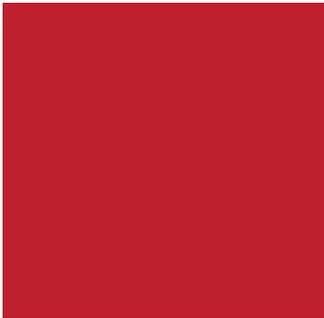


# Lithgow City Council

*open space and recreation  
needs study*



February 2011



Lithgow City Council

***Open Space and  
Recreation Needs Study***

February 2010

**ROSS**  
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# I. Introduction

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The Lithgow City Council Open Space and Recreation Needs Study represents an opportunity for Council to maintain and build upon the local government area's (LGA) diversity of sporting facilities and recreation parks for locals and visitors.

The focus of the Open Space and Recreation Needs Study is to provide Council with supporting information to understand the provision of sport and recreation facilities across the LGA, to assess the demand for open space and to develop a list of priorities for the future.

In addition to the above strategic purpose, the following objectives were listed in the Project Brief:

- *“to provide the strategic framework for the future provision and management of open space and recreational facilities for the next 10-20 years.*
- *to ensure that open spaces and recreation facilities meet the needs of local people and promote greater social inclusion.*
- *to protect and improve open space and recreation facility provision in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and safety.*
- *to respond to the community's changing needs for access and use of open space and recreation facilities.*
- *to provide linkages within, and between, the open space network.*
- *to ensure open spaces and recreational facilities enhance the quality of the local environment.*
- *to encourage and facilitate partnerships with community and other public and private stakeholders for the planning, provision, development and management of open space and recreation facilities.*
- *to provide direction on capital works, priorities and action to ensure “best practice” planning and management of open space and recreation facilities”.*

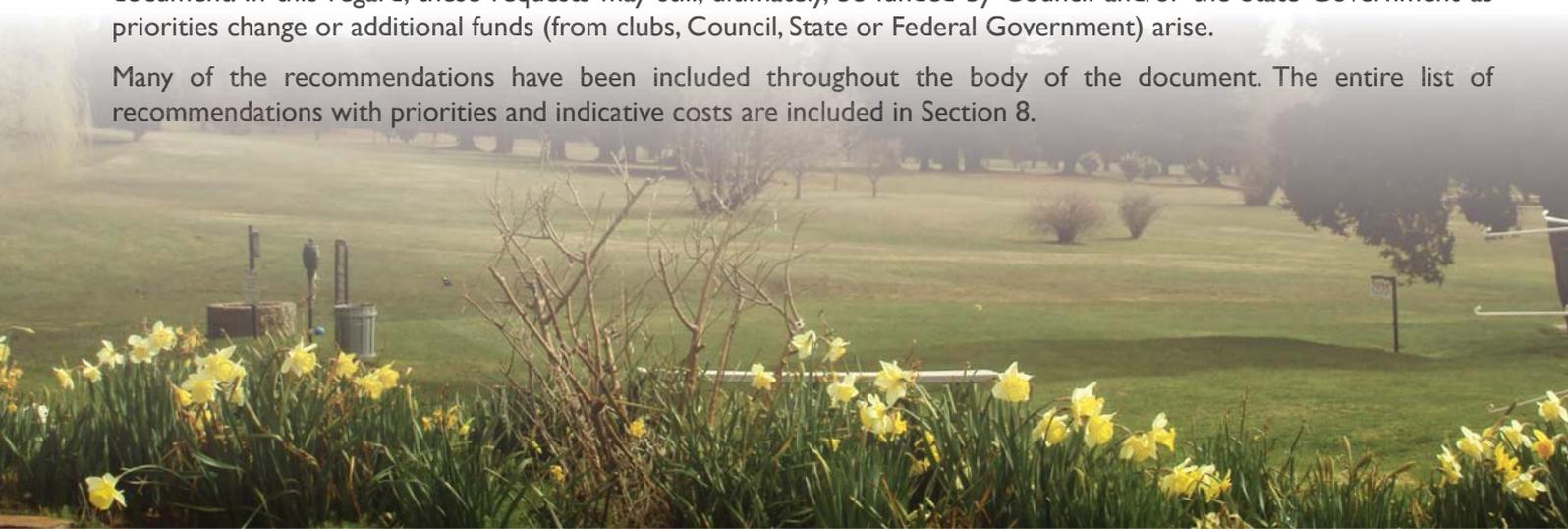
This Study is concerned with the following aspects of open space, sport and recreation provision in the Lithgow LGA: These are adopted from the Project Brief:

- *“Open Space -includes all land owned or controlled by Council that is set aside with unrestricted public access and managed primarily for leisure, recreation and amenity.*
- *Recreation - activities usually in free-time which generate feelings such as enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction, limited here to activities that promote physical fitness and health.*
- *Open Space Network - the collective term to describe all the open space, parks and reserves and the links between them.*
- *Recreational Facilities - facilities located in the open space network that allow for both organised sport and unstructured recreation activity, such as walking, cycling, play, dog exercising etc. Indoor sporting and recreation centres such as indoor court spaces and aquatic facilities are also included in this definition”.*

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

One of Council's key requests in the development of this Study was the need to ensure it was realistic and achievable for the community and Council. The Study includes a number of facility requests from the community and sporting clubs. While many of these requests have not been included in the recommendations they are listed in the body of the document. In this regard, these requests may still, ultimately, be funded by Council and/or the State Government as priorities change or additional funds (from clubs, Council, State or Federal Government) arise.

Many of the recommendations have been included throughout the body of the document. The entire list of recommendations with priorities and indicative costs are included in Section 8.



## 2. Background Research

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### Existing Plans and Studies

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The study team was provided with a range of strategic plans that have been prepared over recent years.

Each piece of literature was reviewed for recommendations relating to matters that are relevant to the development of the Open Space and Recreation Needs Study. A brief summary of the results is reported below.

#### Lithgow City Council Strategic Plan 2007

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Vision for the Lithgow LGA is:

*“a centre of regional excellence that encourages community growth and development, and contributes to the efficient and effective management of the environment, community and economy for present and future generations”.*

The vision is supported by a number of strategies categorised under ten categories. The community, heritage, health, environment, youth and growth categories are of most relevance to this Study. A number of strategies are presented for each, however, the following over-arching missions for each provide an adequate overview:

- *“community — we retain, respect and strengthen both our overall sense of community, and the unique linked communities of groups, rural areas, villages and towns that make up the Lithgow LGA*
- *heritage — celebrating, protecting and sustaining our unique industrial and natural heritage, its cultural landscapes and its built heritage*
- *health — creating a healthy community providing opportunities and facilities for a healthy lifestyle*
- *environment — balancing, protecting and enhancing our diverse environmental elements, both natural and built, for the enjoyment and support of both current and future generations*
- *youth — providing suitable entertainment and recreational facilities; education and employment opportunities and lifestyle choices for our valuable community of young people*
- *growth — providing for sustainable and planned growth, while enhancing the existing rural and village identity”.*

It is noted that this plan will be reviewed as part of Council processes in developing a Community Strategic Plan.

#### Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2010/11 to 2014/15

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The Management Plan details how Council will realise the goals and strategies. It is also the glue that binds a number of Council’s plans including the Strategic Plan 2007, the Social Plan, the Cultural Plan and Cultural Precinct Study, the Crime Prevention Plan, the Economic Development Strategy, the Business and Retail Strategy and the Wallerawang Industrial Park Study. It provides the reader with some financial information, a program of works, organisational structure, fees and charges, budget and policy information for Council.

#### Lithgow City Council Crime Prevention Plan 2010

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This Plan provides evidence of high rates of crime in the area, in particular assault (domestic violence related and non-domestic violence related) and malicious damage to property, particularly in Lithgow centre. It also provides an action plan to assist in decreasing these rates. Actions relevant to this Study include:

- an assessment of the safety of public spaces, with particular focus on better design and uses
- developing partnerships with organisations that serve alcohol to focus on strategies to reduce alcohol-fueled crimes
- developing partnerships with community and government organisations with the view to educating young people, targeted organisations include TAFE, schools, PCYC and Youth Works.

There may be some potential to integrate recommendations from the Crime Prevention Plan and the Open Space and Recreation Needs Study to maximise the investment in like-strategies.

#### Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006 - 2011 (revised 2008)

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The Social Plan recommended a number of actions with the view of improving the social capacity of all people within the Lithgow LGA. Specific actions pertinent to this Study include:

- improve access for children to affordable and appropriate recreational activities across the Lithgow LGA
- develop opportunities for youth to express themselves
- provide quality support, recreational and cultural opportunities which meet the needs of all people
- improve community safety.

## Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan 2008-2013 and Cultural Precinct Study 2010

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The Cultural Plan was developed to identify and promote the diversity of settings and cultures across the local government area. The Plan makes a number of recommendations, of which the development of the Cultural Precinct Plan being one of the key priorities. Other recommendations that relate to this Study have been quoted below, these have been categorised under the headings of governance and planning and recreation facilities and infrastructure needs.

### Governance and Planning

- *“annual review of fees and charges associated with the use of community facilities*
- *monitoring of fees and charges for sporting fields to ensure affordability by families and community members participating in sports*
- *identification of Partnership opportunities for the future development of cultural facilities*
- *develop a management plan for Lake Wallace*
- *implement a development control plan which includes a Public Space Strategy designed to connect environmental corridors, the Lake Foreshores and wetlands to public facilities and Main Street by cycle/walkways and riding tracks*
- *undertake further consultation in the villages of Cullen Bullen, Rydal and Capertee to establish priorities for village enhancement and promotion*
- *development of the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plans which recognise the management of our cultural landscapes*
- *development of Plans of Management for Crown Land Reserves and community lands*
- *development of cultural and recreational activities for youth to alleviate anti-social behaviour”.*

### Recreation Facilities and Infrastructure Needs

- *“undertake an Open Space and Recreational Needs Study*
- *provide linkages between open space networks*
- *implement a program of improving the standard of current facilities to ensure greater marketability*
- *undertake a Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan to provide safe, convenient and connected pedestrian routes throughout the Local Government Area*
- *implement a strategy for developing new skate park facilities and/or improving existing facilities in Lithgow, Wallerawang, Portland and Cullen Bullen*
- *undertake a feasibility study into the needs of the community and current swimming facilities, potential partners and funding/sponsorship sources”.*

## South Bowenfels Development Control Plan 2006

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The South Bowenfels DCP is a strategic plan to guide residential development in the South Bowenfels Release Area. The DCP provides a number of objectives, performance criteria and measures for the supply of open space. The DCP advises that any formally adopted open space plan is to be used in the first instance. Guidelines listed for the supply of open space in the study area (outside any formal plan being in place) is:

- rate of 2.83ha/1,000 people, with approximately 65% of this space to be active/sports area
- residents should be within 400m walking distance from a public open space, and 500m from an active open space area/playground
- open space boundary can not have more than 35% of a side or rear boundary frontage of residential property.

## Lithgow City Council Economic Development Strategy 2010 - 2014

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This report provides an overview of the region’s strengths and weaknesses with the view to increase the economic stability and viability of the LGA. Priority areas for Council to review (in order of importance) from the Strategy are:

- water and sewerage supply
- land
- marketing and branding
- liveability
- business and industry development
- skills development.

## Policies

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It is noted that the former Council of the City of Greater Lithgow had a Policy on Parks and Reserves, Recreational Facilities, Gardens and Cemeteries (1992). This Policy provides maintenance guidelines for open spaces which are to be categorised based on a 6 level hierarchy (A to F). It includes consideration to mowing, inspections, rubbish collection, cleaning of amenities and landscaping.

## Demographic Profile

Understanding population size, growth and demographic characteristics is fundamental to responding to community needs and providing open space and recreation facilities and programs. Spatial and demographic variations in the population, such as concentrations of older residents or youths, may impact on sport and recreation facility provision or management arrangements. Estimated population projections also assist in quantifying likely future demand and in prioritising land/facility developments.

Lithgow City Council LGA covers an area of 4,570.4km<sup>2</sup> and includes the major towns of Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang and the smaller townships of Capertee, Glen Alice, Glen Davis, Cullen Bullen Meadow Flat, Rydal, Tarana, Hartley, Little Hartley and others. The total population in 2006 was 19,367 people. Approximately 57% of the population is located in Lithgow, with 77% of the population found collectively within Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang. As these communities are geographically close, it has resulted in the majority of services being located here.

There is not expected to be significant population growth projected for the Lithgow LGA. The lack of growth, and the aging of the existing population also influence the type of demand for open space and recreation facilities. Council will need to undertake significant planning in relation to aged care and planning for the aging of the community. Aging of the population is an important consideration for sport and recreation planning. An older population is more likely to seek unstructured recreation and physical activity pursuits such as walking, swimming and social clubs. The significant proportion of people in this cohort (65+ years of age) will put pressure on Council to implement and continue to extend its footpaths and trails network particularly linking residential areas with parks and senior-orientated venues.

With an older population and a high proportion of low income earners, the provision of low cost and easily accessible recreation and physical activity opportunities is imperative across the Region. A summary of the population characteristics for the region can be found in the Table 1. In addition to this summary, the following characteristics are noted from the Census Data and data from the Community Atlas<sup>1</sup>:

- the population density is higher in Lithgow than other areas of the LGA, yet still the average is well below State averages for urban areas and other areas of comparison used in the Community Atlas. In fact the density rates for Lithgow are only slightly higher than the average for Regional NSW (0.4 compared to 0.3) (Figure 1)
- generally, there is a high proportion of family households across the LGA, of these, there are more one-parent households located in the urban areas (particularly Lithgow) (Figures 2 and 3)
- the greatest concentrations of children (under 14 years) are generally in the regions on the outskirts of the urban area, this is interesting as in many areas of Australia it is the urban areas that have high concentrations of young people (and also older people) (Figures 4, 5 and 6)
- there is a high concentration of older people (65 years+) in Lithgow (Figure 7)
- areas of high socio-economic disadvantage are in rural areas of the LGA and in Lithgow. Lithgow is most likely to be highlighted for this characteristic because of the high-proportion of older people on a low income. (Figure 8).

<sup>1</sup> Lithgow City Council. *Community Atlas, 2010*, <http://atlas.id.com.au/DefaultMap.aspx?id=364&pg=2010&c=3000&t=10309>

Table 1: Demographic summary of communities across the LGA in comparison to LGA and regional data

Characteristic	Lithgow urban area	Portland	Wallerawang	Rural North	Rural South	Lithgow LGA	Regional NSW
Population (numbers)							
Males	5,445	1,088	872	1,441	1,004	9,839	n/a
Females	5,586	1,044	869	1,040	986	9,528	n/a
Total Population	11,031	2,132	1,741	2,481	1,990	19,367	n/a
Age Profile (percentages)							
Aged 0 to 4 years	5.7%	5.9%	8.0%	4.9%	5.6%	5.9%	6.2%
Aged 5 to 17 years	18.1%	18.4%	21.5%	17.7%	19.5%	18.4%	18.6%
Aged 18 to 64 years	59.2%	59.5%	60.7%	67.2%	62.2%	60.7%	58.7%
Aged 65 to 84 years	14.8%	14.6%	9.4%	9.3%	11.6%	11.4%	14.6%
Aged 85 years and over	2.1%	1.6%	0.4%	0.9%	1.1%	3.6%	1.9%

Figure 1: Population density



Figure 2: Couple families with children under 15 years

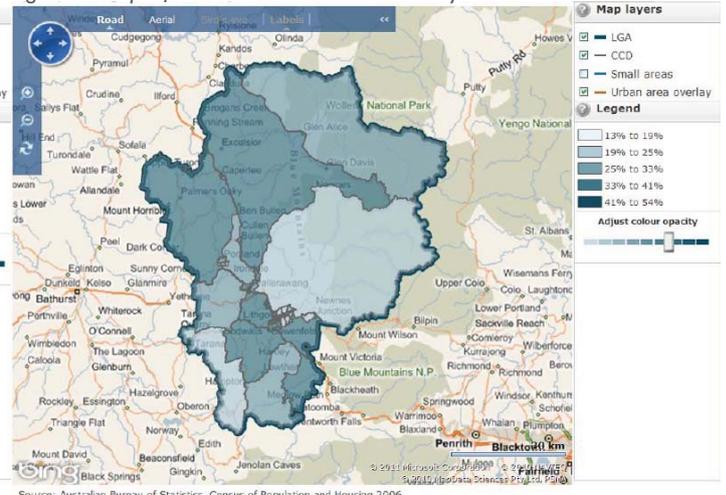


Figure 3: One parent families with children under 15 years



Figure 4: Persons aged 0 to 4 years

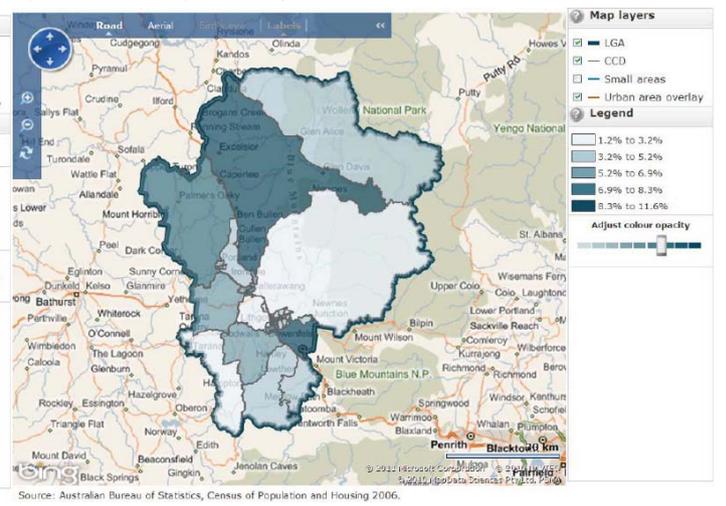


Figure 5: Persons aged 5 to 11 years

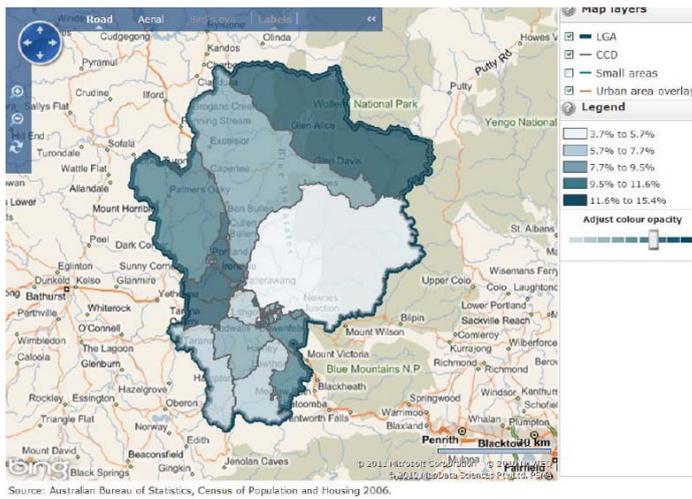


Figure 6: Persons aged 12 to 17 years

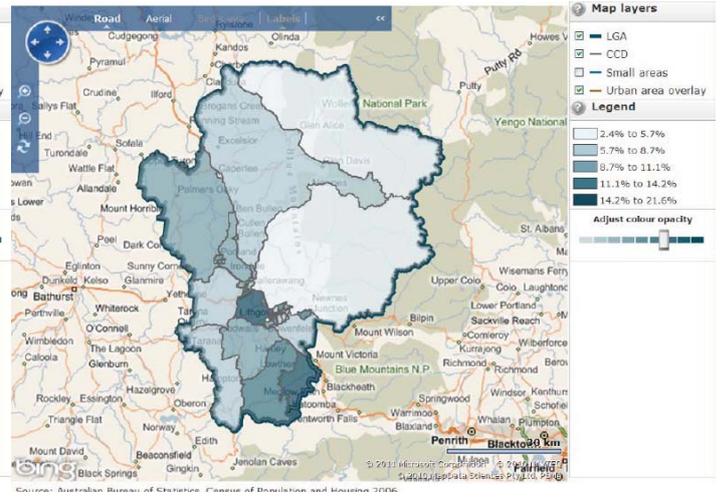


Figure 7: Persons aged 85 years and over

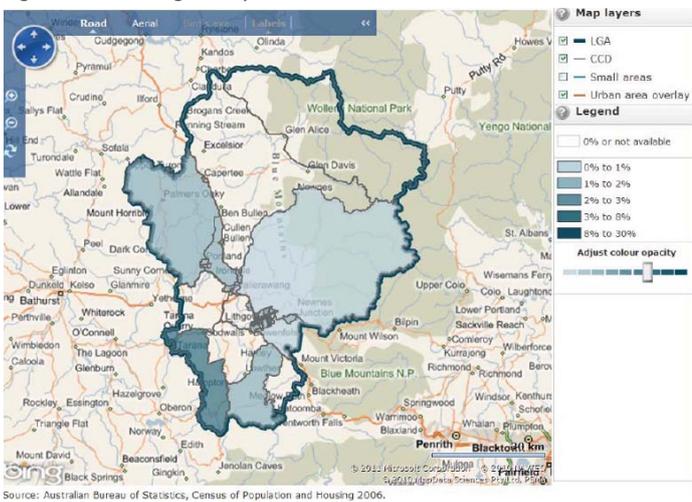
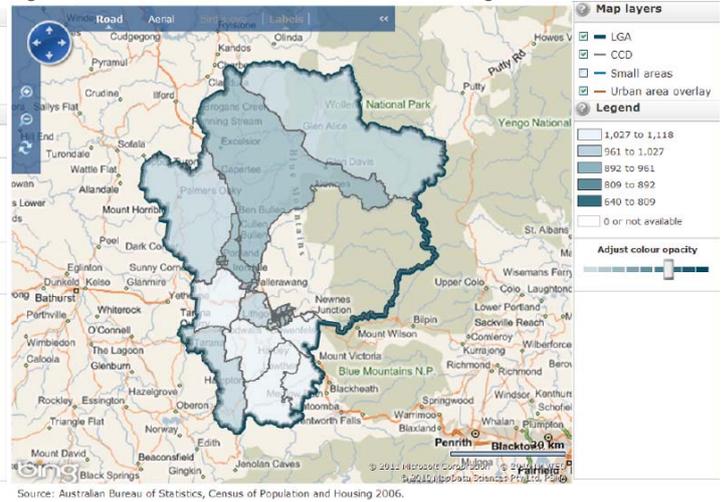


Figure 8: Index of relative socio-economic disadvantage



## Trends in Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity

### Sporting Trends

Councils face an increasing trend to develop and re-develop sporting fields to a higher level in order to increase carrying capacity. Upgrades such as field lighting and irrigation allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear.

A number of the sporting clubs in the Lithgow LGA note that their facilities require significant upgrades to make them attractive to current (and potential new) members and to allow the clubs to bid to host higher level events. A number of these facilities are owned by Council and the users will be looking to Council to assist to meet these costs. Even where the facility is not directly provided by Council, there is likely to be some pressure on Council to financially contribute.

Many of the LGA's sporting clubs are struggling to attract volunteers. In fact, many clubs are driven by one or two key people.

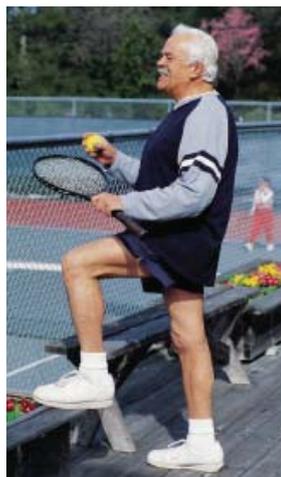
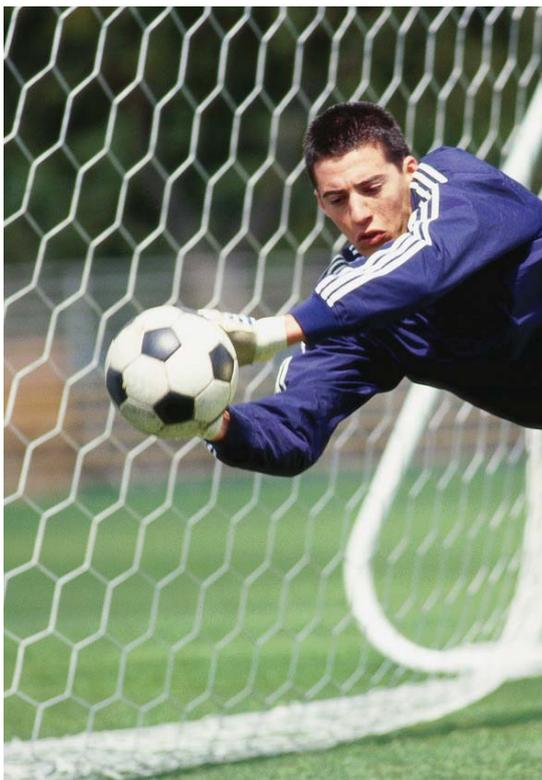
At a national level, the Australian Sports Commission's *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS)* has noted that AFL, football (soccer), outdoor cricket, touch and lawn bowls have all experienced participation increases between 2001 and 2008. In contrast, martial arts and tennis have suffered the greatest decreases in participation.

### Recreation and Physical Activity

Factors such as age, gender and family lifestage can impact on the type of activities and frequency with which people recreate. For example, current trends<sup>2</sup> show :

- walking is the single most frequently undertaken activity across the New South Wales population (35.8%)
- along with walking, aerobics/fitness (22.4%), swimming (14.5%), running (10.7%) and cycling (9.0%) are in the top five activities for the New South Wales population
- there is substantially higher participation in informal, unstructured activities than in organised sports
- older people are more likely to participate in informal, unstructured activities with young people being more likely to engage in organised sports
- women, older adults, married people (or those in de-facto relationships), people in lower income households and obese people are less likely to participate in sufficient physical activity.

<sup>2</sup> Australian Sports Commission, *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport, 2009*



## The Play Experience

To an adult, play is a way to pass time, with no immediate useful product. To a child however, play is doing something interesting or enjoyable that they are in control of. Through play, children can be anyone, at any place, at anytime.

To a play-planner, play is the outcome of a sophisticated interaction between the physical setting, the play opportunities and the child users. When carefully planned, a play facility instantly delivers benefits to the delight of the child users. It can also have wider benefits such as promoting the child's physical, emotional and social competencies, or by providing a community asset for either active or passive enjoyment. Children at play should be seen as an integral component to any public park facility.

### What, Where and How do we Play?

The criterion of a successful play experience is whether children want to return. Play experiences need to incorporate many or all of the following characteristics:

- physical form—the play area needs to be adapted to the physical landscape (rocks, trees, and gullies) and supplemented by man-made variations (mounds, bridges, platforms).
- child and adult participants—consider the local demographics within the user groups. There is a need to offer separate areas for different age groups (2-5 years, 5-12 years, and 12+ years), while providing for active adult supervision or for adult passive watching.
- safety—the play area should be accessible to all, including the physically challenged and supervisors with prams. The design must incorporate safety standards to prevent traumatic events, but still provide challenge and invitation to explore.
- invitational design—this tends to be subtle, so that children spontaneously move between play opportunities - exploring and discovering, using their imaginations to create new uses for infrastructure or loose parts (water, sand and leaves), interacting with each other and utilising rhythm, movement, co-ordination and balance. Open-ended designs with graduated support built into them are of high play value.

When an area for play cannot deliver on the four points above, then the users will be less than satisfied and may not want to return.



### A Play Experience versus a Playground

A play experience is, or should be, vibrant and exciting - whereas a playground is just part of the infrastructure that is provided. The difference is somewhat like that between a mountain bike ride and a stationary bicycle. More importantly, a play experience does not innately require the installation of structured play equipment. Interesting and interactive places to play and explore may be created by designing magical and evocative landscapes. This may include sculpting the earth or utilising the natural contours, planting (for example, vegetated tunnels, mazes or forests) and/or utilising various textures and materials such as creative paving patterns (stepping stones, steps, edgings for balancing). A play space may incorporate interesting views or vistas, showcase art or innovation (mobiles and alternate energy sources), sculptural park furniture, landscape structures or buildings. Play experiences may incorporate elements such as:

- storytelling/sculpture trees
- labyrinth/mazes/tunnels of plants
- hidey holes
- mist water play
- meandering paths
- meeting places
- water jets
- musical play.

The common characteristic in all of these elements is that the infrastructure suggests (but never dictates) how it is to be used. Moreover, each element can be used in many ways—common sense says that a toddler will use a mist water play area quite differently to a twelve year old child.

Such unstructured play needs to complement and be integrated with other recreation facilities to encourage active recreation for children, youth and adults. Examples include:

- basketball courts/hoops
- play structures/equipment
- cycling/pedestrian networks and skill development trails/circuits
- attractive open space areas for ball games etc
- water play parks
- surfaces and markings for games such as hopscotch and handball
- swings for all ages including adults
- flying foxes/climbing walls
- fitness stations/training equipment.

Much of the formal play across the Lithgow LGA is plastic, kit style playgrounds that do not meet many of the criteria for good, engaging play as described above. While this style of equipment is important as a basic level of provision to all residents, some playgrounds should go to the next level and offer a greater play experience.

### Australian Standards

Standards Australia, a Commonwealth Government endorsed body, is responsible for the publication of Australian Standards that impact on urban open space.

In order to minimise public risk and liability issues Council should ensure that all public park infrastructure complies with relevant Australian Standards. There is a very delicate line in providing excellent play experience as previously discussed in this section and ensuring built infrastructure complies with safety regulation. Australian Standards that are relevant to open space include (but are not limited to):

- AS 4685:2004 (Part 1 to 6) sets out the general and specific requirements for playground equipment in six parts:
  - AS 4685.1: 2004 Pt 1 General safety requirements and test methods
  - AS 4685.2: 2004 Pt 2 Particular safety requirements and test methods for swings
  - AS 4685.3: 2004 Pt 3 Particular safety requirements and test methods for slides
  - AS 4685.4: 2004 Pt 4 Particular safety requirements and test methods for runways
  - AS 4685.5: 2004 Pt 5 Particular safety requirements and test methods for carousels
  - AS 4685.6: 2004 Pt 6 Particular safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment
- AS/NZS 4422: 1996 Playground Surfacing—Specifications, Requirements & Test Methods
- AS/NZS 4486.1: 1997 Playgrounds and Playground Equipment—Part 1: Development, Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation

- AS 2155: 1982 Playgrounds: Guide to Siting and to Installation and Maintenance of Equipment
- AS 2555: 1982 Supervised Adventure Playgrounds—Guide to Establishment and Administration
- AS 1428.3: 1992 Design for Access and Mobility—Requirements for Children and Adolescents with Physical Disabilities.
- Lighting:
  - AS1158.3.1 Prime Public Lighting Code
  - AS4282 Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting
  - AS1798 Lighting Poles
  - AS3000 & 3008 Cabling.

### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

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CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) is a method of crime prevention which holds as its basic belief that the physical environment can be changed or managed to produce a behavioural effect. This, in turn, will reduce the incidence of crime and the fear of crime. Where CPTED differs from other methods of employing harsh physical countermeasures is that the techniques uses environmental factors to affect the perceptions of all users of a given space. CPTED can reduce the incidence of crime and the fear of crime through:

- territoriality—fostering stakeholder interaction, vigilance, and control over their environment
- surveillance—maximising the ability to spot suspicious persons and activities
- activity support—encouraging the intended use of public spaces by members of the public
- creating hierarchy of spaces—identifying ownership by delineating private space from public space through real or symbolic boundaries
- access control/target hardening—using physical barriers, security devices and tamper-resistant materials to restrict entrance to a space
- environment—a design or location decision that takes into account the surrounding environment and minimises the use of space by conflicting groups, and
- image/maintenance—ensuring that a building or area is clean, well-maintained and graffiti free.

### Physical Activity

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Physical activity is defined as any bodily movement produced by the muscles that result in energy expenditure. The National Physical Activity Guidelines specify the minimum amount of physical activity required to maintain a healthy lifestyle:

For adults:

- think of movement as an opportunity, not an inconvenience
- be active every day in as many ways as you can for at least 30 minutes
- enjoy some additional vigorous activity for extra health and fitness.

For children aged 0 to 5 years:

- physical activity should be encouraged since birth – floor based movements
- toddlers and pre-schoolers should be physical for a least three hours through out the day
- children aged 2 – 5 years should spend no more than one hour per day watching television or using other electronic media, while children younger than 2 years of age should not partake in any at all.

For children aged 5 to 12 years and adolescents:

- at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity every day
- children aged 5 – 12 years should not spend more than two hours a day watching television or using other electronic media.

There is accumulating evidence on the physical, economic, social and environmental benefits of a physically active community.

### Physical Benefits

Physical inactivity accounts for approximately 8,000 deaths per year in Australia, making it the third largest modifiable risk factor contributing to disease and injury in women and fifth in men. Physical activity directly impacts on all of the major anatomical systems and minimises the risk of arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions, asthma, cancer, cardiovascular health, diabetes mellitus, injury prevention and control, mental health and obesity.

### Economic Benefits

Economically, there is a huge cost saving associated with physical activity. Strong evidence also suggests that community based physical activity interventions are important and cost effective way of reducing chronic disease compared to pharmaceutical intervention or no intervention at all. In 2006-07 the estimated direct cost of physical inactivity in Australia was \$1,494 million.

### Social Benefits

Participation in physical activity provides specific social benefits, especially for children and older adults. Some benefits include;

- increased social cohesion
- improved social/community networks and social capital
- improved family and community connectedness.

### Environmental Benefits

A person's neighbourhood and the availability of well connected footpaths and bicycle paths impacts on their physical activity participation. Focusing on active transport, environmental benefits include;

- reduction in air pollution and green house gases
- reduction in stress on road and infrastructure
- improvement of local neighbourhoods.

As levels of participation continue to decline it is important governments recognise the community benefits associated with physical activity and adopt a whole-community approach to promoting it.

### Summary of Park and Playground Design Trends

So what do the trends mean for the open space planning of Lithgow LGA? As future parks are developed or upgraded, it will be important for Council officers to:

- introduce new play experiences to broaden the depth of choice
- plan the sites to be managed more efficiently
- provide space for low cost recreation as well as community celebration
- maximise opportunities for walking and cycling, as these are popular physical activity options
- introduce a wide variety of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities within the sites so that they have broad appeal
- adopt CPTED principles to encourage feelings of safety. Lighting, open spaces, facilities to encourage greater numbers of people to the parks, and allowing passive observation have been key tools
- create naturally and artificially shaded areas
- cater for all age groups and consider the needs of the aged and less physically mobile
- create opportunities for the development of higher standard recreation spaces and sporting facilities.

Much of the formal play across the LGA is plastic, kit style playgrounds that do not meet many of the criteria for good, engaging play as described above. While this style of equipment is important as a basic level of provision to all residents, some playgrounds should go to the next level and offer a greater play experience.



## 3. Consultation

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Extensive consultation was undertaken to understand the wants, needs and desires for open space in the community.

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 Study.

Broadly, consultation was undertaken with:

- Councillors and Council Officers
- general community through community surveys, workshops and through general discussions at key locations (retail centres and in parks), additional consultation occurred with key target groups such as young people and active adults
- sport and recreation providers—sport club specific survey, sports forum and interviews/discussions
- other key stakeholders.

Results of the consultation undertaken are detailed below. Consultation relating to the whole of the local government area is found at the beginning of this chapter, however, the remainder of the consultation has been organised between the major areas of the Region.

### Council

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#### Councillors

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Each Councillor was given the opportunity to have a one-on-one discussion (with the consultants) regarding the development of this Study. Generally, similar comments were received and are summarised below:

- sport and recreation is a priority for Council, and this is reflected in the resource allocation within Council
- there are good quality sporting facilities available, however, more land for sport may be required in the future
- development of additional walking and cycling opportunities is important, particularly for our aging community
- an indoor, all-year, heated pool is desired, however, the capital and operational cost is a concern
- Lake Wallace is a popular recreation destination for the LGA
- more family-friendly recreation areas may be required that have infrastructure that is appealing to a range of age-groups (not just little children)
- there are a number of small local parks that are not well-used
- the play equipment is similar in most parks resulting in a limited range of play opportunities
- provision of quality parks and sports facilities is lacking in rural communities
- additional promotion of facilities and activities may be needed
- Hassans Walls lookout, as well as other natural features of the area, are not utilised to their full potential
- the skate park in Lithgow is very well used.

A number of one-off suggestions were also received from Councillors and are listed below:

- Wallerawang may need to become the centre for sport in the LGA
- ownership of the Golf Course (Lithgow) is not preferred but was a necessary decision Council had to make
- more signage may be required
- street tree planting should be considered
- Council should consider the role of commercial entities in promoting (and increasing) use of some facilities, in particular, a cafe/restaurant at Braceys Lookout could be an opportunity that should be investigated
- the former Hermitage site has been flagged for future sport, however, it may need to compete for low-cost aged care housing
- there should be more activities and events in parks to increase use.

#### Council Officers

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##### Community Development

Council has had the privilege of funding from Sydney West Area Health that covers the cost of the employment of a Live Life Well Officer. This officer has implemented a number of programs and services with the view of improving chronic health (physical activity and eating) indicators. Programs, services and events coordinated thus far have had differing success rates. The most successful was the 12 Week Healthy Challenge which attracted around 1,300 participants.

The top priority infrastructure needs are considered to be: an indoor, heated pool and a better quality walk/cycle network. Council has gone some way to provide good infrastructure, such as the walk around Lake Pillans, but access to these facilities and local knowledge of them is considered as being limited.

Information and promotion was also considered as being less than desirable. Many local people were unaware of opportunities and facilities in their own towns. Additionally, it was thought that the design and embellishments of parks should be reviewed to encourage broader community use.

### Parks Management and Engineering Services

There maybe a number of small pocket parks that are not embellished and potentially surplus to the needs of the community. These parks put pressure on Council’s resources with limited community benefit and the future of these site should be considered.

As Council favours economic development, it can lead to an undesirable contribution of parklands that are not suitable to be embellished. In many instances, the open space contribution has a utility function, most commonly for drainage purposes.

Additional land may be required for sporting purposes. Much of the sports parks have been developed to near capacity with few opportunities available for additional fields to be constructed if there is demand in the future.

Most requests come from the sporting community. Whilst Council has generally been able to respond to these requests efficiently, major upgrades to field surfaces continues to be a matter that is currently without a solution due to the cost, time involved in the upgrade and pressure it will put on other sporting infrastructure. The other concern that is raised by the sporting community relates to conflict of times of regular events. This issue primarily relates to the Tony Luchetti Sportsground where a number of user groups co-exist.

The general public would like an indoor, heated, 25 metre pool. Council is currently investigating funding opportunities for it and at this stage only a basic concept proposal has been formed.

The other main priority for this department is to develop a good pedestrian (walk and cycle) path system in the urban areas. The first stage is to complete a link along Farmers Creek in Lithgow.

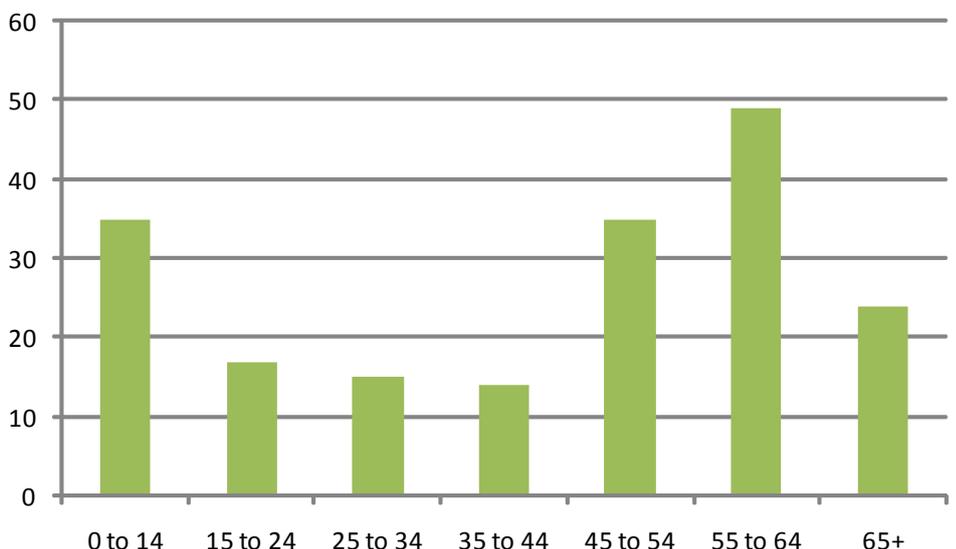
## Community Consultation

### Community Survey

A household survey was distributed to more than 200 households across the LGA, ensuring relatively equal geographic distribution. The purpose of the survey was to capture residents’ views regarding the supply and future needs for parks, sport and recreation facilities and programs across the area. The survey included a range of qualitative and quantitative research questions. A total of 78 surveys were returned, resulting in an excellent return rate of 33%.

Whilst a fair and equitable geographic response was sort across the LGA, this was not achieved. The majority of respondents came from Lithgow (64%), with representation also from Wallerawang (10%), Portland (4%), Hartley or Little Hartley (4%), Marrangaroo (3%), Rydal (3%), Hampton (3%), Capertee (3%), Meadow Flat (less than 1%), Pipers Flat (less than 1%), Cullen Bullen (less than 1%), Newnes (less than 1%), Dargan (less than 1%) and Good Forest (less than 1%). In addition it is noted that the majority of respondents were female (71%). However, the respondents were asked to reply on behalf of their households, and the distribution of age and sex were much more representative of the community at large. Figure 9 shows this age distribution.

Figure 9: Representation across age cohorts from the household survey



### Open Space and Recreation Positives

Residents felt strongly that the range of sport opportunities and the level of maintenance of sporting facilities and parks was extremely good, with an outstanding 72% of respondents indicating either, or both, of these aspects.

### Open Space and Recreation Negatives

Below is the list of negatives (or priorities for the region) that respondents cited. These are listed in order of priority:

- heated indoor swimming pool (31%)
- more walk and cycling tracks (14%)
- more facilities in parks (toilets, play, seats, shade) (10%)
- indoor sport (including bowling alley) (9%)
- more activities and events (5%)
- access to natural adventure opportunities such as rock climbing, abseiling, mountain biking etc (5%)
- adventure playground (like Bathurst) (5%)
- promotion of walking opportunities and facilities (4%)
- off road cycling options (4%)
- reopen squash courts (4%)
- upgrade Hassans Walk and other natural areas (4%).

The most common negative feedback and request from residents for Council to consider as a priority is to have access to an all-weather, all-year, indoor pool. It must also be noted that a number of respondents also cited the cost of this facility improvement was also a concern.

### Satisfaction with Council's Open Space and Recreation Provision

A number of quantitative questions were asked, these related to the respondents satisfaction with:

1. Council's parks and reserves
2. community, sport and recreation facilities
3. the range of sport and recreation activities and programs.

The results from each of these questions are found in Figures 10 to 12 and are summarised below:

- people were largely dissatisfied with pool and aquatic facilities, this was the most highly selected option and opinion sort throughout the whole survey
- the number of parks and their maintenance and cleanliness rated extremely positively
- access to sporting fields, skate facilities and tennis courts also rated positively
- paths play opportunities and access to shade rated negatively
- generally, people were dissatisfied with the range of programs and services offered across key target groups.

Figure 10: Satisfaction rates with Council's parks and reserves

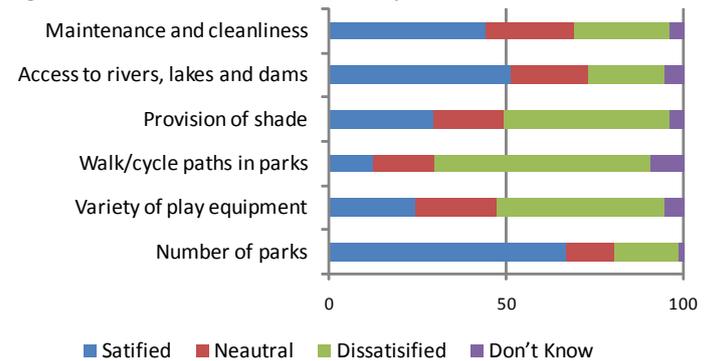


Figure 11: Satisfaction rates with community, sport and recreation facilities

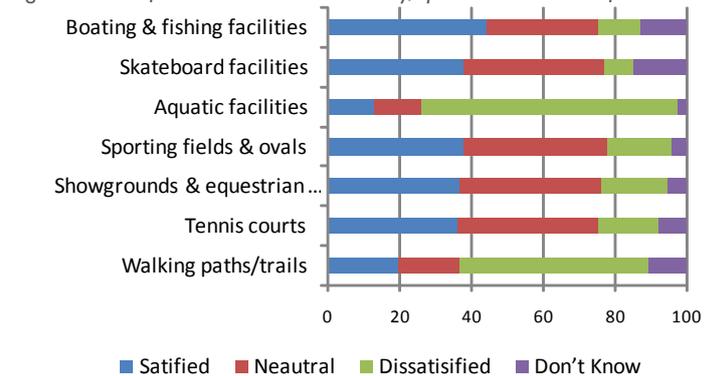
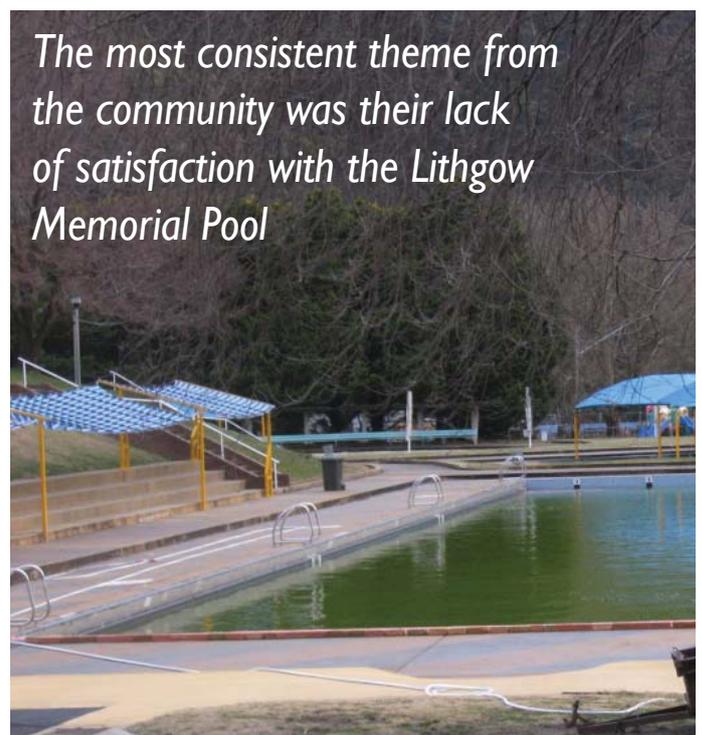
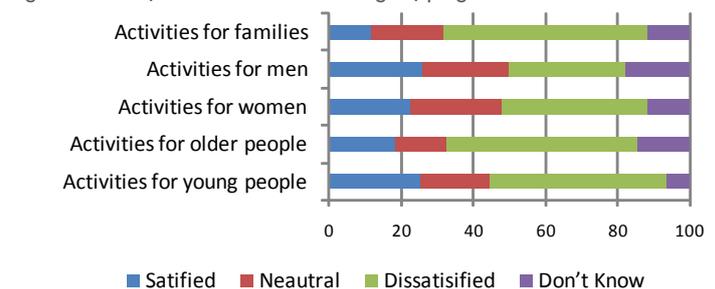


Figure 12: Satisfaction rates with the range of programs and services



*The most consistent theme from the community was their lack of satisfaction with the Lithgow Memorial Pool*

## Community Workshops

Three workshops were held in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang. Residents from across the LGA were encouraged to attend either of these sessions to discuss issues and their ideas for open space and recreation facility provision. As the discussions were different at each workshop, these results have been kept separate to best reflect the discussions that occurred.

### Lithgow

Key Messages:

- *Need to further promote and develop walking and cycling opportunities*
- *Important that Lithgow 'sells itself' to tourists through its parks and open spaces*

A wide range of quality walking opportunities exist in Lithgow (and nearby surrounds). Many of these walks are based in the mountainous reserves on Lithgow's doorstep. However, it is suggested that these walks are not promoted nor are they upgraded or developed to the standard they should be. Also, some of these walks need to be formalised and/or restricted where they pass through private property. Further, many of the walks based in environmental reserves are also popular areas for downhill mountain bike riding. Given the high speeds attained in downhill mountain biking, it is important that Council manages the interaction between passive pursuits such as walking and more active activities such as mountain biking. Finally, further highlighting the need to manage and formalise the use of these reserves is the fact that they are also home to significant flora species.

Walking and cycling are also popular pursuits within Lithgow. Opportunities exist to further promote and develop walk and cycleways. Ideally, Lithgow would enjoy a network of walking and cycling opportunities that provide loops and links to key facilities and open space areas. It may be worth pursuing access to unused railway easements to help create these links. Additional seating is required along these walking circuits. In large parks such as Endeavour Park simple walking loops (potentially with exercise stations) could be developed.

Lithgow is becoming a key tourist destination. Tourist buses and campers regularly stop for refreshment breaks at public places such as Endeavour Park. It is imperative that Lithgow 'sells its product' by providing quality experiences. For example, visitors should enjoy clean amenities and have access to covered electric barbecues and well maintained seating with appropriate shade. Further, Council should look to enhance the City's entrance statements and key median strips.

Additional issues raised include:

- need to develop an indoor heated 25m pool in Lithgow
- need to promote and upgrade key camping locations
- ensure exclusive use of sports facilities is minimised
- replace picnic facilities in Sable Park.

### Portland

Key Messages:

- *Need for equity in management, maintenance and upgrade of facilities*
- *Very limited play opportunities in smaller communities*

The participants at this meeting noted a perception that inequities existed across towns (and facilities). For instance, the tennis courts at Lidsdale were formerly community maintained and managed but have now been 'taken over' by Council. This has resulted in the courts becoming overrun with weeds and reduced usage as they are locked and keys are only available from Council for social tennis. In contrast, the court in Glen Davis remains open to the public. (However, it was also noted that Council maintenance of this facility is poor).

There was also a perception that Council maintenance standards across smaller towns were lower than within Lithgow. It was noted that the memorial garden beds, amenities (that have no lighting) and play equipment in Lidsdale were all in poor condition. In a number of instances in Portland, community groups have taken facility maintenance and upgrades on themselves. By attracting grants (the majority with Council assistance) and fundraising, these groups have completed a number of projects such as the further development of the Rotary Club Rest Area and upgrades to the tennis courts and clubhouse.

It is perceived that limited play opportunities exist in smaller towns outside Lithgow. For instance, there are only two play nodes in Portland, one in Lidsdale (other than the tennis courts) and only the tennis court in Glen Davis. Portland

residents believed that a concrete skate park was to be developed in the town (at the same time the new facility in Lithgow was developed).

Additional issues raised include:

- the need for appropriate open space to be allocated if a significant sub-division is developed by Boral
- the need to investigate opportunities to designate Kremer Park as an overnight camping facility
- the importance of free physical activity options (such as tennis courts) be readily accessible in most communities
- consideration of relocating play equipment that is removed from parks for replacement to small areas currently without play opportunities (e.g. Glen Davis or Glen Alice)
- perception that vandalism in Portland is escalating as the youth become bored as there is 'nothing for them to do'
- the need to develop a community park within Portland (potentially at Saville Park or in a park adjoining the quarry).

### Wallerawang

Key Messages:

- *Limited play opportunities for young people*
- *Opportunities exist to enhance walking tracks*

While few residents attended this workshop, those present appeared in-tune with the local community.

It was clearly noted that there were limited play opportunities available in Wallerawang – there are few playgrounds; the skatepark has no shade, limited seating and no bubblers; there are limited bike riding facilities; and the indoor sports centre is only opened for formal sports training and competition. It was suggested that Council should co-ordinate the indoor sports centre to be opened (with supervision) for casual use on weekends and school holidays.

It was also outlined that a tennis court with separate hit-up wall should be available in Wallerawang for free social play. Also, the community hall (that adjoins the skate park) could be redeveloped as a youth centre and provide programs and activities such as table tennis, pool and badminton.

Lake Wallace is a popular recreation facility for both locals, residents from nearby towns (e.g. Portland and Lithgow) and visitors. The facility is well-used by walkers and youth using the play equipment.

While walking at Lake Wallace is popular, additional walking links are required across the town linking key community facilities such as the library, school and newer residential areas.

Additional issues raised include:

- need to educate (and subsequently police) youth on the importance of wearing helmets and riding bikes safely
- need to relocate the play equipment on Cary Street away from the large stormwater outlet
- need to formalise overnight camping at Charles Darwin Park (including ensuring the adjoining amenities were available for campers)
- Council should continue to investigate opportunities to provide low cost public transport to transport residents from Portland, Wallerawang and surrounds to and from Lithgow on weekends and school holidays to enjoy facilities such as the skate park, aquatic centre and feature parks.

### School Playshops

Discussions were held with a range of primary and secondary schools across the Region. The aim of these sessions was to develop a snapshot of participation trends for youth. The difference between 'sport' and 'recreation' was explained and the students were asked four questions.

The questions were:

- whether they were involved in club sports (outside the school system)
- what existing sport and recreation they enjoyed in their area
- what sport and recreation they thought was missing
- what sport and recreation they would develop for the community if each won Gold Lotto.

To provide results that could be compared across the local government area, in primary schools Year 5 classes were targeted while in secondary schools Year 9 classes were spoken to.

### Participation in Club Sport

**PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS** — Approximately 60% of the students surveyed participated in club sport outside the school sport system. Despite limited club sport opportunities in Portland and Wallerawang (compared with Lithgow) participation rates were similar across the areas. Interestingly, unlike many regional communities, participation by girls was as wide ranging as for boys. In fact, in Portland girls were involved in more sports than boys. In general, football (soccer) is the preferred sport for boys followed by cricket, rugby league and hockey. The highest rating sports for girls included basketball and netball followed by swimming, hockey, dance and football.

A snapshot of the range of sports played across the area is presented in Table 2. The table indicates the range of sports participated in by boys and girls and compares results from schools within and outside Lithgow. The table clearly shows that fewer formal sporting opportunities are available as one moves away from the city area.

Table 2: Number of different sports played (primary)

	Boys	Girls
Within Lithgow	13	8
Outside Lithgow	7	7

**SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS** — Compared with primary school students, a similar formal sport participation rate (63%) was found for secondary youth surveyed. This finding is in contrast with many areas in Australia where drop-off from formal sport begins in the 13 to 15 years age bracket as many face additional time pressures from part-time work, increased study load and relationships. Participation rates were higher for males than for females. Cricket is the most popular sport for males followed by hockey, touch, football and rugby league. For females, hockey, netball and dance were popular.

The table below compares the range of sports participated in by males and females and compares results between areas within and outside Lithgow. Clearly, fewer formal club sport opportunities are available in outer lying areas.

Table 3: Number of different sports played (secondary)

	Boys	Girls
Within Lithgow	6	7
Outside Lithgow	3	1

### Recreation Likes

**PRIMARY and SECONDARY**—In towns with pools and skate parks, these were the favourite recreation activities for youth. It should be noted that a number of secondary youth in Lithgow indicated that they preferred the Portland pool given its depth and diving board. Primary students also indicated that they enjoyed riding BMX bikes. Youth from Wallerawang highlighted that they enjoy playing in and around Lake Wallace during summer and riding motorbikes throughout the year.

### Recreation that is Missing

**PRIMARY**—The two key messages from the younger students surveyed was the need for informal BMX tracks and/or dirt jumps in each town and the need for more adventure based play opportunities in parks. Many noted that they get bored quickly with the play equipment currently available in parks. They would like to see varied play opportunities that include climbing nets, flying foxes and mazes. Every primary school group mentioned that the best park was in Bathurst (the Adventure Playground opened late in 2009).

Youth in Lithgow suggested that they would prefer a heated indoor pool to be developed at the aquatic centre, with primary-aged students from both Portland and Wallerawang keen for their skate parks to be re-developed as concrete (as was completed in Lithgow).

**SECONDARY**—Across the three groups of secondary-aged students surveyed it was clear that the youth were looking for places to 'hang'. While youth at this age do not use playground equipment, they would like a large covered area in a park with access to power where they could meet, listen to music and be with their friends. Currently, a number of the youth in Lithgow like to gather in the underground carpark at Woolworths. Further, the youth noted that they would like Council to organise a school holidays activity program and co-ordinate a number of underage dance events using local bands.

The secondary-aged youth in Lithgow also noted their preference for free outdoor basketball courts (half courts) and tennis courts to be developed.

### Gold Lotto—Developing Sport and Recreation for the Community

This is a fun discussion and gives the students a chance to think a little daringly. (At the end of the discussion, it is explained that some of the ideas may be a little far-fetched and unlikely to attract resources).

Responses from the primary students reflected each of the items that they indicated as currently missing from the areas listed above. Additionally, young people would like a theme park, ice skating rink and rock climbing wall. Secondary students were also keen to see the development of an ice skating rink and also a cinema, ten pin bowling alley and a go-kart track.

### Active Older Adults

With the aging of the population, it is increasingly important to hear the views of older members of the community. Consultation took place prior to an event at The Workies. This was seen as an inclusive and popular place for many active older people with a relatively equal representation of men and women.

The vast majority of attendees at the consultation thought there was a good range of sporting and recreation opportunities and these were well looked after. Queen Elizabeth Park, Endeavour Park and the parklands adjacent to Lake Wallace were most commonly cited as places they enjoy.

When asked what was missing, or what required some attention, respondents seemed to focus on more free activities and facilities for young people. These included: upgrades to the skate parks at Wallerawang and Portland, more free events, a ten pin bowling alley and a movie theatre. Very few of the group mentioned facilities for adults with just a few mentioning upgrades to walk or cycling facilities in Lithgow.

### Where's the Fun Gone?

First came rising insurance premiums, then came the risk managers, and then went the fun.

This is the modern day world of children in their communities across Australia.

No diving boards at the pool, no old tractor in the park, no tree houses or rope swings into the river. The result is bored children that sometimes make their own fun in other, more destructive ways.

Have we got the balance right? Some local governments are saying that too much fun has been removed and are considering whether their past response to risk management was too harsh.

A review of student comments across the LGA has a recurring theme—Bring Back the Fun!

Lithgow City Council needs to consider appropriate fun elements that it can introduce that do not pose an unacceptable risk if it wants children to truly enjoy their lives there. Examples might include water slides and diving boards at pools, climbing spiders, flying foxes and similar playgrounds, water parks and play spaces built using natural materials.

## Sport and Recreation Organisations

A survey was distributed to all known sport and recreation organisations in the LGA. This section summarises key statistics, facility needs and planning issues for these organisations. Almost 50% of the organisations who were sent the survey responded.

### Membership

75% of respondents indicated that their membership had increased over the past three years. However, only 40% thought membership would increase in the future with the majority thinking it would stay relatively static.

### Planning and Key Issues

Approximately 20% of organisations that responded had a club development plan and/or risk management plan, yet 60% indicated that they were planning on preparing these within the next 12 months.

### Club Planning

The level of club development planning across the LGA is quite low. About one club in five, responding to the survey, has a Club Development Plan. This leaves 80% of clubs without a Club Development Plan. As such, these clubs have no formal, documented plan of *where they are going and how they intend to get there (or even know that they have arrived)*.

For the viability of clubs, for the management of volunteers, and in assisting source grant funds, the level of Club Development Planning must be increased.

Allied to the issue of planning is land tenure. Land tenure is important for organisations, particularly in accessing grants, or loans from financial institutions. Lithgow City Council though needs to know how the Club intends to use the land before it accedes to any request to lease land to a Club.

Prior to any lease or license, Council needs to insist that a comprehensive Club Development Plan, and others as relevant (e.g. an asset management plan and/ or a risk management plan) are developed and lodged with Council as part of the request. Currently, many of the lease arrangements do not comply with legislation as no plan of management exist (whether Community Plans of Management for leases on crown land or Management Plan on other community land (LG Act)) and procedures need to be introduced to rectify this matter.

### Facility Use, Satisfaction and Future Needs

More than 70% of respondents leased or used Council owned facilities for their activities. Table 4 summarises facilities used and future facility upgrades respondents thought were required.

Table 4: Facility use, satisfaction and essential needs

Organisation	Facility Used	Regularity	Issues	Adequacy for the future	Facility Requirements	Rationale	Priority
Lithgow Bears RLFC	Tony Luchetti Sportsground	2 x week	Room size	Inadequate	Upgrade to changerooms	Require additional spaces for members	High
Lithgow Golf Club	Eskroy Park	Everyday	-	Adequate	Fairway watering	To improve standard of fairways	High
Lithgow Show Society	Tony Luchetti Sportsground (and Showgrounds)	2 weeks per year	Nil	-	Nil		
Lithgow District Cricket Association	All playing fields with cricket wickets			Inadequate	Need additional cricket wickets. And a clubhouse facility at Watsford/ Conran Playing Fields		

Organisation	Facility Used	Regularity	Issues	Adequacy for the future	Facility Requirements	Rationale	Priority
Lithgow District Football Association	Marjorie Jackson Playing Fields	Everyday May to September	Require major maintenance/ upgrade of facilities	Inadequate	New referee meeting/change room and new male and female change rooms	To meet sport regulations	High
					Upgrade to power supply to grounds	Current supply is at capacity	High
					Installation of flood lighting and improvements to existing lighting	Flood lighting will allow for night training to occur	Medium
					Installation of ancillary facilities such as bench seats and shade for spectators and refurbishment of the canteen	To improve amenities for players and spectators	High
					Upgrade irrigation for PHI field	To increase life of field	Medium
					Additional car parking	To meet demand	Medium
					Construction of toilet at far end of fields	For players and spectators	Low
					Minor upgrades to fencing, signage and existing seating	To improve usability and amenity of park	High
Wallerawang Baseball Association	Wallerawang Baseball	6 hours/week	Lack of toilets	-	Toilet block and grandstand	For players and spectators	High
Lithgow Hockey Association	Glanmire Hockey Fields	4 hours/day (in season)		Adequate	Upgrade old turf	Turf mat will need replacing in 3-4 yrs	Medium
					Install a covered spectator area	To attract more international games	Low
Lithgow Swimming Club	Lithgow Pool	Daily (summer)	Joint user arrangements need reviewing	Inadequate	Indoor pool, disabled access to pool and upgrades to entry and amenities	To enable all-year round access	High
	Swimming Clubhouse	6 days/week (summer)	Nil	Adequate			

Organisation	Facility Used	Regularity	Issues	Adequacy for the future	Facility Requirements	Rationale	Priority
Lithgow Athletics Club	Jim Monaghan Athletic Field	Twice/week	Only a 300m track Only 6 lane track grass surface Discus cages too close to long jump runup		Discus cages	For OH&S reasons (cage height and proximity to long jump run-up)	High
					Long jump run up	Requires resurfacing	Medium
					Javelin throw	There is no appropriate area at site	Low
Lithgow Junior Cricket Association	All Lithgow and district sports fields	3 times per week	Lack of shade and seating		More shaded areas		High
Workies Netball Club	Wallerawang Stadium	Mainly Saturdays (but also for training)		Adequate	Same facility in Wallerawang should be provided in Lithgow		Low

### New Activities

A number of organisations indicated that they would like to embark on providing new activities or programs, Table 5 summarises these activities.

Table 5: New programs or activities organisations hope to introduce in the next two years

Organisation	Proposed Activities	Who for?	Rationale	Location
Lithgow Bears RLFC	Second senior team			Tony Luchetti
Lithgow Golf Club	School clinics	Juniors	Increase junior membership	Lithgow Golf Course (and potentially school grounds)
	Ladies clinics	Lady members	Offer new opportunities for lady players	Lithgow Golf Course
	Healthy living program	Community	For healthy living groups	Lithgow Golf Course
Wallerawang Baseball Association	New training programs	For players and new members	To promote baseball	Wallerawang Baseball
Lithgow District Cricket Association	Friday competition (20/20 and/or under 19s)	Community	Cater for gap in market	Tony Luchetti/Kremer Park
Lithgow Hockey Association	Summer competition	Community	Increase membership	Glanmire Hockey Fields
	Coaching clinics	Juniors	Improve skills	Glanmire Hockey Fields
Lithgow Athletics Club	Athletics Gala Day	Club members	Increase registration	Jim Monaghan Athletic Field
	Zone Carnival	Region	Competition	Jim Monaghan Athletic Field and Tony Luchetti Sportsground
	Flash Gift	Community	Increase outside interests	Jim Monaghan Athletic Field and Tony Luchetti Sportsground
	School carnivals	School community	Increase more carnivals hosted at Lithgow	Jim Monaghan Athletic Field and Tony Luchetti Sportsground

Organisation	Proposed Activities	Who for?	Rationale	Location
Lithgow Swimming Club	Swim fitness squad	15-24 year olds	To attract more members in this age group	Lithgow Pool
	Learn-to-swim classes	0-8 year olds	Water safety and confidence	Lithgow Pool
Workies Netball Club	Net-set-go for junior	Community	Increase junior membership	Wallerawang Stadium

### Training and Development

Respondents were asked to provide feedback regarding their awareness, and potential access, to training and development opportunities, the results can be found at Figure 13. The majority of respondents were aware of training and development opportunities, however, many had not actually participated in them. This finding was particularly true for training that related to management (e.g. club development and risk management) and less true for coaching and sport development opportunities (e.g. officials accreditation and player clinics).

### Sport and Recreation Organisation Key Issues

When asked to rate on a scale from great impact to no impact (or not applicable) a range of issues that face many organisations across Australia. Collectively, the following rated as being of the greatest impact to sport in Lithgow LGA:

- loss of youth participation
- cost of insurances
- cost of playing or participating is increasing
- declining number of volunteers.

The issues of least impact were:

- lack of access to training opportunities for volunteers and committee members
- cost of maintaining the venue.

A summary of the collective findings can be found at Figure 14.

Figure 13: Awareness and access to training and development programs

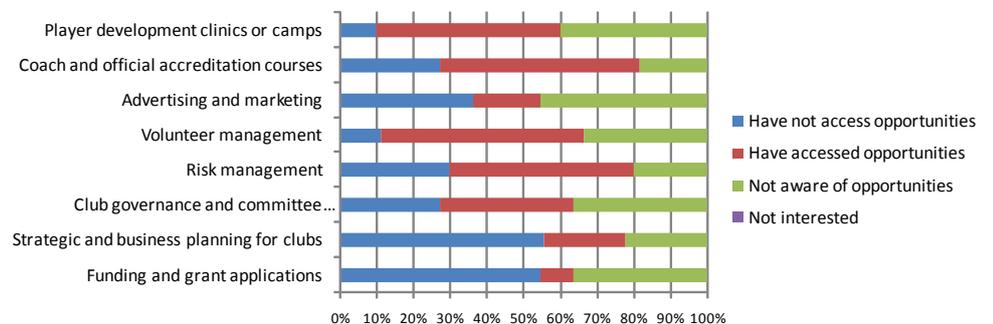
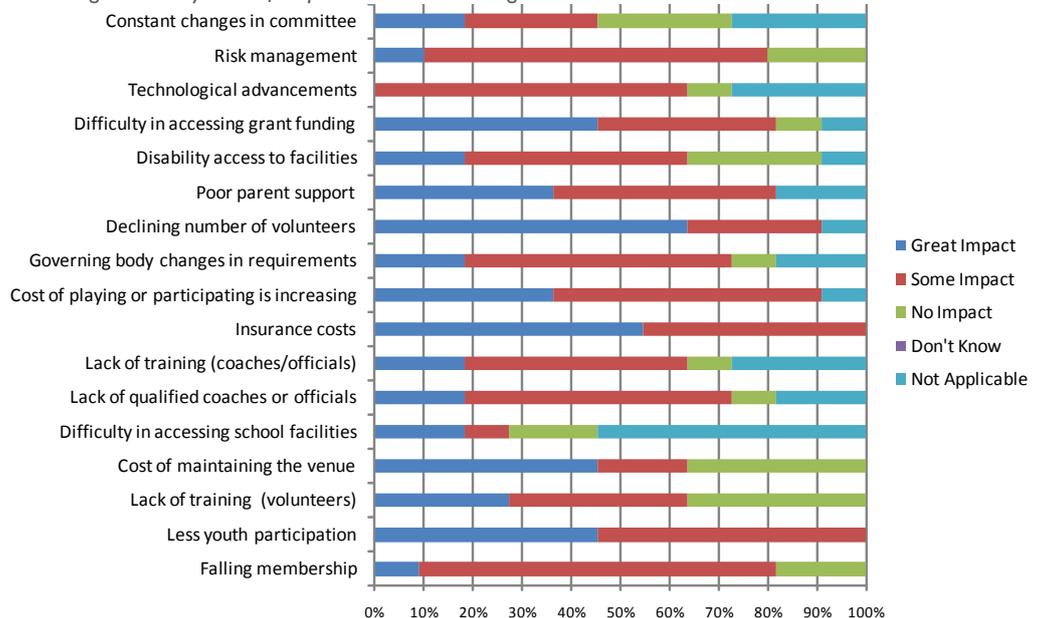


Figure 14: Key issues for sport and recreation organisations



## Key Stakeholders

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### Section 355 Sports Advisory Committee

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In addition to the notes taken from consultation with the Sports Advisory Committee as part of this Study, additional information has been included that summarises relevant items that this Committee has dealt with recently.

In relation to land for sporting purposes, it is thought that additional land may be required in the future. The Committee resolved some time ago that the old Hermitage Colliery site would be earmarked for such purposes with the view of alleviating pressure from Tony Luchetti Sportsground and others.

The regular conflicts of bookings at Tony Luchetti Sportsground have caused some pressures. The popularity of the site prevents adequate field maintenance to occur. In addition, it creates conflict between important service (sport, recreation and event organisers) providers.

Walking and cycling will continue to be popular activities. A foot/bike path along Farmers Creek safely linking Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Watsford Oval, Conran Oval, Glanmire Oval and Marjorie Jackson Oval (collectively where major junior sports are played) would be beneficial. However, some sports have indicated that they are concerned that works along Farmers Creek may have resulted in increased chances of their facilities being flood-prone.

In addition to this, there have been a number of facility improvements as part of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program, that have been completed, and others currently in the pipeline, these include:

- upgrades to car parking, lighting, field configurations and toilet facilities at Marjorie Jackson Playing Fields (Football)
- construction of amenities and clubhouse facilities at Conran Oval (cricket)
- lighting of cricket oval at Conran Oval (cricket)
- upgrade to lighting of fields at Tony Luchetti Sportsground (rugby league and cricket)
- new grandstands and amenities at Wallerawang Oval
- new grandstands and amenities at Kremer Park
- access to free public tennis courts in Lithgow.

### Section 355 Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

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Access to a quality walking system was considered the most important priority council should consider for Lithgow LGA. This includes a range of networks: long distance trails, short walks in natural areas; a series of urban walks and cycling circuits. The EAC, in conjunction with the Tidy Towns Committee, have been liaising with Council to develop these systems. In particular, the walk along Farmers Creek was discussed in considerable detail. Access to seats for resting, water and shade need to be considered along this circuit. For longer walks, there is potential to use the disused rail line and creek banks in many parts connecting towns and key places of interest.

The group is concerned by risk to environmentally significant areas due to urban expansion and destruction of area by unwanted uses. This includes some areas along the creek and river systems and state reserves.

### Lithgow Tourism

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Sports tourism is a significant market in Lithgow LGA. Access to quality regional sports facilities and Lithgow's geographic location being the two main reasons for this success. In particular, this extends to the sports of hockey, football (soccer) and mountain bike riding, however, a number of other sporting pursuits contribute to this profile.

The natural adventure market is also popular - 4WD'ing, motorcycling, mountain climbing and trekking information is often requested. As is access to natural areas for more passive activities such as bush walking, bird watching and so on. Popular areas within the LGA include: Newnes, the glow worm tunnels, Glen Davis and Lake Lyell.

Improvements considered important from a tourism perspective are to improve the scenic amenity of destinations, access to information, and to provide quality rest stops (including toilets and picnic facilities). Toilets at both Endeavour Park and Queen Elizabeth Park are considered to require upgrading.

# 4. Open Space Framework

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## Guiding Principles

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This section provides some basic information to assist Council in making decisions about the current and future provision of open space.

Council should strive to provide an open space network that:

- provides recreation and sporting parks in line with current and emerging community needs
- provides a diverse range of activity opportunities and landscape settings to encourage healthy lifestyles and maximise opportunities for engagement in physical activity
- provides safe, attractive places and equitable and convenient access to recreation, sport and open space infrastructure
- ensures spaces and facilities support the ongoing viability of community user groups and have capacity to adapt to changing needs over time.

Draft Guiding Principles are outlined below that describe Council's intentions through the provision and management of open space.

**Effective Planning** - Council will ensure that provision of recreation and open space opportunities accurately reflect current community needs and Council resource constraints, and protect these opportunities. It is important to ensure that planning decisions made today do not jeopardise the decision making of the future.

**Effective Use** - Council will encourage and assist maximum (appropriate) utilisation of recreation, sport and open space infrastructure.

**High Quality** - Council will ensure that all recreation and open space opportunities are designed and effectively maintained to a high quality, commensurate with the nature and use of the facilities and spaces.

**Community Involvement** - Council will provide a range of means for the community to become involved in the provision of recreation and open space opportunities.

**Resourcing** - Council will identify and allocate resources for the provision of recreation and open space opportunities in an efficient, effective and equitable manner.

**Choice and Diversity** - Council will ensure it recognises different economic, cultural and social values of particular communities across the LGA. People will have access to a full range of sport and recreation opportunities mindful of these differing values.

**Access** - Council will ensure that all new and, where possible, all existing recreation and open space facilities, can be safely and conveniently accessed by all existing and potential users.

**Minimal Impacts** - Council will ensure that recreation and open space facilities and activities have minimal impacts on surrounding land uses and the environment.

**Effective Management** - Council will ensure that recreation and open space facilities and events are managed in the most efficient and cost effective way.

**Public Safety** - Council will ensure recreation and open space facilities are safe for public use.

**Information and Promotion** - Council will ensure information is readily available to residents and visitors. Promotion of open space must also consider events and activities that occur in the public open space.

It should be realised that when considering specific parks, not all of these principles will necessarily apply, and in fact some may be mutually exclusive. In these situations it may be necessary for Council to consider the accommodation of competing and/or conflicting users by means of time and spatial zoning and perhaps reservation of some areas for specific uses for safety or management reasons.

## Definitions, Classifications and Hierarchy of Open Space

A network of open space has been established to provide a range of recreational and sporting activities and pursuits. Various open space types possess differing values, functions and settings. The sustainability of each type of open space is commensurate with the nature and level of impact on their values. Impacts arise from compatible and incompatible uses of respective open space, and/or within open space types.

To promote appropriate development and use of the Council's open space, a classification framework has been developed and applied to the existing (and future) resource.

The first level of classification identifies the primary function of the land. The second level of classification is the hierarchy. Hierarchy is used to describe the size and scale of a park, from smaller local parks to major city-wide parks. Understanding park hierarchy helps Council to allocate resources for development and maintenance in a consistent and equitable way.

Park types are further distinguished to indicate to users and managers the level of embellishment and, thus, variety that can be expected in the particular park. Users will make their selection based on the experience that they are seeking and managers will use the hierarchy as a guide to embellishment levels and maintenance regimes.

The following table provides a detail on each of the classification and hierarchy of open space used to assess the existing network. It also provides an explanation of each open space type.

Table 6: Classifications, hierarchy and definitions

Classification	Hierarchy	Description (Definition)
Recreation Park	Local Park	Parks providing a limited range of recreational opportunities for local residents. These parks contain infrastructure for recreational use, but generally cater for short visits only.
	District Park	Larger sized parks (generally 5ha-10ha) providing a range of facilities and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a range of users. They can service several suburbs or a whole town depending on population density and are well known destinations for those people living within their catchment.
	Recreation Corridor or Recreation Linkage	These linear parks or recreation corridors are embellished to provide pedestrian linkages that connect recreation facilities, other types of open space, residences, community infrastructure and commercial areas, or form a circuit, or create linkages and access via land beside riversides, creeks and waterways. The land contains infrastructure to facilitate recreation use, including a formed path and offers an attractive recreation setting. Recreation corridors serve a number of purposes, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing physical, visual and cognitive linkages of open space areas and community facilities, or form a circuit</li> <li>• providing opportunities for cycleways and walkways</li> <li>• creating linkages along and access to riversides, creeks and waterways.</li> </ul>
	Amenity Park	Amenity Parks are either landscaped areas such as town entrance statements or offer some amenity in terms of function such as monument/memorial parks and lookouts. They provide little, to no, recreation opportunities.

Classification	Hierarchy	Description (Definition)
Sports Parks	Public Sport City-wide District	<p>Parks that primarily cater for a variety of formal sporting activities through provision of a range of training and competition infrastructure. These parks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• facilities specifically for undertaking competitive, organised activities</li> <li>• ancillary facilities for clubs or organisations to support sporting activities (such as canteens, clubhouses, storage facilities)</li> <li>• free, unrestricted access to the public at times when formal sport is not being undertaken.</li> </ul> <p>There is a hierarchy of sports parks, these being:</p> <p>City-wide sports parks are those facilities that could comfortably host regional (or potentially State) competitions. Factors such as quality of playing surface, amenities and canteen availability and lighting standards (where lights are provided) have been considered</p> <p>District sports parks are those facilities that are suitable for local fixtures but may not have the quality of playing surface or amenities of a city-wide facility.</p>
	Private Sports	<p>These facilities are defined in the same manner as Public Sports Parks, however, are not included in Council's open space system as they are privately owned. Whilst not all private sport facilities will be captured by ROSS Planning, we will use available information on private sport parks so Council can consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the opportunities they provide to the community</li> <li>• their broader value if they are also publicly accessible.</li> </ul> <p>A hierarchy system is not applied to these private facilities.</p>
	Specialised Sport	<p>Parks provided for sporting activities where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the land and facility requirements result in provision of high level provision of sport, for example the SCG and EnergyAustralia Stadium</li> <li>• the nature of the activity precludes free, unrestricted access to members of the public.</li> </ul> <p>Specialised sports include motocross/motorcycling, equestrian, golf, shooting, car racing, model aeroplanes, lawn bowls, and field archery/bow hunting. It is likely that some specialised sport parks are also privately owned and will be recorded accordingly.</p>
Undeveloped	n/a	Land for which a specific open space classification has yet to be determined.
Natural Areas or Bushland Areas	n/a	These areas could be considered as conservation areas or bushland areas and, as such, may have differing ecological values. These sites may vary from large sites with a diversity of vegetation communities and extensive connectivity to smaller isolated sites that, although fragmented, provide, or have potential to provide, habitat for significant plants, animals or vegetation communities or protect an intact section of riparian habitat. Although these sites are of ecological value, they may contain some cleared or degraded areas requiring rehabilitation.
Utility Land	n/a	<p>Land that is often owned or maintained by Council, however, should not be incorporated into Council's open space system. These parcels could be classified for the following purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• water bodies</li> <li>• utility infrastructure (e.g. electricity transmissions, telecommunications, water and sewerage)</li> <li>• waterway or drainage corridors</li> <li>• easements that enable or could enable pedestrian access.</li> </ul>

## Integration with Planning Instruments

Council is currently developing a Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Land Use Strategy (LUS). Some information in this Study is useful to the development of these planning instruments. The Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) are the key pieces of legislation to guide this process.

The LEP Template (NSW Planning) provides eight broad land use classifications which Council can employ (Rural, Residential, Industrial, Business, Special Purpose, Recreation, Environmental Protection and Waterways). Each of these classifications has possible sub-zones, of which there are 34 in total. Of relevance to this Study are the following broad zones with relevant sub-zones:

- Recreation Zone
  - RE1 – Public Recreation
  - RE2 – Private Recreation
- Special Purpose Zone
  - SP2 – Infrastructure
- Environmental Protection Zone
  - E2 Environmental Conservation.

The most applicable zone this Study is concerned with is the Recreation Zone. Table 7 provides a summary of the objectives of each of the sub zones.

Table 7: Objectives of the Recreation Sub-zones

Sub-Zone	Key Objectives
RE1 Public Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes</li> <li>To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses</li> <li>To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.</li> </ul>
RE2 Private Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enable land to be used for private open space or recreational purposes</li> <li>To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses</li> <li>To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.</li> </ul>

Source: NSW Planning, 2010, <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/epi+155a+2006+cd+0+N>

Whilst consideration of specific environmental protection and conservation matters are not within the scope of this Study, however, there are a number instances where the primary purpose of a Park is to protect its environmental significance. As such, this Study is primarily concerned only with proposing to zone land in Environmental Protection Zone where the land is also considered as public open space. In these instances, the primary function of the land should determine its land use zone, thus some parcels of open space better align with the Environmental Protection Zone rather than the Recreation Zone. Hassans Wall is a good example, it is important for the recreation opportunities it presents to residents and visitors, but ultimately, its environmental value is considered a higher order function. As such, it should be zoned in the Environmental Protection Zone (E2 Environmental Conservation).

There are other instances where the primary purpose of the open space is not public recreation but rather for network infrastructure (e.g. telecommunications, storm water management, flood mitigation etc.). In most of these instances in Lithgow it is for the purpose of storm water management. It is acknowledged that these areas may have some recreation value, although this is often very minimal (if they have any at all). These lands are classified as Utility Open Space in this Study, however, for the purpose of developing the LEP, consideration to their future zoning should occur and be based on their primary function in line with the Department of Planning's guidelines.

In addition, this Study also considers the importance of waterways and water bodies for sport, recreation and community purposes, although these have not been accessed in regards to making recommendations relating to their land use zoning.

A summary of the classification system employed in this Study and how it should relate to the LEP Zones can be found at Table 8. This information is based on the LEP Guidelines (NSW Planning, 2010).

Table 8: Summary of Application of Open Space Classification for LEP purposes

Classification	Hierarchy	Zone	Sub-Zone
Recreation Park	Local Park	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation
	District Park	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation
	Recreation Corridor (depending on primary purpose of the land, Recreation Corridors will be either zoned as Recreation or Environmental Protection)	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation
		Environmental Protection	E3 Environmental Management
Amenity Park	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation	

Classification	Hierarchy	Zone	Sub-Zone
Sports Parks	Public Sport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City-wide</li> <li>• District</li> </ul>	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation
	Private Sports	Recreation	RE2 Private Recreation
	Specialised Sport	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation or RE2 Private Recreation
Undeveloped	n/a	Recreation	RE1 Public Recreation
Natural Areas or Bushland Areas	n/a	Environmental Protection	E2 Environmental Conservation
Utility Land	n/a	An appropriate zone should be applied based on the Department of Planning's guidelines.	

In addition, a list of prohibited uses is also provided (Table 9). These should be considered in the preparation of the LEP. Council should review this list when developing the LEP. Council should also consider which uses are permissible and what level of consent is appropriate.

Table 9: Proposed prohibited uses for Recreation Zone Sub-zones

Zone (Sub-Zone)	Proposed Prohibited Uses
Recreation – RE1 Public Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Agricultural Land Uses</li> <li>• All Accommodation Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Caravan Parks</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All Home Activity Land Uses</li> <li>• All Commercial Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Kiosks</li> <li>– Markets</li> <li>– Roadside Stalls</li> <li>– Entertainment Facilities</li> <li>– Function Centres</li> <li>– Registered Clubs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Childcare Centres</li> <li>• Correctional Centres</li> <li>• Educational Establishments</li> <li>• Health Service Facilities (hospitals, medical centres and health consulting rooms)</li> <li>• Places of Public Worship</li> <li>• Research Stations</li> <li>• All Industrial Land Uses</li> <li>• All Air Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Freight Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Port Facilities</li> <li>• Transport Depots</li> <li>• Truck Depots</li> <li>• Electricity Generating Works</li> <li>• Highway Service Centres</li> <li>• Passenger Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Sewerage Systems</li> <li>• Waste or Resource Management Facilities</li> <li>• Water Supply Systems</li> <li>• Bopat Launching Ramps</li> <li>• Boat Sheds</li> <li>• Charter and Tourism Boating Facilities</li> <li>• Marinas</li> <li>• Mooring</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Crematoriums</li> <li>• Extratrive Industries</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Mining</li> <li>• Mortuaries.</li> </ul>

Zone (Sub-Zone)	Proposed Prohibited Uses
RE2 Private Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Agricultural Land Uses</li> <li>• All Accommodation Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Caravan Parks</li> <li>– Exhibition Homes</li> <li>– Exhibition Village</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All Home Activity Land Uses</li> <li>• All Commercial Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Kiosks</li> <li>– Markets</li> <li>– Roadside Stalls</li> <li>– Entertainment Facilities</li> <li>– Function Centres</li> <li>– Registered Clubs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Correctional Centres</li> <li>• Health Service Facilities (hospitals, medical centres and health consulting rooms)</li> <li>• All Industrial Land Uses</li> <li>• All Air Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Freight Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Port Facilities</li> <li>• Transport Depots</li> <li>• Truck Depots</li> <li>• Electricity Generating Works</li> <li>• Highway Service Centres</li> <li>• Passenger Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Sewerage Systems</li> <li>• Waste or Resource Management Facilities</li> <li>• Water Supply Systems</li> <li>• Bopat Launching Ramps</li> <li>• Boat Sheds</li> <li>• Charter and Tourism Boating Facilities</li> <li>• Marinas</li> <li>• Mooring</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Crematoriums</li> <li>• Extratrive Industries</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Mining</li> <li>• Mortuaries.</li> </ul>

## Desired Standards of Service

Desired Standards of Service (DSS) is the level of open space that Council strives to provide as a minimum to all residents across the LGA. DSS can be categorised under five broad headings

1. range - access to open space
2. threshold - quantity of land for open space
3. land characteristics - desired standards reviewed for new open space
4. level of embellishment - desired changes and development required for functional open space
5. setting - whilst no formal DSS is provided for setting, having a range of settings in which open space is located assists in developing a strong open space system.

Range and threshold are the two primary areas used to assess and plan for open space. These are often assessed without consideration for the more qualitative, and thus more difficult to assess, tools of land characteristics and embellishments.

Land characteristics and the level of embellishment provide additional information that should be used as a guide in developing open space. Recognising that it is equally important to provide a diverse range of open space opportunities (setting) must also be considered in this process. As such, Council must consider the demographic characteristics of the area (current and projected), surrounding open space assets, nearby land uses (residential area versus industrial area, proximity to community facilities such as schools and hospitals, proximity to public transport etc).

### Range (Accessibility Standard)

The accessibility standard is used to guide appropriate spatial distribution of open space. The recommended spacing and distribution of recreation and sport parks will vary depending on the park hierarchy, the population to be serviced and the predominant land use as indicated in Table 10.

Table 10: Accessibility DSS (kilometres)

Infrastructure Type	Local	District	City-wide
Recreation park	0.5km in urban areas	2.5km in urban areas	n/a
Sport park	n/a	2.5-5km in urban areas	Local government area

### Threshold (Rate of Land Available)

Threshold identifies the recommended minimum standards for the provision of land for open space. It is important to note that there are no standards for the provision of recreation corridors, environmental and heritage parks and that areas reserved for these purposes should be based on the presence of significant biodiversity, natural or heritage values.

Table 11: Rate of Provision DSS (ha/1,000 people)

Infrastructure Type	Local	District	City-wide
Recreation park	1.0	0.5	n/a
Sport park	2.5		

### Land Characteristics

These standards are used as a base in determining the lowest quality land characteristics per classification type. A range of land types are required to provide a diversity within the open space network. These recommended minimal levels of provision will ensure a realistic and achievable quality urban open space network that is generous in accordance with the proposed vision.

Table 12: Land Characteristics DSS

Embellishment	Recreation Parks			Sports Parks	
	Local	District	Regional	District	Regional
Minimum size of open space (ha)	0.5ha minimum of usable space	2ha of usable space	6ha of usable space	A minimum of 3ha. This is sufficient to boast 2 fields/1 oval collocating plus room for ancillary facilities (club house, toilets, car parking)	Minimum of 6ha. This is sufficient to allow for four fields/2 ovals plus room for ancillary facilities (club house, toilets, car parking)
Shape of land	The preferred shape for a park is square to rectangular with the sides no greater than 2:1			To maximise the area available for playing fields, a rectangular or circular shape is considered most efficient	
Minimum desired flood immunity for parks	At least 15% of total area above Q100 and free of hazards	At least 25% of total area above Q50 with main activity area/s above Q100	At least 50% of total area above Q50 with main activity area/s above Q100 and free of hazards	At least 90% of land (primary field/sport area) to be above Q50 and with the facilities above Q100	

Embellishment	Recreation Parks			Sports Parks	
	Local	District	Regional	District	Regional
Maximum desired grade	Maximum grade of 1:10 for 80% of the area of the park (i.e. a maximum of 20% of the land may have a greater grade than 1:10)	Average grade of 1:10 for 80% of the area of the park. To facilitate wheelchair access to parks, areas with a grade of 1:14 will also be provided, where possible. Variable topography is satisfactory for the remaining area	Average grade of 1:20 for main use areas, 1:50 for kick about area, and variable topography for remainder	1:50 for all playing surfaces	1:50 for all playing surfaces.  Laser levelling to a maximum gradient of playing surface 1:100
Road frontage and visibility	30% local road frontage	30% of the park perimeter to have direct road frontage, preferably on a collector road		50% of the park perimeter must have direct road frontage	

### Indicative Park Embellishment Levels

As described, parks differ in their desired function, hierarchy and setting. This is achieved by embellishing parks to different levels. Local parks have fewer embellishments (i.e. equipment, facilities and improvements) than district or regional parks. The standard of facilities in regional parks will be higher than in other parks, and will often include custom finishes to reflect the unique characteristics of a place. Within semi-natural and natural areas, embellishments should focus on providing opportunities to engage with and enjoy nature (e.g. walking trails, viewing platforms), choosing colours and finishes that blend with and complement the natural surroundings.

Table 13 provides an indication of the type and number of typical embellishments provided in recreational parks. It is not intended as a definitive list, but is provided as a guide to appropriate levels of embellishment. Table 14 provides details of indicative embellishment for future sport grounds.

Across the LGA Council should focus on providing high-demand infrastructure such as shade (trees in the first instance, and artificial shade in the second).

Table 13: Indicative Embellishments for the hierarchy of Recreation Parks

Park Element	Local Recreation Park	District Recreation Park
Recreation activity areas. Elements selected will be sensitive to the setting of the park (urban to natural) and provide a mix of opportunities across communities.	Mix of 2 or 3, (e.g. toddlers, kick-about, children, active youth space, free to use courts)	Mix of 4 to 6, clustered in two or more nodes (e.g. mix of toddlers, children, youth, picnic & BBQ area, dog off-leash, skate park, meeting area, older adults, pathway systems)
Fencing/bollards, lock rail	Yes	Yes
Landscaping	Shade trees, landscaping to enhance amenity and screen boundaries	Significant landscaping
Significant revegetation required for more natural settings	As identified by relevant master plan	As identified by relevant master plan
Irrigation	Dependant on access to water, ideally high use areas are irrigated	Yes in high use areas
Feature paving/ concrete stencilling	No	Small areas around entrances
Lighting	Roadside lighting only, picnic nodes as demanded	Yes, picnic nodes and possibly some key pathways

Park Element	Local Recreation Park	District Recreation Park
Pedestrian pathway access network (Surface material will reflect the park setting and desired degree of accessibility (e.g. natural settings are enhanced with grass or gravel paths and board-walking))	Access paths, 1.2m width minimum	Access paths. May contain walk/ cycle circuit within park, 2m width minimum
Bike racks	No	Ideally
Signage	Park name sign, located at main entrance. Generic 'Local Park' street signage where entrances are on cul-de-sacs	1 to 3 as required, located at key entrances. Possibly interpretive signage (for nature appreciation areas) or trail signage (e.g. distance markers on recreation corridors)
Shade structures (over playgrounds)	Yes	Yes
Tap/bubbler	No	Yes
Bench seating	1 to 2 (if no other seating is provided), positioned for supervision of any play area, or for views/ appreciation of the surrounding park/ area	3 to 4, depending on need. Located for supervision of any play area (if not otherwise serviced by sheltered tables), and/or along recreational corridors to provide rest stops
Barbeque	No	Minimum of one, with potential to expand if demand increases
Shelters/ gazebo with tables and seating	May be provided as an activity area (e.g. a scenic viewing area)	1 to 3
Rubbish bins	Minimum of one, located near activity area, or at key access points on recreation corridors	2 or more as required to service activity area/ picnic nodes and any recreation corridors
Toilet	No	Yes
Public artwork	If available	Possible
Internal roads	No	No
Car parking	On-road only	Yes, 10 to 20 spaces with additional on-road parking
Bus pull-through	No	Ideally
Bus parking	No	No

Table 14: Indicative embellishment for Sports Grounds

Park Element	Embellishment Detail	
	District	Regional
Courts/fields	2 rectangular fields minimum, with capacity for additional facilities/courts as required	4 rectangular fields minimum, with capacity for additional facilities/courts as required
Goal posts/line marking	Yes	
Irrigation	Main field as a minimum	
Field/court lighting	Ensure lighting is possible if demand emerges	
Spectator seating	Earth mounds, or as required	
Tap/bubbler	Yes, located near activity areas and canteen/clubhouse area	
Club facilities	Yes, minimum of toilet/change room, canteen, storage and administrative/office space.	
Landscaping	Trees/ shade provision for spectators, landscaping of boundaries to buffer noise/ light spill to any surrounding properties	
Feature paving/ concrete stencilling	Possibly at key entry areas or high use zones	
Internal roads	Yes	
Bus pull-through	Yes	

Park Element	Embellishment Detail	
	District	Regional
Bus parking	Yes	
Car parking	Yes, minimum of 75 spaces for a 2 field complex or 12 per court.	Yes, minimum of 150 spaces for a 4 field complex
Bike racks	Yes	
Fencing/bollards, lock rail	Yes	
Lighting	Yes	
Pedestrian pathway access network	Yes	
Public artwork	Possibly	
Signage	Yes, including internal directional signage	
Recreation activity areas (e.g. play spaces, fitness circuits, hit up walls)	Depending on the size of the park and proximity to adjacent residents. Minimum level of provision equivalent to that of a local recreation park	

### Park Setting Diversity

Park setting diversity is used as a measure of diversity within the recreation park network. This type of classification recognises people's needs and expectations for achieving a variety of experiences from recreational participation.

The underlying principle of setting diversity recognises that variations in the perceived physical, social and managerial elements affect people's recreation experiences in open space. It attempts to answer the question *"if I was standing in the middle of this park, what type of experience would be available to me?"*

The following settings are considered:

- urban setting - predominantly open, mown grass areas or hardened sites (paved). There may be a few trees providing shade and limited landscaping/garden beds. Adjacent built infrastructure dominates view lines.
- semi-urban setting - substantial mature tree canopy over most of the park with predominantly mown grass areas underneath. Recreation activity areas may include some paving, but only in small amounts. Some parts of the park may have under-storey, particularly on the boundaries screening adjacent land uses. View lines still include adjacent built infrastructure, however, these no longer dominate.
- semi-natural setting - substantial mature tree canopy over most of the park with large areas of the park covered by under-storey vegetation. Recreation occurs in developed nodes which are likely to be mown, and along highly accessible pedestrian paths (walking and cycling).
- natural setting - the park is covered with bushland (canopy and under-storey) with recreation activities occurring in small nodes and along tracks/ trails with some accessible pedestrian/ cycle paths. Recreational activities tend to focus on nature enjoyment and interpretation.

### Unit Costs

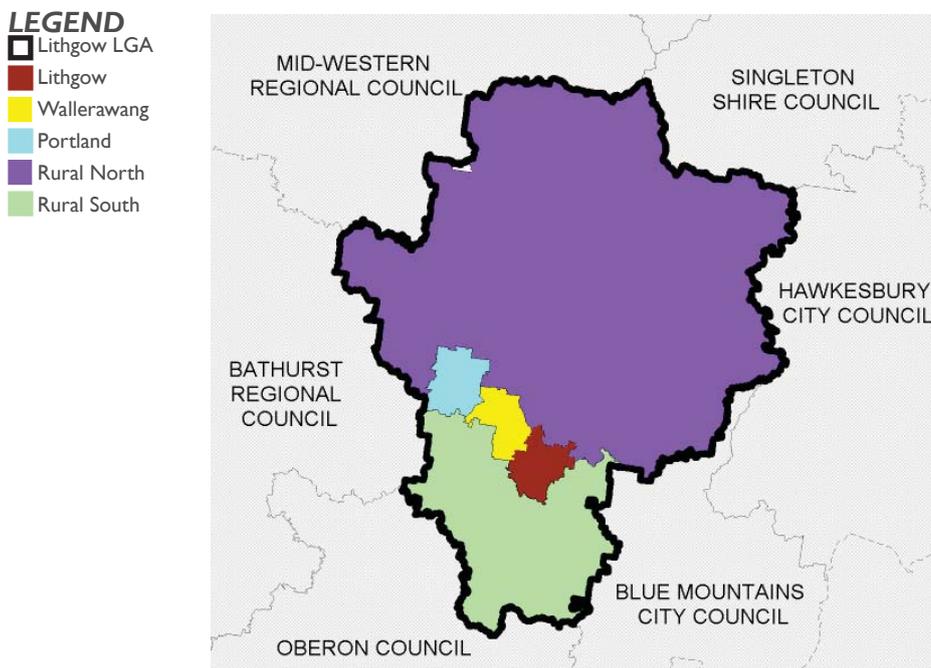
Investment in facilities requires a commitment that ensures both the safe and efficient operation of all elements of the facilities, and the optimisation of future budget and expenditure needs. As a consequence, the planning, management and implementation of facility management within a strategic business framework is fundamental to the long-term efficient and effective performance of Council facilities and assets.

Unit costs have been established based on the desired standards for open space (see Tables 13 and 14), data provided by Council and from industry research.

Table 15: Indicative infrastructure costs

Infrastructure Type	Recreation Parks		Sports Parks	
	Local \$	District \$	District \$	Regional \$
Recreation elements including play, artificial shade structures, bike racks etc	95,000	345,000	30,000	30,000
Picnic facilities including seats, picnic tables, barbeques	1,600	115,000	1,600	1,600
Fencing	21,000	40,000	90,000	90,000
Landscaping	5,000	150,000	5,000	5,000
Irrigation	10,000	50,000	240,000	240,000
Lighting	5,000	80,000	250,000	250,000
Pathways	40,000	145,000	40,000	40,000
Signage	3,000	10,000	7,500	7,500
Tap/bubbler	0	2,700	1,800	1,800
Toilet	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
Internal roads and car parking	0	67,000	170,000	235,000
Sporting infrastructure (fields, irrigation, lighting, clubhouse facilities and spectator seating)	0	0	1,600,000	2,300,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$180,600</b>	<b>\$1,154,700</b>	<b>\$2,585,900</b>	<b>\$3,350,900</b>

Figure 15: Lithgow City Council LGA with planning precincts



## Facility Maintenance and Management

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A complete overhaul of the maintenance and management of open space is required. The main reason is so that there is equity in the provision across the local government area. In the first instance, Council will require asset condition audits of park facilities, especially play equipment, toilet blocks, gazebo, tables and chairs. These should be assessed in term of safety and compliance with Australian Standards including:

- AS 4685:2004 (Part 1 to 6) sets out the general and specific requirements for playground equipment in six parts
- AS/NZS 4422: 1996 Playground Surfacing - Specifications, Requirements & Test Methods
- AS/NZS 4486.1: 1997 Playgrounds and Playground Equipment - Part 1: Development, Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation
- AS 2155: 1982 Playgrounds: Guide to Siting and to Installation and Maintenance of Equipment
- AS 2555: 1982 Supervised Adventure Playgrounds - Guide to Establishment and Administration
- AS 1428: 1992 Design for Access and Mobility
- AS 1158.3.1 Prime Public Lighting Code
- AS4282 Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting
- AS1798 Lighting Poles
- AS3000 & 3008 Cabling.

Undertaking this detailed assessment will assist in:

- establishing the condition and remaining useful life of the infrastructure
- assessing any limitations the facilities have on service delivery (e.g. sporting infrastructure)
- identifying current maintenance issues
- establishing preventative, statutory and condition-based maintenance tasks projecting to ten years
- identifying accessibility issues
- assessing and making recommendations based on good-practice CPTED principles
- identifying backlog costs from any outstanding maintenance issues.

In addition, it is recognised that Council has a number of staff that are trained in assessing parks, not only in terms of safety, but also relating to developing a range of play experiences that are highlighted in Section 2 (Trends in Park and Playground Design). It will be important that this experience and knowledge is shared across the local government area, and more importantly, with park management and maintenance personnel.

## Current Supply Assessment

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### Planning Precincts

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For the purpose of planning open space, this Study divides the Lithgow City Council area into five planning precincts. The relationship between each is presented in Figure 15.

The LGA is made of many communities, that range from small hamlets and villages with a few people (20 to 250) to medium sized communities to large urban localities, all of which are not geographically evenly distributed. This has led to inequality of size and population distribution between the planning precincts, as such, assessment of the open space supply (and particularly) the gap analysis must also consider social influences.

### Current Supply

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Over 1,150ha of land (more than 220 individual properties) was audited as part of this Study. The focus of the audit was public recreation land and open space designated under Council's control based on the criteria previously established. As such, the assessment excluded national parks and state forests, privately owned recreation and sporting lands (although these have been considered from a community access perspective) and community facilities.

Table 16 is a snapshot of distribution of open space types across the LGA. Appendix One provides a more detailed summary of all open space assessed for the Study and includes a number of observations and recommendations for all parks. Non-public open space has been excluded from Table 16, although consideration of this information has occurred in the assessment stages. Overall, there is a large amount of land dedicated for open space across the LGA. However, many of the existing parks do not comply with the desired service standards as specified in this Study. This creates large variances in the:

- quantity of open space
- number of parks
- distribution of open space

- differing level of embellishments
- level of maintenance of open space.

The open space asset register has been based on Council's property database. It is appreciated that there is a number of parks built outside the property database (road reserves, creek reserves etc.) and that the area maintained by Council is significantly more, using the property database ensures consistency of analysis across the whole LGA. It is noted, however, that there are several well-established parks located in road or creek reserves. As they are not located within Council's property database, these areas (sizes) are not included in the assessment. As they exist and function as open space, they are tallied as open space and a catchment is developed. Another important reason for this occurring is so that Council is supplied with the appropriate base-line data that can be extracted and utilised for other projects (primarily the development of the Land Use Strategy and Local Environmental Plans).

Table 16: Overview of provision of open space across planning precincts

Precinct	Classification/Hierarchy	Area (Ha)
Lithgow	Recreation	20.55
	Amenity	3.60
	Corridor	0.96
	District Recreation Parks	10.69
	Local Recreation Parks	5.30
	Sport	84.16
	Specialised Sport	44.00
	District Sport	9.01
	Regional Sport	31.14
	Environmental	426.93
	Undeveloped	4.79
	Utility	22.13
Portland	Recreation	5.52
	Amenity	0.14
	Corridor	1.81
	Local Recreation Parks	3.58
	Sport	7.84
	Specialised	1.09
	District Sports Parks	6.75
	Undeveloped	1.84
Wallerawang	Recreation	42.16
	Private Recreation Parks	40.39
	Local Recreation Parks	1.77
	Sport	6.71
	Specialised	1.80
	District Sports Parks	4.91
	Environmental	353.13
	Undeveloped	65.53
Utility	2.63	
Rural North	Recreation	0.95
	District Recreation Parks	0.00
	Local Recreation Parks	0.95
	Sport	0.38
	District Sports Parks	0.38
	Undeveloped	2.62
	Utility	0.62
Rural South	Recreation	0.49
	Local Recreation Parks	0.49
	Sport	0.31
	District Sports Parks	0.31
	Environmental	26.93
	Undeveloped	2.79

## Gap Analysis

The gap analysis is based on the following assumptions:

- a standard of 4 ha per 1,000 people, comprising 2.5ha for Sports Parks and 1.5ha for Recreation Parks
- population data from Lithgow City Council and the Australian Bureau of Statistics
- the analysis focuses only on those park types which form part of the open space network established. Other urban open space areas such as waterways, environmental parks, roadside stops, land primarily used for utility purposes and vacant or undeveloped parks have not been included
- analysis excludes specialised sports parks (although these have been considered at a broad level)
- no account has been taken of private sport and recreation facilities (although these have been considered at a community level).

Table 17 shows the current supply for the whole region by open space type. Table 18 is an overall assessment of demand based on the DSS for quantity of land. Table 19 shows the gap of between demand and current supply.

Based on the DSS for quantity of land, Council generally has an oversupply of open space. However, this is an elementary analysis as it does not consider the range, access or quality of the existing supply, nor more importantly, the location of land. Overall, Council has many more Parks than it requires from a catchment perspective. This is often the case as land comes into Council's possession and is developed as parkland without the land meeting the desired standards.

The assessment is solely based on functioning open space, in other words, it has excluded all other land in Council's open space layer that is not yet developed into a park, or land that has a dual utility function (detention basins, telecommunication easements etc). This provides Council with the opportunity to consider selling some undeveloped open spaces that do not function well as parks, or are in areas where there is an oversupply of parks. If this direction is chosen, Council should invest this money into other parks and create new, higher level, park opportunities for residents.

Table 17: Supply assessment (ha)

Planning Precinct	Recreation - Local	Recreation - District	Sport	Total
Lithgow	6.26	10.69	40.16	57.10
Portland	5.38	-	6.75	12.14
Wallerawang	1.77	40.39	4.91	47.06
Rural North	0.95	-	0.38	1.32
Rural South	0.49	-	0.31	0.80
Total	14.84	51.08	52.50	118.42

Table 18: Demand assessment (ha)

Planning Precinct	Recreation - Local	Recreation - District	Sport	Total
Lithgow	11.03	5.52	27.58	44.12
Portland	2.13	1.07	5.33	8.53
Wallerawang	1.74	0.87	4.35	6.96
Rural North	2.48	1.24	6.20	9.92
Rural South	1.99	1.00	4.98	7.96
Total	19.38	9.69	48.44	77.50

Table 19: Gap assessment (ha)

Planning Precinct	Recreation - Local	Recreation - District	Sport	Total
Lithgow	-4.78	5.18	12.58	12.98
Portland	3.25	-1.07	1.42	3.61
Wallerawang	0.03	39.52	0.56	40.10
Rural North	-1.54	-1.24	-5.83	-8.60
Rural South	-1.50	-1.00	-4.66	-7.16
Total	-4.54	41.39	4.07	40.92

## Lithgow Precinct

Lithgow has a significant amount of land that is currently being considered as open space, much of this, however, does not meet the DSS in regard to visibility, accessibility, land characteristics and level of embellishment. As such a number of improvements are required to the existing park network. A map showing the supply and distribution of open space can be found at Figure 17, a 500m buffer around the recreation parks in this map helps to highlight the distribution of this type of open space. From the assessment (audit) of the open space in the Lithgow precinct it was noted that there are:

- some very well utilised parks
- a diversity of parks settings
- a significant amount of land along Farmers Creek, depending on the setting of this land results in difference classifications, primarily recreation corridors (if a path or recreation embellishment exists), environmental (if significant vegetation exists) or utility (if the area was degraded)
- lots of flood prone or utility land (usually detention basins)
- several parcels that had little road frontage and visibility into the spaces. For example, open space located in the middle of a house block completely surrounded by the backs of private property.

## Bowenfels

Development in the Bowenfels area will be the only area of major open space demand in the future. It is estimated that this area could result in the development of an approximate 1,500 additional new residential lots. This is also likely to mean significant demographic change to the area which also needs to be considered. The existing network is unlikely to provide adequate open space provision, although the current land supply and radial distribution of parks covers the majority of the DCP area. The reason being is that Great Western Highway and the natural geography of the area are barriers for residents to access (walkability factor) existing open space.

## Priority Recommendations

With a few changes and upgrades to the current supply, Council can rectify the above issues. A map showing the location of the recommendations and the proposed land use zoning can be found at Appendix Two. Key priority recommendations include:

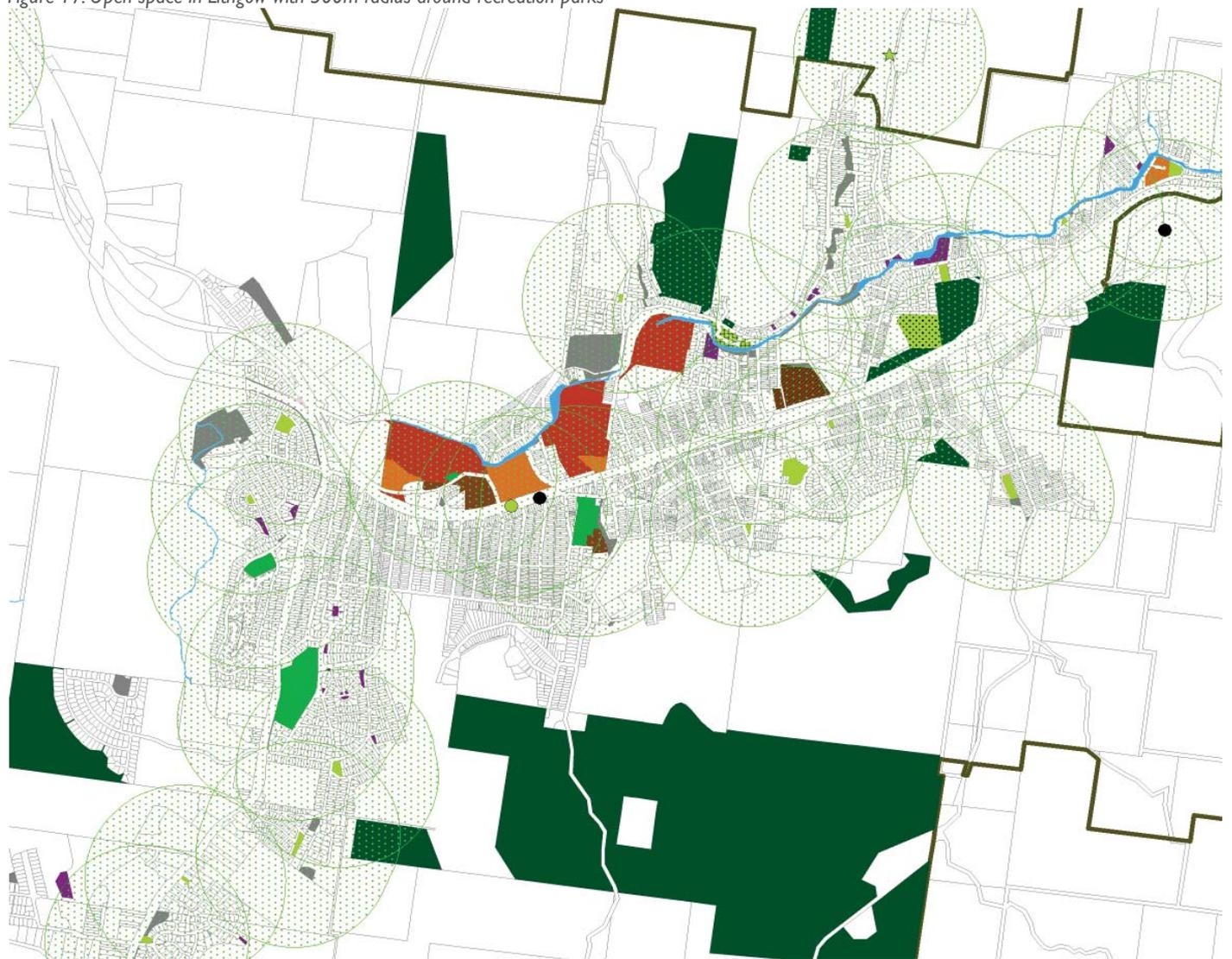
- continue to develop the recreation corridor along Farmers Creek, linking residential areas and key community hubs (retail hubs, schools and so on)
- upgrade Endeavour Park and Queen Elizabeth Park to district level standard facilities. This will require significant installation of play and picnic opportunities to meet the demands from the broader range of users (large families, play for different age cohorts etc)
- one local recreation park and one district recreation park within the South Bowenfels DCP area
- removal of some undeveloped open spaces from the open space register (see GIS layer provided)
- embellishment of the detention basin in Thornton Avenue to a local recreation park standard
- an adventure park near Tony Luchetti Sportsground/Lithgow Memorial Pool/Watsford Playing Field, however, a master plan for this precinct is required. An indicative boundary of the proposed precinct is found at Figure 16., the dotted red line is the core area with the shaded section showing the sport and recreation precinct. The master plan must also look at influences outside the site (especially pedestrian linkages).

To maximise the potential of the precinct, this must include consideration of:

- the road network
- connections to like sport and recreation activities including the the pool, the skate park, Farmers Creek walk, Marjorie Jackson Playing Field and other nearby uses
- location and safety of the adventure play, noting that this could include a variety of play elements such as a BMX jumps, rock climbing wall, ball walls etc
- consideration of potential relocation to maximise the sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Lithgow.



Figure 17: Open space in Lithgow with 500m radius around recreation parks



- LEGEND**
- Recreation - District
  - Recreation - Local
  - Sport - District
  - Sport - Regional
  - Sport - Specialised
  - Private Open Space
  - Undeveloped
  - Utility
  - Environmental
  - Community Facility

## Portland Precinct

There is a good distribution of open space types and functions across the urban area of Portland as shown in Figure 18. The following is noted:

- there is a lack of a district recreation park, one with range of facilities
- Saville Park is centrally located and boasts a range of sport and recreation experiences
- local parks are well-embellished and appear to be well-used
- there is a range of sport opportunities to support the recreation parks.

A map showing the location of the recommendations and the proposed land use zoning can be found at Appendix Two. Priority recommendations in relation to the supply of land for open space in this precinct include:

- development of a district park, preferably at Saville Park to build on the existing assets and due to its central location. The development should include an adventure play facility
- assess the asset condition of the Portland Olympic Pool.

Figure 18: Open space in Portland with 500m radius around recreation parks



## Wallerawang Precinct

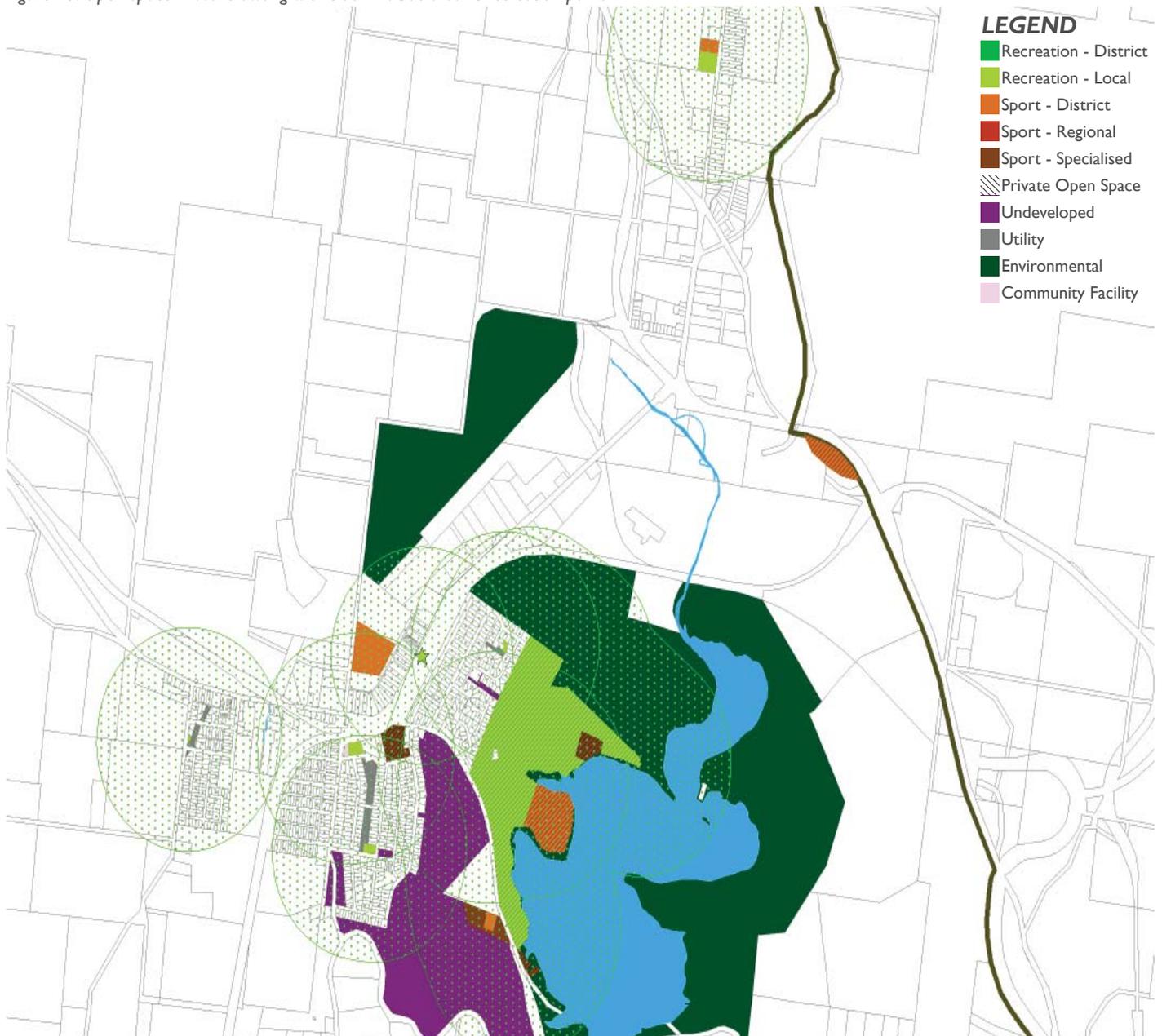
The open space supply in Wallerawang is greatly influenced by land adjacent to Lake Wallace. Whilst privately owned, existing agreements assist in ensuring community access remains. Other observations from the open space assessment in Wallerawang include:

- several 'parks' have a dual utility function
- playgrounds are sometimes not well-located within recreation parks and mostly are without shade
- there is a significant amount of undeveloped land, some of which may be surplus to Council and the community's needs
- a number of rope swings and mounds were found across the town, these indicated the town's youth desire for more adventurous play.

A map showing the location of the recommendations and the proposed land use zoning can be found at Appendix Two. Priority recommendations in relation to the supply of land for open space in this precinct include:

- disposal of undeveloped open spaces surplus to the needs of this area (see GIS information)
- review range of play opportunities to ensure more age appropriate play is available, this must also consider linkages with other key infrastructure
- development of an adventure play park at Lake Wallace.

Figure 19: Open space in Wallerawang with 500m radius around recreation parks



## Rural North Precinct

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Due to the size of this precinct, the open space assessment occurred at a regional level considering the results of the consultation and the amalgamation of people in key villages.

Clarence Pirie Park is the key recreation park in Capertee, however, the land around the Memorial Hall is also used for recreation function. There is a lack of informal sport opportunities in this area, as such, a multi-purpose court space would be appropriate, preferably at Clarence Pirie Park.

Merv Crane Memorial Park, Cullen Bullen, whilst small in size, is well-embellished and appears well-utilised. Whilst no sport opportunities exist (with the exception of the speedway which is considered specialised sport), it is likely that the local school meets unmet sport demand.

The Ben Bullen Recreation Reserve and an obsolete tennis court exist in Ben Bullen. Facilities in these open spaces are unusable and should be removed. The land should be retained in the event of population growth in the area.

A recreation park exists beside the hall in Glen Alice, located near the school. The existing supply is considered suitable for the village as no growth is anticipated. If the school closes the park may require some upgrades.

The supply of open space in Glen Davis is suitable, however upgrades to the embellishments (including additional features) should be considered. A rebound wall and upgrade to the tennis courts should be considered.

Whilst no Council managed parks exists in Newnes, the space in front of the hotel provides a suitable area for people who may visit the area.

## Rural South Precinct

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Similar to the Rural North Precinct, due to the size of this precinct, the open space assessment occurred at a regional level considering the results of the consultation and the amalgamation of people in key villages.

Between Hartley and Little Hartley there are suitable open spaces available. Minor upgrades to the local park beside the old Hartley court house (National Parks) and the Little Hartley tennis courts/hall area are recommended.

The local recreation park in Rydal, the Greg Featherstone Park, is built in the railway reserve. This is a highly scenic park and whilst without formal play opportunities it provides a number of fun natural play as presented in Section 2.

The sports area in Hampton is privately owned/managed. Council should use planning tools to protect this space for open space purposes.

No functional open spaces are available at Meadow Flat, Tarana or Sodwalls. In Tarana, the medium strip near the hotel provides some recreation amenity. In Meadow Flat, the school is likely to be considered the key community gathering area and supplier of open space values.

# 5. Sport Demand Assessment

## Fields

Land for sport can be difficult to supply as it requires large, flat areas. However, the quantity of land for sport in the LGA is likely to be sufficient for the foreseeable future. For the most part, facilities are in good condition. Upgrades required generally relate to field surfaces, field lighting and clubhouse/amenities, Table 20 provides a summary of the existing supply.

Table 20: Field sports

Planning Precinct	Park Name	Description
Lithgow	Tony Luchetti Sportsground (Showgrounds)	<p>Tony Luchetti is a regional facility with a broad range of uses and users. Formal users of this facility include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithgow Workmen’s Club RLFC</li> <li>• Lithgow Bears RLFC</li> <li>• Lithgow Storm Junior RLFC</li> <li>• Lithgow District Senior Cricket Association</li> <li>• Lithgow District Junior Cricket Association</li> <li>• Lithgow Show Society</li> <li>• Ironfest Inc</li> <li>• Lithgow Flash Gift</li> <li>• Lithgow Touch Football Association</li> <li>• Lithgow Athletics Association</li> <li>• Lithgow Radio Control Car Club</li> <li>• Lithgow Harness Racing Association</li> <li>• local schools.</li> </ul> <p>The shared showgrounds/sports function offers many benefits to the precinct. However, it is also noted that it can also represent a limitation.</p>
	Conran Playing Fields and Watsford Playing Fields	<p>Located together, these fields are used for cricket (junior and senior). Collectively, they boast three ovals and dugouts. Conran Oval also has small sight screens. There is a lack of car parking, lighting and amenities at these fields.</p>
	Glanmire Playing Fields	<p>The main area of Glanmire Playing Fields is used predominantly for hockey, however, cricket also use the facility. There are two water-based synthetic hockey pitches and four grass pitches. The grass pitches collocate with cricket.</p> <p>Also within this area are the Lithgow tennis courts and croquet green.</p>
	Jim Monaghan Memorial Athletic Field	<p>A six-lane, 300 metre athletics track, two discus cages, three shot put circles and two synthetic long jump triple approaches. Storage and clubhouse facilities are located within the fenced area.</p>
	Marjorie Jackson Playing Fields	<p>This facility is primarily used for football (soccer) and cricket. Five senior sized fields (soccer) accommodating many mid and junior fields. The premier field (Paul Houghton Field) is fenced. Clubhouse facilities and picnic tables are located near the car parking area.</p>
	Zig Zag Playing Fields	<p>Used for junior cricket, Zig Zag Playing Fields has one oval with synthetic wicket and one practice net. Toilets are available and shared with the recreation area adjacent.</p>
Wallerawang	Lake Wallace	<p>Baseball diamond with skinned bases and pitcher’s mound located on the edge of Lake Wallace. The facility is fully fenced including back nets, dugouts, scorer’s shed and small clubhouse. A synthetic cricket wicket is also in the precinct.</p>
	Wallerawang Playing Fields	<p>One oval/two fields are used for rugby league and cricket (synthetic wicket). Some basic lights on fields suitable for training purposes. A large grandstand and toilets are within the site and appear in poor condition. Two netball courts are in poor condition and are located in north-west corner of the precinct.</p>

Planning Precinct	Park Name	Description
Portland	Saville Park	Saville Park is used by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lithgow District Senior Cricket Association</li> <li>Lithgow District Junior Cricket Association</li> <li>Portland Touch Football Association</li> <li>Portland Colts Junior RLFC</li> </ul> The field space consists of two senior cricket pitches/four touch football (RL) fields. There is no field lighting. The Park is located beside the pool and bowls club.
	Kremer Park	Kremer Park was formerly showgrounds that have been converted into sports area. It includes: three tennis courts (two lit), one field (rugby league)/ oval (cricket with synthetic wicket) inside ring (trotting), two cricket practice nets. The site has a range of former show pavilions.
Rural North	-	-
Rural South	-	In Hampton, the playing fields are privately owned. Whilst no other formal playing public fields are located in this precinct, local schools provide access to some facilities.

Management and operational changes are likely to be required to alleviate pressures across sport providers, in particular clashes of events. Detailed field and building asset condition audit would allow Council to better understand and plan for major capital upgrades.

## Sports Courts (Indoor and Outdoor)

### Lithgow

A range of sports courts exist in Lithgow city. The basketball stadium provides indoor court space. The community has raised concern regarding access to the facility, cost of participating and the limited range of sports that are provided.

Outdoor courts exist at:

- Glanmire Playing Fields - 12 synthetic tennis courts, 9 of which are lit. These courts are used for formal club tennis matches and training
- Tony Luchetti - the old netball courts have been reassigned for remote controlled car racing. One court is still available, however, it is in a poor state of repair
- Emora Park - the one tennis court at this facility is the only free, publicly accessible court in Lithgow.

The courts at Tony Luchetti and Emora Park should be open and available for community use. One (or two) court at Glanmire should be made available for community use.

### Portland

Three tennis courts (2 lit) are located at Kremer Park. The old tennis courts in Frankfort Street still exist, however, are unusable and should be demolished. Access to the courts at Kremer Park should be extended to allow community use.

### Wallerawang

Indoor and outdoor courts are available at Wallerawang Stadium. There are two indoor courts (basketball and netball) with sprung timber floors and four outdoor netball courts. There are also two old tennis courts in the north-west corner of the Wallerawang Playing Fields.

The nearest tennis courts are in Lidsdale where there are three concrete courts in poor condition. Management conditions have changed in regard to access of these courts and it is believed community access is more limiting than previous. Management arrangement should be reviewed to ensure that greatest use of these community facilities is offered.

### Rural North

Tennis courts are located in Ben Bullen and Glen Alice. The court at Ben Bullen is unrecognisable as a tennis court (given the overgrowth of grass and weeds) and unable to be used. The court at Glen Davis is also in poor condition with only half of the court used by residents.

### Rural South

One tennis court is located in Hartley. This facility is an ant bed without lights and without net poles. Community access is possible, however, unlikely due to the court condition and lack of facilities.

## Specialised Sports

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Specialised sports are important, yet are often difficult to plan for due to their specialised requirements. Such sports include equestrian sports, motor sports, golf, bowls and croquet.

There is a diverse range of specialised sports being offered across the LGA. From the community consultation undertaken and from the audit of facilities it is assumed that there is no additional demand for activities of this nature.

## Aquatic Facilities

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There are two public pools in the LGA, with only one owned/managed by Lithgow City Council. As previously stated (see consultation section), access to an all-year, indoor, heated aquatic facility was, generally, the highest priority reported by residents.

The Portland Olympic Pool is managed by a private community organisation. It features a 50 metre pool with diving board, wading pool (partly shaded) and associated building structure (plant room, entry with toilets/showers etc). Whilst an asset condition audit was not prepared, the buildings appeared to require significant upgrades, the condition of the pools from an engineering perspective is unknown. Overall, the pool is a key community asset and it is likely it was built as a war memorial, thus potentially having some historical value in addition to its community value. In saying that, a detailed assessment of the asset condition of the facilities at the Portland Olympic Pool would better guide any decisions in relation to the future of this facility.

The Lithgow War Memorial Olympic Pool is Council owned and managed. The complex boasts a 50 metre pool (with disability access ramp), a rectangular 25 metre wading pool with shade and a partly-shaded circular play pool. A small toddlers' playground, shaded picnic area and spectator seating is located within the grounds. The pool complex, plant room and the swimming club's clubhouse are the primary buildings on-site. Similar to the Portland Olympic Pool, no asset condition audit is available, however, most of the facilities appear old and require updating/modernising to meet community demand.

Some planning has occurred to build an indoor 25 metre pool in Lithgow over the existing 25 metre wading pool and updating the aquatic complex. Future planning, including concept design, feasibility and detailed design is required to further this project. This planning will prepare Council, and the community, in relation to anticipated capital development costs and ongoing operational costs. This information must not be evaluated in isolation, the community/social benefits should also be considered.

## Management

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For the most part Council's sporting facilities are hired to Clubs on an annual basis. This allows for Council to regularly negotiate terms and conditions, however, more often than not the same arrangement are made based on the history of the relationship.

The role of the s355 Sport Advisory Committee can not be ignored. The purpose of the committee, based on their constitution is to:

- *“determine application to use sporting and recreation facilities under Council's control where a possibility exists for conflicting bookings*
- *determine nominations for monthly and annual sports awards”.*

The Committee manages communication between Council and sports organisations and aims to seek resolutions. The Committee also greatly influences the upgrades and works undertaken by Council for sporting areas. All not-for-profit sporting organisations are invited to be part of the Advisory Committee, however, it is noted that the Committee generally has representation from just a handful of organisations. As such, these organisation take on the extra responsibility of the purpose of the Committee and also greatly influence those decisions. Council representation,

usually in the form of three officers and two Councillors, exists but the officers do not have voting capacity.

This structure has many benefits and disadvantages. The main benefits include:

- empowering community organisations to be part of decision making processes and outcomes
- enhanced communication capacities between Council and community organisations
- networking and information sharing between sports (with the potential to get better bang-for-buck from investments).

The main disadvantages are that:

- potentially bias decision-making
- focus only sport, thus recreational and other associated activities do not need to be considered. This may be one reason that sports facilities are of a higher standard than recreation parks across the LGA
- inequality of distribution of funding geographically and between sporting codes.

The result is an inefficient management system. It is recommended that the role, function and communication protocols of the s355 Sports Advisory Committee be reviewed. However, it is not recommended that the Committee be disbanded. The Committee needs to either be more active in managing both the supply and demand side of open space provision across the Lithgow LGA (see comments in below break-out box) or Council take on more responsibilities for these considerations.

### Managing Supply and Demand for Sport Open Space

Traditionally, Councils are supply-side managers. That is, they work towards supplying enough land and facilities to keep the sporting community satisfied. Apart from being costly, focussing only on the supply side can result in facilities that are underutilised and inefficient.

It is also important that demand is managed, but here Councils have a much poorer record. Managing demand is a legitimate method to meet the community's need for sporting open space and is generally far less expensive than adding additional land (that needs to be mowed and maintained), to the existing supply. Greater value should be placed on the significant areas of land made available for sporting purposes. Too often, Councils accept claims from clubs that their playing fields are over-used or "full", where in fact, they are simply ineffectively managed.

So, how can Councils manage demand? Some ideas include:

- do not provide exclusive leases of land. Allow use by a license or hiring agreement so greater use can be made of the site
- use differential pricing so that peak times are charged at a higher rate than shoulder and off-peak times
- implement a policy of closing fields in wet weather so that they are not damaged to the point where their carrying capacity is lowered
- train Council staff and sports clubs, if they maintain grounds, in turf management. Good turf management practices result in stronger grass that can carry a higher load than weak grass that is easily damaged
- look to extend the times that clubs train or play. Often, clubs will say that they need more space for their activities, but by using the available space over longer time periods, they would minimise the need to "cram" teams into a shorter time period. For example, extending training nights to three hours instead of two and having teams arrive in two shifts, will achieve the same outcome.
- look to collocate facilities. Examples include cricket pitches between soccer fields, golf courses in and around racecourses or showgrounds, using the central space of racecourses, AFL and cricket together etc.
- make facilities multi-purpose so that a number open space sports can use the same space
- consider artificial surfaces if the load is too high for traditional turf
- install lights so that training and play can extend into the evening
- reducing seasonal creep—the practice of extending the season so, for example, winter sport clashes with summer sport. Encourage sports to hold pre-season, or early season matches, at alternative venues.

By managing both the supply and the demand, Council can use its assets more effectively and efficiently, while satisfying community demand for sporting open space.

# 6. Recreation Demand Assessment

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## Recreation Parks

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Generally, Council's park assets are in good condition and are maintained and replaced in an appropriate manner. However, some parks do not meet the standards developed in this Study and upgrades to some Parks are required to meet the demand discussed in Section 4 (in particular the supply assessment).

In addition, Council should consider the range of play in parks ensuring that a diverse range is available. It would be beneficial for Council design and construction personnel to consider the information presented in play trends (see Section 2) and implement these suggestions where appropriate. A successful play area, that children and adults alike can enjoy and cherish, relies as much on the space in which the play experience is located to create a 'sense of place', as it does on the facility design. During open space inspections the following general observations were made:

- a number of parks have significant capacity for increased development
- the majority of parks have attractive mature trees
- there is a lack of play opportunities across age cohorts, with the majority of play equipment being designed for toddlers and small children
- seating and playgrounds often do not make use of natural shade
- there is a lack of cohesion between activity spaces within parks, for example seats could be relocated to where parents are likely to sit and supervise children
- many seats are poorly positioned, with little consideration for the potential comfort or actions of users (amenity, views, child supervision requirements)
- park signage is limited
- some parks are being used inappropriately as shortcuts to nearby destinations by vehicles or to access private backyards. In some instances this is degrading the park asset and regardless, is a liability risk for Council
- in newer subdivision areas, park access tends to be provided from cul-de-sacs, drastically reducing opportunities for casual surveillance and limiting awareness of opportunities
- inequality exists between the provision of opportunities across the Lithgow LGA, particularly in rural communities.

Any upgrade to the open space system should seek to link the open space areas together to strengthen the value of the asset. For many people, their recreation is linear and they like to move through the park system. While it is can be difficult to rectify any gaps in the existing network, new open space areas obtained in future developments should link to existing areas, as much as possible. The proposed recreation link along Farmers Creek (Lithgow) is one example where additional links can be achieved. Similar linkages are possible in Portland and Wallerawang.

## Asset Maintenance and Replacement

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Generally, Council's parks were in fair to good condition. Council has invested in maintaining parks especially in the replacement of park assets such as play equipment. This is particularly so in the larger communities, however, not as evident in some of the rural villages. Council must be careful to ensure elements are replaced. Failure to replace them will result in a slow and continual erosion of open space and community values.

## Walking and Cycling

### Urban Walk/Cycle Networks

The main barriers that prevent people from participating in walking and cycling include:

- lack of connections/linkages between streets and open spaces
- lack of pathways within parks, open spaces and streets
- isolated parks and open spaces where people feel unsafe
- parks and open spaces lacking aesthetic appeal
- poor quality pathways and roads that are poorly maintained
- lack of facilities (toilets, seats, shade, drinking water, parking) provided in parks and along pedestrian/cycle paths
- heavy traffic with limited or no pedestrian and cycle crossings
- lack of on-road bicycle lanes and unsafe road conditions.

Lithgow City Council should aim at developing the proposed pathway systems to address these barriers. It should be noted that in urban areas, wherever possible, paths should be developed to be all-weather (concrete) and wide enough to cater for a range of users including pedestrians, people in wheelchairs/mobility scooters, bicycles, scooters and those with other general mobility issues.

Other inclusions when developing a path network include shaded seats at regular intervals, water taps/bubblers and both directional and informative signage.

### Trails

In addition to walking and cycling opportunities within urban areas, there is significant opportunities to developed regional trails. Lithgow is blessed to be surrounded by quality natural areas where it is possible to obtain access for trails purposes. Trails are generally longer links and/or circuits that provide a much different experience for the user, they are also often attractive for visitors. Overall, Lithgow LGA would benefit from a layered approach to the provision of walking and cycling opportunities.

Figure 20: The deco-path with a seat overlooking Lake Pillans in Lithgow



## Outdoor Recreation and Natural Areas

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Outdoor recreation includes activities that:

- are undertaken outside the confines of buildings
- do not involve organised competition or formal rules
- can be undertaken without the existence of any built facility or infrastructure
- may require large areas of land, water and/or air
- may require outdoor areas of predominantly unmodified natural landscape.

Outdoor recreation provides significant and well researched benefits to the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities, the environment and the economy.

In the Lithgow LGA, large numbers of people are currently participating in a variety of outdoor recreation activities in a range of settings from somewhat natural to totally natural. It is presumed that there will be a lot more demand on these areas in the future as activities become more popular and the population in greater Sydney area continues to grow.

With increased demand, it is important that Council continues to look after its natural assets and although access should be increased in some areas to enhance participant experiences and attract new people to the area, appropriate management and protection needs to be the priority.

In an area as beautiful as this, encroachment can occur quite quickly if it is allowed and natural sites can become 'not-so-natural'. The ability to maintain many parts of the Lithgow LGA as an outdoor recreation playground with a variety and diversity of settings is a challenge, but one that should be strived for.

The Lithgow LGA has a vast array of opportunities for all people to enjoy outdoor recreation from climbing mountains and mountain bike riding to fishing at the lakes. Anecdotally it appears that there are already thousands of people that travel to the area annually for these reasons.

Figure 21: People walking up to Hassans Walls



## 7. Future Open Space Needs

Due to its size and demographic distribution of the population across the Lithgow LGA, it is difficult to provide open space and recreation facilities that are equitable in terms of population and geographic distribution. As the vast majority of the population live in a small portion of the Lithgow LGA the majority of the focus for infrastructure lies in these areas. However, sport and recreation provision is important across the whole Lithgow LGA and influences:

- sport and recreation (e.g. leasing of community land, support to organisations)
- fees and charges (e.g. pool entry fees)
- maintenance of facilities (e.g. grass mowing)
- subsidies (e.g. payment (or part payment) of public liability insurance)
- access (e.g. free or subsidised use of facilities).

The community is aware of the differences and in many cases has accepted the tough decisions Council often is required to make in terms of provision of open space and associated facilities. However, some are starting to cite these differences and are calling for equitable treatment. From a review of the community consultation, and our experiences elsewhere, a basic list of facilities, that may possibly be provided in different areas of the Lithgow LGA is provided in Table 21. Across the LGA there are a number of villages and hamlets. Residents in these small communities rely on their nearest town for many things such as shopping, banking, and often, sport and recreation. This will always be the case as for most sports multiple people are needed for a game or to be able to afford the costs of a facility. However, many of these villages have some form of park and often need access to suitable areas for community gatherings. The quality of these facilities varies and often reflects the involvement of communities. Council needs to be aware of each community's needs and respond accordingly with any assistance that they can offer. The extent to which they have been provided is also noted. If this list was adopted then Council would need, over time, to provide:

- a district level recreation park in Portland, the preferred location is Saville Park
- more play opportunities in Glen Davis and Rydal
- dirt jumps for BMX in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang
- adventure play for older children in Lithgow (Watsford Playing Field area following a recreation present master plan), Portland (Saville Park) and Charles Darwin Park (Wallerawang)
- upgrades to existing small parks to local park standard
- access to a multi-purpose court in Lithgow (Emora Park and near the skate park), Portland (Kremer Park or Saville Park), Wallerawang (Charles Darwin Park) Glen Davis (upgrade tennis court to multi-purpose court) and consider a tennis court in Capertee
- consider outdoor fitness equipment in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang
- upgrade the skate facilities in Portland and Wallerawang, with consideration to be given to their location
- review options for a walking tracks in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang.

Council needs to consider this proposal and agree upon the final list. Future capital works, and applications for grants, will be focused on delivering a base level of provision to the citizens of the LGA.

Table 21: Possible recreation elements and their current provision

Element	Lithgow	Portland	Wallerawang	Rural North	Rural South
Attractive functional recreation park with a playground and barbecue, playground and area for games	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Field space for informal sport (football, soccer or cricket)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Swimming pool	✓	✓	✗	n/a	n/a
Fitness gymnasium (indoor or outdoor)	✓	✗	✗	n/a	n/a
Skate park	✓	✓	✓	n/a	n/a
BMX dirt jumps	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Urban walking track	✓	✓	✓	n/a	n/a
Multi-purpose court (a covered slab marked for sports such as netball, basketball, tennis etc)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Tennis court(s)	✓	✓	✓	≈	✓
Dog off-leash areas	✓	✓	✓	≈	≈
Legend	✓ Yes ✗ No ≈ partly met n/a not applicable				

## 8. Summary and Recommendations

This Plan is not about telling future generations, forty years from now, what to do, but about ensuring that decisions are taken now that give these generations opportunity and choice.

Forty years ago, in 1970, who would have predicted that we would have had sports and activities such as limited overs cricket, beach volleyball, futsal, triathlon, mountain biking, laser skirmish, bungee jumping or even the Paralympics? Who predicted the rise in popularity of soccer and touch in New South Wales that has occurred or the decline in rugby league, tennis, squash and regional horse racing?

It is not possible to be an oracle and predict the future. As planners, all we can do is enable the future to evolve efficiently and effectively. The recommendations that follow provide a start in establishing the foundation for future success.

Another aspect to an Open Space and Recreation Needs Study with a long future focus is about establishing sporting facilities that are of a State, National or International Standard. The Lithgow LGA does not want, or need, to compete head on with the coastal local governments for sporting events. It needs to choose sports and events where it has a natural advantage.

It is not Lithgow City Council's responsibility to implement all the recommendations contained in this Study. This Study should be seen as one owned by the community and one both the Council and the community, generally through sport and recreation clubs or community organisations, can deliver in partnership. Many recommendations would be eligible for a grant from the State or Commonwealth government as well as a range of other agencies.

The recommendations of this Study are detailed below and are grouped into three strategic areas. These are:

- Governance - these relate to Council policies, coordination and management arrangements
- Facilities - including maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and new facility needs
- Programs and services - to retain and attract more people to use facilities and be involved in sport and recreation.

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.

### Key Open Space Recommendations for Lithgow City Council

Adopt the Desired Standards of Service and the classification system developed in this Study as a framework for future open space provision. Council is also preparing the Land Use Strategy, and this Study should be considered as part of it.

While knowledge exists within Council regarding park design, management and maintenance, additional skills (such as those held by a landscape architect and/or sport and recreation planner) are required. The addition of this position is important as it will allow sharing of information internally to increase the knowledge and understanding of the importance of open space. For example, understanding the differences in providing play equipment versus accommodating play experiences and in providing play that is of interest to a range of ages not just for toddlers and young children.

Shade provision in many parks is poor. Council should develop a Shade Strategy for open space. Wherever possible, Council should look to plant advanced trees (rather than small trees or tube-stock) near to designated play nodes. At high-use facilities, such as regional or district play areas, shade structures may be necessary. However, in these instances, Council may also plant trees near to the play area with a view to removing the formal shade structures once the trees are providing adequate shade.

Look to develop recreation opportunities (such as play experiences) at sports parks (and other Council-managed open space where practical). In a number of cases, sports parks are centrally located but offer limited recreation value (other than the formal sports they provide for).

## Governance and Planning

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
I	<p>This Open Space and Recreation Needs Study is designed to provide Council with information in relation to recreation facilities and programs and also for the purpose of informing land use planning strategies and outcomes. Council should review the open space audit (Appendix One and associated GIS layer) to ensure correct land use classifications (zones) are adopted into the Local Environmental Plan. Consideration must be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether open space that has environmental significance is zoned Recreation (RE1 if publicly owned), Environmental Conservation (E2) or Environmental Management (E3)</li> <li>• land along rivers and creeks are considered as riparian corridors, however, if they also have (or will have) a function as a recreation corridor, then are considered as community infrastructure and zoned as Recreation (RE1)</li> <li>• land that has been considered as open space but, in reality, has a primary purpose for utility infrastructure (storm water management) should not be zoned as Recreation (RE1), but rather Council should consider what zoning is preferred in reference to the Department of Planning's guidelines</li> <li>• where a community facility is located within an open space, then the land should be zoned as Recreation (RE1), however, if the community facility is separate and there is no real connection to the open space network, these areas should be zoned more appropriately in regard to future use</li> <li>• the zone of Private Recreation (RE2) to be employed in instances where land is privately owned and has high sport and recreation values. This is particularly true for privately owned sporting land. However, if there is land that is privately owned and which offers sport or recreation opportunities, but, generally, have high-commercial features they should not be zoned as Public or Private Recreation (RE1 or RE2).</li> </ul>	High	Staff time only

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
2	<p>Consideration has been given to prohibited uses for land zoned as Public Recreation (REI) which should be considered in developing the LEP. Proposed prohibited uses are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Agricultural Land Uses</li> <li>• All Accommodation Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Caravan Parks</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All Home Activity Land Uses</li> <li>• All Commercial Land Uses with the potential exception of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Kiosks</li> <li>– Markets</li> <li>– Roadside Stalls</li> <li>– Entertainment Facilities</li> <li>– Function Centres</li> <li>– Registered Clubs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Childcare Centres</li> <li>• Correctional Centres</li> <li>• Educational Establishments</li> <li>• Health Service Facilities (hospitals, medical centres and health consulting rooms)</li> <li>• Places of Public Worship</li> <li>• Research Stations</li> <li>• All Industrial Land Uses</li> <li>• All Air Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Freight Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Port Facilities</li> <li>• Transport Depots</li> <li>• Truck Depots</li> <li>• Electricity Generating Works</li> <li>• Highway Service Centres</li> <li>• Passenger Transport Facilities</li> <li>• Sewerage Systems</li> <li>• Waste or Resource Management Facilities</li> <li>• Water Supply Systems</li> <li>• Bopat Launching Ramps</li> <li>• Boat Sheds</li> <li>• Charter and Tourism Boating Facilities</li> <li>• Marinas</li> <li>• Mooring</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Crematoriums</li> <li>• Extratrive Industries</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Mining</li> <li>• Mortuaries.</li> </ul>	High	Staff time only

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
3	<p>Review the role, function and communication protocols of the s355 Sports Advisory Committee. In its current form the Committee can only assist in managing demand requests. As such, ineffective management of Council's open space network occurs. Either the s355 Committee must take on more responsibilities in relation to the supply side of management or Council needs to have greater involvement in assessing the supply and demand of sport and recreation facilities, including land supply, management, capital and operational works.</p> <p>In addition, the divide between sports facilities and other infrastructure types in the open space network need equalisation of resources. This could be achieved by incorporating consideration of recreation parks into the Terms of Reference of the Sports Advisory Committee or for Council internally to ensure greater equity of provision between infrastructure types occurs. Consideration and consultation with the s355 Environmental Advisory Committee should also occur.</p>	High	Staff time only
4	<p>Council to adopt the open space framework, including the guiding principles, classifications/hierarchies and desired standards of services for open space supply, range, land characteristics and embellishments. This information should be used in other land use planning projects and assist Council in negotiating better open space outcomes. In addition, consideration must also be given to local community profile data to ensure Parks are developed in line with the data, for example, installation of toddler play equipment will not be popular in areas with small proportion of this demographic cohort.</p>	High and ongoing	Staff time only
5	<p>In partnership with industry, community and NSW Sport and Recreation, facilitate practical maintenance and asset management training programs and encourage the implementation of a rolling program to improve the field and court surface conditions and the quality of lighting. This could include bringing specialists to the LGA to advise and assist sport and recreation groups to undertake field surface condition testing from which maintenance and watering regimes can be developed.</p>	High and ongoing	\$10,000
6	<p>Develop a policy for fees, charges, maintenance and support mechanisms for community organisations/committees that reflects the income potential and community benefit of organisations. This review needs to look at formal and informal arrangements and align them over time.</p>	High and ongoing	Staff time only
7	<p>Any significant park upgrade or new park proposed by Council or a developer should be designed by, or reviewed by, a person with the appropriate skills—most often a landscape architect.</p>	High and ongoing	Cost will vary depending upon the role
8	<p>All staff with responsibility for administering open space, sport and recreation, regardless of their title, should meet occasionally to discuss issues and solutions that may be regional in nature, as well as, local issues where the collective knowledge may assist an early resolution.</p>	High and ongoing	Staff time only
9	<p>Improve planning and communication channels with schools, particularly around improving community use of school facilities and contribution of schools to maintenance and improvement of Council owned and community managed facilities.</p>	High	Staff time only
10	<p>Communities have their own identity which results in different needs and demands. Council needs to be prepared that not all communities want or need the same level of infrastructure. As such, the public should be involved in the decision-making of major changes to sport and recreation infrastructure.</p>	High and ongoing	Staff time only

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
11	Develop a branding and signage strategy for Council parks. Many parks are not named (or they are unknown) and have no sign, and where they do exist, there is little consistency of style or promotion of Lithgow City Council as owner or provider.	Medium	\$30,000 (est)
12	Review the achievement of the recommendations of this Plan annually and undertake a major review in five years.	Medium	Staff time only
13	<p>Staff resourcing should be reviewed. Ideally, Council should employ an Open Space, Sport and Recreation Planning Officer. This role would work closely with Council's Live Life Well Officer (who focuses on program and service delivery) and parks operational staff (who focus on facility development and maintenance). Currently, there is limited, ad hoc and dissected delivery of open space, sport and recreation planning. This position is likely to be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• referral person for DA applications for open space dedications</li> <li>• lease agreements for sport and recreation providers</li> <li>• booking officer for regional sports facilities</li> <li>• coordinator of s355 Sports Advisory Committee</li> <li>• open space planning including master planning</li> <li>• promotion of facilities, activities and programs</li> <li>• develop and maintain relationships with providers and key stakeholders to maximise Council's resources and to increase range of services and activities available to residents.</li> </ul>	Medium and ongoing	\$65,000 pa
14	<p>The s355 Sports Advisory Committee (SAC) is Council's main means of accessing sport and recreation organisations across the LGA. To strengthen this organisation's capacity, Council, in conjunction with the SAC, should implement the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seek to develop a comprehensive list of all sport and recreation providers in the LGA, this may mean widening the scope to include informal groups and commercial organisations</li> <li>• pilot an annual forum for Lithgow City Council community-based sport and recreation organisations. The forums should aim to: promote information and resource sharing; provide networking opportunities; encourage education and training program co-ordination within the sport and recreation delivery sector; and to seek, reward and retain quality leaders and administrators</li> <li>• undertake a range of training and education workshops. Training and club development should initially focus on: club governance and committee management; succession planning; strategic and business planning; and funding and grant applications</li> <li>• undertake concept planning for all sporting precincts in conjunction with Council officers.</li> </ul> <p>Further, Council should formalise an email list to rapidly distribute information that may be of interest to Lithgow sport and recreation organisations (e.g. announced funding programs or training opportunities). Council should encourage clubs to obtain webmail address (e.g. Yahoo, Gmail, Hotmail) so that the address can be passed when Club executives change and so multiple club members can monitor the account. Private email addresses require constant updating by Council and can be avoided with the use of generic email addresses. Add contact details for each sport and recreation club, with their permission, to Council's website so that people interested in taking up the activity can make quick contact.</p>	Medium	\$6,000 and staff time

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
15	Undertake a play and shade strategy to guide the maintenance and development of play opportunities across the LGA.	Medium	\$40,000
16	An over-arching Plan of Management for all recreation parks should be developed. Additional Plans of Management should be considered for those parks and sporting precincts with a wider appeal.	Medium	Staff time only
17	<p>Develop and trial an information and communication package that aims to improve clarity of roles and responsibilities of Council, Government agencies and community organisations. This should cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>land tenure options and facility management and maintenance requirements</li> <li>feedback and reporting procedures between Council and community groups to ensure communication is two-way</li> <li>available funding programs and helpful funding application hints.</li> </ul> <p>Information should then be delivered through a range of mediums and forums, including the s355 Sports Advisory Committee.</p>	Low	Staff time only

## Facilities

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
18	<p>Walking and cycling are likely to continue to increase in popularity, so too will the demand on Council to provide safe, quality connections and meandering paths. Walking is the preferred physical activity option for the majority of people and is growing as the population ages. The community will continue to demand more walking options to meet this need.</p> <p>Council, in conjunction with local community groups, should undertake (in house) a walkability and bikeability audit using available free national resources.</p> <p>This audit should then be used to develop a Walk Cycle Strategy. The Strategy will prioritise connections for both on-road and off-road opportunities. This will also guide budget and grant applications. The Strategy should also look at regional trail opportunities, such as connections from Lithgow to Wallerawang.</p>	<p>High</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>\$5,000 plus staff time</p> <p>\$40,000</p>

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
19	<p>This Study has suggested a base list of sport and recreation facilities to which each town has access (see Section 7). If adopted in full, the new facilities required would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a district level recreation park in Portland, the preferred location is Saville Park</li> <li>• more play opportunities in Glen Davis and Rydal</li> <li>• dirt jumps for BMX in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang</li> <li>• adventure play for older children in Lithgow (Endeavour Park), Portland (Saville Park) and Charles Darwin Park (Wallerawang)</li> <li>• upgrades to existing small parks to local park standard</li> <li>• access to a multi-purpose court in Lithgow (Emora Park and at near the skate park), Portland (Kremer Park or Saville Park), Wallerawang (Charles Darwin Park) Glen Davis (upgrade tennis court to multi-purpose court) and consider a tennis court in Capertee</li> <li>• consider outdoor fitness equipment in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang</li> <li>• upgrade the skate facilities in Portland and Wallerawang, with consideration to be given to their location</li> <li>• review options for a walking tracks in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang</li> <li>• one local recreation park within the South Bowenfels DCP area (land should be acquired as soon as possible, with the park embellished as population warrants it). This park should be suitable to be upgraded to a district recreation standard as population increases</li> <li>• develop a utility open space on Thornton Avenue to a local recreation park standard.</li> </ul> <p>Council needs to review this list and determine which of these, if any, it wishes to provide and then budget accordingly.</p>	<p>High for Review</p> <p>Implement as resources allow</p>	Not costed
20	<p>Prioritise assistance to those organisations that have identified their needs in either this Study or through other development plans lodged with Council or Sport and Recreation Services. In particular, encourage and support the following groups to obtain external funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithgow Bears RLFC - upgrade to changerooms</li> <li>• Lithgow Golf Club - fairway watering</li> <li>• Wallerawang Baseball Association - new toilet block and grandstand</li> <li>• Lithgow District Cricket Association - additional cricket wickets across the LGA and a clubhouse facility at Watsford/Conran Playing Fields</li> <li>• Lithgow Hockey Association - upgrade old turf pitches and installation of a covered spectator area</li> <li>• Lithgow Athletics Club - upgrades to discus cages, long jump run up and javelin throws area</li> <li>• Lithgow Swimming Club - an indoor pool and upgrades to entry and amenities to existing pool</li> <li>• Lithgow Junior Cricket Association - more shaded areas</li> <li>• Lithgow District Football Association - upgrades to club facilities, canteen, fields and ancillary features.</li> </ul>	High to Low	Not costed
21	<p>Over time, develop concept master plans for all district recreation parks (or town feature parks). The following are priority parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endeavour Park (Lithgow)</li> <li>• Blast Furnace Park (Lithgow)</li> <li>• Saville Park (Portland).</li> </ul>	Medium	\$10,000-\$30,000 per plan

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
22	Complete the first stage of the walkway along Farmers Creek and commence detailed designed for stage two.	High	Not costed
23	<p>Encourage community use of existing facilities. In particular, courts and fields. Community access to courts at the following locations should be improved so that community access is not hindered by complicated key and hire systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one court at Glanmire Playing Fields</li> <li>• one court at Emora Park (currently accessible)</li> <li>• Portland tennis courts</li> <li>• Lidsdale tennis courts</li> <li>• Glen Davis tennis court (currently accessible but requires significant upgrades)</li> </ul>		
24	<p>Undertake an assessment of the aquatic needs across the LGA. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• detailed asset condition audits for Lithgow Olympic War Memorial Pool and Portland Olympic Pool</li> <li>• depending of the results of the audit, complete a concept design (including likely capital costs) and feasibility assessment (including operational costs) of a 25 metre indoor, heated pool.</li> </ul>	High for condition audit and medium for concept design	\$80,000
25	Develop an exciting playground in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland. The playground should be innovative and incorporate elements that are not located in other parks. As examples this may include a climbing spider net, a water playground, a flying fox, musical play items, a natural materials playground or a combination of these elements.	Medium	\$100,000
26	Develop entrance statements to Lithgow LGA that are unique and showcase the town and district's unique character. Involve local artists in the design.	Medium	\$50,000
27	Encourage and seek shared use of fields, club facilities and resources between sport and recreation organisations amongst others (e.g. schools, community hall management groups).	High	Staff time only
28	<p>A number of upgrades are recommended in the Study. The following need to be considered and actioned within five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithgow Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– continue to develop the recreation corridor along Farmers Creek</li> <li>– upgrade Endeavour Park and Queen Elizabeth Park to district level standard</li> <li>– embellishment of the detention basin in Thornton Avenue to a local recreation park standard</li> <li>– an adventure park near Tony Luchetti Sportsground/Lithgow Memorial Pool/Watsford Playing Field (following the adoption of the master plan for this site)</li> <li>– include directional signage at Blast Furnace Park to direct people to the Lake Pillan walk. Add additional recreational elements to Lake Pillan to increase its attractiveness to users</li> <li>– plant shade trees at the play ground at Inner Circle Park, Church Street Park, Stewart Street Park, Railway Avenue Park</li> <li>– replace broken equipment at Landa Street Park.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	High and ongoing	Not costed

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
28 cont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portland Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– development of a district park, preferably at Saville Park</li> <li>– depending on the results of the asset condition audit of Portland Olympic Pool undertake upgrades/improvements</li> <li>– demolish the old tennis courts in Frankfort Street</li> <li>– upgrade the range of play and picnic opportunities at Kremer Park, Portland, consideration should also be given to removing part of the fence to encourage community use of this public space</li> <li>– plant additional shade trees over all recreation nodes in parks, in particular High Street Park and Paine Street Park.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wallerawang Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– development of an adventure play park at Lake Wallace</li> <li>– upgrade the tennis courts at Lidsdale to a condition that they are usable</li> <li>– as park assets are due for replacing at Lidsdale Street park, relocate assets to Oxley Street corner and plant additional shade trees</li> <li>– plant shade trees near recreation area of Elizabeth Street Park</li> <li>– re-evaluate the needs for the skate park at Tweedie Street following installation of adventure play park at Lake Wallace.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rural North Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– develop a multi-purpose court space at Clarence Pirie Park, Clarence</li> <li>– upgrade embellishments (including adding new play features and a barbeque) to the open space at Glen Davis (a rebound wall and upgrade to the tennis courts should be considered)</li> <li>– upgrade the tennis court Glen Davis so that it is usable</li> <li>– upgrade the play equipment and plant shade trees at the park at Blackmans Flat Reserve.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rural South Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– undertake minor upgrades to the local park beside the old Hartley court house (National Parks) to include greater range of play and picnic facilities</li> <li>– upgrade recreation facilities (play and picnic) at the Little Hartley tennis courts/hall area</li> <li>– upgrade the tennis courts at Hartley so that they can be utilised for tennis</li> <li>– consider need for toilets and a barbeque at Greg Featherstone Park, Rydal.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
29	<p>There ought to be sufficient land for sport in Lithgow to meet future growth and demand if the recommendations in regard to change in management and leasing structures are activated. However, until such time that these occur, the former Hermitage Site should be protected for the potential use as a Sports Park. As such, this land should be zoned as Public Recreation (RE1) and potentially reviewed in one year.</p>	High	Staff time only

## Programs and Services

No.	Recommendation	Priority	Indicative Cost
30	Youths, and adults, in smaller villages and hamlets across the Region have less access to social outings such as movie nights. Council should consider a travelling program of movies, particularly in school holidays.	Medium	Minimal
31	Facilitate partnerships to develop a range of physical activity programs for target groups. These should take advantage of existing physical activity programs and partnerships and target groups of high need. Facilities that should be encouraged to be used include local parks, swimming pools and walking tracks.  The success (or otherwise) of these initiatives will help inform Council which programs should be supported in the long-term.	High and ongoing	\$60,000
32	Develop a range of regular youth activities, events and school holiday programs that are delivered across the Region using local facilities and service providers (e.g. BMX/skate skills development; youth adventure camps/come and try programs).	High	\$20,000

# Appendix One: Open Space Audit

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Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
Lithgow	BOWENFELS NSW	Bursaria Place	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Land with significant native trees.		825.671	E3
	BOWENFELS NSW	Kirkley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Heritage buildings on site. Poor accessibility, however, site has heritage value and should be protected through planning policies.		8205.71	E3
	BOWENFELS NSW	Great Western Highway South Bowenfels	Utility	Utility					1053.33	SP2
	BOWENFELS NSW	Bowenfels Future Open Space			Utility/Env	Utility/Env	Land earmarked in the Bowenfels DCP as open space. Whilst relatively large in size, it represents three separate bodies of land most of which is either environmental and for utility purposes.		161591.33	E3
	HARTLEY NSW	Hassans Walls	Environmental	Environmental			A large crown reserve of environmental significance. Popular walking tracks, lookouts. Also used for mountain bike riding.		2450582.07	E2
	KANIMBLA	Cox's River Reserve Cullenbenbong Road	Environmental	Environmental					45741.6	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Vale of Clywdd Hall	Community	Hall					3199.6	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Lithgow Visitor Information Centre	Community	Tourist			Easement along Highway with visitor information centre.		1840.02	
	LITHGOW NSW	Bells Road	Environmental	Environmental					2058.25	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Bridge St Reserve/Land Behind High School	Environmental	Environmental			Small lookout.		62981.17	E2
	LITHGOW NSW	Chifley Road	Environmental	Environmental					177648.21	E2
	LITHGOW NSW	Crane Road Escarpment	Environmental	Environmental					291049.07	E2
	LITHGOW NSW	Hepburn Street	Environmental	Environmental			No road access.		196311.27	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	High/Blaxland Street Mountain Reserve	Environmental	Environmental					19825.06	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Hillcrest Avenue	Environmental	Environmental			Creek.		210590.27	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Lake Pillan	Environmental	Environmental	Recreation	Rec Corridor	Upgrade of the wetlands in this area has created a number of walking circuits and recreation opportunities.	Extend path networks through adjacent parks and to nearby streets. Incorporate additional exercise equipment along path, ensure appropriate signage is also included.	81553.88	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Macauley Street	Environmental	Environmental			Unable to gain road access.		361756.4	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Mount Street	Environmental	Environmental					8351.91	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Sandford Ave	Environmental	Environmental					1845.78	E3
	LITHGOW NSW	Woolworths	Recreation	Amenity			Landscaped portion outside Woolworths, has no open space/recreational value.	Remove from open space layer.	119.709	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Blast Furnance Park	Recreation	Rec Amenity			Large area of land with significant local heritage value (old blast furnace). Entrance and carparking is confusing.	Upgrade entrance including appropriate signage. Signage should also be installed to connect the user to adjacent Lake Pillans.	35484.26	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Lithgow Ex POW Memorial	Recreation	Rec Amenity			Memorial built in road reserve with lookout and picnic facilities and tourist information.		0	
	LITHGOW NSW	Pioneer's Heritage Park	Recreation	Rec Amenity			Small civic park, landscaped with local information boards, memorial and toilets.		512.716	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Rest stop/Main Street	Recreation	Rec Amenity			Visitor information and picnic facilities.		0	

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
	LITHGOW NSW	Montague Street	Recreation	Rec Corridor			Linear open space with pathway. Includes dog off-leash area near Tank Street (eastern end).		9583.61	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Endeavour Park	Recreation	Rec District			Large park that services two distinct groups: residents and tourists. Picnic facilities are located near the Great Western Highway(toilets, barbeques, playground, seats and tables) and a dog off-leash area and picnic facilities on eastern side.	Toilets require upgrading with consideration given to thier location. More play, shade and picnicking facilities to be located near Amiens Street and the dog off-leash area.	65549.43	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Landa Street	Recreation	Rec District			Large park on a slope with playground, tennis court, cricket practice wicket, picnicking nodes including barbeque and walking paths.	Some elements are broken and require replacing.	12621.22	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Lithgow Skate Park	Recreation	Rec District			Large, new skate facility with bin.	Requires shade and access to water bubblers.A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	1993.62	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Queen Elizabeth Park	Recreation	Rec District			Large landscaped park with range of civic opportunities including formal gardens, picnicking and play. Playground is in south-eastern corner and lacks shade and nearby picnic facilities. Toilets are located at far north-eastern corner.	Playground requires significant upgrading and expansion to meet standards of a district recreation park. New picnicking facilities should also be provided.	26763.36	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Bells Road	Recreation	Rec Local			Recreation park adjacent to sport with shared toilet facilities (separate male and female ablutions blocks), old style play (climbing structure) and swings.		4054.08	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Brook Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Park along creek with small playground including 2 swings and spring toy. Mini-soccer field appears to be a temporary addition to this park.		800.4	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Busby Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park with small playground (no shade), two seats with one under a tree.		817.083	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Chifley Road Park	Recreation	Rec Local	Dispose	Dispose	Fenced local park with small playground and two trees. Small park that is quite unappealing.	Consider disposal.	942.377	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Church Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park with basic play without shade, large run-around area exists behind playground. A helicopter landing pad is located in this park.	Plant trees near playground, incorporate more play, seats and picnicking facilities. Part of land could be sold to adjoining neighbours to create a more traditional shape.	13080.19	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	East Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Old hall with playground adjacent. Linear park with planting along back fence.		3219.11	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Hammond Park	Recreation	Rec Local	Undevelop	Undevelop	Timber rail fenced park with some basic play, trees and two seats. Park is surrounded by streets.	When upgrades to Church Street Park occur, start to remove embellishments from this park until it is considered undeveloped. Potential to dispose of land.	986.663	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Hartley Valley Road	Recreation	Rec Local			A local park with a good range of formal play opportunities. A toilet is located in the park which also services adjacent community centre.	Park lacks picnicking facilities and seating.	5799.55	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Inch Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park with basic playground without shade. A row of trees has been planted on eastern side. This park connects to Lake Pillans.		4031.54	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Inner Crescent	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park surrounded by residential streets. Good range of play equipment, however, lacks natural shade.	Plant trees near play equipment.	1254.33	REI
	LITHGOW NSW	Lemnos Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Small local park with basic playground in full sun. There are some large trees with a seat in the shade.		3179.06	REI

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
LITHGOW NSW		Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Railway	Recreation	Rec Local			Two picnic tables near State Mine Creek and access to old railway and platform. Adjacent to the Railway Museum.		0	Nil
LITHGOW NSW		Robinia Drive	Recreation	Rec Local			Local fenced park with playground (in sun), picnic facilities and trees. Detention basin to the north of park.		1756.22	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Robita Rest/Birch Grove Close	Recreation	Rec Local			Small local park that is fenced with a climbing structure (spyder) and seat.		991.384	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Rotary Park/Main Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Park in railway reserve with picnic facilities, playground and old railway machinery.		0	
LITHGOW NSW		Stewart Street Park	Recreation	Rec Local	Recreation	Rec District	Large local park with small playground (without shade), kick-about space with concrete cricket wicket and some trees.	More tree planting required as well as shaded picnic facilities.	6576.89	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Willes Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Small local park fenced with basic play equipment (swings, spring toy and slide) and a seat under nearby tree.		1398.94	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Workies - Bowls	Sport	Private Special			Privately owned by Workies there are two synthetic bowling greens adjacent to the Club.		4773.72	RE2
LITHGOW NSW		Workies - Greyhound Raceway	Sport	Private Special			Privately owned by Workies.		39647.59	RE2
LITHGOW NSW		Club Lithgow - Bowling Club	Sport	Special			Three bowling greens and significant club facility and car parking.		9899.23	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Lithgow Indoor Sports	Sport	Special			Indoor court primarily used for basketball.		4104.6	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Lithgow War Memorial Olympic Pool	Sport	Special			50 metre, 9 lane olympic pool with ramp access, 25 metre learn-to-swim pool and splash pool. Small playgrounds (toddlers).	A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	26622.89	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Conran Playing Fields	Sport	Sport District			One oval with turf wicket, small sight screens, dugouts, metal fence and informal car parking area.	A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	27009.87	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Glanmire Oval - Hockey/Cricket	Sport	Sport District			One grass croquet green with small club house. Poor access and car parking.	Review access and car parking arrangements.	9169.95	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Jim Monaghan Memorial Athletic Field	Sport	Sport District			A former velodrome redesigned for athletics. Six lane, 400 metre oddly shaped track. Two discus cages, 3 shot put, 2 long jump with sand pits. The facility is fenced and unlit. Clubhouse and storage is very good condition.	This facility requires significant upgrading to meet State standards. A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	20352.2	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Watsford Playing Fields	Sport	Sport District			Two ovals (one very small) with turf wickets, dugout and timber rail fence.	A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	21679.17	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Zig Zag Oval	Sport	Sport District			Cricket oval with synthetic wicket, one practice net. Toilets are available and shared with recreation area adjacent.		13273.16	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Glanmire Oval - Hockey/Cricket	Sport	Sport Regional			Two synthetic hockey pitches and four senior fields. These are coupled with three cricket ovals. Significant hockey clubhouse.		106164.74	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Glanmire Oval - Tennis	Sport	Sport Regional			Twelve synthetic tennis courts, 9 of which are lit. Dugouts/shelters, ball wall and clubhouse exist.	There is a lack of car parking suitable for a facility of this size. Court surfaces will require upgrading.	16684.77	RE1

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
LITHGOW NSW		Marjorie Jackson Playing Fields	Sport	Sport Regional			Five senior sized fields (soccer) accommodating many mid and junior fields. Premier field (Paul Houghton Field) is fenced. Clubhouse facilities and picnic tables near car parking.		77179.69	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Tony Luchetti Sportsground (Showgrounds)	Sport	Sport Regional			A number of show pavilions (including large ballroom), show ring suitable for trot racing with 3 senior fields and one mid-sized field (rugby league) in the middle, large grandstand, horse facilities. Old netball courts redesigned for RC cars.	A master plan for this precinct should be prepared.	111401.67	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Amiens Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose			228.587	
LITHGOW NSW		Amiens Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose			313.908	
LITHGOW NSW		Bayonet Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Small triangular section of land with some mature trees.	If not required for utility purposes, consider disposal.	795.82	R2
LITHGOW NSW		Bells Road	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Nice sized parkland, however, there is a lack of demand for additional land in this area.	Potential to dispose of land if not required for Utility purposes.	12470.91	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Bren Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Undeveloped park with one mature tree.		674.822	
LITHGOW NSW		Curtain Place	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	This open space is completely hidden behind houses and its location only benefits those who own property touching the site.	Property should be sold to adjacent property owners.	1770.66	
LITHGOW NSW		Heffernan Place	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Part undeveloped and part utility land. Extremely poor visibility and completely surrounded by houses and Farmers Creek.		7061.69	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Laidley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					888.913	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Laidley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					645.584	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Macauley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					433.48	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Macauley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					568.422	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Macauley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Potentially acquired for environmental management purposes.		937.541	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Macauley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Potentially flood zone, or zoned for environmental management purposes.		814.389	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Mills Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Utility	Utility	Flood prone property along creek.		791.246	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Outer Crescent	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose			2472.47	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Page Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Part undeveloped, part utility land with extremely poor access and visibility.	Look to sell or increase visibility.	2101.71	E3
LITHGOW NSW		Rabaul Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose	Linear open space with potential to be developed into a local park, however, this land is surplus to the needs of the open space network.	Consider disposal.	1620.98	
LITHGOW NSW		The Circle	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Small portions of park surrounded by road, potentially only useful for adjacent residents.	Ideally, Council should dispose of this land, however, due to its configuration there are limited possible uses for the land (should be considered road infrastructure).	888.737	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Adjacent to Queen Elizabeth Park	Utility	Utility					6719.56	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Albert Street	Utility	Utility	Recreation	Rec Corridor	Potential to link sporting fields in Lithgow along Farmers Creek.		494.772	RE1
LITHGOW NSW		Atkinson Street	Utility	Utility			Easement.		261.901	

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
LITHGOW NSW	Brook Street		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor	Utility land along Farmers Creek.	Potential to develop as a recreation corridor by including trail/path along creek.	1051.53	E3
LITHGOW NSW	Chivers Close - Farmers Creek		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Rec Corridor			24390.92	E3
LITHGOW NSW	Coalbrook Street		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor	Farmers Creek.		3914.81	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Coalbrook Street		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor	Farmers Creek.		859.974	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Donald St		Utility	Utility					2194.8	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Drainage Reserve Victoria Avenue		Utility	Utility					3431.47	E3
LITHGOW NSW	Durie Street		Utility	Utility			Land along Farmers Creek.		915.172	E2
LITHGOW NSW	Farmers Creek		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor			9436.23	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Great Western Highway		Utility	Utility			Easement along road (should be considered road not open space)		827.495	
LITHGOW NSW	Great Western Highway		Utility	Utility			Easement along the Great Western Highway.		902.941	
LITHGOW NSW	Great Western Highway		Utility	Utility					3323.03	
LITHGOW NSW	Hartley Valley Road		Utility	Utility					368.122	
LITHGOW NSW	Hartley Valley Road		Utility	Utility					1913.62	E3
LITHGOW NSW	Hermitage Site Coalbrook Street		Utility	Utility	Sport	District	Currently used by Council as a depot. Potential to be developed into sporting fields.		50860.71	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Hughes and Longworth Streets		Utility	Utility			Centre island in a cul-de-sac (should be considered road not open space).		965.343	
LITHGOW NSW	Landa Street		Utility	Utility					414.019	
LITHGOW NSW	Munbinga Drive		Utility	Utility			Detention basin.		2951.82	
LITHGOW NSW	Munjowee Circle		Utility	Utility			Detention basin.		3651.7	
LITHGOW NSW	Musket Parade		Utility	Utility					118.826	
LITHGOW NSW	Quoits Club Reserve Valley Drive Lithgow		Utility	Utility					550.947	E3
LITHGOW NSW	Robinia Drive		Utility	Utility			Detention basin.		6495.4	
LITHGOW NSW	Sandalwood Circle		Utility	Utility			Should not be considered as open space but rather as a road reserve.		987.029	
LITHGOW NSW	Sandford Avenue		Utility	Utility					3892.72	E3
LITHGOW NSW	State Mine Creek		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor			7035.1	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	State Mine Creek		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor			12746.49	RE1
LITHGOW NSW	Stewart Street		Utility	Utility					140.831	
LITHGOW NSW	Tamarind Place		Utility	Utility			Road verge.		863.382	
LITHGOW NSW	Tank Street		Utility	Utility	Recreation	Rec Corridor			3880.07	RE1

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
	LITHGOW NSW	Thornton Avenue	Utility	Utility	Recreation	Local	Detention basin.	Whilst not ideal, a local park is needed in this area. Investigate opportunities to upgrade this utility land to a park of local recreation standard.	8414.08	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Tweed Road	Utility	Utility			Agistment land on creek.		52184.71	E3
	MARRANGAROO NSW	Marrangaroo Fields Park	Recreation	Rec Local			Larger sized local park with basic play (slide set, swings, spring toy) without shade. Sufficient space for groups to gather.		4081.88	RE1
	MARRANGAROO NSW	Lithgow Golf Club	Sport	Special			18 hole golf course with significant club facility.		399421.15	RE1
	SOUTH BOWENFELS NSW	Lake Lyell	Environmental	Environmental			Recreation area of Lake Lyell including picnicking facilities, playground, camping (toilets and showers) and powered sites. Scenic amenity of lake area, lookouts and access to water activities.		355575.95	E2
	SOUTH BOWENFELS NSW	Sir Thomas Mitchell Drive Public Reserve	Environmental	Environmental					3448.98	E3
	SOUTH BOWENFELS NSW	Kirkley Street	Utility	Utility					5529.25	
	SOUTH BOWENFELS NSW	Bowenfels NEW Park	Recreation	Local			A new recreation park is required in South Bowenfels. This park should be embellished to a local recreation facility standard but with opportunity to be a district recreation park in due course.	The Park must have good road frontage and pedestrian connections. It should be a minimum of 2 hectares and comply with the DSS for parks.	0	RE1
Portland	PORTLAND NSW	Crystal Theatre	Community	Hall					649.471	
	PORTLAND NSW	Mick Moore Memorial Park	Recreation	Rec Amenity			Small civic centre park landscaped with seats. A civic car park exists at eastern portion of land.		1377.06	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Crown Land Portland	Recreation	Rec Corridor			Recreation corridor with path and dog off-leash area. The Park is Crown land, however, Council is not recorded as being Trustee of land.	Confirm tenure details and secure management of site for park purposes.	18079.32	RE2
	PORTLAND NSW	High Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Park with basic play (slide, spring animal and swings) without shade, bin and some trees. Park has lovely vistas over Portland.	Requires seats and possibly picnic table. More trees to be planted near playground.	5333.06	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Lime Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park with broken swing, bin and picnic table. Owned by the Crown but Council is not recorded as Trustee.		1828.37	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Paine Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Small (in shade) basic playground near natural area. Nice location and setting for a local park.	Planting a cluster of trees near play with seat will improve the attractiveness of this local park.	19200.01	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Railway Avenue	Recreation	Rec Local			Basic play without shade. No trees, seats, bins.	Plant more trees and install seat near play.	1986.43	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Rotary Rest Area	Recreation	Rec Local			Located in the road reserve, the rest area has tourist information and picnic tables.		0	
	PORTLAND NSW	Saville Park (recreation)	Recreation	Rec Local	Recreation	District	Landscaped area along waterway with seats, benches and tables, toilets and local tourist information.	Upgrade park to include a range of play maximising natural landscape into design. New toilets required.	7417.52	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Warwick Gardiner Memorial Park	Recreation	Rec Local			Local memorial park built in road/rail reserve. Features a memorial, seats, bin and some landscaping.		0	
	PORTLAND NSW	Portland Bowls Club	Sport	Private Special			One bowling green and clubhouse.		7495.02	
	PORTLAND NSW	Portland Equestrian Club	Sport	Private Special			State of New South Wales Reserve, Portland Public Recreation Reserve Trust.		26025.77	RE2

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
	PORTLAND NSW	Portland Golf Course	Sport	Private Special					448509.94	RE2
	PORTLAND NSW	Frankfort Street Tennis Courts	Sport	Special	Dispose	Dispose	Former Portland tennis courts in very poor state of repair.	Remove remains of tennis facility. Sell land.	3574.57	
	PORTLAND NSW	Portland Olympic Memorial Pool	Sport	Special			50 metre, 6 lane pool with 3 metre diving board, some basic lighting to pool area, shaded area and picnic benches available. Pool and associated buildings appear in poor condition.	Engineering asset condition audit required for this facility to further understanding technical issues. Further community consultation may be required based on results from audit.	7348.84	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Kremer Park	Sport	Sport District			Old showgrounds converted into sports area: 3 tennis courts (2 lit), one field (rugby league)/oval (cricket with synthetic wicket) inside ring (trots), two cricket practice nets. The site has a range of former show pavilions.	Playground requires more play elements, shade, picnic facilities and seating. Fence around playground to be removed. Consideration to removal of park fence should occur (no tennis courts).	45409.06	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Saville Park (sport)	Sport	Sport District			Unlit cricket field with synthetic wicket dual use with touch football (4 fields).		22107.68	RE1
	PORTLAND NSW	Saville Park (undeveloped)	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Part utility land (detention basin), part undeveloped, natural area.		18430.02	E3
Rural North								Remove and consider disposal of land. If required, Ben Bullen Public Reserve should be the location of any new facilities in Ben Bullen.		
	BEN BULLEN NSW	Ben Bullen Tennis Court	Sport	Sport District	Undevelop	Undevelop	One derelict tennis court.		3753.49	RE1
	BEN BULLEN NSW	Ben Bullen Public Reserve	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Unappealing open space on major road. One bin, however, extremely old.		7522.64	RE1
	BLACKMANS FLAT NSW	Blackmans Flat Reserve	Recreation	Rec Local			Embellishments consist of two sets of older style swings (toddlers and older children).	Upgrade play and consider tree planting.	716.919	RE1
	BLACKMANS FLAT NSW	Blackmans Flat Reserve (Noon Street)	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					700.955	RE1
	CAPERTEE NSW	The Captertee and District War Memorial Hall	Community	Hall			The Captertee and District War Memorial Hall.		2112.09	RE2
	CAPERTEE NSW	Capertee Memorial Hall	Recreation	Rec Local			Picnic facilities and one very old swing toy play animal beside the The Captertee and District War Memorial Hall.		1068.97	RE1
	CAPERTEE NSW	Clarence Pirie Memorial Park	Recreation	Rec Local			Adjacent to a truck stop, this park has basic play without natural shade, picnic facilities including some with cover, seats and a toilet.		824.119	RE1
	CAPERTEE NSW	Castlereagh Hwy Reserve Capertee	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					17971.54	E3
	CAPERTEE NSW	Palmers Oakey	Utility	Utility					852.05	E3
	CULLEN BULLEN NSW	Merv Crane Memorial Park (Cullen Bullen Park)	Recreation	Rec Local			Fully fenced park with basic playground equipment, seat and toilet (disabled access).		1590.27	RE1
	CULLEN BULLEN NSW	Cullen Bullen Speedway	Sport	Private Special			Speedway track with seats and basic lighting, commentary box, bins, toilets. Most buildings at this site are in need of repair.		42403.78	RE2
	GLEN ALICE NSW	Glen Alice Hall and Park	Recreation	Rec Local			Glen Alice Hall co-locating with picnic facilities and new toilets. Whilst there are no play opportunities within this park, the local school has a good range of play.		5251.22	RE1

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
	GLEN DAVIS NSW	Glen Davis Camp Ground	Recreation	Rec District			This park boasts the Glen Davis Community Centre, playground, camping area, toilets, showers and picnicking facilities. It is popular and well-maintained. The community centre is also a store/canteen.	Gas barbeque should be considered as well as additional recreation facilities such as a tennis court.	0	
	GLEN DAVIS NSW	Glen Davis Road	Utility	Utility					6157.49	E3
	WOLGAN VALLEY NSW	Newnes	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Although undeveloped, Newnes has a number of endearing recreation features, including the grassy picnicking area opposite the Newnes Hotel (privately owned), the range of heritage buildings and access to natural areas.		0	
Rural South	CLARENCE NSW	Clarence Community Hall	Community	Hall					7024.17	
	HARTLEY NSW	Little Hartley Community Hub	Community	Hall					4338.27	RE2
	HARTLEY NSW	Cox's River Bridge	Environmental	Environmental					7351.28	E3
	HARTLEY NSW	Hyde Park, Little Hartley	Environmental	Environmental			Natural area along Lett River.		177030.08	E3
	HARTLEY NSW	Londonderry Reserve	Environmental	Environmental			Natural area on Lett River with car parking area, picnic tables and bins.		84950.75	E2
	HARTLEY NSW	Hartley	Recreation	Private Rec			Park in heritage Hartley with two picnic tables. Owned/managed by National Parks.	Signage required.	1843.08	RE1
	HARTLEY NSW	Little Hartley Community Hub	Sport	Sport District			Hartley tennis court, sand bed without lights. There is no net poles.	Upgrade facility so tennis can be played, consider basic lighting.	3136.36	RE1
	LITTLE HARTLEY NSW	Cranbrook Park Road	Recreation	Rec Local			Local park with playground.		3014.12	RE1
	MEADOW FLAT NSW	Meadow Flat Public Hall	Community	Hall			Derelict hall.		7556.76	
	MEADOW FLAT NSW	Meadow Flat	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					27943.63	E3
	RYDAL NSW	Greg Featherstone Park (Rydal)	Recreation	Rec Local			A linear recreation park in the railway reserve. This park has a gazebo, shelters, landscaping, picnic tables and tourist information. Whilst no formal playground exists there is sufficient natural play opportunities for children and families.	Provision of toilets and barbeque should be considered.	0	
	TARANA NSW	Tarana Rest Stop	Recreation	Rec Local			Small rest stop in front of Tarana Hotel providing basic tourist information. This open space is part of the road reserve.		0	
Wallerawang	LIDSDALE NSW	Brays Lane Reserve	Environmental	Environmental					545770.48	E3
	LIDSDALE NSW	Ted Hughes Memorial Park, Lidsdale	Recreation	Rec Local			A nice park with basic play, picnic facilities, some landscaping and access to natural areas.		9085.31	RE1
	LIDSDALE NSW	Lidsdale Tennis Courts	Sport	Sport District			Three concrete tennis courts in generally poor repair. A clubhouse is adjacent and toilets located in the adjacent Ted Hughes Memorial Park.		6204.07	RE1
	LITHGOW NSW	Wallerawang Playing Fields	Sport	Sport District			One oval/two fields currently being used for rugby league with synthetic cricket wicket in between fields. Large grandstand and toilets in poor condition. Two netball courts in north-west corner. Some basic lights on fields suitable for training purpose		38418.89	RE1
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Wallerawang Memorial Hall/Pre-school	Community	Hall			Hall and playground (locked).		1469.77	RE2
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Lake Wallace	Environmental	Environmental			Privately owned (Delta) with Council agreement.		2985518.36	

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lake Wallace - Charles Darwin Park	Recreation	Private Rec			Recreation area surrounding Lake Wallace including dog off-leash area, considerable sized playground including a range of play experiences Portland Wallerawang Rotary Club Picnic Area), bench seating, picnic tables and barbeques.	Whilst privately owned, this is an important part of the open space network.	375999.64	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lake Wallace - PJ Hall Park	Recreation	Private Rec			Recreation area on Lake Wallace including covered picnic tables (gazebos), mature trees and large open space.		27868.67	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Elizabeth Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Park area co-locating with detention basin (drainage). Basic play equipment without shade, seats, bins or picnic facilities.	Tree planting required near play area and consideration to include seats should be given.	332.408	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Federation Park Wallerawang	Recreation	Rec Local			Landscaped park alongside railway line (in railway reserve). Basic play (swing and small slide), pathways, information boards, landscaping and a memorial at northern end.		0	
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lidsdale Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Small playground in drainage corridor (see adjacent land).	When due for replacing, relocate play to corner near Oxley Street, incorporate tree planting and basic picnic facilities into new local park.	2691.27	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Talia Street	Recreation	Rec Local			Basic playground with seat and bin. Park is located next to utility (drainage) corridor that connects to Tarome Place.		1157.12	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Tweedie Street	Recreation	Rec Local	Recreation	Corridor	Metal skate facility on bitumen slab beside community hall. Site lacks shade, seats, bins and water bubblers.	When adventure play is built at Lake Wallace, remove this skate facility and reallocate land for a recreation corridor.	4423.32	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lake Wallace - Wallerawang Sailing Club	Sport	Private Special			Sailing club on Lake Wallace.		13517.17	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lake Wallace Community Boating Centre	Sport	Private Special			Boating club on Lake Wallace.		4861.12	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Wallerawang Bowling Club	Sport	Private Special			One lit synthetic bowling green with significant club house facility.		18513.21	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Lake Wallace - Wallerawang Baseball	Sport	Private Sport			Baseball diamond with skinned bases and pitches mound. Fully fenced including back nets, dugouts, scorers shed, small clubhouse. A synthetic cricket wicket also in precinct.		62064.14	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Wallerawang Soccer	Sport	Private Sport			Owned by Delta. One senior soccer field with basic seating.		23281.84	RE2
WALLERAWANG NSW		Wallerawang Stadium	Sport	Special			Indoor sports stadium.		18028.38	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Wallerawang Netball	Sport	Sport District			Four synthetic netball courts.		4457.11	RE1
WALLERAWANG NSW		Commens Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Lovely area of land with mature native trees. If major development in this area occurs, this could become a nice local recreation park, however, this is not expected.		17311.43	E3
WALLERAWANG NSW		Forest Ridge Road	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					12102.77	E3
WALLERAWANG NSW		Kremer Crescent	Undeveloped	Undeveloped			Undeveloped land with poor road frontage.	Not required for open space purposes.	4034.6	E3
WALLERAWANG NSW		Oxley Street	Undeveloped	Undeveloped					2638.63	E3

Precinct	Locality	Park Name	Current Classification	Current Hierarchy	Future Classification	Future Hierarchy	Description	Recommendations	Area (m2)	Proposed LEP Zone
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Pipers Flat Road (behind Wallerawang Stadium)	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Dispose	Dispose		Potential to sell land.	619251.88	
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Cary Street/Oxley Street	Utility	Utility	Recreation	Corridor	Small playground exists at southern end (Lidsdale Street) with no shade or other infrastructure. This land is primarily a drainage corridor.Lidsdale St	Potential to upgrade site to be a recreation corridor with a pathway that links to central area of Wallerawang. Playground to be relocated (when due for replacement) to south-eastern corner.	18542.67	RE1
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Elizabeth Street	Utility	Utility			Drainage reserve.		1753.08	
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Henrietta Street	Utility	Utility					320.231	
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Henrietta Street	Utility	Utility			Drainage reserve with large detention basin.		3493.12	
	WALLERAWANG NSW	Tarrone Place	Utility	Utility					2208.28	

# Appendix Two: Open Space Maps

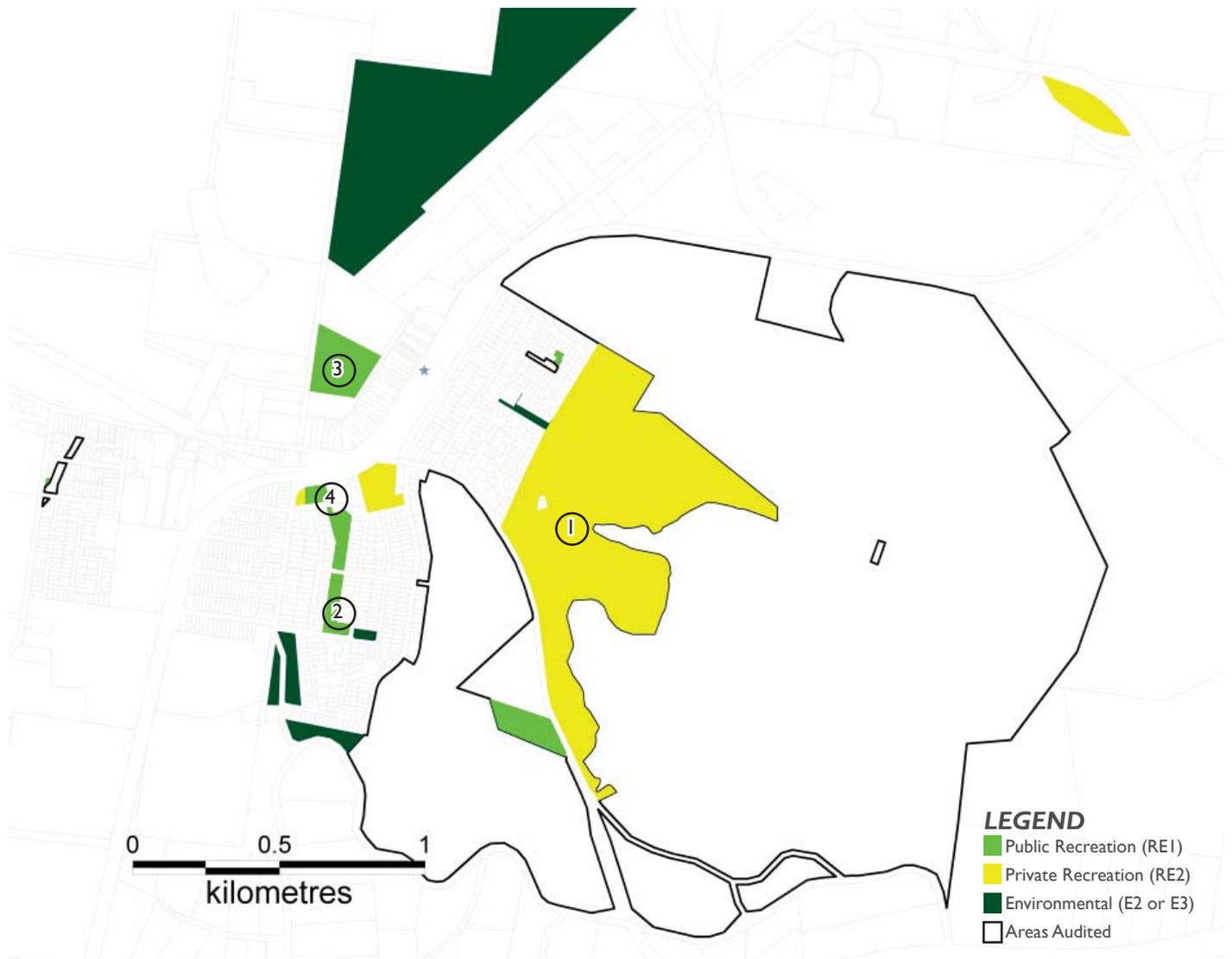
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## Lithgow Urban Centre



1. Continue to develop the recreation corridor along Farmers Creek.
2. Upgrade Endeavour Park (following finalisation of a master plan) and Queen Elizabeth Park to district level standard.
3. Embellishment of the detention basin in Thornton Avenue to a local recreation park standard.
4. Develop a master plan for the Tony Luchetti Sportsground/Lithgow Memorial Pool/Watsford Playing Field, with the view to locating an adventure playground in this precinct.
5. Add directional signage and recreational elements to Blast Furnace Park/Lake Pillan (following finalisation of a master plan for this site).
6. Plant shade trees at the play ground at Inner Circle Park, Church Street Park, Stewart Street Park, Railway Avenue Park.
7. Replace broken equipment at Landa Street Park.
8. Acquire land for a recreation park in South Bowenfels on the western side of the highway. This park should have the capacity (meet DSS in Section 4 of this Study) to become a district recreation park as population warrants it.

## Wallerawang Urban Centre



1. Develop an adventure play park at Lake Wallace (including dirt bike jumps and a multi-purpose court).
2. As park assets are due for replacing at Lidsdale Street park, relocate assets to Oxley Street corner and plant additional shade trees.
3. Plant shade trees near recreation area of Elizabeth Street Park.
4. Re-evaluate the needs for the skate park at Tweedie Street following installation of adventure play park at Lake Wallace.

## Portland Urban Centre



1. Develop Saville Park as a district recreation park standard (see Section 4 of this Study) following finalisation of a master plan for this site. It is also recommended that adventure play be included at this site.
2. Depending on the results of the asset condition audit of Portland Olympic Pool undertake upgrades/improvements.
3. Demolish the old tennis courts in Frankfort Street.
4. Upgrade the range of play and picnic opportunities at Kremer Park, consideration should also be given to removing part of the fence to encourage community use of this public space.
5. Plant additional shade trees over all recreation nodes in parks, in particular High Street Park and Paine Street Park.