6 PARK

Sedgwick Reserve

6. PARK

6.1 Overview

Parks are defined in clause 104 of the Local Government(General) Regulation as land which is improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

Parks in the Camden LGA are organised via a hierarchy, including Local, District and Regional, the quality and quantity of parks varies across the LGA. Dependant on the identified place in this hierarchy, infrastructure in parks may include but not be limited to, Playgrounds, Exercise Equipment, Public Amenities, Path and Cycle ways, Public Art, Storage, Seating and BBQ settings, Water Play facilities, Off Leash Dog Areas. parks may also consist of open space with minimal or no embellishment.

6.2 Core Objectives

The core objectives for parks, are to:

- encourage, promote, and facilitate recreational, cultural, social, and educational pastimes and activities
- provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games
- improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

6.3 Authorised Uses Table

AUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT	AUTHORISED USE
• Development for the purpose of improving amenity, access, and visual character of the park • Development for the purpose of social, educational, community, cultural, and low impact recreational activities • Development for the purpose of providing amenities that facilitates the use, enjoyment, and safety of the park (e.g. play equipment, public art, static exercise equipment, companion animal structures, and water features) • Development for the purpose of providing ancillary facilities (e.g. toilet facilities, meeting rooms, shade structures, storage, seating, and BBQ settings) • Development for the purpose of landscaping, finishes and of the embellishment consistent with the primary nature, character, and function of the park • Development of commercial facilities which is sympathetic to and supports the use of the area (e.g. canteens, cafe's kiosks, equipment hire, storage) • Development that promotes a variety of uses of the facility including those identified in the permissible uses, and • Development that supports the ongoing maintenance of the facility (e.g. ancillary storage facilities, drainage, irrigation, transport or loading areas)	• Informal activities that are consistent with the nature, function and facilities provided (e.g. picnics, passive exercise, games and activities, children's play, private celebrations, low-impact recreation) • Organised activities typically associated with the use of parks for social purposes such as group celebrations and social events including temporary food and refreshment preparation, temporary shelters, tables & seating, low/no impact temporary amenity items • Low intensity commercial activities (e.g. equipment hire, leisure tuition, allied health activities, creative arts, photography, and film activities, busking and musical activities) • Organised group activities consistent with the scale, intensity and facilities provided (e.g. informal social & cultural activities, health and wellbeing services, educational/ vocational, and creative and artistic activities as well as, music and performance art • Social, cultural, educational and entertainment activities deemed to be of community benefit Inclusive of community events and festivals, parades, markets, fairs, auctions, exhibitions, public meetings and similar events and gatherings, and • Any council approved maintenance activities (e.g. lawn/ground and garden maintenance)

6.4 Management Actions – Park

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Active Transport	Provide linkages to nearby destinations. Encourage walkability to parks, open spaces, and community facilities. Encourage and support cycling as means of alternative transport to parks, open spaces, and community facilities	Provide wide, shaded, pedestrian and cycle paths to accommodate cycles/scooters/prams etc, both within parks to other destinations such as town centres, childcare centres, community centres, other parks, regional paths, and public transport.	Safe connectivity and access for all users' Positive feedback from users
		Clearly define walking and cycling routes that pass through open spaces and incorporate these routes into the broader walking and cycling network.	Walking and cycling networks are developed.
		Provide suitable bike racks and storage and associated facilities in parks, open spaces, and community facilities.	Bike racks and associated facilities installed
		Construct pathways with resilient, hard wearing, and sustainable materials in accordance with DDA and Australian Standards.	Pathways and connectivity are established in accord with legislation and standards.
Recreational Use	Provide opportunities for a diversity of physical activity in open spaces for people of all ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds.	Design, develop and construct new and upgraded parks with settings that cater for diverse and appropriate informal and active recreation activities for all ages. Design should be in accordance with the Open Space Design Manual.	Parks and facilities provided consistent with user needs assessment
	Foster the conduct of cultural and community events	Design, develop and construct new and upgraded park spaces that can respond to community needs and can accommodate community and cultural events	Community and cultural events are booked and managed
	Foster learning opportunities and interaction with the natural environment provided by parks and open space	Explore opportunities to increase formal and informal events and provision of interpretive material at parks and adjoining open space.	Increased use by schools and other educators.
	Provide opportunities to exercise dogs safely in parks.	Provide suitable designated areas where dogs may be exercised off-leash in accordance with the Companion Animals Act 1998.	Dog off-leash areas have clearly defined boundaries using fencing or similar. Dog waste facilities are installed in areas where dogs are permitted off leash.
		Monitor compliance with the Companion Animals Act 1998 and Companion Animals Regulation 2018, using enforcement action where appropriate.	

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Public Toilet Facilities	Provide public toilet facilities and change rooms in parks and open space where required	Design, develop and construct new and upgraded public toilets and associated facilities where require.	Public toilets are provided where appropriate as determined by Council.
		Review hours of access to amenity buildings/facilities such that user demand is met, and vandalism is minimised – for example through limiting access to specific hours and / or Master Locksmith Access Keys.	Amenity facilities accessible and well maintained.
Biodiversity	Provide parks and associated facilities without compromising the biodiversity and values of adjoining natural areas.	Active internal consultation with relevant Council team regarding parks development works adjacent to natural areas	Input to parks projects adjoining natural areas
		Plan for the establishment of buffer zones between parks and natural areas. Where appropriate retain existing vegetation buffers and corridors.	No negative or unmitigated impacts to natural areas adjoining sportsgrounds
		Implement biodiversity corridors master planning within parks, ensuring recreational outcomes are not compromised.	Area of native vegetation
Sustainability	Ensure park development is sustainable	Plan, construct and upgrade parks and associated facilities that consider water sensitive urban design and sustainability options such as: • Improved efficiency lighting systems such as LED • Installing water efficiency irrigation and re-use/ harvesting capability • Use of energy efficient fittings and lighting • Use of water efficient fittings • Solar and or battery power systems • Use of renewable energy (Green Power) • Use of drought tolerant grass species and landscape plantings, and • Use of recycled materials for seating and other ancillary infrastructure.	Environmentally sustainable design is incorporated into parks development
	Reduce plastic water bottles from waste stream	Install water re-fill facilities in parks and open space.	Water re-fill stations installed

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
User conflicts	Parks will be managed to maximise availability for use.	Manage unstructured use and bookings to avoid conflicts with other users.	Community feedback
Maintenance	Parks are managed and maintained efficiently and effectively	Undertake park management and maintenance in accordance with agreed Council service levels and budget.	Service Levels standards are attained and provided within budget
		Undertake park maintenance using sound horticultural practices to provide and maintain acceptable spaces that are fit for purpose.	
Building / Facility Maintenance	Ancillary park facilities are clean attractive functional and safe	Maintain and clean ancillary facilities regularly and in accordance with agreed service levels and budget. Ensure facilities are functional, safe, and fit for purpose. Inspect and remove graffiti and acts of vandalism as required.	Service Levels are attained and provided within budget
Encroachment	Avoid encroachments onto parks/community land	Identify and delineate park/ community land boundaries.	Land title, land register ad maps are reviewed and up to date
		Maintain inspection regime to observe, determine and subsequently remove encroachments and unauthorised private access use onto parks/ community land.	Encroachments/ unauthorised access detected and removed managed by Compliance team
		Continue community engagement/ information on avoiding encroachments and reporting incidences of encroachment.	Community Feedback
	Manage conflicts between parks and community land drainage/flood mitigation function	Ensure active internal consultation with Stormwater and Floodplain team regarding parks development, drainage, and flood mitigation.	Stormwater and Floodplain team input to parks projects and management
		Ensure that park development and maintenance do not adversely impact on the detention and drainage function of a park or adjoining area.	Detention and drainage function maintained.
		Where dual purpose park and drainage / mitigation functions exist promote the use of water sensitive urban design (WSUD) and include riparian plantings as appropriate.	WSUD and riparian plantings included.
		Manage stormwater flows into Councils stormwater network where practicable using natural flow paths, swales and detention and storage systems to minimise impacts to adjoining land use and natural areas.	Stormwater impacts mitigated

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Heritage Values	Protect, conserve, and interpret historical and aboriginal heritage items and values contained within parks and open space.	Conduct a historical and aboriginal heritage assessment prior to any proposed construction or upgrade of parks and associated facilities.	Historical and Aboriginal Heritage values conserved.
		Identify, protect and conserve historical and aboriginal heritage items identified in Council's Heritage Register in advance of any proposed new development or upgrade of parks and associated facilities	
		Ensure maintenance works and activities are undertaken so as to not diminish heritage values	
		Use interpretive signage and public art to communicate historical, heritage, geographical and cultural information about parks and associated facilities and open space	Installations are completed.
Planning	Ensure the provision and distribution of a wide range of parks and associated facilities in meeting the current and future needs of the community.	Develop and implement plans for the provision, distribution, and development of parks to meet community needs.	Studies, plans and strategies undertaken in a timely manner to reflect community needs.
		Ensure all park planning and strategy development includes community and stakeholder engagement to determine understanding of current and future needs.	All Community engagement is undertaken in accord with Council's Communication and Community Engagement Policy and Strategy.
Communication	Release and distribute information in a proactive, accessible and transparent manner	Develop and publish maps and layouts of parks on Council's website.	Maps are published online.
		Utilise technology to notify the community and park users of planned improvement and maintenance works, upcoming studies and, and community events likely to impact park use or availability.	Information available on Council website.
		Install temporary signage as appropriate at parks to communicate and identify risks and hazards associated with proposed maintenance activities such as pesticide applications.	Temporary signs installed. Community Feedback

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Community Involvement	Provide support for community groups and associations.	Establish guidelines and minimum standard for governance of committees or not for profit organisations leasing, licencing, or undertaking permitted uses in parks.	Guidelines distributed to management committees and not for profit organisations.
		Maintain regular communication and assist / direct with works planning and implementation.	Number of volunteer individuals / organisation workdays in parks.
Vandalism	Discourage vandalism and respond promptly to incidences of vandalism/ graffiti.	Review security measures/ mechanisms within and nearby sportsground facilities/buildings to deter vandalism and graffiti.	Incidence of vandalism and graffiti.
		Define key park entrances with built form, public art, landscaping, and lighting where appropriate in order to create inviting and safe thresholds to the street	Number of Park entrances redesigned.
		Ensure opportunities for passive surveillance are maximised by reducing visual barriers to buildings/ facilities and lighting is provided.	Incidence of vandalism/ graffiti over time Incidence of vandalism/ graffiti over time.
		Repair vandalism and remove graffiti promptly in order to discourage further incidents.	
Hazards and risk identification and management	Parks are safe and fit for purpose.	Ensure Council's asset management system allows for ease of community reporting and recording of hazards and risks, for example through an online submission form.	Council inspections completed. Community Feedback.
		Develop and maintain a park inspection regime performed by Council staff and other providers to identify risks, hazards, and issues in accordance with agreed service levels and intervention levels	
		Regular inspections to include play spaces, playground and fitness equipment, soft fall and synthetic surfaces and pathways/cycleways	Compliance with appropriate Australian Standards.
		Regularly open / close ancillary facilities and buildings in accordance with agreed service levels and community needs	
		Respond in a timely manner to reports of hazards and risks or those identified though the Council inspection regime.	Annual hazard and risk reports

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Contaminated Land	Contaminated lands are managed to reduce risk to users and receiving environments.	Undertake investigations to understand the location and extent of contaminated lands - record, identify risk, remediate as necessary to reduce public risk to acceptable level and monitor. Manage contaminated lands consistent with regulatory requirements and government guidelines and SEPPs. Control/remove asbestos when discovered or dumped	Number of risk assessments completed, and sites remediated. Number of asbestos sites/ dumping incidences removed.
Vehicle access	Protect parks from unauthorised vehicle access.	Design and construct new and upgraded vehicle exclusion measures particulalrly foccusing on additional tree planting and landscaping in prefence to fencing and bollards. Gateway access should be provided as appropriate and where suitable for the land.	Reduction in incidents of vehicle access to land.
Safety and Risk Management	Reduce risk to users arising from conflicts of park use.	Landscaping and/or fencing to minimise risk to users arising from conflicts and proximity such as: • Dog exercise/unleashed areas • Playgrounds • Standing water • Picnic and BBQ facilities • Ball sports and active recreation • Car parking, and • Natural area	Conflicts and risk to park users minimised.
		Provide appropriate signage to delineate use areas and minimise opportunities for conflict	
Flooding	Reduce the risk to the public from flood events.	Identify park areas subject to various flood event frequencies.	Number of public safety incidents.
		Provide infrastructure treatments and/or communication strategies to advise users of flood risk, flood events and park closures	

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Leases and User Agreements	Grant leases, licences, and other estates in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and *Crown Land Management Act.*	Expressly authorise Council to enter into leases, licences, permits and other estates which formalise the use of parks and associated facilities by the community, community groups, individuals, schools, and commercial organisations.	All usage agreements comply with legislation and Council policy.
		Assess and grant applications for leases, licences, permits and other estates in consideration of the core objectives for community and Crown land	
		Inspect parks to monitor compliance with use agreements and conditions of use and access	Compliance Tracking.
		Assess and grant permits for temporary vehicle access over community land to private property.	Access permits comply with legislation and Council Policy.

7
SPORTSGROUND

Doohan Reserve

7. SPORTSGROUND

7.1 Overview

Sportsgrounds are defined in clause 103 of the Local Government (General) Regulation as being used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games. sportsgrounds play a key role in the health and development of the community.

Sportsgrounds typically cater to Football, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Touch Football, Oztag, Australian Rules football, Cricket, Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Tennis and Athletics, this list is not exhaustive.

Council has adopted a hierarchy for recreational facilities to assist with planning and to provide a consistency of terminology and delivery expectations. The hierarchy is a useful indicator of the scale and type of amenities provided and assist in determining the level of maintenance required.

Sportsgrounds may contain features representative of parks, natural areas or general community use. Depending on the use, these reserves may still be categorised as sportsground if that is the primary function of the land. Sportsgrounds may also include ancillary developments, buildings, and improvements such as amenities blocks, fencing, water tanks, seating, irrigation systems, lighting, scoreboards, carparks, and landscaping.

7.2 Core Objectives

The core objectives for parks, as outlined in Section 36F of the *Local Government Act,* are to:

(a) encourage, promote, and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and

(b) ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

7.3 Authorised Uses Table

AUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT	AUTHORISED USE
• Development for the purpose of conducting organised sport & recreation (e.g. ovals, courts, tracks, shelters) • Development for the purpose of conducting unstructured recreation (e.g. playground equipment, static exercise equipment, shared paths) • Development for the purpose of sports training (e.g. cricket nets, meeting rooms) • Development for the purpose of providing ancillary facilities (e.g. change rooms, showers, toilet facilities, canteens, meeting rooms, shade structures, marquees, seating) • Development that supports the ongoing maintenance of the facility (e.g. ancillary storage facilities, drainage) • Development that supports the increased safety of the facility (e.g. formal parking, shade structures, lighting, fencing) • Development of commercial facilities which is sympathetic to and supports the use of the area (e.g. canteens, cafe's kiosks, equipment hire) • Development for the purpose of social, educational, cultural, and recreational activities, and • Development that promotes a variety of uses of the facility including those identified in the permissible uses	• Structured recreational activities that are consistent with the primary nature, function and facilities provided (e.g. organised sport, modified sports, school carnivals, gala days, and competitions) • Activities required for the provision of ancillary needs such as food and refreshment, temporary fencing, temporary tables, seating, game day signage (e.g. food preparation, storage and sale activities, water stations, food servery areas, temporary spectator amenity, signs) • Informal group recreational activities consistent with the scale, intensity and facilities provided (e.g. informal sport and recreational activities, allied health and wellbeing services, educational/vocational, social, and cultural activities as well as, picnics and private celebrations • Commercial activities associated with the sport and recreational facilities (e.g. commercial management agreements, hire of recreational equipment, sports tuition, personal training, allied health activities, photography, and film activities) • Any Council approved maintenance activity (e.g. Lawn and ground maintenance), and • Any social, cultural, and educational activity consistent with the scale, intensity and facilities provided, and deemed to demonstrate broad community benefit. (Inclusive of community events and festivals, parades, markets, fairs, auctions, exhibitions, public meetings and similar events and gatherings

7.4 Management Actions – Sportsground

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Active Transport	within open spaces and to nearby destinations. Encourage walkability to sportsgrounds. Encourage and support cycling as a means of alternative transport to sportsgrounds.	Provide wide, shared pedestrian and cycle paths to accommodate cycles/scooters/prams etc, both within sportsgrounds and to other destinations such as town centres, other sportsgrounds, path networks and public transport	Safe connectivity and access for all users' Positive feedback from users
		Clearly define walking and cycling routes that pass through open spaces and incorporate these routes into broader walking and cycling network.	Walking and cycling networks are developed.
		Provide suitable bike racks and storage and associated facilities in sportsgrounds	Bike racks and associated facilities installed
		Construct pathways with resilient, hard wearing, and sustainable materials in accordance with DDA and Australian Standards.	Pathways and connectivity are established in accord with legislation and standards.
Recreational Use	Provide sportsgrounds and facilities for public recreation that meets the needs of the community and is balanced between the provision of organised and unstructured use	Ensure sportsground planning and provision is undertaken with regard to relevant regional Strategies and / or recreation demand studies	Regionally co-ordinated provision of sportsgrounds and facilities.
		Ensure sportsground and facilities provision is consistent with current Council sportsground strategic planning documents and recreational needs studies.	
		Plan, construct, and upgrade sportsground facilities to accommodate a range of sporting types and levels of competition.	
		Plan, construct, and upgrade sportsground facilities to include areas for unstructured public recreation.	
		Ensure sportsgrounds and associated facilities are available for unstructured public recreation when not allocated or booked for organised use.	
		Explore opportunities to increase the range of organised and unstructured activities at sportsgrounds	Increased range of use.

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
		Explore opportunities for establishment of shared usage arrangements with local schools to increase provision and management of usage.	Increased range of shared usage established
Facilities	Provide sportsground facilities commensurate with the sportsground categorisation and hierarchy of competition and use.	Ensure sportsgrounds are suitably developed and maintained in meeting the criteria and surface standards designated by the 2020-24 Sportsground Strategy.	Sportsgrounds meet the standards of the allocated competition
		Ensure sportsground planning and provision is undertaken with regard to relevant regional Strategies and / or recreation demand studies.	Regionally co-ordinated provision of sportsgrounds and facilities.
	Provide ancillary facilities in support of public recreation and unstructured use of sportsground facilities	Plan, construct, and upgrade ancillary facilities at sportsgrounds such as playgrounds, shade structures, landscaping, seating, outdoor exercise equipment, amenities, BBQ and picnic facilities, lighting, circuit pathways, and multi-use playing surfaces, cricket nets and hard courts.	Ancillary facilities are installed that support public recreation and organised and unstructured use of sports grounds.
		Ensure built assets are in character with each sportsgrounds landscape setting and character.	
		Design and construct ancillary facilities that incorporate sustainable design and function and compliance with applicable Australian Standards.	Ancillary structures consider and incorporate sustainable design, DDA, BCA and applicable Australian Standards.
		Consider the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities in the design and development of ancillary facilities	Development of Ancillary facilities considers CALD.
		Review hours of access to amenity buildings / facilities such that user demand is met, and vandalism is minimised.	Amenity facilities accessible and well maintained
	Provide opportunities for the enjoyment and consumption of food and beverages at sportsgrounds and associated facilities	Ensure sportsgrounds and associated facilities are developed and maintained to enable the supply of food and beverages in accordance with applicable planning and environmental health requirements.	Food and beverage provision at sportsgrounds meet Council and legislative requirements for public health.
		Ensure when relevant that food vendors hold an approval under Councils Temporary Food Stall and Mobile Food Vehicle Policy and the requirements of the Food Act 2003 and other relevant Council Polices and Legislation are met.	

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Sustainability and Biodiversity	Provide sportsgrounds and associated facilities without compromising the biodiversity and values of adjoining natural areas.	Active internal consultation with relevant staff regarding sportsground development works adjacent to natural areas.	Sportsgrounds adjoining natural areas do not compromise biodiversity values
		Plan for the establishment of buffer zones between sportsgrounds and natural areas. Retain existing vegetation buffers and corridors.	No negative or unmitigated impacts to natural areas adjoining sportsgrounds.
		Ensure biodiversity corridors within sportsgrounds are maintained, ensuring sporting outcomes are not compromised	No negative or unmitigated impacts to natural areas adjoining sportsgrounds.
	Ensure sportsground development is sustainable.	Plan, construct and upgrade sportsgrounds and associated facilities that consider water sensitive urban design and sustainability options	Environmentally sustainable design is incorporated into sportsground development
		Ensure development on community land involving lighting installations are implemented in accordance with current relevant local planning controls and relevant Council Policy so as to not impose cumulative impacts on natural areas integrity for native fauna and their habitat.	Environmentally sustainable design is incorporated into sportsground development
	Reduce plastic water bottles from waste stream	Water stations are implemented in accordance with Council Policy	Water stations installed
Sportsground standards	Sportsgrounds and facilities are designed, constructed, upgraded, and maintained fit for purpose and to the standard of competition appropriate to the allocated use	Manage all sportsground use to minimise degradation to playing surface quality. Assess viability of using artificial synthetic surfaces on selected high use fields to maximise use and reduce maintenance.	Service levels and playing surface standards are attained and provided within budget.
		Design, develop and maintain sportsgrounds to relevant sporting code standards appropriate to the allocated use and in accordance with the Council adopted design standards.	Sportsgrounds meet the standards of competition appropriate to the allocated use. Community feedback

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Sportsground Maintenance	Sportsgrounds are managed and maintained efficiently and effectively	Undertake sportsground maintenance using sound horticultural practices to provide and maintain acceptable playing surfaces that are fit for purpose	Service levels and playing surface standards are attained and provided within budget
		Undertake sportsground management and maintenance in accordance with agreed service levels and budget.	
	Sportsground facilities are clean, attractive, functional, and safe	Maintain and clean ancillary facilities regularly and in accordance with agreed service levels and budget.	
		Ensure facilities are functional, safe, and fit for purpose Inspect and remove graffiti and acts of vandalism as required.	
Encroachments	Reduce encroachments onto sportsgrounds	Maintain inspection regime to observe and determine and subsequently remove encroachments and unauthorised private access use onto sportsgrounds	Number of instances of encroachment is reduced.
		Clearly define sportsground boundaries through barriers, landscaping and naming signage.	
Planning	Sportsground provision is planned and developed to meet current and future needs.	Develop and implement plans for the provision and development of sporting facilities in meeting community needs	Studies, plans and strategies undertaken in a timely manner to reflect community needs.
		Ensure sportsground planning and provision is undertaken with regard to relevant regional Strategies and / or recreation demand studies.	
		During planning for new sportsgrounds, the location should consider the proximity to school locations and anticipated use.	
		Community Consultation is undertaken as a key step in the planning of new and upgraded sportsgrounds.	Number of submissions received and interactions recorded

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Communication	Communication surrounding sportsgrounds will be proactive and transparent.	Utilise Council's Bookable system for sportsground allocation and bookings	All bookings and allocations are taken through Bookable
		Online Information on sportsground facilities is kept up to date and accurate	Number of customer requests for sportsground information received
		Sportsground closures due to wet weather or other events are communicated through Email, Council's Website, the sportsground Status Hotline to all user groups impacted.	All instances of closures during wet weather are communicated
		On site signs will provide information on prohibited activities to sportsground users	All sportsgrounds have appropriate signage
	Provides opportunities for the community and user groups to learn and remain informed about planned works on sportsgrounds.	YourVoice Camden provides opportunity for members of the Community to remain informed about planned works on sportsgrounds.	Number of notifications and interactions recorded
		Where relevant, notification will be provided to neighbouring properties when substantial works are planned.	Number of people informed of works
Community Involvement	Provide support for community groups, volunteers and associations	Volunteers are managed in accordance with the Volunteer Management Policy	No instanced of Volunteer activity being performed outside Volunteer Management Policy
		Council will undertake project management for projects identified by Community Groups, Sporting Organisations and others on sportsgrounds	No instances of unauthorised works undertaken by Community and Sporting Groups
		Any works on Council sportsgrounds will be carried out by qualified persons engaged by Camden Council or delegated authority.	
		Council will assess projects and provide support to community organisations and sporting groups through letters of support when applying for grant funding	Letters of Support provided
Leases and User Agreements	Grant leases, licences, and other estates in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and *Crown Land Management Act*	Expressly authorise Council to enter into leases, licences, permits and other estates which formalise the use of sportsgrounds and associated facilities by the community, sporting groups, individuals, schools, and commercial organisations	All usage agreements comply with legislation and Council policy
		Inspect sportsgrounds to monitor compliance with conditions of use and access, specifically need to monitor approval and compliance of machinery and equipment being used without authorisation	

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
	Discourage vandalism and respond promptly to incidences of vandalism / graffiti	Review security measures / mechanisms within and nearby sportsground facilities / buildings to deter vandalism and graffiti.	Incidence of vandalism / graffiti over time reduced
		Encourage use of Councils 'Report It' system to manage vandalism, graffiti, dumping and other issues	
Hazards and risk management	Sportsgrounds are safe and fit for purpose	Design and construction of any new / upgraded facilities considers Crime Prevention Though Environmental Design (CPTED) principles	Facilities are developed with reference to CPTED principles
		Ensure opportunities for passive surveillance are maximised by reducing visual barriers to buildings / facilities and lighting is provided	
		Define key sportsground entrances with built form, public art, landscaping, and lighting where appropriate in creating inviting and safe thresholds to the street	
		Regular inspections to include playing surfaces, playground and fitness equipment, soft fall and synthetic surfaces and pathways/cycleways.	Number of inspections undertaken
		Develop and maintain a sportsground inspection regime performed by Council staff to identify risks, hazards, and issues in accordance with agreed service levels and intervention levels guided by Council's Enterprise Risk Policy	
		Restrict access to sportsground or sportsground facilities where there is a risk arising from natural disaster, pandemic or other event	Access controls are in place when required
	Reduce risk to users arising from conflicts between sportsground use and other users or areas	Respond in a timely manner to reports of hazards and risks or those identified though the Council inspection regime.	Number of risks identified through inspections
		Design and construction of new and upgraded sportsgrounds and facilities will assess and consider as appropriate fencing, delineation, and landscaping to minimise risk to users arising from conflicts and proximity to other land uses.	Incidents of conflicts reduced
		Provide appropriate signage to delineate use areas and minimise opportunities for conflict and to identify hazards.	

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	S.36(3)(B) OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	S36(3)(C) MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	S.36(3)(D) MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
		Ensure Council's asset management system allows for ease of community reporting and recording of hazards and risks	Number of reports received through Report It
		Provide appropriate dog control signage, and when and area is designated as a dog off-leash area, provide appropriate dog waste facilities	Incidents of user conflict reported to Council.
		Manage noise arising from the sportsground usage to minimise impacts on adjoining areas and amenity	
Contaminated Land	Contaminated lands are managed to reduce risk to users and receiving environments	Undertake investigations to understand the location and extent of contaminated lands - record, identify risk, remediate as necessary to reduce public risk to acceptable level and monitor.	Number of investigations undertaken in relation to contaminated land
		Manage contaminated lands consistent with regulatory requirements and government guidelines and SEPPs.	All instances are managed in line with relevant legislation and Councils Asbestos Policy
		Control asbestos when discovered or dumped in accordance with the Camden Asbestos Policy	
Vehicle Access	Protect sportsgrounds from unauthorised vehicle access	Design and construct new and upgraded vehicle exclusion measures as appropriate such as landscaping, fencing, gateways and bollards.	Instances of unauthorised vehicle access reduced
		Ensure emergency vehicle and service vehicle access and egress points are managed with lockable gates	No reports of emergency vehicles being unable to access sportsgrounds
Flooding	Reduce the risk to the public from flood events	Identify sportsground areas subject to various flood event frequencies	Number of public safety incidents.
		Provide infrastructure treatments and / or communication strategies to advise users of food risk, flood events and sportsground closures	Number of public safety incidents.

8 NATURAL AREA

Harrington Lake

8. NATURAL AREA

8.1 Overview

Natural areas include land whether or not in an undisturbed state, that possesses a significant geological or geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that allows it to be categorised as either bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse, or foreshore. Any land that includes habitat of endangered or threatened species must also be categorised as a natural area, along with wildlife corridors.

Natural areas within the Camden LGA include the further categories of bushland, wetland, and watercourse. The majority of these lands are currently located within the southern part of the LGA, however more natural areas are expected to be handed over to Council in the future as part of the development taking place in the South West Growth Area.

Natural areas play a critical role in Camden's biodiversity network and the green and blue grid. They provide important linkages and connectivity throughout the urban landscape and include the riparian zones along the Nepean River, South Creek, and other waterways. They provide important refuges for threatened ecological communities, as well as plant and animal species and are also highly valued by the community for passive recreation activities like bushwalking.

8.2 Core Objectives

The core objectives for management of natural areas, are:

(a) to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and

(b to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and

(c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and

(d) to provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and

(e) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* or the *Fisheries Management Act 1994.*

The core objectives for management of bushland are:

(a) to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land; and

(b) to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land; and

(c) to promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion; and

(d) to restore degraded bushland; and

(e) to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores; and

(f) to retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term; and

(g) to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.

The core objectives for management of wetlands are:

(a) to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands, with particular reference to their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), and to the flora, fauna and habitat values of the wetlands; and

(b) to restore and regenerate degraded wetlands; and

(c) to facilitate community education in relation to wetlands, and the community use of wetlands, without compromising the ecological values of wetlands.

The core objectives for management of watercourses are:

(a) to manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows; and

(b) to manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability; and

(c) to restore degraded watercourses; and

(d) to promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.

8.3 Authorised Uses Table

AUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT	AUTHORISED USE
• Bridges and Steps • Environmental restoration works • Fencing • Seating • Signage (Information / Interpretive) • Toilets • Viewing platforms • Walking Tracks (including boardwalks) • Water quality and stormwater management structures • Work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land	• Bush regeneration / restoration (including volunteer Bushcare) • Bushwalking • Environmental education / research • Filming and photography • Riparian management

8.4 Management Actions – Natural Area

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Threatened species	Protect Remnant Vegetation Communities and Threatened Species. Develop and implement a funded natural areas Program for restoration and enhancement of remnant vegetation in Council Reserves	natural areas Restoration Program in accordance with Council's Delivery Programs and Annual Operation Plans Restrict access to areas of sensitive vegetation and threatened species habitat through maintenance of established walking tracks, restricting vehicular access and responding to unauthorised access and use.	Amount of actively managed bushland Restoration management actions across a number of reserves, and undertaken in accordance with the "National Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration in Australia" Number of incidents of damage to sensitive areas reduced and areas impacted restored.
	Protect and conserve Critically Endangered Ecological Communities and Endangered Ecological Communities Align with relevant State and Commonwealth Recovery / Conservation Plans and Programs	Relevant actions in Recovery / Conservation Plans and Programs included in natural areas Program Maintain and restore remnant native vegetation using appropriately qualified contractors and staff Use local indigenous species when undertaking planting or revegetation in or adjacent to natural areas	Critically Endangered Ecological Communities and Endangered Ecological Communities as in Schedule 1 are protected and conserved through the natural areas Program Number of Recovery Plan actions implemented Area of vegetation restored / revegetated
	Protect and Conserve threatened flora species. Align with relevant State and Commonwealth Recovery / Conservation Plans and Programs	Relevant actions in Recovery / Conservation Plans and Programs included in Natural Areas Program	Threatened flora species as listed in Schedule 2 are protected and conserved through the Natural Areas Program
		Relevant actions in Recovery / Conservation Plans and Programs included in Natural Areas Program	Threatened fauna species as listed in Schedule 3 are protected and conserved through the Natural Areas Program
Biodiversity Conservation	Implement Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements as required by the Management Plan.	Undertake management actions as required under Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement	Management actions and annual reporting completed in line with the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement for reserves listed in Schedule 4.

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
	Integrate Biodiversity Stewardship program and payments into the Natural Areas Program	Biodiversity Stewardship Part A payment and management actions incorporated in Natural Areas Program for relevant reserves Biodiversity Stewardship Part B Payments used to fund the delivery of the Natural Areas Programs outside Biodiversity Stewardship sites	Biodiversity Stewardship actions at reserves listed in Schedule 4 integrated with restoration actions and enhancement at other reserves containing Natural Areas, - Bushland, Wetlands and Watercourses. Biodiversity Stewardship Part B payments contribute to delivery of Natural Areas Program in Natural Reserves other than those listed in Schedule 4
	Protect Areas of High Biodiversity Values. Identify and develop Conservation Management Plans for Areas of High Biodiversity Values for restoration enhancement	Reserves of High Biodiversity Value included and prioritised in the Natural Areas Program	Amount of High Biodiversity Value land actively managed Sustainable restoration management actions being undertaken in all Areas of High Biodiversity Value
Habitat Corridors and Connectivity	Enhance and Extend habitat within reserves and between reserves	Areas identified in revised Biodiversity Strategy and Riparian / Biodiversity Corridors Masterplans and Voluntary Planning Agreements for Urban Release Areas Revegetation programs beyond existing natural areas on community land and Operational Land where appropriate	Revegetation being undertaken to enhance Habitat Corridor and provision of Connectivity Area of habitat increased within and between Council reserves
Weeds	Undertake program to remove or control weeds that pose a biosecurity risk and major pest weeds in accordance with Regional Weed Plan and on a catchment / habitat corridor basis	Undertake regular survey and monitoring of reserves and adjoining public and private land to prioritise weeds for removal with available resources Develop and implement a program of weed control and removal Liaise with adjoining properties to undertake coordinated weed control	Weeds that pose a biosecurity risk and major pest weeds removed on a catchment / habitat corridor basis

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Feral or Pest Animals	Reduce impacts of feral or pest animals. Align to State and Federal Threat Abatement Plans and Regional Plan	Undertake regular survey and monitoring of reserves and adjoining public and private land to prioritise control of pest animals with available resources Relevant actions prioritised and set out in the Natural Areas Program	Impacts and injury risk from native animals mitigated through proactive management.
		Liaise with neighbouring landowners including councils to coordinate control programs	
	Manage negative impacts associated with native fauna.	Develop and implement Swooping Bird Procedure Develop and implement Snake Management Procedure Develop and implement Australian White Ibis Management Plan	Nuisance and injury risk from animals mitigated through proactive management
Bushfire Management	Develop and implement a bushfire management plan for natural areas	Bushfire management incorporating mitigation measures and ecological requirements incorporated in the Natural Areas Program Maintain existing firebreaks and asset protection zones on community land Conduct mapping of fire history to assist with planning of appropriate fire regimes in natural areas	Bushfire Hazard Mitigation being undertaken Firebreaks actively maintained Fire history mapped
Community Involvement	Develop and implement citizen science and community involvement programs in biodiversity.	Implementation of programs including Bushcare, surveys / monitoring, habitat management	Number of Bushcare Volunteers and distribution Number of volunteers and plants installed on National Tree Day Number of volunteers and surveys Effectiveness and reach of programs

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
Community Education	Develop and implement educational programs targeting a range of the community and environmental themes to complement the natural areas program	Implementation of programs including environmental art and photography program, workshops, development of biodiversity educational materials and tools and nature-based learning activities Promote bushland and wildlife awareness and appreciation to the local community Promote active and passive recreational opportunities available in natural areas	Effectiveness and reach of programs including number of participants Number and type of educational resources available Number of visitors to natural areas
Aboriginal cultural heritage	Ensure protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage. Undertake protection and best practice management of cultural heritage places and relics	Consult and involve Local Aboriginal Land Councils and other stakeholders in the management of Aboriginal places and relics Conserve and protect cultural heritage from disturbance by human activities Educate the community on the value of cultural heritage in natural areas through the use of educational and interpretive materials	Number of protection / interpretation measures implemented
Water Quality	Reduce the impacts of polluted stormwater on local waterways. Ensure industry best practice water quality measures (WSUD) are installed at the source or end-of-pipe systems to reduce excess nutrients, suspended sediments, gross pollutants and hydrocarbons entering our waterways.	Provide at the source or end-of-pipe solutions through water sensitive urban design such as gross pollutant traps (GPTs) and biofilter.	Number of at the source or end-of-pipe water quality treatment measures implemented at industry best practice standards and with considerations for safety
	Reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff on waterways. Ensure stormwater detention systems are incorporated into the stormwater treatment train to reduce the impacts of stormwater quantity and velocity on our waterways	Provide on-site stormwater detention (OSDs) systems where applicable	Number of on-site stormwater detention systems installed as part of the stormwater treatment train to industry best practice and with considerations of safety.

MANAGEMENT ISSUE	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
	Conduct stormwater harvesting operations to reduce the effects of stormwater on local waterways. Undertake an audit of reserves with creeks or permanent water bodies for the potential to install stormwater harvesting systems	Implement audit and develop recommendations considering water extraction licences where appropriate	Completion of audit of suitable stormwater harvesting opportunities
	Implement stormwater or rainwater harvesting schemes for use in non-drinking water functions (irrigation & toilets), including gross pollutant traps, water quality improvements, tanks and any other components needed to meet irrigation water quality standards.	Using the stormwater harvesting operations audit, develop a stormwater harvesting scheme at a suitable site.	Number of stormwaters harvesting schemes installed and functional in identified sites with water extracted and used at irrigation water quality standards
	Improve water quality in catchment areas identified with poor water quality or poor stormwater quality. Retrofit Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) water quality treatment measures into existing reserves where runoff is likely to directly impact waterways, water quality or stormwater quality.	The installation of WSUD assets, such as gross pollutant traps and bioretention basins, in existing reserves.	Number of retrofit WSUD assets improving water or stormwater quality in the catchment.
Erosion and Siltation	Identify reserves with creek corridors experiencing erosion. Undertake an audit of reserves with creek corridors to determine reaches experiencing erosion.	Undertake an audit or geomorphic study of riparian corridors in reserves to identify areas experiencing erosion and to what extent	Completion of audit or geomorphic study of riparian corridors for areas with erosion.
	Protect and conserve natural watercourses. Ensure remnant waterways are conserved for future generations and the variety of stable geomorphic units maintains habitat for flora and fauna.	Using audit or geomorphic study of reserves with creek corridors, prioritise the protection of reaches with stable geomorphic units and remnant flora and fauna.	Number of areas identified for protection.