promotion signage encouraging visitors to explore the South Burnett	Lions Club
Mt Wooroolin		
K16	Install directional and information signage to encourage and promote walking and mountain bike riding on existing trails	SBRC
K17	Incorporate allowance for widening of the verge (on Haly Street and Mt Wooroolin Road) in any civil works to allow off-road walking and mountain bike riding to Mt Wooroolin	SBRC
Bjelke-Petersen Recreation Reserve		
K18	Continue to implement the 'Town Common Master Plan' including recommendations from this Plan	SBRC
K19	Identify core infrastructure requirements for community events (e.g. power, water) and make improvements to facilitate easier access for this purpose	SBRC User groups
K20	Identify locations for spectator shade and seating, and access points for drinking water	SBRC
K21	Light an additional field to accommodate rugby league and touch football training	SBRC
K22	Investigate the collocation of junior cricket with football (soccer) or alternative sites for junior cricket including use of school facilities	Junior Cricket +Football
K23	Assess the condition of the toilets and canteen at the rugby league/touch football fields and tennis courts to determine if refurbishment or replacement is warranted	Rugby league club+ Tennis club
K24	Support the tennis club to develop a court lighting design using contemporary technology (e.g. LED), cost the design and support the tennis club to apply for external funding to replace light fittings	Tennis club
K25	Support football (Australian rules) to develop unisex or female friendly amenities and upgrade field lighting for training purposes	Football (Australian rules)
K26	Support the Senior Soccer Club to develop unisex or female friendly change rooms including accessible toilets and showers, baby change facility and lockable shower cubicles	Senior soccer
K27	Support the Senior Soccer Club to upgrade to LED lights on two training fields	Senior soccer

Action No.	Action	Project Leader
KINGAROY (cont.)		
Netball Courts		
K28	Support the redesign of netball courts (in accordance with Netball Australia specifications) to include required run off clear space at sides and end lines, resolve drainage issues and accommodate lighting and for at least one court, shade and spectator seating.	Netball club
K29	Install low (500mm) fencing to prevent balls rolling into car parks and nearby roads. Fencing should not prevent access by residents for casual use	Netball club
K30	Review/redesign the car park including entry and exit. Grade the unsealed car park in the short term to limit water pooling and potential damage to courts and consider sealing in the medium to long term	SBRC
K31	Work in partnership with netball to co-fund refurbishment of the clubhouse, toilets and changerooms, particularly measures to increase security.	Netball club
Rotary Park		
K32	Rationalise electric BBQs at Rotary Park to a maximum of two	SBRC
Apex Park		
K33	Investigate current legislation constraints to determine if vegetation currently impeding the views from Apex lookout can be cleared. If constraints exist to prevent vegetation clearing, investigate removal of the look-out structure	SBRC
K34	Provide simple directional signs from either end of APEX park e.g. playground to lookout and Carroll Nature Reserve; Carroll Nature Reserve and lookout to playground	SBRC
K35	Construct an accessible pathway to connect the car park to the toilet building	SBRC
K36	Consult with residents in Farr and Mcdiarmid Streets regarding an additional small car park at the western entry to the park prior to design and costing	SBRC
Senior Citizens Park		
K37	Remove wood BBQs and park furniture at the end of its useful life	SBRC
K38	Install park benches with arms to support sitting and standing by older aged people	SBRC
K39	Upgrade pathways to accommodate mobility scooters and connect pathways to adjoining footpaths, key destinations in close proximity and to bench seating locations	SBRC
Carroll Nature Reserve		
K40	Install simple directional signs at key locations to guide people through the site	SBRC
K41	Replace the property boundary fence	SBRC
K42	Consider establishment of a 'Friends of Carroll Nature Reserve' group to assist Council to control weeds and plant native endemic species	SBRC
Youth Park		
K43	Investigate and secure tenure of the land that the Youth Park is constructed on	SBRC
K44	Collaborate with the South Burnett CTC to develop a transparent agreement with Council regarding cleaning of the Youth Park and repairs and maintenance of assets, for the benefit of users	SBRC
Carew Park		
K45	Investigate the development of a green space with the members of the Carew family and other community organisations.	SBRC
Earle Park		
K46	Investigate the development of a green space in partnership community organisations.	SBRC
Community Halls		
K47	Provide support to not-for-profit community groups applying for grants and funding to improve facilities (not owned by Council) and services that provide sport and active recreation benefits for residents.	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
NANANGO		
Town-wide		
N1	Develop and maintain a strong working relationship with Nanango High School to support and facilitate potential future use of indoor sport facilities by local sport clubs	SBRC
N2	Rationalise Green Recreation Reserve	SBRC
N3	Rationalise unnamed and undeveloped open space (Lot 90 SP 122591)	SBRC
N4	Rationalise Mt Stanley Road Park after relocation of the dog park to Pioneer Park	SBRC
Pioneer Park		
N5	Develop an overall concept plan for Pioneer Park including the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » upgraded play node incorporating inclusive elements (paths, sensory garden, tactile) » expand existing skate park » USB recharge points in shelters » circuit of walk/cycle trails throughout the park » off-leash dog area » directional, distance and information signs » gate/bollards to restrict vehicle access » planting plan to create additional shade, define entries and boundaries and create outdoor rooms 	SBRC
N6	Commence planting additional shade trees throughout the park at key locations where people gather	SBRC
Butter Factory Park		
N7	Construct a pathway to connect the park with the footpath across the road in front of the school	SBRC
N8	Remove the dirt bmx pump track from the drainage reserve adjacent Butter Factory Park	SBRC
N9	Construct an additional shelter with tables and chairs inside the fenced park area	SBRC
N10	Plant shade trees within the fenced park area and along the creek bank to the rear of the park and install bench seating where people fish	SBRC
Mt Stanley Road Park		
N11	Remove the cricket nets	SBRC
N12	Relocate the dog park to Pioneer Park	SBRC
Swimming Pool		
N13	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the South Burnett Aquatic Centre to inform annual operational and service reviews	SBRC
Tipperary Flat		
N14	Install signage to indicate the distance, time to walk, and markers along the pathway circuit	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
NANANGO (cont.)		
Showgrounds		
N15	Support the Nanango Showgrounds to seek external funding to light the main arena to facilitate sporting and community events	Nanango Show Society
N16	Support the Nanango Showgrounds to seek external funding to reorient the smaller arena to accommodate additional equestrian activities and events	Nanango Show Society
Nanango Netball		
N17	Redevelopment of existing grass courts	Netball club
N18	Work in partnership with netball to co-fund refurbishment of the canteen, toilet and change rooms sufficient for local use	Netball club
Burnett Courts		
N18	Liaise with the club to arrange a pedestrian gate to remain unlocked to provide public access to a tennis court for social games	SBRC
Nanango Cultural Centre		
N19	Promote the Cultural Centre as a key venue for recreation activities, meetings, social functions, training courses and wet weather training and exercise	SBRC
Nanango Sports Ground		
N20	Design, apply for external funding and construct a new clubhouse with appropriate change rooms, toilets, canteen and storage facilities	Cricket, soccer and kennel club
N21	Support the sport clubs at the Nanango sports ground to seek external funding to upgrade the irrigation system for playing fields	Cricket + Soccer
Kassulke Park		
N22	Support South Burnett Rugby League to apply for funding to develop a mini-mod field at Kassulke Park	Rugby league club
Lions Park		
N23	Develop Lions Park into a feature recreation park with an extended playground for toddlers and young children up to 8 years of age. Ensure embellishments are included to support parents' and carers' comfort and safety	SBRC
Mt Stanley Nature Reserve		
N24	Install directional signage to guide people to visit the wetlands at Grey Street and Mt Stanley Nature Reserve. Install bench seating at sight seeing locations	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
MURGON		
Town-wide		
M1	Develop a high level concept plan over McMahon Park recognising that development is proposed in the long term (10+ years) and potentially beyond the life of this plan	SBRC
M2	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
McMahon Park		
M3	Seek feedback from the community on the McMahon Park master plan, incorporate changes and present to Council for formal adoption	SBRC
M4	Implement the McMahon Park master plan in stages	SBRC
Lions Park		
M5	As the playground equipment reaches the end of its useful life, remove it and create a rest stop with basic all ages play equipment e.g. swings	SBRC
Youth and Rotary Park		
M6	Investigate access to toilet facilities to service the park. Consider CPTED and management considerations to minimise vandalism and misuse	SBRC
M7	Continue implementation of the Youth Park concept plan	SBRC
Swimming Pool		
M8	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Murgon Swimming Pool to inform annual operational and service reviews	SBRC
South Burnett PCYC		
M9	Investigate options and identify criteria for potential additional tenants to enhance utilisation and program delivery and uptake	SBRC PCYC
M10	Partner with the South Burnett PCYC to develop a promotional campaign advertising the scope of programs on offer and dispelling the 'travel distance' paradigm	SBRC
Murgon Sports Ground		
M11	Upgrade the irrigation system for playing fields	Rugby league+ Cricket
M12	Upgrade lighting to training standard on one field for 'large' ball sports	Rugby league

Action No.	Action	Project Leader
WONDAI		
Town-wide		
W1	Rationalise Parkside Park	SBRC
W2	Rationalise Grant Crescent Park	SBRC
Dingo Park		
W3	Remove the old exercise stations and timber amphitheatre	SBRC
W4	Develop nature play opportunities for children utilising the natural features of the park	SBRC
W5	Install up to four bench seats in locations throughout the treed parts of Dingo Park for rest, escape and nature observation	SBRC
Skate Park		
W6	Toward the end of its useful life (within the next 3-5 years) investigate suitable sites for replacement of the skate park using siting checklists contained in published skate facility guides	SBRC
Sunstrup Park		
W7	Assess the condition of the courts annually and undertake repairs to extend the life of the courts	SBRC
W8	Install a large shelter and seating for participants and spectators	SBRC
W9	Develop a fenced dog off-leash park on part of the park ensuring it does not impact on use of the cricket oval	SBRC
W10	Support the Wondai Sportsground Association to investigate sustainable irrigation options including safe use of treated wastewater to improve playing surfaces	Wondai Sportsground Association
W11	Support the Wondai Sportsground Association to upgrade field lighting to support training during evenings for 'large' ball sports	Wondai Sportsground Association
Wondai Swimming Pool		
W12	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Wondai Swimming Pool to inform annual operational and service reviews	SBRC
South Burnett Shooting Complex		
W13	Support the organisation to apply for external grants to fund upgrade of targets to required standards	Shooting sports
McEuen State Forest		
W14	Support the South Burnett MTB Club to apply for external funding to develop mountain bike trails	Mountain bike club
W15	Create a trail connecting the KKRT with McEuen State Forest to facilitate rail trail users exploring mountain bike trails in the State Forest	SBRC
Coronation Park		
W16	Plant additional shade trees to create a shaded and cool park environment in the long term	SBRC
Bore Paddock Park		
W17	At the end of its useful life, review park embellishments including play and picnic facilities at Bore Paddock Park and consider limiting development to walking tracks and bench seating	SBRC
McKell Park		
W18	Plant additional shade trees to create a shaded and cool park environment in the long term	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
BLACKBUTT		
Recreation		
BL1	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
BL2	Plant additional shade trees in Les Muller Park to enhance the appeal of this park and create a visual cue leading residents and visitors along the corridor of park, trail head, skate park, museum, community hall and showgrounds	SBRC
BL3	Construct a hard shade structure over the Blackbutt skate park, install a shelter with seats and USB recharge stations, and plant shade trees	SBRC
School facilities		
BL4	Implement an accurate method to record the number of visits to the Blackbutt pool to inform annual operational and service reviews	SBRC
BENARKIN		
Sport and recreation		
BE1	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use	SBRC
BE2	Rationalise the old and ageing playground from First Settlers Park at end of useful life and consider replacement with a new nature play area that aligns with master plans for the rail trail	SBRC
BE3	Upgrade picnic facilities and shelters at First Settlers Park	SBRC
KUMBIA		
Sport and recreation		
KU1	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use	SBRC
KU2	Refurbish two tennis courts (consider marking one as multi-sport)	SBRC
KU3	Engage the community to collaboratively redesign APEX park to separate internal pedestrian paths of travel from vehicle movements, particularly between the playground and toilet	SBRC
KU4	As an alternative to KU3, consider relocating the overnight motor home and camping to the sports ground	SBRC
KU5	Support the Race Club to seek external funding for upgrades to ancillary facilities	Race club
KU6	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
KU7	Support the community to drive development of a single concept plan over the sports ground including a walking/cycling track	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
MAIDENWELL		
Sport and recreation		
MA1	Support the Maidenwell Community Committee to continue to implement the Maidenwell master plan as funds become available	Maidenwell community committee
MA2	Implement the Coomba Falls master plan	SBRC
MA3	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
MEMERAMBI		
Sport and recreation		
ME1	Plant shade trees on both sides of the KKRT corridor	SBRC
ME2	Consider development of a small recreation area node near the trail head at Memerambi in conjunction with the KKRT master planning process	SBRC
WOOROOLIN		
Sport and recreation		
W01	Liaise with the local principal to 'activate' (outside school hours) the opportunities available at the school for local residents. Consider funding support to the school for upgrades to play or sport facilities available for community use	SBRC
W02	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
W03	Identify two locations around the perimeter of the Wooroolin wetlands to construct simple access points for launching non-motorised water craft (kayak/canoe) when conditions are suitable	SBRC
W04	Install directional and information signage to assist visitors navigate the walking tracks and bird hides at the wetlands	SBRC
W05	Investigate the construction of a boardwalk in the Wooroolin Wetlands	SBRC
TINGOORA		
Sport and recreation		
T1	Plant shade trees on the KKRT corridor between the Bunya Highway and Hoares Road, and additional trees on the perimeter of the sports ground	SBRC
T2	Repurpose the oval for use by unmanned aerial vehicles and drones due to its location outside of flight paths. At the end of its useful life, remove the cricket nets and dugout at the sports ground	SBRC
HIVESVILLE		
Sport and recreation		
H1	Investigate the feasibility of a community bus to transport residents to larger towns to access sport, recreation and other services	SBRC
H2	Repurpose the sports ground (cricket oval)	SBRC



Action No.	Action	Project Leader
PROSTON		
Sport and recreation		
P1	Activate the community hall to increase use and provide recreation opportunities for all ages	SBRC
P2	Implement more accurate methods to record the number of visits to the Proston pool to inform annual operational and service reviews	SBRC
P3	Investigate the feasibility of a community bus to transport residents to larger towns to access sport, recreation and other services	SBRC



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Section nine - Appendices

Appendix one - Open space typologies and levels of service

Age appropriate play elements

Accessible play equipment

Local recreation park

Town recreation park

Regional recreation park

Local sports park

Town sports park

Appendix two - Outcomes of community consultation



Appendix one: Open space typologies and levels of service

Age appropriate play elements

Accessible play equipment

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Town sports park



Age appropriate play elements

Below is a list a different play park assets that could be considered when trying to diversify the range of opportunities available.

Toddlers (2-5 year olds)

- » climbing play structures
- » panels or themed elements e.g. kitchen, boat, train, fire truck, shop counter
- » swings
- » slides
- » spring rockers/animal riders
- » stepping stones

Small children (5-8 year olds)

- » climbing play structures
- » swings
- » slide
- » natural climbers (e.g. rocks)
- » sensory equipment
- » climbing net
- » spinner
- » undulating small bike loop zone
- » balancing elements
- » spinner
- » panels or themed elements e.g. kitchen, boat, train, fire truck, shop counter
- » spring rockers/animal riders
- » tunnels

Older children (8-12 year olds)

- » flying fox
- » rock climbing wall/natural climbers (e.g. rocks)
- » climbing nets
- » spinners
- » basketball hoop
- » skate facilities
- » BMX track
- » balancing elements
- » tunnels

Youth (12-17 year olds)

- » skate facilities
- » BMX track
- » hangout spaces (e.g. outdoor table tennis/ping pong)
- » rock climbing wall
- » power lift bar and other stationary exercise equipment
- » basketball hoop

Adults (18+ year old)

- » seating
- » shade
- » picnic and barbecue areas
- » outdoor exercise equipment (stationary and moving parts)

Accessible Play Equipment Description and Intent

Accessible play equipment can be incorporated into playgrounds and be used where children of all abilities can experience fun and challenging play alongside their friends and family members. 'Play for all' spaces use a range of natural and built elements to encourage different types of play experiences, such as active, exploratory, social and quiet play. Innovative approaches in the design and construction of these spaces create expanded opportunities for children with a disability.



Design considerations

The following is a list of equipment that can be installed at playgrounds to enhance accessible play in playgrounds:

- » Accessible carousel: high backed merri-go-round where children can play together. Design allows for wheelchairs to be locked in.
- » accessible sand digger: can be operated and accessed by children in wheelchairs to help improve hand-eye coordination and motor skills and encourage imagination.
- » accessible sand pit: allows children to transfer from wheelchairs into the sand pit
- » all abilities swing seat: easy access swing for older children
- » choice boards: allow children of all abilities to communicate with each other and others
- » multi-use spinner/spinning disc: spinning dish that allows for multiple users at the one time. Users can transfer from a wheelchair to the spinning disc and can sit or lay on the disc.
- » sand table: custom designed sand table allows access for all wheelchair types, allowing children to play with and mould sand
- » wheelchair accessible swing (Liberty Swing): Often referred to as a Liberty Swing, harnesses a child's wheelchair securely in the swing
- » accessible play facilities should include the following features:
 - adequate shading
 - rubber softfall and under surfacing that is wheelchair and pram accessible
 - access to a water fountain or bubbler
 - adequate toilet amenities
 - adequate access to disabled parking
 - connecting pathways accessible by wheelchair and prams

Local recreation park

Description and intent

Local recreation parks provide a range of recreation opportunities for local residents. These parks contain limited infrastructure, yet offer local community benefits.

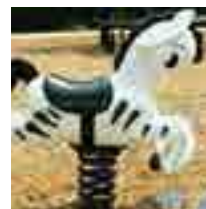
Local recreation parks are intended to offer residents a complementary open space to their backyards. They are likely to attract users from a small catchment area (about 500m radius) and generally cater for short visits by individuals or small groups.

Local recreation parks will be centrally located to the catchment or as hubs along recreation corridors where such corridors exist. There are many cost and land efficiencies (such as from dual use of land and consolidation of embellishments) that can be gained by developing hubs along pathways that connect key community areas such as: residents to schools, retails hubs etc.

Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a local recreation park:

- » park to be located in a residential area and easy for residents to walk and ride to
- » recreation facilities to be clustered in an activity area, ideally located under natural shade where possible
- » mix of 3 activity options, such as:
 - basic toddler play (spring toy, slide and swing)
 - rebound wall
 - path circuit
 - flat kick-about area
 - multi-generational equipment to service a range of age groups
 - multi-functional equipment which can be used for both play and exercise (e.g. parkour equipment, monkey bars)
- » picnic table and seats to be located where they can oversee and access the activity area (preferably under a shade tree), along the internal path
- » surveillance of the majority of the park should be available from adjacent properties and from the road
- » internal paths to connect to on-road pathway system and connect to the key activity area in the park. If the park can act as a short cut for pedestrians it may also encourage them to stop and utilise the buildings
- » embellishments in the parks complement those in nearby parks and be relevant to the local area's character and demographic
- » design and embellishment of parks reflect the demographic desires of the local catchment
- » landscape edge treatments in the form of screening shrubs will improve the aesthetics of the park, soften the edges and provide some buffering to nearby residents.



Town recreation park

Description and intent

Town recreation parks are larger sized open spaces providing a range of buildings and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a wide range of users. Town recreation parks can service several suburbs depending on population density, and are well known destinations for those people living within their catchment. Ideally, town recreation parks are located near social infrastructure such as schools, community centres and halls.



Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a town recreation park:

- » design should reflect a broad range of needs (i.e. something for all ages and abilities)
- » one main activity node which has clusters of activities for different age groups (i.e. park equipment designed for teenagers to be together, and near to the activity node for younger age groups). This helps separate the age cohorts but keeps all activities in one larger area to assist carers monitoring activities
- » activity area could include (in addition to those listed in the local recreation park type):
 - skate facility, climbing structure, outdoor table tennis
 - bike activity track/learn-to-cycle facility
 - outdoor exercise stations
 - all-abilities play (design and layout should seek to integrate all of the play buildings together to provide social inclusion and integration of all abilities)
 - gazebos for larger groups
 - unisex toilets
 - grouped picnic facilities
- » activity area to be ideally located under natural shade, however, may be supplemented by artificial shade
- » there should be clear sight-lines into the park from nearby road and other land uses, especially the main activity area
- » picnic areas located where they oversee the activity area
- » embellishments in the parks could be themed
- » if there are multiple town recreation parks in the same town each should have a range of (preferably different) recreation opportunities
- » amenities to be near road and active area for surveillance
- » pathways link areas within the park and externally
- » off-street car parking is required.



Regional recreation park

Description and intent

These open spaces are major recreation parks that offer a wide variety of opportunities to a broad cross-section of the population and visitors. They are large, embellished for recreation, are well-known amongst residents and are major destinations.

People are usually content spending several hours in these parks. Regional recreation parks offer unique experiences.



They are often used to host large community events such as carols in the park, Australia Day celebrations and other festivals. Regional parks offer exciting and no cost activities for residents and visitors.

Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a regional recreation open space:

- » undertake a master plan of the park. This is likely to include a long-term vision that can take many years to activate (potentially 10-15 years). The master plan should be staged so that it can be rolled out as demand is generated (and as resources allow)
- » community input into the design of the park should occur (at master plan stage and as changes occur). This is important as the community will have specific thoughts and concerns regarding this level of park
- » design must consider all age groups, people of all abilities and different cultural backgrounds
- » detailed design is often required for specific elements
- » multiple activity nodes may exist. However, these nodes will be unique, not replicated within the park and will add to the overall quality and attractiveness of the park
- » potential to have some low key commercial activity such as kiosks, cafes, museums
- » potential to have an array of buildings that offer some community service such as a nursery offering free street trees, environmental education centres, community training rooms, libraries etc.
- » park to be located where people can access easily
- » park should preferably have a variety of settings, from natural areas to highly-embellished activity areas.



Local sports park

Description and intent

Local sports parks are small sports facilities that generally only cater to one sporting code (or one code per sporting season). They typically only include one field/oval. Local sports parks will not have surfaces or facilities at the same level as town sports parks (and will not necessarily meet state sporting body regulations).

Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing local sports parks:

- » keep infrastructure at a basic level - amenity block (with no club facilities such as change rooms or canteen), informal car parking and potentially basic training standard lighting (depending on the sporting code)
- » maximise trees and natural shade around the fields and courts (although careful tree selection for court areas is important to avoid issues associated with root invasion and limb, leaf or seed fall)
- » long benches and spectator areas should be placed under shade trees where possible
- » consideration to be made regarding noise and light spillage with regards to its impact on surrounding land uses
- » all field and court orientation to be north-south (or as close to as possible)
- » consider development of simple play facilities to complement formal sports use.





Town sports park

Description and intent

Town sports parks and courts provide the vast majority of the venues for the region's training and club fixtures. A range of sports are catered for in these multi-use facilities including both field and court sports. Supporting ancillary facilities provided at town sports parks and courts allow clubs to effectively operate and include amenities, clubhouse, storage, lighting and car parking.



Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing town sport parks:

- » undertake a site master plan to set the direction for the facility
- » where possible, aim for sports facilities to meet state sporting organisation standards (for lower level competition and training)
- » internal path network to allow for connections within and to land adjacent to the facility
- » maximise trees and natural shade around fields and courts (although careful tree selection for court areas is important to avoid issues associated with root invasion and limb, leaf or seed fall)
- » long benches and spectator areas should be placed under shade trees where possible. Shaded spectator grass mounds can also provide good viewing areas
- » hard surfaces should be minimised by developing the minimum number of sealed parking bays, and providing turf/unsealed overflow parking (for bigger spectator games, if required)
- » consideration to be made regarding noise and light spillage with regards to its impact on surrounding land uses
- » all field and court orientation to be north-south (or as close to as possible)
- » facility to include clubhouse with basic infrastructure that is suitable for a variety of uses. Clubhouse to be centrally located where possible. Internal spaces to include:
 - amenities, change rooms and public toilets
 - kitchen/kiosk
 - first aid, massage/strapping areas
 - office and storage
 - social area
- » flexible design to allow for multiple current (e.g. summer and winter sporting season) and future uses of the open space
- » design consideration to allow for potential alternative events and temporary uses (circus, festivals, event registration area)
- » consider collocating with local/town recreation open space - especially in smaller communities to maximise land efficiencies.



Appendix two: Outcomes of community consultation

Council workshop excerpts

The following information is material copied from workshops with Council held during development of the plan to inform them of community consultation results that were emerging. Additional information (surveys completed, survey results etc.) may have been compiled after presentation of this material, therefore some statistics quoted in the Plan may not match those provided in this appendix.



Outcomes of community consultation - Council workshop excerpts

Where do people recreate?

- » 50% recreate at home
- » 43% on local footpaths (walk/cycle)
- » 41% at swimming pools
- » 39% use local roads (walk/cycle)
- » Parks (37%) and Rail Trail (34%)
- » Boondooma Lake
- » Private property
- » Playgrounds
- » Lake Barambah
- » Gym/fitness centre
- » National or state park/forest
- » Rivers and creeks (Ficks Crossing)

Highest value open spaces

- » spend quality time with family
- » natural setting
- » place to relax and unwind
- » interaction with natural environment
- » close to home
- » place to exercise
- » spend time with friends
- » appeal to the whole family

Overall quality of opportunities

Percent of respondents rating very good and great:

- » Aquatic facilities 60%
- » Sport facilities 48%
- » Playgrounds 54%
- » Skate parks 29%
- » Natural bushland 52%
- » Places to relax and socialise 43%
- » Community halls/centres 44%
- » Activities for youth 17%
- » Activities for seniors 24%
- » Low cost/free physical activities/programs 17%

Key barriers?

- » 33% of respondents reported no barriers
- » The remaining 67% reported the following:
- » lack of shade (34%)
- » poor maintenance or unclean (29%)
- » lack of connectivity between walk/cycle paths (21%)
- » lack of variety (20%)
- » lack of toilets (16%)

Key upgrades?

- » more shade and shade trees
- » native plants / no annuals
- » Memorial Park, Kingaroy
- » dog off-leash area (fenced) – new and expanded
- » Fick's crossing
- » Boondooma and Bjelke-Petersen Dam
- »

Unnecessary parks/open spaces?

- » free camps – undermining revenue from clubs, commercial parks
- » Senior Citizens Centre ('duck pond park'), Kingaroy
- » Carew Park, Kingaroy
- » Adermann Park, Kingaroy
- » Autumn Park, Nanango
- » small under utilised 'pocket' parks

Travel and affordability

- » need for travel was raised
- » affordability of sport participation
- » perception that travel is less in other areas
- » perception that sport is 'cheaper' in other areas

Community use of schools

- » community access to school facilities varies
- » high school indoor courts valued
- » participation drops at age 14 particularly for females
- » database of sport coaches willing to work in area for active schools program
- » initiatives are school community specific e.g. bike riding
- » trend in declining sport skills (e.g. ball skills) and participation
- » budget impact by pools at Blackbutt and Proston



Outcomes of sport club consultation - Council workshop excerpts

Survey responses

- » 38 responses from broad spectrum of organisations including some arts/cultural
- » 71% of respondents have a lease/license or seasonal user agreement with Council
- » facilities are generally suitable except for shade, water and seating
- » 78% clubs reported that the 'same people volunteering/no new volunteers' was a high or medium issue
- » 63% groups offer social/casual competitions/ activities

Membership

- » 71% of groups expect membership to increase over the next three years
- » 24% expect membership to remain the same
- » 5% expect membership to decrease
- » 55% reported 'falling membership' as an issue
- » lack of youth participation was a high or medium issue for 63% of clubs
- » lack of female participation was noted by 54%

Facility improvements

- » Shade
- » Water security / irrigation
- » Field or court lighting
- » Toilet/change room upgrades/replacement
- » Use of sports grounds and tenure arrangement
- » Spare capacity at some fields and halls identified

Relationships

- » 60% reported a good or very good relationship with Council
- » 82% reported a good or very good relationship with their peak body
- » 51% stated they did not receive any financial or training/education support from their peak body



Key Findings - Council workshop excerpts

Parks and playgrounds

- » Towns and villages have access to good/very good playground(s)
- » Broader range of age groups (5-12 years) catered for at some (e.g. climbing nets)
- » Evidence of 'ad hoc' development e.g. 3 x electric BBQs in one park
- » Quite a few parks and playgrounds are looking 'tired'
- » Lack of consistent signage and cross-promotion of parks and playgrounds
- » Opportunity to promote parks with different settings e.g. Carroll Nature Reserve, Mt Wooroolin

Sport facilities

- » diverse range of opportunities within 30-40 minutes drive
- » lack of signage and directions – 'local knowledge'
- » Facebook pages, some websites, no Community Directory
- » varying condition of facilities reflecting organisation revenue, management and maintenance
- » facility maintenance and life of assets
- » water for irrigation and field lighting

Natural areas and lookouts

- » Limited promotion to visitors
- » Mt Wooroolin – walk and mountain bike trails
- » Apex Park lookout – poor signage at playground end of park
- » Improved entry and internal signage to support exploration and navigation of Carroll Nature Reserve – interpretation and nature play - Hide 'n' Seek children's trail, 'Find the Fairies' trail

Rail trail

- » Excellent facility with huge potential for outdoor recreation, nature-based and ecotourism
- » Use by locals and visitors increasing
- » Leverage economic benefits by supporting private investment in accommodation options, restaurants, cafés, bars, other recreation activities
- » Master planning to avoid ad hoc development and maintain 'point of difference'

Walk and cycle

- » Most popular and participated in physical activities
- » Good pathway routes and circuits using internal park paths, footpaths and roads
- » PIP identifies 15 additional footpaths (1.5m wide) in Kingaroy, Nanango, Blackbutt, Kumbia and Proston
- » Consideration of shared paths (2.5m wide) and cycle ways to encourage active transport as well as exercise and recreation
- » Recommend additional planning for circuits
- » Residents and visitors don't see property boundaries

Dams and water courses

- » Extensive opportunities at dams, lakes and natural water courses
- » Activation via private business is very positive e.g. fishing charters, competitions and kayaking
- » 'Get back to nature' / 'Returning to nature'
- » Opportunity to create outdoor recreation adventure parks – trails for walking, mountain biking, orienteering, regaining, ropes, slack line, rock climbing etc.

National and state parks

- » Outdoor recreation opportunities
- » Partnership approach to offer extensive range of activities beyond what Council can offer
- » Range of settings and recreation experiences – different vegetation communities, trails, water features
- » Increase the number of overnight stays by providing an experience 'trail' through LGA



Key Findings - Council workshop excerpts

Challenges and opportunities

- » Current management capacity and resources are over-subscribed
- » Limited communication and promotion
- » Ageing assets and limited funds to renew/replace
- » Lack of planning resulting in ad hoc development and missed opportunities
- » Demographic realities particularly where growth is stagnant
- » Canvas for outstanding sport and recreation
- » commercial use permit system
- » programming and activation
- » walk and cycle paths and circuits
- » outdoor recreation – nature and ecotourism opportunities
- » shade trees and native plants (no annuals)

Communication and promotion

- » What activities, where do they take place, when, who is welcome, how do I get involved?
- » Community Directory
- » Events – when, where, who, how much, food, parking, accommodation, kid friendly
- » Promotion – websites, Facebook, radio, community directory, Council events page

Sporting facilities

- » Consistent lease, licence, seasonal agreements – clear policy applied consistently
- » Review grants and subsidies to ensure equity/proportion of community participating in sport
- » Council take increased role in asset condition assessments and maintenance
- » Reduce maintenance schedules on ‘excess’ sports grounds to reduce cost of service

Parks and playgrounds

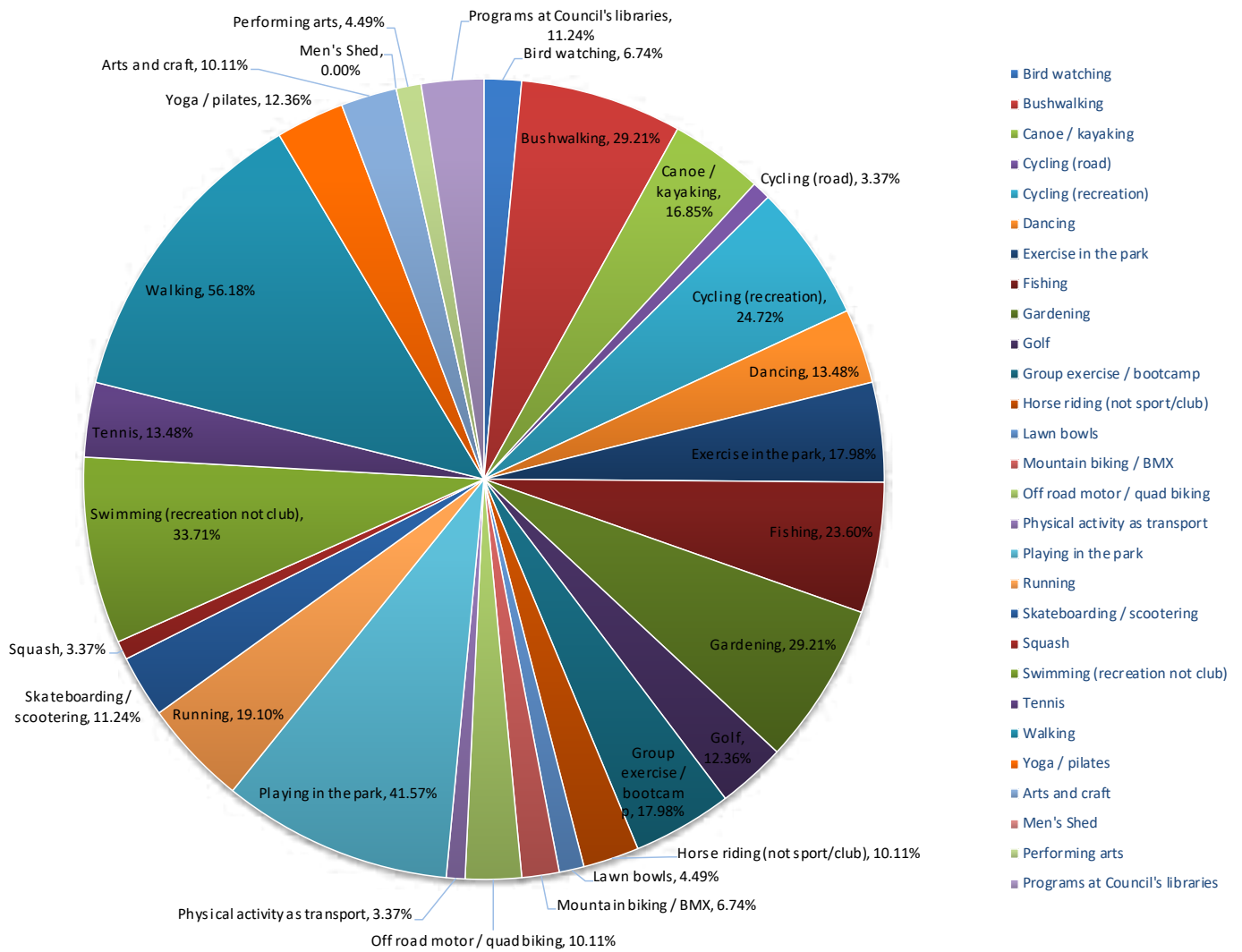
- » Establish a desired standard of service or needs based service for open space particularly sport and recreation parks
- » Establish the level of service (including embellishments) for parks and playground and communicate this to the community
- » Promotion of parks and playgrounds location and key facilities

Outdoor recreation

- » Develop Master Plans identifying outdoor recreation opportunities for Lake Boondooma and Bjelke-Petersen Dam
- » Develop a brochure map detailing walk, cycle, mountain bike and rail trail opportunities across the LGA (hardcopy and pdf)
- » Partner with NPSR to identify authorised outdoor recreation opportunities and promote via website and hardcopy promotion materials



‘What do you do for recreation/sport?’ - Council workshop excerpts

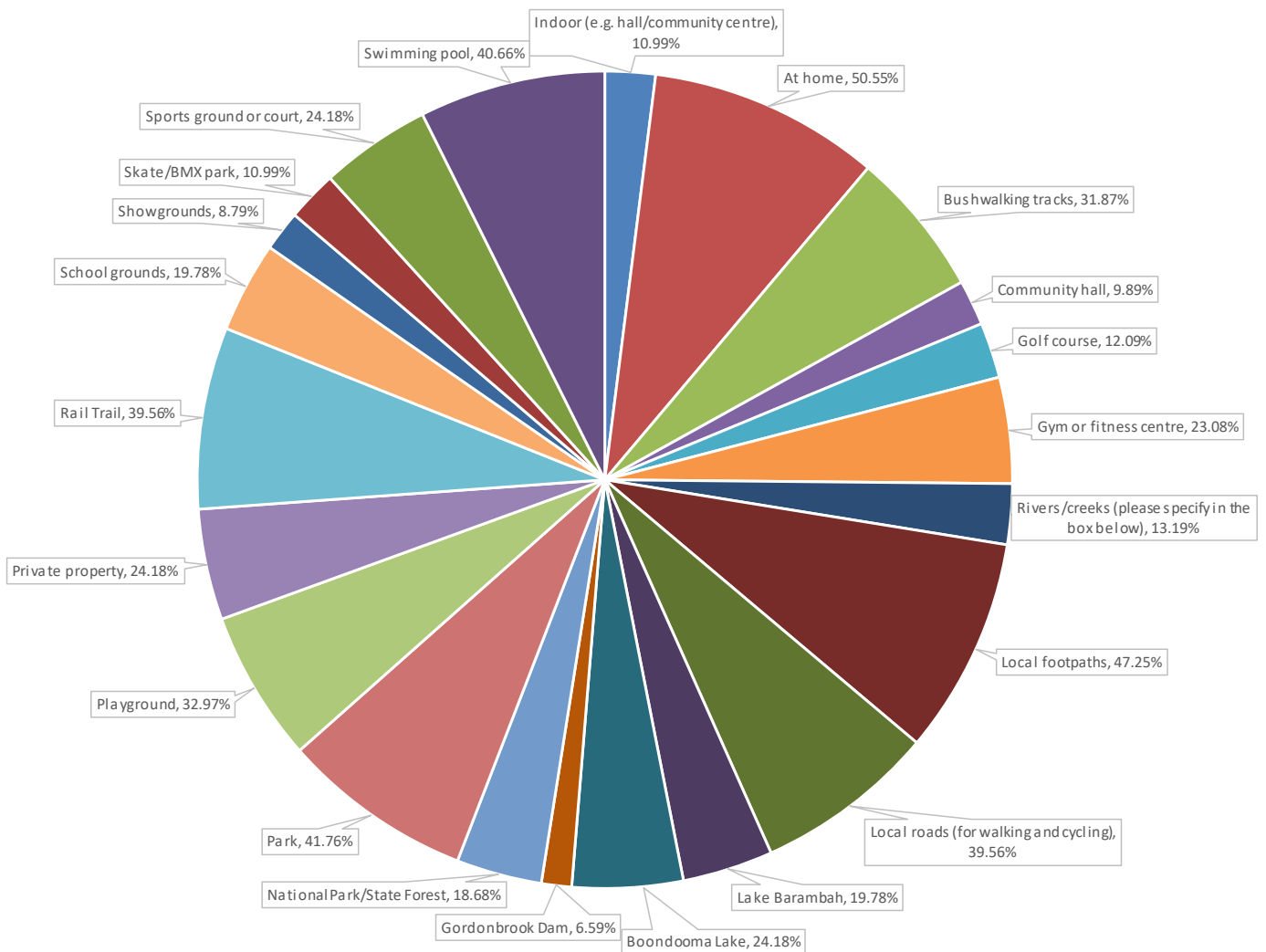


Summary of participation preferences as at November 2017



‘At which parks, open space or facilities do you recreate?’

- Council workshop excerpts



Summary of park, open space and facility preferences as at November 2017

How often do you visit? (from survey as at November 2017)

- » 68.09% visit one or more times per week
- » 4.26% visit daily
- » 13.83% visit most days
- » 17.02% visit twice per week
- » 32.98% visit weekly
- » 3.19% visit fortnightly
- » 14.98% visit monthly
- » 12.77% visit rarely
- » 1.08% visit never

Top three priorities (from surveys as at November 2017)

- » Provision of places/facilities for young people
- » More community events in public parks
- » Improved quality of sports grounds/ovals/ courts



ROSS Planning Pty Ltd

ABN 32 508 029 959

Upper floor, 63 Bay Terrace
Wynnum QLD 4178

PO Box 5660
Manly QLD 4179

Telephone: (07) 3901 0730
Fax: (07) 3893 0593