



Lake Macquarie City Council

Development Contributions Plan

Recreation and Land Plan

Glendale Contributions Catchment
2015 – 2030

Version History

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Recreation and Land Plan has been prepared to identify the needs of future recreation facilities required to serve the projected growth in the Glendale Catchment to 2025. The plan quantifies the existing provision, considers the type and distribution of provision, and recommends future facilities required for the projected growth. The plan considers local and citywide standards, recommended government standards and planning policies and guidelines, as well as the spatial/service area catchments for facility provision. These various standards are a guide for determining the provision standards.

Existing facilities and existing land were considered in order to reduce the quantum of land required to provide the additional facilities. The result requires minimal land acquisitions at key locations. Once the identified land is acquired, and the new facilities provided, the overall outcomes will assist in providing a 'quality lifestyle' for the future communities.

The plan provides a range of recreation facilities to cater for the increasing proportion of older adults. A carefully balanced plan considers all the community needs, including sport, recreation and park facilities, to provide an outcome that serves the entire community. This plan attempts to provide that balance.

The Glendale Contributions Catchment will experience significant growth projected at 60,446 people in 2030 with much of this growth located within and around the Glendale. Refer to **Appendix 11** for a list of the planned recreation facilities within the catchment.

PART A - CONTEXT

1. Introduction

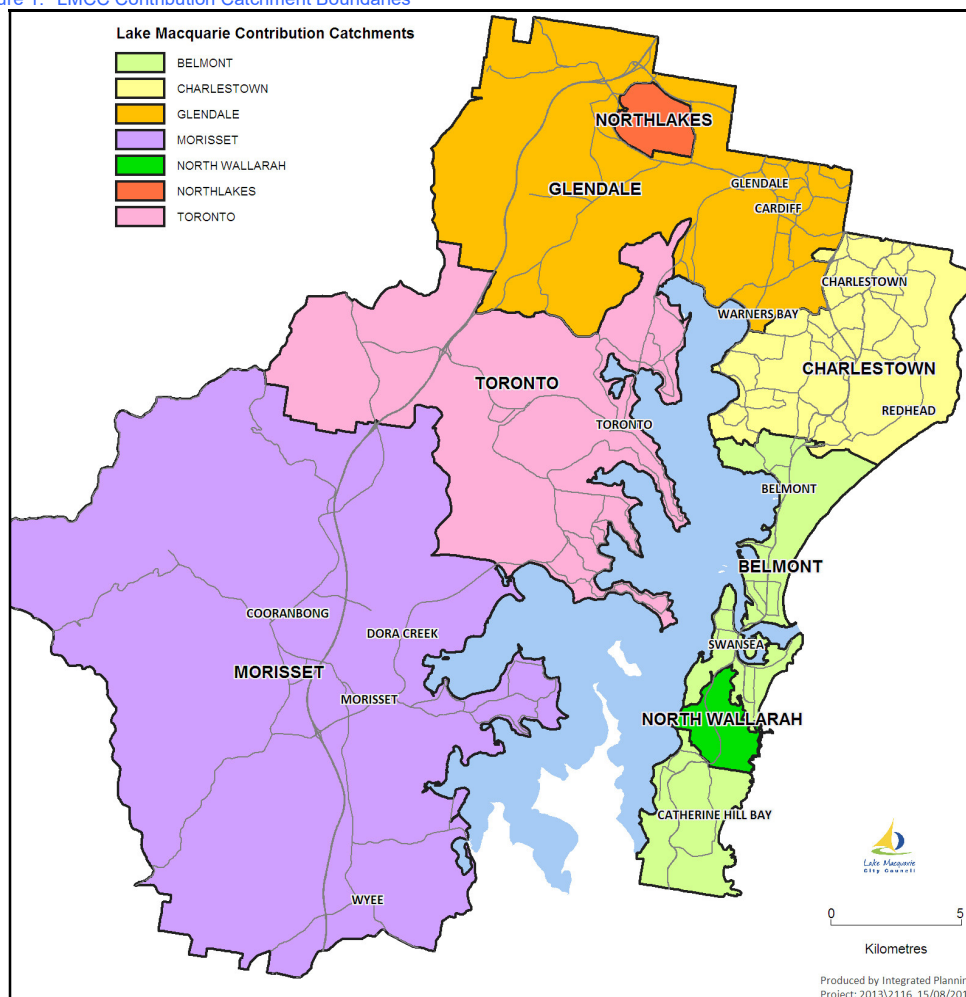
Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC) has a large local government area (LM LGA) comprising 787.4 km². It is one of the largest cities in New South Wales and one of the fastest growing cities in the Hunter. The centrepiece of the city is its lake, comprising 110 km², which is about twice the size of Sydney Harbour and recognised as one of the largest coastal saltwater lakes in Australia.

Effective planning of public recreation areas is essential to provide quality of life for the future populations of Lake Macquarie (LM). Quality parks and recreation facilities are integral to the liveability and successful growth of established and new communities. LMCC requires developer contributions to partially or fully fund new, and/or expand existing, facilities resulting from new development. The NSW Department of Planning (DoP) has prepared draft guidelines recommending indicative standards, the nexus, and contribution required from new development to meet the increased demand for infrastructure resultant from new development.

This plan draws on a range of studies and reports prepared for Council and the plan undertakes a needs assessment to determine standards for service provision in the Glendale Contributions Catchment (Glendale CC) to meet the future needs to 2030.

The City has five contribution catchments. The Glendale CC is located in the northern portion of the LM LGA covering an area from Rankin Park and Seahampton extending to Hillsborough, Warners Bay, Speers Point and Wakefield, the mustard shaded area in **Figure 1**. The catchment excludes the Northlakes Urban Release Area (Cameron Park), as there is a separate developer contributions plan for this area.

Figure 1. LMCC Contribution Catchment Boundaries



1.1 Mission Statement

Our mission statement '**Quality Lifestyle**' represents and embodies our overarching goal in providing these services, and is simple but instantly accessible.¹ Quality parks and recreation facilities are an essential ingredient in providing a quality lifestyle.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives for the plans are:

- To provide a living environment that has a strong quality of life, health and well-being focus
- To provide a diverse range of recreation opportunities that keep pace with the changing needs of the community which is aging
- To provide quality recreation facilities that encourages community participation into physical activity
- To consider a sustainable approach by expanding existing facilities, where possible, and co-locating facilities to maximise use
- To utilise the City's natural attributes in the provision of informal recreation facilities

1.3 Purpose

LMCC has prepared this Recreation and Land Plan to support and inform the preparation of a Development Contributions Plan (CP) for the Glendale CC.

The purpose of this plan is to predict the recreation needs for the future growth forecast in the Glendale CC and determine if the existing recreation land is able to meet those needs. If the existing land is inadequate for the development of the proposed facilities, the plan also identifies suitable land with the attributes required for the new or augmented facilities. The plan has been prepared with an understanding of the NSW Department of Planning (DoP) guidelines.²

1.4 Scope of the Plan

The Glendale CC is an established urban area with a range of community infrastructure provided by government, non-profit organisations and the private sector. This plan identifies the type, location and range of existing recreation infrastructure used by the population and specific target groups.

The plan also identifies some recreation infrastructure provided by non-profit organizations and the private sector, which may also cater for local needs. Non-Council facilities play an important role in the community, and Council has considered these facilities to reduce duplication and ensure the provision of a range of recreation facilities. Where private facilities are broadly available to the community, and if closed, would result in a major gap in service provision, these facilities have been included in the existing provision.

The existing provision may not include all the available recreation facilities but has focused on those recreation facilities primarily available for public use. This approach is consistent with Council's role as identified in the Local Government Act 1993.

1.5 Policy Context

LMCC has reviewed existing strategies, policies, plans and guidelines, which provide the framework for the development of future recreation facilities across the City and in the Glendale CC.

¹ LMCC (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023*, p. 8.

² NSW DoP (2009) *Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, and relevant directions/circulars released by the Department of Planning.

State and Federal Government Strategies

● NSW 2021: A plan to make NSW number one

NSW 2021 is a plan to make NSW number one. It is a 10-year plan to rebuild the economy, provide quality services, renovate infrastructure, restore government accountability, and strengthen our local environment and communities. It is the NSW Government's strategic business plan, and sets priorities for action and guiding resource allocation. The relevant goals, targets or actions include:

- Increase walking and cycling - To increase walking and cycling to help ease transport congestion and build a healthier, more active community³
- Obesity rates - Reduce overweight and obesity rates of children and young people (5–16 years) to 21% by 2015; stabilise overweight and obesity rates in adults by 2015, and then reduce by 5% by 2020⁴
- 'In the next 25 years, the population of people aged 65 years and older in NSW is expected to more than double' - Develop and implement a whole of NSW government strategy on ageing by 1 July 2012⁵
- Increase participation in sport, recreational, arts and cultural activities in rural and regional NSW from 2010 to 2016 by 10%⁶

● Lower Hunter Regional Strategy

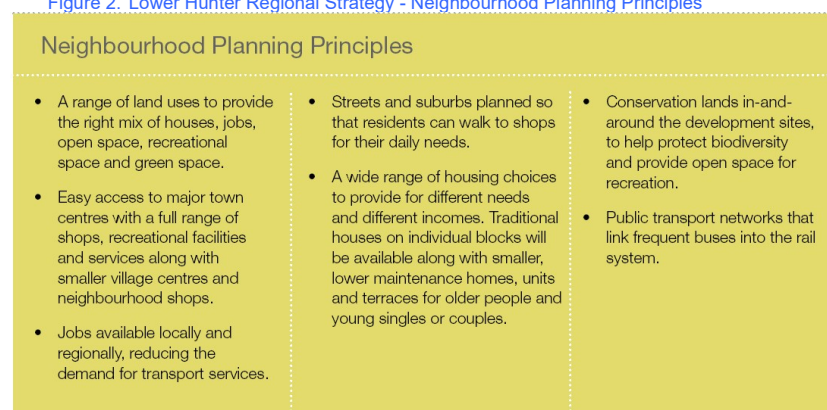
The *Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006-2031* (LHRS) is a major long-term macro-level plan that will guide future development in the Lower Hunter for a projected population increase of around 160,000 people and 115,000 new dwellings over the next 25 years. The LHRS includes the LGA's of Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, Maitland, and Cessnock. For Lake Macquarie, the LHRS identifies a population increase of between 60,000-70,000 people by 36,000 additional dwellings.

Key elements of the strategy include:

- The Lower Hunter is characterised by a population which is older than, and continuing to age at a rate faster than, the NSW average
- Population growth and the demand for new housing and associated services, can lead to increasing pressure on the Region's environment including a greater demand for drinking water and recreational opportunities
- The Government's vision for the Lower Hunter embraces a sustainable future for the Region – balancing environmental, economic and social outcomes so that quality of life can be enhanced without burdening future generations
- More sustainable transport and healthier communities by giving more people the option of taking public transport, walking or cycling
- Glendale-Cardiff is identified as a major regional centre providing 6,200 jobs and 4,000 new dwellings⁷

The strategy includes Neighbourhood Planning Principles to ensure high quality development outcomes:

Figure 2. Lower Hunter Regional Strategy - Neighbourhood Planning Principles



Source: NSW Department of Planning (2006) Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006-31, NSW Government, p. 26

³ NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (2011) *NSW 2021: A plan to make NSW number one*, Goal 8, p. 20

⁴ *Ibid.*, Goal 11, p. 23

⁵ *Ibid.*, Goal 25, p. 48

⁶ *Ibid.*, Goal 27, p. 51

⁷ NSW DoP (2006) *Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006-31*, NSW Government, p. 5, 8, 9, 14, 18.

● Newcastle – Lake Macquarie Western Corridor Planning Strategy

The NSW Department of Planning published the Newcastle-Lake Macquarie Western Corridor Planning Strategy in July 2010 in response to the growth identified in the LHRS in this area. The Newcastle-Lake Macquarie western corridor covers land from Beresfield to Killingworth, including Minmi, Cameron Park, West Wallsend and Edgeworth and estimates approximately 8,000 new dwellings in this area.

The Plan identifies the local facilities required for new development within the corridor and includes recreation areas and facilities co-located with multipurpose centres or close to main activity nodes.

The Plan also identifies future regional cycleways and states that pedestrian and cycle paths linking local facilities to residential areas will be required. Councils are to utilise various funding mechanisms, including Section 94 contributions to provide the local infrastructure required.⁸

Local Government Strategies and Plans

● Lifestyle 2030 Strategy

The strategy provides the long-term strategic directions for the future land use pattern for the City, based on achieving the principles of sustainability. The strategic directions include: a city that makes an equitable contribution to global sustainability; is well designed adaptable and liveable city; a well serviced and equitable city and a city responsive to the wellbeing of its residents. Council's mission statement 'Quality Lifestyle' represents and embodies the overarching goal in providing these services, and is simple but instantly accessible.

The strategic directions, outcomes, and intent statements relevant for the Glendale CC include:

- More extensive building and development in vacant areas of the City's centres occurs, such as Cardiff (infill redevelopment). Such development should incorporate medium density housing (approx. 30-40 dwellings per hectare) to achieve a 30% medium density housing (not including duplexes) target by 2030⁹
- Speers Point Park is developed into the LGA's premier open space¹⁰
- Development at major intersections and gateways exhibit a high quality of urban design and sense of place including such locations as at the Crossroads (Glendale)¹¹
- Good quality neighbourhood (destination) parks are provided in close proximity to high density urban development¹²
- Development on previously undeveloped land should not occur unless essential physical and social infrastructure can be provided and funded.¹³
- The pedestrian and cycle network is well maintained, more extensive and better utilised, including the completion of both commuter and recreational cycle ways such as the Fernleigh Track, the Wallsend-Glendale cycleway, and the cycleway around the Lake¹⁴
- Urban development, including new release development, has a high degree of vehicular, pedestrian and cyclist connectivity, such as by utilising a modified grid layout, pedestrian /cyclist friendly intersections, off road paths and linked open space¹⁵
- Augment pedestrian systems with improved cycle systems to extend the catchment of urban centres and key public transport systems. Measures will include:
 - Provision of cycleways and/or on-road cycle routes/lanes to all new developments, linking residential areas to: shops, schools, urban centres and public transport systems, such as public transport interchanges and train stations
 - Provision of bicycle parking facilities with higher security and/or undercover bicycle parking at major centres¹⁶
- Centres are the fundamental building block of the urban structure of the LGA, and intended to be the focus for:
 - Safe, convenient, and accessible pedestrian, cycling and public transport
 - Places for social and community interaction and recreation
 - Higher density housing, and mixed-use development incorporating housing¹⁷

⁸ Department of Planning (2010), *Newcastle-Lake Macquarie Western Corridor Planning Strategy*, p.17, 13, 14-15

⁹ LMCC (2013) *Lake Macquarie City Lifestyle 2030 Strategy*, Outcome 3.3, p. 15.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, Outcome 3.14, p. 16.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, Outcome 3.23, p. 16.

¹² *Ibid.*, Outcome 3.27, p. 16

¹³ *Ibid.*, Outcome 4.3, p. 17.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Outcome 4.10, p. 18.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, Outcome 4.11, p. 16.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 6.1 p. 25.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 6.1, p. 25

- Emerging Regional Centres Glendale and Morisset:
 - Contain some of the attributes of the Major Regional Centre of Charlestown but are expected to grow and encompass all the attributes of major centres in the future
 - The Glendale and Morisset Master Plans will guide development in these Centres
- The Urban Structure Map
 - There will be intensification of development in and around the Centres throughout the LGA, including the 'Growth and Expansion Corridor', area generally between Cardiff and West Wallsend on George Booth Drive¹⁸
- Cycle and Pedestrian Network:
 - LS2030 recognises the importance of the cycle and pedestrian network to the movement system.
 - Cycle facilities should be provided so that cycling is an attractive, practical, and safe form of movement
 - Where possible cycle paths should be off road rather than on road, to increase safety and ensure the widest possible range of users
 - The cycleway network should be designed to meet recreational and commuter needs
 - To meet LS2030 accessibility outcomes, regional, town and local centres, and transport interchanges should be the focus of cycleway and pedestrian networks for their surrounding areas, with links to other areas as appropriate to the scale of the centre¹⁹

● Community Strategic Plan

The Lake Macquarie City Council (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Community Strategic Plan 2013 – 2023* sets out the strategic directions of the council, which includes:

- A city responsive to the wellbeing needs of its residents
- A well serviced and equitable city
- A well designed adaptable and liveable city

The strategy identified the main priorities of the community, and sets out the long-term strategies developed to respond to these priorities, including:

Caring for our Community:

Objective: Advocate for and develop opportunities that will ensure all residents have equal opportunity to participate in the economic and social life of the community

How we will know the priorities have been achieved: Delivery of services consistent with the changing demographics of the community²⁰

Sport, Recreation and Culture:

Objective: Provide a balanced range of well-maintained and accessible recreation, community, education, sporting, arts and cultural facilities across the City²¹

How we will know the priorities have been achieved: Recreation facilities, services and programs meet the growing needs of the community²²

● Ageing Population Plan

LMCC has prepared a *Lake Macquarie Ageing Population Plan 2014-2017* that identifies that Lake Macquarie has an older population than the NSW average, with the area experiencing a 'premature ageing' of its population, with 18.3% of the LGA's population aged 65 years and over. In NSW 14.7% are aged 65% and older. The most recent population projections up to 2026 show a continued increase in Lake Macquarie's population aged 65 years and over of 23.9%.

¹⁸ Ibid., 6.1, p. 28 and p. 32.

¹⁹ Ibid., 6.2, p. 36 and 37.

²⁰ LMCC (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023*, p. 41 and 43.

²¹ Ibid., p. 45 and 47.

²² Ibid., p. 41.

The Hunter Valley Research Foundation found that 73.3% of people aged 60-69 years were overweight or obese in the Hunter Region and that LM residents had a higher than NSW average of not meeting the physical activity recommendation of 20 minutes exercise five days per week. The strategy identified that parks and foreshore areas are popular with seniors particularly those with picnic facilities, toilets and pathways. The strategy identifies certain actions such as the need to maintain a range of community and recreation facilities that are access and suitable for seniors and the provision of outdoor exercise equipment in areas with high populations of seniors.²³

● Youth Strategy

LMCC has prepared a *Lake Macquarie Youth Strategy 2014-2019*, which address the needs of young people identified through the community consultation conducted for the development of the strategy. Young people are people aged 12 years to 24 years old. Some responses relevant for Glendale include:

- Open space for young people to hang out which is designated for young people 12 – 24 years
- Young people have a right to socialise in recreational places
- Not enough youth dedicated supported space
- Young people want to go to the gym but cannot afford the fees
- Shared pathway continued from Speers Pont and Warners Bay right through to Croudace Bay and Valentine²⁴
- Improve cycleways and pedestrian access, improve linkages between locations
- Improve recreational opportunities, more passive recreational spaces
- Encourage the provision of non-sport recreational opportunities for young people²⁵

● Recreation Plan

LMCC engaged H M Leisure Planning Pty Ltd to prepare the *Lake Macquarie City Council Recreation Plan* (Recreation Plan) in 1998. The Recreation Plan analysed existing trends and facility provision, population projections, and it included an extensive program of community consultation. The plan recommends certain strategies and actions, which are included in the relevant sections of this plan. General trends identified include:

- A demand for a greater diversity of leisure opportunities and for sites which permit a greater diversity of socially-oriented, healthy activities
- A greater demand for active, non-competitive and participatory recreation experiences
- Participation in a far broader array of activities²⁶

● Open Space Strategy

In 2001, Council engaged URS to prepare an Open Space Strategy for the City. A component of that strategy included a recreation participation study, which involved 1,400 households (200 in each of the seven planning districts²⁷), and 3,519 residents, a representative sample of the City. Refer to Appendix 1 for a map of the planning districts. Thirty-two different recreation activities in eight different settings were included in the survey.

Key findings of the survey included:

- The dominance of 'walking for exercise' and 'swimming/surfing at a beach' as the two primary recreation activities throughout the LM LGA, and
- The total participation time for soccer, tennis, football (AFL, RL, RU) and cricket combined is less than half the total participation time spent 'walking for exercise'.²⁸

²³ LMCC (2008) *Ageing Population Plan 2014-2017*, p. 27.

²⁴ LMCC (1998) *Lake Macquarie Youth Strategy 2014-2019*, p. 26, 27.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 31.

²⁶ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 2*, prepared by H M Leisure Planning Pty Ltd, p. 27.

²⁷ The study area of this plan combines the Cardiff and West Wallsend Planning Districts (refer to Appendix 1).

²⁸ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, prepared by URS, p. 4-7.

● Open Space Plan

LMCC engaged Clouston to prepare an Open Space Plan, which included a telephone survey and focus group consultation. The recreation demand survey revealed that outdoor recreation is a significant activity in the City. Non-organised recreation activities are the most popular with walking and associated family based activities predominating. The recreation survey revealed that the Lake Foreshore is the most popular setting, with beaches second most favoured.²⁹ Although one third of the population do not take part in organised sport, sporting activity is popular with younger age groups. Whilst there are many sports venues in the City, these facilities are often not well developed. Improved co-operation and sharing of facilities were seen as important initiatives to pursue as were multiple use.³⁰

The Strategy recommends the following principles be considered as the foundation for all future strategies that address recreation in the City:

- Recreation planning should be aimed at capitalising on and conserving the City's natural attributes provided by the beach, lake, bushland and mountains
- A balance of structured and non-structured recreation facilities should be provided, that recognise that one third of the population do not partake in structured recreation³¹

● Council's Community Survey

LMCC engaged Micromex Research to undertake a community survey to examine community attitudes and perceptions towards current and future services and facilities provided by Council. The survey was conducted during the period 13 February – 3 March 2014 with a sample size of 1,027 residents aged 18 years or older. The results of the survey are available on LMCC's website.³²

According to the community, the following services or facilities were included as Council's core strengths and identified as high importance and high satisfaction³³: lake and foreshore management, ovals and sporting facilities, coastline management (beaches), overall appearance of City parks, playgrounds, picnic and barbeque areas. The level of service in these areas should be maintained.

● Lake Macquarie Local Environmental Plan 2014 (LMLEP 2014)

LMLEP 2014 provides the statutory framework for planning in the local government area by identifying land use zones and planning provisions including permitted and prohibited uses within each zone. One of the aims of LMLEP 2014 is to promote the efficient and equitable provision of public services, infrastructure and amenities.

The RE1 Public Recreation zone identifies land to enable the use of public open space or recreational purposes and the RE2 Private Recreation zone identifies land to enable the use of private open space and recreational purposes. This Plan will assist in informing LMLEP 2014 on the future needs for public and private recreation zoned land.

● Lake Macquarie Development Control Plan 2014 (DCP 2014)

The LM DCP 2014 was adopted by Council in February 2014 and was prepared to implement the Lifestyle 2030 Strategy and LM LEP 2014 by facilitating ecologically sustainable development. The DCP incorporates Town Centre, Heritage, and Precinct Area Plans. A number of these Area Plans are relevant to the Glendale CC and have been considered as part of this Plan. The draft Glendale Regional Centre Area Plan will be incorporated into DCP 2014 following adoption.

● Draft Glendale Regional Centre Area Plan

The draft Glendale Area Plan applies to the majority of land zoned for business purposes and provides guidance for long-term growth and change in the centre. The draft Plan identifies a three storey maximum building height and provides development controls to establish an environmental reserve along Winding Creek. It also proposes the creation of new pedestrian and bicycle links and additional public open space for recreational purposes.

²⁹ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 1*, prepared by Clouston, p. 20

³⁰ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 2*, prepared by Clouston, p. vi

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 26.

³² LMCC (2014) *LMCC Community Research: April 2014*

<http://www.lakemac.com.au/downloads/EB43E8E6C02C6586D0953BCA1304A5DA7DCB1F05.pdf>

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 8-9.

● Glendale Regional Centre Master Plan

Council adopted the *Glendale Regional Centre Master Plan* in May 2010. The objective of the Master Plan is to provide broad direction for the development of the Glendale Regional Centre. It will be complimented by a series of Area Plans that will provide more detailed guidelines for the development of the precincts with the Regional Centre.³⁴

Glendale will provide an urban focus for the City of lake Macquarie. As noted above, the LHRS estimated an additional 4,000 dwellings for the Glendale Regional Centre by 2031. The Master Plan identifies the proposed community facilities and recreation facilities required for the projected future population. This includes a schematic local pedestrian and cycle network.

This plan incorporates the area identified in the Glendale Master Plan and its future development potential as a Regional Centre for the Hunter.

● Edgeworth Renewal Corridor Report and Implementation Plan

The Edgeworth Renewal Corridor Report and Implementation Plan builds on the Glendale Regional Centre Master Plan and is one of five corridors identified in the LHRS for “economic renewal and/or housing renewal and intensification”.³⁵

An Implementation Plan has been prepared that outlines actions required to fulfil the objectives of the report. Key actions include amending LMLEP 2014 to rezone discrete pockets of land from low density residential to medium density residential, and land along Main Road from low-density residential and medium density residential to mixed use.

The Edgeworth Report also recommends the preparation of an Area Plan to identify specific development controls to guide future development in the Edgeworth Neighbourhood Centre. These controls would seek to improve street activity, provide new setbacks, and additional vehicle, pedestrian and cycleway links.

● Warners Bay Town Centre Planning Framework

The Warners Bay Town Centre Planning Framework 2015 has been prepared to provide a holistic approach to the growth and change of the Warners Bay Town Centre based on research, community feedback and specialist advice.³⁶

The framework identifies the need to expand the recreation and cultural services within the Town Centre, particularly along the foreshore. Activities such as Seniors Lifestyle and Wellbeing (Tai Chi, yoga or meditation), foreshore events, playgrounds and cinemas were identified as potential events to provide a greater sense of enjoyment in the space.³⁷

Improving walking and cycling infrastructure was also identified as a priority in order to reduce demand for car trips and provide further recreational opportunities. A number of specific improvements were identified which have been considered as part of this Plan.³⁸

The Warners Bay Town Centre Area Plan has been incorporated into the DCP 2014. The Plan outlines the objectives and controls for development in the Warners Bay Town Centre to implement the Warners Bay Town Centre Planning Framework. The Area Plan identifies pedestrian, cycle and public transport facilities³⁹ that have been considered as part of this Plan.

● Northlakes Urban Release Area

A developing area north of Edgeworth, now called Cameron Park, will cater for a growth of approximately 12,000 people. This development area is not included in the Glendale contributions catchment as it has its own development contributions plan. For information on the community infrastructure to be provided under that plan, refer to the *Lake Macquarie Section 94 Contributions Plan No. 2 – Northlakes (as amended 2012)*.

³⁴ LMCC (2010), *Glendale Regional Centre Master Plan*, prepared by Strategy Hunter Consultants, p. 4

³⁵ NSW DoP (2006) *Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006-31*, NSW Government, p.16

³⁶ LMCC (2015), *Warners Bay Town Centre Planning Framework*, p. i

³⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 70.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 76.

³⁹ LMCC (2014), *Draft Warners Bay Town Centre Area Plan*, p.21.

PART B - DEMOGRAPHICS

The Glendale CC is located in the northeastern portion of the Lake Macquarie LGA and covers an area of 120 km² as indicated in Figure 2. It includes the suburbs of Argenton, Barnsley, Boolaroo, Cardiff, Cardiff Heights, Cardiff South, Edgeworth, Garden Suburb, Glendale, Holmesville, Killingworth, Lakelands, Macquarie Hills, Seahampton, Speers Point, Wakefield, Warners Bay and West Wallsend.

The suburb of Cameron Park also lies within the geographical area of the Glendale CC. However, the area has its own Development Contributions Plan (Northlakes Urban Release Area - NURA) and is therefore, not included in the Glendale catchment and not included in this plan.

The Glendale CC also partly covers the suburbs of Hillsborough, New Lambton Heights, Rankin Park and Teralba (the remainder of the suburbs lie either outside the LGA or are covered by another Contributions Catchment). Only those parts of the suburbs that lie within the Glendale CC are covered by this Study.

Figure 3. Glendale CC – Catchment Boundary



2. Population

2.1 Existing Population

In 2011, the Glendale CC had an estimated population of 46,811 persons comprising approximately 24% of the total LGA population. This figure includes people living in non-private dwellings such as nursing homes (residential care facilities), tourist accommodation including hotels and motels, hospitals, and moveable dwellings.

As highlighted later in this report, the socio-economic characteristics of the catchment vary considerably between different suburbs. This needs to be considered in determining the spatial distribution of Council community infrastructure throughout the Catchment and in particular, to ensure that those residents of greatest need have quality access to appropriate public facilities and services.

The Australian Bureau of Statistic's 2011 Census of Population and Housing identified the following population characteristics for the Glendale CC:

- The Catchment has a younger population than the LGA, with a median age of 39, compared to 41. It is the northwestern suburbs that are generally the youngest areas, such as Barnsley (median age of 34), Killingworth (33) and Seahampton (31). However, Macquarie Hills also has a younger population, with a median age of 34. Those areas that have a higher median age include Speers Point (43), Wakefield (45) and Warners Bay (42);
- Macquarie Hills, Seahampton and West Wallsend have the highest proportion of those under 10 years of age, and those aged 25-40 years, indicating that these suburbs are predominately younger families;
- Garden Suburb, Killingworth, Lakelands and Wakefield have the highest proportion of those aged 10-19 years, and 40-54 years, indicating that these suburbs consist predominately of older families;
- The Catchment has significantly less people aged 65 years and over, accounting for just 15.7% of the population, compared to 18.4% for Lake Macquarie. Suburbs that have a higher proportion of people aged over 65 years include Cardiff Heights, Speers Point, and Warners Bay;
- The suburbs such as Speers Point, Warners Bay and Rankin Park have very high proportion of 'couple families without children', whilst Garden Suburb, Killingworth, Lakelands, Macquarie Hills, New Lambton Heights and Wakefield have a very high proportion of 'couple family with children'. Argenton, Barnsley and West Wallsend have a high proportion of 'one parent families';
- Areas that have a high proportion of single person households include Argenton, Boolaroo, and Warners Bay, whilst Barnsley, Killingworth, Seahampton and Wakefield having the highest number of average people per household;
- The catchment has a similar proportion of people born overseas as the LGA, as well as those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
- Although the catchment has a similar rate to the LGA for those working full-time and part-time, it does have a lower unemployment rate;
- Rates of motor vehicle ownership are very high for the catchment with an average of 1.8 vehicles per household. Only 6.3% of households do not have a vehicle, compared to 7.1% for the LGA. Argenton (13.2%) and Boolaroo (12.2%) were the suburbs that have the highest percentage of dwellings with no motor vehicles, whilst Seahampton and Wakefield reported that all dwellings have at least one (1) motor vehicle. Lakelands, Barnsley, Killingworth, New Lambton Heights, Garden Suburb, Macquarie Hills and Rankin Park had very few dwellings without a motor vehicle;
- Whilst the Catchment has a similar proportion of dwellings (74.9%) with an internet connection to that of the LGA (73.8%), Lakelands and Macquarie Hills has the highest proportion, whilst Argenton has a significantly lower proportion (61.3%);

- Lake Macquarie has a higher proportion of dwellings than NSW that are a separate house (86.4% compared to 69.5%), and the catchment has an even higher proportion (88.1%). In fact, all dwellings in Killingworth, Seahampton and Wakefield are separate houses, whilst, Barnsley (99.8%), Garden Suburb (98.9) and Macquarie Hills (97.6%) also have a very high proportion of separate houses;
- Warners Bay (20.9%) and Cardiff Heights (17.5%) have a higher proportion of semi-detached houses than the Catchment (6.3%) and the LGA (7.3%), whilst suburbs that have a higher proportion of apartments than the LGA (5.3%) are Argenton (13.4%), Edgeworth (10.7%), Speers Point (7.9%), Glendale (6.6%) and Cardiff (6.3%);
- Over 77% of households either own/are purchasing their home (compared to 73.6% for the LGA). This reflects the catchment's affordability for home purchase generally, particularly when compared with the Sydney metropolitan area;
- The catchment has a lower percentage of public housing than the LGA (2.5% compared to 4.9%), however it is highest in the suburbs of Argenton (10.2%), Glendale (8.3%), and Edgeworth (6.8%); and
- According to Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage, Argenton experiences very high levels of social disadvantage. This is a result of a high proportion of residents being less educated, having lower incomes, less skilled occupations and higher unemployment levels than those living in other suburbs. The suburbs of Boolaroo and West Wallsend also experience high levels of disadvantage, whilst Lakelands, New Lambton Heights, and Rankin Park have low levels of disadvantage.

2.2 Future Population

The Glendale CC is projected to reach 60,446 persons by 2030. This is an increase of 13,635 persons from 2011, as shown in the following plan.

Figure 4. Geographic Distribution of Expected Residents by 2025

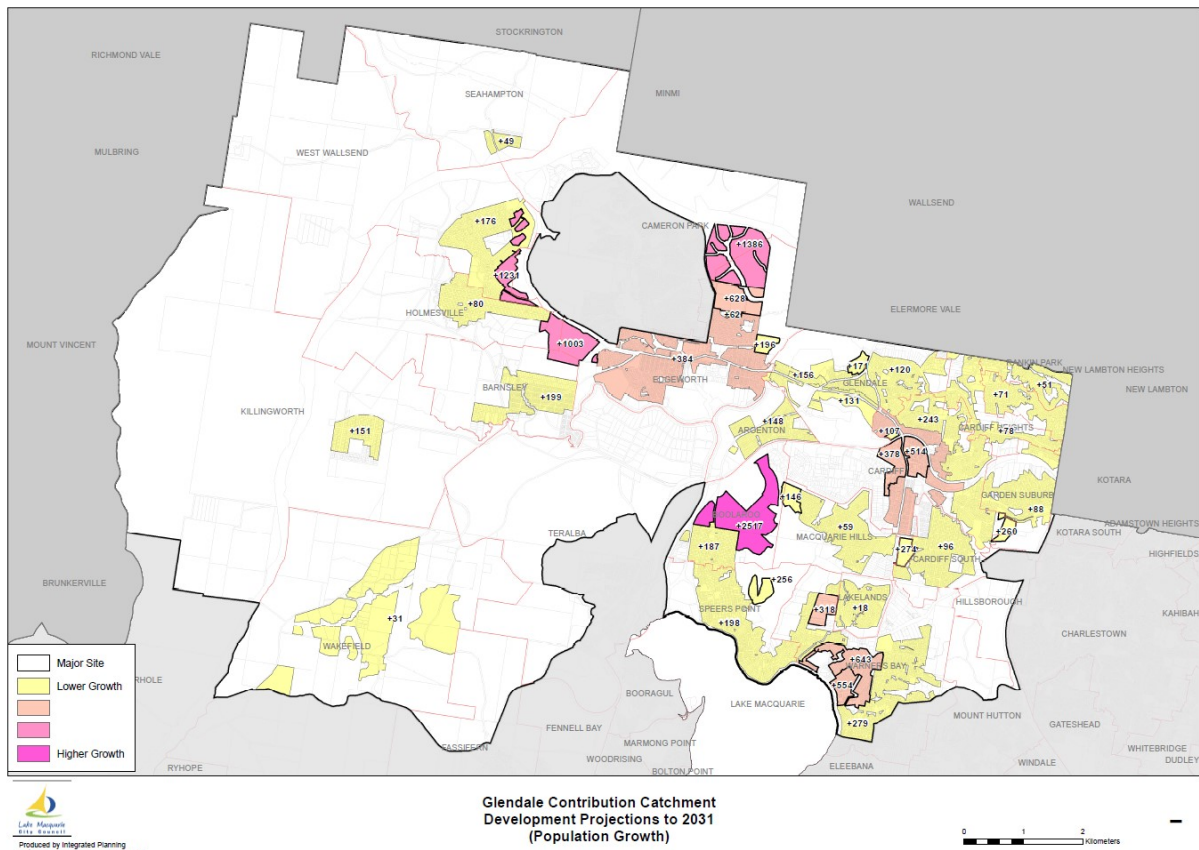
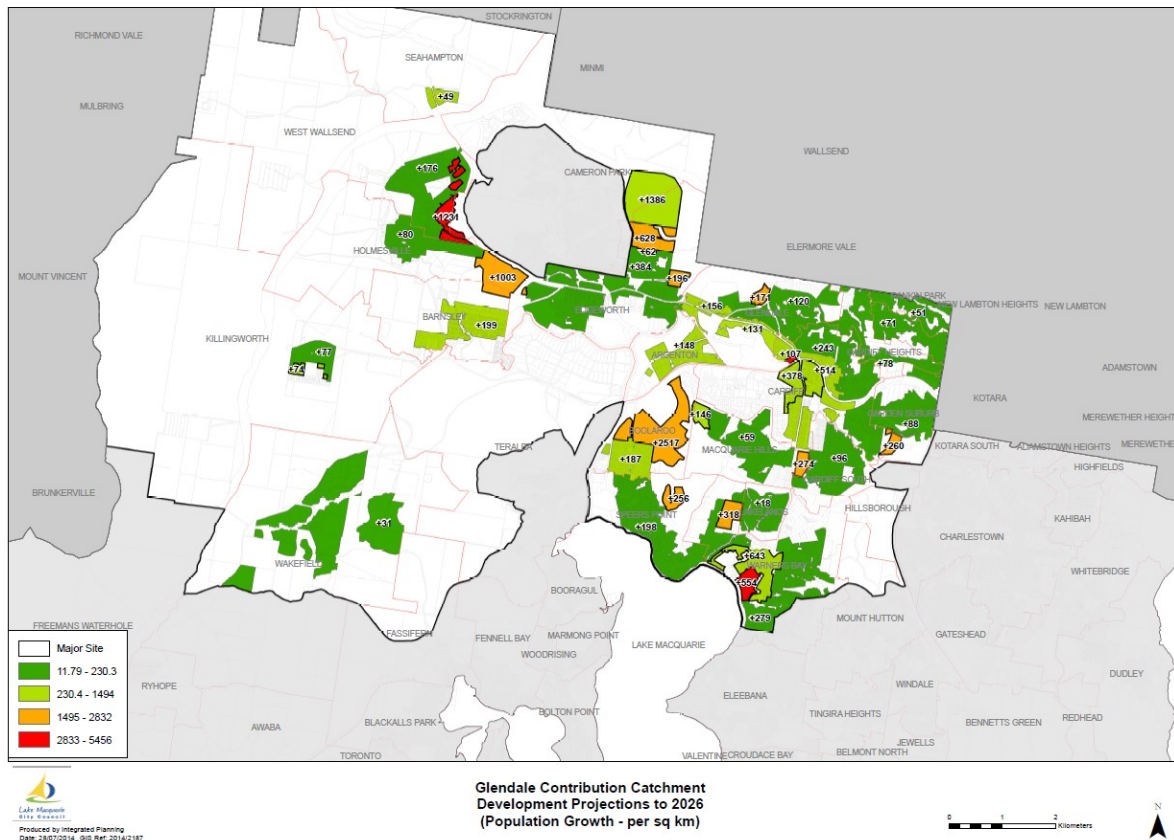


Figure 5. Geographic Distribution of Expected New Private and Non-Private Residents by 2025



New residents are expected to be concentrated in the following six (6) suburbs, which account for over 83% of the total growth in the Catchment;

- Boolaroo - an additional 2,704 persons and a total population of 3,684 people, which reflects significant growth (275.9% increase) compared to other suburbs in the CC;
- Edgeworth - an additional 2,273 persons (38.7% increase) and a total population of 8,142 people;
- Warners Bay - an additional 1,793 persons (25.3% increase) and a total population of 8,890 people;
- Cardiff - an additional 1,777 persons (30.7% increase) and a total population of 7,558 people;
- West Wallsend, with an additional 1,407 persons (80.3% increase) and a total population of 3,159 people; and

Cameron Park - an expected 1,386 persons to reside in the area that lies outside the NURA (there are currently no dwellings in the suburb of Cameron Park in the area outside of the NURA).

LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCIL

Table 1. Estimated Residential Population by Suburb

| Suburb | Existing Dwellings (2011) | Existing Persons (2011) | Projected additional Dwellings (2030) | Projected additional Persons (2030) | Total Dwellings (2030) | Total Persons (2030) | Growth (%) |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Argenton | 607 | 1,370 | 77 | 148 | 684 | 1,518 | 10.8 |
| Barnsley | 642 | 1,802 | 77 | 199 | 719 | 2,001 | 11.0 |
| Boolaroo | 475 | 980 | 922 | 2,704 | 1,397 | 3,684 | 275.9 |
| Cameron Park* | 0 | 0 | 447 | 1,386 | 447 | 1,386 | - |
| Cardiff | 2,426 | 5,781 | 953 | 1,777 | 3,379 | 7,558 | 30.7 |
| Cardiff Heights | 527 | 1,300 | 32 | 78 | 559 | 1,378 | 6.0 |
| Cardiff South | 1,129 | 2,836 | 51 | 96 | 1,180 | 2,932 | 3.4 |
| Edgeworth | 2,756 | 5,869 | 918 | 2,273 | 3,674 | 8,142 | 38.7 |
| Garden Suburb | 689 | 1,934 | 39 | 88 | 728 | 2,022 | 4.6 |
| Glendale | 1,287 | 3,069 | 269 | 578 | 1,556 | 3,647 | 18.8 |
| Hillsborough* | 3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 0.0 |
| Holmesville | 510 | 1,416 | 40 | 80 | 550 | 1,496 | 5.6 |
| Killingworth | 223 | 714 | 57 | 151 | 280 | 865 | 21.1 |
| Lakelands | 518 | 1,506 | 10 | 18 | 528 | 1,524 | 1.2 |
| Macquarie Hills | 1,101 | 3,075 | 76 | 205 | 1,177 | 3,280 | 6.7 |
| New Lambton Heights* | 589 | 1,469 | 30 | 71 | 619 | 1,540 | 4.8 |
| Rankin Park* | 441 | 1,197 | 22 | 51 | 463 | 1,248 | 4.3 |
| Seahampton | 111 | 310 | 22 | 49 | 133 | 359 | 15.8 |
| Speers Point | 1,396 | 3,145 | 176 | 454 | 1,572 | 3,599 | 14.4 |
| Teralba* | 22 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 51 | 0.0 |
| Wakefield | 51 | 132 | 10 | 31 | 61 | 163 | 23.5 |
| Warners Bay | 3,202 | 7,097 | 1,020 | 1,793 | 4,222 | 8,890 | 25.3 |
| West Wallsend | 700 | 1,752 | 485 | 1,407 | 1,185 | 3,159 | 80.3 |
| Total | 19,405 | 46,811 | 5,733 | 13,635 | 25,138 | 60,446 | 29.1 |

* Denotes a partial suburb within the Glendale Contribution Catchment

The age profile of the catchment is expected to change significantly, as shown in Table 2. Over the period 2011 to 2030, Glendale CC will experience:

- An increasing number of older residents aged over 70 years. This age group will more than double in size, from 5,222 people to 10,959 people (**110% increase**);
- Increasing number of adults aged 30-49 years. An additional 2,924 persons in these age groups will live in the CC, with the greatest increase (**29.4% increase**), in those aged 30-34 years. These age groups are generally families, and this is reflected in an associated growth of those aged 0-19 years, an additional 2,349 persons; and
- A relatively small increase in those aged 20-29 years, reflecting that this age group are very mobile, and may seek to relocate for study or work.

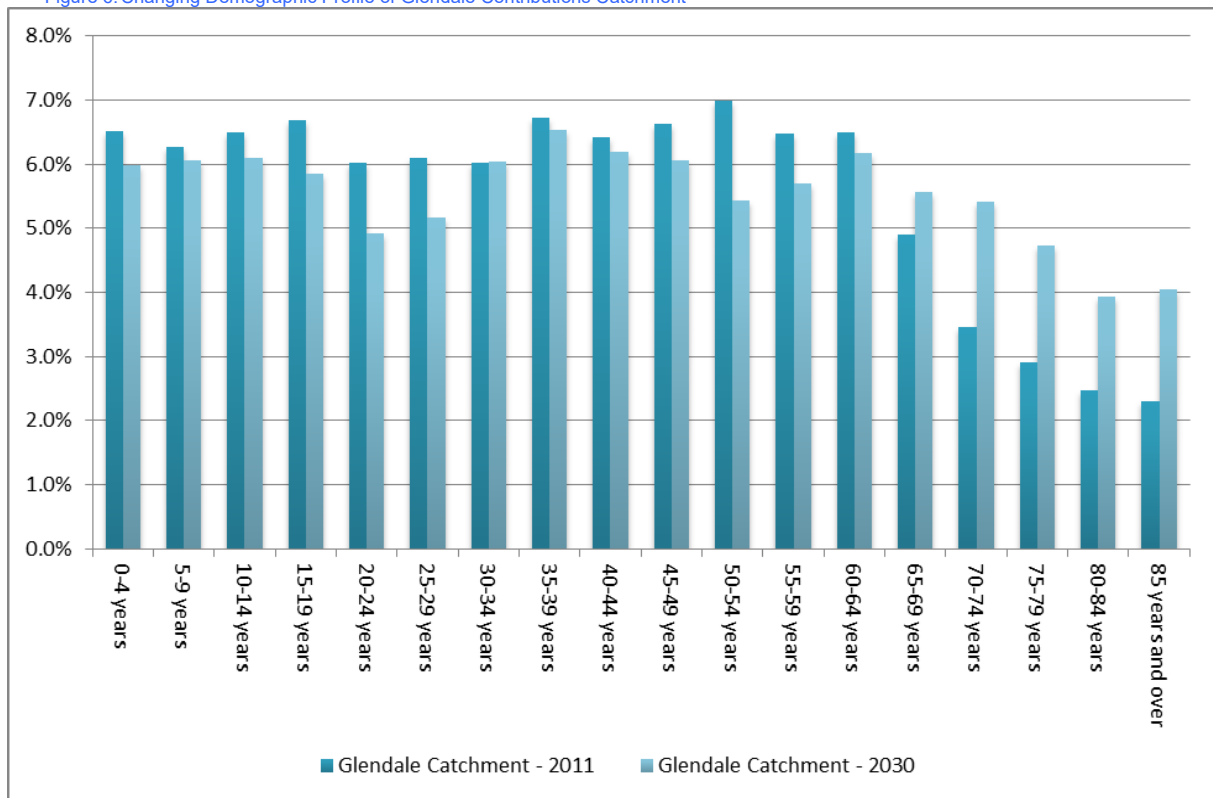
LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCIL

Table 2. Forecast Demographic Profile of Glendale Contributions Catchment

| Age Groups | 2011 | | 2030 | | Growth 2011-2030 | |
|--------------------------|---------|------|---------|------|------------------|----------|
| | Persons | % | Persons | % | Persons | % Change |
| 0-4 years | 3,050 | 6.5% | 3,618 | 6.0% | 568 | 18.6 |
| 5-9 years | 2,932 | 6.3% | 3,669 | 6.1% | 737 | 25.1 |
| 10-14 years | 3,042 | 6.5% | 3,687 | 6.1% | 645 | 21.2 |
| 15-19 years | 3,134 | 6.7% | 3,533 | 5.8% | 399 | 12.7 |
| 20-24 years | 2,819 | 6.0% | 2,976 | 4.9% | 157 | 5.6 |
| 25-29 years | 2,855 | 6.1% | 3,130 | 5.2% | 275 | 9.6 |
| 30-34 years | 2,823 | 6.0% | 3,653 | 6.0% | 830 | 29.4 |
| 35-39 years | 3,150 | 6.7% | 3,954 | 6.5% | 804 | 25.5 |
| 40-44 years | 3,008 | 6.4% | 3,748 | 6.2% | 740 | 24.6 |
| 45-49 years | 3,109 | 6.6% | 3,659 | 6.1% | 550 | 17.7 |
| 50-54 years | 3,275 | 7.0% | 3,288 | 5.4% | 13 | 0.4 |
| 55-59 years | 3,036 | 6.5% | 3,449 | 5.7% | 413 | 13.6 |
| 60-64 years | 3,046 | 6.5% | 3,729 | 6.2% | 683 | 22.4 |
| 65-69 years | 2,292 | 4.9% | 3,366 | 5.6% | 1,074 | 46.9 |
| 70-74 years | 1,623 | 3.5% | 3,270 | 5.4% | 1,647 | 101.5 |
| 75-79 years | 1,361 | 2.9% | 2,863 | 4.7% | 1,502 | 110.4 |
| 80-84 years | 1,161 | 2.5% | 2,375 | 3.9% | 1,214 | 104.6 |
| 85 years and over | 1,077 | 2.3% | 2,451 | 4.1% | 1,374 | 127.6 |

Whilst all age groupings in the catchment will experience an increase over the period 2011-2030, there will be significant changes to the proportion of the age groupings. As indicated in Figure 5, there will be a decrease in the overall proportion of all 5-year age groups up to those aged 64 years, with a significant increase in the proportion of those aged 65 years and over.

Figure 6. Changing Demographic Profile of Glendale Contributions Catchment



Each suburb is likely to reflect this changing age profile; however, the new release areas such as Boolaroo, West Wallsend and Cameron Park are more likely to attract families. The infill development areas of Edgeworth, Warners Bay and Cardiff are likely to attract a range of different lifecycle groups including young couples, couples starting families, singles, and older couples.

PART C – RECREATION

3. Background

Informal recreational activities are popular for all ages and are especially important for people 55 years and over. They cover a wide range of activities including walking for exercise, walking the dog, swimming, cycling, jogging, fishing, sailing, picnicking/BBQ's, playgrounds, and community gardening. The Recreation Participation Survey of Lake Macquarie residents highlights a strong preference for informal recreation activities such as walking for exercise, swim/surf at beach, golf, spectator at sports, swim public pool, picnic/BBQ, lawn bowls, exercise the dog, cycling, children to playground.⁴⁰ Whereas young people may prefer activities such as skateboarding, surfing, BMX, and mountain bike riding.

According to a survey undertaken in 2002, the most popular active recreational activities for older people were walking, swimming, cycling, bowls, golf, billiards and keep fit activities (e.g. yoga, tai chi, and dance).⁴¹ In the last few years, new sports such as walk ball, croquet, petanque, and disc golf are also gaining acceptance with older people. Local focus groups held in 2006 in LM, identified the preferred active recreation activities for people aged 60 years and over as walking, bowls, swimming, tennis and fishing.⁴²

National Research from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) identified that there is an increasing trend towards non-organised sport. The total participation rate for non-organised physical activity was 70.8% in 2010. Most participants engaged partially or fully in non-organised activity (86.1%).⁴³ The total participation rate in organised physical activity was 40.0% in 2010. About half of all participation in physical activity was partially or fully organised (48.6%) and the total participation rate in club-based physical activity was 25.7% in 2010.⁴⁴

Lake Macquarie is a coastal community and it already has an older population profile compared to federal or state levels, and this trend of an increasing aging population is likely to continue into the future. This plan provides an adjustment in provision to increase the informal recreation opportunities, which are particularly appropriate for older adults and some, such as, walking and cycling are appropriate and highly used by the entire community.

3.1 Future of Recreation Infrastructure

In developing this Recreation and Land Plan, several elements were considered including the range of recreation opportunities, current standards, a hierarchy of provision, and asset maintenance.

- **Recreation Opportunities**

Historically, recreation facilities provided by Council's were primarily sports fields, tennis and netball courts, parks, and playgrounds. Nowadays, people want a diverse range of recreation opportunity with flexibility as to when they participate, and informal recreation facilities fit this criterion. In addition, a larger proportion of the population is aging, so the need for major parks, shared pathways (off-road cycleways), recreational trails, parkland areas, and community gardens is increasing.

- **Standards**

This plan considers the existing local provision, the existing citywide provision, and compares these with the two standards prepared by NSW DoP. The *Draft Development Contributions Guidelines* provides indicative standards according to population thresholds⁴⁵ and the *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government* provides standards for open space planning in NSW based on distance from most dwellings.⁴⁶ This plan recommends a locally appropriate provision standard that may deviate away from the standard in the guidelines.

⁴⁰ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, summary of participation by activity - graph 4.2.

⁴¹ Australian Bureau Statistics (2002) *Directory of Culture and Leisure Statistics*

⁴² LMCC (2008) *Ageing Population Plan 2008-2017*

⁴³ ASC (2010) *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport: Annual Report 2010 State and Territories Tables for NSW*, p. 2.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

⁴⁵ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*.

⁴⁶ NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, Table 4, p. 29.

- **Hierarchy**

The plan aims at providing a hierarchy of provision, which may mean some facilities, are developed to a higher standard, providing greater recreation opportunities and a higher capacity. For playgrounds, this principle is demonstrated in the provision of the all-abilities playground at Speers Point Park. The unprecedented use of this large playground is a good example of how people are prepared to travel to a quality facility. Rather than Council providing numerous small facilities with limited recreation value, this plan recommends the provision of some larger facilities that have more recreation opportunities and supporting infrastructure.

- **Asset Maintenance**

Council is responsible for the continued maintenance of new and existing assets. Asset maintenance is a considerable burden on many Councils and LMCC with its extensive LGA is no exception. Where appropriate this plan recommends the enhancement of existing recreation infrastructure, which may be expanded to obtain the extra capacity needed for the additional population. This approach was used for sports fields, courts, playgrounds, and parks.

- **Climate Change**

Climate change impacts, such as the increase in the frequency and severity of storms, and sea level rise may require climate change-related risk management, which results in higher maintenance costs associated with heat stress, storms and bushfires.

3.2 Methodology

The following key indicators were considered in determining the level of provision, the range, and location of recreation facilities for Glendale.

- **Existing Provision** - details on the current facilities provided to the community. Both the public and private facilities were considered as these are the total existing facilities that service the need.⁴⁷
- **Population Growth** – Figure 4 shows the development areas, moderate infill development and higher density development
- **Identified need** examines various surveys, plans, guidelines, strategies and Council reports, demonstrating the provision needed for the future;
- **Comparative** analysis considers service equity by comparing the provision within the catchment, the provision within the LGA and compares it with the relevant planning standards
- **Best practice** considers industry standards, best practice guidelines and new service models.
- **Analysis** provides the basis on how the recommended locally appropriate standard is derived.
- **Recommendations** identifies and lists the proposed new work which is prioritised according to:
 - High priority works – short-term up to 2020
 - Medium priority works – mid-term up to 2025
 - Low priority works – long-term 2025 and beyond

This plan considers all of the above key indicators and provides a broad spectrum of recreation facilities, aimed to encourage increased participation of its residents. This is consistent with Council's Community Plan goal 'a city responsive to the well-being of its residents'.⁴⁸

⁴⁷ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contribution Guidelines*, Matters for Consideration, p. 92.

⁴⁸ LMCC (2008) *Lake Macquarie Community Plan 2008 – 2018*, section 2.1.

4. Sports Grounds

A sports ground is an area developed with sporting facilities used for organised or competition sport. The area may comprise one or a number of sports fields, ovals or (netball or tennis) courts. The actual area of a sports ground refers to the total area used for sporting activities together with the associated facilities such as, car parking, amenities, and access road. It does not include natural area within the parcel retained for environmental purposes. The actual area differs from the area of land categorised as sportsground, as detailed in the LMCC Community Land PoM and outlined in **Part D** of this plan. The land categorised as sports ground typically included the entire parcel and it included land that maybe suitable for the future development of a sports ground.

4.1 Existing Provision

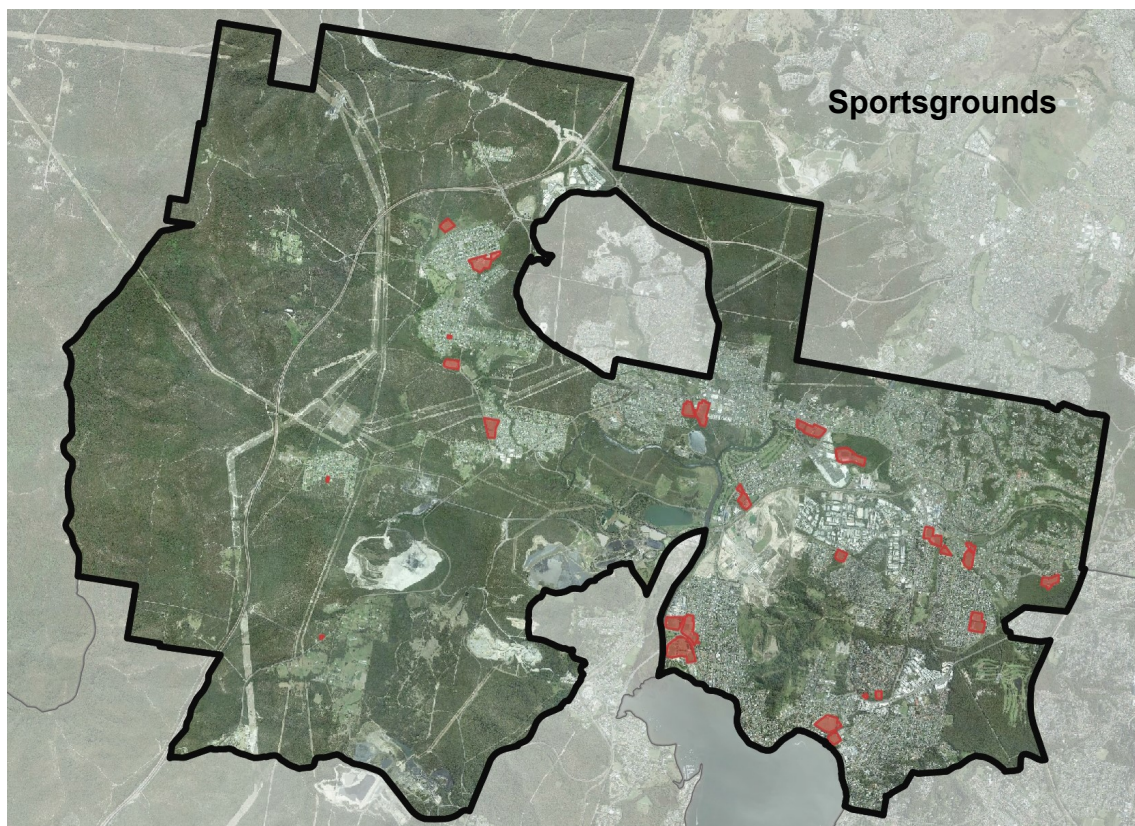
There are 19 sports grounds in the Glendale CC as listed below. Part of the Speers Point complex includes the LM Regional Football Facility, and this portion is listed separately, as it is considered a city facility.

Table 3. Glendale CC - Sports Ground – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | ACTUAL AREA HA | NO. OF SPORTS GROUNDS |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| SMALL SPORTS GROUND | | | |
| ARGENTON | Kindyerra Reserve / Jack Edwards Oval | 3.85 | 1 |
| BARNESLEY | Taylor Park - No. 1 & 2 | 4.57 | 1 |
| CARDIFF | Ken Booth / Nancy Dwyer Netball | 1.36 | 1 |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Evans Park | 3.42 | 1 |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Garden Suburb No. 2 & 3 / Lance Yorke Field | 4.26 | 1 |
| HOLMESVILLE | Holmesville Tennis | 0.28 | 1 |
| HOLMESVILLE | Kevin Evans Oval | 2.91 | 1 |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Oval & Lakelands Tennis | 1.47 | 1 |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | 2.55 | 1 |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay Netball | 0.52 | 1 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Johnson Park | 2.66 | 1 |
| MEDIUM SPORTS GROUND | | | |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff No. 1 & 2 Oval, Cardiff Tennis Cardiff No. 3 Oval | 4.98 1.36 | 1 |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park, Jack Neave Field Ulinga Park Tennis, Ulinga Park Netball | 6.21 0 | 1 |
| EDGEWORTH | Jack McLaughlan / Edgeworth No. 1, 2, 3, & 4, Edgeworth Netball | 9.74 | 1 |
| GLENDALE | William Bower Field - No. 1, 2, & 3 | 6.27 | 1 |
| WARNERS BAY | Feighan Park - No. 1, 2, & 3 Warner Park (previously John St Oval) | 9.02 0 | 1 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park No. 1 & 2, Les Wakeman Field, West Wallsend Tennis | 7.09 | 1 |
| MAJOR SPORTS GROUND | | | |
| SPEERS POINT | Walters Park Tredinnick, (previously 7th St Oval) New Tredinnick Bell Street Reserve Macquarie Field | 11.86 0 0 0 0 | 1 |
| CITY SPORTS GROUND | | | |
| GLENDALE | Hunter Sports Centre & warm up field ⁴⁹ | 8.27 | 1 |
| SPEERS POINT | Norm Johnson Field Old Tredinnick North Lakes | 6.4 0 0 | |
| TOTAL SPORTSGROUNDS | | 99.05 | 19 |

⁴⁹ Hunter Sports Centre & warm up field is included even though it is categorised Operational Land

Figure 7. Glendale CC - Sportsgrounds



There is a good provision and distribution of existing sports grounds in the Glendale catchment. They are shaded red in Figure 6 and collated according to the following hierarchy. The existing provision includes sportsgrounds with only one field/oval, however, **two sports fields** is the minimum for future provision at any one location.

Table 4. Glendale CC – Sports Ground - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | FIELD/OVALS |
|----------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Small Sports Ground | up to 5 ha | 1 km | 1 to 2 |
| Medium Sports Ground | 5 to 10 ha | 2 kms | 3 to 5 |
| Major Sports Ground | over 10 ha | 3 to 5 kms | 5 plus |
| City Sports Ground | Any size | City catchment | Any amount |

5. Sports Fields

A sports field is a flat area of land within a sports ground used to play sport. It is usually a rectangular or oval area, grassed or synthetic surface developed for a sporting use in accordance with current acceptable standards. Currently, sports fields in LM are used for AFL, archery, athletics, baseball, croquet, cricket, equestrian, rugby league, rugby union, soccer, and softball.

5.1 Existing Provision

The Glendale CC has a number of sports fields particularly in Speers Point where the equivalent of 12 fields are located within the catchment boundary. Three of these fields have been included in the Toronto catchment in recognition of existing use. In addition, Glendale contains two city sporting facilities, the Lake Macquarie Regional Football Facility and the Hunter Sports (Athletics) Centre. Since users travel from all parts of the city to these facilities, these fields are apportioned to the six catchments.

Table 5. Glendale CC – Sports Fields – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | EXISTING USE | NO. OF FIELDS/OVALS | SUMMER & WINTER USE |
|---|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ARGENTON | Kindyerra Reserve / Jack Edwards Oval | soccer & BMX | 1.5 | |
| BARNESLEY | Taylor Park - No. 1 Oval No. 2 | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| | | soccer | 1 | |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff No. 1 Oval | cricket, rugby league | 1 | ● |
| | Cardiff No. 2 Oval | cricket, soccer | 1 | ● |
| | Cardiff No. 3 Oval | cricket | 1 | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Evans Park | soccer | 2 | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park Jack Neave Field | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| | | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| EDGEWORTH | Jack McLaughlan / Edgeworth No. 1 | soccer | 1 | |
| | No. 2 | soccer | 1.5 | |
| | No. 3 | soccer | 1 | |
| | No. 4 | athletics, cricket | 1 | |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Garden Suburb / Lance Yorke Field No. 1 No. 2 & No. 3 | soccer | 1 | |
| | | cricket, soccer | 1.5 | ● |
| GLENDALE | William Bower Field - No. 1 No. 2 & No. 3 | cricket, rugby league | 1 | ● |
| | | rugby league | 2 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Kevin Evans Oval | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Oval | cricket | 0.5 | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | athletics | 1 | |
| SPEERS POINT | Tredinnick No.3, (7th St Oval) | soccer, cricket | 1 | ● |
| | Tredinnick No. 1 & 2 | soccer | 2.5 | |
| | Bell Street Reserve | cricket | 0.5 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Feighan Park - No. 1 | cricket, AFL | 1 | ● |
| | Feighan No. 2 | cricket, AFL | 1 | ● |
| | Feighan No. 3 | cricket | 1 | |
| | Warner Park (John St Fields) | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park - No. 1 & 2 Fields | cricket, soccer | 2 | ● |
| | Les Wakeman Field | rugby league | 1 | |
| WEST WALLSEND | Johnson Park | soccer | 1 | |
| SUB-TOTAL SPORTS FIELDS/OVALS | | | 40 | |
| City sports facilities - 6.5 fields* / 6 catchments | | | 1 | |
| TOTAL SPORTS FIELDS/OVALS | | | 41 | |
| * CITY SPORTS FIELDS | | | | |
| GLENDALE | Hunter Sports Centre | athletics, soccer | 1 | ● |
| | Warm up field | | 0.5 | ● |
| SPEERS POINT | LM Regional Football Facility | | | |
| | Norm Johnson Fields | soccer | 2 | |
| | Old Tredinnick | 10 footsall | 2 | |
| | North Lakes | soccer | 1 | |

| | | |
|---|------------|--|
| TOTAL CITY REGIONAL FIELDS/OVALS | 6.5 | |
|---|------------|--|

Rather than assessing each individual sporting code, sports fields were assessed using a generic field model. **Appendix 2** provides examples of what constitutes a generic sports field and the method of calculating fields in LM. This approach is based on the highest number of fields/ovals used at any period in time, either in summer or in winter. A junior field is half a field and can include a junior cricket oval, junior soccer field or a mini-rugby league field.

Council can reallocate fields to different sporting codes depending on demand/participation rates, which provides greater flexibility as community needs can change over time. The development of multipurpose sports fields, catering for a range of sporting codes, provides a more efficient use of recreation land.

In addition to the existing council fields in the catchment, there are 16 school sports fields, which are mostly junior fields. A number of Council fields are used by schools in the catchment e.g., West Wallsend Junior Rugby League uses West Wallsend High School field.

The catchment also contains the Lake Macquarie Regional Football Facility at Speers Point, a modern state of the art soccer complex, completed in December 2014. This facility was partly funded by the NSW Soccer Federation \$4M and through a grant of \$7.3M from the Hunter Infrastructure & Investment Fund. The facility includes:

- 10 x 5 a side synthetic football courts
- 2 international standard full size synthetic football pitches
- A multi-purpose administration building of approx. 1,500sqm
- Sealed car park for at least 120 cars

5.2 Identified

The following survey, strategies and plans demonstrate the identified needs:

● ERASS

The Exercise, Recreation, and Sport Survey (ERASS) was a joint initiative of the Australian Sports Commission and State and Territory Departments of Sport and Recreation, conducted on an annual basis between 2001 and 2010.

The ERASS collected information on the frequency, duration, nature and type of activities participated in by persons aged 15 years and over for exercise, recreation or sport during the 12 months prior to interview. This survey included active 'playing' participation, and does not include coaching, refereeing, being a spectator or activities related to work, household chores or gardening duties. It was conducted quarterly in 2010, with an annual total of 21,603 respondents across Australia.

According to the ERASS 2010 annual report, the participation rates for NSW for Australian rules football is 1.7%, athletics/track & field is 0.7%, baseball is 0.3%, cricket (outdoor) is 3.4%, football (outdoor) is 6.5%, horse riding/equestrian is 0.8%, rugby league 2.1%, rugby union is 1.2%, softball is 0.4%, and touch football is 4.4%.⁵⁰

These participation rates would be higher if the survey included children under 15 years of age.

● Sports Facility Strategy

Council updated its 2009 Sports Facility Strategy with a replacement *Lake Macquarie City Council Sports Facility Strategy 2015-2020* (Sports Strategy), to provide direction on the future of development and upgrading of sports facilities in LM. The strategy identifies 29 sporting clubs in the Glendale CC (27% of sporting clubs in the LGA) with facilities catering for AFL, athletics, BMX, cricket, football/soccer, netball, rugby league and rugby union. Tennis was not included in the strategy.

As part of development of the 2015/2020 Strategy, Council undertook consultation with sporting clubs and associations in the LGA. Issues raised include the need to improve amenities buildings, seating, shade, storage, car parking and the need for improved playing surfaces. The Sports Strategy has identified the following capital works improvements within the Glendale CC. Refer to Part 2 of the *Sports Facility Strategy* for the projects schedule, which identifies those projects to be funded by Council's Capital Works Program.

⁵⁰ ASC (2010) *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey 2010 Annual Report: State and Territory Tables for NSW*

Table 6. Glendale CC – Sports Facility Strategy Capital Works

| Years 1 - 5 | Years 5 - 10 | Years 10 - 15 |
|---|---|---|
| CARDIFF - Cardiff No. 1 - floodlighting and cricket wickets | CARDIFF SOUTH - Ulinga Ovals - playing surface, amenities building, supporting infrastructure - car park, fencing | GARDEN SUBURB - Lance Yorke Oval - floodlighting |
| CARDIFF SOUTH - Ulinga Oval - upgrade playing surface, drainage, irrigation | EDGEWORTH - off Turnbull Street - new sports fields and associated facilities | SPEERS POINT - Walters Park - playing surface, amenities building, supporting infrastructure, car park, fencing |
| EDGEWORTH - Edgeworth No. 2 Field - irrigation, drainage, floodlighting | GLENDALE - McDonalds Quarry - BMX Facility | WEST WALLSEND - Gregory Park - playing surface |
| EDGEWORTH - Jack McLaughlin - amenities | | WEST WALLSEND - Johnson Park - floodlighting |
| GARDEN SUBURB - Lance Yorke Fields - irrigation | | |
| GLENDALE - Bill Bower Fields - floodlighting | | |
| SPEERS POINT - New Tredinnick Field - playing field & irrigation | | |
| WARNERS BAY - John Street Fields - amenities and car parking | | |
| WARNERS BAY - Feighan Oval - amenities and car park | | |

Source: LMCC (2015) *Sports Facility Strategy 2015-2020*

● **Delivery Program**

The LMCC Delivery Program defines the actions Council will take towards achieving our community's vision for our City and it involved extensive community engagement. The community told council to 'plan sports grounds and facilities to cater for the growing communities in or near urban release areas'.⁵¹

● **Open Space Strategy**

The LMCC Open Space Strategy recommends the upgrading of existing sports fields and recreation facilities to increase their capacity to provide for more intensive and multiple uses.⁵²

● **Recreation Plan**

The LMCC Recreation Plan recommends and identifies certain actions including:

- Encourage multiple use
- Except in population growth areas, do not create any additional sports grounds
- Plan a hierarchy of sports facilities
- Upgrade Feighan Park/Warners Reserve and John Street reserves (Warners Bay) through enhanced turf management and tree plantings, improve site and access signage
- Upgrade car parking at William Bower Field (Glendale)
- Upgrade and diversify use of Garden Suburb Recreation Reserve, assess opportunities for developing additional playing fields at this venue, improve car park and security lighting
- Undertake amenity improvements, internal road improvements and plantings at Edgeworth Recreation Reserve
- Upgrade internal roads, car parking at Gregory Park, West Wallsend⁵³

5.3 Comparative

The DoP in the Draft LDCG has not specified an indicative population threshold for generic sports fields, but rather it specifies an indicative population threshold for each individual sport. Based on the assumption that each field has a summer and a winter sporting use, not including hockey, the indicative

⁵¹ LMCC (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Delivery Program 2013-2017*, Priority 3.2, p. 48.

⁵² LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, p. 6-1.

⁵³ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan Volume 2: The Research Findings*, p. 33, 53, 55

population threshold for a generic field is one field for every 1,400 population. **Appendix 3** provides details of the analysis upon which this population threshold has been derived.

The actual provision in the Glendale CC is higher than the citywide (LM LGA) provision and higher than the assumed indicative standard (guidelines). Refer to **Appendix 3**.

Table 7. Glendale CC – Sports Fields – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF SPORTS FIELDS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 41 | 1,130 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 141.5 | 1,419 |
| Guidelines* | | | 1,400 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 1,500 |

LMCC uses a recommended standard of provision of one field for every 1,500 person, which is reasonable and achievable for the future provision.

5.4 Best Practice

The Draft LDCG recommends the following best practice guidelines:

Ovals, sports grounds – consideration should be given to co-location of facilities to maximise usage e.g. cricket and AFL

Recreation amenities buildings – should service more than one field and different sports⁵⁴

Wherever possible, sports fields should accommodate all year use (a summer and winter sport). Dual use arrangements can include, cricket and football, athletics and AFL; rugby union and rugby league; rugby league and touch football. One most common arrangement is two full sized soccer fields with sufficient area for a cricket wicket in between, and sufficient space to provide an oval to accommodate cricket use.

5.5 Analysis

There appears to be an oversupply of sports fields in this catchment, however, half of the existing fields/ovals are single use/single season facilities, and many are in poor condition. The best practice approach provides a facility for summer and winter, which maximises the use of the facility and the recreation land. This is preferable rather than providing single use sports field that are idle for half the year.

As population densities increase, the demand for sports fields will also increase. Since land in or near urban growth areas is scarce, there will be an increased pressure on existing facilities to provide for an increase in capacity.

The need for good soil profiles, irrigation, drainage, and pest and weed management will be required to increase carrying capacity. Looking further into the future, where turf fields fail to provide for the demand, synthetic playing surfaces, or a hybrid system or natural grass and synthetic turf, may be considered to provide for intensive use. Amenities buildings have a 50-year life span and new buildings should be designed to accommodate multiple users.

Additionally, the Speers Point complex and the Garden Suburb complex are located just inside the catchment boundary; however residents from the neighbouring catchments use these fields/facilities.

5.6 Recommendations

This catchment will experience considerable residential growth occurring in West Wallsend and around the Glendale to Edgeworth corridor. The recommended approach is to upgrade the existing fields, and to repurpose one field at Edgeworth to cater for this growth.

⁵⁴ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 93.

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Table 8. Glendale CC – Sports Fields – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF FIELDS | PRIORITY |
|------------------------------|---|---|---------------|----------|
| CARDIFF | Cardiff No. 2 | Sports field - upgrade lighting, turf wickets, additional car parking | 1 | High |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park (northern field) | Sports field - upgrade lighting | 1 | Low |
| EDGEWORTH | Edgeworth Sport Complex, (replace repurposed field) | Sports field - athletics, car park, amenities | 1 | Medium |
| EDGEWORTH | Edgeworth No. 2 Field | Sports field - upgrade irrigation, drainage, lighting | 1 | Medium |
| GLENDALE | William Bower Fields No. 1 & 2 | Sports field - upgrade lighting | 1 | Medium |
| SPEERS POINT | Macquarie Field | Sports field - upgrade lighting and field | 1 | Medium |
| TERALBA or ALTERNATE VENUE | Archery facility | Sports field - repurpose existing facility for archery, upgrade amenities | 1 | Low |
| WARNERS BAY | Feighan Park No. 1 | Sports field - upgrade lighting | 1 | Low |
| WEST WALLSEND | Johnson Park | Sports field - upgrade lighting | 1 | Low |
| TOTAL SPORTING FIELDS | | | 9 | |

6. Sports Courts

Sports courts are typically tennis or netball courts, but can also include croquet or petanque pistes. Glendale CC has a relatively good distribution of tennis and netball courts spread throughout the catchment. Croquet and petanque are not strong in the catchment; however, these sports may increase in popularity as the population ages. To increase the variety of recreation opportunities in the City, the combination of tennis and netball into sports courts allows a more flexible approach for court provision.

6.1 Existing Provision

➤ Tennis

The catchment has 24 tennis courts, which includes facilities at a private tennis centre at Cardiff, but does not include the disused courts at Eddie Peterson Memorial Park, Wakefield and at Killingworth. Additional tennis courts are located at the Warners Bay High School and the Garden Suburb Public School, but these have not been included.

Table 9. Glendale CC – Tennis Courts – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | NO. OF TENNIS COURTS |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| SMALL | | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park | 2 |
| HOLMESVILLE | Holmesville Tennis | 2 |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Tennis | 3 |
| MEDIUM | | |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff Tennis | 4 |
| CARDIFF | Newcastle Tennis Academy | 7 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | 6 |
| TOTAL TENNIS COURTS | | 24 |

The existing provision has been collated into the following hierarchy, which includes tennis centres with one or two tennis courts; however, a **three-court** centre is the minimum requirement for future provision.

Table 10. Glendale CC – Tennis Courts - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | NO. OF COURTS |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| Small Tennis Centre | 0.5 ha | 1 km | 1 - 3 courts |
| Medium Tennis Centre | 1.2 ha | 2 km | 4 - 7 courts |
| Major Tennis Centre | 1.5 + ha | 5 + km | 8 courts + |

➤ Netball

The catchment has 18 netball courts at five locations, which are considered suitable for local team training. Competition netball is played at three venues in the LM LGA at Molly Smith Netball at Belmont (within the Belmont CC) contains 24 courts, Jack Stewart Netball at Charlestown (within the Charlestown CC) contains 24 courts, and Wangi Netball (within the Toronto CC) contains 12 courts. There are six contribution catchments in the city and the boundaries of the catchment are not contiguous relating to where people live and play sport. Players use competition venues for training and players also travel across catchments to train and participate in competition.

This catchment does not contain a competition netball venue, which reduces the existing provision within the catchment. Players may to travel to Newcastle for competition and players from Garden Suburb and Hillsborough travel to Charlestown for competition. Therefore, two of the competition courts in Charlestown are attributable to this catchment.

➤ Croquet

Croquet is the term used for mallet sports played on a grass courts. Croquet games include association croquet, golf croquet, gateball and ricochet. Mount Sugarloaf Croquet Club play on the previous West Wallsend Bowling Club greens, now leased to Mercy Community Services. Since this use is ancillary to the purpose of the lease, it has not been including in the existing provision.

Table 11. Glendale CC – Netball Courts – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME / LOCATION | NO. OF COURTS FOR TRAINING | NO. OF COURTS FOR COMPETITION | TOTAL NETBALL COURTS GLENDALE CC |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| TRAINING | | | | |
| CARDIFF | Ken Booth/Nancy Dwyer | 5 | | 5 |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park | 3 | | 3 |
| EDGEWORTH | Edgeworth Netball | 3 | | 3 |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay Netball | 4 | | 4 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | 2 | | 2 |
| SUB-TOTAL NETBALL COURTS | | 17 | | 17 |
| COMPETITION | | | | |
| CHARLESTOWN | Jack Stewart Netball | | 24 | 2 |
| TOTAL NETBALL COURTS | | | | 19 |

The existing provision is collated according to the following hierarchy, which is considered appropriate for LM LGA. The recommended minimum requirement is a **two-court** netball facility.

Table 12. Glendale CC – Netball Courts - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | NO. OF COURTS |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------|---------------|
| Netball Training Centre | 1.5 ha | 2 km | 1 - 6 courts |
| Netball Competition Centre | 4 + ha | 10 + kms | 12 + courts |

6.2 Identified

The following surveys and strategy demonstrate the need for sports courts.

● ERASS

The ERASS survey is an Australian participation survey and it includes persons aged 15 years and over who participated in physical activity for exercise, recreation, and sport over a 12-month period prior to interview in 2010.⁵⁵ According to the ERASS 2010 annual report:

Tennis has a 6.8% total participation rate and netball has a 3.0% participation rate.

Netball is the second highest participated sport in Lake Macquarie and the majority of participants are female. Netball is gaining in popularity, in NSW, the total membership for 2011 was 111,474, an increase of 3% on the previous year's total membership.⁵⁶

● Tennis Australia

In 2010, Tennis Australia undertook the largest national study ever conducted by a sport to gain a clear understanding of the tennis consumer. The sample size was over 8,300 people, covering all capital cities and regional areas within each state and territory and included people aged from five to 75 years. Key insights include:

*Tennis has the highest participation rate of any traditional sport in Australia
12% of the population currently play tennis at least once a year
The highest participation rates are in the 5-9 and 10-15 year age groups⁵⁷*

The sport (tennis) contributes strongly to the social cohesiveness of our community and provides a safe and healthy sport and social environment for Australians of all ages and abilities. Tennis is truly a sport for life and a sport for all.⁵⁸

● Croquet

In LM, croquet is played at the Ron Hill Oval at Toronto, and croquet is played on the disused bowling greens at West Wallsend and Pelican. However, at Pelican the facility has been sold and the croquet users have to find an alternative site.

⁵⁵ ASC (2010) *Participation in Exercise Recreation and Sport Survey 2010 Annual Report*

⁵⁶ NSW Netball Association Ltd (2011) *Netball NSW: 2011 Annual Report*

⁵⁷ Tennis Australia (2011) *Tennis 2020: Facility Development and Management Framework for Australian Tennis*, p. 8.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

● Sports Strategy

The *LMCC Sports Facility Strategy 2015-2020* applies to Council provided sporting facilities, which includes netball courts, but excludes tennis and croquet courts. The Strategy indicates that junior netball participation rates are double the participation rates of seniors, as the participation of females in organised sport decreases noticeably into the teen years.

The Sports Facility Audit (2008) captured participation rates from 2003 to 2007 and netball had the highest participation increase of 138%, which informed the Sports Strategy. Below is a summary of the survey responses for netball:

- Cardiff Netball Club – 131 players – improve playing surface and car parking
- Warners Bay Netball Club – 206 players – improve playing surface, amenities building, seating and shade

6.3 Comparative

Tennis - the actual provision within the Glendale CC and the LM LGA are lower than the indicative standard specified by DoP in the Draft LDCG referred to as 'guidelines' in the following table.

Netball - the indicative population threshold of one (1) netball court for every 3,000 persons is low when compared to the actual provision in the Glendale CC and in the LM LGA. These standards are 'indicative only', provided as a guide and not intended to be a finite definition of need and not Government Policy.⁵⁹

Table 13. Glendale CC – Sports Courts – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF COURTS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|---|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| TENNIS | | | |
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 24 | 1,931 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 97 | 2,071 |
| Guidelines * | | | 1,800 |
| NETBALL | | | |
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 19 | 2,439 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 98 | 2,049 |
| Guidelines* | | | 3,000 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD SPORTS COURTS | | | 1,100 |

The recommended standard is one sports court for every 1,100 persons, which is close to the actual citywide provision and considered reasonable for the future provision.

6.4 Best Practice

Some Councils are adopting a multi-purpose approach where tennis, netball and sometimes basketball utilise the same court space. This approach is common for indoor facilities and provided the practical and management issues are resolved, they may be suitable for some outdoor training facilities. A detailed design is required to demonstrate how both sports will play on the same court given the differences in court sizes, surfacing, and pole removal and the management arrangements will need to be determined.

Tennis - Some councils are also building purpose built modified courts specifically for children. This is in accordance with MLC Hot Shots, a strategy by Tennis Australia aimed to increase participation of primary school aged children.⁶⁰ Modified courts can be provided on existing or new courts and can be various sizes to suit different ages and skill levels. One full sized tennis court can accommodate four red courts (11 m x 5 m - 5.5 m) and two full sized tennis courts can accommodate five orange courts (18.5 m x 6.5 m). The decision of whether to build a number of modified courts instead of a full sized court will be determined at the design stage.

Netball courts can have multiple uses including tennis, netball, soccer, or basketball. There are some practical and management issues to resolve however, this multi-purpose approach maybe suitable for training courts. LMCC has installed a movable basketball pole on the new netball court at Gregory Park, West Wallsend. This enables informal use of the court for basketball when the court is not in use for netball.

⁵⁹ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contribution Guidelines*

⁶⁰ Tennis Australia (2011) *Tennis 2020: Facility Development and Management Framework for Australian Tennis*, p. 5.

Croquet – A comparison of other council areas provides an indication of the need. Newcastle has a four court croquet facility at National Park and Maitland City Council has a four-court croquet facility at Maitland Park.

6.5 Analysis

Tennis - There are six tennis centres throughout the catchment with the largest tennis centre comprising seven courts, at Cardiff. No tennis courts are currently located to serve the Edgeworth, Cameron Park, Glendale, and Argenton areas. However, Council is planning a large tennis facility within Cameron Park. The expected growth in the Edgeworth corridor in three subdivision areas may trigger the need for a new tennis facility in the future. Three existing tennis centres are to be upgraded under this plan, as denoted in the following table.

Netball – There are 20 netball courts attributable to the Glendale CC. Considering the existing netball courts are for training and there are no competition courts within this catchment, funding towards the provision or upgrade of the West Lakes competition netball venue is considered reasonable. In addition, two existing netball facilities are to be upgraded under this plan, as indicated in the following table.

Croquet – is one of the few games that can be played by people into their 80’s, with the population ageing, its popularity is growing. LMCC does not have a specific croquet facility. To provide for the sport, security of tenure is important and a facility located on public land, is required.

A large croquet facility initially of four courts with a future expansion to six courts is proposed for this central catchment. The preferred site is on Council owned land at 118A T C Frith Avenue, Boolaroo. The site has good public transport (bus route along Main/Lake Road and located close to the Cockle Creek train station) and a local licenced club is close by offering meals and accommodation, which is a benefit for any competition events hold at this venue. This proposed croquet facility (also used for golf croquet, gateball and ricochet) will only be provided when the need for this facility has been demonstrated possibly by the co-joining of other croquet clubs in the City.

Alternative Facility - If there is no demonstrated demand for a croquet facility in the medium term, the funding recommended for this facility may be transferred to the establishment of a new Westlakes Competition Netball Venue. One site identified, is the Council owned community land at 356 Awaba Road, Toronto West, together with the adjoining unformed road to the east. This site adjoins the Toronto Cemetery, and is of a sufficient size to accommodate the 24 netball courts, parking, amenities building, and stormwater/drainage requirements. Further discussion of this proposal will be contained within the draft Toronto Recreation & Land Plan, when prepared.

6.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 14. Glendale CC – Sports Courts – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF SPORTS COURTS | PRIORITY |
|----------------------------|--|---|----------------------|----------|
| BOOLAROO | Croquet Facility (proposed 118A T C Frith Ave) | New croquet facility, OR West Lakes Competition Netball Venue | 6 croquet | High |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff Tennis | Upgrade tennis car park | 1 tennis | Low |
| CARDIFF | Ken Booth/Nancy Dwyer Netball | Reconfigure, upgrade netball courts and car park | 1 netball | Medium |
| CARDIFF STH | Ulinga Park Netball | Upgrade netball car park | 1 netball | Low |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Tennis | New tennis amenities, access path | 1 tennis | High |
| WEST LAKES | Competition Netball Venue | One netball court | 1 netball | Low |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | Upgrade tennis car park | 1 tennis | Low |
| TOTAL SPORTS COURTS | | | 12 | |

7. Multi-purpose Half-courts

Multi-purpose half-courts are recreation facilities that contain basketball hoops, netball rings and/or tennis hit up walls. These facilities are provided for casual recreation use and are usually located in conjunction with a playground, skate park, or a sporting area. In Lake Macquarie, these facilities are usually a half basketball court, however, they may be a full sized outdoor basketball court or a smaller half circle, and provide the major opportunities for young people for 'unstructured' play and the 'playground equivalent' for children over 9 years of age.⁶¹

LMCC has provided some multi-purpose half-courts used for informal basketball, but has not provided any courts for competition basketball. Competition basketball is played at an indoor basketball centre at Broadmeadow.

7.1 Existing Provision

The Glendale CC has three (3) multi-purpose courts at the following locations, two of which are half courts and the court at Warners Bay is a full sized basketball court; all are referred to as half courts:

Table 15. Glendale CC – Multi-purpose half-courts – Existing

| SUBURB | LOCATION | NO. OF MULTI-PURPOSE HALF-COURTS |
|--|---------------|----------------------------------|
| BARNESLEY | Taylor Park | 1 |
| EDGEWORTH | 795 Main Road | 1 |
| WARNERS BAY | Myles Avenue | 1 |
| TOTAL MULTI-PURPOSE HALF-COURTS | | 3 |

In addition, Council has installed a movable hoop at two existing netball courts, which enables basketball to be played when the netball courts are not in use. The movable hoops are located at Gregory Park, West Wallsend and Ken Booth/Nancy Dwyer Netball courts at Cardiff, and have proven to be very popular.

7.2 Identified

The following plan demonstrates the identified need.

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions under 4.17 and one strategy identified is:

A variety of play venue sizes is achieved and a greater diversity of age groups and abilities are served including provision of skate facilities, multi-use courts, graffiti walls, 'rage cages', outdoor music performance areas⁶²

7.3 Comparative

The LDCG does not specify an indicative population threshold for multi-purpose half-courts, however a population threshold is provided for basketball courts, which is one court for every 1,800 persons. The guidelines mentions that 'not all facilities for basketball will need to be provided to a competition standard' and 'it may be possible to meet some of the demand through the provision of half courts'⁶³

The actual provision of multi-purpose half-courts within the Glendale CC is higher than the actual citywide provision and both are lower than the guidelines for basketball specified by DoP in the Draft LDCG referred to as 'guidelines' in the following table.

If the DoP guidelines for basketball were applied to the current population in the Glendale CC then 26 basketball courts would be required. For LMCC, this standard is considered excessive and not achievable.

⁶¹ Hornsby Shire Council (ND) *Unstructured Recreation Strategy: Volume 1*, p. 29, [In Hornsby - these facilities are called ball courts]

⁶² LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 38.

⁶³ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contribution Guidelines*, p. 93.

Table 16. Glendale CC – Multi-purpose half-courts – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF OUTDOOR BASKETBALL / MULTI-COURTS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|--|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 3 | 15,448 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 10 | 20,085 |
| Guidelines* | | | 1,800 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 15,000 |

The recommended standard of provision of one multi-purpose half-court for every 15,000 persons is similar to the actual provision within the catchment, and considered reasonable for the future provision.

7.4 Analysis

Based on the recommended standard of one multi-court for every 15,000 persons, one multi-purpose half court is required and proposed for Killingworth.

7.5 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 17. Glendale CC – Multi-purpose half-courts – Proposed Location

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF MULTI-PURPOSE HALF-COURTS | PRIORITY |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| KILLINGWORTH | Park Street Reserve | 1 new multi-purpose court | 1 | Medium |
| TOTAL MULTI-PURPOSE HALF COURTS | | | 1 | |



Photo of movable basketball netball pole installed at the new netball court Gregory Park, West Wallsend

8. Parks

Parks near and in our cities breathe peace and tranquillity, sustain fun, family time, exercise ⁶⁴

Parks are 'Reserves which have had their physical character and/or vegetation modified to support community recreation, community development and wellbeing uses. They include ornamental gardens, play facilities, community gardens, and informal lawns'.⁶⁵

Parks are for people. Everyone will use a park at some time in his or her lives, whether for a picnic or BBQ, playground, attending larger celebrations or festivals, walking, jogging, or just sitting observing as older adults tend to do. Parks are referred to as the green lungs of our cities and towns. Strategies that accommodate urban growth and the long-term survival of humanity must also include urban parks. Parks are inspiring and pleasant places to exercise and improve physical and mental wellbeing for today's sedentary society. Parks are places to meet and celebrate with family and friends.

'Parks play an essential role in public health, as they are the most readily available source of nature for the majority of people who live in urban areas'. Parks offer people the opportunity to be in, or look at greenery.



Photos of typical parks in Newcastle LGA

Far Left - Civic Park, King St, Newcastle - 2.2 ha;

Left - Gregson Park, Tudor St, Hamilton - 3.88 ha

For the purposes of this section, a park is a grassed area embellished with trees and/or gardens and containing some park facilities. LMCC has numerous areas of land categorised as park, detailed in the *LMCC Plan of Management for Community Land* (adopted 2011). Refer to **Part D** Open Space. They include small and irregular shaped parcels behind houses, buffers to roads, and they include land used for detention/retention/wet ponds/silt traps. These however, are not included as a park in this section.

The park size includes the area categorised as and used as a park. The park may adjoin a natural area or contain land used/leased for another purpose, such as a bowling club or swimming centre, or contain drainage structures. Those other areas are not included in the actual park size.

Generally, the existing parks have been collated according to local, neighbourhood, major / accessible and City Park as detailed in the following table. The DoP guideline identifies a local park as between 0.5 and 2 ha. Since LMCC tends to identify local parks as 0.5 ha, the following hierarchy recommended for LM.⁶⁶ The park hierarchy also considers aspects such as size, location, its use, its catchment (i.e. how far people will travel to use the park), the facilities it contains, configuration, and aesthetic features.

Table 18. Glendale CC – Park – Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | APPROXIMATE SIZE HA | CATCHMENT |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Local Park | 0.5 – 1 ha | 400 m - 800 m |
| Neighbourhood Park | 1 to 5 ha | 2 km |
| Major Park | 5 -10 ha | 5 km |
| City Park | 10+ ha | 10 km |

Within the Glendale CC, there are other small or fragmented areas categorised as park, but containing no park facilities and they have not been included in the existing provision.

⁶⁴ Parks Forum (2008) *The Value of Parks*, p. 1.

⁶⁵ NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 16.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

8.1 Existing Provision

The following parks are located within the Glendale CC:

Table 19. Glendale CC – Park – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | STREET | PARK SIZE HA | NO. OF PARKS | TOTAL |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| LOCAL | | | | | 30 |
| ARGENTON | Argenton Hall Reserve | 7 Elizabeth Street | 0.15 | 1 | |
| BARNSLEY | Taylor Memorial Park | 1A Johnson Ave | 0.91 | 1 | |
| BARNSLEY | | 52 Thomas Street | 0.19 | 1 | |
| BOOLAROO | Albert Reserve | 66 Main Road | 0.07 | 1 | |
| BOOLAROO | | 6A Main Road | 0.03 | 1 | |
| CARDIFF | Cedar Street Park | 41A Cedar Street | 0.18 | 1 | |
| CARDIFF | Fern Valley Road Reserve | 38A Fern Valley Road | 0.78 | 1 | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Gertrude Street Reserve | 27 Gertrude Street | 0.25 | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Kane Bruce Park | 2A Durham Drive | 0.37 | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | | 795 Main Road | 0.83 | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Pittman Avenue Edgeworth | 4 Pittman Avenue | 0.31 | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Turnbull Street Reserve | 34 Turnbull Street | 0.2 | 1 | |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Forest Hills Reserve | 9 Gynea Drive | 0.98 | 1 | |
| GLENDALE | Clarence Street Reserve | 66 Clarence Street | 0.38 | 1 | |
| GLENDALE | Irene Booth Park | 358A Lake Road | 1.32 | 1 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Joseph Holmes Memorial Park | 38 Appletree Road | 0.18 | 1 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Seaham Street Reserve | 73 Seaham Street | 0.42 | 1 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Centennial Park | 21A & 23 George Street | 0.32 | 1 | |
| KILLINGWORTH | Park Street Reserve | 3 Park Street | 0.87 | 1 | |
| KILLINGWORTH | 26 The Broadway | soldiers memorial | 0.1 | 1 | |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Reserve | 135 Ambleside Circuit | 0.47 | 1 | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Cardale Street Reserve | 8 Cardale Road | 0.16 | 1 | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | 125 Lawson Road | 0.28 | 1 | |
| NEW LAMBTON HTS | Walkern Park | 44 Walkern Road | 0.15 | 1 | |
| RANKIN PARK | Elbrook Drive Reserve | 22 Elbrook Drive | 0.16 | 1 | |
| WAKEFIELD | Eddie Peterson Memorial Park | 529 Wakefield Road | 0.22 | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Chartley Street Reserve | 42 Chartley Street | 0.15 | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner Park | 1 John Street | 0.45 | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Vermont Place park | 5 & 12 Vermont Place | 0.59 | 1 | |
| WEST WALLSEND | Soldiers Memorial Park | 49 Carrington Street | 0.04 | 1 | |
| NEIGHBOURHOOD | | | | | 2 |
| CARDIFF | Wilkinson Park | 173 Myall Road | 1.41 | 1 | |
| WEST WALLSEND | Mount Sugarloaf Lookout ⁶⁷ | 2A Mount Sugarloaf Rd | 0.28 | 1 | |
| MAJOR | | | | | 1 |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay Foreshore | 465 The Esplanade | 6.57 | | |
| CITY | | | | | 1 |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park | 13, 15, 20 Park Street | 14.93 | 1 | |
| TOTAL PARKS | | | 38.20 | | 34 |

The LM Live Steam Locomotive Co-operative⁶⁸ leases a parcel of land at the end of Charles and Velinda Streets, Edgeworth. The land contains miniature train tracks, bridges, and picnic areas and it is extremely popular for families with small children for picnics, BBQ's and train rides. This site has NOT been included in the existing provision, as it is fenced and only open to the public one day/month.

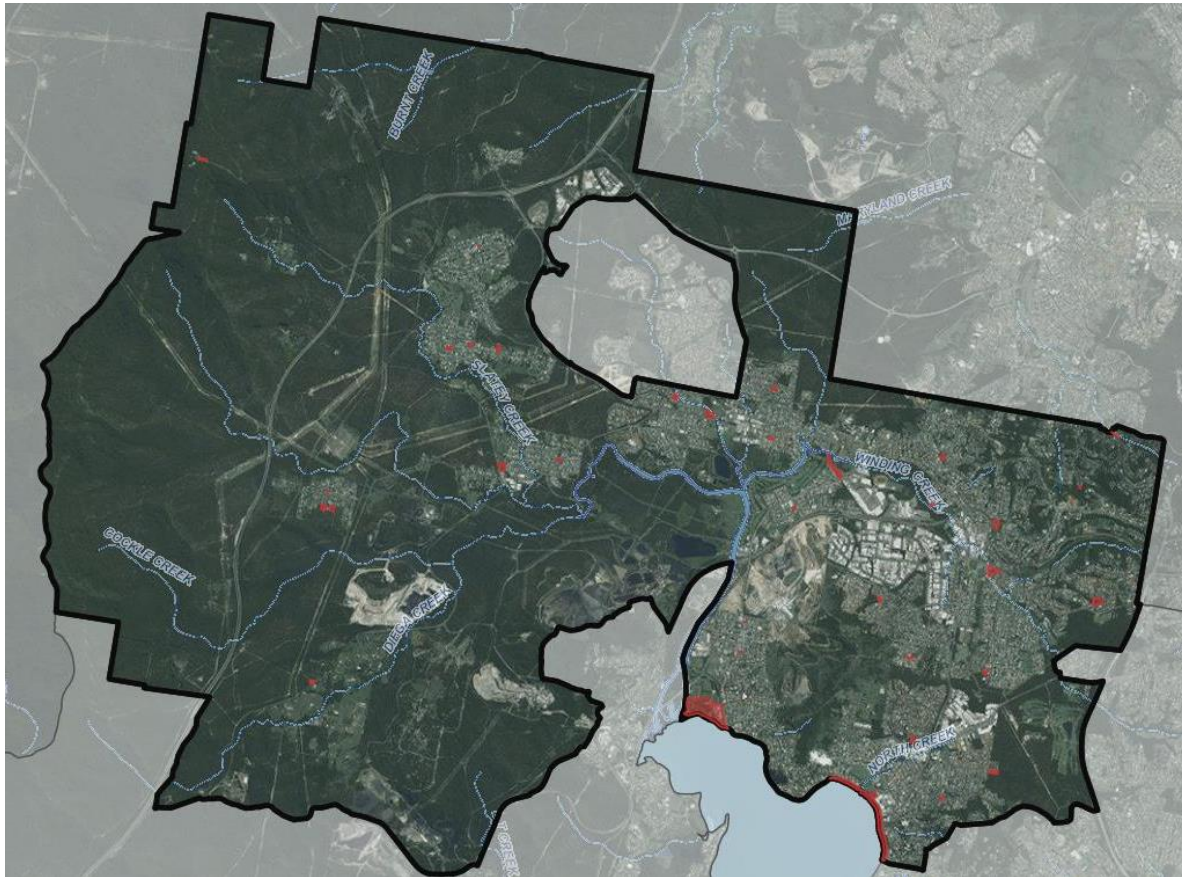
There are other parks within Cameron Park, including the proposed Geoff Pasterfield Park, but these have not been included in the existing provision, as they are not within the Glendale CC. Other significant parks located outside the catchment, include the Blue Gum Hills Regional Park, at Minmi, and Blackbutt Reserve, at New Lambton. Both parks are within the Newcastle City Council Local Government Area.

⁶⁷ Mount Sugarloaf includes a larger picnic area which is now managed by NPWS, a smaller parcel of community land is managed by LMCC

⁶⁸ Community Land leased to LM Live Steam Locomotive Co-operative – open to the public last Sunday of every month except December, 11 times/year

The provision and distribution of parks in the Glendale catchment is shaded red in Figure 7. The figure indicates, apart from two large parks on the southern boundary, the majority of the parks are small, and there are no larger parks to the middle and north-west of the catchment to serve the projected growth.

Figure 8. Glendale CC – Parks - Existing



8.2 Identified

The following surveys, plans, strategies and guidelines demonstrate the identified need.

● NSW State Plan

The NSW Government is committed to planning for towns and cities that are not only accessible and viable, but are great places to live and work. The State Plan identifies certain priorities, with priority E8 targeted to:

- Build liveable cities⁶⁹
- Enhance cultural, creative, sporting and recreation opportunities, and
- Increase participation in sport, recreational, arts and cultural activities in rural and regional NSW from 2010 to 2016 by 10%⁷⁰

● Draft Centres Design Guidelines

DoP has prepared design principles to guide the future development of centres, including:

- Analyse the opportunities to make new public spaces in the form of parks and squares when planning the renewal or revitalisation of an existing centre
- Parks and squares can give relief from urban environments; provide places for recreation and entertainment, places for meeting people but also places of solitude

⁶⁹ NSW DoP (2011) NSW 2021: A plan to make NSW number one, Goal 20, p.40.

⁷⁰ Ibid., Goal 27, p. 51.

- Ensure buildings front onto and overlook parks and squares with openings, balconies and terraces to allow passive surveillance and improve internal outlook⁷¹

● Delivery Program

The community told Council to: ‘plan and develop playgrounds and parklands’⁷²

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies actions and relevant strategies including:

- Enhancing parklands away from the lake, particularly through infrastructure and servicing and the development of linear links⁷³
- Improve access to Brandon Street reserve in Argenton...provide internal walking/cycle track, play facilities, signposting, review need for shopping centre exclusion fencing⁷⁴
- Improve access to informal parkland on Winding Creek at Frederick Street and to Irene Booth Memorial Park⁷⁵
- Develop local picnic venues suitable for children and families at Gregory Park, West Wallsend, and Cocked Hat Creek reserve in Edgeworth⁷⁶
- Review the design of The Esplanade walking/cycle track with a view to identifying strategies for avoiding user conflicts and car/ user crossing conflicts⁷⁷
- Undertake amenity improvements and plantings, at Edgeworth Recreation Reserve⁷⁸

● Open Space Strategy

The results of the open space recreation participation survey indicated that in relation hours per week, the activity picnic/barbeque was sixth highest, having a participation rate higher than most sports such as soccer, tennis, cricket football, netball and athletics.⁷⁹

● Open Space Plan

The survey undertaken as part of the open space plan prepared by Clouston identified that:

- The most popular open space settings were foreshore parks (25%), natural bushland (19%) and beaches (16%)
- Parks with a large range of facilities (65.3%) were preferred to few large parks (33.2%)
- Lake oriented recreation areas (62.1%) were preferred to beach oriented recreation areas (29.4%)⁸⁰

8.3 Comparative

The LDCG has not specified an indicative population threshold for the provision of parks. However, the guideline does provide a standard of one playground for every 500 dwellings, or a distance of 400 metres from a dwelling.⁸¹ If the population threshold for a park is the same as for a playground, then one park per 1,250 persons is the assumed population threshold based on an average occupancy of 2.5 persons per dwelling. Refer to **Appendix 4** for additional information on various standards and guidelines.

Table 20. Glendale CC – Park – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF PARKS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 34 | 1,384 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 137 | 1,466 |
| Guidelines* | | | 1,250 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 1,400 |

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, NSW DoP (2011) *Draft Centre Design Guidelines*, Department of Planning Sydney, p. 48, and 49.

⁷² LMCC (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Delivery Program 2013-2017*, Priority 3.3, p. 50.

⁷³ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 34.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, Action 4.28, p. 53.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, Action 4.28, p. 53.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, Action 4.29, p. 54.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, Action 4.26, p. 70.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Action 4.26, p. 76.

⁷⁹ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, prepared by URS, refer to Graph 4.2 - Summary of Participation by Activity.

⁸⁰ LMCC (1996) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 1*, prepared by Clouston, p. 14.

⁸¹ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 93.

The recommended general park standard of one park for every 1,400 persons is similar to the actual provision within the catchment, but lower than the assumed standard of 1,250. Considering that dog exercise areas and community gardens are also located in parks, as mentioned further in the plan, the recommended standard for a park is considered reasonable for the future population.

8.4 Best Practice

The guidelines prepared by DoP are a best practice guide to assist Councils in planning their investments in open space and recreation. The guideline identifies opportunities and options such as:

- *Acquiring larger sites for multiple and changing uses over time-larger sites can support multiple uses*
- *Reserving areas for expansion will provide flexibility as new needs emerge. Maintenance costs are minimised where there are fewer but larger open space areas⁸²*

This plan generally supports the future provision of fewer local parks but larger neighbourhood and catchment parks as reflected in the park hierarchy.

8.5 Analysis

There are 34 parks within the Glendale CC. Based on the recommended general park standard of one park for every 1,400 persons the provision on a catchment basis is generally adequate. However, the catchment has many small local parks, which are under the minimum required size of 0.5 ha. Some of these are memorials and are more like a public domain area than a park and others just contain some play equipment. Refer to Figure 7. Some suburbs, like West Wallsend and Edgeworth have no parks as such and certainly no neighbourhood parks. The catchment does have two larger parks but these are located on the southern boundary of the catchment. The catchment is lacking neighbourhood parks in the locality that will experience the majority of the growth, which is to the north, and north-west of the catchment. This plan recommends the acquisition of land and to change the existing use of community land to provide parks where required, and to upgrade existing parks where there is adequate provision.

8.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 21. Glendale CC – Park – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | TOTAL PARKS | PRIORITY |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| BOOLAROO | 118A T C Frith Ave, land south of Cockle Creek train station | Local park - new | 1 | Low |
| CAMERON PARK | 140 Minmi Rd, (within C&A Northern Lands – Link Rd South Precinct) | Local park - new | 1 | Medium |
| CARDIFF | Harry Ford Park (proposed) Kelton & Veronica Sts | Town park - new | 1 | Medium |
| EDGEWORTH | Edgeworth Park (proposed at Charles Street athletics track site) | Neighbourhood park - new | 1 | Medium |
| GLENDALE | Civic Park (proposed) land east of Hunter Sports Centre | Civic park - new | 1 | Medium |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park | City park - upgrade | 1 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay Foreshore | Neighbourhood park - upgrade | 1 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner Park | Major park – upgrade | 1 | High |
| WEST WALLSEND | West Wallsend Park (proposed) expansion of Johnson Park | Neighbourhood park - new | 1 | Medium |
| TOTAL PARKS | | | 9 | |

⁸² NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 8 and 36.

9. Playgrounds

Playgrounds are facilities located in parks or sportsgrounds. Primarily playgrounds are designed to be fun and they expose children to different (physical, social, and educational) challenges and help them to develop new skills. Local playgrounds have minimal equipment and are usually designed for young children. Neighbourhood playgrounds provide more play opportunities and cater for a wider age range. A major playground has a greater range of equipment from young children to adults, provides various levels of risk and includes some accessible components. By providing a variety of playgrounds that cater for different age ranges, themes, different settings, and progressive level of risk, this provision addresses a greater proportion of children's needs through all the stages of their development.

9.1 Existing Provision

There are 27 playgrounds within the Glendale CC, including one (1) playground located on community title land within the Green Point Estate.

Table 22. Glendale CC – Playground – Existing

| SUBURB | LOCATION | NO. OF PLAYGROUNDS | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------|
| LOCAL | | | 23 |
| ARGENTON | Argenton Hall Reserve | 1 | |
| BARNSLEY | Taylor Memorial Park | 1 | |
| CARDIFF | Cedar Street Park | 1 | |
| CARDIFF | Fern Valley Road Reserve | 1 | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Gertrude Street Reserve | 1 | |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Kane Bruce Park | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Pittman Avenue Edgeworth | 1 | |
| EDGEWORTH | Turnbull Street Reserve | 1 | |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Forest Hills Reserve | 1 | |
| GLENDALE | Clarence Street Reserve | 1 | |
| GLENDALE | Bill Bower Field | 1 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Seaham Street Reserve | 1 | |
| HOLMESVILLE | Centennial Park | 1 | |
| KILLINGWORTH | Park Street Reserve | 1 | |
| LAKELANDS | Lakelands Reserve | 1 | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Cardale Street Reserve | 1 | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | 1 | |
| NEW LAMBTON HTS | Walken Park | 1 | |
| RANKIN PARK | Elbrook Drive Reserve | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Chartley Street Reserve | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Vermont Place park | 1 | |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | 1 | |
| NEIGHBOURHOOD | | | 2 |
| CARDIFF | Wilkinson Park Cardiff | 1 | |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner Park | 1 | |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park Exercise Station | 1 | |
| MAJOR | | | 1 |
| SPEERS POINT | Frog Hollow / All Abilities Playground | 1 | |
| TOTAL PLAYGROUNDS | | | 27 |

Other playgrounds are also located at the Tree Tops Adventure Park located within Blue Gum Hills Regional Park, at Blackbutt Reserve, and at childcare centres/preschools within the catchment. These playgrounds have not been included in the existing provision.

The hierarchy for playgrounds would generally be in accordance with the following table. However, in the longer term there may be a need to provide a major playground for the 0-5 year age group such as the Ivey Watson Playground in Kings Park Perth. A playground strategy may be developed in the future.

Table 23. Glendale CC – Playground – Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | GENERAL AGE RANGE | CATCHMENT |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Local Playground | 2 to 8 yrs | 400 m to 800 m |
| Neighbourhood Playground | 2 to 12 yrs | 2 km |
| Major Playground | 2 to 15 yrs | 10 km |
| City Playground | 2 to adult | LM LGA |

9.2 Identified

The following surveys, strategy and plans demonstrate this identify need.

● Cycling Strategy

As part of the *LMCC Cycling Strategy*, a community survey was undertaken in 2011, and results revealed that there had been two accidents on a shared path with children learning to ride their bicycle and that “children learning to ride on the Fernleigh track [may be] unwise as they wobble everywhere”, particularly if “unsupervised by a parent.⁸³ The Cycling Strategy recommends that Council:

Investigate the provision of a dedicated public facility for training young children to cycle (e.g. Speers Point Park)⁸⁴

● LMCC Community Plan

The plan identifies directions and progress indicators such as a:

- Plan and develop playgrounds and parklands⁸⁵

● Recreation Plan

The plan recommends to:

- Develop more imaginative and exciting playgrounds and provide safe bike access⁸⁶
- Initiate a program of works designed to overcome the playground deficiencies and to build on the strengths giving priority to shade, amenities, fencing, age-specific facilities and defining a hierarchy of provision across the City
- Undertake a program of works to expand the range of equipment provided at selected playgrounds in each catchment such that a variety of play venue sizes is achieved and a greater diversity of age groups, abilities, skills are served⁸⁷

9.3 Comparative

The LDCG specifies an indicative population threshold of one (1) playground for every 500 dwellings or 400 metres from a dwelling. Assuming an occupancy rate of 2.5 persons per dwelling the guideline standard is therefore one playground for every 1,250 persons. This is a higher level of provision than either the local, or the citywide standard of provision. Refer also to **Appendix 5** for further analysis on standards and guidelines.

Table 24. Glendale CC – Playground – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF PLAYGROUNDS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 27 | 1,716 |
| LMCC LGA | 200,849 | 120 | 1,674 |
| Guidelines* | | | 1,250 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 1,500 |

The recommended standard of one playground for every 1,500 persons is the same as the actual provision within the catchment and considered reasonable and achievable for the future population.

⁸³ LMCC (2012) *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021*, prepared by GHD, p. 16.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 67.

⁸⁵ LMCC (2008) *Lake Macquarie Community Plan 2008-2018*, p. 45.

⁸⁶ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 2*, p. 33.

⁸⁷ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 37 and 38.

9.4 Best Practice

The NSW government's, *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, is a best practice guide to assist Councils in planning their investments in open space and recreation. Key elements of the guidelines include:

- Local park, size of **0.5 – 2 ha**, within 400 m distance from most dwellings⁸⁸

A local park would usually include children's play equipment. The *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government* provide a general direction for recreational planning and the guidelines recommend the development of locally appropriate standards that reflect expressed needs.⁸⁹ LMCC has developed those locally appropriate standards. Refer to **Appendix 7**.

9.5 Analysis

There are 27 playgrounds within the Glendale CC, and based on the recommended general standard of one playground every 1,500 persons, the existing level of provision in the catchment is adequate. The plan recommends the provision of new playgrounds, playground upgrades and outdoor gyms at 13 sites within the Glendale CC.

9.6 Recommendations

The recommended level of provision is one (1) general playground for every 1,500 persons.

Based on the projected growth, the following new playgrounds and playground upgrades are required. In a developed catchment, the identification of suitable sites for the provision of new parks and playgrounds is problematic so some existing playgrounds are proposed to be upgraded.

Table 25. Glendale CC – Playground – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | TOTAL PLAYGROUNDS | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------|---|--|-------------------|-----------|
| BARNSLEY | Taylor Park | Upgrade local play | 1 | Low |
| BOOLAROO | Cockle Creek – land opposite train station | New local playground | 1 | Low |
| CAMERON PARK (near) | C&A land within 140 Minmi Rd | New local playground | 1 | Medium |
| CARDIFF | Harry Ford Park (proposed) | Cardiff Town Park – new sculptured play | 1 | Medium |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ulinga Park | Upgrade playground and re-locate on-site | 1 | Low |
| EDGEWORTH | Edgeworth Park (proposed) Charles St | New neighbourhood play for young children – repurpose athletics track | 1 | Medium |
| HOLMESVILLE | Seaham St & unformed road | Upgrade local playground | 1 | Very High |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | Upgrade local playground | 1 | Medium |
| SPEERS POINT | All Abilities Variety Playground | Upgrade playground, repurpose maze with bike skills area and progressive challenges, shelters, BBQ, security fencing | 1 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park | New outdoor gym | 1 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay Foreshore | New outdoor gym | 1 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner Park | Upgrade neighbourhood play | 1 | High |
| WEST WALLSEND | West Wallsend Park (proposed) land east of Johnson Park | New neighbourhood playground | 1 | Low |
| TOTAL PLAYGROUNDS | | | 13 | |

⁸⁸ NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 29.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 39.

10. Community Gardens

A community garden is a valued asset of the local community where residents come together to share knowledge and skills, socialise and grow food⁹⁰

A garden is 'a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, or vegetables are cultivated'⁹¹. Gardens are often an integral component of a park and they can include ornamental gardens, annuals or rose gardens, native gardens, edible gardens, bush tucker gardens or food forests.

Community gardens provide an avenue for the community to learn, connect, be inspired, and to replicate in one's own backyard. They provide a range of social, physical, psychological benefits and they provide a mechanism for people to interact with others. Community gardens build communities; they teach people how to grow their own food, and eat locally grown produce (recommended in LMCC's Sustainable Eating Guide).

Community gardens can be located in a park, road reserve, beside a neighbourhood/community centre, in schools, or Men's Shed. In terms of scale, they range from a few garden beds in a cul-de-sac to a large City Farm comprising several hectares. Community groups can obtain approval to manage/maintain parks or community land for gardening including community gardens. This is similar to sporting groups managing Council's sportsgrounds and Land care groups managing natural areas.

Community gardens can occupy part of an existing park or they can be an entire park. For example, the Randwick Permaculture Interpretive Garden (PIG) is an edible landscaped public park, and referred to as a 'community park'. Such gardens have won Keep Australia Beautiful Awards, and are now an accepted feature in the urban landscape with many Councils Australia wide developing policies to assist in their development.

10.1 Existing Provision

There is one community garden in the Glendale CC at the Sugar Valley Neighbourhood Centre.

Table 26. Glendale CC – Community Gardens – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | NO. OF COMMUNITY GARDENS |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| WEST WALLSEND | Sugar Valley Neighbourhood Centre | 1 |
| TOTAL COMMUNITY GARDENS | | 1 |

10.2 Identified

Community gardens are growing in popularity. LMCC's first community garden at Belmont North has been operating for 18 years and the community garden at Morisset operating since 2010. Since then, there has been a growing demand for community gardens, and the City now has 12 community gardens with a number in planning or underway. The following groups and documents demonstrate and strengthen the need for community gardens.

● Sustainable Neighbourhood Groups

LMCC has established a Sustainable Neighbourhood Program with 14 groups currently operating in the City and many more planned which will encompass the entire LM LGA. The groups operating and proposed for this catchment include Sugarloaf area, West Wallsend, Cardiff area, Cameron Park and Edgeworth, Warners Bay area and Speers Point. These groups develop sustainable neighbourhood action plans (SNAPs), which identify actions relevant to their areas. All existing SNAPs have identified community gardens in their action plans, and some have identified more than one community garden in their area.

⁹⁰ Woodrising, Booragul and Marmong Point Sustainable Neighbourhood Group (2011) *Woodrising, Booragul and Marmong Point Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan*, Objective 3.1, p. 9.

⁹¹ Definition of garden by Merriam-Webster, also 'an area of ground where plants (such as flowers or vegetables) are grown';

www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/garden

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions and strategies including:

- Promote opportunities for community group recreation development initiatives at appropriate site – specific strategies include community gardens for vegetable growing⁹²
- Enhance the provision of opportunities for other leisure activities - *Initiate a program of facility development and provision to strengthen opportunities for informal leisure opportunities for all ages groups, including community gardens*⁹³

● Community Gardens Policy

LMCC has adopted a *Community Gardens Policy* in October 2009, and a procedure for assessing community gardens.

● Draft Centres Design Guidelines

DoP has prepared design principles to guide the future development of centres. Principles include:

- Establish community gardens close to the residential areas of a centre for recreation, food source and education
- Investigate the potential of underutilised public parks and spaces and community-owned land near higher – density housing for new community gardens
- Consider innovative ways to include community gardens and urban farming in public spaces and streets, such as 'edible streets', to provide greater connection between residents with food production
- Promote access to fresh local and organic produce by supporting community gardens close to centres that could supply produce to local businesses and farmers' markets
- Explore other innovative ways to include food production into daily life, such as 'productive roof gardens' and urban farms⁹⁴

10.3 Comparative

The LDCG does not specify an indicative population threshold for community gardens. Frequently, community gardens can occupy part of a park, a small lot or a larger City Farm facility.

Table 27. Glendale CC – Community Gardens – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF COMMUNITY GARDENS | FACILITY PER PERSON |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Glendale CC - Existing | 46,344 | 1 | 46,344 |
| LMCC LGA - Existing (2012) | 200,849 | 14 | 14,346 |
| Guidelines* | | | None known |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 5,000 |

The existing standard may be considered adequate for some Council's or communities. However, LMCC is committed to sustainability and has implemented a sustainable neighbourhood program whereby communities develop sustainability action plans, which include actions such as 'increase localised food production through the establishment of community gardens'. Community gardens are an essential ingredient of the transition to a more sustainable society. Both the community and Council have indicated their support for these facilities, and this is reflected in the recommended standard.

The recommended standard of one (1) community garden for every 5,000 persons is higher than the existing provision, however, considering the population is ageing and will be less mobile, approximately one community garden for every two or three suburbs is considered reasonable.

⁹² LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan Volume 1*, Action 3.3, p. 28.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, Action 4.2.1, p. 42.

⁹⁴ NSW Government (2011) *Draft Centres Design Guidelines*, p. 60.

10.4 Best Practice

In 2012, the Green Building Council of Australia developed a guideline for Green Star Communities and a pilot rating tool. The guideline and tool validates environmental and sustainable initiatives by rating development projects according to a 1-6 star rating. The provision of a community garden is included in the rating system.

As well as community gardens, city farms are growing in significance throughout Australia. There are City Farms established in Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Canberra, and a City Farm is in the process of development at St Peters, Sydney.⁹⁵

10.5 Analysis

Community gardens are a recreational activity that are inclusive of the entire community. They are particularly important for an ageing community, for people living alone or who suffer from social isolation, and for people living in high-density vertical communities with limited or no private open space.

Some basic park infrastructure is required for the establishment of community gardens. Depending upon the scale of the community garden, these park facilities could include the provision of water, bubbler, shade structure, seating, shared pathways to and through the site, public toilets, and car parking, all of which are park infrastructure used for the embellishment of any park. Council will not fund operational requirements, such as mulch, garden equipment or plant materials, or items used on a regular basis.

Currently, there are 97 suburbs in the LM LGA, and the ultimate aim would be one community garden in every suburb. At this stage, a more reasonable goal would be about one community garden for every two to three suburbs. A general recommended standard for LM of one community garden for every 5,000 persons is proposed. Based on the conservative standard, eleven new community gardens are recommended subject to community demand.

The following hierarchy for community gardens is recommended for future provision:

Table 28. Glendale CC – Community Gardens - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | POPULATION THRESHOLD |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Local | up to 0.2 ha | 1 km | 1:5,000 |
| Neighbourhood | 0.2 - 0.5 ha | 4 km | 1:50,000 |
| City Farm | over 10 ha | city wide | 1:200,000 |

10.6 Recommendations

It is important that Council identify areas of community land for the possible future development of community gardens to ensure that land is available when community groups want to establish these facilities. This is particularly important in areas planned for medium or high-density residential development.

It is equally important to note that the development of a community garden is an activity, which is usually community driven, in order to ensure that there is adequate support for the initial set-up as well as the ongoing operation.

The Glendale CC will experience significant growth with infill development and new development areas, and the demand for community gardens is expected to increase significantly in the future. This plan recommends that an area of community land categorised as park be identified and retained within each suburb for the establishment of community gardens in the future, as this is essential for Council to meet these future community needs.

This plan identifies the following sites, which may be suitable for the development of community gardens. However, they are dependent upon community demand, are subject to a site assessment and maybe changed if alternate sites are suitable.

⁹⁵ <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/about-council/meetings/calendar-and-business-papers-2015/2015/may/environment-committee>

Table 29. Glendale CC – Community Gardens – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF COMMUNITY GARDENS | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| ARGENTON | 134 Montgomery Street | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| BARNSELY | 52 Thomas Street | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| CARDIFF | 38A Fern Valley Road | New community garden | 1 | Medium |
| EDGEWORTH | 1A Garth Street | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| GLENDALE | 5 Glendon Crescent | New community garden | 1 | High |
| HOLMESVILLE | 1A Asher Street | New community garden | 1 | High |
| KILLINGWORTH | 3 Park Street | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| LAKELANDS OR WARNERS BAY | 135 Ambleside Circuit | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| SPEERS POINT | 28A Bell Street | New community garden | 1 | Low |
| TERABLA | 46 Griffen Road (proposed possible site) | New City Farm | 1 | Low |
| TOTAL COMMUNITY GARDENS | | | 11 | |

Some examples of community gardens are:



Photo Above Right - Community Garden at Belmont Nth
 Photo Above Left – The opening of the Warners Bay Community Garden at Bunya Park



Photo Right – Woolloomooloo Community Garden - Source: Australian City Farm & Community Gardens Network
<http://communitygarden.org.au>

11. Dog Exercise Areas

A dog exercise area is an area for dogs to exercise and socialise with other dogs off lead. These areas are also known as dog off-leash parks⁹⁶ or dog parks⁹⁷. Australia has one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world, and for the vast majority of Australians, dogs and cats are companions and much-loved members of our families.

In response to a growing demand for off-leash dog exercise areas and in accordance with the Companion Animals Act (1998), LMCC adopted a Dog Exercise Areas Policy in 2005.

11.1 Existing Provision

LMCC currently has 28 dog exercise areas across the LGA, four of which are within the Glendale CC. Speers Point dog exercise area is available at all times, whereas the other areas are time and day restricted.

Table 30. Glendale CC – Dog Exercise Area – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | AVAILABLE TIMES | NO. OF DOG EXERCISE AREAS |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| BARNSLEY | Taylor Park (northern part) | Sunrise to 10 am weekdays only | 1 |
| CARDIFF | Orchard & Brent Sts Cardiff No. 3 | Sunrise to 10 am weekdays only | 1 |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point (western part) | At all times | 1 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | Sunrise to 10 am weekdays only | 1 |
| TOTAL DOG EXERCISE AREAS | | | 4 |

11.2 Identified

Around 63% of Australian homes have a pet, and almost 40% of Australians own a dog⁹⁸. At end Feb 2012, there were 42,601 registered dogs and 58,046 dogs including unregistered dogs in the LM LGA. Over the past ten years, LM has registered on average 4,150 new dogs each year. An increased residential population means an increase in dog registrations and the need for designated dog exercise areas. The following demonstrates the identified need.

● Parks and Leisure Australia

The importance of dogs as companions is highlighted in the results of a recent online survey of 800 residents in a Melbourne municipality.

*I exercise more because I have a dog – 72%*⁹⁹

● Recreation Plan

Action 2.9 of the Recreation Plan identifies:

*Improve dog management in parks – define and promote more dog use areas in parks*¹⁰⁰

● Open Space Strategy

The Recreation Participation Survey undertaken in 2001 indicated that ‘walking the dog’ was a popular recreation activity with high rates of participation. According to the survey, exercising the dog had more than double the participation rates of the most sports including soccer, tennis, cricket, football, netball, and athletics.¹⁰¹ The *LM Open Space Strategy* recommends the further development of a citywide pathway network park will respond to the demand for suitable facilities for people to walk their dogs.¹⁰²

⁹⁶ National Heart Foundation of Australia (2011) *Neighbourhood Walkability Checklist: How walkable is your community?* P. 9.

⁹⁷ Queensland Government website [Parks 4 People](#)

⁹⁸ Petcare Information and Advisory Service (2006) *National People and its Pet Survey Socially Responsible Pet Ownership in Australia: A Decade of Progress*, prepared by Professor Bruce Headey. http://www.petnet.com.au/sites/default/files/National_People_and_Pets_2006.pdf

⁹⁹ Parks & Leisure Australia (2013) *Fenced Dog Parks: What you probably don't know but need to know!* PLA Vic/Tas Region Seminar Series held in Melbourne on 19 March 2013.

¹⁰⁰ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 26.

¹⁰¹ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, prepared by URS, Graph 4.2.

¹⁰² *Ibid.*, p. 6-5.

● Council Policy

LMCC has a Dog Exercise Area Policy, which states that 'Council will provide open space sites for the exercising of dogs off leads'. In accordance with the policy, the areas can be provided with disposal bins, a water supply with water basin, seating and shade, and may have low mesh fencing.

11.3 Comparative

Dog exercise areas can share a park and are available on a part-time basis or they can be fenced and occupy an area on a full-time basis. The NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 requires Councils to provide dog exercise areas, and most Councils are now providing specific dog exercise areas.

For comparison purposes, Hornsby Shire Council has six fully fenced off-leash dog areas. Redland Council has 30 dog off leash areas¹⁰³ (19 of which are fully fenced and two have dog agility equipment) this equates to a provision standard of one dog off leash area per 4,787 population. Gosford City Council has 40 dog exercise areas this equates to a provision standard of one dog exercise area per 4,170 persons. The DoP has not specified a provision standard in its guidelines, but the above comparison provides an indicative guide.

Table 31. Glendale CC – Dog Exercise Area – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF DOG EXERCISE AREAS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 4 | 11,586 |
| LMCC LGA | 200,849 | 29 | 6,926 |
| Guidelines* | | | None known |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 7,000 |

The recommended standard of one dog exercise area for every 7,000 persons is similar to the current citywide provision, and considered reasonable for future provision, with one fenced dog park recommended for each catchment.

11.4 Best Practice

For Council's, dog exercise areas are a standard provision with some providing designated fenced areas and others also providing dog agility equipment. Dog owners are also park users, and the need for fenced areas or fenced park boundaries allows dog owners to exercise their dog's off-leash.

11.5 Analysis

There are four (4) dog exercise areas within the Glendale CC, and based on the recommended standard of one dog exercise area for every 7,000 persons, an additional four (4) dog exercise areas are required.

11.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for additional dog exercise areas in the Glendale CC are:

Table 32. Glendale CC – Dog Exercise Area – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF DOG EXERCISE AREAS | PRIORITY |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|----------|
| CARDIFF / MACQUARIE HILLS | 103A Mitchell Road | Dog exercise area along pathway & transmission line easement | 1 | Medium |
| EDGEWORTH | 721A, 723A, 725 Main Rd, 81A Turnbull St | Dog exercise area, fencing | 1 | High |
| HILLSBOROUGH / WARNERS BAY | 5 Vermont Place | Dog exercise area in large detention basin | 1 | Medium |
| KILLINGWORTH | 30, 31, 32 Throckmorton | Dog exercise area | 1 | Low |
| TOTAL DOG EXERCISE AREAS | | | 4 | |

¹⁰³ Redlands City Council (2012) *Redland Open Space Strategy 2012 – 2026*, p. 44.

12. Skate Parks

Skate parks are now an important and common recreation facility in most Council areas. Councils provide skate parks, as they are a relatively safe place for people to skate. People skate in shopping centres, on roads, malls and other public places, which is potentially dangerous to themselves and to others. Young males generally use skate parks, however some adults are also regular users. Skate parks can be located in parks, sportsgrounds, or public domain/plaza areas and they may comprise bowls, street skate – ramps/rails/steps, or a combination of both.

12.1 Existing Provision

LMCC has nine (9) skate parks in the LGA, with two (2) skate parks located in the Glendale CC. Generally, some facilities may be small in scale catering for only local users, whilst other larger facilities attract users from the entire catchment. The two existing skate parks are small street style skate parks. There are no larger skate parks in this catchment; however, the catchment does have a private indoor skate facility located at Hillsborough Road, Warners Bay.¹⁰⁴

Table 33. Glendale CC – Skate Park – Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME / LOCATION | NO. OF SKATE PARKS |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| HOLMESVILLE | Sugar Valley Skate Park - Kevin Evans Oval | 1 |
| CARDIFF | Wilkinson Park | 1 |
| TOTAL SKATE PARKS | | 2 |

12.2 Identified

Community demand for skate parks has not altered over time. The construction of a new skate park in the city triggers requests for additional skate parks in other neighbourhoods. Council has been planning for the provision of a skate park in Glendale for many years, and Council has identified a site for that purpose. The following plans and Councils' resolution demonstrate the identified need.

● Community Plan

The Community Plan identifies directions such as:

Plan and develop skate facilities at suitable sites throughout the city¹⁰⁵

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions under 4.29 and 4.21 and specific strategies include:

- Provision of multi-use venues for young people with facilities for roller blade and skate activities such venues should be placed in prominent positions with easy access to public transport and commercial support services such as food outlets and other forms of entertainment¹⁰⁶
- Develop multi-use activity venues with courts, skate facilities and support services and facilities at Gregory Park, West Wallsend, Park St reserve, Killingworth, Taylor Memorial Park in Barnsley and Cocked Hat Creek reserve, Edgeworth¹⁰⁷

● Council Report

Council at its meeting of 27 April 1999 resolved to support the development of skate facilities throughout the City. The report identified Glendale for the development of a district or regional level facility.

12.3 Comparative

The LDCG specifies an indicative population threshold for a small and large skate park. This standard of provision is higher than the local or city standard in LM. However, the guidelines also mention that there

¹⁰⁴ Playgrounds Park Indoor Skatepark, www.playgroundspark.com.au .

¹⁰⁵ LMCC (2008) *Lake Macquarie Community Plan 2008-2018*, p. 45.

¹⁰⁶ LMCC (1998) *Lake Macquarie City Council Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 58

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 75.

is usually only one large skate park provided per LGA. This plan recommends the provision of fewer but higher quality facilities.

Table 34. Glendale CC – Skate Park – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF SKATE PARKS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 2 | 23,172 |
| LMCC LGA | 200,849 | 9 | 22,317 |
| Guidelines* - small skate park | | | 6,000 |
| Guidelines* - large skate park | | | 10,000 |
| RECOMMENDED GENERAL STANDARD | | | 20,000 |

As a comparison, the City of Newcastle has 10 skate parks equating to approximately one skate park per 15,478 persons. Maitland City Council has five skate parks equating to approximately one skate park per 13,929 persons. For LM, the recommended general standard of one skate park for 20,000 persons is similar to the current citywide provision, and is considered reasonable for the future provision.

12.4 Best Practice

Skate parks are best co-located with youth/community/recreation centres, in public parks, sportsgrounds, and places with good passive surveillance. Other important considerations for these facilities are ease of transport, access, and user safety. For suburbs with poor public transport, local facilities can be provided.

12.5 Analysis

Access to affordable youth recreation activities is important for young people. There are two skate parks within the Glendale CC and based on the recommended general standard of one skate park every 20,000 persons one additional skate park is required in the catchment.

The following hierarchy is recommended for future provision:

Table 35. Glendale CC – Skate Park - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | POPULATION THRESHOLD |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------|----------------------|
| Small Skate Park | 500 m2 | 2 to 5 km | 1:20,000 |
| Large Skate Park ¹⁰⁸ | 2,500 m2 | 5 to 10 km | 1 per catchment |

Council has identified a major skate park in Glendale since 1999. A skate park has been included in the master plan of the Northpower Stadium (now Hunter Sports Centre) and Community Facilities in 2002 and a citywide skate park was included in the section 94 contributions plan adopted by Council in 2004¹⁰⁹. Considering the growth in and around Glendale, one large skate park is proposed for this emerging regional centre beside the Hunter Sports Centre. The skate park is to be located within the Glendale Civic Park and incorporated into a civic plaza or public domain area. Refer also to **Appendix 10** on page. 98.

12.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 36. Glendale CC – Skate Park – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | TOTAL SKATE PARKS | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| LARGE SKATE PARK | | | | |
| GLENDALE | Civic Park (proposed) land east of Hunter Region Sports Centre | 1 new large skate park | 1 | Medium |
| TOTAL SKATE PARKS | | | 1 | |

¹⁰⁸ Based on the size of Swansea Skate Park, which is 2,700 m2 for the actual skating area of the park.

¹⁰⁹ LMCC (2004) *Lake Macquarie Section 94 Contributions Plan No. 1 Citywide*, Item 29 and Item 30 p. 108.



Glendale Skate Park – A design suggested by a resident

13. BMX Tracks

BMX (Bicycle Motocross) is fast becoming a recognised sport and has increased its profile since its introduction into the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008. BMX can include racing or freestyle and freestyle BMX includes dirt, flatland, park/street and vert. BMX tracks can be located in parks, sportsgrounds, natural areas, or a community group may request land to build a facility that they manage.

BMX riding is increasing in popularity and since BMX cycling was added to the Olympic program in 2008, Australia has celebrated multiple podium finishes at BMX World Championships and the 2012 Olympic Games.

13.1 Existing Provision

Authorised BMX tracks in the City are located at Argenton and at Cameron Park. The Argenton BMX facility and the land is leased to the Lake Macquarie BMX Club Inc. The facility is fenced and use is restricted to members of the Club, other than during interclub competitions. The track at Cameron Park is fenced but is open and available to the public at all times for BMX use. Riders in the general area would use the BMX track at Cameron Park, however, it is not within the Glendale CC so it has not been included.

Table 37. Glendale CC – BMX Track - Existing

| SUBURB | LOCATION | NO. OF AUTHORISED BMX TRACKS |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| ARGENTON | Kindyerra Park | 1 |
| TOTAL AUTHORISED BMX TRACKS | | 1 |

NB: The BMX track at Cameron Park is not located in the Glendale CC and has not been included

13.2 Identified

The need for BMX tracks is demonstrated by the number of unauthorised informal BMX tracks constructed in bushland areas, and by number of community requests for these facilities. The following demonstrates the identified need.

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions and strategies including:

- Promote opportunities for community group recreation development initiatives at appropriate site – specific strategies include a regional BMX venue¹¹⁰
- Ensuring consideration of the needs of minority sports¹¹¹
- Evaluate opportunities for developing near or within urban sites for both BMX club activities and informal riding in the City¹¹²
- Provision of informal BMX facilities preferably in association with other recreation venues, which serve other activities and age groups so that infrastructure can be shared¹¹³
- Sites for small-scale informal non-club BMX activities should be developed in appropriate existing reserves at 6-10 locations throughout the City
- Assess informal reserves capable of supporting informal local mountain bike and BMX activities¹¹⁴

¹¹⁰ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan Volume 1*, Action 3.3, p. 28.

¹¹¹ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 41.

¹¹² *Ibid.*, Action 4.20, p. 56

¹¹³ *Ibid.*, Action 4.20, p. 57.

● Hornsby Shire Council

As supporting information, Hornsby Shire Council funded the preparation of an *Unstructured Recreation Strategy*, which identified that:

- The expressed demand for BMX freestyle in Hornsby is estimated to be of a similar size to skateboarding
- BMX may have a greater growth potential than skateboarding, however this demand is dispersed across a number of different disciplines that require different facilities.
- BMX use is likely to continue to be as strong as skate parks¹¹⁵

13.3 Comparative

The LDCG does not specify an indicative population threshold for BMX tracks, however BMX tracks are included as key community infrastructure, and the population threshold for a skate park is linked to BMX. The guideline acknowledges that 'the need for BMX tracks can be reduced by shared facility with skate park'.¹¹⁶ These uses, however, are quite different i.e. dirt tracks versus smooth sealed surfaces.

This plan recommends separating these two types of facilities providing one BMX track for every 20,000 persons and one skate park for every 20,000 persons, which is the same as the DoP's indicative standard for a one large skate park per 10,000 person (which includes BMX). The DoP also has a standard of one small skate park for every 6,000 persons, however this level of provision is considered excessive for LM.

Table 38. Glendale CC – BMX Track – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF AUTHORISED BMX TRACKS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 1 | 46,344 |
| LMCC LGA | 200,849 | 2 | 100,425 |
| Guidelines* (DoP 2009) | | | combined with skate |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 20,000 |

For comparison, Cairns Regional Council with an ERP in 2011 of 162,740 has 11 skate parks and 18 Council authorised BMX tracks. In addition, Cairns have a large number of unauthorised BMX tracks and several private BMX tracks such as Cairns BMX. The Council BMX tracks equate to a provision standard of one BMX track every 9,041 persons. For LMCC the recommended standard of one BMX track for every 20,000 persons is reasonable for the future provision. It reflects the identified need for these facilities evidenced by the number of unauthorised facilities in the catchment and in the City.

13.4 Best Practice

NPWS in their *Sustainable Mountain Bike Strategy* identified that the provision of a small number of high quality mountain bike areas is a key strategy for reducing unauthorised mountain biking and track construction.¹¹⁷ The same principle applies to BMX tracks.

13.5 Analysis

There is only one authorised BMX track within the catchment, and another authorised BMX track within the adjoining catchment in Cameron Park. The construction of unauthorised tracks at different locations demonstrates a local need much higher than the standard. Council's on-going maintenance liability was considered, and the recommended standard is an acceptable level of provision for the City.

The following hierarchy is recommended for future provision:

Table 39. Glendale CC – BMX Track - Hierarchy

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | POPULATION THRESHOLD |
|-----------------|----------|------------|----------------------|
| Small BMX Track | 2,000 m2 | 2 to 5 km | 20,000 |
| Large BMX Track | 5,000 m2 | 5 to 10 km | per catchment |

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Action 4.26, p. 70.

¹¹⁵ Hornsby Shire Council (ND) *Unstructured Recreation Strategy: Volume 1*, p. 39.

¹¹⁶ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 94.

¹¹⁷ NPWS (2011) *NPWS Sustainable Mountain Bike Strategy*

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Based on the recommended general standard of one BMX track for every 20,000 persons, two BMX tracks are required to meet the needs of the additional population, one of which is attributable to new development.

13.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 40. Glendale CC – BMX Track – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF BMX TRACKS | PRIORITY |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| GLENDALE | McDonalds Quarry (proposed) Reservoir Rd | New large BMX facility | 1 | High |
| KILLINGWORTH / HOLMESVILLE | Park Street or Kevin Evans Oval | New local BMX track | 1 | Medium |
| TOTAL BMX TRACKS | | | 2 | |

Glendale former McDonalds Quarry site off Reservoir Road - This site is relatively close to the existing Argenton track and centrally located to the catchment. The site is proposed to be developed for a new BMX facility to cater for the expected growth in the sport. There is the potential for this new facility to be large enough to provide a separate junior and senior racing track.



Photo of BMX track at Cameron Park opened on 31 March 2012



Photo of BMX track at Argenton

14. Shared Pathways

Shared pathways are off-road sealed paths that are wider than footpaths. They cater for a variety of users including walkers, joggers, bicycles, roller blades, and people with strollers or people walking the dog. They are usually located on community land in parks, sportsgrounds, or through natural areas, such as the Fernleigh Track.

The most popular shared pathway is the Lake Macquarie foreshore route, extending from Booragul to Eleebana. In this plan, the term 'shared pathways' also includes separated/segregated pathways; however, to date these have not been provided in LM.

14.1 Existing Provision

There are 21,360 lineal metres of shared pathways in the Glendale CC as detailed in the following table including the extremely popular lake foreshore route from Warners Bay to Speers Point.

Table 41. Glendale CC – Shared Pathway – Existing

| SUBURB | LOCATION | LENGTH IN METRES |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|
| BARNSLEY | Johnson Ave, Taylor Park to Slatey Creek, Kevin Evans Oval | 1,200 |
| BOOLAROO | TC Frith Ave Round-about - TC Frith Avenue | 700 |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff Bowling Club | 115 |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Winding Creek - Percy St Hillsborough Oval to Fifth St | 1,075 |
| EDGEWORTH | Behind McDonalds George St to Orlong Close | 275 |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Gynea Dr, Cupania Cres, Park St | 1,465 |
| GLENDALE | Irene Booth Park – opposite roundabout | 180 |
| GLENDALE | Wallsend to Glendale Rail Trail (in LMCC LGA) to Glendale centre | 1,770 |
| LAKELANDS | Within Lakelands | 1,261 |
| LAKELANDS | Tennis court north to Ambleside Circuit | 280 |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park to Dalmeny Drive | 990 |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Delaware Dr to public reserve | 497 |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Blaxland Rd to Cardale Rd | 209 |
| | From roundabout at The Esplanade to the cycleway at Five Is Rd | 528 |
| | (in) Playground and to Creek Reserve Rd | 1,087 |
| | Car park to Speers Point Jetty | 25 |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park along foreshore to catchment boundary Warners Bay Rd | 4,918 |
| SPEERS POINT/WARNERS BAY | Fairfax Rd to round-about to Berkeley St | 455 |
| WARNERS BAY | Lakelands Dr to Warners Bay Primary School, Ruswell Ave to Fairfax Rd | 580 |
| WARNERS BAY | Southern side of Medcalf St to Sweet St | 556 |
| WARNERS BAY | Round-about at Macquarie Rd along Medcalf St to Lakelands Drive | 610 |
| WARNERS BAY | Warners Bay High School - roundabout to Myles Ave | 542 |
| | From Albert St to Maurie Ave | 68 |
| | King Street | 60 |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner St to Bayview St | 146 |
| | Vermont Place | 193 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | 170 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Tramway Drive | 1,405 |
| TOTAL SHARED PATHWAY | | 21,360 |

14.2 Identified

The following survey, strategy, plans, guidelines, and policy demonstrate the identified need. Shared pathways are recreational facilities which are well utilised by a broad age range including parents/carers with strollers, family groups and other groups, young adults and older adults.

● ERASS

According to the ERASS Report 2010 State Tables for NSW,¹¹⁸ the participation rates for 'walking (other)' was 34%; (and does not include bushwalking which accounts for 4.8%); cycling was 10.6% and running was 9.1 %. The combined participation rates of walking (other), cycling and running is 53.7%, and shared pathways provide for all these activities. Over the 10 years the surveys were conducted, walking (other) consistently had the highest participation rate far exceeding any of the other 165 activities identified. Walking has the highest participation rates for both males and females and people continue this activity well into their older age.

● Open Space Strategy

A recreation participation survey was undertaken as part of the open space strategy. The survey results indicated that walking for exercise had by far the highest level of participation, a total of 32,000 hours, and the next highest 'swim/surf at beach', which had a total of 19,000 hours. This can be compared to the total participation time for soccer, tennis, football (AFL, RL, RU) and cricket combined is less than half the total participation time spent 'walking for exercise'. The results also indicated that cycling has a much higher participation rate than any sport including basketball, soccer, tennis, cricket, football, netball and athletics.¹¹⁹

● Cycling Strategy

The *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021*, identifies the future provision of both on-road and off-road cycleways. As part of the cycling strategy, a community survey was undertaken and results included:

- "I'd like to ride on a dedicated path...away from cars – they are the biggest potential danger"
- Of the regular and infrequent cyclists who said they didn't ride because available facilities aren't safe or comfortable enough, 70% said there aren't enough separated bicycle paths¹²⁰

In relation to bicycle crashes, there is a cluster of injury related crashes in Glendale/Cardiff area with a concentration at main Road, Glendale¹²¹. The strategy also identifies that:

'Glendale is located to the north of Lake Macquarie, with a large shopping centre. A regional bus and rail interchange is proposed adjacent to this shopping centre. The main Roads in Glendale are not conducive to cycling and have only a small amount of cycling infrastructure present. The Frederick Street/Lake Road intersection is particularly unfriendly for cycling'.¹²²

The strategy recommends that Council:

- Require future private development in Lake Macquarie to make adequate provision of cycling infrastructure and facilities
- Maximise off-road routes where roads have speed limits of 60 kph there is a strong desire for off-road routes completely separated from motorised traffic. This off-road route diverts cyclists away from an unfriendly intersection and is safe for all ages and abilities.
- Maximise off-road routes to serve both transport and leisure trips.¹²³

● Liveable Communities Assessment

Comments from a survey of residents in Charlestown in 2010 include.

Large linked pathways are needed within the council area

*More cycle ways that connect up, biggest problem is accessing places around the lake*¹²⁴

These comments would be appropriate in all catchments.

¹¹⁸ LMCC (2013) *City of Lake Macquarie Delivery Program 2013-2017, Priority 3.3, p. 50.*

¹¹⁹ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, prepared by URS, Graph 4.2, 4.7

¹²⁰ LMCC (2012) *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021, p.18.*

¹²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 30.

¹²² *Ibid.*, p. 26.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, p. 74, 168.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 172, 173.

● Recreation Plan

The recreation plan identifies specific strategies including:

- Enhance parklands away from the lake, particularly through infrastructure and servicing and the developing of linear links¹²⁵
- Improve the provision of on and off-road cycle and walkways in the catchment¹²⁶

● Open Space Plan

The survey undertaken as part of the open space plan prepared by Clouston identified that:

- Cycleways (57.9%) were preferred to sportsgrounds and facilities (37.1%)¹²⁷

The plan identifies city walkways¹²⁸ for acquisition or designation

- Lake Macquarie Walk
- Speers Point to Glendale
- Speers Point Park to Mount Sugarloaf

● Guidelines for Walking and Cycling

The NSW government strongly supports walking and cycling facilities through the various plans that have been prepared including the *Planning Guidelines for Walking and Cycling*. Key elements of the guidelines include:

- Improving conditions for walking and cycling not only reduces local traffic problems, but saves us money and improves our health and quality of life
- Creating a walkable and cycleable city is an important element in creating a sustainable city
- Redevelopment should aim to improve and expand the extent of public walking and cycling access
- Development assessment processes improve consideration of walking and cycling, and improve the provision of bicycle parking and end-of-trip facilities¹²⁹

● NSW Bikeplan

The plan aims to encourage more and safer cycling specifically:

- Double the use of cycling to get to work across all of NSW, between 2006 and 2016¹³⁰

● Draft Centres Design Guidelines

DoP has prepared design principles to guide the future development of centres to improve liveability.

Principles include:

- Include end-of-trip facilities in buildings to encourage walking and cycling. Locate secure bicycle storage in well-lit, visible locations
- Promote 'active living' within parks and squares by connection walkways and cycleways to local networks to improve health and well-being
- Prioritise pedestrians and cyclists within centres¹³¹

● Warners Bay Foreshore

Council engaged a consultant to prepare a master plan and plan of management for the Warners Bay foreshore reserve, between The Esplanade and the lake extending from Fairfax Road to South Creek. The master plan identifies the proposed works undertaken over the next 20 years including an integrated pedestrian and cycleway network comprising a shared recreational pathway and a commuter pathway. The delineation of these users means that there will be less conflict and a greater separation of these

¹²⁵ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan Volume 1*, p. 34.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 46.

¹²⁷ LMCC (1006) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan*, prepared by Clouston, p. 14.

¹²⁸ LMCC (1996) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 1*, Figure 1.7.

¹²⁹ NSW Government (2004) *Planning Guidelines for Walking and Cycling*, p. 3, 15, 33, 39.

¹³⁰ NSW Government (2010) *NSW Bikeplan*, p. 5

¹³¹ NSW DoP (2011) *Draft Centre Design Guidelines*, Department of Planning, Sydney, p. 38, 49, 74.

different activities. A typical section through foreshore at walkways clearly indicates a 3.5 m shared recreational pathway as well as a 3.5 m shared commuter pathway.¹³²

14.3 Comparative

The LDCG has identified shared pathways as key community infrastructure, although it has not specified an indicative population threshold for shared pathways. LMCC has prepared a cycling strategy identifying off-road cycleways, which are shared pathways. For the Glendale catchment, the recommended standard of shared pathways of 0.46 metres per person, this is the same as the actual provision and considered reasonable for the future provision.

As a comparison, Canberra has a population of 367,000 and has 343 km¹³³ of off-road cycle paths throughout an area of 814.2 km² which equates to 0.93 metres per person, which does not include the 403 km of on-road cycle lanes.

Table 42. Glendale CC – Shared Pathway – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | METRES OF SHARED PATHWAYS | METRES PER PERSON OF SHARED PATHWAY |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 21,360 | 0.46 |
| Guidelines* | | | Shared Pathways & Cycleways Plan |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 0.46 |

14.4 Best Practice

Shared use pathways are used in areas of low volumes of pedestrians and cyclists.¹³⁴ Once volumes exceed a certain capacity, separated or segregated pathways are required. According to the Austroads Standards, separated paths¹³⁵ are used where there are large numbers of pedestrians and cyclists using the same path, sites include promenades along a foreshore or river frontage. A segregated path i.e. an exclusive bicycle path and a parallel exclusive pedestrian path, permits fast bicycle travel and is the most desirable of the off-carriageway alternatives, particularly for commuters.¹³⁶

Austrroads has a model to provide guidance on when to provide on-road and off-road infrastructure for cyclists according to traffic volumes and traffic speed. A similar model could be developed for shared pathways to provide guidance on when an additional separated pathway is required to be provided.¹³⁷

14.5 Analysis

The lake foreshore route is located along part of the southern boundary of the catchment and is planned to extend through the centre of the catchment to link with the Wallsend to Glendale rail trail, which provides a connection into Newcastle. The existing and proposed routes provide key linkages into the Glendale regional centre, the Hunter Sports Centre, the proposed Glendale interchange and major skate park, and the LM Variety playground, swim centre and regional soccer facility within Speers Point Park.

As the popularity of the lake foreshore route increases, the need to provide a second pathway to separate cyclists and walkers will be required. To reflect this, the *Warners Bay Foreshore Master Plan* has identified the provision of a future separated off-road commuter cycleway, in addition to the existing shared pathway.

14.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for shared pathways within the catchment are:

¹³² LMCC (2012) Warners Bay Foreshore Master Plan Report, prepared by Jackson Teece, RPS, Mansfield Brodbeck p. 55, 57.

¹³³ ACT Government (2012) *Territory & Municipal Services Annual Report 2011-2012 Volume 1*, p. 15.

¹³⁴ Department of Infrastructure and Transport (2012) *Walking, Riding and Access to Public Transport: Draft Report for Discussion*, P. 109.

¹³⁵ Austrroads Standards Australia (1999) *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 14 Bicycles*, a separated path is where cyclists and pedestrians are required to use separate designated areas of the path.

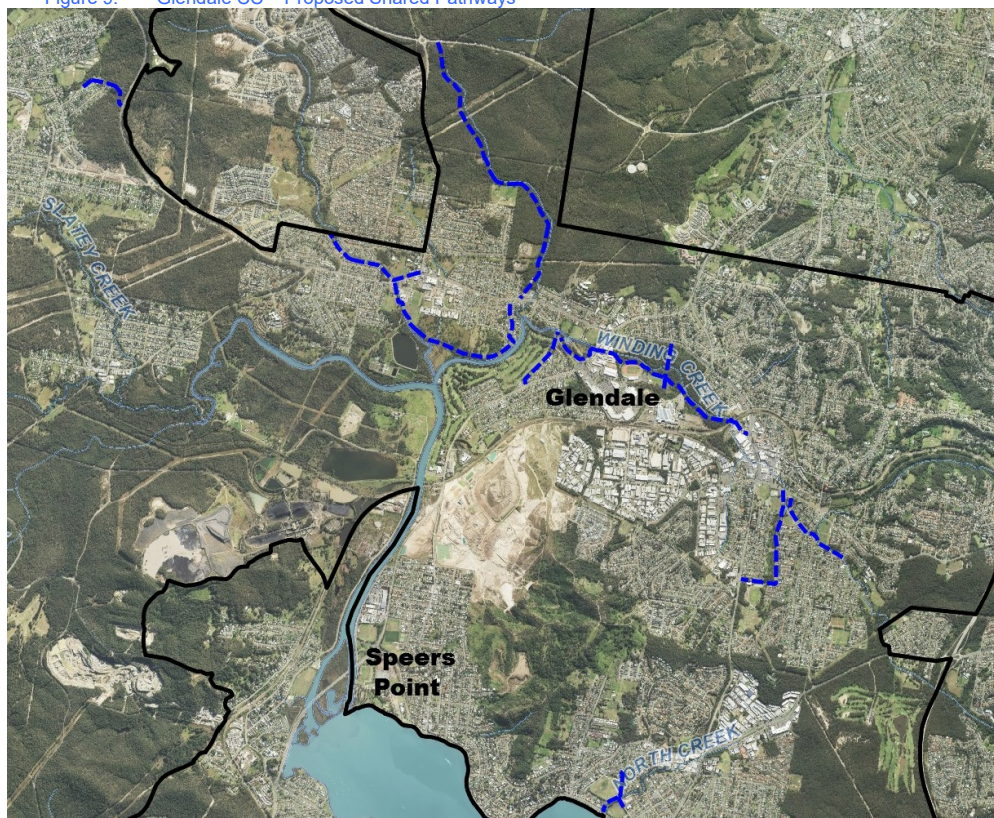
¹³⁶ Austrroads Standards Australia (1999) *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 14 Bicycles*, p. 86, 90

¹³⁷ Austrroads 2009, *Guide to Traffic Management: Part 4: Network management*, report AGTM 0409, Austrroads, Sydney, NSW – Figure 4.7.

Table 43. Glendale CC – Shared Pathway – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | CYCLING STRATEGY OF OTHER PLAN | LENGTH METRES | PRIORITY |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---------------|-----------|
| ARGENTON | Shared pathway - Glendale to Speers Point – Waratah Golf Course, Frederick St to 412 Lake Rd | Cockle Creek 1 | 630 | Very High |
| CAMERON PARK | Shared pathway & bridges - Brush Creek – Newcastle Link Rd to Impala St Edgeworth (through C&A Northern Land, Link Rd South Precinct) | Indicative Future Link | 3,120 | Medium |
| CARDIFF | Shared pathway & bridge - Winding Creek - Fifth St to Wilkinson Park at Myall Rd | Cardiff 3 | 850 | High |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Shared pathway - 173B Myall Rd south, 17 John St, Waterview Rd, Ada St unformed, Ada St to Macquarie Rd | Cardiff 9 | 485 | High |
| EDGEWORTH | Shared pathway & bridge – Cocked Hat Creek – Main Rd lights to Northlakes boundary | Cameron Park 1 and Cameron Park 3 | 1,050 | High |
| EDGEWORTH | Shared pathway – Cocked Hat & Brush Creeks - Main Rd lights through sporting area to Glendale | Edgeworth 1 | 1,500 | Medium |
| GLENDALE TO CARDIFF | Shared pathway & bridges - Winding Creek - Lake Rd Glendale, Hunter Sports Centre, proposed Civic Park, Sturt Rd Cardiff | Cardiff 2 & Glendale 4 | 2,190 | Medium |
| GLENDALE | Shared pathway & feature bridge – Main Rd Glendale through proposed Civic Park | Identified in Glendale Regional Centre Structure Plan | 450 | Medium |
| WARNERS BAY | Shared pathway – North Creek –Maurie Avenue, Feighan Park, John St to foreshore | Warners Bay 1 | 560 | High |
| WEST WALLSEND TO CAMERON PARK | Shared pathway - Gregory Park, swim centre, Edden St, Fegan St, underpass at George Booth Drive | West Wallsend 4 & West Wallsend 5 | 445 | Low |
| TOTAL SHARED PATHWAYS | | | 11,280 | |

Figure 9. Glendale CC – Proposed Shared Pathways



15. Tracks and Trails

*Recreational trails can offer you an exhilarating experience*¹³⁸

Walking tracks and recreational trails provide opportunities for people to access natural areas, promoting physical activity, which lowers the incidence of obesity, depression and other illnesses related to sedentary lifestyles. A walking track is a track provided for walkers, whereas a recreational trail also caters for walkers, joggers, bicycles and sometimes horses.

Tracks and trails may be located on varied terrain, on narrow tracks where access is limited, or utilise fire trails or unsealed roads. The frequency of use and volume of use are the major factors dictating the width of the trail. Some tracks may require a more durable surface if use is expected to be high. Decomposed granite and other forms of fine crushed rock may be used where the frequency and volume of use is low and a less visually dominant pathway construction is required.¹³⁹

15.1 Existing Provision

There are numerous tracks and trails in LM. The following table includes the tracks and trails identified in the council mapping system.

Table 44. Glendale CC – Tracks and Trails – Existing

| SUBURB | LOCATION | LENGTH IN METRES |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| BARNSELEY | Cliffbrook St, Elizabeth St, Joalah Cl, | 1,559 |
| CARDIFF | Afton Cl, Wayne Pl, Wansbeck Valley Rd, Darcy St, Fern Valley Rd, Adelphi Ln, MacDonalds Quarry | 2,370 |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Florina Cl - laneway, Hunting Wy, Elizabeth St | 633 |
| EDGEWORTH | Thomas St, Laurel Ave, Charles St, Brush Creek, Suttor St, Stratton Rd, Garth St, Cocked Hat Ck, Palisade St, Argyl Cres, Impala, Harper, Dorset Cl to Main Rd, Cockle Ck, Ridley St to Hawkins Masonic Village | 6,089 |
| GARDEN SUBURB | Laneway - Cupania, Part St, Kathleen St, Myall Rd, Cambridge Dr, Progress Pl, drainage reserve, | 1,344 |
| GLENDALE | Reservoir Rd, Lowry St, Johnstone St, Murray, Graham St, Bancroft St, Sean & Jason Crt, Reservoir, Greenwood Pde, Lance, Ellerdale Dr, Candlebark Way, Wallsend Rd, Serbin Cl, Cristina St | 2,953 |
| Great North Walk, Yuelarbah Track | Ncle inner city bypass to Vermont Pl | 2,620 |
| HILLSBOROUGH | Vermont Pl, Moody St | 1276 |
| HOLMESVILLE | Pacific Hwy to Appletree Rd | 2,366 |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Blaxland Rd, Macquarie Rd, Lucilla Ridge | 1187 |
| Munibung Hill (on LMCC land) | North south ridge, Quarry Rd access, Lucilla Ridge access, Fairfax Rd access, Macquarie Rd, Whitehead Ct, Whitehaven Dr, Broughton Wy, Ulverston Wy, Cartmel Cl, Cotton Cres to Callister, Lakelands Dr to Derwent Cres, 41 Delaware Dr, Patterdate Cl to Buttermere Dr, Glenridding Gr, Ambleside Cir | 7120 |
| RANKIN PARK | Hasluck Dr, Elbrook Dr, Fernleigh Pl, Candlebark Way | 1,986 |
| TERALBA | Ridley St | 815 |
| WAKEFIELD | 529 Wakefield Rd | 1,869 |
| WARNERS BAY | Knight St to Macquarie Rd - unformed road, Charley St, Forester Cl | 1686 |
| WEST WALLSEND | Pacific Hwy to Bridge St, Pacific Hwy to Boundary Rd, Notley Way, Slaty Ck, Margaret St to Coomalong Cl | 3,050 |
| TOTAL TRACKS AND TRAILS | | 38,923 |

In addition, there are two national parks located close to or within the Glendale catchment providing some tracks and trails that are not included in the existing provision. They are:

¹³⁸ Trails SA (ND) *South Australian Trails: Your Guide to Walking, Cycling, Horse Riding, Diving, Canoeing*, p. 2. www.southaustraliantrails.com

¹³⁹ Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (2005) *Sydney Metropolitan – Regional Recreation Trails Framework Final Report*, prepared by Hassell Pty Ltd, section 2.2 and 2.3.

- Sugarloaf State Conservation Area– Mount Sugarloaf north loop, Mount Sugarloaf lookout trail, Mount Sugarloaf north management trail and the Blue gum trail.
- Blue Gum Hills Regional Park – Heritage walking track, Vent trail, Steves trail, Fence trail, Summer Hill track, and Bush regen trail.

Additionally, there are tracks and trails over Munibung Hill that are used by the public, however, much of the land is in private ownership and the continued access over the private land is not assured.

15.2 Identified

The following surveys, strategy, plans, and policy demonstrate the identified need.

● Liveable Communities Assessment

One comment from a survey of residents in Charlestown in 2010 is relevant to any catchment:

*Bushland to be made more available to the public*¹⁴⁰

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions including connections through Munibung Hill:

- Develop regional cycle/walking trail links to the north along T C Frith Avenue, a catchment level scenic and interpretive trail through bushland off Farm St with possible links through to reserve in Macquarie Hills and ridge line reserves on the northern boundary of Lakelands.¹⁴¹

● Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines

The guidelines have identified:

- Three main standards for open space which include, parks, outdoor sport and linear and linkages
- Strategic land acquisition to improve linkages and maximise the open space resource¹⁴²

● Growth Centres Development Code

The code provides the basis for the planning and design of precincts in the North West and South West Growth Centres in Sydney, which will provide around 181,000 new homes. The code specifies that:

For each precinct an open space system should be established as an integrated network, incorporating parks, squares, plazas, riparian corridors, playing fields, and **recreational trails**¹⁴³

● Cycling Strategy

As part of the Cycling Strategy, a community survey was undertaken in October 2011 and results of the community survey include:

- Regular and infrequent cyclists were also asked to indicate what journeys they usually use for cycling
 - 82% of infrequent cyclists and 78% of regular cyclists use cycling for leisure on off-road paths
 - while 35% of regular cyclists and 15% of infrequent cyclists cycle on mountain bicycle trails¹⁴⁴

Among all cyclists, regardless of cyclist type, gender and age, the most commonly reported trip purpose is cycling for leisure on off-road bicycle paths (e.g. the Fernleigh Track). Comments from survey respondents indicated that this was almost always because riders felt safer being separated from traffic' (p.10). Also off-road shared paths were the most commonly used facility by all cyclists (79%).¹⁴⁵

● Munibung Hill Landuse Strategy

Munibung Hill is a significant landmark visible from a large proportion of the LM LGA. In 2004, Dickson Rothschild prepared a *Land-use Strategy of Munibung Hill* that produced guidelines for the protection and management of Munibung Hill ridges and upper slopes for scenic protection combined with open space to allow members of the public to enjoy the spectacular views of the surrounding region.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁰ Hunter New England Population Health and Hunter Regional Managers Network (2011) *Lake Macquarie Liveable Communities Assessment: Final Report*, Hunter New England Population Health, p. 324.

¹⁴¹ LMCC (1998) *LM Recreation Plan: Volume 2*, Action 4.27, p. 72.

¹⁴² Department of Planning (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 29 and 34.

¹⁴³ Growth Centres Commission (2006) *Growth Centres Development Code*, p. B-71.

¹⁴⁴ LMCC(2012) *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021*, p. 10.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹⁴⁶ LMCC (2004) *Land Use Strategy – Munibung Hill* prepared by Dickson Rothschild, p. E1.

The strategy also identified ‘the spectacular long-distance views from various locations along the ridges, unique to the region due to their high elevation...these views must be maintained and enhanced. ‘The system of ridges and spurs, radiating from Munibung Hill to the south, west, north and east provides an ideal opportunity to establish a network of pedestrian paths to allow access from the surrounding urban development areas to the ridgelines and their spectacular views’.¹⁴⁷

Munibung Hill is the highest landform in the LM region between the coast and the Sugarloaf Range. The National Trust considers Munibung Hill ‘as a most important feature of the landscape adjoining Lake Macquarie’. A visual assessment by URS produced guidelines for the protection and management of portions of Munibung Hill ridges and upper slopes for scenic protection combined with open space to allow members of the public to enjoy the spectacular views of the surrounding region.¹⁴⁸

The strategy identifies potential uses including: the opportunity for mountain bike trails along the spurs and ridgelines across the hill as an additional attraction to both locals and visitors to the area¹⁴⁹ and the creation of linkages providing continuous access for pedestrians and cyclist connecting to existing networks. The strategy also identifies a car park at the eastern edge of Boolaroo for people seeing to access Munibung Hill.¹⁵⁰

15.3 Comparative

The LDCG does not have an indicative population threshold for bushland tracks, however bushland tracks are included as key community infrastructure, and the matters for consideration indicate that they would be acceptable if they form part of an established recreational network.¹⁵¹ The recommended tracks and trails standard of 0.84 metres per person is equal to the local provision and considered reasonable for the future provision for the Glendale catchment.

Table 45. Glendale CC – Tracks and Trails – Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | TRACKS & TRAILS IN METRES | PERSONS PER METRE OF TRACKS & TRAILS |
|---|------------|---------------------------|---|
| Glendale CC | 46,344 | 38,923 | 0.84 |
| Guidelines* | | | Where part of an established recreational network |
| LOCAL TRACKS & TRAILS STANDARD | | | 0.84 |

15.4 Best Practice

The NSW government’s, *Planning Guidelines for Walking and Cycling*, strongly supports the provision of walking and cycling facilities. Key elements of the guidelines include:

- Walking and cycling access is provided to and along natural areas such as ridges and creeklines¹⁵²
- Councils are encouraged to raise the priority of path and trail projects to increase overall funding levels.¹⁵³

The South Australian Government has prepared a guideline for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of recreational trails in South Australia¹⁵⁴, which would also be applicable for NSW.

15.5 Analysis

In recognition of the increasing aged population and the popularity of walking, the upgrading of the existing tracks and trails over Munibung Hill are recommended. The identified tracks and trails over Munibung Hill provides access for all the surrounding suburbs and creates a recreational network which is identified in the recreation plan, the land-use strategy and the cycling strategy.

¹⁴⁷ LMCC (2004) *Land Use Strategy – Munibung Hill*, prepared by Dickson Rothschild, p. E14.

¹⁴⁸ Ibid. p. E14.

¹⁴⁹ Ibid. p. 13 and G4.

¹⁵⁰ Ibid. Figure I22.

¹⁵¹ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 92.

¹⁵² NSW Government (2004) *Planning Guidelines for Walking and Cycling*, p. 23.

¹⁵³ Ibid., p. 58.

¹⁵⁴ Trails SA (N.D.) *Sustainable Recreation Trails: Guidelines for the Planning, Design, Construction and Maintenance of Recreational Trails in South Australia*.

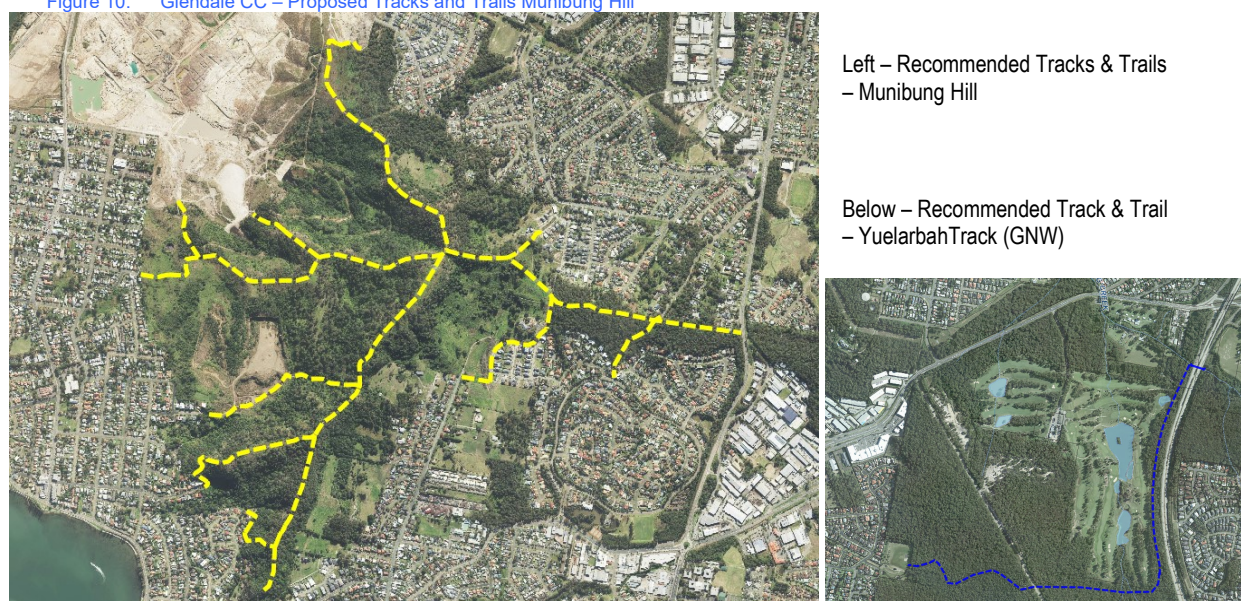
15.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for tracks and trails in the Glendale CC is to provide a network of tracks and trails over Munibung Hill through the establishment of easements, where required, to provide legal public access and to upgrade part of those tracks and trails, where required. In addition, the plan recommends the upgrading of part of the Yuelarbah Track, which is part of the Great North Walk.

Table 46. Glendale CC – Tracks and Trails – Proposed Locations

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | LENGTH IN METRES | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|
| Munibung Hill | | | | |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | 41 Delaware Drive | Delaware Dr access to N/S Ridge | 450 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond Street | North South Ridge | 498 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Part 19 Daydawn Avenue | N/S Ridge (pinch point) | 20 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond Street | Hopkins Street access onto N/S Ridge | 550 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond Street | Quarry Rd access onto N/S Ridge | 380 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond Street | Farm St access, car park to N/S Ridge | 130 | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 1A Raymond Street | Northern access (through Bunderra) | 200 | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First Street | First St access (through Bunderra) to EW Ridge | 100 | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First Street | Access (through Bunderra) to E/W ridge | 350 | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First Street | East West Ridge | 850 | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond Street | Seventh St access to E/W Ridge | 300 | High |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | 65 Lawson Road & 171 Macquarie Road | Macquarie Rd access to N/S ridge | 495 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | 179 Macquarie Road | Blaxland Rd & Ambleside Crt access | 100 | High |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | 25C Lucilla Ridge | Lucilla Ridge access | 50 | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Part 76 Fairfax Road | Fairfax Rd access (via proposed local public road) | 0 | High |
| Yuelarbah Track - GNW | | | | |
| HILLSBOROUGH | 12 Vermont Place, and others | Charlestown golf course to Vermont PI | 1,830 | Medium |
| TOTAL TRACKS AND TRAILS | | | 6,303 | |

Figure 10. Glendale CC – Proposed Tracks and Trails Munibung Hill



16. Mountain Bike Areas

Mountain bike areas have tracks specifically constructed for mountain bikes. Tracks can include a number of broad styles: cross-country, all-mountain, downhill, free riding, dirt jumping and trials.¹⁵⁵ Cross-country and all-mountain riding are the most popular styles of mountain biking. There may be short wide tracks for the beginner, longer single tracks for endurance, one-direction technically challenging tracks, or tracks designed for high-speed. Bike parks, also known as bike skills parks, are purpose built playgrounds for bicycles. They include natural and constructed features to build skills through progressive challenges and they cater for the whole family including beginner tracks for small children.

16.1 Existing Provision

There are no authorised mountain bike areas in the catchment although mountain biking like bushwalking occurs on various tracks and trails in bushland areas throughout the City.

The mountain bike areas with purpose built tracks are:

- Glenrock State Conservation Area (SCA) - cycling is also authorised in the northern zone. This area has designated bicycle only tracks indicating the level of difficulty and the direction of cycling.
- Awaba State Forest (Mt Faulk Rd, Cooranbong). This facility includes a downhill racing track and a cross-country track.

The *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021* identifies informal mountain bike areas in the City including:

- Holmesville, west of the Sydney/Newcastle freeway
- Highfields, Highfields Parade, (Lot 7343 DP 1159321) – crown land east of Fernleigh Track and south of the LGA boundary, tracks lead into the Glenrock SCA
- Hillsborough, (Lot 7393 DP 1164604, Lot 100 DP 1180001) – crown land west of the Charlestown Golf Course
- Dudley/Whitebridge, Ocean St (Lot 7389 & 7390 DP 1164264) – crown land north of Oakdale Rd - identified as a future development area.

In addition, some other areas used by mountain bikes are:

- Green Point Foreshore Reserve
- Catherine Hill Bay, Caves Beach and Cams Wharf bushland
- Munibung Hill

16.2 Identified

The following survey, plans and strategy demonstrate the identified need.

● ERASS

The number of people who participated in recreational cycling at least three times per week increased by 35% from 2001 to 2009 in NSW and by 43% from 2001 to 2008 in Sydney.¹⁵⁶

● NSW Bikeplan

NSW Bikeplan aims to encourage more and safer cycling specifically to:

Promote cycle access to and through designated NSW National Parks and Crown reserves, including the use of sustainable mountain bike tracks¹⁵⁷

¹⁵⁵ NSW Government Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (2010) *Discussion Paper: National Parks and Wildlife Service Cycling Policy Review and Sustainable Mountain Biking Strategy*, p. 7.

¹⁵⁶ Australian Sports Commission (2009) *Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey, 2009*.

¹⁵⁷ NSW Government (2010) *NSW Bikeplan*, p. 23.

● Nature-based Outdoor Recreation

Mountain bike riding in Australia is becoming increasingly popular. In 2008, NSW residents said they had participated in cycling and mountain biking on an unsealed road or track a total of 26 million times in the preceding year. In Greater Sydney, 15% of residents had participated in the past year, while in the Southern Tablelands and South Coast 20% of residents had participated. There is evidence of unmet demand for opportunities for mountain bike riding on an unsealed road or track with between 9% and 30% of residents saying they were interested in participating more frequently by identifying a lack of local opportunities.¹⁵⁸

● Sustainable Mountain Bike Strategy

The *NPWS Sustainable Mountain Bike Strategy* (2011) has identified that the provision of a small number of high quality mountain bike experiences is a key strategy for reducing unauthorised mountain biking and track construction.

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions under 4.26, and a strategy identified is:

Assess informal reserves capable of supporting informal local mountain bike and BMX activities¹⁵⁹

● Munibung Hill

The Land Use Strategy identifies Munibung Hill as a proposed mountain bike trail. 'Munibung Hill also offers the opportunity for mountain bike trails along the spurs and ridgelines across the hill as an additional attraction to both locals and visitors to the area'.

'Cycle paths over Munibung Hill would connect into the regional cycle network'.¹⁶⁰ The linkages planned include:

- To the west - the existing and proposed continuation of the north south route along Cockle Creek to Glendale will link to the Wallsend Glendale Rail Trail providing a connection into Newcastle
- To the south – the existing Speers Point to Warners Bay/Eleebana lake foreshore pathway is in close proximity to the Farm Street and Quarry Road access
- To the east – the proposed shared pathway from Cardiff south to Ada Street provides access from Macquarie Road or Blaxland Road
- To the north east – the existing pathway along the transmission line easement to Neegulbah park provides access from Delaware Drive, Macquarie Hills
- To the north west - the strategy identifies the potential for a future connections to the north to the Pasmenco (Bunderra) site.

The strategy also identifies opportunities for key lookouts, toilet facilities, BBQ, picnic facility, educational signage at key lookouts, and car parking provision.

● Cycling Strategy

The *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021* identifies a planned mountain bike facility at Munibung Hill.¹⁶¹

16.3 Best Practice

Tails SA has produced a guide *South Australian Trails: Your Guide to Walking, Cycling, Horse Riding, Diving, Canoeing* that identifies and specifies the use of each trail. Certain trails provide for multiple uses whilst other trails (such as racing tracks) have sole use.

¹⁵⁸ NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change, and Water (2009) *Nature-based outdoor recreation demand and preferences quantitative research findings*, prepared by Ipsos-Eureka Social Research Institute.

¹⁵⁹ LMCC (1998) *LM Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 49.

¹⁶⁰ LMCC (2004) *Land Use Strategy – Munibung Hill*, prepared by Dickson Rothschild, H15.

¹⁶¹ LMCC (2012) *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021*, prepared by GHD, Figure 06.

Mountain biking is a popular recreation activity undertaken all year round unlike some sports that have either a summer or winter use.

16.4 Analysis

The high use of the area at Glenrock SCA indicates that this recreation activity is growing in popularity. Since many of the areas used for informal mountain biking are subject to residential development in the future, of primary importance is the security of land tenure which is essential to ensure mountain biking is able to be provided in the future.

16.5 Recommendations

The LMCC Cycling Strategy has identified Munibung Hill as a planned mountain bike facility, however, much of the land is privately owned. This plan identifies securing land tenure through the creation of easements for public access over key tracks. Once Council has secured legal public access, the process of upgrading certain identified tracks can commence. The majority of the tracks over Munibung Hill would be cross-country tracks and be designed for walkers and mountain bikes.

The recommended standard of provision is one mountain bike area per ward, with a long-term provision of one mountain bike area per catchment.

17. Swimming Pools

Swimming is an activity that is part of the Australian culture. This is partly attributable to our many beautiful beaches and waterways and climate. Swimming is part of our school curriculum and learn to swim classes are recommended for every Australian child.

Public swimming pools are part of Council's community service obligation. They continue to operate even though these services operate at a loss. Many of the swimming pools are now ageing and have not kept pace with current demands. LMCC is planning to upgrade its swimming centres to provide a range of services and facilities to increase year round use.

17.1 Existing Provision

LMCC currently has six (6) swimming centres across the LGA. The Speers Point Swim Centre and the West Wallsend Swimming Centre are both located within the catchment as detailed in the following table. Babies wading pools and spa pools are not included in the number of pools.

Table 47. Glendale CC – Swimming Pool - Existing

| SUBURB | FACILITY NAME | NO. OF SWIM CENTRES | NO. OF POOLS |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| WEST WALLSEND | West Wallsend Swim Centre | 1 | 1 |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Swim Centre | 1 | 2 |
| TOTAL SWIM CENTRES/POOLS | | 2 | 3 |

Other private swimming pools in the Glendale CC have not been included:

- Aquastars Swim School, Warners Bay
- Couglans Swim Centre, Warners Bay

These facilities, together with the inclusion of other private pools, provide a good distribution throughout the catchment.

17.2 Identified

Lake Macquarie has funded the preparation of a number of reports/studies that examine the development of its swimming centres and indoor sports centres. Refer to the references in **Appendix 13**. The following surveys, plans, and model, demonstrates the identified need.

● ERASS

According to the ERASS 2010 annual report, swimming has a 13.6% total participation rate. Information was collected from persons aged 15 years and over who participated in physical activity for exercise, recreation and sport over a 12-month period prior to interview in 2010.¹⁶²

● Pool Service Delivery Model

The *LMCC Pool Service Delivery Model* (PSDM) was developed to provide a strategic direction to the future development of Council's community aquatic facilities providing for the needs for the next 10-20 years. The PSDM was adopted by Council in June 2009 and recommends the upgrading of the Speers Point Swim Centre.

● Recreation Plan

The Recreation Plan identifies certain actions under 4.15, one strategy identified includes:

- Retain the outdoor pools at Speers Point and West Wallsend...Restructure site layouts at these pools, develop programming to focus on school, swimming club, summer water play and social programs¹⁶³

¹⁶² Australian Sports Commission (2010) *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey 2010 Annual Report*.

¹⁶³ LMCC (1998) *LMCC Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 47.

● Community Plan

The plan identifies directions and progress indicators such as:

- Implement recommendations of Pool Service Delivery Model (PSDM) for individual centres¹⁶⁴

17.3 Comparative

The LDCG does specify an indicative population threshold of one swimming pool for every 17,500 persons. A swimming pool is different to a swimming centre as a swimming centre may comprise several pools.

Table 48. Glendale CC – Swimming Pool - Comparative

| COMPARATIVE | POPULATION | NO. OF SWIMMING POOLS | PERSONS PER FACILITY |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Glendale CC | 46,433 | 3 | 15,478 |
| LMCC LGA | 200,849 | 15 | 13,390 |
| Guidelines ¹⁶⁵ | | | 17,500 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | 12,000 |

The recommended standard of one swimming pool for every 12,000 persons is similar to the actual provision within the catchment and within the city and considered reasonable for the future provision.

17.4 Best Practice

The designer of the Speers Point Swim Centre upgrade will consider the *Best Practice Guidelines for Water Management in Aquatic Leisure Centres* prepared by Sydney Water in 2011 or other guidelines and examples of other energy efficient models.

17.5 Analysis

Based on the recommended standard of one swimming pool for every 12,000 persons, one new swimming pool or pool upgrade is required for the additional population.

17.6 Recommendations

The recommendations for the Glendale CC are:

Table 49. Glendale CC – Swimming Pool – Proposed Location

| SUBURB | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | NO. OF SWIMMING POOLS | PRIORITY |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------|
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Swim Centre | Significant upgrade & water park, in line with PSDM & masterplan | 1 | Medium |
| TOTAL SWIMMING POOLS | | | 1 | |

¹⁶⁴ LMCC (2008) *LM Community Plan 2008-2018*, p. 44.

¹⁶⁵ NSW DoP (2001) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, Indicative population threshold, p. 94.

18. Other Recreation Facilities

In addition to the recreation facilities identified in the plan, a number of other recreation facilities are available in the catchment. They include other Council recreation facilities, such as boat ramps and jetties, other community-based facilities and private recreation facilities. Some are located on crown land, council owned community land and operational land and others on private land.

They include private recreation facilities such as golf courses and bowling greens, and other community-based facilities some of which are located on public land, including the following. Golf and lawn bowls are activities enjoyed by all ages but are particularly popular sports for older adults.

18.1 Existing Provision

● Golf Courses

The golf courses located in the Glendale CC include:

- Charlestown Golf Club, 10 Barker Avenue, Hillsborough - 18 hole golf course (57.6 ha) – crown land reserved for public recreation R. 88601 – LMCC is the appointed trust manager and land leased to the golf club
- Sugar Valley Golf Course, Boundary Street, West Wallsend – 9 hole golf course owned by Sugar Valley Lifestyle Estate Pty Limited
- Waratah Golf Club, 456 Lake Road, Argenton – 18 hole golf course, owned by Waratah Golf Club Ltd

A private golf driving range is also located in the catchment:

- Cardiff Golf Driving Range, Macquarie Road, Cardiff – (approximately 5.3 ha), owned by Hammondcare, and will close in the short term to enable redevelopment of the site as an aged care facility.

● Bowling Clubs

The following bowling clubs are located throughout the Glendale CC:

- Boolaroo Bowling Club, 31 Eighth Street – 3 bowling greens – owner Boolaroo Bowling & Recreation Co-op
- Cardiff Bowling Club, 175 Myall Road – 2 bowling greens – LMCC operational land
- Edgeworth Bowling Club, 11 Park Street – 2 bowling greens – LMCC operational land
- Club Macquarie, 458 Lake Road, Argenton – 1 bowling green – owner Club Macquarie Limited
- Warners Bay Sports Club, 7 Charles Street – 2 bowling greens – LMCC operational land

● Boat Ramps and Jetties

- Boat Ramp - Cockle Creek Boat Ramp in Speers Point Park
- Jetty – Speers Point Disability Access Jetty beside boat ramp in Speers Point Park
- Jetty – Speers Point Public Jetty in Speers Point Park
- Jetty – Warners Bay Public Jetty at Warners Bay Foreshore

● Caravan Parks and Camping Areas

There are no caravan parks or camping areas within the Glendale CC.

● Other Recreation Facilities

Other recreation related facilities located on either council owned land or crown land include:

- Cardiff - Boy Scouts, 15 Mary Street, Cardiff – LMCC community land
- Edgeworth, LM Live Steam Locomotive Coop, 32A Charles Street – LMCC community land
- Glendale - Hunter Sports Centre, 45 Stockland Drive, Glendale – LMCC operational land
- Glendale Girl Guides – 9 Glendon Crescent – LMCC operational land
- Glendale Scouts, 5 Glendon Crescent – LMCC community land
- Holmesville Pony Club – Appletree Road – Crown land
- Hillsborough – Dog Training Ground, 80 Hillsborough Road – Crown land
- Teralba – Model Aeroplanes, 53 Griffen Road – LMCC operational land
- Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club, 16A Mary Street – Crown land
- Warners Bay – Lions Club, 13 King Street – LMCC community land

● Private Recreation Facilities

Some other recreation facilities located on private land include:

- Cardiff – Squash Courts, Ada Street – private land owner
- Cameron Park – Go Kart Track, 5 Cameron Park Drive – owner Newcastle Kart Racing Club Inc.
- Edgeworth Scouts, 744A Main Road – owner The Scout Assoc. Of Australia
- Holmesville, 77 Appletree Road – Mount Sugarloaf Pony Club – owner Hunter Development Corporation (previously crown land)
- Holmesville Riding School, 8 Private Lane – private land owner
- Warners Bay Super Strike, 326 Hillsborough Road – private land owner
- Warners Bay, 230 Macquarie Road - Hunter Ice-Skating Stadium – private land owner

18.2 Identified

The following survey demonstrates the identified need for some other recreation facilities.

● ERASS

According to the ERASS 2010 annual report, golf has a 7.6% total participation rate¹⁶⁶ and golf is ranked 9th in the ten most popular sports and physical activities for adults (survey undertaken of persons aged 15 years and over) in NSW in 2007.¹⁶⁷ Whereas lawn bowls has a 2.3% total participation rate and this participation rate has increased by 20% over the period 2001 to 2010.¹⁶⁸

18.3 Comparative

The LDCG identifies a golf course as key community infrastructure and specifies an indicative population threshold of one golf course for every 30,000 people.¹⁶⁹ Based on the LDCG guideline golf has an adequate level of provision in the catchment.

18.4 Analysis

Golf - LMCC does not provide any golf courses in its LGA. Whilst some Council's do provide golf courses, such as Beresfield Golf Course in NCC LGA, in LM the private sector has provided these facilities. If however, any of these golf courses are redeveloped for another purpose, Council may reconsider the need to provide for golf in the future. As mentioned the Cardiff Golf Driving Range at Macquarie Road, Cardiff is located on land zoned residential, proposed to be redeveloped as an aged care facility, and is proposed to close in the short term. The land required for a golf-driving range is approximately 6-7 ha of reasonably flat cleared land with a length of 280 m, and zoned appropriately. Council has no large areas of suitable community land available to establish a golf driving range.

Bowling Clubs - are generally privately managed facilities, usually located on public land. Over recent years, Council has reclassified many of these sites, enabling the land to be sold to the respective bowling club. In this case, should a bowling club cease to operate, the community loses the recreation facility and the future use of the (community) land. Land can be repurposed for different uses depending upon the needs of the community at the time.

Other Recreation Facilities – Council has provided land for various clubs and community organisations such as scouts and girl guides, and more recently for Men's Sheds. There is a high need for the provision of Men's Shed and at least two new men's sheds are needed to serve the developing areas of Glendale and Warners Bay over the life of the plan. A men's shed to serve the Holmesville/West Wallsend area may also be required. Identified sites include a parcel of land at Glendale Crescent, Glendale, and the community land / car park on the corner of Medcalf St and Macquarie Road, Warners Bay. The *Glendale Contributions Catchment – Community Facilities Study* includes provision for new men's sheds in the catchment.

¹⁶⁶ ASC (2010) *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey 2010 Annual Report*

¹⁶⁷ NSW Sport and Recreation (2007) *Sport and Physical Activity in New South Wales*

¹⁶⁸ ASC (2010) *Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey 2010 Annual Report*, p. 35.

¹⁶⁹ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, Indication population threshold, p. 88.

18.5 Recommendations

Golf - There are three golf courses within the catchment and no additional golf courses are required. However, the golf driving range at Cardiff will soon close. The Charlestown Golf Club may be able to provide a golf driving range on the crown land adjoining their leased area, however, land tenure and environmental issues would need to be resolved.

Bowls - Lawn bowls is a recreational activity that has a high participation rate of older adults and this rate is expected to increase with the increased aging population. The Cardiff Bowling Club and the Edgeworth Bowling Club are located on land that is part of larger sporting and recreation areas. Should these Clubs cease to operate, the sites should not be sold, as the facility or the land can be repurposed to another recreation use if the current use i.e. bowling green, is not in accordance with current needs.

Other Recreation Facilities – There are a range of recreational uses that require public land. Currently, Men's Sheds are extremely popular with some facilities i.e. the Belmont Men's Shed, experiencing waiting lists and users have time limits to use the facility. The need for Men's Sheds is likely to increase in the future considering the projected population density in this catchment. Suitable public land is required to be set aside in order that these facilities can be provided, and potential sites have been identified at Metcalf Street, Warners Bay and Glendon Crescent, Glendale.

PART D – OPEN SPACE

*Public open space is important because it contributes to the physical health and social wellbeing of a community.*¹⁷⁰

Open space is public land owned or managed by Council set aside for leisure, recreation, and sporting activities and for conservation, biodiversity and scenic values. Open space includes public land managed by other organisations, such as national parks, conservation areas, botanic gardens and zoological gardens. It also includes community title land, which is open and available to certain landholders within a subdivision. Whereas private open space is land in private ownership and can include parks, gardens¹⁷¹, sporting areas, tennis courts, or golf courses.

*Open space areas have long been recognised as a basic requirement of human settlement planning. These areas are an important resource for social interaction, rest and recuperation and for pursuing healthy activities.*¹⁷²

For LMCC, the nature of its LGA, its extensive existing natural resources, including the lake foreshore, coastal beaches, bushland hinterland, and steep terrain has resulted in a significant provision of open space. LMCC has undertaken several studies to assess the type and distribution of its open space and determine a strategic direction for the appropriate and effective provision of recreation facilities in its LGA.

Community Land

*Community land is meant for public access and use and though it is a small share of the total, it is the open space that is 'closest to the community' and is fundamental to liveability and the quality of life in neighbourhoods'*¹⁷³

Community land¹⁷⁴ is the term used to describe the open space land owned or managed by Council. Community land is land such as a public park owned by LMCC and classified as community land¹⁷⁵ and crown land reserved for public recreation or for a public purpose, which permits public access.

LMCC owned land classified as operational land,¹⁷⁶ crown land where LMCC is not the trust manager, or crown land reserved for other purposes, such as a garbage dump or quarry, is not community land, and not included in the PoM.

LMCC adopted a *Plan of Management for Community Land (PoM)* in 2011, which lists and maps the community land in the City. The data contained in this PoM, current as at November 2011, forms the basis of this section. Since that time, Council has reclassified some of the community land (listed in the PoM) to operational land, and the consequently sold the land. In addition, Council has also purchased or received developer-dedicated land, which was not included in the PoM.

The purpose of this plan is to determine if the existing community land within the Glendale CC is adequate to serve the needs of the existing and future community. The location of the existing community land and recreation facilities was considered in relation to the projected growth to determine if the existing land and facilities were able to meet the future demand.

Since the projected growth in the Glendale CC is comparable to an entire urban release area i.e. Cameron Park, and there is insufficient land in the growth areas to meet the future needs, this plan identifies suitable land for acquisition for the intended recreation purpose in an appropriate location.

¹⁷⁰ Growth Centres Commission (2006) *Growth Centres Development Code*, p. B-71.

¹⁷¹ The Hunter Valley Gardens, in Pokolbin, is an example of a privately owned formal gardens comprising 25 ha.

¹⁷² NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 6.

¹⁷³ *Ibid*, p. 29.

¹⁷⁴ Community land would ordinarily comprise land such as a public park or public reserve, land conveyed or transferred to council under s340A of the LGA 1919, or any land dedicated or taken to be dedicated as a public reserve s340C or s340D of the LGA 1919, or any land dedicated or taken to be dedicated under s49 and s50.

¹⁷⁵ On the commencement of the Community Land Management Act 1998 the following land that is vested in or under the control of a council is taken to have been classified as community land: a) land comprising a public reserve; b) land subject to a trust for a public purpose; c) land dedicated as a condition of a development consent under s 94 of the EP&A Act 1979; d) land reserved, zoned or otherwise designated for use under an environmental planning instrument as open space; and e) land controlled by a council that is vested in the corporation constituted by s 8(1) of the EP&A Act 1979. Within 1 year after the relevant commencement, a council may, by resolution, classify, as community land or operation land, any public land that is vested in it or under its control and that is not classified by subclause (2). Any public land that maybe classified by resolution under subclause (3) and that is not classified within 1 year after the relevant commencement is taken to have been classified as community land.

¹⁷⁶ Operational land would ordinarily comprise land held as a temporary asset or as an investment, land which facilitates the carrying out by a council of its functions, or land which may not be open to the general public, such as a works depot or a council garage.

19. City Wide Provision

19.1 Existing Provision of Community Land

LM LGA has approximately 4,098 ha of community land or 20 ha/1,000 population as detailed in the following table. However, the total area of the LM LGA is 758 km² and the community land represents only 5.4% of the total area within the City.

The Community Land Management Act was introduced in 1998, which required Council's to classify the land they owned or managed as community land or operational land and to categorise community land into designated categories. Community land has been categorised generally in accordance with the categories specified in the LG Act 1993, i.e. Natural Area, Park, Sportsground, or General Community Use. Community land has been categorised to reflect the dominant existing use of the land or the proposed future use of the land. For example, a playground located in a sportsground was categorised sportsground as this is the dominant use of the land and some community land may be categorised as sportsground to inform the public of the intended future use to construct sports fields on the land.

Table 50. LM LGA – Community Land – Existing

| COMMUNITY LAND CATEGORIES | AREA HA | % OF TOTAL COMMUNITY LAND | HA/1,000 POPULATION ^A |
|--|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Natural Area | 3,058 | 75 | 15.2 |
| Park | 489 | 12 | 2.4 |
| Sportsground | 379 | 9 | 1.9 |
| General Community Use | 172 | 4 | 0.9 |
| TOTAL | 4,098 | 100 | 20 |
| Note: ^A Based on an existing population of 46,811 | | | |

- **Natural Area**

Within the City community land categorised as natural area, comprises 3,058 ha and **75%** of the total community land in the City, or 15.2 ha/1,000 population. Land categorised natural area includes bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse, and foreshore. Whilst there may be some permissible recreation uses within some of the natural areas, such as, bush walking and mountain bike riding, a large proportion of the land is steeply sloping, contains creeks, watercourses, or natural vegetation communities, including wetlands that preclude most recreation uses. As such, Council does not consider natural areas to be usable recreation lands, and Council will not accept these lands as an offset, for the requirement to provide land for open space under section 94 of the EPA Act.

- **Park**

Community land categorised as park comprises 489 ha and **12%** of the total community land in the City or 2.4 ha/1,000 population. However, this is not a true indication of the amount of parkland in the City.

Miscellaneous lands - many of the lands categorised as park include lands such as road buffers, drainage reserves, detention/retention basins, small or irregular shaped parcels (residue lands from subdivisions), flood prone/low lying land, electricity easements, or land with other restrictions that limit the use of the land for recreation. Since Councils were required to use the categories in the LG Act 1993, and there was no category to describe these lands, any land that appeared to be mowed and maintained, or any land containing detention basins or wet ponds, was categorised park.

- **Sportsground**

Community land categorised as sportsground comprises 379 ha and **9%** of the total community land in the City or 1.9 ha /1,000 population. Land categorised sportsgrounds includes existing sports fields/ovals, netball and tennis courts, and land proposed for future sportsgrounds. Small areas comprising a playground, skate park, or BMX track located within a sportsground is categorised according to the dominant use which was sportsground.

- **General Community Use**

Community land categorised as general community use comprises 172 ha and **4%** of the total community land in the City or 0.9 ha/1,000 population. Land categorised general community use includes land leased or licensed or land proposed to be leased or licensed and usually contains community buildings. Council has reclassified some leased community land (mainly lands containing community buildings) to

operational land and some of this land has now been sold. The above information does not reflect of the amount of public land in the City that is leased/licensed.

- **Recreation Land**

Recreation land is land categorised as park or sportsground. Of the community land in the City, 868 ha or 21% of the land is categorised park or sportsground or 4.3 ha/1,000 population. This land includes existing parks or sportsgrounds, land proposed as park or sportsground, and other miscellaneous lands (categorised park as there was no other suitable category). Therefore, only a portion of this land is considered to be usable recreation land.

20. Glendale CC

20.1 Existing Provision of Community Land

The Glendale CC has approximately 633 ha of community land or 13.7 ha/1,000 population as detailed in the following table. The total area of the catchment is 120 km² and the community land represents 5.2% of the total area within the catchment. Refer to **Figure 10**, for a plan indicating the community land within this catchment.

Table 51. Glendale CC – Community Land – Existing

| COMMUNITY LAND CATEGORIES | AREA HA | % OF TOTAL COMMUNITY LAND | HA/1,000 POPULATION ^A |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Natural Area | 332 | 53 | 7.2 |
| Park | 93 | 15 | 2.0 |
| Sportsground | 120 | 19 | 2.6 |
| General Community Use | 87 | 14 | 1.9 |
| TOTAL | 633 | 100 | 13.7 |

Note: ^A Based on an existing population of 46,344

- **Natural Area**

Community land categorised natural area includes approximately 332 ha comprising 53% of the total community land in the catchment or 7.2 ha/1,000 population. Refer to the land shaded green in **Figure 10**. The land includes a small area of Mount Sugarloaf and parts of Munibung Hill. NPWS manage the remaining 3,926 ha of Mount Sugarloaf, known as the Sugarloaf State Conservation Area. The remainder of Munibung Hill is in private ownership. LMCC has no management responsibilities of these remaining areas, they are not community land and not included in the above table.

- **Park**

Community Land categorised park includes approximately 93 ha comprising 15% of the total community land in the catchment or 2.0 ha/1,000 population. Refer to the land shaded pink in **Figure 10**. This is less than the citywide level of provision, which is 2.4 ha/1,000 population. However, a considerable amount of the land parcels categorised park, include miscellaneous lands and small irregular shaped parcels of land, (residue parcels left over from subdivisions), are not used or developed as park. For example, land categorised as park includes a 4.4 ha crown foreshore reserve at Teralba that is not a park. The Glendale catchment does have one significant park, Speers Point Park, however all the land surrounding this park is now developed as a high level sportsgrounds, which restricts future expansion of the park.

- **Sportsground**

Land categorised sportsground includes approximately 120 ha comprising 19% of the total community land in the catchment or 2.6 ha/1,000 population. Refer to the land shaded yellow in **Figure 10**.

Some of the lands categorised sportsground are not used/developed as sportsgrounds and these areas are detailed in the following table. The land categorised sportsground and not used/developed as sportsgrounds is approximately 28.3 ha. Therefore, the remaining land categorised sportsground (120 ha – 28.3 ha) is 91.7 ha or 2.0 ha/1,000 population.

Table 52. Glendale CC – Community Land – Land Categorised but not Sportsground

| LAND CATEGORISED SPORTSGROUND NOT USED/DEVELOPED AS SPORTSGROUND ¹⁷⁷ | AREA HA |
|---|-------------|
| 10 Turnbull St, 23A & 61 Laurel Ave, Edgeworth (proposed future sportsground) | 19.26 |
| 46 Griffen Rd, Teralba (proposed future sportsground) | 7.42 |
| Other miscellaneous land ¹⁷⁸ | 1.53 |
| TOTAL | 28.3 |

¹⁷⁷ Land proposed for future sportsgrounds and other miscellaneous lands categorised sportsground

¹⁷⁸ Other miscellaneous lands categorised as sportsground but not sportsground include: 2A William St, Cardiff; 69 Myall Rd, Cardiff; 170B Hillsborough Rd, Warners Bay

- **General Community Use**

Community land categorised general community use includes approximately 87 ha comprising 14% of the total land in the catchment or 1.9 ha/1,000 population. Refer to the land shaded orange in **Figure 10**. This land includes a significant area of crown land some 65 ha leased to the Charlestown Golf Club and crown land leased to the dog club. It includes Cardiff and Speers Point Library; land leased to the scouts and girl guides; former West Wallsend bowling club; Killingworth and Wakefield Bush Fire Brigade; Warners Bay Performing Arts Centre, Argenton, Holmesville, and John Young Community Hall; Warners Bay Lions Club hall, Model Train ground at Edgeworth; Speers Point and West Wallsend swimming centres.

- **Recreation Land**

Of the 633 ha of community land in the Glendale CC, only a proportion of this land is recreation land (land categorised as park or sportground). The actual usable recreation land is detailed in Part C the Recreation section of this plan under 'existing provision'. Within the Glendale CC the total usable recreation land is 139 ha or 3.0 ha/1,000 population, as detailed in the following table.

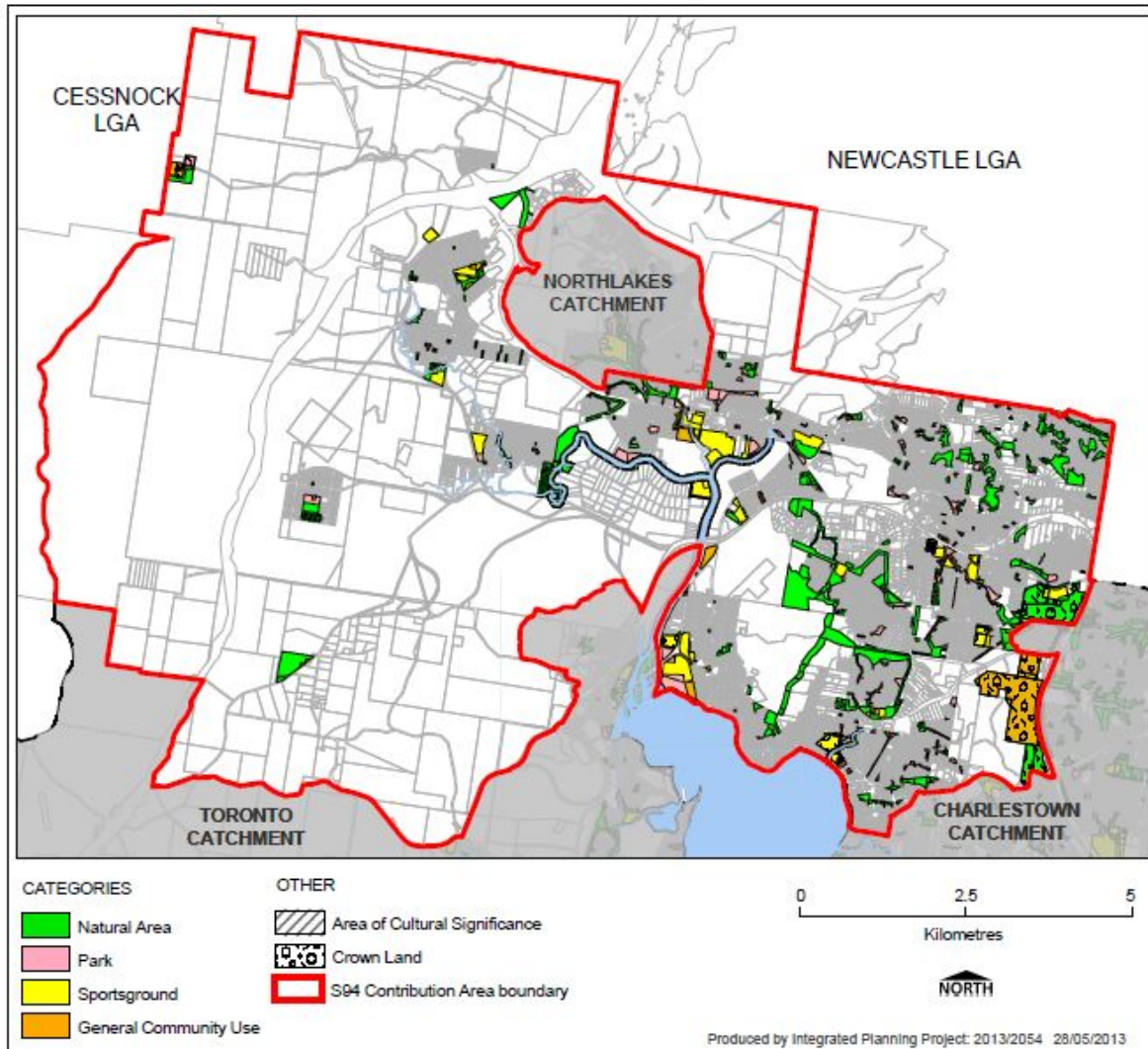
Table 53. Glendale CC – Actual Recreation Land

| CURRENT RECREATION LAND USE ^A | AREA HA | | HA/1,000 POPULATION ^B | | % OF URBAN RESIDENTIAL AREA ^C |
|--|---------|---------------|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Sportsground ^D | 99.05 | | 2.1 | | |
| Tennis ^E | 0.3 | | 0 | | |
| Netball ^F | 1.9 | | 0 | | |
| TOTAL SPORT LAND | | 101.25 | | 2.2 | 4.06% |
| Parks ^F | 38.2 | | 0.8 | | |
| Multi-court ^G | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Skate ^H | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Dog Exercise ^I | 0 | | 0 | | |
| TOTAL PARK LAND | | 38.2 | | 0.8 | 1.53% |
| TOTAL RECREATION LAND | | 139.45 | | 3.0 | 5.5% |

Note: ^A Current recreation land use as detailed in plan, recreation use can change depending on current needs
^B Based on an existing population of 46,811
^B Urban residential area in the Glendale CC = 2,495 ha and includes land zoned RU4, R2, R3, and E4
^C Total area of sportsgrounds in Table 6, includes operational land at Hunter Sports Centre but not operational land at Edgeworth Bowling Club
^D Includes standalone tennis facilities i.e. Holmesville Tennis
^E Includes standalone netball facilities i.e. Ken Booth/Nancy Dwyer Netball, and Warners Bay Netball
^F Total area of parks as identified in Table 33, does not include local mown areas with no park facilities
^G All land containing multi-courts are included as parks
^H Cardiff skate park included in park, skate park at Holmesville included in sportground
^I Includes standalone dog exercise areas not included above

The land used for sport, often described as organised or active recreation, is more than double the amount of land used for park, or unorganised or passive recreation. This indicates a dominance of sporting facilities over parks. Sporting clubs are vocal organised groups, and can demonstrate their needs and usage easily through club registrations. Park users generally do not form organised groups and Councils can overlook strategic planning for parks.

Figure 11. Glendale CC – Community Land



The above plan identifies the location of existing community land categories in the Glendale CC. The scale of the above plan makes it difficult to distinguish the categorisation of some of the smaller land parcels. Refer to *the Plan of Management for Community Land 2011* for larger scale plans.¹⁷⁹

20.2 Issues

The issues identified for community land include:

- Majority of existing community land is categorised as natural area (53% or 332 hectares) and has limited recreation opportunity
- The actual existing sportsground land is double the actual existing park land
- Some areas have limited or no parks and these are areas identified for projected growth i.e. Glendale, Edgeworth, West Wallsend

20.3 Identified

The following survey, guidelines, and plans demonstrate the identified need.

¹⁷⁹ LMCC (2011) *Plan of Management for Community Land 2011*.

● NSW Sport & Recreation Industry Five Year Plan

The purpose of the plan is to guide the sport and recreation industry in addressing priority issues over the next five years. The relevant objectives are:

- To make it easier and affordable for people of all ages to be physically active and involved in their communities¹⁸⁰
- To increase the availability of useable open space to ensure facilities are of a quality standard to meet community expectations¹⁸¹
- Success measure: Two per cent increase in access of useable open space¹⁸²

● Open Space Strategy

The open space strategy undertaken by URS revealed that the LM LGA has one of the highest allocations of open space. However, a substantial proportion is natural area covered by remnant vegetation with significant biodiversity conservation values. Consequently, the potential for development of new recreation facilities in these areas is more limited than the number of hectares per head of population implies.¹⁸³

● Open Space Plan

The open space plan undertaken by Clouston identified that:

- Half of the City's reserves are less than 0.5 ha accounting for only 3.5% of the total area of open space in the City. Many of these small reserves are dedications from developments over the years and are providing limited recreational opportunity, often being of poor quality, little used and difficult to maintain.¹⁸⁴
- There are significant numbers of very small reserves in the City, some as small as 300 m².¹⁸⁵
- Reserves with a size less than 0.2 ha = 30% of the numbers of reserves but less than 1% of the total area of public open space in the City.¹⁸⁶

● Recreation Plan

The recreation plan identifies specific strategies including to:

- Undertake land / site acquisition and enhancements as deemed appropriate¹⁸⁷

In new residential areas, land acquisition for recreational uses should occur where possible, prior to subdivision and development so that the areas acquired reflect an understanding of the community(ies) to be served and the uses to be supported.¹⁸⁸ Projected increase of 78% (West Wallsend, Holmesville, Barnsley, Edgeworth, Killingworth) is likely to require major additional recreation provision¹⁸⁹Summary – a large population in less accessible traditional mining/industrial centres being overtaken by urban growth and with the capacity to become the most populous in the City; very young population with high family and children rates¹⁹⁰

20.4 Comparative

DoP have provided two guidelines for local government. The *Local Development Contributions Guidelines* lists the key community infrastructure type and provides an indicative population threshold for each recreation facility whereas the *Recreation & Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government* provides the area requirements for open space types.

There are a number of different standards for recreation and open space provision including:

¹⁸⁰ NSW Sport and Recreation Advisory Council and NSW Sport and Recreation (20?) *Game Plan 2012 NSW Sport & Recreation Industry Five Year Plan: Shaping our Future for a Sustainable Community*, p. 8.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹⁸² *Ibid.*

¹⁸³ LMCC (2001) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Strategy*, prepared by URS, Executive Summary.

¹⁸⁴ LMCC (1996) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 1*, prepared by Clouston, p. 20.

¹⁸⁵ LMCC (1996) *Lake Macquarie Open Space Plan: Volume 2*, prepared by Clouston, p. 5.

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, Table 2.4.

¹⁸⁷ LMCC (1998) *Recreation Plan: Volume 1*, p. 22.

¹⁸⁸ *Ibid.* p. 14.

¹⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 25.

¹⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 26.

● **Area Standard – 2.83 ha /1,000 population**

A common standard for the provision of open space is 2.83 ha/1,000 population. This is derived from a British standard of the early 1900s, requiring 7 acres/1,000 population or 2.83 ha/1,000 population to provide adequate playing space for children¹⁹¹. The standard excludes: school playing fields, verges, commons, golf courses, indoor facilities, woodlands, gardens and parks, and large areas of water.¹⁹² This standard came into general use in the Sydney Region during the 1960’s although it had not been accepted and implemented everywhere. The standard was developed from an earlier version where a total of 10 acres or 4 ha/1,000 population was made up of ‘neighbourhood’ or ‘local’ open spaces. The local component of 7 acres or 2.83 ha was endorsed by the NSW courts in the 1970’s as the amount of open space to be contributed by developers at the time of subdivision.¹⁹³ The Growth Centres Development Code uses this standard to guide the precinct planning in the North West and South West of Sydney providing some 181,000 new homes.¹⁹⁴

Based on the actual recreation land of 139.45 ha and an existing population of 46,811 the Glendale CC has 3.0 ha/1,000 population, which is close to the area (British) standard of 2.83ha/1,000 population. However, the use of the land is skewed in favour of sportsground with a deficiency in the provision of the larger neighbourhood and major parks.

● **Catchment/Access Based Standard**

A catchment/access based standard is the service area radius or maximum distance, which residents should have to travel to access recreation facilities.¹⁹⁵ The *Recreation & Open Space Planning Guidelines* provides the area requirements for open space and the distance of these types from most dwellings:¹⁹⁶

- Local Parks – 0.5 ha – 2 ha, 400 m buffer
- District Parks – 2-5 ha, 2 km
- Local Linear and Linkage – up to 1 km
- District Linear and Linkage – 1-5 km
- Local Outdoor sport – 5 ha, 1 km buffer
- District Outdoor sport – 5-10 ha, 2 km buffer

Generally, this guideline is used when planning for new residential development areas.

● **Percentage of Residential Area**

The *Recreation and Open Space Guidelines* also identifies the recommended recreation area of land (excluding regional recreation areas) as a percentage of the residential area. The following table compares the percentage of community land with the urban residential area in the catchment to the actual levels of provision in the suburban outer areas of Sydney. However, for Sydney, the actual level of provision does not include regional recreation areas, whereas in LMCC they do include regional areas. The results indicate that the Glendale CC has a similar level of provision to the suburban outer of the Sydney Metropolitan area but the percentage of parks and linkages is considerably lower. According to this standard, the Glendale CC should have around 8.8% of recreation land whereas it has 5.5%.

Table 54. Glendale CC – Recreation Land – % of Urban Residential Area Standard

| COMPARATIVE | PARKS, LINEAR & LINKAGE | OUTDOOR SPORT | TOTAL |
|---|--|---------------|-------|
| | % OF URBAN RESIDENTIAL AREA ^A | | |
| Glendale CC ^B | 1.53% | 4.06% | 5.5% |
| Guidelines ^C | 4.2% | 4.6% | 8.8% |
| Sydney Metropolitan - Suburban Outer ^D | | | 8% |

Notes: ^A Urban residential area in the Glendale CC = 2,495 ha and includes land zoned RU4, R2, R3, E4
^B Refer to Table 53, existing sport land and existing park land
^C NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation & Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 29
^D *Ibid.* The average level of provision of non-regional recreation areas in different parts of metropolitan Sydney, p. 27.

¹⁹¹ Veal, A. J. (2008) *Open Space Planning Standards in Australia: in Search of Origins*, Playing space is defined as: space for outdoor sport and children’s play, p. 14.

¹⁹² *Ibid.*, p. 15.

¹⁹³ *Ibid.* p. 11.

¹⁹⁴ NSW Growth Centre Commission (2006) *Growth Centres Development Code*, Table A.4 p. A-11.

¹⁹⁵ NSW DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 28.

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 29.

20.5 Best Practice

The *Recreation & Open Space Planning Guidelines* provides the area requirements for local open space and the distance of these local open space types from dwellings:

- Local Parks – 0.5 ha – 2 ha, 400 m buffer
- Local Outdoor sport – 5 ha, 1 km buffer
- Local Linear and Linkage – up to 1 km

The guideline also identifies the proportion of open space as a percentage of the urban residential area for different open space types.¹⁹⁷

- Parks/Linear and Linkage = 4.2%
- Outdoor Sport = 4.6%
- Total = 8.8%

In relation to community land, the guidelines advise:

Larger sites can support multiple uses – a better use of space...Reserving areas for expansion will provide flexibility as new needs emerge

*Open space of different types needs to be provided to accommodate different needs*¹⁹⁸

20.6 Analysis

The Glendale CC is a very large catchment including highly developed areas of Warners Bay and areas of potential growth at Glendale, Edgeworth and West Wallsend. The catchment has a good distribution of sporting facilities, but a lack of developed parks, particularly in the north and west of the catchment where the majority of the growth is expected. The plan generally recommends building and expanding on existing facilities, thereby, reducing the quantum of open space/recreation land needed to provide the additional recreation facilities required for the projected growth.

20.7 Recommendations

This plan has identified the recreation facilities according to a needs based approach considering the projected population growth to 2025. The plan considers the existing facility provision (both public and private), the future trends and future needs, and attempts to provide a wide spectrum of recreation opportunities close to the identified growth areas. This plan recommends the provision of quality recreation land to fulfil specific recreation needs in the required locations as opposed to a quantitative approach to open space provision. The additional recreation land to be acquired to provide the identified recreation facilities is listed in **Appendix 9** and **10**.

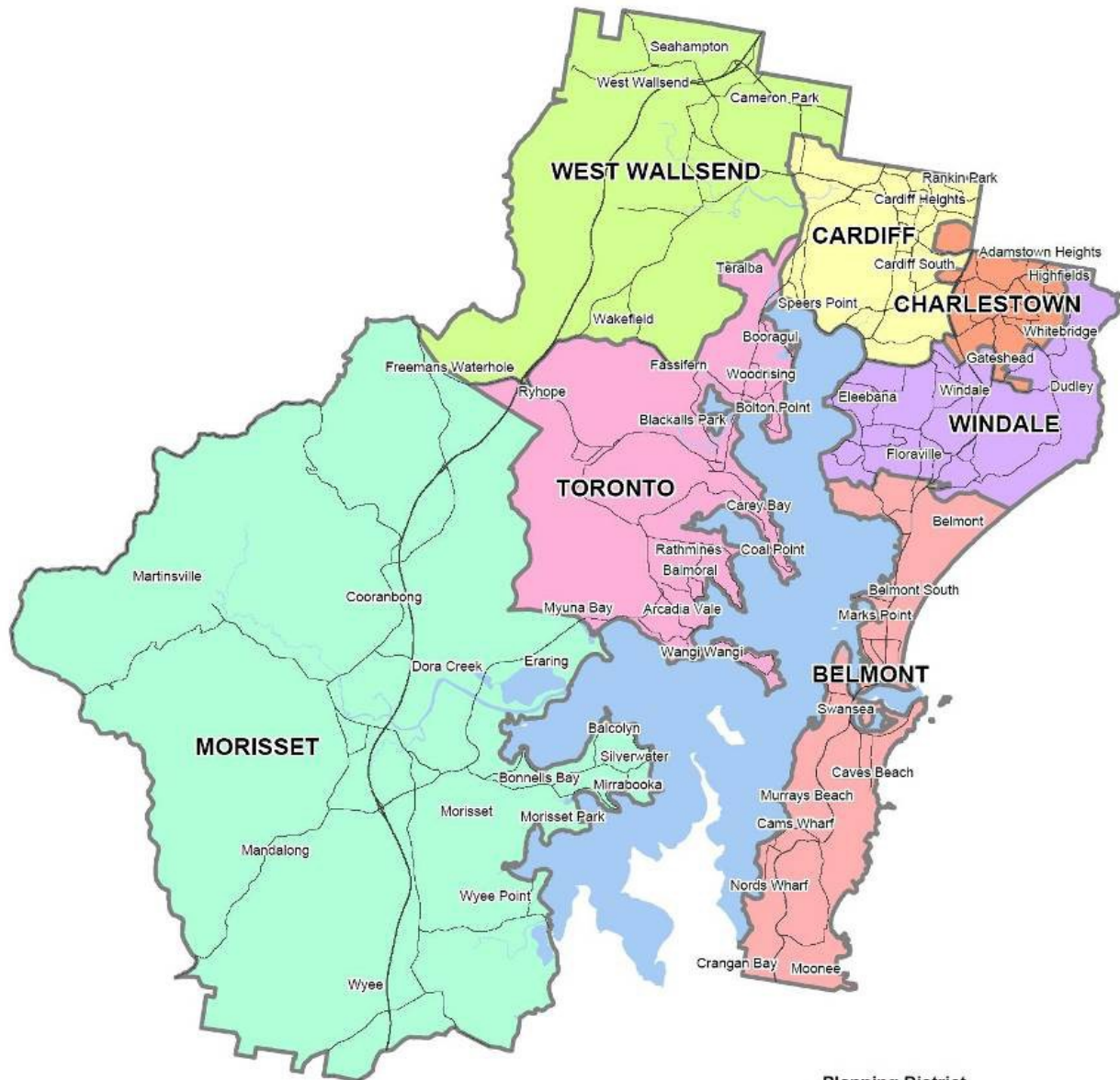
¹⁹⁷ DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 18.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 36 and 27.

PART E – APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – Planning Districts

Lake Macquarie LGA has been divided into seven Planning Districts (PD) to assist in census and planning analysis. The study area of this plan is a combination of the Cardiff and West Wallsend Planning Districts.



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APPENDIX 2 – Sports Field Calculation

Council has used the following methodology to calculate the number of generic sports fields in the City. A generic field could be a soccer or rugby league field or it could be a larger area, such as a cricket or AFL oval, or athletics track/field. If the cricket oval has two fields occupying the same space, the number of fields is calculated according to its highest number of fields i.e. two generic fields. If a cricket oval has an AFL oval or an athletics track overlayed, then it is one generic field. A junior field can include a cricket oval, junior soccer field or a mini-rugby league field is 0.5 of a field.

1 Field - sole use and usually one season use, for example:



Wyee Oval, Wyee
1 sole use cricket oval
= 1 field



Michael Bird Field, Windale
1 sole use league field
= 1 field



Park Ave Res, Caves Beach
1 sole use equestrian
= 1 field



Neegulbah Pk, Macquarie Hills
1 sole use athletics track
= 1 field

1 Field – dual use, one field/oval for summer and one field/oval for winter use, for example:



Charlestown Oval

1 cricket oval (summer) &
1 soccer field (winter)
= 1 field



Hillsborough Oval

1 cricket oval (summer) &
1 AFL oval (winter)
= 1 field

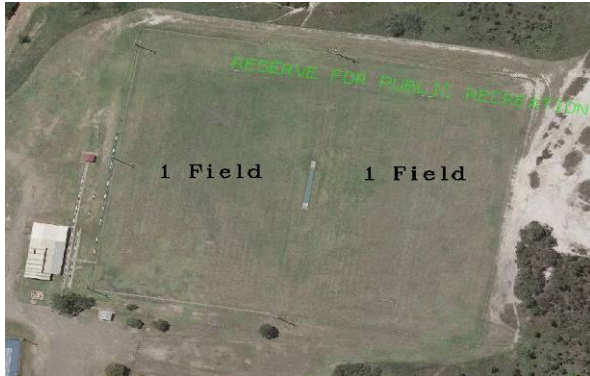
1 Field - multiple uses, one field used for athletics, cricket and football, for example:



Neville Thompson Oval, Dora Creek

1 cricket oval (summer) &
1 athletics track (summer) &
1 league field (winter)
= 1 field

2 Fields - one field/oval for summer use and two fields for winter use, for example:



1 cricket oval (summer) &
2 League Fields (winter)
= 2 fields

Hunter Barnett Fields, Windale

0.5 Field - junior fields can include a junior cricket oval, mini-rugby league field or a junior soccer field:



1 junior cricket oval
= 0.5 field

Riawena Park, Whitebridge



1 mini rugby league field
= 0.5 field

Keith Barry, Toronto

A Sports Ground is an area that may contain a number of fields /ovals and courts, for example:



2 soccer fields (& cricket oval) &
2 rugby league fields (& cricket oval);
1 junior soccer & 1 mini rugby league = 5
fields,
Also 4 tennis courts and 5 netball courts.

Croudace Bay Sportsground

Based on this method of calculation, Glendale CC has 41 generic sports fields. If the number of fields/ovals were added according to uses or sports played, then the total number of sports fields would be considerably more. This is an alternative approach to the indicative population threshold for each sport as outlined in the *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*.

APPENDIX 3 – Indicative Standard for Sports Fields

The DoP has developed a guideline to identify the indicative population thresholds for key infrastructure¹⁹⁹ in relation to ovals and sportsgrounds as detailed below. The guideline does not identify the population threshold for a generic field (as used in this plan) that is why the following analysis has been undertaken. To determine an indicative population threshold for a generic sports field a sample population of 50,000 persons was used.

Table 55. Glendale CC – Sports Fields – Standards

| SPORTS FIELDS/OVALS | INDICATIVE POPULATION THRESHOLD ²⁰⁰ 1 facility per | FOR A POPULATION OF 50,000 No. of fields/ovals |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| AFL (winter) | 50,000 | 1 |
| Athletics Track (summer) | 25,000 | 2 |
| Baseball/Softball (winter/summer) | 25,300 | 2 |
| Cricket (summer) | 2,500 | 20 |
| Hockey (all year) | 5,000 | 10 |
| Rugby League (winter) | 3,000 | 16.7 |
| Rugby Union (winter) | 25,000 | 2 |
| Soccer (winter) | 5,000 | 10 |
| TOTAL NO. OF FIELDS/OVALS | | 63.6 |

The guideline states that 'consideration should be given to co-location of facilities to maximise usage e.g. Cricket and AFL'.²⁰¹ Competition sports played in summer include athletics, basketball, cricket, softball, whereas competition sports played in winter include AFL, baseball, football (soccer), rugby league, and rugby union. Based on the standards identified in the guideline (table above) and if all sports fields have a summer and winter use, wherever possible, then the total fields required for a population of 50,000 is about 48 sports fields, as outlined in the following table:

Table 56. Glendale CC – Sports Fields – Standards – Possible Dual Use Arrangements

| POSSIBLE USE ARRANGEMENT | TOTAL GENERIC FIELDS | AFL | ATHLETIC TRACKS | BASE/ SOFT-BALL | CRICKET | RUGBY LEAGUE | RUGBY UNION | SOCCER |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| Athletics & Cricket | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | | |
| Cricket & Baseball | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Cricket & Softball | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Cricket & AFL | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| Cricket & Soccer | 10 | | | | 5 | | | 10 |
| Cricket & Rugby League | 17 | | | | 9 | 17 | | |
| Cricket & Rugby Union | 2 | | | | 1 | | 2 | |
| TOTALS | 34 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 20 | 17 | 2 | 10 |

The provision for hockey has been deleted from the above table since LMCC does not provide hockey fields due to a synthetic hockey centre at Broadmeadow provided within the Newcastle City LGA. However, LMCC does provide for equestrian and archery that are not included in the above provision standard. In order to make an allowance for these fields the generic standard has been rounded down.

Table 57. Glendale CC – Generic Sports Field – Standard

| INDICATIVE STANDARD | TOTAL FIELDS REQUIRED | FOR A POPULATION OF | FIELD/OVALS PER 1,000 POPULATION | APPROX. EQUAL TO |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Fields/Ovals | 34 | 50,000 | 1,460 | 1,400 |

If the indicative population thresholds (for each sport identified in the guideline, excluding hockey) is applied to a population of 50,000, a standard for a generic field is one (1) field per 1,400 population. This is comparable to the citywide standard of one (1) field per 1,419 population.

¹⁹⁹ NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 92-93

²⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰¹ *Ibid.* p. 92.

APPENDIX 4 – Park and Playground Standards

Various planning documents provide guidelines for the provision of parks and playgrounds as detailed in the following table. The standards or measures used to assess the provision of parks or playgrounds are size, distance and population. The Draft LDCG state that ‘they (the standards) are not intended to be a finite definition of need’ and all facilities must be considered in the context of the population characteristics of the LGA with the population thresholds applied on a case by case basis.²⁰²

Table 58. Glendale CC – Guidelines for Parks and Playgrounds

| GUIDELINES | DESCRIPTION | SIZE | DISTANCE FROM DWELLINGS | POPULATION THRESHOLD |
|--|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Draft LDCG ²⁰³ | Playground | None specified | 400 m | 1 per 500 dwellings (1,250) |
| R & O/S Guidelines ²⁰⁴ | Local park | 0.5 – 2 ha | 400 m | ? |
| | District park | 2-5 ha | 2 kms | ? |
| Growth Centres Development Code ²⁰⁵ | Local park | None specified | 400 m | ? |
| | Neighbourhood park | | 2 kms | ? |
| Open Space Design Guidelines for Landcom Projects ²⁰⁶ | New parks | 0.5 ha | ? | ? |
| | Smaller parks | 0.5 ha – 1 ha | ? | ? |

The common theme in the above standards is the 400 m distance from most dwellings to a local park or playground. The Glendale CC covers an area of 120 km², compared to the City of Sydney’s entire LGA, which covers an area of 26 km². A distance of 400 m would be an appropriate standard for the City of Sydney, but not for the urban and outlying areas of LM LGA.

The LDCG also recommends providing a playground for every 500 dwellings. Based on the assumption of 2.5 persons per dwelling²⁰⁷ the population threshold would be one playground for every 1,250 persons. If a playground were provided for every 1,250 persons, then 34 playgrounds would be required, whereas, there are 27 playgrounds in the Glendale CC. Both thresholds of distance and population are considered unreasonable and unsustainable for the majority of the LM LGA. This plan recommends a departure away from the identified standards and the following analysis demonstrates the variation

● Comparative

A comparison of playground provision within other LGA’s revealed that the City of Sydney conforms to the distance from dwellings criteria but not the population threshold. If there is a high population in a small area then the average distance from each dwelling may be less than the 400 m standard and the population threshold maybe more than the above standard. For the City of Sydney, the average distance from dwellings to a playground is 319 metres (less than the standard of 400 m) but one playground is provided for every 2,098 persons (considerably more than the standard).

Wollongong, Tweed, and Coffs Harbour Council’s conform to the population threshold but not to the distance from dwellings criteria. Interestingly, Newcastle City Council’s standard of provision is similar to the recommended standard for LM LGA. Refer to the following table.

²⁰² DoP (2009) *Local Development Contributions Guidelines*. p. 91.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*, p. 93.

²⁰⁴ DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 29

²⁰⁵ Growth Centres Commission (2006) *Growth Centres Development Code*, B-79

²⁰⁶ Landcom (ND) *Open Space Design Guidelines for Landcom Projects*, p. 5.

²⁰⁷ Based on 2011 Census Quick Stats: *Lake Macquarie(C) [LM LGA]* the average number of people per household is 2.5

Table 59. Glendale CC – Comparison of Other LGA's

| COUNCIL AREA | LGA POPULATION | AREA Km ² | NO OF PLAYGROUNDS | AVERAGE AREA Km ² /PLAYGROUND A | AVERAGE DISTANCE FROM DWELLINGS $r = \sqrt{A/\pi}$ | PLAYGROUND PER POPULATION |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| Guidelines ²⁰⁸ | | | | | 400 m | 1,250 |
| City of Sydney | 176,255 | 26 | 84 | 0.310 | 0.319 m | 2,098 |
| Wollongong | 201,215 | 714 | 153 | 4.667 | 1,219 m | 1,315 |
| Tweed | 91,000 | 1,303 | 83 | 15.699 | 2,235 m | 1,096 |
| Coffs Harbour | 72,115 | 1,174 | 56 | 20.964 | 2,583 m | 1,288 |
| Newcastle | 154,896 | 187 | 92 | 2.033 | 804 m | 1,684 |
| LM LGA | 200,849 | 758.0 | 120 | 6.317 | 1,418 m | 1,674 |
| RECOMMENDED STANDARD | | | | | 400 - 800 m | 1,500 |

The above figures are to be used as a general guide only as the entire area (catchment and LGA) was used in the calculation. There has been no consideration for employment land or bushland of which there is no requirement to provide a playground.

● Identified

The National Health Survey (NHS) results from the 2007/08 survey run by the Australian Bureau of Statistics released in 2009 revealed that approximately 600,000 Australian children (aged 5 to 17 years) or 25% of all children were overweight (17%) or obese (8%).²⁰⁹

The Heart Foundation recommends as a general guide:

- Adults include at least 30 minutes or more of moderate-intensity physical activity (such as brisk walking) on most, if not all days of the week. This amount of activity can be accumulated in shorter bouts, such as three 10-minute walks per day.
- For children, it is 60 minutes.²¹⁰

The following table details the average time taken to walk certain distances as a slow, medium or fast walking pace.

Table 60. Walking Distance Calculator

| Walking Speed | Time/Distance | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| | 10 minutes | 20 minutes | 30 minutes |
| Slow | 0.6km | 1.2km | 1.8km |
| Medium | 0.9km | 1.8km | 2.7km |
| Fast | 1.1km | 2.2km | 3.3km |

Source: <http://www.travelsmart.qld.gov.au/Travel-alternatives/Walking.aspx>

According to Austroads Standards, the practical limit for most non-recreational walking trips is approximately 1.5 km, equating to a 15 minute walk. School children may walk up to 2 km to school and people walking for recreation and exercise may walk up to 4km'.²¹¹

● Analysis

Based on a slow walking speed it would take 13 minutes to walk 800 metres or less if walked at a medium walking speed. By providing a local playground 800 metres from most dwellings, would take about 26 minutes for the return journey if walked at a slow walking speed. This alone does not provide the recommended 60 minutes daily exercise for a child.

Shared pathways within an open space network connected to playgrounds (and other key destinations) provide good access and encourage walking. Thus, the walk or cycle to the playground significantly adds to the recreational experience of the playground.

By providing fewer but better) playgrounds, this contributes to the individual's daily exercise requirement, and the distance travelled to the playground makes the journey worth the additional effort.

²⁰⁸ DoP (2009) *Local Development Contributions Guidelines*. p. 91.

²⁰⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2009) *National Health Survey, 2007/08* (ABS Cat. No. 4364.0)

²¹⁰ <http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/healthy-eating/mums-united/getting-active/Pages/default.aspx>

²¹¹ Austroads Standards(1999) *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practices, Part 13: Pedestrians*.

● **Recommendation**

The following provision standards are considered reasonable for the life of this plan. However, these standards are a guide and will need to be reviewed as population densities increase.

In suburbs or areas where population densities are moderate or low, a catchment (or distance from most dwellings) of 800 m is considered acceptable, however, in areas where population densities are high or planned to be high, a catchment of 400 m from most dwellings is more appropriate, e.g. around town or city centres.

In addition, where communities have high levels of social disadvantage or where communities are physically isolated, a higher provision standard is appropriate. In these instances, the LDCG standard may be more appropriate.

For playgrounds, the following is recommended:

- One Major Playground
- Several Neighbourhood Playgrounds
- One fenced playground
- One learner cyclist circuit
- One outdoor gym (provided in conjunction with a shared pathway or recreation trail)

All playgrounds are to have good connections, and preferably be located with footpaths and near shared pathways providing easy walking and cycling access.

For parks, the standard is slightly higher, as not every park has a playground. However, the focus is on the provision of more neighbourhood or major parks and fewer local parks and this as provides the greatest diversity of recreation opportunity.

APPENDIX 5 – Park Hierarchy

Table 61. City – Park Hierarchy

| FUNCTION | LOCAL | NEIGHBOURHOOD | MAJOR | CITY |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| | Taylor Memorial Park | Wilkinson Park, Cardiff | Warners Bay Foreshore | Speers Point Park |
| USABLE PARK AREA | 0.5 ha to 1 ha | 1 to 5 ha | 5 to 10 ha | 10 + ha |
| DISTANCE FROM RESIDENTS | 400 to 800 m | Usually 2 km | Usually 5 km | Usually 10 km |
| STANDARD | Every 1,400 persons | Every 5,000 persons | Up to 50,000 persons | 50,000 + persons |
| AREA SERVED | One per suburb | Two or three suburbs | Several per catchment | Catchment (10-15 suburbs) |
| USAGE | Minimal | Moderate | High | Very High |
| GROUP USE | Individuals, carer with children | Small – medium sized groups | Large groups, functions | City festivals, civic events, circus |
| USES/ACTIVITIES | Park with some facilities, often a playground | Playground, picnic/BBQ, multi-court, skate, BMX, fete/markets | Playground, picnic/BBQ, skate, BMX, informal cricket/soccer, kite flying, fete/markets, weddings | Playground, picnic/BBQ, skate, BMX, informal cricket/soccer, kite flying, fete/markets/circus/wedding |
| TRAVEL TO PARK | Mostly walk | Walk or cycle | Walk, cycle or drive | Walk, cycle or drive |
| DURATION | Short (10-15 mins) | Up to 30 mins | Up to 1 hour | Up to several hours |
| ACCESS | Maybe accessible | Some parts accessible | Mostly all accessible | Extremely good accessibility |
| PARK FACILITIES | Very limited | Some | Moderate | Large number |
| QUALITY | Basic | Moderate | Good quality | High Quality |
| Public toilet | No | Yes | Several | Large number to cater for large events |
| Seating | One park bench | Several park bench seats | Numerous park bench seats | Park bench seats throughout the park |
| BBQ | No | One | Several | Numerous, some covered |
| Rubbish bin | No | One | Several | Numerous |
| Picnic table | No | One | Several | Numerous |
| Covered picnic table | No | One covered picnic table | Several and a covered group area | Numerous and covered group areas |
| Shade structure | No | Not usually | Yes | Yes |
| Pathways | Pathway to play equipment | Shared pathway to play equipment & beyond | Shared pathway to play and through park, may incl. separated pathways | Numerous shared and separated pathways linking activity nodes |
| Parking | On street | On street | Off street, perimeter parking | Off street, parking bays |
| Signage | Park sign | Park sign | Park & directional sign | Park, directional & interpretive sign |
| Other features | Not generally | Minimal | Yes | Sculptural art, fountains/water features |
| Landscaping | one or two large trees | Several large trees | Numerous significant trees with minor landscaped areas | Many significant trees in expansive grassed park area with landscaping |
| PLAYGROUND | Maybe | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Age range | 2 to 8 years | 2 to 12 years | 2 to 15 years | 2 years to adult |
| Equipment | Slide, rocker, climbing equip | Large range of equipment | Several different areas of age related equipment, themed playground | Large scale, purpose built, many different play areas or special features i.e. themed, water play, nature play, adventure play |
| Bubbler / tap | One bubbler | At least one bubbler | Several bubblers | Numerous bubblers |
| Seating | One bench seat at playground | Two bench seats at playground | Numerous bench seats at playground | Bench seats throughout the playground |
| Fencing | Not unless required | Not unless required | Probably | Yes |
| OTHER FACILITIES i.e. bicycle circuit, outdoor gym, skate park, BMX track | No | Possibly | Generally more than one | Several |

APPENDIX 6 – Recreation Land Requirements

The DoP in their guidelines recommend that Councils take care to ensure that the land they are receiving for open space purposes is appropriate for the end use²¹².

Parks are:

Reserves which have had their physical character and/or vegetation modified to support community recreation, community development and wellbeing uses. They include ornamental gardens, play facilities, community gardens and informal lawns²¹³

A sports ground is an area comprising sports fields, ovals or courts used for organised, competition or sports training.

Considering the purpose of a park and a sports ground, and how they are to be used, the land dedicated is required to be 'fit for purpose' and not comprise the following:

- any endangered vegetation communities, endangered flora, nest/roost trees, senescent trees or any tree species known to drop limbs,
- any flood prone land,
- have drainage conflicts,
- any contaminated land or water, and
- transmission line easements

The land must:

- be located on flat land
- for parks - slopes generally <1:15, some areas of steeper slope <1:4 may be permitted for a park
- be predominantly square in configuration,
- have extensive street frontage on at least two of its site boundaries
- have good visibility into the area and good surveillance i.e. residential dwellings overlooking the land
- be centrally located to the catchment population served,
- have good access, located on a shared pathway, or cycleway network,
- have good solar access (winter sun),
- have good shade (in summer),
- for sports grounds the land is to provide a minimum of two senior full sized fields and a cricket oval, oriented north/south with the required safety zone, dead ball areas and buffers and to provide for additional supporting infrastructure. Field grades between 1:70 and 1:100 depending upon the nature of the growing media and subsurface drainage system.
- the entire parcel of land is to be categorised as 'sportsground' or 'park' according to the L G Act (1993), and

Refer to Council's specification templates for specific design requirements

²¹² NSW DoP (2009) *Draft Local Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 74.

²¹³ DoP (2010) *Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government*, p. 16.

APPENDIX 7 – LMCC Rates of Provision – Standards

The following table details the locally appropriate standards for recreation facilities for the Glendale CC. It also identifies the recommended number of facilities required based on the projected population.

Table 62. Glendale CC – Standard of Provision

| RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE TYPE | RECOMMENDED STANDARD | NO. OF RECREATION FACILITIES FOR A POPULATION 13,635 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Sports Fields | 1,500 | 9.1 |
| Sports Courts | 1,100 | 12.4 |
| Multi-Courts | 15,000 | 0.9 |
| Parks | 1,400 | 10 |
| Playgrounds | 1,500 | 9.1 |
| Community Garden | 5,000 | 2.7 |
| Dog Exercise Area | 7,000 | 1.9 |
| Skate Park | 20,000 | 0.7 |
| BMX Tracks | 20,000 | 0.7 |
| Shared Pathways | 0.37 | 6,222m |
| Tracks and Trails | 0.58 | 11,337m |
| Mountain Bike Areas | 1/catchment | 1 |
| Swimming Pools | 12,000 | 1 |

APPENDIX 8 – Recommended Standards

The following indicative standards are the locally specific provision standards for applicable for LMCC. They are based on the citywide existing provision in the LM LGA and take into consideration changing use patterns, expressed community needs and anticipated future needs.

Table 63. Glendale CC – Recreation Standards

| DESCRIPTION | SIZE | CATCHMENT | POPULATION THRESHOLD | FACILITIES |
|---|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| SPORTS FIELD | | | 1:1,500 | |
| Small Sports Ground | up to 5 ha | 1 km | | 1 to 2 fields/ovals |
| Medium Sports Ground | 5 to 10 ha | 2 km | | 3 to 5 fields/ovals |
| Major Sports Ground | over 10 ha | 3 to 5 km | | 5 + fields/ovals |
| TENNIS | | | 1:2,200 | |
| Small Tennis Centre | 0.5 | 1 km | | 1 - 3 courts |
| Medium Tennis Centre | 1.2 ha | 2 km | | 4 - 7 courts |
| Major Tennis Centre | 1.5 + Ha | 5 + km | | 8 courts + |
| NETBALL | | | 1:2,000 | |
| Netball Training Centre | 1.5 ha | 2 km | | 1 - 6 courts |
| Netball Competition Centre | 4 ha | 10 + km | | 12 + courts |
| MULTI-COURT | | | 1:15,000 | |
| PARK | | | | |
| Local Park | 0.5 to 1 ha | 400 m - 800 m | 1,400 | |
| Neighbourhood Park | 1 to 5 ha | 1 km | 5,000 | |
| Major Park | 5 to 10 ha | 5 km | Up to 50,000 | |
| City Park | 10 + ha | 10 km | 50,000 + | |
| PLAYGROUND | | | | |
| Local Playground | 2 to 8 yrs | 400 m - 800 m | 1,500 | |
| Neighbourhood Playground | 2 to 12 yrs | 2 km | 5,000 | |
| Major Playground | 2 to 15 yrs | 5 km | Up to 50,000 | |
| City Playground | 2 to adult | 10 km | 50,000 + | |
| COMMUNITY GARDEN | | | | |
| Local | up to 0.2 ha | 1 km | 1:5,000 | |
| Neighbourhood | 0.2 - 0.5 ha | 4 km | 1:50,000 | |
| City Farm | over 10 ha | city wide | 1:200,000 | |
| DOG EXERCISE AREA | | | 1:7,000 | |
| SKATE PARK | | | 1:20,000 | |
| Small Skate Park | 500 m ² | 2 to 5 km | | |
| Large Skate Park | 2,500 m ² | 5 to 10 km | | |
| BMX TRACK | | | | |
| Small BMX Track | 2,000 m ² | 2 to 5 km | 1:20,000 | |
| Large BMX Track | 5,000 m ² | 5 to 10 km | | |
| SHARED PATH | | | 1:0.37 LIN METRES | |
| TRACKS AND TRAILS | | | 1:0.60 LIN METRES | |
| MOUNTAIN BIKE AREA | | | 1:CATCHMENT | |
| SURF LIFE SAVING FAC. | | | 1:60,000 | |
| BOAT RAMP | | | 1:20,000 | |
| JETTY | | | 1:20,000 | |
| SWIM POOL | | | 1:12,000 | |
| INDOOR SPORT & RECREATION CENTRE | | | 1:60,000 | |

APPENDIX 9 – Recreation Land – This Plan

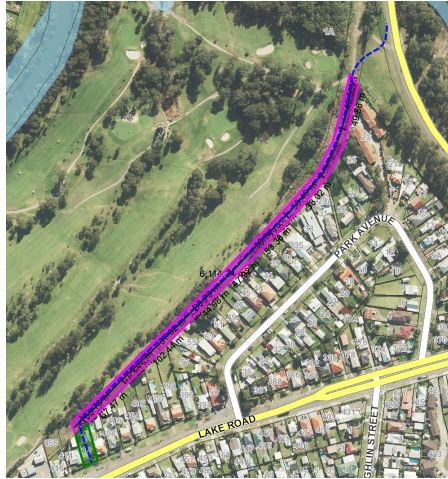

Table 64. Glendale CC – Open Space Land Acquisition

| SUBURB | LOCATION | FACILITY NAME / DESCRIPTION | M ² | TOTAL AREA | PRIORITY |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| PARKS | | | | 44,923 | |
| Local Park | | | | | |
| CAMERON PARK | Part 140 Minmi Rd | within C&A Northern Land | 5,000 | | Low |
| Cardiff Town Park | | | | | |
| CARDIFF | 24 Kelton St | Lot A DP 387969 | 562.8 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 26 Kelton St | Lot B DP 387969 | 347.8 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 28 Kelton St | Lot 8 DP 3783 | 347.76 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 30 Kelton St | Lot DP 3783, Lot 2 DP 547543 | 594.38 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 19 Veronica St | Lot 8 Section B DP 10159 | 510.9 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 21 Veronica St | Lot 7 DP 10159 | 510.9 | | High |
| CARDIFF | 23 Veronica St | Lot 6 Section B DP 10159 | 510.9 | | High |
| Edgeworth Park | | | | | |
| EDGEWORTH | 6 Charles St | Lots 45, 46 Section 2 DP 2149 | 607 | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 20 Charles St | Lot 34 Section 2 DP 2149 | | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 22 Charles St | Lot 33 Section 2 DP 2149 | | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 24 Charles St | Lot 31, 32 Section 2 DP 2149 | 607 | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 26 Charles St | Lot 30 Section 2 DP 2149 | 303.5 | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 28 Charles St | Lot 29 Section 2 DP 2149 | 303.5 | | High |
| EDGEWORTH | 744A Main Rd | Scout Hall - Lots 4,5,6 Section 1 DP 2149 | 1,266.8 | | High |
| Glendale Civic Park | | | | | |
| GLENDALE | Part 460 Main Rd | Lot 100 DP 1100258 | 5,000 | | High |
| West Wallsend Park | | | | | |
| WEST WALLSEND | Part 125 George Booth Dr | Lot 106 DP 1000408; Part of 40 Killingworth Rd, Holmesville - Lot 2 DP 979867 | 28,450 | | High |
| LINEAR & LINKAGE | | | | 48,367 | |
| ARGENTON | Part 456 Lake Rd | Shared path - Waratah Golf Club, Lot 3 DP 233863 | 6115 | | Very High |
| BOOLAROO | 118A T C Frith Ave | Shared pathway, Lot 23 DP 251322 | 2,050 | | Medium |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | 13C Waterview Rd | Shared Pathway | 300 | | Medium |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Ada St | Shared Pathway | 2,840 | | Medium |
| WARNERS BAY | 4 Margaret St | North Creek - missing link | 3,900 | | Low |
| Munibung Hill | | | | | |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First St | North South Ridge, Northern Access, Lot 1 DP 523781 | 3,325 | | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First St | East/West Ridge, First Street Access - 1,475 lm, Lot 1 DP 523781 | 10,325 | | High |
| BOOLAROO | Part 2 First St | East/West Ridge, Seventh Street Access - 348 lm, Lot 1 DP 523781 | 1,044 | | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond St | North South Ridge - 1,380 lm, Lot 21 DP 790637 | 9,660 | | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond St | Hopkins Street Access - 340 lm, Lot 21 DP 790637 | 2,380 | | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond St | Hopkins Street Access - 400 lm, Lot 21 DP 790637 | 2,800 | | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond St | Quarry Road Access - 390 lm, Lot 21 DP 790637 | 2,730 | | High |
| SPEERS POINT | Part 1A Raymond St | Farm Street Access - 54 lm, Lot 21 DP 790637 | 860 | | High |
| WARNERS BAY | Part 19 Daydawn Ave | North South Ridge, pinch point, Lot 100 DP 1173625 | 38 | | High |
| SPORTS GROUNDS | | | | 53,745 | |
| CARDIFF | Unformed road | Cardiff No. 2 Oval | 2,510 | | Medium |
| EDGEWORTH | Part 15 Fletcher St | Lot 312 DP 810575, Edgeworth Sports Complex | 11,900 | | Low |
| EDGEWORTH | Part 18 Croudace St | Lot 142 DP 56981, Edgeworth Sports Complex | 23,315 | | Medium |
| WEST WALLSEND | Part 125 George Booth Dr | Johnson Park | 16,020 | | Medium |
| TOTAL (m2) | | | | 147,035 | |
| TOTAL RECREATION LAND (Ha) | | | | 14.7 | |

The land required to provide the recreation facilities in this plan is **14.7 ha**, which is considerably less than any other open space standards. As a simple comparison, based on the project growth of 13,635 population and using the widely accepted (British) standard of 2.83 ha/1,000 population **38.5 ha** of usable recreation land is required to be provided.

APPENDIX 10 – Recreation Land Acquisitions

The Draft LDCG identifies matters for consideration the guidelines recommends that if in a Greenfields situation land acquisition may also need to be included however it is preferable that this land be gained through dedication. If in a Brownfield’s situation and land acquisition is required, council should identify the land to be acquired.²¹⁴ The following land is required to be acquired, dedicated or easements created to provide the facilities recommended in this plan.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Argenton – linkage</p> <p>The creation of an easement for public access is required to provide an off-road shared pathway, a continuation of the Speers Point to Glendale route. The easement is required over part 456 Lake Rd, Argenton – Lot 3 DP 233863, zoned RE2, approximate length is 500 m and width 12 m = 6,115 m², which is subject to final survey. The location of the easement is identified by the pink area on the plan. Council has recently purchased the property at 412 Lake Rd, Argenton, identified as the green shaded area on the plan in anticipation of the provision of the planned off-road shared pathway. The location of this shared pathway is proposed on land, which was previously a disused tramway (LMCC owned land), and was sold to the Waratah Golf Club. The <i>LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021</i> identifies this route as Cockle Creek 1.</p> |  <p>Proposed linkage – part of the Glendale to Speers Point route</p> |
| <p>2. Boolaroo - Local Park</p> <p>Park - A new local park with play equipment is to be provided on the LMCC owned (community) land at 118A T C Frith Ave, Boolaroo. The identified site is approximately 0.57 ha and is provided for the proposed new residential area of Bunderra. The park and/or playground could be designed with an industrial/heritage theme or include a public art feature in keeping with the previous land use of the area. The park may be able to incorporate salvageable or replica industrial items.</p> <p>A continuation of the shared pathway route from Speers Point to Glendale will be located through the park generally following Cockle Creek, which provides a link to the Lake Foreshore route. Another link is required, the roundabout, along Main Rd into Bunderra development site.</p> <p>Linkage – Land is required at 120A T C Frith Ave, Boolaroo – Lot 23 DP 231322, to provide a linkage and off-road shared pathway between Speers Point and Glendale. The land is approximately 2,050 m² and identified by the black boundary line on the plan. The land is zoned RE1 and marked for acquisition. The land is located between two parcels of Council owned (community) land.</p> |  <p>Proposed Local Park site</p> <p>Adjoining Linkage</p> |

²¹⁴ NSW Department of Planning (2009) *Draft Development Contributions Guidelines*, p. 93.

3. Cameron Park – Local Park

A new local park with play equipment is to be provided within Link Road South Precinct of the C&A Northern Lands development area (within 140 Minmi Road, Cameron Park – Lot 3 DP 877349). This development is a major project Part 3A application and Concept Plan for this development approved on 6 August 2013. The Concept Infrastructure Report Part 2 indicates the location for the park.

The park is required to be 5,000 m², square in configuration, on relatively flat land and fit for purpose i.e. with no constraints that would limit the development of the land into a park. A shared pathway is to provide a connection from the park to the proposed shared pathway extending along Brush Creek.

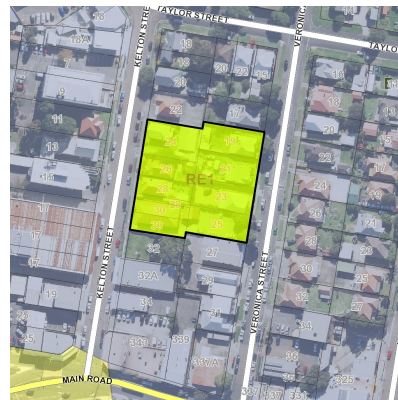


Proposed park - shaded light green in Concept Infrastructure Report Part 2 – Appendix D – Indicative Lot Layout Figure 7

4. Cardiff - Town Park

A town park is to be located close to the town centre in Cardiff and proposed to be called Harry Ford Park. The cost of the land is to be funded partly from the sale of Council owned land in Cardiff (the previous Harry Ford Park) and partly from this plan. Council resolved on 22 June 2009 to acquire land in Cardiff for the development of a new town park.

The site is approximately 0.38 ha and identified by the black unbroken line and the area shaded light green on the plan. The land to be acquired includes 8 properties including 24, 26, 28 and 30 Kelton Street and 19, 21, 23, and 25 Veronica Street, Cardiff. The park is to be designed as a public domain space, to include sculptural play elements, and a shared pathway is required through the site.



Cardiff Town Park (proposed) Harry Ford Park



Photo – Ivey Watson Playground in Kings Park, Perth – sculptural play elements

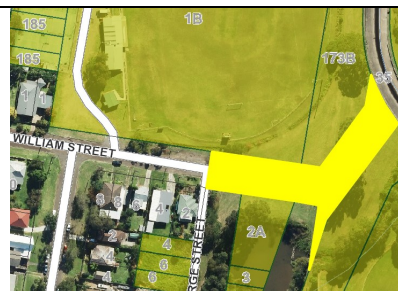
5. Cardiff – sport & linkage

Land is required to provide additional car parking for the adjoining sporting facilities and a shared pathway. The land required is the unformed part of William Street, approximately 2,510 m², and identified by the bright yellow area on the plan.

Sport - The sporting facilities are to be reconfigured and the practice cricket wickets relocated to enable play for two soccer fields, which will create the need for additional car parking. The tennis courts may be relocated to the acquired land to provide a centralised car parking bay where the tennis courts are currently located. A master plan of the entire Cardiff sporting complex will investigate the merits of this proposal.

The land required is zoned RE1 Public Recreation and surrounded by existing community land (light yellow shading on the following plan).

Linkage - The land is also required for a shared pathway, proposed from Myall Rd south to Ada Street, located east of No. 2 Oval to connect to the bridge over the creek.



6. Cardiff South – linkage

Linkage – Land, approximately 4,330 m², (length 225 lm) is required to provide an off-road shared pathway extending from Myall Road Cardiff (beside No. 2 oval) south to Ada Street and Macquarie Road. This proposed route is identified as ‘Cardiff 9’ in the *LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021*.

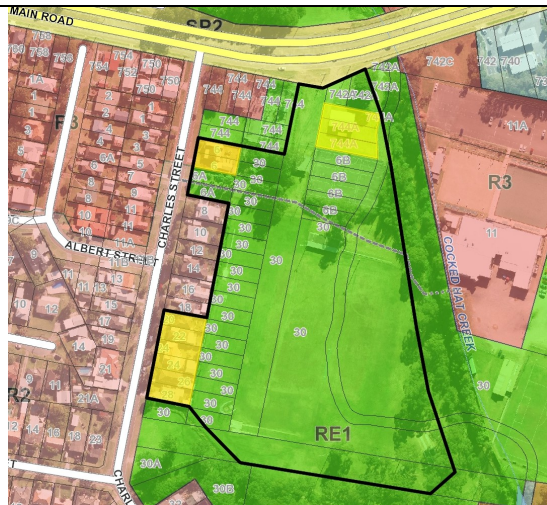
- a) Part 13C Waterview Road, Cardiff South – Lot 50 DP 2472 approx. 20 m x 15 m = **300** m² (pink shaded area on plan)
- b) unformed road – Ada Street, approx. **2,840** m² (yellow shaded area on plan)



7. Edgeworth – Neighbourhood Park

A neighbourhood park and neighbourhood playground for younger children is planned for Edgeworth. The site, is approximately 3.75 ha identified by the black boundary line on the plan and the land to be acquired is shaded yellow. The site is located close to the Edgeworth town centre and beside a model train facility, which is popular with families of small children. The proposed playground could contain a train theme or climbing structure. A shared pathway is to extend along Cocked Hat Creek with a new bridge further south providing a connection to the sporting precinct. The shared pathway will extend into Glendale providing a link with the Glendale/Speers Point route.

The identified site is located on the community land currently used as a sporting field/athletics track, which will be relocated to the Turnbull Street site. The proposal is to acquire a number of properties (shaded yellow) including 6, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 Charles Street and 744A Main Rd, Edgeworth. This will provide a street frontage to the park, to increase visibility and passive surveillance into the park.



Above - Proposed Edgeworth Park Site



Photos above and left - Ivey Watson Family Area in Perth, Fenced early childhood playground designed for children under 5 yrs old.



8. Edgeworth – sporting facilities

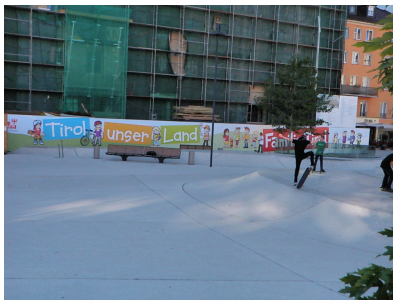
Land is required to extend the existing sporting facilities at Edgeworth. The land, approximately 35,175 m², is zoned RE1 and marked for acquisition in the LM LEP. The land is shaded yellow on the plan and includes part 15 Fletcher Street (pink boundary) and part 18 Croudace Street (red boundary), Edgeworth.



9. Glendale - Civic Park

A new civic park is planned for the Glendale Regional Centre. The identified site is within part 460 Main Road, Glendale – Lot 100 DP 1100258, identified by the black boundary line and shaded yellow/light green on the plan opposite. The land is triangular shaped and bounded by the Hunter Sports Centre (LMCC owned land) at 45 Stockland Drive Glendale; the proposed new Glendale interchange; and part of the E2 zone boundary. The area is approximately 4,000 – 5,000 m2.

The proposed civic park will comprise a public domain/plaza area of mostly hard landscaping combined with a major skate park, a shared pathway will extend through the site in an east west direction along Winding Creek; and another shared pathway in a north south direction providing a connection to Main Road. The shared pathway will also contain an avenue of significant trees providing an entry into the park and a feature bridge over Winding Creek.



Plan of proposed Civic Park - shaded light green, refer to item 10 below for shared pathway connections



Photos left and below - skate park in city centre in Innsbruck, Austria, integrated into the public domain



10. Glendale – Shared Pathway

An off-road shared pathway is planned along Winding Creek to connect Cardiff with Glendale. This route will connect to the proposed shared pathway to Speers Point and the lake foreshore shared pathway. A significant proportion of the land is owned by LMCC i.e. the land shaded mustard and orange on the plan opposite. The land shaded pink is the proposed Civic Park; refer to Item 9 above.

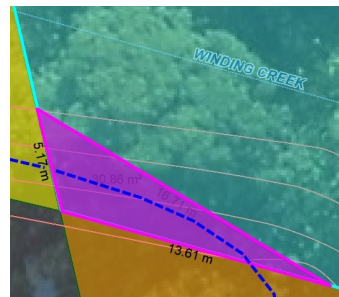
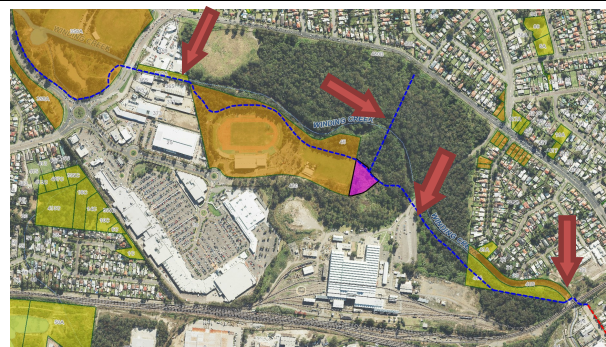
Rail Corporation NSW own the remainder of the land and easements or the dedication of land is required to enable the shared pathway to be provided. The red arrows indicate the areas of land where negotiation is required to secure legal access.



Photo left - shared pathway under highway at Kiama, NSW. A fence separates the creek



Photo left - shows a cycleway in both directions and pathway under a road. A concrete barrier separates the creek
One of the above treatments may be suitable under Main Road at Glendale



Plan left - small area approx. 30 m2 required to link two parcels of LMCC owned land



Plan left - cycleway suspended under a bridge and creek.

This treatment may be suitable under the rail bridge at Cardiff.

11. Munibung Hill – linkages

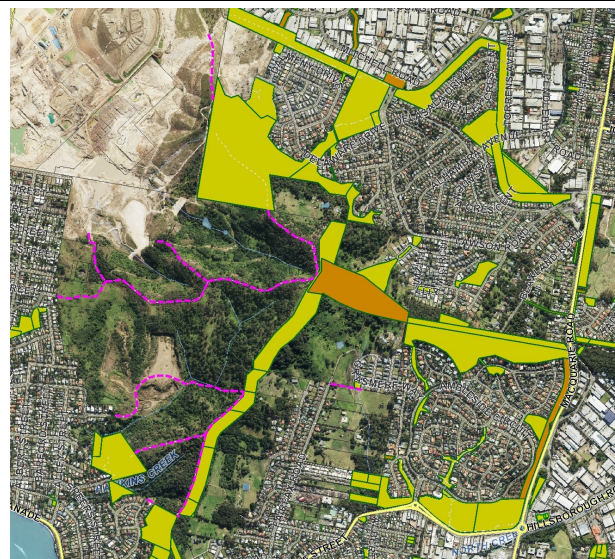
Council requires the acquisition of land or easements to provide legal public access over many of the existing major tracks over Munibung Hill. The plan indicates the major routes by yellow dashed lines.

Some of the tracks are located within LMCC owned land i.e. all the tracks to the east (Lakelands, Warners Bay, Macquarie Road; part of the north south ridge; part of Quarry Rd access, and the majority of the northern access (Lucilla Ridge and Delaware Drive, Macquarie Hills).

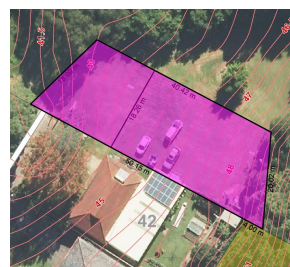
However, there are missing links, major access points and a pinch point, which are required to enable continued public access for these communities around Munibung Hill.

The tracks and trails that require acquisition or easement include the following:

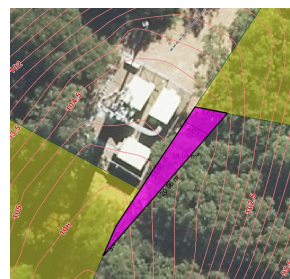
- North South Ridge
- Hopkins Street, Speers Point Access
- Quarry Road, Speers Point Access
- Farm Street, Speers Point Access & car park
- North South Ridge – pinch point
- North South Ridge – Northern access from Macquarie Hills
- East West Ridge – First Street access
- Seventh Street, Boolaroo Access
- First Street, Boolaroo - Access through Bunderra (former Pasmenco) site
- Second Access at Boolaroo through Bunderra site
- Third Access at Macquarie Hills through Bunderra
- Fairfax Road Access - over a proposed future public road within a development site or if a private road then an easement is required



Plan above - shows the major tracks where public access is required (pink dashed line). LMCC Public land - Community Land shaded yellow/green, and Operational Land shaded orange.



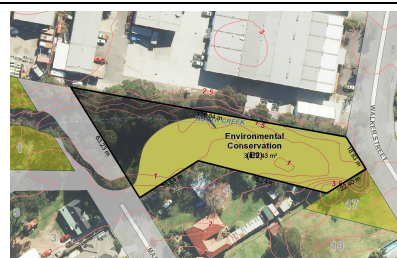
Plan opposite – proposed access and car park – approx. 860 m2 required within 1A Raymond St, Speers Point



Plan opposite - pinch point – approx. 38 m2 required within 19 Daydown Ave, Warners Bay

12. Warners Bay – linkage

The land, approx. 3,900 m2, identified by the black unbroken line on the following plan, is required to provide a linkage along North Creek. The site is 4 Margaret Street, Warners Bay – Lot 4 DP 1068510, and located between two parcels of Council owned (community) land at 17 Walker Street, Warners Bay, the unformed part of Margaret Street, and 1 and 1A Margaret Street, Warners Bay. The majority of the land is marked for acquisition in the LM LEP. This site is the missing link from the Warners Bay foreshore to Walker Street along North Creek.



Plan opposite - majority of site zoned E2 and marked for acquisition



Plan opposite - shows missing link along North Creek. LMCC Public Land - Community Land shaded yellow/green and Operational Land shaded orange

13. West Wallsend – Johnson Park

Land is required for the future development of recreation facilities at West Wallsend. The land identified is to the east of Johnson Park, currently owned by the Hunter Development Corporation, approx. 44,470 m² and the majority of the land zoned RE1 Public Recreation in the LM LEP.

Sporting – Land is required to expand the existing sporting facilities to enable dual use fields at Johnson Park. The identified land is approximately 16,020 m² as shown by the yellow shaded area on the plan. The land is part 125 George Booth Drive, West Wallsend – Lot 106 DP 1000408 and part 40 Killingworth Rd, Holmesville – Lot 2 DP 979867. The land zoned E2 is 775 m², RU2 is 175 m² and the land zoned RE1 is 15,070 m².

Park – A neighbourhood park and neighbourhood playground is planned for West Wallsend. The identified land is approximately 28,450 m², is zoned RE1 in the LM LEP and shown by the pink shaded area on the plan. The land is part 125 George Booth Drive, West Wallsend – Lot 106 DP 1000408 and part 40 Killingworth Rd, Holmesville – Lot 2 DP 979867. The land is a quadrilateral with sides approx. 149 m, 170 m, 177 m, 182 m.

A shared pathway/cycleway will provide a connection to the West Wallsend town centre via the LMCC owned land at 45A Wilson Street, West Wallsend. A future shared pathway / cycleway along the unformed railway line at 40 Killingworth Rd, Holmesville, Lot 2 DP 979867 could provide a connection to Argenton which links to the existing network.



APPENDIX 11 – Planned Recreation Facilities

The recreation facilities proposed and included in the Glendale Developer Contributions Plan are:

| SUBURB | RECREATION FACILITY | PRIORITY |
|--|--|-----------|
| ARGENTON | Glendale to Speers Point Shared Pathway | |
| | Shared pathway new - 630 Im - Section from Frederick St to 412 Lake Rd | Very High |
| | Easement for access - Waratah Golf Course - 456 Lake Rd | Very High |
| | Recoupment - land at 412 Lake Rd | Very High |
| | | |
| | 134 Montgomery St | |
| | Community garden - new | Low |
| | | |
| BARNSELY | Taylor Park | |
| | Play - upgrade local play | Low |
| | | |
| | 52 Thomas Street | |
| | Community garden - new | Low |
| | | |
| BOOLAROO | Croquet Facility - (Proposed new) 118 T C Frith Ave | |
| | Sports court - 6 new croquet courts at Boolaroo or 6 new netball courts at Westlakes Competition Venue | Medium |
| | Park - new local | Low |
| | Play - new local playground | Low |
| | | |
| BOOLAROO/ MACQUARIE HILLS / WARNERS BAY/ SPEERS POINT | Munibung Hill | |
| | Tracks & trails - upgrade - 4,473 Im | High |
| | Car park - Farm Street | High |
| | Land acquisition & easements | Very High |
| | | |
| CAMERON PARK | C&A Northern Land (Link Rd South Precinct) | |
| | Park - new local | Medium |
| | Playground - new local play | Medium |
| | Land acquisition | Medium |
| | | |
| CAMERON PARK TO EDGEWORTH | Cameron Park to Edgeworth Shared Pathway | |
| | Shared pathway & bridges new - 3,120 Im - Newcastle Link Rd to Edgeworth, (through C&A Northern Land - Link Rd South Precinct) along Brush Creek | Medium |
| | | |
| CARDIFF | Cardiff Shared Pathway - Winding Creek | |
| | Shared Pathway new - 850 Im - Fifth Street to Wilkinson Park | High |
| | | |
| | Harry Ford Park (proposed) Kelton & Veronica Sts | |
| | Park - new town park | Medium |
| | Play - new sculptured playground | Medium |
| | Land acquisition | Very High |
| | | |
| | 103A Mitchell Rd, Path Along Transmission Line (Proposed) | |
| | Dog Exercise area - new | Medium |
| | | |
| | Cardiff No. 2 | |
| | Sports field - upgrade lighting, turf wickets, car parking | High |
| | Land acquisition | High |
| | Cardiff Tennis – upgrade tennis car park | Low |
| | Cardiff Netball - Ken Booth / Nancy Dwyer Courts | |

| SUBURB | RECREATION FACILITY | PRIORITY |
|----------------------|--|-----------|
| | Sports court - reconfigure netball, car park | Medium |
| | 38A Fern Valley Road | |
| | Community garden - new | Medium |
| CARDIFF SOUTH | Cardiff Shared Pathway - South | |
| | Shared pathway new - 485 lm - 173B Myall Rd, 17 John St, Waterview Rd, Ada St unformed, Ada St, to Macquarie Rd | High |
| | Land acquisition/easements | Very High |
| | Ulinga Park | |
| | Sports field - upgrade lighting Northern Field | Low |
| | Sports court - upgrade netball car park | Low |
| | Play - upgrade local playground - relocate on-site | Low |
| EDGEWORTH | 721A, 723A, 725 Main Rd & 81A Turnbull St | |
| | Dog exercise area - new | High |
| | Edgeworth to Northlakes Shared Pathway | |
| | Shared Pathway new - 1,050 lm - Main Rd at Edgeworth to Northlakes Boundary, along Cocked Hat Creek | High |
| | Edgeworth to Glendale Shared Pathway | |
| | Shared pathway & bridges new – 1,500 lm - Main Rd lights Edgeworth to Glendale through sporting area, along Cocked Hat Creek & Brush Creek | Medium |
| | Edgeworth Sports - Turnbull St | |
| | Sports field - replace repurposed athletics track, car park amenities | Medium |
| | Land acquisition | High |
| | Edgeworth Park (proposed) Charles St | |
| | Park - new neighbourhood park | Medium |
| | Play - new neighbourhood (young children) repurpose athletics track | Medium |
| | Land acquisition | Very High |
| | Edgeworth No. 2 Field | |
| | Sports field - upgrade irrigation, drainage, lighting | Medium |
| | 1A Garth Street | |
| | Community garden - new | Low |
| GLENDALE | William Bower Fields No. 1 & 2 | |
| | Sports field - upgrade lighting | Medium |
| | Glendale to Cardiff Shared Pathway | |
| | Shared pathway & bridges new – 2,190 lm - Lake Rd, Hunter Sports Centre, proposed Civic Park, Stuart Rd Cardiff, along Winding Creek | Medium |
| | Civic Park (proposed) East of Hunter Sports Centre | |
| | Park - new civic park | Medium |
| | Skate park - new large | Medium |
| | Shared pathway & bridge new - 450 lm - Main Rd south to proposed Civic Park | Medium |
| | Land acquisition | High |

| SUBURB | RECREATION FACILITY | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| | McDonalds Quarry (proposed) Reservoir Rd | |
| | BMX - new large | High |
| | 5 Glendon Crescent (adjoin site of proposed Mens Shed) | |
| | Community garden - new | High |
| HILLSBOROUGH | 5 Vermont Place | |
| | Dog exercise area - new - in detention basin | Medium |
| | Yuelarbar Track – GNW | |
| | Tracks & trails - upgrade – 1,831 lm - Charlestown Golf Course to Vermont Place | Medium |
| HOLMESVILLE | 73 Seaham St & Unformed Road | |
| | Play - upgrade local playground | Very High |
| | 1A Asher Street (proposed) | |
| | Community Garden - new | High |
| KILLINGWORTH | 3 Park & 30, 31 , 32 Throckmorton Sts | |
| | Multi-purpose court - new | Medium |
| | Dog exercise area - new | Low |
| | Community garden - new | Low |
| KILLINGWORTH/ HOLMESVILLE | BMX – new local (alternatively, it may be located in Kevin Evans Oval, Holmesville) | Medium |
| LAKELANDS | 135 Ambleside Circuit | |
| | Sports court - Lakelands tennis - amenities & paths | High |
| | Community garden - new (or alternate site in Warners Bay) | Low |
| MACQUARIE HILLS | Neegulbah Park | |
| | Play - upgrade local playground | Medium |
| | Community garden - new | Low |
| SPEERS POINT | Speers Point Park | |
| | Park - upgrade major park | High |
| | Play - upgrade major playground - repurpose maze for bikes, shelters, BBQ, fencing | High |
| | Play - new outdoor gym equipment | High |
| | Macquarie Field | |
| | Sports field - upgrade lighting | Medium |
| | Speers Point Swim Centre | |
| | Swim Centre - upgrade | Medium |
| | 28A Bell Street | |
| | Community Garden - new | Low |
| TERALBA | Disused Worm Farm Site & Adjoining Land | |
| | Sports field - Archery Facility (proposed 75 Griffen Rd) - repurpose for archery, upgrade amenities | Low |
| | City Farm (Proposed 46 Griffen Rd) | Low |
| WARNERS BAY | Warner Park | |

| SUBURB | RECREATION FACILITY | PRIORITY |
|----------------------|--|----------|
| | Park - upgrade neighbourhood park, fencing, toilet | High |
| | Play - upgrade neighbourhood playground | High |
| | Warners Bay Foreshore | |
| | Park - upgrade major park | High |
| | Play - new outdoor gym equipment | High |
| | North Creek | |
| | Shared pathway new - 560 lm - Feighan Park to Foreshore | High |
| | Feighan Park No. 1 | |
| | Sports field - upgrade amenities & lighting | Low |
| WEST LAKES | Competition Netball Facility | |
| | Sports court - new netball court, car park | Medium |
| | Sports courts - new netball courts (alternative to Croquet facility) | Medium |
| WEST WALLSEND | Gregory Park | |
| | Tennis – upgrade car park | Low |
| | Shared pathway new - 445 lm - swim centre to Cameron Park underpass | Low |
| | West Wallsend Park (proposed) east of Johnson Park | |
| | Park - new neighbourhood park | Medium |
| | Play - new neighbourhood play | Low |
| | Land acquisition | Medium |
| | Johnson Park | |
| | Sports field - upgrade lighting | Low |
| VARIOUS | Linkages | |
| | 120A T C Frith Ave Boolaroo; 4 Margaret St, Warners Bay | Medium |

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APPENDIX 13 – Glossary of Terms

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Best practice | Considers service issues, industry standards and new service models |
| Citywide standard | Means existing standard of provision within the City of Lake Macquarie |
| Club-based physical activity | Physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport that was organised in full or in part by a sport or recreation club or association that required payment of membership, fees or registration. This is distinct from fitness, leisure or sports centres that required payment for participation. Excludes all aerobics/fitness participants |
| Community garden | A public garden used for growing edible plants and herbs maintained by the community |
| Community land | Land retained for public use such as a park or public reserve |
| Comparative need | The need based on service equity and provision across the LGA, between LGAs and based on planning standards |
| Contribution catchment | The contribution catchment is the boundary of the Glendale Contribution Catchment as defined by Figure 1 |
| Dog exercise area | A dog exercise area or dog park is a facility set aside for dogs to exercise and play off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners |
| Estimated Resident Population | Estimated Resident Population (ERP) – is the official ABS estimate of the Australian population. The ERP is based on the results of the census and is compiled for each census and updated quarterly between census. The ERP is calculated by applying the following adjustments to the 'usual residence' census counts: - Include Australian residents who were temporarily absent overseas on census night; - Adjust the census counts for undercounting using results of the Post Enumeration Survey and; Backcast the resulting estimates, which relate to 6 August 2001 to 30th June 2001 using births, deaths and migration data. |
| Identified need | Is based on the outcomes of consultation with residents and key stakeholders |
| Football | Football refers to a number of sports that involve, to varying degrees, kicking a ball with the foot to score a goal. The most popular of these sports worldwide is association football, more commonly known as just "football" or "soccer". Unqualified, the word football applies to whichever form of football is the most popular in the region |
| Futsal | A scaled down version of outdoor soccer mainly played indoors |
| Gateball | A mallet sport, like croquet, played on courts with a level grass cover, ideally, croquet courts are excellent. It is a fast moving game played by people of all ages. |
| Local standard | Existing standard of provision within the respective catchment i.e. Glendale CC |
| Multi-purpose half-court | A hard surface area usually a half basketball court used for informal games of basketball, netball goal shooting, and could include a tennis hit up wall |
| Multi-purpose sports court | A hard surface court with different line markings to enable a number of different sports to be played on the one court e.g. futsal, basketball, netball, tennis, volleyball, soccer, or badminton |
| Non-organised physical activity | Physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport that was non-organised in full or in part (that is, not fully organised by a club, association or other type of organisation) |
| Normative need | The socio-demographic profile of the area, relative social disadvantage and resultant social issues |
| Open space (public) | Public land set aside for sport, recreation and community purposes, including parks, sports fields, playgrounds, skate parks, civic squares, plazas, and bushland |
| Organised physical activity | Physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport that was organised in full or in part by (1) a fitness, leisure or indoor sports centre that required payment for participation, (2) a sport or recreation club or association that required payment of membership, fees or registration, (3) a workplace, (4) a school, or (5) any other type of organisation |
| Organised sport | Organised sports are those that are organised in full or part by a club, association or other type of organization. |
| Operational land | Land held as a temporary asset or as an investment, land that facilitates the carrying out by a council of its functions or land, which may not be open to the general public, such as a works depot or a council garage. |
| Park | An area of land with a town, set aside for public use, often landscaped with trees and gardens and with recreational and other facilities: Hyde Park. |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Participation rate | For any group, this is the number of persons who participated in the activity, expressed as a percentage of the population in the same group |
| Passive open space | An area of land, generally in an urban context, which is landscaped, beautified and set aside for the enjoyment of the public, excluding sporting activities |
| Public land | Any land (including public reserves) vested in or under the control of the council, but does not include a public road, land subject to the <i>Trustees of school of Arts Enabling Act 1902</i> , or a regional park under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> |
| Recreation | Recreation is an activity, voluntarily undertaken primarily for pleasure and satisfaction, during leisure time |
| Recreational trail | A recreational trail maybe a narrow unsealed track or an unsealed fire trail. These occur mainly in natural areas on steeply sloping land or on land with constraints and are used by cyclists with wide tyres and walkers |
| Shared pathway | A shared pathway is an accessible sealed pathway provided though parks or sporting areas but can also be provided through natural areas. It is a multi-use pathway for walking, cycling, skates/ roller blades, people with walking aides, mobility scooters and parents/carers with strollers |
| Sport | An activity requiring some physical degree of prowess, usually of a competitive nature, such as racing, baseball, tennis, golf, bowling, wrestling, boxing, hunting etc |
| Sports ground | A sportsground is an area of open space which may comprise one or more sports/playing fields, ovals or courts used for organised or competition sport |
| Sports field | A sports field is a flat usually grassed area used to play sport and it includes synthetic surfaced fields |
| Walking (bush) | Includes bush walking only, excludes other types of walking which are categorised as walking (other) |
| Walking (other) | Walking but does not include bushwalking |

APPENDIX 14 – Key to Abbreviations

| | |
|------------------|--|
| ABS | Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| AFL | Australian Football League |
| ASC | Australian Sports Commission |
| CC | Contributions Catchment |
| CL | Community Land |
| Community Plan | <i>LMCC Community Plan 2008-2018</i> |
| CP | Developer Contributions Plan |
| Cycling Strategy | <i>LMCC Cycling Strategy 2021</i> |
| DCP | Development Control Plan |
| DoP | NSW Department of Planning |
| DPI | Department of Primary Industries |
| ERP | Estimated Resident Population |
| EPA Act | Environmental Planning and Assessment Act |
| ibid | Ibid. (Latin, short for ibidem, meaning "the same place") is the term used to provide an endnote or footnote citation or reference for a source that was cited in the preceding endnote or footnote. |
| LDCG | <i>(Draft) Local Development Contributions Guidelines (2009)</i> |
| e.g. | For example |
| ERASS | Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey |
| Ha | Hectares |
| kms | Kilometres |
| LHRS | <i>Lower Hunter Regional Strategy</i> |
| LEP | Local Environmental Plan |
| LGA | Local Government Act |
| LM | Lake Macquarie |
| LMCC | Lake Macquarie City Council |
| LM LCA | <i>Lake Macquarie Liveable Communities Assessment</i> |
| LM LGA | Lake Macquarie Local Government Area |
| NCC | Newcastle City Council |
| NPWS | NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service |
| NSW | New South Wales |
| NURA | Northlakes Urban Release Area |
| PCYC | Police Citizens Youth Club |
| PD | Planning District, (refer to Appendix 1) |
| PoM | Plan of Management |
| Pop | Population |
| PSDM | Pool Service Delivery Model |
| Recreation Plan | <i>Lake Macquarie City Council Recreation Plan</i> |
| RL | Rugby League |
| RU | Rugby Union |
| SCA | State Conservation Area |
| SEIFA | Socio-economic Indices for Areas |
| SLS | Surf Life Saving |
| SLSF | Surf Life Saving Facility |
| SNAP | Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan |
| Social Plan | <i>Lake Macquarie Social Plan 2009-2014</i> |
| Sports Strategy | <i>Lake Macquarie City Council Sports Facility Strategy 2009-2014</i> |
| SRA | State Recreation Area |
| R&O/S | Recreation and Open Space |

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