

Recreation Action Plan

2023 - 2028



PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS COUNCIL

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Acknowledgement of Country

Yii Birrbay Barray

This is Birpai Country

Nyura yii-gu mara-la barray-gu, nyaa-gi, ngarra-gi

You have come here, to the country to see, listen and remember

Gathay Nyiirun Wakulda

Let's all go together as one

We acknowledge that we are on Birpai country and pay respects to all elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge the ongoing connection to the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Region.

Overview

We recognise the importance of sport and recreation as an integral part of our social fabric, generating community cohesion and attracting visitors to the region. Our region has some fantastic recreational resources including the Port Macquarie Coastal Walk, Port Macquarie Skatepark, many diverse playground across the region, our sporting facilities, and iconic beaches. It is vital that we work with the community to deliver and enhance these services and opportunities.

We need to be well prepared to continue the delivery of an appropriate level of recreational facilities and services into the future. This includes maintaining a commitment to the provision of sports facilities, providing for participation in unstructured activities and a variety of passive and active recreational pursuits.

Due to the increase in facilities and services provided to and required by the community, provision of these opportunities has become more complex. We plan, develop and manage suitable allocation of funding, resources and priorities to ensure all members of the community are offered the opportunity to participate.

The *Recreation Action Plan* (the Plan) aims to provide us with the necessary framework to provide for sport and recreation facilities in the short to medium term.



October 2022 update

This is an updated Plan which reflects current priority projects required to meet community needs along with facilities needed to meet forecast growth in the Port Macquarie–Hastings.

The status of actions identified for delivery in the previous Plans (Recreation Action Plan 2015-2025, Recreation Action Plan 2017-2025, Recreation Action Plan 2019-2025, Recreation Action Plan 2020-2025 and Recreation Action Plan 2021-2025) is outlined in Appendix 1.

The Plan has been revised to reflect:

- Changing community, Council and state government priorities;
- Changes of uses of recreation spaces during the Covid19 pandemic and the importance of recreation space;
- An assessment of user groups needs today and into the future;
- Opportunities to reduce overall project cost and

minimise impact on user groups by aligning project stages where appropriate;

- Condition based asset information, providing clarity as to when assets need to be replaced;
- Likely availability of funding sources and consideration of alternative funding sources; and
- A desire to optimise the use of existing open spaces and recreation facilities.

This updated Plan identifies three timelines for delivery of priority projects:

- Immediate 2022/23
- Short term 2023/25
- Medium term 2025/28





Review

Each year an annual report which details performance against the agreed outcomes within the Plan will be reported to Council for information.

The Plan will be subject to annual review and it may be necessary to modify the action plan in accordance with changing community needs, financial position of Council, ability to deliver within timeframe and legislative requirements.

The Plan identifies a number of strategic planning actions as immediate priority for this financial year. Further actions or priorities may be included in the annual review of the Recreation Action Plan following the review and development of these planning documents. A Places to Play Plan will be developed and will include playgrounds, outdoor fitness equipment, outdoor multi-use courts and outdoor volleyball courts.

While much of the responsibility for progressing these priorities will rest with Council, the community and other stakeholders also share this responsibility. Council, its community, land managers and other government agencies each have a role to play. Priorities identified in the Plan may be brought forward should funding opportunities become available such as grant funding.

Immediate priority projects (2022/23)

STRATEGIC PLANNING - Immediate priorities

- Develop Places to Play Plan
- Undertake a review of the 2015 Bike Plan
- Develop Memorial Seating Guideline
- Undertake a review of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan
- Undertake Coastal Recreational User Needs Analysis

Location	Facility	Project detail
Camden Haven	Beach to Beach Walkway	Commence Construction
	Kendall Skate Park	Commence Relocation
	Norrie Reserve, Kendall *	Playground Upgrade
	Queens Lake Boardwalk	Boardwalk Renewal
	Vince Inmon Sporting Complex, Laurieton	Construction of Grandstand
Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills	Rainbow Beach Sports Fields	Finalise Construction of Stage 1
Port Macquarie	Oxley Oval	Replace Cricket Nets
	Port Macquarie Aquatic Facility	Continue Pre-construction Activities
	Port Macquarie Community Centre	Design development
	Port Macquarie Regional Stadium	Sports Facility Upgrade
	Riverside Playground, North Shore	Playground Installation
	Rotary Park	Develop Master Plan

Immediate priority projects (2022/23) cont...

Location	Facility	Project detail
Port Macquarie cont...	Tacking Point Lighthouse Reserve	Accessible Ramp Design and Approvals
	Town Beach Reserve	Construction of Amphitheatre
	Westport Park	Provide Boating Amenities
	Westport Park, Liwi's Place	Playground Upgrade (Stage 2: Water Play)
Telegraph Point	Charlie Watt Reserve	Playground Upgrade
Thrumster	Thrumster Sports Fields	Finalise Detailed Design and Approvals
Wauchope & Hinterland	Bain Park	Reserve and Playground Upgrade
	Beechwood Tennis Facility	Lighting Upgrade
	Hastings Regional Sports Fields	Finalise Detailed Design
	James Street Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Landrigan/Andrews Park Sports Field	Develop Master Plan
	Lank Bain Sporting Complex	Lighting and Canteen Upgrades
	Moroko Park, Pembroke *	Playground Upgrade
	Pappinbarra Reserve	Multi-Use Court Upgrade

* These playgrounds will be reviewed as part of the *Place to Play Plan* and priorities may be adjusted accordingly

Short term priority projects (2023/24 and 2024/25)

Location	Facility	Project detail
LGA Wide	Recreation facilities	Accessibility Audit
Camden Haven	Apex Park, Laurieton	Reserve Upgrades
	Camden Haven Surf Club Building	Building Replacement
	Creek to Creek	Develop Master Plan
	Dunbogan Reserve	Renewal of Amenities
	Riverview Reserve, North Haven *	Playground Upgrade
	Wallace Reserve, Dunbogan *	Playground Upgrade
Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills	Endeavour Park, Lake Cathie *	Playground Upgrade
	Jonathan Dixon Reserve	Amenities Upgrade
	Rainbow Beach	Construct Walkway
	Rainbow Beach Sporting Fields	Commence Construction (Stage 2)
Port Macquarie	Amethyst Way Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Ashdown Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Fernbank Creek	Boat Launching Facility
	Greenmeadows Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Hudson Avenue Park *	Playground Upgrade

Short term priority projects (2023/24 and 2024/25) cont...

Location	Facility	Project detail
	Mimosa Park *	Playground Upgrade
Port Macquarie cont...	North Shore Ferry Reserve	Boat Ramp Renewal
	Oxley Oval	Sports Facility Upgrade
	Port Macquarie Aquatic Facility	Commence Construction (Stage 1)
	Port Macquarie Community Centre	Commence Construction
	Port Macquarie Library Redevelopment	Design and Approvals
	Rotary Park	Reserve and Playground Upgrade
	Tacking Point Lighthouse Reserve	Construction of Accessible Ramp
	Town Beach Masterplan	Develop Master Plan
	Waterlilly Park, Brindabella Drive *	Playground Upgrade
	Wayne Richards Park	Detailed Design for Stages 3 & 4
	Westport Park	Upgrade existing Amenities
Thrumster	Thrumster Sports Fields	Commence Construction (Stage 1)
Wauchope & Hinterland	Blackbutt Park	Sports Field Drainage
	Cameron Street Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Charlie Watt Reserve	Amenities Upgrade

Short term priority projects (2023/24 and 2024/25) cont...

Location	Facility	Project detail
	Ellenborough Reserve	Renewal of Amenities
	Fairmont Gardens Sporting Fields	Amenities Upgrade
	Hastings Regional Sports Fields	Construction of Stage One
Wauchope & Hinterland cont...	Landrigan/Andrews Park Sports Field	Hard Surface Multi-Use Courts
	Lank Bain Sporting Complex	Develop Master Plan
	Lighthouse Beach Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Sister City Park *	Playground Upgrade
	Village Green - Graham St, Kendall	Amenities & Reserve Upgrade

* These playgrounds will be reviewed as part of the *Place to Play Plan* and priorities may be adjusted accordingly

Medium term priority projects (2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28)

STRATEGIC PLANNING - Medium priorities

- Develop Sports Field User Pay Strategy

Location	Facility	Project detail
Camden Haven	Apex Park	Boating Facility
	Laurieton Library *	Playground Upgrade
	Pilot Beach Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Vince Inmon Sporting Complex, Laurieton	Field Upgrades
Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills	Lake Cathie Library and Community Centre	Design and Construction of Facility
Port Macquarie	Absalom Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Bellbowrie Reserve	Reserve Upgrade
	Nottingham Drive Reserve *	Playground Upgrade
	Flynns Beach Reserve	Reserve Upgrade
	Sovereign Hills Library and Community Centre	Design and Construction of facility
	Stuart Park Regional Sporting Precinct	Lighting Upgrade

Medium term priority projects (2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28) cont...

Location	Facility	Project detail
Port Macquarie cont...	Town Green Central	Reserve Upgrade
	Wayne Richards Park	Commence Construction of Stages 3 and 4
	Yarranwood Park, Hamlyn Drive *	Playground Upgrade
Wauchope & Hinterland	Bindi Close *	Playground Upgrade

* These playgrounds will be reviewed as part of the *Place to Play Plan* and priorities may be adjusted accordingly

Appendix 1 - Completed actions 2015-2022

- Construction of Googik Track (Stage 2)
- Establish process for community led sport and recreation improvement projects
- Develop web pages for sporting facilities
- Delivery of Tacking Point Lighthouse Reserve Master Plan (Stage 4)
- Permanent recruitment of Sport and Recreation Officer
- Develop an e-newsletter for sport and recreation groups
- Wauchope Pool refurbishments (stages 1 and 2)
- Develop and implement quarterly audit process for sport/recreational facilities
- Town Beach Kiosk/Marine Rescue Facility upgrade
- Develop a leash free dog exercise park at Henry Kendall Reserve
- Wayne Richards Park, Port Macquarie - Construct Multipurpose Field (Stage 5)
- Finalisation of the Camden Haven Recreational Boating Needs Study
- Hastings River, Port Macquarie - identify site and develop a Concept Plan for a new boating facility
- Expansion of Port Macquarie Indoor Stadium
- Upgrade Town Green East, Port Macquarie
- The site selection process for a new Port Macquarie Aquatic Facility has reconfirmed
- Macquarie Park as the preferred site
- Installation of a recreational boating floating pontoon at Rocks Ferry Reserve
- Construction of revetment wall to address river bank erosion at Rocks Ferry Reserve
- Development and adoption of the Port Macquarie Coastal Walk Master Plan
- Development and adoption of the Flynn's Beach Master Plan
- Development and adoption of the Lake Cathie Foreshore Master Plan



Appendix 1 - Completed actions 2015-2022 cont...

- Provision of sports field flood lighting at Oxley Oval
- Provision of additional sports field flood lighting at Lank Bain Sports Complex
- Construction of Port Macquarie Dog Off-leash Park at Stuart Park
- Construction of the Westport Park segment of the Foreshore walkway
- Upgrade boat launching facility at Bruce Porter Reserve, Laurieton
- Upgrade boat launching facility at Dunbogan Reserve
- Construct new park in Crestwood Estate, Port Macquarie
- Upgrade netball lighting at Laurieton Sports Complex
- Renewal of Scribbly Park Reserve Playground, Lakewood
- Construct new community park in Kew
- Upgrade lighting and cricket net facilities at Kendall Sports Ground
- Flynns Beach Sea Wall - completion of Stage 1
- Upgrade lighting at Oxley Oval to 300 lux for night cricket use
- Construction of new training field at Regional Stadium, Port Macquarie
- Replacement of Settlement Point Playground in Port Macquarie
- Completion of the Stuart Park Regional Sporting Precinct upgrade
- Sports field lighting upgrade completed at Charlie Watt Reserve, Telegraph Point
- Install new sports field lighting at Andrews Park, Wauchope
- Laurieton Sports Complex Amenities upgrade
- North Haven to Bonny Hills Coastal Walk upgrade
- Bonny Hills Reserves Master Plan development
- Construction of Lake Cathie Skate Facility
- Renewal of The Ruins Way Playground
- Town Beach Playground upgrade
- Town Green West Upgrade (excluding playground)
- Provision of drainage at Charlie Watt Reserve, Telegraph Point
- Blackbutt Park Facility Upgrade
- Development of Bain Park Master Plan
- Rocks Ferry Reserve Playground Upgrade (*note: this facility was severely impacted during the March 2021 flood event)
- Kendall Tennis Court Construction

Appendix 1 - Completed actions 2015-2022 cont...

- Narran Park Playground Upgrade
- Bonny Hills Community Hall Reserve Playground Upgrade
- Construction of a basketball court at the Lake Cathie Community Hall Reserve
- John Dick Reserve Playground Upgrade
- Port Macquarie Bicentennial Walk
- Construction of a basketball court at Town Beach Reserve
- Construction of the Wayne Richards Park Bike Pump Track
- Westport Park Boat Ramp Facility Upgrade
- Upgrades to the Long Flat Recreation Grounds
- Pioneer Park, Comboyne Reserve Upgrade
- Installation of fitness equipment at Rainbow Beach Reserve





Contact us

Council welcomes the opportunity to hear if you have any questions, feedback or if you require a copy of the Plan.

You can contact us regarding this Plan:

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