

Ku-ring-gai Council Open Space and Recreation Needs Study

Appendix

May 2023



Appendix 1 - Strategic drivers

International, national, state and local strategy and policy will influence future planning for open space and recreation facilities in Ku-ring-gai LGA. This chapter provides a summary of these strategic drivers and identifies implications.

International

The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals recognise that access to high-quality public space (which includes public open space and recreation facilities) is critical to social, economic and environmental sustainability.



(Source: United Nations)

National

National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework 2011

The Framework provides a mechanism for the achievement of national goals for sport and active recreation. The Framework identifies the roles of Regional/Local Government as:

- Facilitating a strategic approach to the provision of sporting and active recreation infrastructure, including open space, and other needs.
- Establishing local management and access policies to sport and recreation facilities.
- Supporting and coordinating local and regional service providers (venues and programs).
- Liaising and partnering with State and territory governments on targeted program delivery.
- Supporting and partnering with non-government organisations that enable sport and active recreation participation.
- Incorporating sport and recreation development and participation opportunities in Council plans.
- Collaborating, engaging and partnering across government departments on shared policy agendas.
- Investment in sport and active recreation infrastructure.

Sport 2030

The vision for Australian sport in 2030 is: Australia is the world's most active, healthy sporting nation, known for its integrity and excellence. The target outcomes of the Sport 2030 Strategy are to improve the physical and mental health of Australians, grow personal development, strengthen our communities and grow our economy. Principles include:

- Sport and physical activity for all, for life: every Australian, at all stages of their life, can undertake the exercise they need and want in a safe, fun and inclusive way, whether it is through sport or other types of activity.
- A diverse sports sector, from the playing field to the boardroom: promote a diverse sector that represents our population. A varied range of sports opportunities has the greatest chance of getting more Australians active and producing better, well-rounded athletes.

State of New South Wales

Premier's Priorities

Two of the Premier's Priorities focus on the delivery of quality green public open space.

Greener Public Spaces aim to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public spaces by 10% by 2023.

The Place Strategy will aim to investigate opportunities to improve movement outcomes which increase the population's access to high-quality green, open and public space. Delivering on this priority requires a local, place-based approach, considering opportunities to improve existing local assets, as well as identifying new opportunities to improve access and deliver additional public open spaces.

Greening Our City seeks to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by one million trees by 2022.

The Place Strategy will aim to support this priority through the delivery of priorities to increase canopy cover in line with the NSW Government Architect's Greener Places Guide.

10% increase in proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public space by 2023

Increase the tree canopy and green cover planting by one million trees by 2022



Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter, DPE

To support the Greener Public Spaces Premier's Priority, the Department of Planning and Environment is developing a NSW Public Spaces Charter (the Charter) outlining the Government's commitment to quality public spaces. It will sit alongside and complement other key NSW policies that support the planning and delivery of green, public and open space.

The draft Charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space, developed through evidence-based research and discussions with a diverse range of public space experts and closely aligned to the UN Charter of Public Space. These principles are intended to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or undertake planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in NSW.

NSW Government Agencies will be asked to endorse the final Charter when it is released later in 2021 and to support planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in line with its principles. Local government, industry and other groups caring for, and using, public space across NSW will be encouraged to consider and apply the principles in their strategies and planning.

The NSW Public Spaces Charter principles are:

- 1 | Open and welcoming**
Public space belongs to everyone.
- 2 | Community-focused**
Public spaces are where communities forge the ties that bind them.
- 3 | Culture and creativity**
Public space is where we share our stories and values.
- 4 | Local character and identity**
Public spaces make us proud of where we live.
- 5 | Green and resilient**
Public space can help us adapt and thrive in a changing climate.
- 6 | Healthy and active**
Public space supports healthy lifestyles and refreshes our spirits.
- 7 | Local business and economies**
Public space supports more dynamic and exciting local economies.
- 8 | Safe and secure**
Everyone should feel safe using public space at all times of the day.
- 9 | Designed for people**
Public space that's flexible can meet the needs of our diverse population.
- 10 | Well managed**
Public space is more inviting when it's well cared for.

Office Of Sport Strategic Plan

NSW Office of Sport has developed the Office of Sport Strategic Plan 2020-24 aimed at increasing people's activity levels. The Office of Sport is working in collaboration with key partners, including councils, to develop a Sport and Recreation Participation Strategy and a Sport and Recreation Facility Plan for each Greater Sydney district.

Common opportunities include:

- various site-specific opportunities in each LGA,
- partnerships with schools both public and private,
- Increasing synthetic fields and multi-use specs,
- using non-traditional facilities for sport use,
- developing a district/regional booking system,
- increasing use at off-peak times,
- new and expansion of indoor facilities,
- increasing opportunities at golf courses and private recreation sites, and
- standardising terminology and benchmarking.

Everyone Can Play, DPE

'Everyone Can Play' is a set of design principles and best practice recommendations for play spaces in NSW, focusing on inclusive play spaces. An inclusive play space invites people of all ages, abilities and cultures to come together to socialise and thrive. The principles focus on addressing three questions:

- Can I get there?
- Can I play?
- Can I stay?

NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2016

The NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2016 focuses on four areas for concentrated action identified by people with disability, the NSW Government and community stakeholders. They are:

- Developing positive community attitudes and behaviours.
- Creating liveable communities.
- Supporting access to meaningful employment.
- Improving access to mainstream services through better systems and processes.

Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide, GANSW

The Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide provides information on how to design, plan and implement green infrastructure in urban areas throughout NSW. The draft Guide provides a consistent methodology to help State and Local Governments, and industry, create a network of green infrastructure.

The Guide responds to the Premier's Priorities: *Greening our City*, seeking to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by one million trees by 2022, and Greener Public Spaces, aiming to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas with 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public spaces by 10% by 2023.

Strategies recommended for providing open space and recreation include:

- Improve the provision and diversity of open space for recreation.
- Understand the demands on existing open space, and plan for open space in new and growing communities.
- Improve the quality of open space for better parks and facilities.
- Use open space to connect people to nature.
- Link to the network of green infrastructure.
- Encourage physical activity by providing better parks and better amenities.
- Provide open space that is multifunctional and fit for purpose.
- Design versatile, flexible spaces.
- Consider life cycle costs, management and maintenance.
- The Design Guide advocates for quality of open space over quantum of open space.

The Government Architect NSW has noted in its Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide that planning that relies on a spatial standard such as 2.8 ha/1000 people is not effective without high levels of quality control, and often works against opportunities for multiple use and innovative solutions – particularly in high-density urban areas (such as the Study Area) in small sites. A large amount of poor quality open space may not meet a community's needs as well as a smaller, high-quality open spaces.

Evidence from around the world indicates a focus on quality and accessibility to open space, including active recreation areas, green streets, and walking and cycling infrastructure will deliver improved health, social cohesion, vibrant local economies, productivity and environmental benefits.

The Guidelines further note that the quality of open space is key to its usability and attractiveness. Quality indicators can include:

- amenity (e.g. maintenance, noise, facilities and equipment, aesthetics),
- access (visual and physical access, disability access),
- safety
- size, shape and topography, and
- vegetation and setting.

Better Placed, Government Architect NSW

Better Placed by Government Architect NSW is an integrated design policy for the built environment and underscores the importance of good design at the centre of all development processes, from project definition to concept design through to construction and maintenance. Better Placed is based around seven distinct objectives that together seek to create a “well-designed built environment that is healthy, responsive, integrated, equitable and resilient”. These are:

- Contextual, local and of its place.
- Sustainable, efficient and durable.
- Equitable, inclusive and diverse.
- Enjoyable, safe and comfortable.
- Functional, responsive and fit-for-purpose.
- Value-creating and cost-effective.
- Distinctive, visually interesting and appealing.

Draft Connecting with Country, Government Architect NSW

Connecting with Country is a draft framework for understanding the value of First Nations Peoples knowledge in the design and planning of places. It includes the Design Objectives for NSW.

Connecting with Country is informed largely by the experiences and knowledges of people who work on, and are from, Countries in and around the Sydney basin. As such, the principles and framework that follow reflect an emphasis on this part of NSW. We acknowledge that further work is required to determine the appropriateness of these principles and framework for the other Countries of NSW.

For Local Governments, the intent of Connecting with Country is to help them respond to, and advocate for, community needs in local planning policies and projects. The ambition of Connecting

with Country is that everyone who is involved in delivering government projects will adopt the following commitment:

“Through our projects, we commit to helping support the health and wellbeing of Country by valuing, respecting and being guided by First Nations Peoples, who know that if we care for Country – it will care for us.”

The ambition of the commitment to improving health and wellbeing of Country is to help realise three long-term strategic goals:

- Reduce the impacts of natural events such as fire, drought and flooding through sustainable land- and water-use practices.
- Value and respect First Nations Peoples cultural knowledge with First Nations Peoples co-leading design and development of all NSW infrastructure projects.
- Ensure Country is cared for appropriately, and sensitive sites are protected by First Nations having access to their homelands to continue their cultural practices.
- Connecting with Country provides statements for commitment and principles for action to help project teams fulfill their commitment to Country. These are practical ways of implementing each of the seven commitments.

Women in Sport Strategy, Office of Sport

The Women in Sport Strategy focus areas include participation; places and spaces; leveraging investment; and leadership. ‘Places and spaces’ acknowledges that facilities influence participation.

The Strategy encourages facility providers to apply a gender lens to the design of regionally significant facilities. Appropriate facilities are those that exhibit universal design principles, prioritise safety, have family-friendly social spaces and are clean and easy to access.

Improving the quality of existing surfaces, lighting and amenities is identified as the minimal critical strategy to reduce immediate barriers for women and girls.

Equitable allocation of playing spaces, training venues and other resources were also identified as key needs.

NSW Healthy Eating and Active Living Strategy 2013-2018

The goal of the Strategy is “To keep people healthy and out of hospital”, with targets around obesity, increased participation in sport and recreation, and increased mode share of active transport trips. Strategic Directions include:

- Environments to support healthy eating and active living.
- State-wide healthy eating and active living support programs.
- Healthy eating and active living advice as part of routine service delivery.
- Education and information to enable informed, healthy choices.

NSW Ageing Strategy

The NSW Ageing Strategy includes relevant priorities around health and wellbeing, getting around and inclusive communities. Key recreation needs include:

- Limited transport options is a major barrier, including living in an isolated area, cost, physical barriers, poor-quality footpaths and a lack of accessible parking.
- Caring roles are associated with poor physical and mental health.
- Social isolation and loneliness are growing concerns.

Joint Use of Schools Facilities and Land Policy, Department of Education

Ku-ring-gai has a number of public and private schools with high-quality recreation facilities, including outdoor and indoor courts and sportsfields.

The Department of Education’s Joint Use of School Facilities and Land Policy encourages shared use of school facilities (such as open space and sporting facilities), with significant investment in new, upgraded or maintained facilities.

‘Joint use’ is where the Department and other parties make significant investments (land and/ or capital) in new facilities, upgrading facilities or maintaining facilities. The asset is typically shared between the school and the other parties over an extended period of time, or the lifetime of the asset. These projects are voluntary and intended to be of mutual benefit to all parties.

The Department recognises that all parties to a Joint Use Program Agreement must have mutually

beneficial outcomes that meet their requirements in ways that build trust and openness.

Benefits of joint use agreements may include cost-sharing for maintenance of school grounds and buildings, and improved access to places so that families and individual community members become more physically active.

Greater Sydney Green Grid

The Greater Sydney Green Grid is a long-term vision for a network of high-quality green spaces that connect communities to the natural landscape. It includes tree-lined streets, waterways, bushland corridors, parks and open spaces linked to centres, public transport and public places.

The Green Grid Project aims to enhance access to open space, provide routes for walking and cycling, conserve natural areas and provide opportunities for active and passive recreation. It also aims to support the management of stormwater, flood risk and water quality, while improving Sydney’s landscape value and urban amenity.

Green Grid Principles include:

- The Recreation Grid: Increase access to open space; encourage sustainable transport connections and promote active living; create a high-quality and active public realm.
- The Ecological Grid: Conserve the natural environment; adapt to climate extremes; improve air quality and increase urban greening; promote green skills; improve management, maintenance and sustainable green space design.
- The Hydrological Grid: Utilise the network quality of the hydrological system; increase environmental quality; reduce infrastructure risk; reveal the unique character of Sydney’s waterscapes; reframe waterways as connectors not barriers.
- The Agricultural Grid: The Values of the Metropolitan Rural Area of the Greater Sydney Region Report will form an important part of the Green Grid.

Greater Sydney and Region

A Plan for Growing Sydney

The NSW Government's plan for the future of the Sydney Metropolitan Area over the next 20 years provides key directions and actions to guide Sydney's productivity, environmental management and liveability – including the delivery of housing, employment, infrastructure and open space. The plan includes directions to:

- Create a network of green and open spaces across Sydney.
- Create healthy built environments, including providing access to the Harbour and its foreshores.
- Match population growth with the delivery of social infrastructure, including recreation facilities, separated footpaths, cycleways and cycle infrastructure, and creative attractive public spaces to support physical activity and connect and strengthen communities.

Greater Sydney Region Plan - A Metropolis of Three Cities

The Greater Sydney Region Plan is built on a vision where the people of Greater Sydney live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places. The Plan includes a focus on universal design, healthy, resilient and socially connected communities with walkable streets, great places that bring people together, conserving environmental heritage, increasing the urban tree canopy cover, access to protected and enhanced open space, and delivering the green grid.

Objective 31 of the plan is that “public open space is accessible, protected and enhanced”. The plan also highlights that the key considerations for planning open spaces are quantity, quality and distribution, and provides the following insights:

- Access to high-quality open space is becoming increasingly important as higher housing densities, more compact housing and changing work environments develop.
- Where land for additional open space is difficult to provide, innovative solutions will be needed, as well as a strong focus on achieving the right quality and diversity of open space.
- Enhancing open space so it can meet a wider range of community needs is important in areas where it is difficult to provide additional open space. This can include better landscaping, more

durable and high-quality facilities, better lighting and multi-use playing fields and courts.

- Open spaces within school grounds are a potential asset that could be shared by the wider community outside of school hours.
- The use of golf courses may also be examined to provide a wider range of sport and recreation facilities for local communities.
- There may be opportunities to use surplus government-owned land as open space for sport and recreation facilities.
- Urban renewal needs to begin with a plan to deliver new, improved and accessible open spaces that will meet the needs of the growing community, particularly where density increases.
- High-density development (over 60 dwellings per hectare) should be located within 200 metres of quality open space, and all dwellings should be within 400 metres of open space.

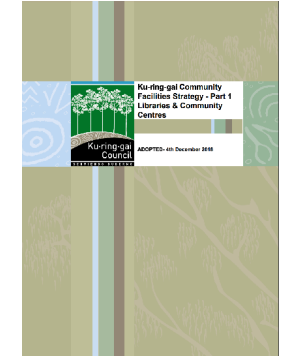
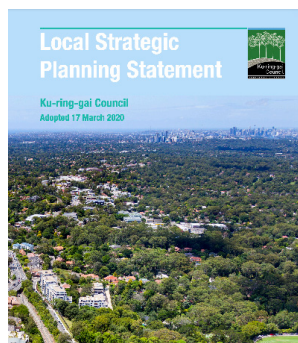
NSROC Social and Cultural Infrastructure Strategy, 2020

The Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) provided a long term framework to project demand for social infrastructure to service resident communities in the North Sydney region and to advocate for funding mechanisms to deliver the plan. The key findings of the needs assessment included:

- The analysis of existing need confirms that on the basis of the current provision of facilities, there appears to be existing unmet need in the NSROC region for community and cultural facilities.
- The analysis of need confirms that population growth will generate a need in the NSROC region for a significant number of community and cultural facilities.
- The analysis confirms that population growth in addition to existing under-provision will generate a need in the NSROC region for an even greater number of community and cultural facilities over the next 15-20 years.

This Strategy also acknowledges that NSROC Councils are unable, with the mechanisms currently available to them, to plan and fund the social infrastructure which will be required to keep pace with growth and maintain the liveability of the NSROC region. The Strategy provides a range of recommendations in the following areas: operational excellence, planning mechanisms and funding mechanisms.

Ku-ring-gai key strategies



Our Ku-ring-gai 2038

The 'Our Ku-ring-gai 2038' Community Strategic Plan (CSP) was prepared by Council on behalf of the community it represents in 2018. The CSP reflects the aspirations and priorities of the community into the future. It sets out the following Vision and Community Principles to guide strategic planning and decision making in Ku-ring-gai:

- Vision
 - Our community vision is a Ku-ring-gai that is a creative, healthy and liveable place where people respect each other, conserve the magnificent environment and society for the children and grandchildren of the future.
- Community Principles
 - Care for the local environment and people
 - Respect the needs of future generations
 - Learn and share knowledge
 - Behave ethically
 - Take responsibility for our actions, and
 - Lead in sustainability.

The CSP includes six themes or topic headings that group issues and long term objectives together, they are:

1. Community, People and Culture
2. Natural Environment
3. Places, Spaces and Infrastructure
4. Access, Traffic and Transport
5. Local Economy and Employment, and
6. Leadership and Governance.

The 'Places, Spaces and Infrastructure' theme talks about emerging recreation and leisure preferences as the age profile of the community changes. Council notes that it will maintain its emphasis on access to a range of fulfilling recreation and leisure opportunities including multi-use spaces, facilities and infrastructure.

Council also notes that it will continue to work closely with sporting organisations and clubs, user groups and residents to upgrade and build sustainable sports grounds, netball, tennis and multi-sport courts, clubhouse facilities and other recreational facilities and amenities to provide for the needs of the population into the future. Council will also continue to identify opportunities for multi-use recreational facilities, including optimising the community's use of Council's existing facilities.

Relevant long-term objectives include:

- P6.1 Recreation, sporting and leisure facilities are available to meet the community's diverse and changing needs.
- P8.1 An improved standard of infrastructure that meets the community's service level standards and Council's obligations as the custodian of our community assets.

Local Strategic Planning Statement

The Ku-ring-gai Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) brings together significant research, established council policies and community views to set a framework as to how Ku-ring-gai will evolve into the future, while also ensuring that those elements that are special to the character of the area are maintained.

The LSPS notes that Ku-ring-gai has a generous supply of environmentally significant open space; with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and Ku-ring-gai Council-managed reserves constituting the majority of Ku-ring-gai's greenspace. While these areas are a valuable resource, they do not fulfill all the open space needs of residents as they are not accessible to all members of the community and recreation potential is limited due to topography and environmental sensitivities. Council's challenge will be to continue to plan and provide access to a range of open spaces to meet the recreation and leisure needs of the community.

The LSPS notes that the Ku-ring-gai LGA has approximately 300 hectares of developed open space with facilities for a wide spectrum of sport, recreation and leisure facilities. The pressure on Council's existing sporting and recreation facilities is high, and there are insufficient facilities to meet current and anticipated future demands.

It's relevant planning priorities include:

- K1. Providing well- planned and sustainable local infrastructure to support growth and change.
- K2. Collaborating with State Government Agencies and the community to deliver infrastructure projects.
- K17. Providing a broad range of open spaces, sporting and leisure facilities to meet the community's diverse and changing needs.
- K18. Ensuring recreational activities in natural areas are conducted within ecological limits and in harmony with no net impact on endangered ecological communities and endangered species or their habitats.
- K19. Providing well maintained, connected, accessible and highly valued trail networks and recreational infrastructure where locals and visitors enjoy and connect with nature.
- K20. Developing and managing a network of sporting assets that best meet the needs of a growing and changing community.
- K33. Providing a network of walking and cycling links for leisure and recreation.

Open Space Acquisition Program and Open Space Acquisition Strategy 2006

The Open Space Acquisition Strategy 2006 established a series of principles for acquisition of open space within Ku-ring-gai. It also identified open space provision opportunities and priorities for acquisition. This Strategy responded to the 2005 Ku-ring-gai Open Space Strategy that identified that over 35% of households were beyond reasonable walking distance to any high quality neighbourhood open space.

Since 2006, implementing on the priorities identified in the Open Space Acquisition Strategy, Council plans to acquire and deliver over 50,000sqm of new local parks and civic spaces within close proximity to high-density residential areas in Ku-ring-gai. Since 2010, Council has been actively acquiring land and converting the land to new parks. To date Council has created, or is in the process of creating, over 25,000sqm of new parks and civic spaces. This Open Space Acquisition Program has received numerous awards.

Completed parks as part of this Program include:

- Boyds Orchard Park, Turramurra - Boyds Orchard Park is a new park on the corner of Allan Avenue and Duff Street, Turramurra. It has a total area of about 2,700 square metres. The land was acquired by Council over a period of seven years between 2008 & 2015 and the park opened to the public on Saturday 14 March 2020.
- Cameron Park, Turramurra - In 2011, Council acquired four properties adjoining Cameron Park on Gilroy Road, Turramurra to extend the existing park by 2,600 square metres. The expanded Cameron Park was opened to the public in 2017.
- Lapwing Reserve, St Ives - In 2013, Council acquired two properties with a total area of 1,900 square metres adjoining an existing unimproved Council reserve. The new park opened to the public in 2017 and is almost 3,000 square metres in size.
- Curtilage Park, Warrawee - Curtilage Park is located at 1536 Pacific Highway, Warrawee. The park is about 2,000 square metres in size and was opened to the public in 2014.
- Greengate Park, Killara - Greengate Park is located on Bruce Avenue, Killara and has a total area of about 2,600 square metres. Council acquired three properties in 2010 and the park was opened to the public in December 2013.
- Balcombe Park, Wahroonga - Balcombe Park

BEFORE
KU-RING-GAI OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION PROGRAMME
2007 PRIORITY AREAS

is located at 12 Woonona Avenue, Wahroonga. Council acquired the 900 square metre property in 2009 and the park was opened to the public in 2013.

- Lindfield Village Green - The Lindfield Village Green is a proposed park and civic space located on a former council car park at 8-10 Tryon Road, Lindfield. The park will have an area of about 2,700 square metres and will be located on top of a new three level basement public car park. The new park will offer areas with shaded seating and grass, a water feature, vine clad gazebos, and an outdoor café. Construction commenced in 2020 and was completed in 2021.

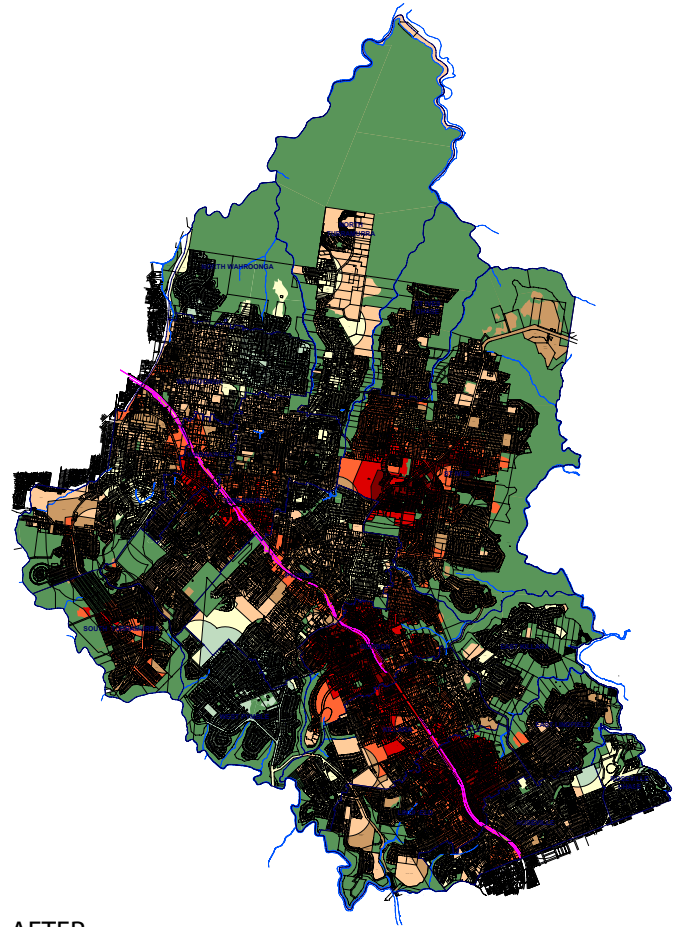
New parks currently in the planning, design or acquisition phase include:

- Bedes Forest Reserve Extension, St Ives - Council is currently in the process acquiring land adjoining Bedes Forest Reserve, St Ives. The park will be almost 8,000 square metres in area, once completed, and will provide a diversity of activity areas including open grass, a playground and other facilities as well as an extensive nature play area.
- Lindfield Village Hub Park, Lindfield - A proposed park on the western side of Lindfield with a total area of 3,900 square metres that will form a key part of the Lindfield Village Hub. The new park will be an urban park with a formal character, open grass and paved areas enclosed by perimeter gardens and shade trees. The park will be a venue for a wide range of community events and activities.

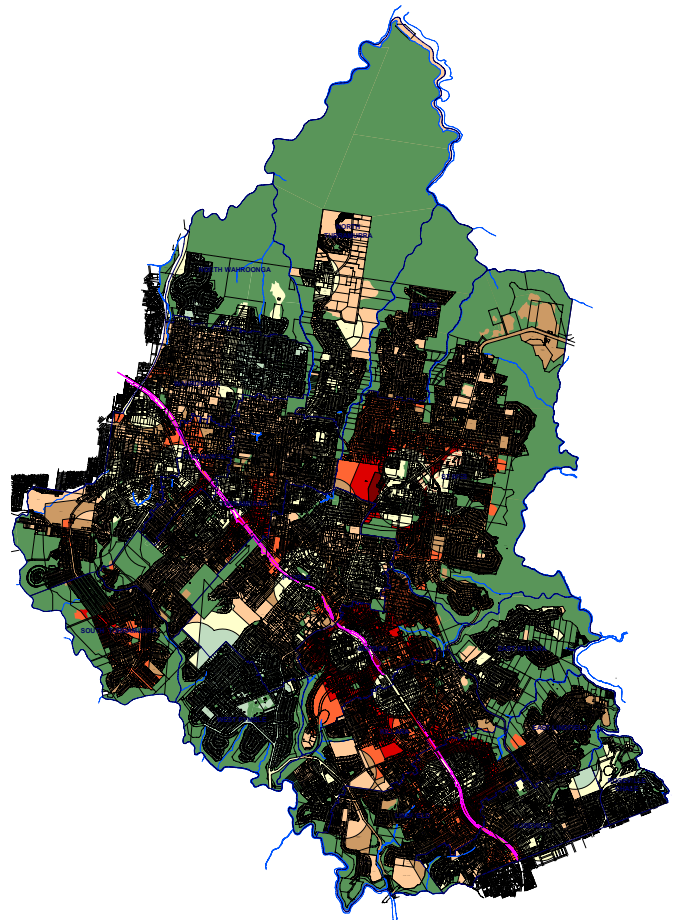
Open Space Acquisition Program - Comparison 2006-2021

The diagram on the top shows the Acquisition Priority Ranking Map taken from Part 5 of the OSAS, the map shows the areas of highest priority in reds and oranges; these areas represent the locations with greatest population growth and lowest number of local parks from 2006.

On the bottom is a modified Priority Ranking Map (2021) showing locations of new parks delivered or committed to by Council over the last 15 years since adoption of the Strategy. The diagram shows significant progress by Council, since 2006, in terms of creating new parks.



AFTER
KU-RING-GAI OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION PROGRAMME
IMPLEMENTATION STATUS - AUGUST 2018



The diagram below shows the implementation status of the Open Space Acquisition Program as of June 2021.

Balcombe Park, Wahroonga



Cameron Park, Turramurra



Curtilage Park, Warrawee



Lapwing Reserve, St. Ives



Boyds Orchard Park, Turramurra



Bedes Forest Reserve, St. Ives



Greengate Park, Killara



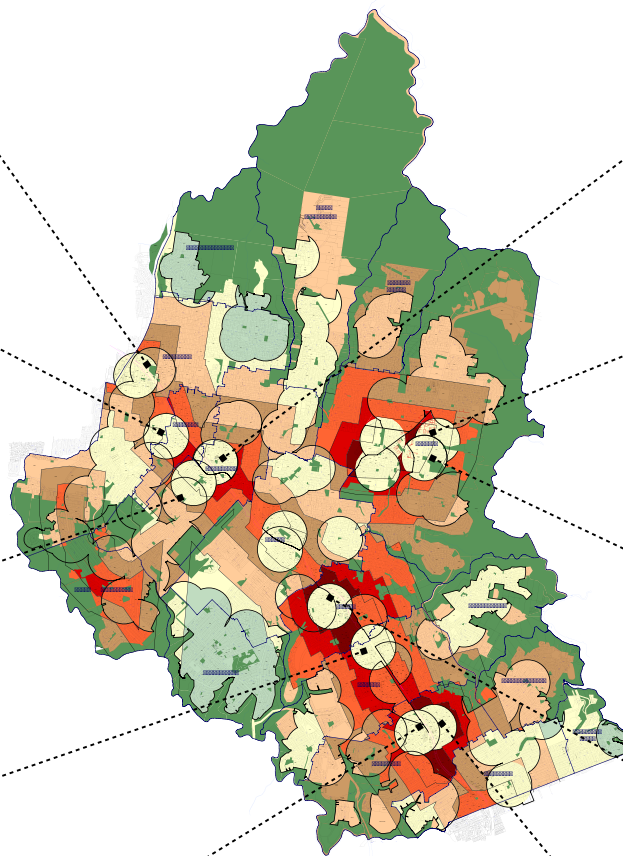
Dumaresq Street Park, Gordon



Bent Street Park, Lindfield



Village Green, Lindfield



Ku-ring-gai Play Space Strategy

The Play Space Strategy 2020 guides play space development and maintenance over a long term timeframe for Ku-ring-gai Council. This Strategy is a snapshot of the current level of provision and needs based on demographic and development data.

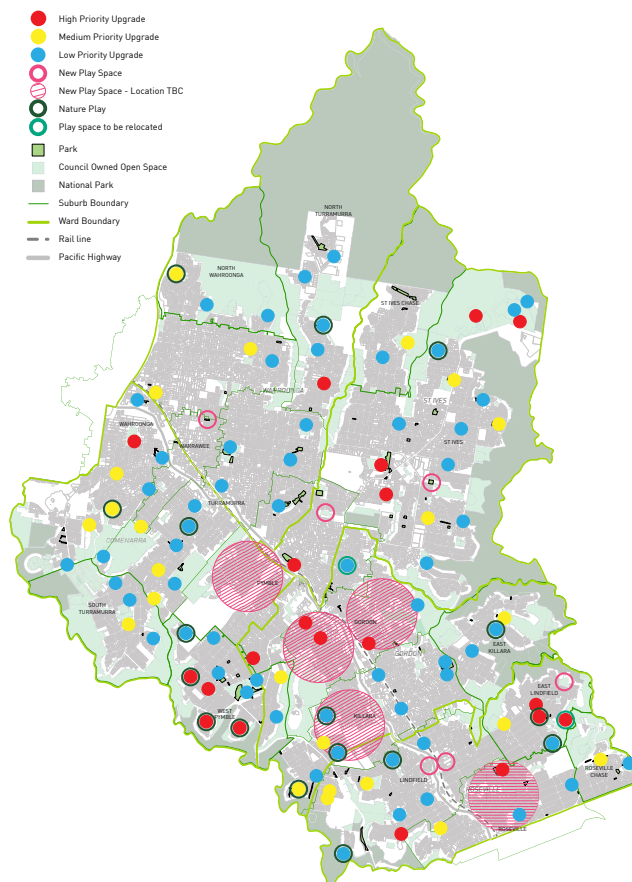
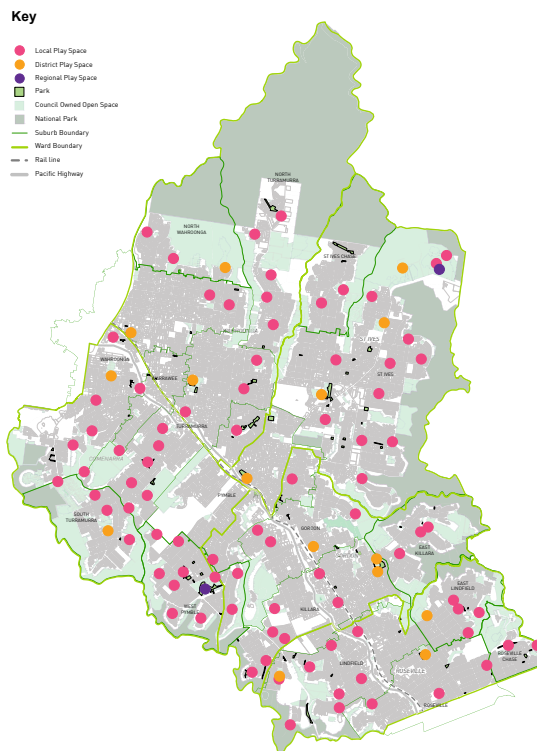
It sets out the following Vision for play spaces in Ku-ring-gai:

- Ku-ring-gai Council respects the rights and needs of children to play and is committed to providing high quality play environments.
- Play is significant in the development of children.
- Play requires access to a broad range of environments and high-quality play.

It also outlines the following play principles:

- Each park and play space contributes to an overall 'package' available to the public across their residential precinct.
- All residents should ideally have access to a park (of any category) within an approximate 10-minute walk, or around 400-500m, and should not cross a busy road or railway line, unless there is a signalised safe crossing or bridge. Where residents only have limited options for access to parks or play spaces, those that are accessible need to be of a higher quality to make up for limits in choice.
- 'High dependence' play spaces require higher quality provision than might otherwise be expected of a similar sized park elsewhere.
- Play spaces should be accessible and inclusive.
- Off-road connections should link play spaces and neighbourhoods.
- A diverse 'package' of play opportunities needs to be available within any one suburb or precinct (such as the parks, open spaces, play equipment, bushland, plazas, rivers or creeks, pedestrian zones and any other public spaces) where children might play.

Council currently has 104 play spaces within local, district or regional scale parks throughout the LGA. This Strategy identifies 21 play spaces as a high priority and 23 play spaces as medium priority and 60 play spaces as low priority relating to its need for upgrade.



Ku-ring-gai Housing Strategy to 2036

The Housing Strategy provides information on housing provision and priorities and actions for housing delivery in the local area up to 2036. Ku-ring-gai's housing target is guided by the Northern district Plan which includes eight local government areas including Ku-ring-gai LGA. The strategy provided a demand for 10,704 dwellings in Ku-ring-gai LGA which is planned for delivery in four stages of 5 year gaps between 2016 and 2036.

The housing priorities include:

- Manage and monitor the supply of housing in right locations.
- Encourage diversity and choice of housing.
- Increasing liveability, sustainability and area character through high-quality design.

Each housing priority has three objectives that align with Ku-ring-gai's Local Strategic Planning Statement, North District Plan and Greater Sydney Region Plan. Some of the objectives that relate to open space and recreation facilities are:

- To monitor the delivery of housing within areas close to services, cultural and community facilities, and within a 10 minute walking distance to key public transport nodes.
- To ensure the delivery of housing is in coordination with provision of local and state infrastructure and services.
- To encourage housing that contributes to healthy and active neighbourhoods.

These objectives include actions which work with the delivery of open space and recreation facilities in the local area.

Community Facilities Strategy

Ku-ring-gai's Community Facilities Strategy Part 1 - Community Centers and Libraries (the Strategy) provides a framework for an integrated, strategic approach to the planning and provision of community facilities; and proposes a network of facilities that collectively meet the needs of the LGA into the future.

The Strategy defines a community centre as a Council owned building that provides rooms and/or halls for casual hire by residents. This category also includes libraries, art centres and youth centres that are staffed by Council. They are generally open from 7am to 10pm, 7 days per week.

Ku-ring-gai Council defines community facilities in the following way:

- **Community facilities** – Publicly owned buildings that are operated by Council to meet the needs of local communities. Community facilities provide spaces for people to engage in activities and programs that are often focused around learning, leisure, health and wellbeing, child development, cultural recognition and celebration and artistic and cultural expression. Community facilities include community centres, libraries, arts and creative spaces, community halls and can include spaces from which community services operate.
- **Community hub** – The co-location within a building or a precinct of a number of community facilities including community centres, libraries and arts and creative spaces. Community hubs are gathering places where members of the community can access a range of community activities, programs, services and events. They are usually located in more centralised, accessible locations with good links to public transport.

The strategy proposes a network of community facilities in Ku-ring-gai. This network would include the following sub-regional, district and local or neighbourhood facility recommendations:

- **A sub-regional level facility** – a new large facility centrally located in Gordon. This facility would have an arts/cultural focus and be part of a larger civic/cultural precinct that also includes the Council administration, Council chambers and Gordon library. Marian Street Theatre, while physically separate, will form part of the cultural component of the sub-regional facility.
- **District level facilities** – new large, multipurpose community facilities located in the local centres of Turramurra, St Ives and Lindfield. The facilities would be based on the community hub model, ideally co-locating branch library and community centre space. These facilities would serve the needs of their districts (that is, suburbs surrounding the facilities).
- **Neighbourhood level facilities** – small, mostly existing facilities serving the needs of their immediate neighbourhoods. Two new local facilities are proposed for the northern district to balance the current pattern of facility distribution.

In addition, the Strategy notes that Council is currently developing an entertainment, events and tourism based precinct at St Ives Showground and Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden.

Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy

The Strategy provides a management framework for the provision and support of recreation activities in natural areas of Ku-ring-gai LGA. It applies to the land owned or managed by Council that is dedicated and categories as Natural Areas under the Local Government Act 1993.

The Strategy defines recreation activities and experiences in natural areas as:

- areas that are dependent on the natural environment.
- where an appreciation of nature is a key motivational factor.
- that do not require substantial modification of the natural environment and
- where the natural environment is critical to the participation and satisfaction of participants; not just incidental to it.

The activities within the above defined scope include:

- All track dependent recreation (such as bush walking, running and bird watching).
- Mountain biking (all disciplines) .
- Orienteering and rogaining.
- Rock climbing, abseiling and bouldering.

The Strategy also suggests that the recreation infrastructure should respond to the complex and diverse social and recreation patterns. For example, the track dependent activities should be capable of being multi-functional and accessible.

The management action for provision of new recreation infrastructure across all recreation activity areas are:

- Develop strategic linkages for Track dependent recreation and mountain biking.
- Re-open and upgrade the 'southern' section of the Warrimoo downhill mountain bike track.
- Establish permanent orienteering courses in appropriate locations.
- Formalise the walk-up track from the bottom of Cliff Oval to the top of the climbing rocks.
- Provide certainty of access for the Cliff Oval, North Wahroonga and Lindfield Rocks climbing sites within future plans of management.

Sport in Ku-ring-gai Strategy 2006

Sport in Ku-ring-gai Strategy provides a guideline to overall provision and planning for sports facilities in the LGA. The vision of the Strategy was:

'To sustainably manage a Sportsground network that best meets the needs of organised activities, sports and games, and unorganised wider community use whilst minimising any negative impacts within sportsgrounds, on surrounding residents and upon adjoining land uses and catchments.'

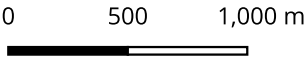
The Strategy also provided an audit of facilities available in the LGA and its utilisation data. The key issues identified from the data are as follows:

- the number of available fields/facilities,
- the suitability of available fields/facilities,
- the sustainability of available fields/facilities,
- the information and community liaison provided by Council to clubs, associations and other stakeholders, and
- sports development and promotion.

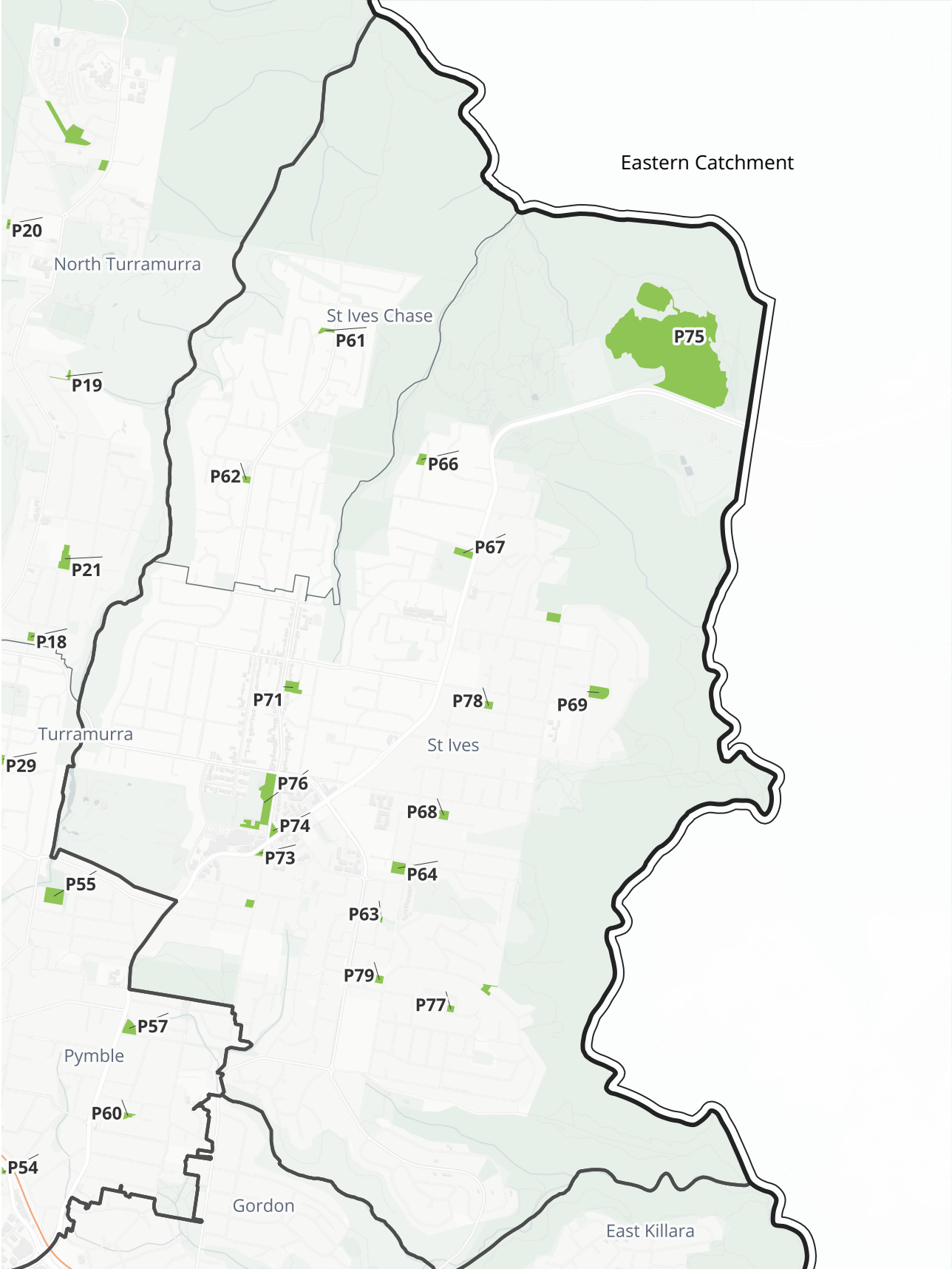
The objectives and actions reflected these key issues.

Appendix 2 - Audit maps

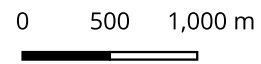
Parks audit maps



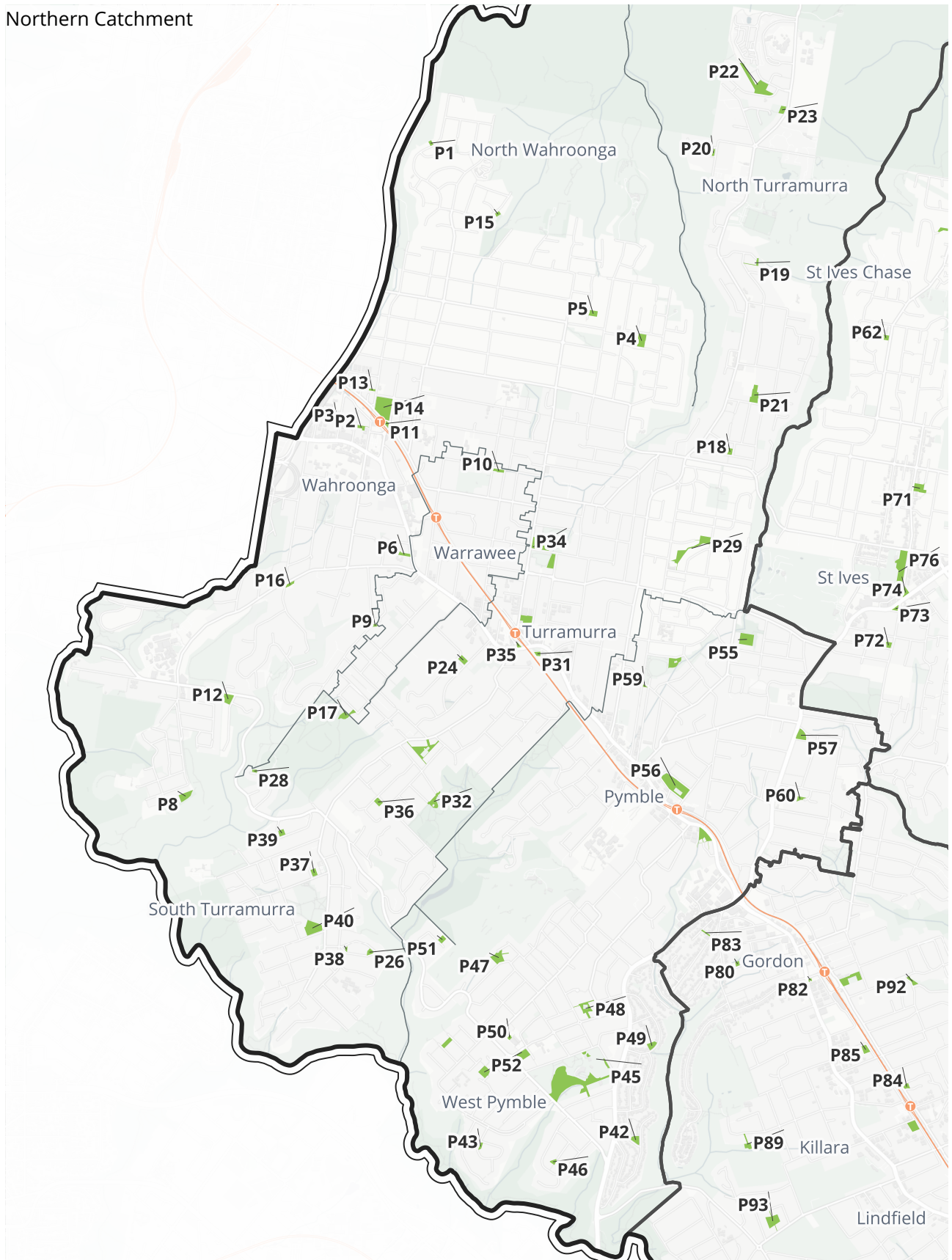
Parks in the Eastern Catchment



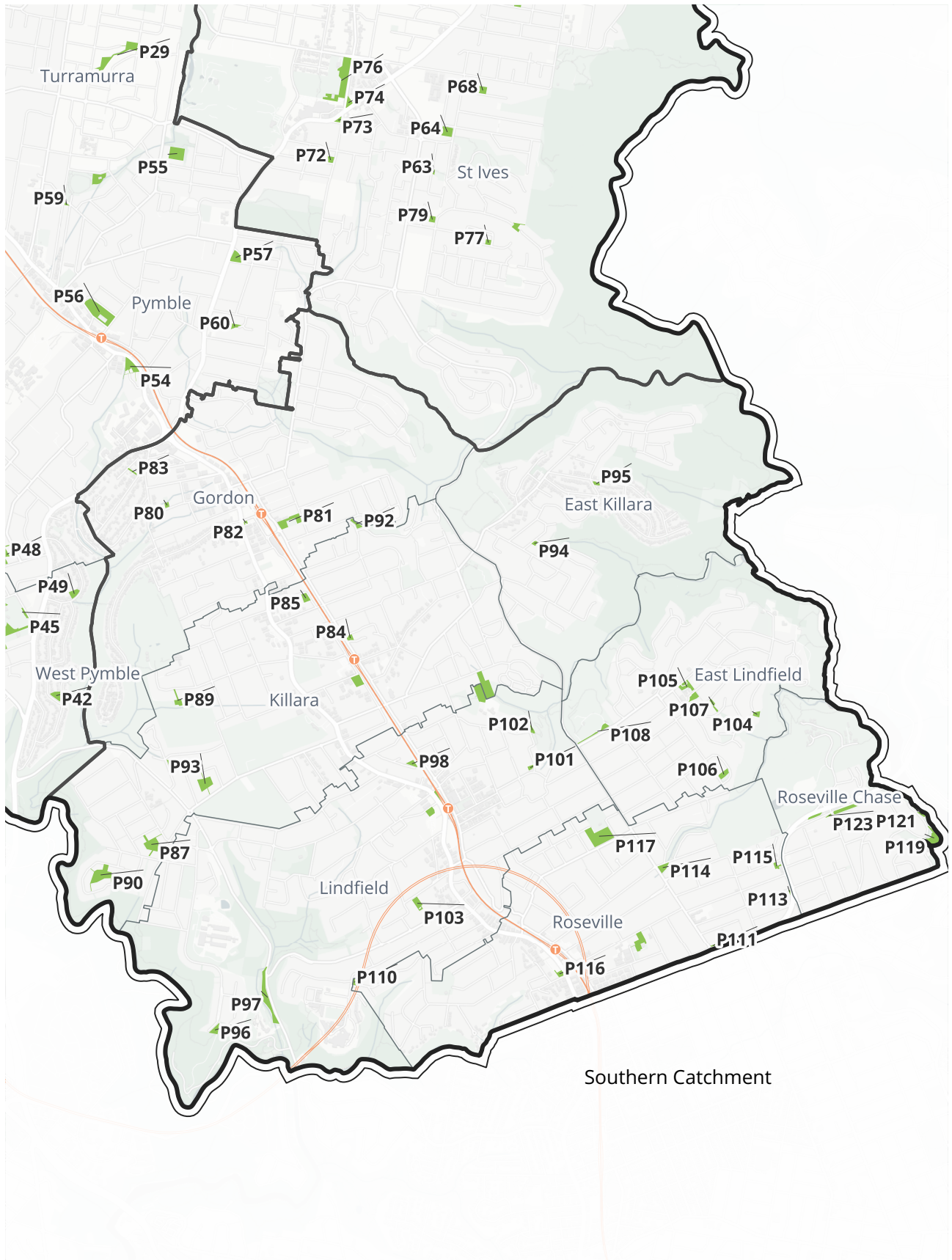
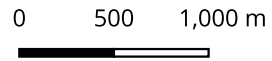
Parks in the Northern Catchment



Northern Catchment



Parks in the Southern Catchment



Park detailed audit list

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
P61	Lee Place Reserve	3 Lee Pl, St Ives Chase	St Ives Chase	Eastern Catchment	0.19
P62	The Mall Reserve	158 Warrimoo Ave, St Ives Chase	St Ives Chase	Eastern Catchment	0.18
P63	Barra Wood (Park)	16 Lancaster Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.05
P64	Bedes Forest	29 College Cres, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.49
P65	Blackburn Park	14 Blackburn St, St Ives NSW 2075	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.38
P66	Green Valley Reserve	20 Greenvalley Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.29
P67	Hassall Park	Mona Vale Rd & Mawson Street, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.42
P68	Lapwing Reserve	14-18 Caroola Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.28
P69	Lorraine Taylor Reserve	35 Hayle Street, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.71
P70	Melaleuca Drive Park	43 Melaleuca Drive, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.24
P71	Memorial Avenue Reserve	59-61 Memorial Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.53
P72	Putarri Avenue Reserve	30 Putarri Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.19
P73	St Ives Memorial Park	203 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.1
P74	St Ives Rotary Park	204A Mona Vale Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.21
P75	St Ives Showground	450 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	25.29
P76	St Ives Village Green	fronting Memorial Avenue	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	2
P77	Torokina Reserve	41 Torokina Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.14
P78	Willis Avenue Reserve	14 Willis Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.21
P79	Yarrabung Reserve	59B Yarrabung Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.19
P1	McMahon Park	70A Curtin Ave, North Wahroonga	North Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.09
P10	Sainty Reserve	22 Raymond Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.18
P11	Sir John Northcott Garden (Wahroonga War Memorial)	Millewa Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.13
P12	Sir Robert Menzies Park	1A Jordan Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.46
P13	Sulman Park (Coonanbarra Road Reserve)	78 Coonanbarra Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.08
P14	Wahroonga Park	51 Coonanbarra Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.79

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
P15	Wahroonga Recreation Reserve - Eric Evans Park	Lister St, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.1
P16	William Lewis Park	84 Fox Valley Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.15
P17	Mitchell Crescent Reserve	16-18 Mitchell Cres, Warrawee	Warrawee	Northern Catchment	0.42
P18	Dairymans Reserve	24 Apps Ave, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.18
P19	Guiders Park	34 Glengarry Ave, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.13
P2	Archdale Park	5 Neringah Ave, South Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.18
P20	Gwydir Avenue Reserve	2 Gwyder Ave, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.1
P21	Orange Green	16 Allara Ave, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.66
P22	Sandakan Memorial Park	14 Du Faur St, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.48
P23	St Columbans Reserve	22 St Green Ave, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.24
P24	Boyds Orchard Park, Turramurra (Allan avenue)	23-25 Allan Ave, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.27
P25	Cameron Park	5 - 7 Eastern Rd, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.51
P26	City View Park	15A Geoffrey Street	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.16
P27	Hamilton Park	1 Barellan Avenue, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.9
P28	Howson Avenue Playground	39A Howson Ave, Turramurra NSW 2074	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.08
P29	Irish Town Grove	91 Bannockburn Rd, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.13
P3	Balcombe Park	12 Woonana Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.09
P30	Karuah Park	corner Karuah Road and Turramurra Avenue Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.45
P31	Queens Park - The Lookout	1328 Pacific Highway, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.34
P32	Rofe Park	Mimosa rd south, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.47
P33	Turramurra Memorial Park	55 Eastern Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.94
P34	Turramurra Memorial Park - Turramurra War Memorial	cnr Karuah Road and Eastern Road	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.06
P35	Turramurra Village Park	1275 Pacific Highway, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.08
P36	Yeramba Street Reserve	1 Acacia Close, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.23

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
P37	Balmaringa Reserve	1A Balmaringa Ave, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.22
P38	Geoffrey Street Reserve	27A Geoffrey St, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.05
P39	Hicks Avenue Reserve	25 Parkinson Ave, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.21
P4	Cherrywood Reserve	9A Bunyana Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.59
P40	Kissing Point Village Green	Kissing Point Road	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.07
P41	Applegum Way	12A Jugiong Street, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.28
P42	Bandalong Reserve	28 Bolwarra Ave, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.32
P43	Baronga Avenue Reserve	4A Boronga Ave, West Pymble NSW 2073	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.11
P44	Bicentennial Park	cnr.Lofberg Road and Ryde Road behind Bowling Club to Yanko Road behind Kamiliaroy Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	4.35
P45	Bicentennial Park - Upper Bicentennial Park	cnr.Lofberg Road and Shaddock Avenue to opposite Grayling Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.22
P46	Claire Taylor Park	19 Camira St, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.13
P47	Frogmore Park	33 Wyomee Ave, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.65
P48	Kendall Village Green	27 Kendall Street West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.56
P49	Peewee Park	37 Kiparra St, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.29
P5	Eldinhope Green	5 Morris Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.28
P50	Philip Lane Park	27 Philip Lane, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.08
P51	Ramsay Avenue Reserve	5A Ramsay Ave, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.2
P52	Sequoia Close Park	4 Sequois Close, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.48
P53	West Pymble Village Green	80 Kendall St, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.51
P54	Cresswell O'Reilly Lookout	1042 Pacific Highway, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.62
P55	Maddison Reserve	85A Merrivale Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.91
P56	North Pymble Park	from opposite 7 Birubi Avenue and opposite 50 Station Street Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.54
P57	Pymble Soldiers Memorial Park	105 Mona Vale Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.47
P58	Robert Pymble Park	1 Park Cres, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.73

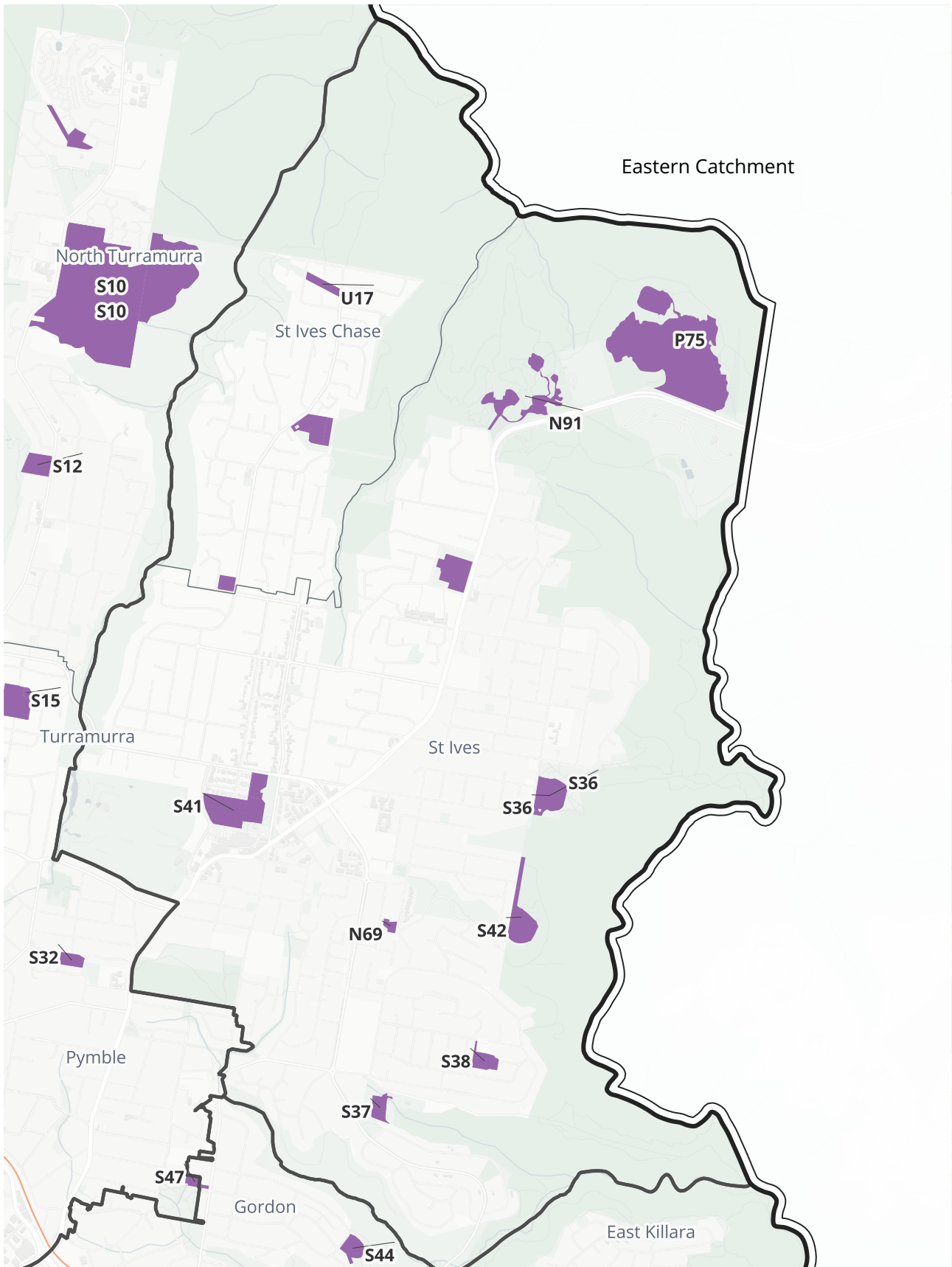
Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
P59	Selwyn Reserve	47A Bannockburn Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.04
P6	Mahratta (Curtilage Park)	1536 Pacific Highway, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.21
P60	Yarrowonga Reserve	3 Yarrowonga Close	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.16
P7	McKenzie Park	21 Millewa Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.14
P8	Morona Avenue Reserve	20 Morona Avenue, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.48
P9	Roland Reserve	40B Roland Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.06
P100	Lindfield Village Green	Tyron Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
P101	Macks Place	2A Slade Ave, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.1
P102	Seven Little Australians Park	62C Tryon Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.12
P103	Two Turners Reserve	24B Gladstone Parade, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.36
P104	Carlyle Road Reserve	111 Wellington Rd, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.16
P105	Dukes Green	11 Wellington Lane, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.38
P106	Follies Park	15 Canberra Cres, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.28
P107	Karoo Avenue Walk	13 Allambie Ave, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.15
P108	Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park - Park	all Memorial Park	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
P109	Pleasant Avenue Reserve	1A Pleasant Ave, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.25
P110	Abingdon Road Reserve	107 Abingdon Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.08
P111	Archbold Corner	1 Archbold Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.03
P112	Bancroft Park	3 Recreation Ave, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.65
P113	Duntroon Corner	71 Duntroon Ave, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.02
P114	Little Digger Park	89A Roseville Ave, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.29
P115	Park Avenue Playground (East Roseville Community Centre)	4-12 Babbage Rd, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.14
P116	Roseville Memorial Park	62 Pacific Highway, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.18
P117	Roseville Park	Clanville Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	1.68
P118	Babbage Island	Babbage Road, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.15

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
P119	Echo Point (Amenities)	Babbage Rd, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.61
P120	Echo Point (Baths)	Babbage Rd, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.1
P121	Echo Point Park (Playground)	101 Babbage Rd, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.09
P122	Malga Avenue East (Babbage Road Playground)	75 Griffith Ave, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.44
P123	Malga Avenue West	75 Griffith Ave, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.04
P80	Gordon Glen	57 Dumaresq St, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.11
P81	Gordon Recreation Ground	Werona Avenue, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.71
P82	Heritage Square	20A St Johns Ave, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.05
P83	Nar-Rang Park	70 Ridge St, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.08
P84	Abbotsholme Glen	1 Lynwood Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.15
P85	Greengate Park	27 Bruce Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.27
P86	Honeysuckle Creek Reserve	221 Bowes Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.1
P87	Jinkers Green	10 Montreal Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.84
P88	Selkirk Park	2A Marian St, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.48
P89	St Andrews Forest	82A Spencer Road, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.29
P90	St Crispins Green	18-20 Albert Dr, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	1.14
P91	Swain Gardens	77 Stanhope Rd, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	1.8
P92	Terrum-bine Reserve (previously Atholbrose Glen)	cnr.Arthur Street and Illeroy Avenue	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.2
P93	Ticket of Leave Park	Coronga Cres, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.75
P94	Jane MacGillivray Park	3A Fairbairn Ave, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	0.08
P95	Redfield Reserve	25A Saiala Rd, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	0.1
P96	Airman's Park	140 Bradfield Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
P97	Hyndes Park	Road Reserve	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.13
P98	Ibbitson Park	1 Wolseley Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.19
P99	Lindfield Rotary Park	Pacific Highway, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.08

Sports spaces audit maps

Sports spaces in the Eastern Catchment

0 500 1,000 m

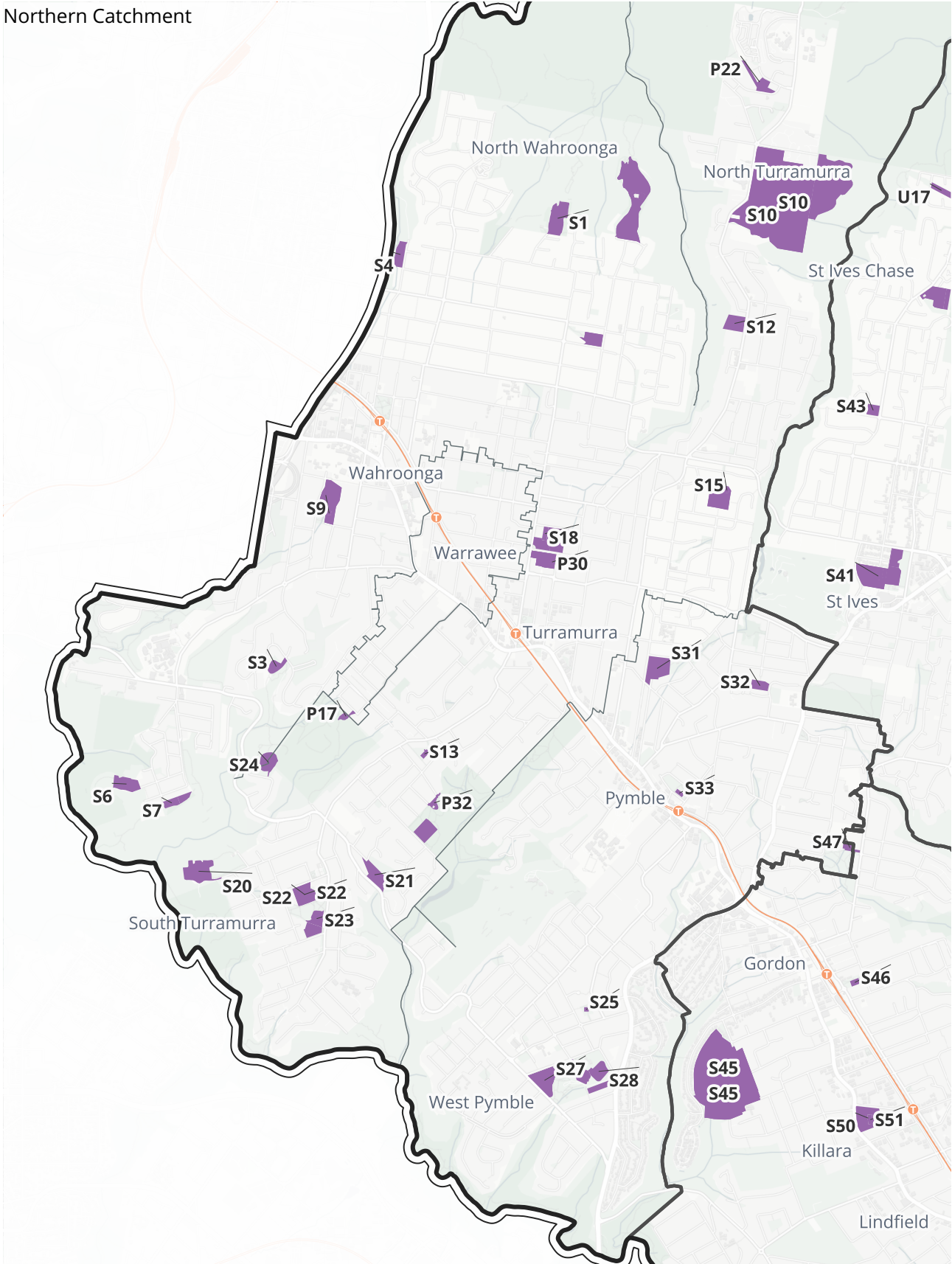


Sports spaces in the Northern Catchment

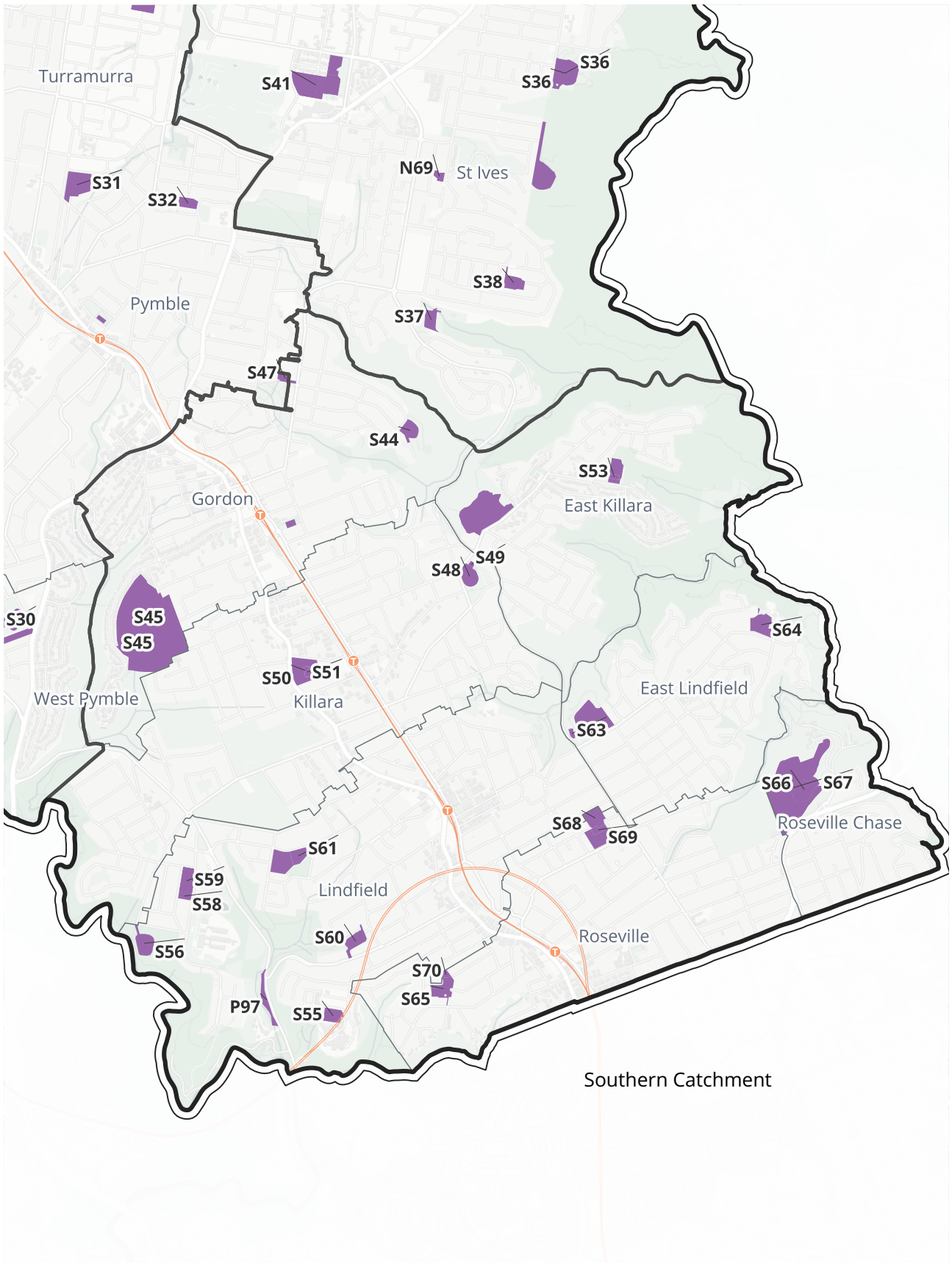
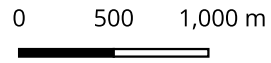
0 500 1,000 m



Northern Catchment



Sports spaces in the Southern Catchment



Sports spaces detailed audit list

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
S41	St Ives Village Green	Memorial Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	4.97
S42	Surgeon White Reserve	Off Lawson Parade, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	3.24
S36	Acron Oval	1 Acron Road, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	3.02
S39	Hassall Park (Sports-grounds)	Mona Vale Rd & Mawson Street, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	2.85
S38	Bryce Oval	End of Bryce Ave, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.31
S37	Barra Brui Sports-ground	Burraneer Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.14
S40	St Ives Bowling Club	100 Killeaton Street	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.13
S43	Toolang Road Sports-ground	Toolang Road, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.75
S35	Warrimoo Oval	Warrimoo Ave opp Gould Ave, St Ives Chase	St Ives Chase	Eastern Catchment	2
S34	Warrimoo Tennis Courts	Warrimoo Ave opp Gould Ave, St Ives Chase	St Ives Chase	Eastern Catchment	0.55
S10	North Turramurra Recreation Area (Golf Course)	off Bobbin Head rd, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	32.42
S11	North Turramurra Recreation Area (Sports Reserve)	off Bobbin Head rd, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	10.44
S12	Samuel King Sports-ground (North Turramurra Park)	Bobbin Head Road, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.7
S2	Golden Jubilee Oval	Esk Street, North Wahroonga	North Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	8.77
S1	Cliff Avenue Sports-ground	End of Cliff Avenue off Boundary Road, North Wahroonga	North Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	2.95
S31	Bannockburn Road Sportsground (Bannockburn oval)	cnr. Selwyn St & Bannockburn Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	2.89
S32	Friar's Field	Ganmain Road, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.93
S33	Robert Pymble Park Tennis Courts	1 Park Cres, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.2
S20	Bradley Park (Canoon Recreation Area)	59 Canoon Road, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	3.28
S22	Sir David Martin Reserve (Auluba Oval 1 & 2)	235 Kissing Point Road	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	2.12
S21	Comenarra Sports-ground	Nimbrin Street, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.85

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
S24	Twin Creeks Reserve (Howson Oval)	Howson Ave, off Comenarra Parkway, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.68
S23	Sir David Martin Reserve (Kissing Point Road Sportsfield/Auluba Oval 3)	235 Kissing Point Road	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.07
S16	Kent Playing Field	off Spurwood Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	2.7
S19	Turramurra Park Oval	Eastern Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	2.56
S17	Rofe Park - Mimosa Oval	40 Mimosa rd south, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.81
S14	Karuah Park - Sportsgrounds	Karuah Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.41
S18	Turramurra Memorial Park - Turramurra Oval	55 Eastern Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.37
S13	Hamilton Park (Tennis Courts)	1 Barellan Avenue, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.24
S15	Kent Playing Field - Tennis Courts	off Spurwood Road, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.17
S8	The Glade (Oval)	5 Koora Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	3.3
S6	George Christie Sportsground	end of Yanilla Ave, off the Broadway, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.9
S5	Claude Cameron Grove (Westbrook Avenue Sportsground)	Cnr. Westbrook Ave & Kintore Street, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.32
S4	Carrington Park	cnr. Coonabarra & Carrington Roads, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.31
S3	Brown's Field	Campbell Drive, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.95
S7	Morona Avenue Reserve Tennis Courts	Morona Avenue, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.71
S9	The Glade Reserve - Tennis Courts	5 Koora Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.11
S27	Lofberg Oval	2 Lofberg Road, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	2.6
S28	Norman Griffith Sportsground (Bicentennial Park)	Lofberg Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.44
S29	West Pymble Bowling Club	2 Prince of Wales Drive West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.97
S30	Bicentennial Park - Kuring-gai Fitness and Aquatic Centre	Prince Of Wales Drive, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.85
S26	Lofberg Netball Courts	Lofberg Road opposite Grayling Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.32
S25	Kendall Village Green - Sportsgrounds	Kendall Street, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.12

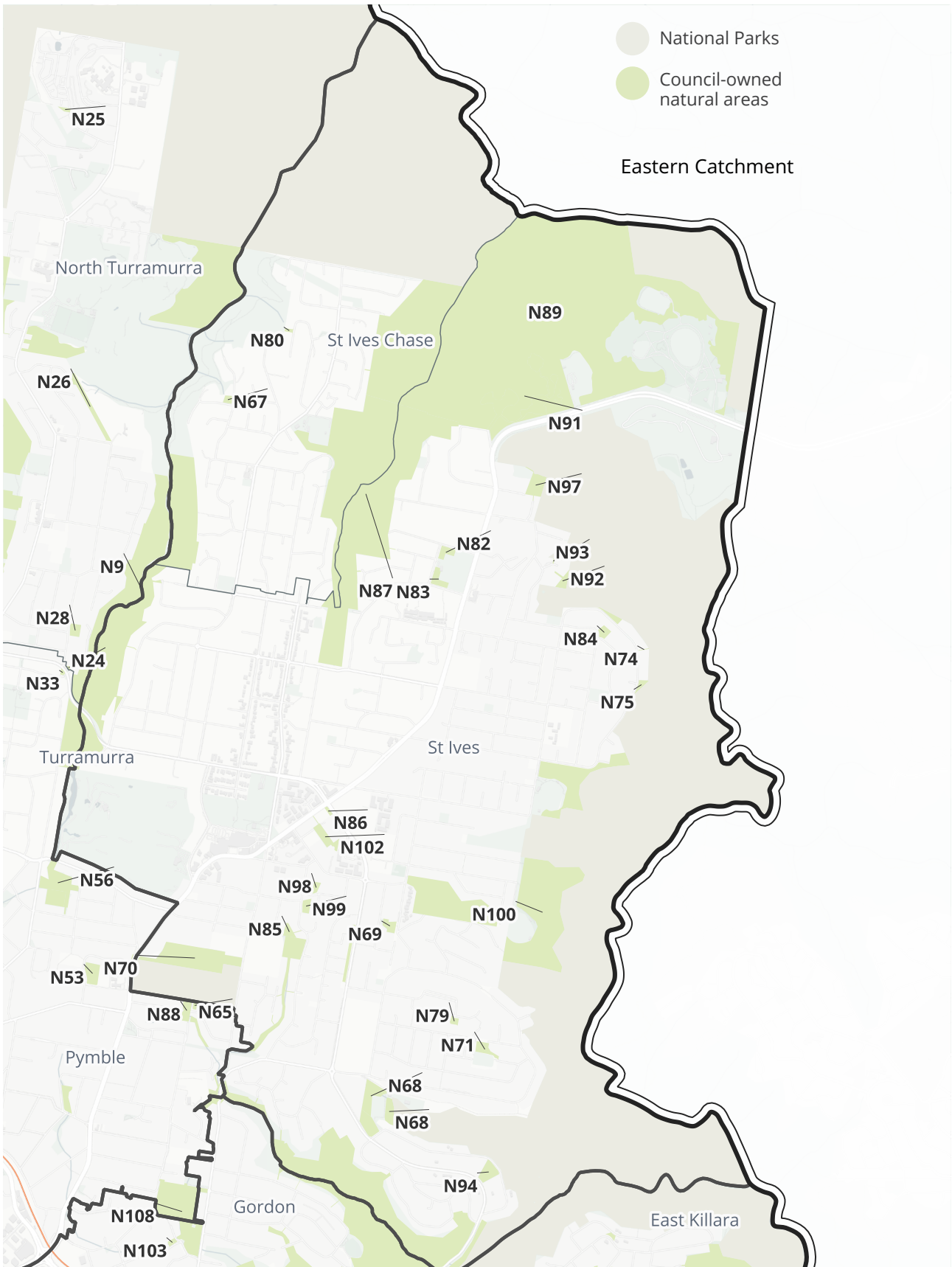
Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
S54	Koola Park - Sports-grounds	Koola Avenue opposite Churchill Road, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	6.75
S52	Allan Small Oval	18C Saiala Road, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	1.25
S53	Allan Small Park - Tennis Courts	18C Saiala Road, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	0.25
S62	Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park - Sports-grounds	all Memorial Park	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	4.09
S64	East Lindfield Park (Wellington Oval)	cnr Wellington & Caryle Rd, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.94
S63	Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park - Tennis Courts	all Memorial Park	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.22
S45	Gordon Golf Course	cnr Lynn Ridge Avenue and St Johns Avenue	Gordon	Southern Catchment	24.09
S44	Darnley Oval (East Gordon Park)	Mount Ida Street, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	1.3
S47	Richmond Park Tennis Courts	Rosedale Road, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.57
S46	Gordon Recreation Ground - Tennis Courts	Combine with Gordon Recreation Area	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.31
S50	Regimental Park Sports Precinct	Cnr Pacific Hwy & Lorne Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	2.85
S48	Killara Park (W.A Bert Oldfield Oval)	72A Springdale Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	1.41
S51	Regimental Park Tennis Courts	Cnr Pacific Hwy & Lorne Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.31
S49	Killara Park (Tennis Courts)	72A Springdale Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.12
S57	Princes Park/Primula Oval	76A Highfield Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	2.15
S56	Fiddens Wharf Road Sportsground (provincial)	South end of Fiddens Wharf Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.82
S59	Queen Elizabeth Reserve	19-43 Bradfield Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.55
S60	Sir Phillip Game Reserve North (Edenborough Park)	off Bent Street, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.41
S55	Charles Bean Sportsfield	4 Shout Ridge, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.2
S61	West Lindfield Sport and Recreation Club - part of Primula Oval	76A Highfield Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.04
S58	Queen Elizabeth Reserve - Tennis Courts	19-43 Bradfield Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.44

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
S67	Roseville Golf Reserve (Leased to club)	3A Cardigan Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	11.87
S66	Roseville Chase Oval	5 Cardigan Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	2.33
S65	Loyal Henry Park (West Rosevill Park)	67A, Shirley Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	1.7
S68	Roseville Oval	Clanville Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	1.61
S69	Roseville Tennis Courts	Clanville Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.45
S70	Thomas Avenue Tennis Court	67A, Shirley Road, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.24

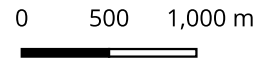
Natural areas audit maps

Natural areas in the Eastern Catchment

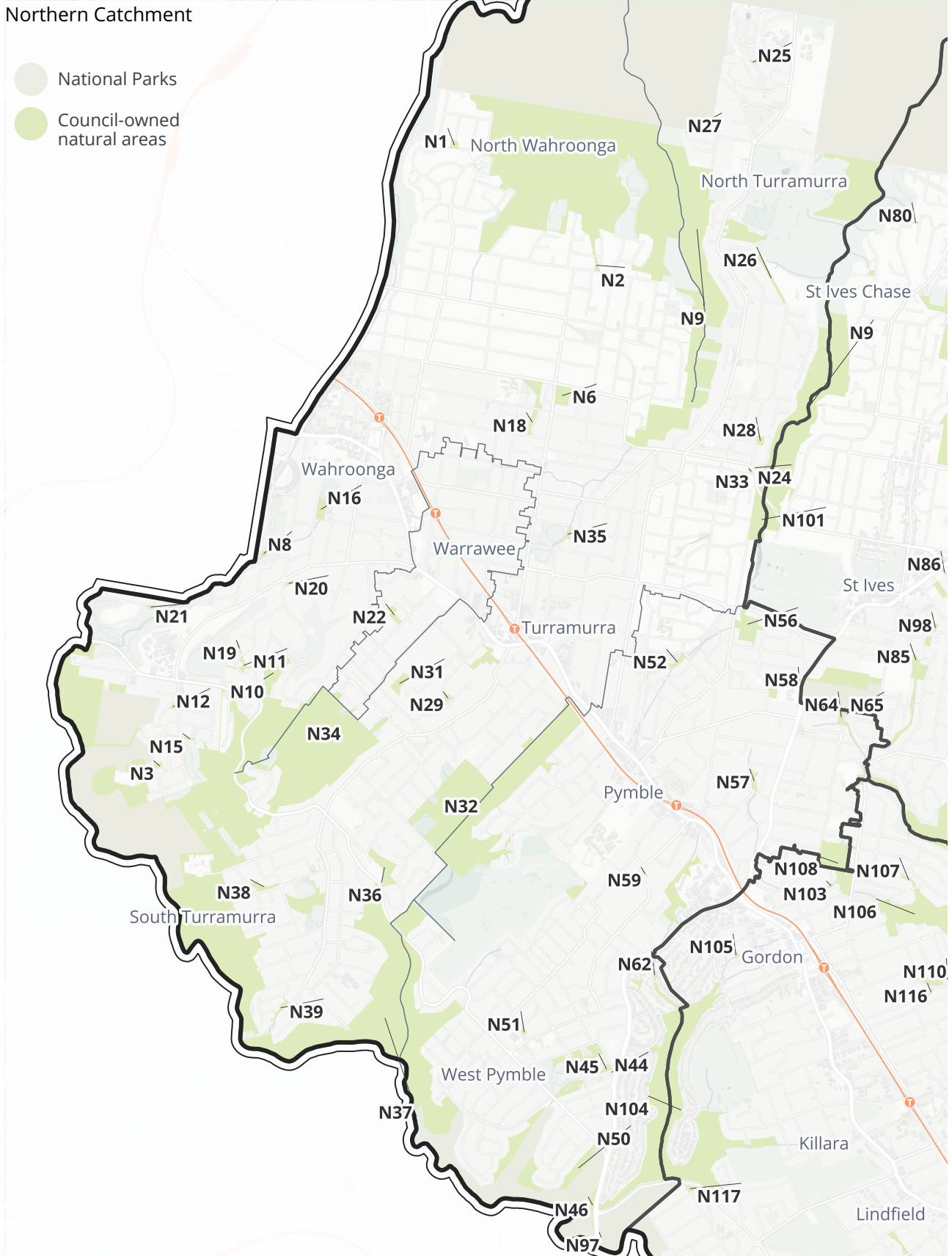
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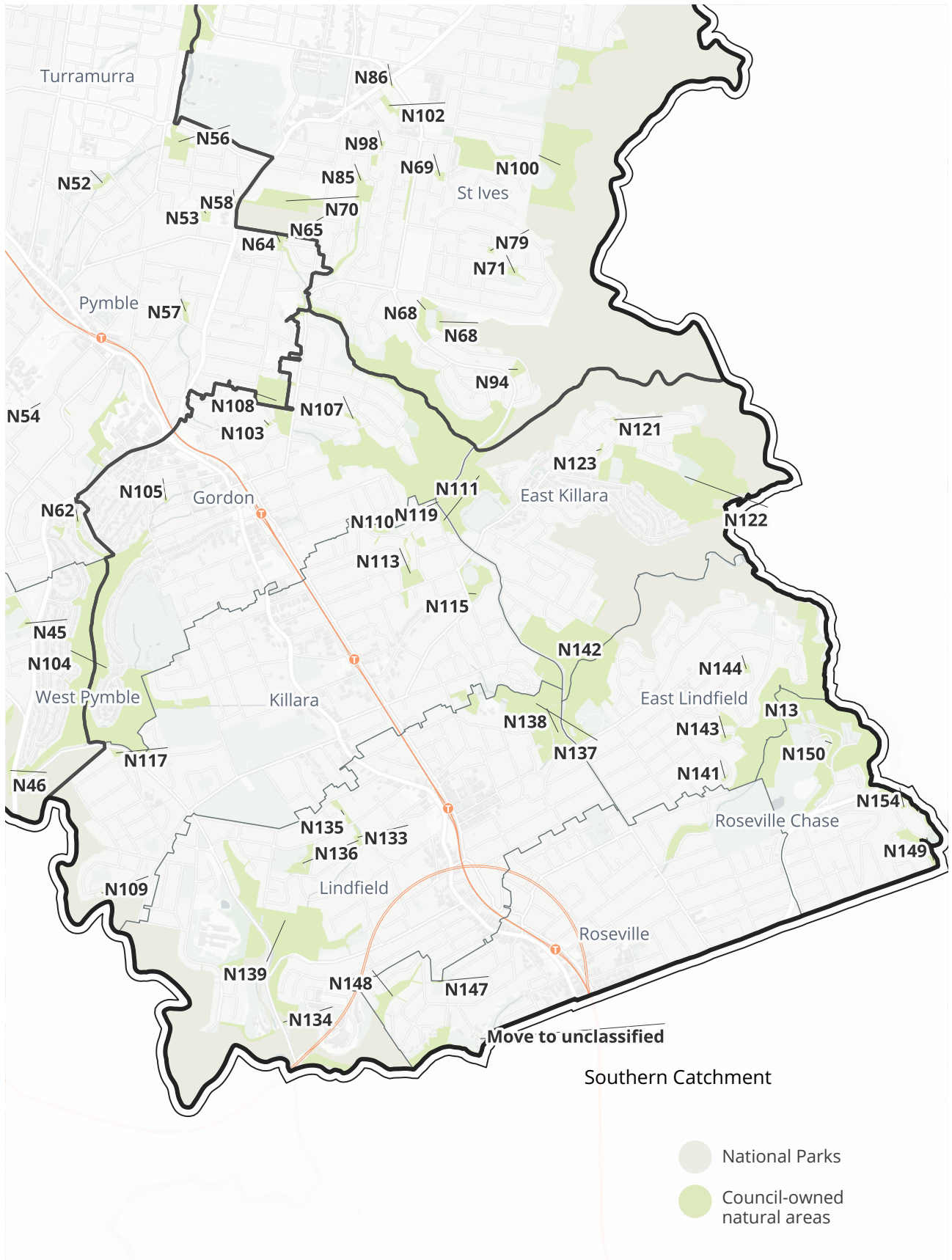
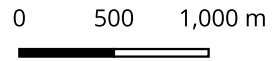
Natural areas in the Northern Catchment



Northern Catchment



Natural areas in the Southern Catchment



Natural areas detailed audit list

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N89	Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	420 Mona Vale Road	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	134.94
N76	Cowan Creek Reserve	10B Warrimoo Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	48.4
N87	Ku-ring-gai Creek Reserve	junction of Toolang and Ayres Rds north to Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	48.22
N81	Governor Phillip Reserve	91 Eastern Arterial Road, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	42.81
N100	Surgeon White Reserve	eastern end of Lawson Parade south to eastern end of Grevillea Avenue	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	14.77
N77	Dingly Dell	16A Yarrabung Road, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	7.76
N101	Travis Park	Caringal Pl, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	5.55
N70	Browns Forest	119A Mona Vale Road, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	5.21
N78	Douglas Street Reserve	cnr. Acron Road and Douglas Street	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	5.21
N91	Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	420 Mona Vale Road (cleaned and developed)	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	4.23
N95	Lynbara Avenue Reserve	37A Lynbara Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	2.55
N68	Barra Brui Reserve	Burraneer Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.89
N97	McIntosh Park	A1 Richmon Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.07
N88	Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	420 Mona Vale Road	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	1.01
N72	Burraneer Avenue Reserve	Burraneer Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.9
N94	London Reserve	86A Eastern Arterial Road, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.81
N102	Turpentine Forest	3 Gillott Way, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.78
N71	Bryce Bush	end of Torrens Street	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.55
N96	Mashmans Quarry Reserve	19 Horace St, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.54
N83	Hassall park - Hassall Bush South	Mona Vale Rd & Mawson Street, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.53
N82	Hassall Park -Hassall Bush North	Mona Vale Rd & Mawson Street, St. Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.43
N69	Barra Wood (Natural reserve)	16A Lancaster Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.42
N92	Linigen Reserve	7A Linigen Place, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.41

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N85	Huntleys Forest	37A Lynbara Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.35
N84	Hayle Street Reserve	65 Athena Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.33
N99	Shinfields End	20 Lynbara Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.32
N73	Cambourne North Reserve	2A Cambourne Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.28
N75	Cambourne Reserve (Cambourne East Reserve)	38A Cambourne Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.22
N90	Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	420 Mona Vale Road	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.19
N98	Seven Wives Wood	21 Richard Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.19
N67	Waipori Street Reserve	24 Waipori St, St Ives Chase	St Ives Chase	Eastern Catchment	0.19
N79	Gibran Place Reserve	64 Torokina Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.18
N80	Gould Avenue Reserve	61 Gould Avenue, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.09
N86	Ivor Wyatt Reserve	259 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.09
N74	Cambourne Path (Labelled Cambourne East Reserve GIS)	20 Cambourne Ave, St Ives	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.02
N93	Linigen Trail	between no.4 and no.6 Linigen Place through to Garigal National Park	St Ives	Eastern Catchment	0.02
N9	Lovers Jump Creek Reserve	next 158 Burns Rd north to end Clissold Rd west to cnr.Boundary Rd and Lister Street	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	170.43
N41	Bradley Park (bushland)	Morona Avenue, Wahroonga	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	117.48
N37	Comenarra Creek Reserve	44B The Comenarra Parkway, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	70.14
N34	Twin Creek Reserve (bushland)	141A The Comenarra Parkway, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	57.38
N13	Moore's Creek Reserve	Davison Parade, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	45.71
N32	Rofe Park - Bushland	between Warragal Rodd and Albion Avenue to Mimosa Road and Avondale Golf Club	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	33.34
N5	Browns End	111 Browns Road, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	17.79

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N60	Sheldon Forest	2 Warragal Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	15.33
N55	Hammond Reserve	33A Ryde Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	3.9
N49	Quarry Creek Reserve	107 Wallalong Cres, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	3.68
N48	Lower Dam Forest	49A The Comenarra Parkway, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	3.4
N7	Fraser Park	54 Boundary Road, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	3.38
N23	Bobbin Head Road Bushland	off Bobbin Head rd, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	3.31
N42	Bicentennial Park Bushland	opposite nos.7-11 Lofberg Road west to opposite nos.49-59 Lofberg Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	3.16
N56	Merrivale Bush	no.95A Merrivale Road	Pymble	Northern Catchment	3.12
N40	Sir David Martin Reserve (bushland)	South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	3.1
N10	Lower Campbell Reserve	cnr.Bogan Place and Campbell Drive south to Nerang Street	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	2.74
N50	Rudder Creek Reserve	2A Yanko Rd, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	2.65
N47	Hampshire Bush	behind end of Hampshire Avenue	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	2.46
N36	Comenarra Bush	44B The Comenarra Parkway, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	2.35
N61	Troon Creek Reserve	1A Troon Pl, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.62
N6	Clive Evatt Reserve	135 Eastern Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.61
N65	Vista Street Reserve - West	next to 25 Vista Street west side of Kulgoa Road	Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.53
N30	Grannys Springs	22A Duff Street, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.5
N43	Bicentennial Park Bushland	opposite nos.7-11 Lofberg Road west to opposite nos.49-59 Lofberg Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.27
N17	Turiban Reserve (north)	81 Burns Rd, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.08
N26	Glengarry Annexe	26 Milton Road, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.06
N16	The Glade Reserve	5 Koora Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	1.04
N54	Golfers Glen	48-50 Greenway Dr, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	1.03

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N31	Holmes Street Reserve	64A Holmes St, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	1.03
N53	Blackbutt Park	5C Ganmain Road, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.84
N4	Browns Bush - Lower Campbell Reserve	74A Browns Road, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.79
N46	Deburghs Drop	Ryde Road near end of Lady Game Drive	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.74
N38	Halls Reserve	37-41 Barwon Ave, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.72
N22	Laura Houison Osborne Sanctuary	31 Blytheswood Ave, Warrawee	Warrawee	Northern Catchment	0.67
N18	Turiban Reserve (south)	1 Mona St, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.67
N52	Bannockburn Bush	cnr.Station Street and Birubi Avenue	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.63
N57	Orana Reserve	3A Church St, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.58
N39	Kissing Park	10A Bowen Ave, South Turramurra	South Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.48
N11	Middle Campbell Reserve	52 Campbell Drive, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.46
N28	Milkmaids Reserve	19A Ellalong Rd, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.39
N29	Duff Reserve	22A Cornwall Ave, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.38
N35	Upper Lovers Jump Creek	between 22 Laurence Avenue and adjacent 4 Karuah Road Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.38
N1	Billy Hughes Park	29 Scullin Place, North Wahroonga	North Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.37
N66	Yarran Street Reserve	6A Kiparra St, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.35
N45	Bicentennial Park Bushland	opposite nos.7-11 Lofberg Road west to opposite nos.49-59 Lofberg Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.34
N63	Vista Street Reserve	91A Kulgoa Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.33
N2	Derwent Reserve	2A Tamar Place, North Wahroonga	North Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.28
N62	Upper Minnamurra Reserve	10A Minnamurra Ave, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.28
N3	Aleta End	20 Morona Ave, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.27
N8	Loggers Retreat	36 Exeter Road, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.19

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N20	Willian Lewis Bush	corner Fox Valley and Lucinda Avenue South	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.18
N21	Mt Pleasant Reserve	Lot 13 Mount Pleasant Avenue	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.16
N51	Shoppers Wood	3 Binalong St, West Pymble	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.16
N19	Upper Campbell Reserve	43 Campbell Dr, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.15
N15	The Broadway	32 The Broadway, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.14
N12	Moonas End	1A The Broadway, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.13
N14	South Campbell Reserve	59 Campbell Dr, Wahroonga	Wahroonga	Northern Catchment	0.12
N25	Du Faur Reserve	28 Du Faur Street, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.11
N64	Vista Street Reserve - North	cnr.Kulgoa Road and Vista Street (north side)	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.1
N59	Randy Reserve	42A Livingstone Ave, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.07
N33	Spurwood Forest	62 Spurwood Rd, Turramurra	Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.07
N58	Poa Park	118 -120 Mona Vale Rd, Pymble	Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.04
N24	Delaney's Island	228 Burns Rd, North Turramurra	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.03
N44	Bicentennial Park Bushland	opposite nos.7-11 Lofberg Road west to opposite nos.49-59 Lofberg Road	West Pymble	Northern Catchment	0.02
N27	Gwydir Trail	between no.25 and no.32 Gwydir Avenue through to reserve	North Turramurra	Northern Catchment	0.02
N104	Blackbutt Reserve	124a St Johns Ave, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	49.17
N122	Old She Oak Reserve	18B Saijala Rd, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	33.41
N142	Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park - Bushland	all Memorial Park	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	30.29
N139	Sir Phillip Game Reserve North	96A Highfield Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	20.67
N106	Ku-ring-gai Flying Fox Reserve / Gordon Park	20 Edward St Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	15
N137	Seven Little Australians - Natural Area 1	cnr.Eastern Arterial Road and Tryon Road west side north to next no.108 Stanhope Road	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	14.12
N124	Bushranger Reserve	26A Koola Avenue, Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	12.28

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N108	Richmond Park	Rosedale Road, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	6.62
N138	Seven Little Australians Park - Natural Area 2	cnr.Eastern Arterial Road and Tryon Road west side north to next no.108 Stanhope Road	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	3.33
N153	Upper Cardigan Reserve	cnr.Ormonde and Cardigan Roads	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	3.22
N140	Sir Phillip Game Reserve South	Lyle Ave, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	2.94
N127	Blue Gum Creek Reserve	Behind Alison Street	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	2.92
N148	Sugarbag Creek Reserve	12A Abingdon Rd, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	2.91
N132	Lower CSIRO Bush	corner Lady Game Drive and Somerset Road	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	2.46
N115	Killara Park (Killara Park Bush)	Rosebery Road	Killara	Southern Catchment	2.43
N146	Amarna Reserve	Amarna Parade, Roseville	Roseville	Southern Catchment	2.35
N151	Echo Point Park	far eastern end of Babbage Road on Middle Harbour foreshores surrounding LMU's 197 198 and 199	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	2.1
N113	Harry Seidler Reserve	18 Wattle St, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	2.06
N130	Blue Gum Creek Reserve	Off Lady Game drive	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.95
N120	Wombin Reserve	49 Nelson Rd, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	1.61
N136	Princes Park	cnr.Polding and Ignatius Roads	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.55
N131	Bradfield Road Public Reserve	100 Bradfield Road, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.4
N150	Cardigan Reserve	Cardigan Road and Chase Avenue, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	1.34
N119	Terrum-bine Reserve - Illeroy Forest (Atholbrose Glen)	57A McIntosh St, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	1.19
N125	Airman's Bush	140 Bradfield Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	1.07
N152	Roseville Bridge Bush	40B Babbage Rd, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.97
N111	Bushranger Reserve West	Koola Avenue, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.87
N145	Upper Moores Creek	63 Carlyle Rd, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.85

Map Ref	Name	Address	Suburb	Catchment	Size (in ha)
N135	Paddy Pallin Reserve	42 Provinciall Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.6
N133	Lower Paddys Forest	40 Highfield Rd, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.52
N112	Gearys Way	2 Tasman Cres, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.4
N107	Lennox Street Reserve	1 Taylor St, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.37
N149	Boatshed Bush	1-7 Normac Street, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.36
N143	Neil Place	20 Crana Ave, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.35
N118	Quarry Masons Forest	2C Kilang Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.34
N117	Lady Blaxland Reserve	39 Beaumont Rd, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.31
N144	Nungara Reserve	19A Sylvan Ave, East Lindfield	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.31
N126	Blue Gum Creek Reserve	14 Toongarah Road, Roseville	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
N128	Blue Gum Creek Reserve	Glen Road, Roseville	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
N129	Blue Gum Creek Reserve	Lady Game Drive, Lindfield	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.27
N123	Redfield Bush	next no.14 Redfield Rd, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	0.2
N147	Loyal Henry Park	end Bayswater Road	Roseville	Southern Catchment	0.16
N103	Ashley Grove Reserve	1A Ashley Grove, Gordon	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.13
N141	Follies Park Scrub	corner Canberra Crescent and Melbourne Road	East Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.12
N105	Gordon Glen Bush	combine with Gordon Glen	Gordon	Southern Catchment	0.12
N121	Kimberly's Way	118A Koola Ave, East Killara	East Killara	Southern Catchment	0.1
N116	Kylie Walk	9A Illeroy Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.09
N154	Upper Echo	92 Babbage Rd, Roseville Chase	Roseville Chase	Southern Catchment	0.09
N134	Lower UTS Bush	eastern side of Lady Game Drive just north of Millwood Avenue	Lindfield	Southern Catchment	0.08
N114	Kalang Reserve	10 Illaroy Ave, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.06
N109	Albert's Bush	71 Albert Drive, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.04
N110	Bell's Path	1A Bell Street, Killara	Killara	Southern Catchment	0.02

Appendix 3 - Recreation Needs Study Engagement Report - Phase 1

Executive Summary

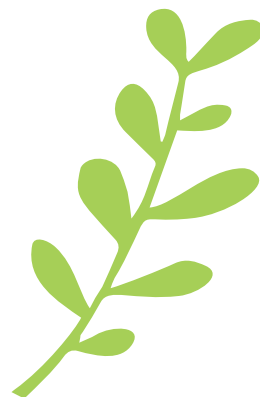
Cred Consulting was engaged by Ku-ring-gai Council to develop a Recreation Needs Study for the Ku-ring-gai local government area (LGA).

The aim of this consultation was to understand community and stakeholder needs and priorities for recreation now and into the future for Ku-ring-gai LGA.

This report summarises findings from a Community Telephone Survey, Online Community Survey, Stakeholder Surveys and 10 Stakeholder Interviews.

For the purposes of this Executive Summary, what we heard will be divided by type: Community Engagement, and Stakeholder Engagement.

Type	Dates	Details	# Participants
Community engagement			
Community telephone survey (statistically valid)	17 to 27 June 2022	Conducted by Micromex	402 responses
Online community survey	29 June to 30 July 2022	Available on Council website	946 responses
Stakeholder engagement			
Stakeholder survey	30 June to 27 July 2022	Available on Council website	51 responses
Stakeholder interviews	July and August 2022	Held online via Zoom across August 2022	10 interviews
			Total: 1,409 engaged



Key findings from Community Engagement

- Fun and enjoyment, fitness, and exercise, and getting fresh air are the main reasons people use recreation spaces in Ku-ring-gai.
- Walking (87%) and bush walking (75%) are the most common recreation activities people in Ku-ring-gai LGA undertake in a normal year.
- The least popular recreation activities that people in Ku-ring-gai LGA undertake in a normal year include cycling off road (20%), organised sports on courts (25%) and cycling on road (28%).
- One in three residents in Ku-ring-gai LGA are interested in trying new recreational activities. 67% of respondents indicated that they would not be interested in trying new recreation activities.
- Of those people who said they wanted to try a new recreation activity, swimming (5%), rock climbing (3%) and fitness activities (3%) were the most popular choices.
- Of those people who said they would be open to trying a new recreation activity, the main barriers preventing people from taking part were having limited time (38%), not having facilities close by (23%), family commitments (13%), and safety concerns (9%).
- Ku-ring-gai LGA residents want parks (81%), natural and bush areas (79%) and walking tracks and trails (76%) to be the main priority for future recreation planning.
- Spaces ranked as a priority for future recreation planning, tended to rank higher for level of desired investment. Spaces where residents wanted more investment included walking tracks and trails (46%), natural and bush areas (46%), parks (43%), and play spaces for children (40%).
- Spaces where residents felt there was less of a need for investment included clubs (15%), outdoor gyms (20%), and waterways (23%).

Key findings from Stakeholder Engagement

- 90% of responses to the stakeholder survey came from sporting organisations in the Ku-ring-gai area. Of these respondents, 41% came from netball organisations, 20% from football, 15% from rugby and 7% from cricket.
- The stakeholder survey found that 94% of stakeholders have been operating in the Ku-ring-gai LGA for over 10 years.
- Most stakeholders offer specific programs that cater for children, adults, females, males and those with intellectual and physical disabilities.
- Participation has typically increased over the last five years, with 41% of respondents noting that participation levels have increased, and 38% saying that participation levels have stayed relatively the same. Participants in stakeholder interviews shared different experiences of membership growth or decline, depending on the sport. Although many have experienced short term declines during the COVID-19 pandemic, most reported experiencing a growth in the number of members over the past five years.
- 56% of respondents in the stakeholder survey felt that their organisation participation levels would increase in the next five years, and 33% expected them to stay the same. Only 10% were expecting a decrease.
- Reasons for the current and expected increase in growth were similar in both the stakeholder survey and interviews, citing a growing population, the increase in female and adult/older persons participation in sports programs and high levels of engagement with professional sporting competitions.
- Barriers for growth included the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, limited number of facilities available in the LGA and the wet weather experienced in the 2021-2022 season. In the stakeholder interviews, participants overwhelmingly reported that poor quality of sport and recreation facilities across the LGA are the biggest barrier to participation.
- 95% of respondents in the stakeholder survey use Ku-ring-gai Council's recreation facilities to meet their sporting needs. The most popular facilities include sports fields, ovals and courts (73%).
- 59% of respondents cited quality of sport and recreation facilities as a challenge within their organisation. This was followed by level of volunteering (22%), member participation, recruitment and retention (20%) and cost of facilities (16%). This was similar to what we heard in stakeholder interviews, with participants also citing a lack of safe and appropriate female friendly facilities, leasing and renting arrangements and availability of grounds as key challenges and barriers to participation.
- Access to more sports fields across the LGA and maintenance of sports facilities are the most common stakeholder needs. We also heard in the stakeholder interviews that participants want better and increased collaboration with Council.
- Stakeholders expressed that the role of Council in providing for and supporting recreation activities in the LGA involves better maintenance and safety of fields, provision of sports fields to meet the needs of the LGA, working better with sporting organisations and improving parking access at recreation fields.

Participating in both structured and unstructured recreation is valued highly by community members and stakeholders. It provides people with fun and enjoyment, a way to get fit and get fresh air. Although participation in recreation is increasing, there are several challenges and barriers. These include a lack of facilities or spaces nearby, poor quality facilities and spaces, lack of time, and accessibility. The Needs Study will need to address these challenges and barriers to further encourage sport and recreation participation in Ku-ring-gai.

These findings will provide useful insights into the Ku-ring-gai Open Space and Recreation Needs Study. They will help Council plan into the future where resources should be allocated to provide the community the best possible recreation experience.

Introduction

Background

Ku-ring-gai Council engaged Cred Consulting to prepare a Recreation Needs Study for the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area (LGA). This Recreation Needs Study will help Council and others to plan for public open space and recreation facilities that are needed to support the community now and into the future.

The term recreation includes a broad range of activities from unstructured activities like walking, running, picnics, walking the dog and playing in parks, to structured activities such as organised sport. Participating in and having access to a range of recreation opportunities brings significant physical and mental health and social benefits for individuals, results in improved developmental outcomes for children and young people and has social benefits for the broader community.

An important part of the Needs Study is consulting with the community, including the public and sporting and similar groups. Engaging with the community will help Council understand the needs and expectations for sport and recreation in Ku-ring-gai.

Purpose

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- capture the views of a wide range of community members and stakeholders.
- explore a vision with community that reflects the needs and aspirations for sport and recreation in the area.
- discover community and stakeholder current and future priorities for sport and recreation in the area.
- understand the importance of recreation for community members.
- understand the challenges and barriers associated with participating in sport and recreation, and
- communicate with the community about planning and how the Recreation Needs Study can address recreation needs.

This report summarises findings from community and stakeholder engagement undertaken. The engagement findings along with other detailed technical studies, including sports participation and utilisation data, will help inform the Recreation Needs Study.

Findings in this report are summarised by engagement activity, with an overview of key findings from community engagement in Section 2 and an overview of stakeholder findings in Section 4.

Engagement methodology

From June 2022 to August 2022, Cred Consulting engaged with community members and stakeholders across Ku-ring-gai LGA, including:

- Community telephone survey (statistically valid), conducted by Micromex from 17 to 27 June 2022, with 402 responses received.
- Online community survey, conducted by Micromex and available on Council's website from 29 June to 30 July 2022, with 946 responses received.



What community members said

Residents in Ku-ring-gai prefer using recreation spaces that involve the natural environment:

- Parks
- Sports grounds
- Natural bush areas
- Walking tracks and trails

About 1 in 3 Ku-ring-gai residents are open to trying new recreation activities in the LGA. Barriers they face in doing so include:

- Lack of time
- No facilities close by

People in Ku-ring-gai prefer to use recreation spaces for fun and enjoyment, fitness and exercise and to get fresh air. The most popular recreation activities for residents include:

- Walk
- Bush walk
- Have picnics and BBQs
- Relax and sit down
- Walk the dog

Ku-ring-gai residents' priorities for the future of recreation in the LGA include:

- Parks
- Natural bush areas
- Walking tracks and trails
- Sports grounds
- Play spaces for children



Community telephone and online survey

About the community telephone survey

A community telephone survey of Ku-ring-gai LGA residents was conducted between 17 June to 27 June 2022. The survey was conducted by Micromex, an independent market research company engaged by Cred Consulting.

This survey was completed by 402 residents from across the Ku-ring-gai LGA. The aim of the community telephone survey was to:

- Identify priorities for recreational spaces in Ku-ring-gai LGA.
- Identify community usage of recreational facilities.
- Explore interest in recreational activities going forward.

We consider this telephone survey to be statistically representative of the demographic make-up of the Ku-ring-gai LGA community.

About the online community survey

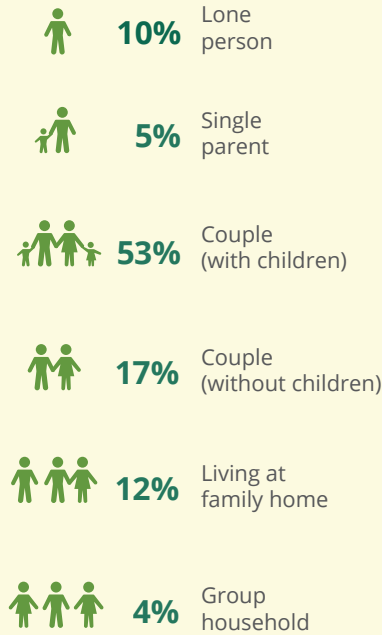
An online community survey of Ku-ring-gai LGA residents was conducted between 29 June to 30 July 2022. The survey was available on Council's website and was conducted by Micromex.

This survey was completed by 946 residents from across the Ku-ring-gai LGA. The aim of the online community survey was to:

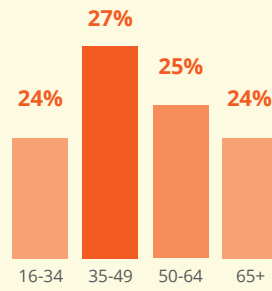
- Identify priorities for recreational spaces in Ku-ring-gai LGA.
- Identify community usage of recreational facilities.
- Explore interest in recreational activities going forward.

About the community members who participated in the community telephone survey

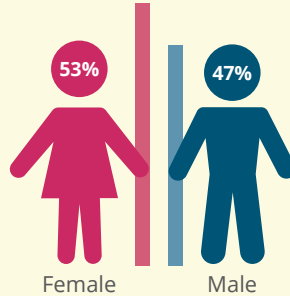
Household Type



Age



Gender



Speak a language other than English at home



Have a disability or care for someone with a disability

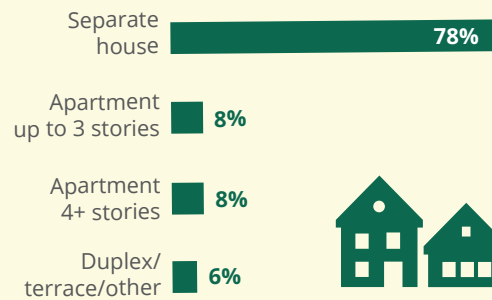


Are a member of a sports club



Own a dog

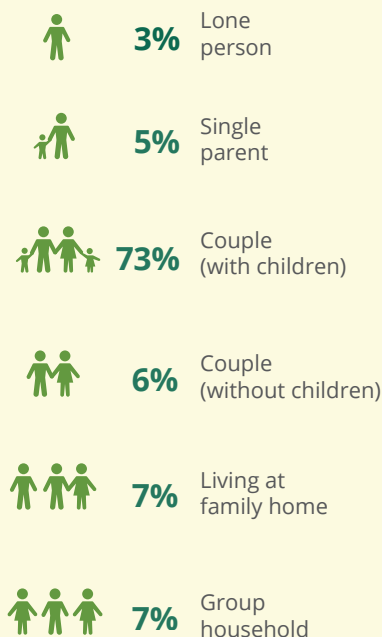
Dwelling type



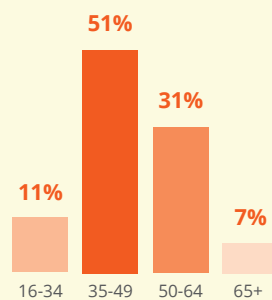
The sample was weighted by age and gender to reflect the 2016 ABS community profile of Ku-ring-gai Council

About the community members who participated in the online community survey

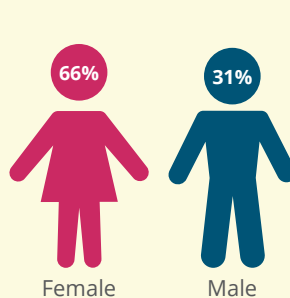
Household Type



Age



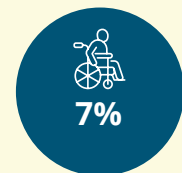
Gender



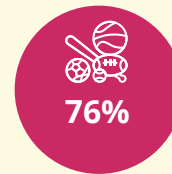
Other/prefer not to say: 2%



Speak a language other than English at home



Have a disability or care for someone with a disability



Are a member of a sports club



Own a dog



Live in a free standing house

The average online survey respondent was a female, aged 35-49, who lives in a house in St Ives, Pymble or Lindfield. They are married with children, are a member of a sports club and own a dog.

What we heard

How often, if at all, do you visit these areas in the Ku-Ring-Gai LGA?

Survey respondents were asked how often they used different recreation spaces in Ku-ring-gai LGA. They were asked if they used them weekly, or if they had ever used them. Weekly use includes anything from using recreation spaces once a week to using recreation spaces three or more times a week.

As shown in Figure 1, telephone survey respondents primarily used parks (51%), sports grounds (38%) and natural and bush areas (32%) on a weekly basis in the LGA.

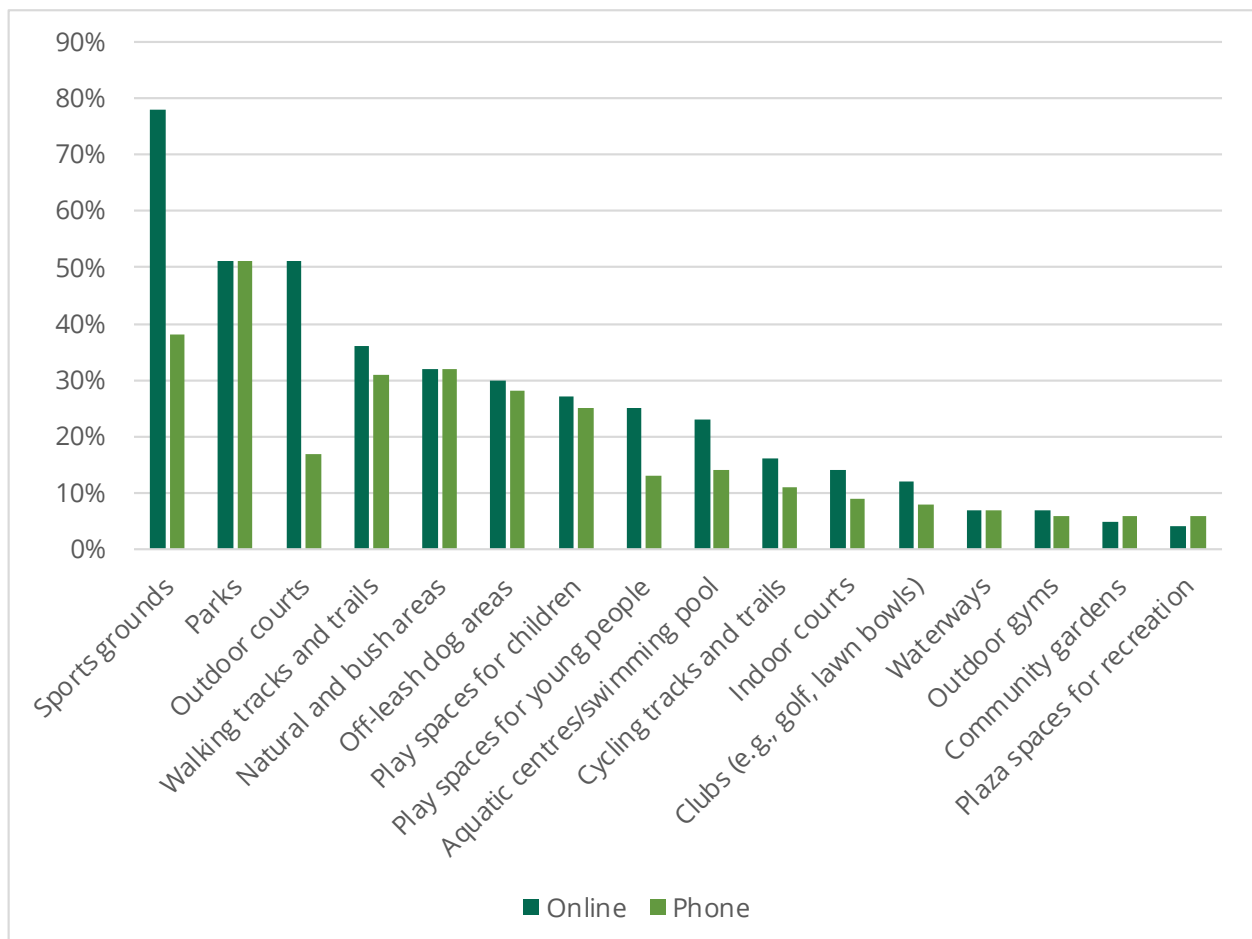
Online survey respondents primarily used sports grounds (78%) and outdoor courts (51%) on a weekly basis.

Whilst the use of parks remains relatively similar across both groups, online survey respondents use sports grounds and outdoor courts much more regularly than the telephone survey respondents.

The least-used recreation spaces on a weekly basis across both groups include plaza spaces (4% online and 6% telephone), community gardens (5% online and 6% telephone), outdoor gyms (7% online and 6% telephone) and waterways (7% for both groups).

When asked if they had 'ever used' different recreation spaces, a high proportion of respondents across both groups indicated that they had used parks (96% online and 90% telephone), natural and bush areas (94% online and 85% telephone) and walking tracks and trails (96% online and 83% telephone).

Figure 1: For each of these, could you please state if you visit these areas weekly in the Ku-ring-gai LGA.



What are your reasons for spending time in these recreation spaces?

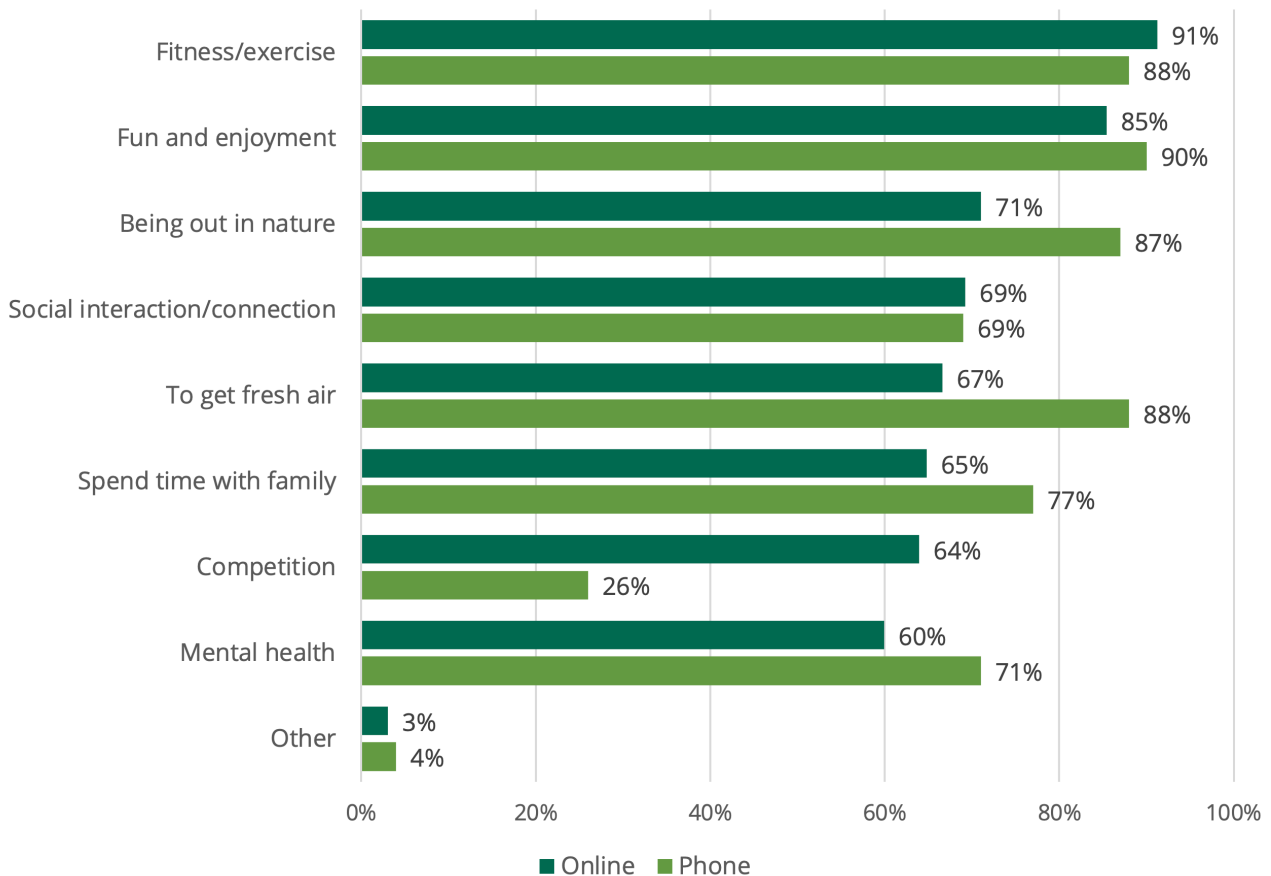
Survey respondents were asked about their reasons for spending time in recreation spaces. As shown in Figure 2, telephone survey respondents said their main reason for using recreation spaces was for fun and enjoyment (90%). This was followed by fitness and exercise (88%), getting fresh air (88%), being out in nature (87%) and spending time with family (77%).

Online survey respondents said their main reason for using recreation spaces was fitness and exercise (91%). This was followed by fun and enjoyment (85%), being out in nature (71%) and social interaction and connection (69%).

The least likely reason for telephone survey respondents to use recreation spaces is competition (26%). The least likely reason for online survey respondents to use recreation spaces is mental health (60%).



Figure 2: What are your reasons for spending time in these recreation spaces?



What recreation activities do you undertake in Ku-ring-gai in a normal year?

As shown in Table 1, walking and bush walking are the most common recreation activities for both telephone survey respondents and online survey respondents to undertake in a normal year. 87% of telephone survey respondents and 66% of online survey respondents selected walking, and 75% of telephone survey respondents and 75% of online survey respondents selected bush walking.

Other common activities for telephone survey respondents include picnics (64%), relaxing (58%) and walking the dog (48%).

Other common activities for online survey respondents include organised sport (61%), picnics or bbqs (54%) and organised sport on a court (54%).

The least popular recreation activities for both groups include paragliding and hang gliding (0% online and 1% telephone), Tai Chi (1% online and 3% telephone) and horse riding/equestrian activities (2% online and 3% telephone).



Table 1: What recreation activities do you undertake in Ku-ring-gai in a normal year?

Recreation activities	Online	Phone
Walking (other)	66%	87%
Bush walking	75%	75%
Picnic or BBQS	54%	64%
Relax, sit or meditate	37%	58%
Walking the dog/dog park	50%	48%
Fitness activities, including outdoor gyms	35%	44%
Running/jogging	48%	44%
Play, i.e. at a playground/play space	39%	39%
Play casual self organised ball games	33%	37%
Swimming	39%	37%
Organised sport on a sports field	61%	30%
Water-based recreation	32%	28%
Cycling on road and bike paths	38%	25%
Organised sport on a court (e.g. basketball, tennis, netball)	54%	25%
Cycling off road, (e.g. BMX, mountain biking, dirt jumps)	24%	20%
Golf	19%	17%
Yoga/Pilates	10%	16%
Orienteering/birdwatching	6%	14%
Fishing	10%	13%
Skateboarding/scootering	17%	13%
Lawn bowls	4%	10%
Remote control planes/boats/cars/drones	5%	9%
Community gardening	4%	8%
Multi sport events, (e.g. Triathlon, Ironman)	3%	7%
Dance	5%	6%
Rock climbing/abseiling	4%	5%
Tai Chi	1%	3%
Horse riding/equestrian activities	2%	3%
Other	1%	2%
Para and hang gliding	0%	1%

Are there any new recreation activities that you would like to try in the Ku-ring-gai LGA in the next 12 months? Which one recreation activity would you most like to try?

33% of telephone survey respondents and 65% of online survey respondents indicated that they would be interested in trying new recreation activities.

Of this group, we asked which specific recreation activities they were interested in trying.

As shown in Table 2, swimming (5%), rock climbing (3%) and fitness activities (3%) were the most popular for telephone survey respondents.

Organised sport on a court (16%), cycling (15%), bush walking (13%) and fitness activities (13%) were the most popular for online survey respondents.

67% of telephone survey respondents and 35% of online survey respondents indicated that they would not be interested in trying new recreation activities.



Are there any new recreation activities that you would like to try in the Ku-ring-gai LGA in the next 12 months?

New recreation activities	Online	Phone
No new activities	35%	67%
Swimming	9%	5%
Fitness activities, including outdoor gyms	13%	3%
Rock climbing/abseiling	8%	3%
Organised sport on a court (e.g. basketball, tennis, netball)	16%	2%
Cycling on road and bike paths	15%	2%
Bushwalking	13%	2%
Yoga/Pilates	12%	2%
Cycling off road (e.g. BMX, mountain biking, dirt jumps)	11%	2%
Golf	8%	2%
Dance	6%	2%
Tai Chi	6%	2%
Organised sport on a sportsfield	12%	1%
Water-based recreation	12%	1%
Picnics or BBQs	11%	1%
Running/jogging	11%	1%
Walking the dog/dog park	10%	1%
Community gardening	9%	1%
Play casual self-organised ball games	9%	1%
Walking (other)	8%	1%
Horse riding/equestrian activities	7%	1%
Fishing	6%	1%
Lawn bowls	5%	1%
Orienteering/birdwatching	5%	1%
Remote control planes/boats/cars/drones	4%	1%
Skateboarding/scootering	3%	1%
Relax, sit or meditate	8%	<1%
Play, i.e. at a playground/play space	6%	<1%
Multi-sport events, e.g. Triathlon, Ironman	4%	<1%
Para and hang gliding	2%	<1%
Other	1%	6%

Which one recreation activity would you most like to try in the Ku-Ring-Gai LGA in the next 12 months?

Recreation activity most likely to try	Online	Phone
No new activities	35%	67%
Swimming	1%	3%
Rock climbing/abseiling	2%	3%
Organised sport on a court (e.g. basketball, tennis, netball)	9%	2%
Cycling on road and bike paths	5%	2%
Fitness activities, including outdoor gyms	2%	2%
Golf	2%	2%
Dance	1%	2%
Tai Chi	1%	2%
Bushwalking	3%	1%
Yoga/Pilates	4%	1%
Water-based recreation	2%	1%
Cycling off road (e.g. BMX, mountain biking, dirt jumps)	4%	1%
Play casual self-organised ball games	2%	1%
Walking (other)	1%	1%
Fishing	2%	1%
Orienteering/birdwatching	<1%	1%
Remote control planes/boats/cars/drones	1%	1%
Skateboarding/scootering	<1%	1%
Running/jogging	2%	0%
Para and hang gliding	<1%	0%
Organised sport on a sportsfield	6%	<1%
Picnics or BBQs	1%	<1%
Walking the dog/dog park	3%	<1%
Community gardening	2%	<1%
Relax, sit or meditate	1%	<1%
Horse riding/equestrian activities	2%	<1%
Play, i.e. at a playground/play space	1%	<1%
Lawn bowls	1%	<1%
Multi-sport events, e.g. Triathlon, Ironman	1%	<1%
Other	1%	5%

What are the main barriers preventing you from taking part in more recreation activities in the Ku-ring-gai LGA?

As a follow up, the 33% of telephone survey respondents and 65% of online survey respondents who stated that they were open to trying new recreation activities were asked what the barriers were for them pursuing this interest.

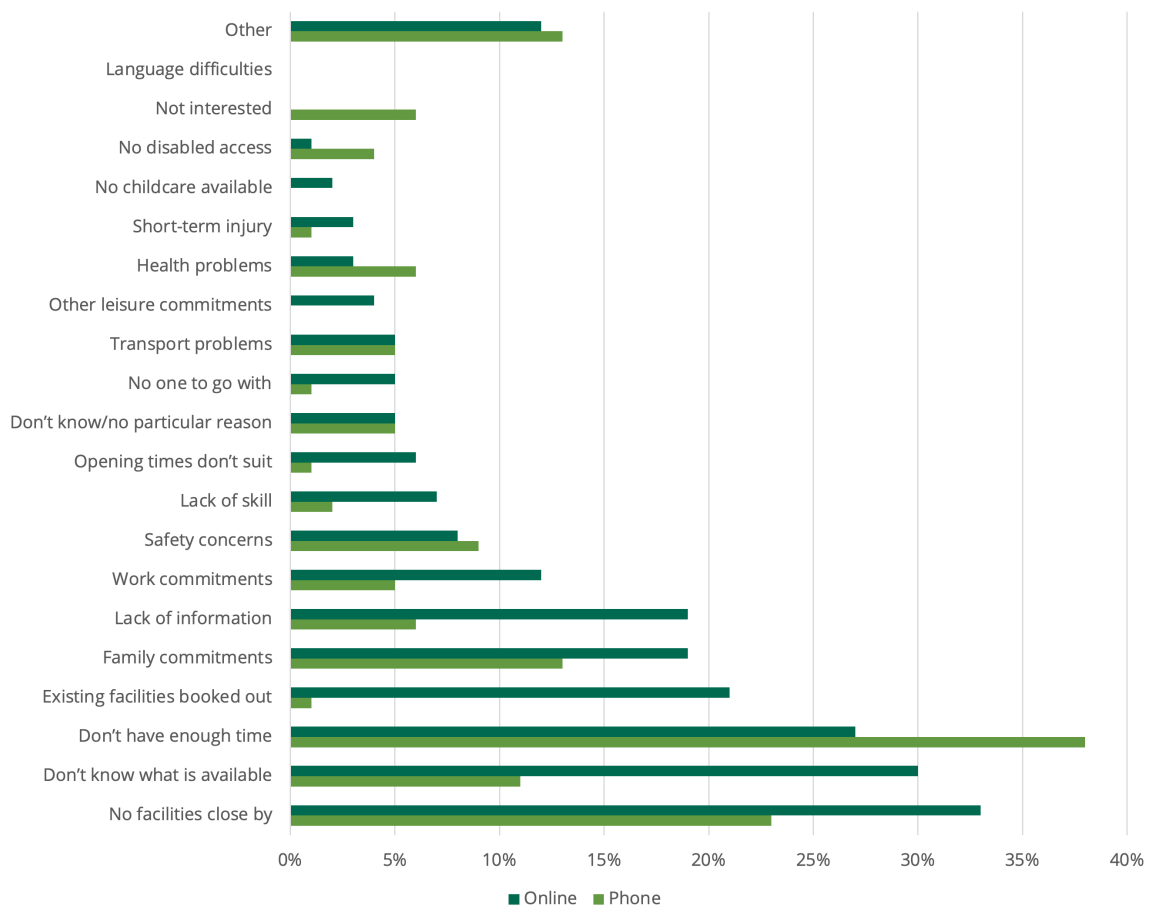
As shown in Figure 3, not having enough time was stated as the biggest barrier (38%) for telephone survey respondents. Other barriers for telephone survey respondents included not having facilities close by (23%) and family commitments (13%).

The biggest barrier for online survey respondents was not having facilities close by (33%). Other barriers for online survey respondents included not knowing what is available (30%) and not having enough time (27%).

Respondents who selected 'other' provided barriers including poor infrastructure and maintenance of recreation facilities, cost, accessibility, parking and poor weather.



What are the main barriers preventing you from taking part in more recreation activities in the Ku-ring-gai LGA?



Which of these recreational spaces are a priority to you? Should the future focus and level of planning for these facilities be more, the same, or less in the Ku-ring-gai area?

Survey respondents were asked which recreation spaces were a priority to them for future recreation planning. They were also asked whether there should be more, the same or less investment in these spaces in the future.

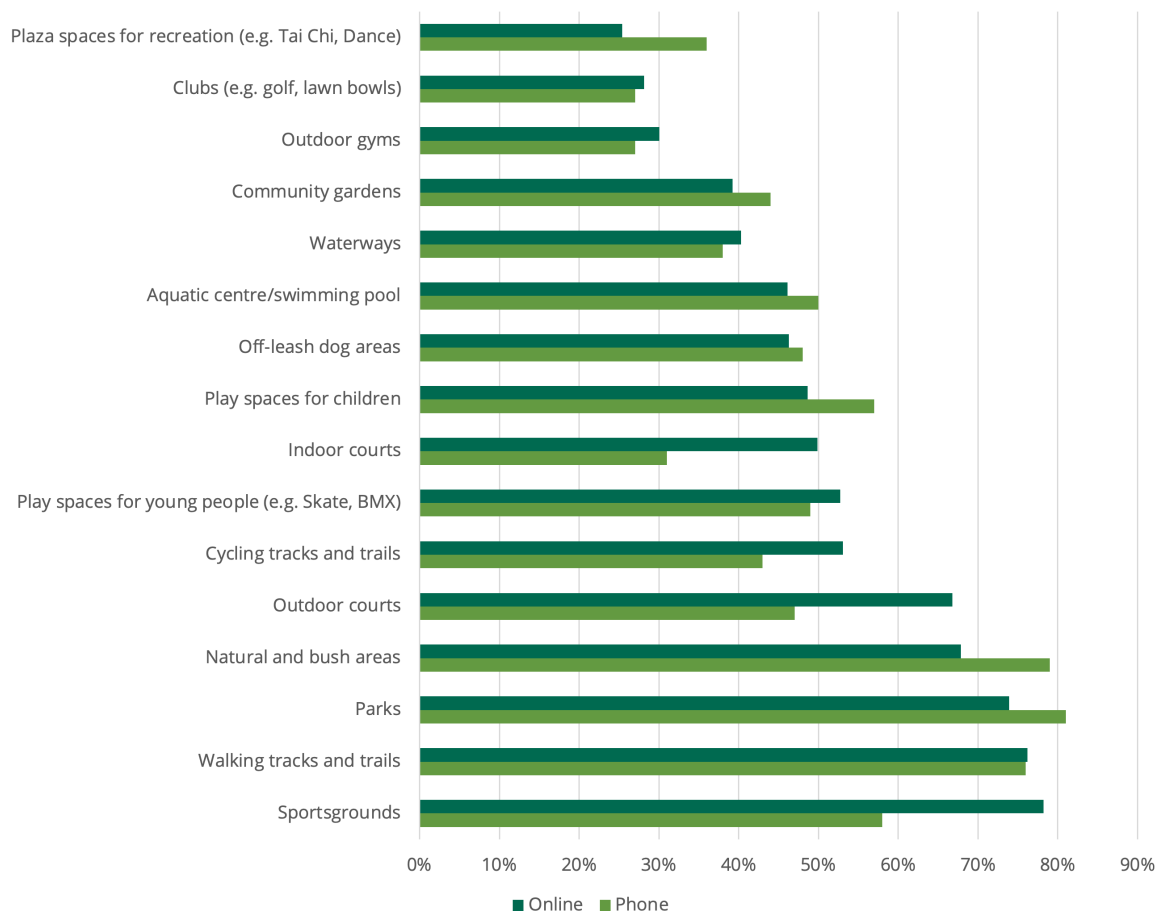
As shown in Figure 4, the top priority recreational spaces for telephone survey respondents included parks (81%), natural and bush areas (79%) and walking tracks and trails (76%).

The top priority recreational spaces for online survey respondents included sports grounds (78%), walking tracks (76%) and parks (74%).

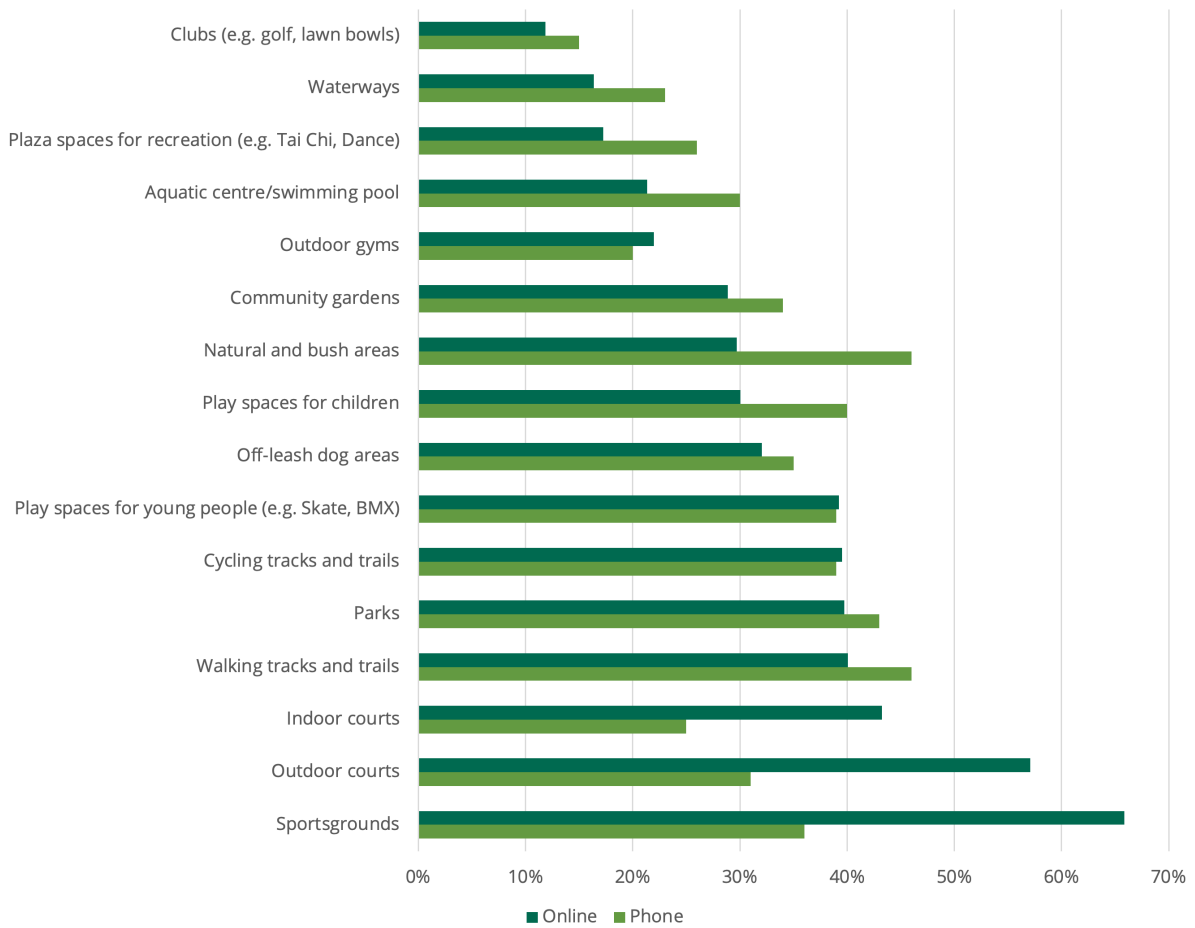
Spaces ranked as a priority tended to rank higher for the level of desired investment. As shown in Figure 8, the top spaces where telephone survey respondents wanted more investment included walking tracks and trails (46%), natural and bush areas (46%) and parks (43%).

The top spaces where online survey respondents wanted more investment included sports grounds (66%), outdoor courts (57%) and indoor courts (43%).

Priority recreational spaces



Recreational spaces where respondents wanted more investment



Survey respondents were also asked, unprompted, to talk about their main priority for future recreation facilities in Ku-ring-gai LGA. Table 4 shows the key themes that emerged from this question.

For telephone survey respondents, the main priorities for future recreation facilities included more and improved sporting facilities/variety (16%), better/more maintenance/safety/upgrades (12%) and more recreational spaces in general/for all ages/multi-purpose (8%).

For online survey respondents, the main priorities for future recreation facilities included more and improved sporting facilities/variety (67%), better/more maintenance/safety/upgrades (20%) and all weather/artificial turf (21%).

What is your main priority for future recreation facilities in the Ku-ring-gai LGA?

Recreation facilities	Online	Phone
More and improved sporting facilities/variety	67%	16%
Walking (footpaths)/bush walking	8%	14%
Better/more maintenance/safety/upgrades	20%	12%
Parks and playgrounds/outdoor play spaces	4%	10%
More recreational spaces in general/for all ages/multi-purpose	15%	8%
More green open spaces/limiting development impacts	5%	7%
Cycleways/bike tracks	8%	5%
Dog friendly areas	8%	5%
Accessible/affordable/available	5%	4%
Picnic areas/BBQs/amenities	2%	2%
All weather/artificial turf	21%	1%
Community gardens	1%	1%
Outdoor gym	1%	1%
Plaza space/shops/cafes	1%	1%
Arts/entertainment	<1%	1%
Fitness/health/wellbeing	2%	0%
Lighting	2%	0%
Parking/transport	2%	0%
Waterways	<1%	0%
Don't know/nothing	<1%	5%
Other comments	1%	4%

What stakeholders said

The quality of facilities is the biggest barrier for participation in sport and recreation activities across the LGA.

- 59% of survey respondents cited quality of sport and recreation facilities as a challenge within their organisation

Key issues around quality include:

- Lighting
- Quality of amenities
- Maintenance and safety

Female participation in sports is growing, but facilities and amenities across the LGA are still not fit for purpose.

Stakeholders want increased communication with Council around sport and recreation in the LGA.

- Interviewees expressed interest in two meetings per year with Council between seasons to discuss needs/expectations
- Improving relationships with Council was a big theme across the survey and interviews

Partnerships between Council, sporting organisations and schools was often referenced as a 'big' idea by respondents.

Concerns around renting, leasing and booking sport and recreation facilities was a key theme.

- Stakeholders have different experiences around renting and leasing facilities

Having diverse voices heard was considered a benefit of planning for recreation and sport facilities

- Stakeholders want to feel heard and engage better with Council around recreation in the LGA.

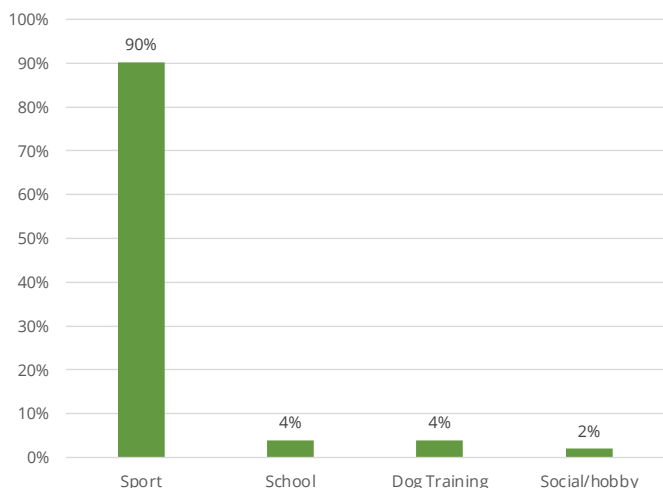
Stakeholder survey

About the survey

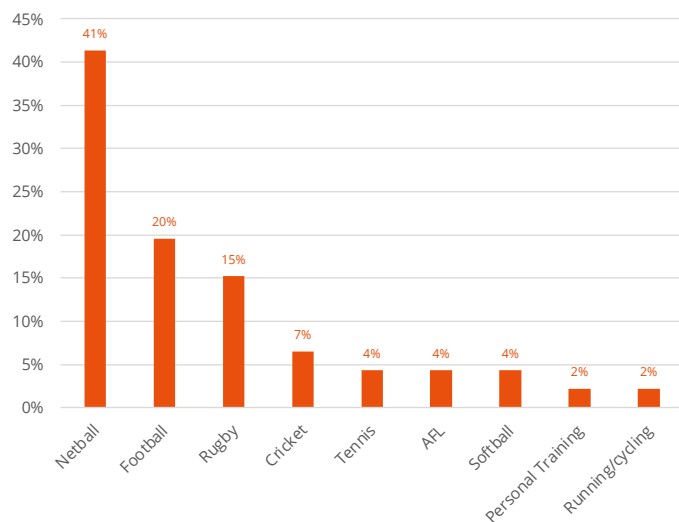
The aim of the stakeholder survey was to understand how stakeholders use sport and recreation facilities. The survey was open from 30 June to 27 July 2022 and was available on Ku-ring-gai Council's website.

51 stakeholder organisations from across Ku-ring-gai LGA completed the survey.

Type of stakeholder organisations



Type of sporting organisation



About the stakeholders

Sporting organisations made up the majority of stakeholder responses

As shown in Figure 6, 90% of responses to the stakeholder survey came from sporting organisations in the Ku-ring-gai area. This was followed by schools (4%), dog training clubs (4%) and social/hobby groups (2%).

Respondents who indicated that they represented a sporting organisation came from a wide array of sports. As highlighted in Figure 7, 41% came from netball organisations, 20% from football organisations, 15% from rugby organisations and 7% from cricket organisations.



Most stakeholders have been operating for over 10 years in Ku-ring-gai LGA.

The majority of the stakeholders (94%) have been operating for over 10 years. As shown in Table 5, many operate across the Ku-ring-gai LGA area, with the most popular suburbs for operation including South Turramurra (59%), Turramurra (57%), Pymble (57%), West Pymble (55%), Warrawee (53%) and Wahroonga (53%).

Suburbs where stakeholders operate

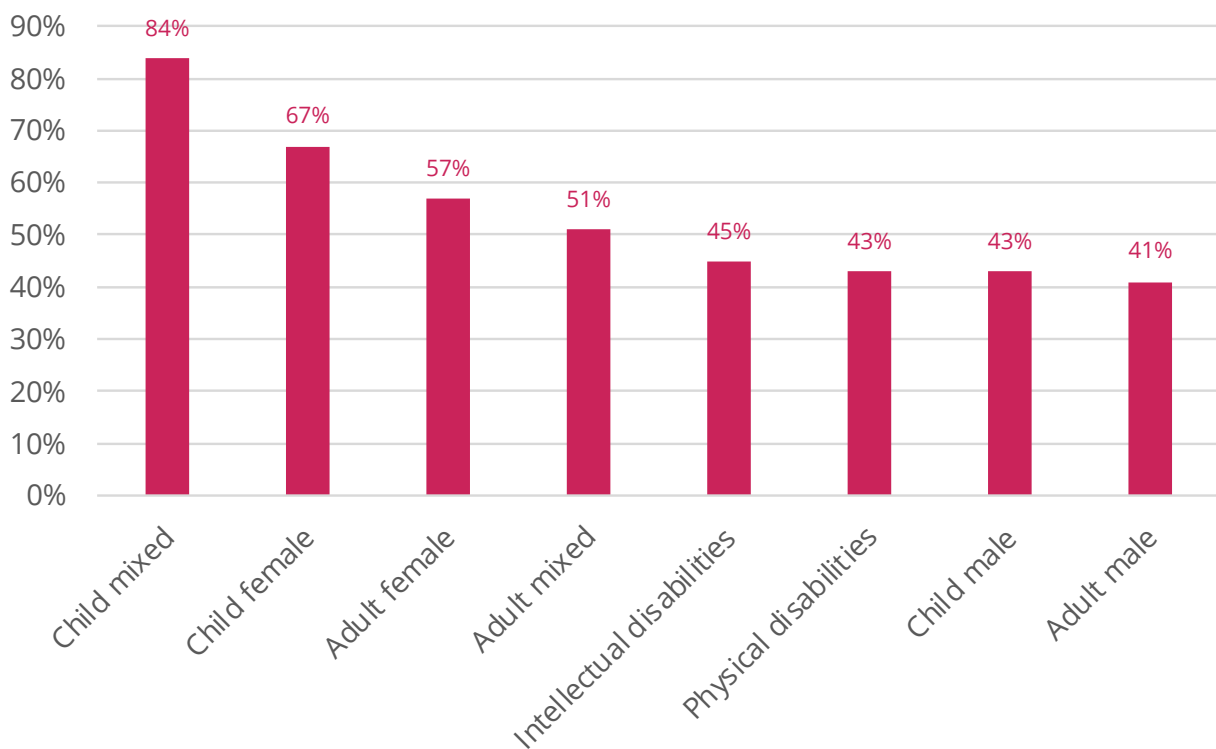
Suburb	# of respondents	% of respondents
South Turramurra	30	59%
Turramurra	29	57%
Pymble	29	57%
West Pymble	28	55%
North Turramurra	28	55%
Warrawee	27	53%
Wahroonga	27	53%
Outside of Ku-ring-gai LGA	26	51%
Gordon	25	49%
Lindfield	25	49%
St Ives	25	49%
East Lindfield	24	47%
Killara	24	47%
Roseville	23	45%
East Killara	22	43%
St Ives Chase	22	43%
North Wahroonga	22	43%
Roseville Chase	19	37%

Stakeholders offers programs that cater to people of all ages, genders and abilities.

Most stakeholders offer specific programs that cater to children, adults, females, males and those with intellectual and physical disabilities. As shown in Figure 8, the most common programs offered by stakeholders in Ku-ring-gai LGA include mixed children (84%), female child (67%), adult female (57%) and adult mixed (51%). Just under half of the stakeholders offer programs for people with intellectual (45%) and physical disabilities (43%).



Types of programs offered by stakeholders



What we heard

Participation has typically increased over the last five years

We asked survey respondents whether the participation levels in their organisation had increased, stayed relatively the same or decreased over the past five years. 41% of respondents noted that participation levels had increased, and 38% said they had stayed relatively the same. 21% found there had been a decrease in participation levels.

"We are a high-quality community club with great spirit. The increased population density in the area (development along the highways), coupled with growth of female participation, and higher participation with older players (walking football etc.) is only going to increase participation. Demand for football over summer, and training facilities in winter preseason is also increasing."

- A local club

Participation is expected to increase in the next five years

We then asked about expectations for participation levels in the next five years. 56% of respondents felt that their organisation participation levels would increase in five years, 33% expected them to stay the same, while only 10% were expecting a decrease.

Reasons for the current and expected increase in growth included the growing population density in Ku-ring-gai LGA, the increase in female and adult/older persons participation in sports programs and high levels of engagement with professional sporting competitions. For example, a local club spoke to how the Rugby World Cup 2027 being hosted in Australia will likely lead to an increase in membership.

Barriers for growth included the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, limited number of facilities available in the LGA, and the wet weather experienced in the 2021-2022 season. Local netball organisations spoke about challenges surrounding the availability of netball courts, particularly around evening games and training, which impacts the ability of clubs to attract and retain members. Local clubs experiencing a decrease in growth talked about their plans to promote the club, including their ideas of various methods to try and attract and retain new members going forward.

"There is opportunity to increase participation, but it is restricted by the limited number of netball courts within Ku-ring-gai. While the local courts at Canon Rd are excellent in daylight hours, the severe restrictions on when the lights, which are only on nine courts, can be used, limit us from using these most of the year."

- A local club

"Our younger players decreased during COVID. As a result, we are putting on fun afternoons at the end of the calendar year to excite these players to sign up the following year. Girls entering high school and girls aged over 15 are places where we lose players. All clubs struggle with this. We try to put age groups together and keep a fun and friendly environment. Netball is vulnerable to other sports; however, we find that many girls return once they have tried other sports, such is the strength of netball"

- A local club

Most stakeholders use council facilities to meet their sporting needs

95% of respondents use Ku-ring-gai Council recreation facilities to meet their sporting needs, with Table 6 showing that the most popular facilities are sports fields, ovals and courts (73%). Other facilities used by stakeholders include school facilities (20%), roads and paths (16%), parks (14%), national parks (12%) and community halls (12%).

What Council facilities stakeholders use

Council facility	# of respondents	% of respondents
Sports field, oval, courts	37	95%
Roads/paths	8	21%
Parks	7	18%
Community hall	6	15%
National Park areas	6	15%
Indoor recreation centre	3	8%
Aquatic centre/pool	3	8%
Golf course	2	5%
Other	13	34%

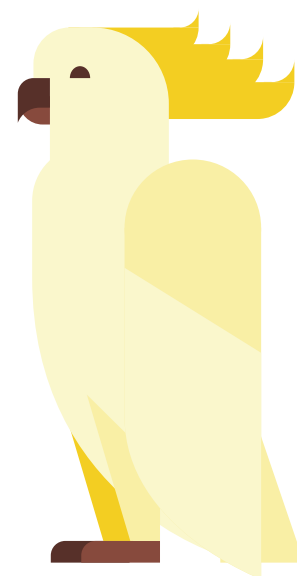
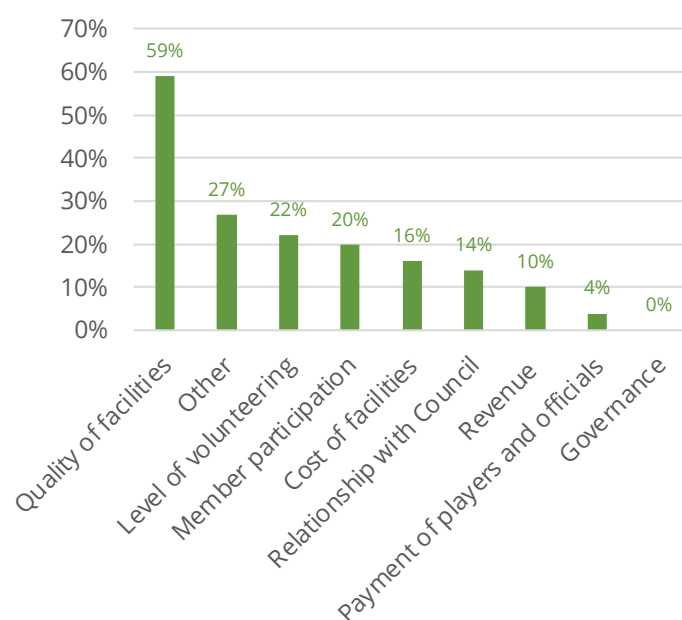
Of those stakeholders who use other facilities, a high proportion (26% of respondents), noted that they use recreation facilities within schools. However, it is noted that these facilities are not managed by Council.

For the 5% who do not use council facilities, a local club stated that the reason for this was that there were no council facilities nearby. Instead, the club uses school netball courts.

Quality of facilities is a huge challenge for stakeholders

As shown in Figure 9, 59% of respondents cited quality of sport and recreation facilities as a challenge within their organisation. This was followed by the level of volunteering (22%), member participation, recruitment, and retention (20%) and the cost of facilities (16%).

Types of programs offered by stakeholders



Access to more sports fields across the LGA and maintenance of sports facilities are the most common stakeholder needs

We asked stakeholders what their current needs to support participation in sport and recreation activities are, and whether they are being met. Table 7 shows the key needs that emerged from the survey, along with select comments.

What are your current needs to support participation in sport and recreation activities in Ku-ring-gai, and are they being met?

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Access to more sports fields across Ku-ring-gai LGA	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders need access to more open spaces and sports fields that support their needs Sports fields need to be accessible during the week for training and for games on the weekends Open spaces and sports fields should be designed for multi-purpose use 	<p>“Our main requirement is having access to sport fields that support our club for training during the week (with lights and adequate drainage) and for the scheduling of games on the weekend. Greater access to grounds outside of winter season.”</p> <p>“Our current needs are the number of venues available. To really facilitate sport in our council area, it would be wonderful to see an area as Manly and Hornsby do where there is more than one sports field together e.g. soccer and netball within the same precinct.”</p> <p>“Facilities that meet the growth of the club, the demands of players and parents to not only play on a weekend but train more than 1-2 hours a week.”</p>
Increased maintenance and upgrading of facilities and amenities in Ku-ring-gai LGA	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public amenities at sports fields in the LGA are in poor condition and require upgrades and regular maintenance Council needs to address safety concerns at several sports fields. This includes the quality of the surfaces and the availability of lighting 	<p>“More widely our public amenities at Auluba are in a poor state (toilets stink etc.). This is subject to slightly upgraded clubhouse facilities design by KMC currently.”</p> <p>“The surface at Lofberg courts is dangerous. It desperately needs a proper resurface with a material that is friendly for impact sports. There are no indoor facilities, which means we have to pay exorbitant fees to the local wealthy private schools that are not good corporate neighbours.”</p> <p>“We need grounds that are well presented and cut short during summer. It is no fun hitting a cricket ball along grass that is halfway up to your knee. Many of the grounds are not level. Many have holes/dangerous undulations in them. Lofberg is a very bad surface and we tend to get a lot of knee injuries playing on it. We had 1 guy last year who needed very serious surgery due to the uneven surface.”</p>

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Improved drainage	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports fields have poor drainage, which is an issue particularly given the recent wet weather 	<p>“Council’s limited responsiveness to the state of grounds / safe playability of grounds given this year’s wet weather has meant that volunteers within our association have been required to give countless hours of their own time, using ours and their own equipment, to mitigate the lack of drainage and make repairs to the diamonds. Even so, we have needed to modify our standard competition at the beginning of the season to accommodate the reduced number of diamonds (softball fields) available to us.”</p> <p>“Grounds that have drainage and irrigation have been able to cope, such as Wellington and Koola, others that haven’t had a recent upgrade have really been offline for most of the season.”</p>
Provision of gender neutral/ female friendly facilities	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council needs to ensure facilities are female friendly to meet with growing demand by females in sport and recreation in the LGA 	<p>“Transition of amenities to become gender neutral to support female participation.”</p>
Increased marketing of sports clubs and events	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council can help sporting organisations by promoting club events 	<p>“More activity on social media sharing posts promoting our club events. The more who attend, the more money our club can make to work towards finding a larger scale project that will benefit our members in cricket training.”</p>
Working closely and cohesively with stakeholder organisations	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council needs to work with sporting organisations to make grounds playable Sporting organisations should partner with Council to grow participation 	<p>“Council’s limited responsiveness to the state of grounds / safe playability of grounds given this year’s wet weather has meant that volunteers within our association have been required to give countless hours of their own time, using ours and their own equipment, to mitigate the lack of drainage and make repairs to the diamonds.”</p> <p>“We need to partner with Council to grow and improve both participation and the level of facilities offered. We are extremely keen to talk further to create the best outcome for the Ku-ring-gai community.”</p>

Council plays an important role in providing and maintaining sports facilities

We asked stakeholders what they thought the role of Council was in providing for and supporting sport and recreation activities in Ku-ring-gai. Table 8 shows the key themes that emerged from the survey, along with select comments.

What do you think is the role of Council in providing for and supporting sport and recreation activities in the LGA?

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Better maintenance and safety of recreation fields	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council plays an important role in upgrading and maintaining facilities 	<p>"The role of Council is to provide maintained and safe sports grounds and facilities that support and encourage sport and rec participation. Council has a key role in the delivery, management, maintenance and upgrade of sport facilities in local communities, for community involvement and wellbeing. These opportunities for sport promote an active and healthy lifestyle throughout all life stages."</p>
Provision of sports fields to meet the needs of the LGA	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council plays an important role in maintaining and improving the safety of facilities 	<p>"As the population of the LGA continues to increase, there is pressure on the already small number of sporting facilities. These need to be upgraded to reflect both the change in demographics (especially female participation), but also the standard of the existing facilities, both the sporting grounds themselves and also the clubroom facilities (especially relevant to Acron Oval)."</p> <p>"Maintaining currently used sporting facilities and planning for more facilities in the future to keep up with expected increases in demand."</p>
Working better with sporting organisations	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should provide sports fields to meet the needs and changing demographics of the LGA 	<p>"Work with sporting organisations to proactively plan facility upgrades for the future to meet trends of participation."</p>
Improve parking access at recreation fields	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should improve access to parking at sport and recreation facilities 	<p>"Be proactive to ensure roads are not blocked and there is enough parking."</p>

There are a number of opportunities for new and upgraded open space and recreation infrastructure within the LGA to support stakeholders

We asked stakeholders if they had identified opportunities for new open space and recreation infrastructure to support their organisation's needs in or around the LGA. Table 9 shows the key themes that emerged from the survey along with select comments.

Have you identified any opportunities for new open space and recreation infrastructure to support your organisations needs in or around Ku-ring-gai LGA?

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Upgrades to existing sport and recreation facilities in the LGA	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing facilities need to be upgraded to be fit for purpose Specific upgrades include synthetic fields, lighting, drainage upgrades, storage and safety upgrades Explore the possibility of partnerships with schools for facility sharing 	<p>"Arrangements between Council and schools for field sharing."</p> <p>"St Ives Showground has two full playing fields, if it were possible to convert the trotting track to grass, it could potentially fit a third or fourth new space. There is space behind the old nursery that could potentially be used to create a playing field."</p>
Increase opportunities for more netball facilities in the LGA	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More netball facilities in the LGA Expansion of current netball facilities Provide indoor netball facilities 	<p>"At North Turramurra, in the recreation area, the netball courts that were promised have not been built. Two proper netball courts could be built there. The NTRA could be expanded by Council purchasing the house for sale which is adjacent to the current recreation area. This would also allow netball courts to be built here."</p> <p>"More netball courts and indoor netball courts."</p>
Development of multi-purpose open space and recreation infrastructure	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity for Council to develop multi-purpose shared facilities Explore the possibility of St Ives Showground as new multi-purpose recreation hub 	<p>"There may be some options for shared facilities with other sports in the area (e.g. Auluba ground 3 baseball). We have a consultant Otium who is currently investigating the various options in more detail; and we'd like to work with Council to prioritise these once complete."</p>

Many respondents also spoke about opportunities for specific facilities or sport codes. These include:

- Indoor cricket nets with bowling machines
- Create a multi-purpose facility at the bowling club at 4 Pennant Avenue (2)
- Consideration of Bryce Oval for softball use
- Reallocation of dog off leash areas such as Pymble water retention site
- New infrastructure is needed at the following facilities:
 - Primula Oval - install hybrid surface

- Kent Oval - floodlights are needed
- Warrimoo Oval - improved lighting and synthetic fields
- George Christie Oval has not been used all year due to safety concerns - lighting and drainage. However, an aircraft club notes that if floodlights were installed it would render the end of the club as airspace approval is specific.
- Bannockburn Oval - upgrade playing surface, drainage, better seating lighting and upgrades to the car park
- Roseville Park - lighting.

Stakeholders have big ideas for open space and recreation in Ku-ring-gai

We asked stakeholders if they had one 'big idea' for the future of open space and recreation within Ku-ring-gai LGA. Table 10 shows the key themes that emerged from the survey, along with select comments.

What are your current needs to support participation in sport and recreation activities in Ku-ring-gai, and are they being met?

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Upgrade facilities to make them more appealing and usable to the community	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade facilities to make them accessible for both male and female community members Upgrade facilities to make them more adaptable to weather scenarios Include more synthetic/all-weather fields across the LGA Ensure upgrades reflect all user needs, not just one sporting code 	<p>"Increased and improved drainage to sports fields, and the laying of artificial turf where possible for sports fields. The big idea for softball and the softball community within the Ku-ring-gai LGA would be building dugouts at the existing diamonds."</p> <p>"One big idea is to ensure that when upgrades to sporting and recreation ovals occur, that the proposed field configuration and markings are for more than one sporting code. Norm Griffiths is an example where the upgrade is designed solely to suit the soccer club. The ground should be configured so that cricket, AFL and soccer can play on it. Primarily used by soccer of course, but markings to include the ability to reorient to the two other sports via different coloured markings on the synthetic surface if need be. Clubs are happy to work and do the legwork with council in order to jointly apply for state and federal government infrastructure grants to upgrade facilities. It's in all of our interests to see that facilities are in the best state that they can be in."</p>
Create more multi-purpose recreation hubs across the LGA	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should explore locations for multi-purpose recreation hubs that cater to a wide variety of sports and recreation needs Council should create indoor recreation hubs as well as outdoor ones 	<p>"St Ives Showground has a vast amount of unused space that has seen significant improvement since the playground opening alone - this should be a major hub of recreation with space for parking, netball courts, improved soccer facilities with two all weather fields, other grass pitches, specific off leash dog space, cafes - the one located has remained unopened for many months."</p> <p>"An indoor/outdoor facility that homed many different sports."</p> <p>"To create a facility like Abbott Road, Curl Curl-Manly where all sports such as softball, soccer, netball, and rugby along with recreational facilities are provided. St Ives Showground or the area next to the driving school opposite have always been places I look at and see potential."</p>

Theme	#	Summary of comments	Select comments
Provide more opportunities for netball clubs in the LGA	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an indoor netball facility 	<p>"Building of a facility in the LGA which could include four indoor netball courts."</p> <p>"Indoor netball facility to be the home of netball. Providing new facilities for the organisation of KNA as well as ensuring the growth and success of teams and players."</p>
Land zoning is an opportunity for open space and recreation facilities in the LGA	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should seek to acquire land near current recreational facilities to expand recreational zones 	<p>"Council has recently divested recreational zoned land in Ku-ring-gai. Where opportunities arise, Council should be seeking to acquire land adjacent to existing recreational zoned land to expand recreational zones. CSIRO at West Lindfield are on Commonwealth owned land (approx. 20 ha). Much of the land on this site is under-utilised. Council could investigate leasing part of this land. NSW Office of Sport grants may be available for construction of courts."</p>
Equitable opportunity for all sports across the LGA	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should treat all sports fairly and equally 	<p>"More fairness and equity of distribution for female sport."</p> <p>"Equal opportunity for all sports - currently heavy on soccer and cricket fields."</p>

Best practice case studies

We asked stakeholders to provide ideas around best practice case studies both from within and outside the LGA that could be used as inspiration for Ku-ring-gai open spaces and recreation. Some examples mentioned include:

Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park East Lindfield (Ku-ring-gai Council)



- Car park, dog off leash, lights, playground, seating, toilets, cricket net and pitch, rock climbing, rugby/ touch football field and tennis courts
- Multi-purpose sports facility with turf and synthetic wickets plus two practice nets for cricket, floodlit tennis course, rugby fields and a playground. Bushland surrounds provides rock climbing and abseiling locations.

Bruce Percer Reserve and Kanebridge Oval Kellyville (The Hills Shire Council)



- Major sporting complex home to many local sporting groups including AFL and cricket.
- Full size cricket pitch or AFL field – including turf wicket, turf, and synthetic cricket wickets
- Amenities building
- Floodlights, car parking and podium seating.

Kellyville Netball Courts, Wellgate Avenue Kellyville (The Hills Shire Council)



Source: Kellyville Netball Club

- Baulkham Hills Shire Netball Association, Kellyville Netball Club
- This is a good example of netball courts in good condition, with appropriate amenities and parking
- 33 bitumen-based courts.

Lionel Watts Reserve Frenchs Forest (Northern Beaches Council)



Source: Bijl Architecture

- This space has an off-leash dog area, synthetic pitches, netball courts, bike and walking paths, grass pitches, bathroom, playground and skate park
- Synthetic sports field delivering premier all-weather facilities which caters for most sports including combination of two senior football fields, separate junior field, senior AFL and two junior AFL all permanently marked. Four new cricket nets and a centre cricket wicket covered in winter. Caters to local schools for Futsal, Oz Tag and Touch.

Sydney Park Alexandria (City of Sydney)



Source: City of Sydney

- Off-leash, rolling hills, playground, children cycle track, skate park, wetlands, sports oval, and outdoor fitness.

The Ridge Sporting Complex

Barden Ridge (Sutherland Shire)



- Soccer, cricket, Oz Tag and rugby union.

Blackman Oval

Lane Cove (Lane Cove Council)



- A well-maintained sports field
- Includes sports grounds, picnic areas, large open spaces and river foreshore bush walks
- BBQ, play equipment, cricket pitch, cricket nets, fitness equipment, flying fox, parking, ping pong, snack, sport oval toilets
- Synthetic grass field, turf and half basketball court.

Eastwood Ryde Netball Association

Meadowbank (City of Ryde)



- Developed a new indoor facility with the local PCYC (City of Ryde).

Christie Park

Macquarie Park (City of Ryde)



- Under cover seats and office space
- New all-weather synthetic sports fields – new tiered seating for 500 people, cork used to provide cooler playing conditions, netting at the rear to prevent balls entering Lane Cove National Park.

Rawson Park

Mosman (Mosman Council)



- Seating, netball courts, toilets and change rooms.



Stakeholder interviews

About the interviews

Cred Consulting undertook stakeholder interviews during July and August 2022. A total of 10 interviews with stakeholders from across Ku-ring-gai LGA were conducted.

About the stakeholders

The stakeholders interviewed came from a range of sporting organisations, hobby groups, dog training clubs and schools.

What stakeholders said

Changing demographics in sporting organisations reflect overall changes to Ku-ring-gai LGA demographics

Stakeholders observed that the changing demographics of their membership tend to reflect demographic changes occurring within the LGA. Many organisations spoke to having a high proportion of Caucasian membership, with increasing East and South Asian membership. Stakeholders also reported that membership of sporting organisations is a reflection on the popularity of sports in countries of origin and ancestry. For example, cricket is seeing a growth in members from the sub-continent and rugby is seeing a growth in members from Ireland and South Africa.

“Cricket is very popular in the sub-continent, so the sub-continent player group has grown a lot over the last 10 to 15 years. Back when I played it was a very Anglo based club, but this probably reflects demographic changes of the North Shore.”

- A local club



Participation trends vary across sports

Stakeholders shared different experiences of membership growth or decline. Although many have experienced short-term declines during the Covid-19 pandemic, overall, most stakeholder organisations reported experiencing a growth in the number of members in the past five years. Stakeholders also reported that they expect this increase in participation to continue in the next five years. For example, a local club spoke about the role council can play in encouraging children to participate in community sports. Those organisations who have experienced declines in membership such as netball and rugby, noted challenges such as the weather, Covid-19, and the quality of facilities, as key barriers to improving membership. A local club spoke to issues around lighting and parking as big barriers to membership retention. Some local clubs reported putting increased efforts into programs for younger children to try and improve their membership over the next five years. For example, one local club is putting resources towards promoting Net Set Go, a program for children aged 6 to 8 years old. Another local club is trying to grow their under 5s program.

“We can’t use some of the courts for anything but training, and they have limitations up to 8pm at night. It has denigrated our sport, because 9 year olds can’t be there until 8pm at night. We are not getting registrations like we used to. Our growth is declining. Our seniors have a natural attrition rate, so we are losing at top and bottom end. We work very hard and are trying to put resources towards Net Set Go which is for 6, 7 and 8-year-olds. We picked up a lot this year, but lighting problems are still an issue restricting our growth. Problems with parking as well is also contributing to our decline in growth.”

- A local club

“We have seen a declining trend... we think we have hit the bottom and think we will start to see a growth trajectory... A lot of parents and kids have picked up other activities over the Covid lockdown... We are trying to win some of these kids back. We are trying to grow our program for under 5 kids, which is just a little bit of fun and games for kids to try and see what rugby is about.”

- A local club

“Participation has dropped. We are super concerned about that as kids are becoming sedentary, spending too much time on their screens and not engaging in community sport. There is a great role for Council to play in that as we move forward with long term strategy around increasing kids’ participation in any sport of any kind.”

- A local club

Quality of infrastructure is the biggest barrier to participation in sport and recreation and a significant challenge for stakeholders

Overwhelmingly, stakeholders reported the poor quality of sport and recreation facilities across the LGA as being the biggest barrier to participation. Stakeholders' main concerns relating to quality were that facilities are poorly maintained, not safe and in need of upgrades to be fit for purpose. Other key issues with facilities include poor quality of amenities and surrounding buildings such as toilets, change rooms and clubhouses.

Stakeholders' main concerns relating to safety were:

- The increased wet weather combined with poor drainage has led to safety issues around slippages, and that poor drainage often leaves fields unusable for long periods of time during wet weather.
- Poorly maintained facilities often have numerous trip hazards, which create safety problems for playing sport on the fields or courts.
- Poor lighting at sport and recreation facilities. Stakeholders spoke to the need for better lighting across a wide range of sporting and recreation facilities in the LGA.



"The state of the grounds is a big barrier. A lot of them are not kept very well, they are not safe, or they get closed a lot which influences a person's experience with football. Some of our fields have been closed this whole season, meaning people must travel a lot further to train or take part in competitions. There are also concerns around whether they are safe enough... There are problems with drainage. The soil is too slippery and hazardous for us to play on."

- A local club

"The quality of the playing surface is a challenge for our club. When Killara Park is not being used for cricket, it is an off-leash dog area... For example, one year the grounds staff laid new turf on wicket square, and dogs got on there. They ripped it up and we lost that wicket square for the whole season... Off leash dog walking opportunities are fantastic, and facilities must work harder in this day and age to meet different demands. However, we think there is an opportunity for Council to explore here."

- A local club

"The world is changing. People have got less time to engage in these things and the quality of facilities enhances these experiences. People coming with higher expectations and come into our club house and change rooms, and they are outdated and dirty and it is not a pleasant space to be in."

- A local club

Multi-purpose spaces are important, but can have negative impacts on sports organisations

Stakeholders appreciate the value and importance of multi-purpose spaces to community recreation and sport. However, there were concerns that multi-purpose spaces can sometimes have a negative impact on the ability of sports clubs to use the grounds effectively. For example, fields that are used for sports and dog-off leash areas can cause numerous trip hazards if dogs dig up the grounds. Ku-ring-gai Little Athletics suggested that Ku-ring-gai Council explore the idea of creating multi-purpose spaces that cater to co-users who do not impede on each other's needs.



"From a broad stroke approach, in Ku-ring-gai we have I think 48 playing fields. We try to make most of them multi-use because that's the buzzword these days... I think sometimes that shoots us in the foot and sometimes it can increase maintenance costs for Council because of the multi-use nature, as a lot of user groups are not good co-habitants. If there was better cooperation between the different clubs, then clubs could stick to a few grounds for rugby and make sure they are purpose built for rugby. If we are going to have an athletics track we should make it so that the co-group activities don't cross over where tracks are. In Ku-ring-gai, we need to get in a room, sit down and have a good think about what we do and how we do it. There isn't space to get a whole lot of new ovals, but the ovals we do have could be better utilised if there was better cooperation. Instead of focusing on all the wants we should look at needs and come up with a good solution."

- A local club

"A number of our grounds are shared with off-leash dog areas. One of the grounds, it got to the stage where we stopped booking it on the weekends because we didn't think it was safe for competition games. The dogs dig holes, and even if we fill the hole, it attracts the dogs to re-dig it. There are a couple of fields like that which we think are too dangerous to play at."

- A local club

"The big idea for me is I would love to see this council really nail the juggle and complexities around how we create multi-use spaces efficiently. How do we fully utilise the spaces we have for the sports we have and the demand? It's a complex issue. I hate to see a ground that is dormant and not being used and equally hate to see clubs thinking they don't have enough space to accommodate all the kids. Multi-use spaces for me are the big idea."

- A local club

Stakeholders state that female participation is growing, yet report that many facilities remain unsafe and unfriendly

Most stakeholders discussed to growth of female participation in their sport. However, they also shared concerns that the facilities in Ku-ring-gai LGA did support this growth. The majority of sporting groups interviewed stated that facilities need to be upgraded to be female friendly and safe for female users. One local club shared that they had brought these concerns to Council previously but felt the response was that there was no desire to fix this issue.

“Another barrier is the lack of change rooms that are female friendly or gender neutral. There’s been a big push over the last few years to get rid of urinals, corridor showers and all things like that to make it more friendly for kids and females.”

- A local club

“The ground floor of our club house has change rooms which were designed and built in an era when male was dominant, and they don’t really cater to females. We need to work with Council around how we re-look at these to make them more inclusive. We have many more girls playing rugby and quite a few female district teams training at Hassall Park. We need to look at change rooms to make more appropriate for demographic that use these facilities. Working with Council with that would be fantastic and a good outcome for everyone.”

- A local club



Leasing and renting arrangements are often a challenge for clubs

Stakeholders spoke to the challenges they face around the leasing and renting of facilities. One local club spoke to the cost of lease being a challenge and others noted that the cost of renting or leasing the facilities does not necessarily reflect the quality of the facilities hired in Ku-ring-gai LGA. There are also discrepancies in the experience of local clubs around funding and delivering facility upgrades. One local club also expressed their concern around their ability to make upgrades, and noted that they have found that Council will not allow them to make upgrades, despite the club having the funds available via grants. Another local club reported a different experience, where they stated they were told by Council that they had to upgrade the facility themselves, with their own funding.

We also heard that some sporting clubs also rely on other clubs to rent and lease the fields, and work in partnership with them.

"Women's sport is forgotten in the area; the boys and their facilities are really well looked after and ours aren't. We have facilities with patches from vandalism. We try to get them resurfaced because they are dangerous, and Council just won't do it. Everything they want to do at Ku-ring-gai they want us to pay 100%. They say go and get a grant, but we don't want to be seen as cash cows. Council can at least maintain things a little better than they are right now. We rent for season; we can't get a lease as if you lease you have to maintain them 100% yourself."

- A local club



"Going through licensing arrangements is a challenge. Ku-ring-gai seems to have a different model to other Councils, which makes it challenging. We want to continue to use that facility given our strong historical connection. We have played cricket there for a long time, and it is named after Burt Oldfield who played for Australia and our club. I find it difficult for Council to sit back and go this ground is performing at the level it should be. It should be a jewel in the crown of Ku-ring-gai, and reality is it is not at the moment. Council doesn't have resources to find all improvements that we would like to see. But without Council support, we can't go and do grant applications that would contribute. The club would make contributions as well as grants, but if they don't support an application, makes you sit back and think why am I bothering? Would be a shame to get to the point where we say we can't hire / don't want to hire ground because Council is not prepared to work with us."

- A local club

Availability of grounds is reported as another barrier to participation

Some stakeholders mentioned that the availability of grounds was both a barrier to participation and a challenge for clubs. Many told stories of how ongoing ground closures from wet weather made it hard to retain members. Stakeholders suggested that Ku-ring-gai Council could be more transparent around the closure of grounds during wet weather, but stakeholders also understood the need for balancing the prevention of damage and allowing facilities to be used for their intended purposes. One local club spoke to their need to have access to grounds before the season commences, in order to give members a 'taste' of what their sport entails. The club expressed that this is an important part of their recruitment, but that the grounds are highly booked by summer sports in the lead up to the winter season. Another club also spoke to the lack of facilities available for netball being a barrier for membership. This was echoed by a local association who said there were not enough fields available for the demand of football in the LGA. A local club also noted that scheduling around other sports can sometimes be a challenge.

“Ground availability around the weather events we have just had. It’s a big struggle. We have had a lot of rounds and practices washed out. One thing that impacts us is that we make money through canteen at the Clubhouse and Friday is a big drawcard to make money. If training is washed out or ground is closed... If the sun is out, Hassall Park is still closed. Council needs to look at being more open to what we can do to relax policies around opening the grounds. The primary reason for them to be used is for recreation needs and the reason Council wants to close is to prevent damage, which we understand but there needs to be a balance between preventing damage and allowing Clubs to use the facilities for their intended purpose.”

- A local club



Stakeholders want greater collaboration with Council

Across all interviews, stakeholders expressed an interest in better and increased collaboration with Council. There was a general sentiment across interviews that Ku-ring-gai Council has a reactive, rather than proactive mindset towards recreation. Stakeholders reported that this often means upgrades and new facilities are not created with long-term planning needs in mind. Stakeholders also spoke to feeling as though there are too many people at Council who they have to liaise with, which can be confusing and ineffective as they often do not talk to each other. One idea expressed was for Council to have two meetings per year before each season, with sporting organisations and other stakeholders to discuss needs and to get on the same page.

"Biggest problem we have is the majority is not being listened to, the minority are. Council is bending over too easily to personal needs of Councillors and public members which is a handful of people, as opposed to a full community. We have 80% of our members from Ku-ring-gai Shire. We have 3,000-4,000 people saying we need more help, and then you have a minority of 2-3 and they are the voice that is listened to. It is very upsetting."

- A local club

"If we want to look at getting some improvements done, talk to one person. If we want to talk about the licence agreement, talk to another person. But it seems like they don't talk together."

- A local club

"What we are asking for from Council is an attitude change. We want to see them change from being reactive to proactive in both the short and long term."

- A local club

"From an operational point of view, the lines of communication with Ku-ring-gai Council are good. The maintenance people and booking people we have a positive experience with. From a more strategic perspective, we don't have much engagement. This is one of the first engagements they have asked for Football's opinions, even though we spend four or five hundred grand of fields per year. It would be good for us to not dictate what we want as we understand there are other sports, but to have a seat at the

table to try and help. As an example, two years ago Council was going to upgrade a field that only catered for young children and we only used on Saturday mornings. We asked them to not upgrade that field and instead use that pot of money on a full-sized field which then gets usage throughout the whole weekend. That kind of engagement meant they spend their money better, but it only came from us pushing. If it had been more proactive and they were willing to hear our ideas, we would be receptive to it."

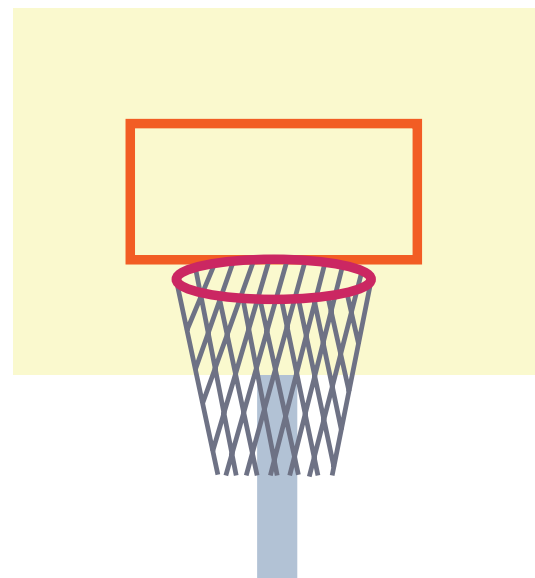
- A local club

Synthetic fields were recognised as an alternative to natural turf fields, but were regarded as not appropriate for all sports

A local association spoke to the role synthetic fields can play in reducing wash out from ongoing wet weather. They noted they would like to see more synthetic fields across the LGA, recognising they can't all be synthetic. However, other sport codes such as rugby and cricket shared their preference for natural grass as synthetic fields often generate a lot of heat, lead to greater injury, and are not as developmentally appropriate for children and young people.

Accessibility is a barrier to participation

Stakeholders reported that some facilities in the LGA have a way to go before they are accessible to people with physical disabilities. One local organisation noted there are children with physical disabilities who would be interested in joining, yet could not, as the field is not accessible and too unsafe for their use.



"One of our biggest barriers is for multi-class athletes, so those who may have a vision impairment or mobility issue. We're very restricted in what we can offer them because of the surface they are on. The surface is very uneven, for anyone with a vision impairment it would be very hard to run at Bannockburn Oval. Getting around facility there, no proper access for kids in wheelchairs or even though with a running frame. We can't offer those, and it is disappointing. There are a large proportion of multi-class athletes in the area, but they cannot participate at Bannockburn."

- A local club

"Unfortunately, our Clubhouse would not be accessible to someone in a wheelchair. One toilet may be able to be used, but it would not be up to modern standards at all."

- A local club



Stakeholders appreciate that Council plays an important role in upgrading and maintaining sport and recreation facilities

Stakeholders agreed that Council should play a more active role in upgrading and maintaining all sport and recreation facilities in the Ku-ring-gai LGA. Many stakeholders also spoke to issues around parking at facilities, and that if community members are unable to easily park or access the facility, they will not sign on to join that club. Stakeholders encouraged Council to look at facilities where parking is a problem and explore innovative solutions. Other stakeholders spoke around the importance of facilities being upgraded to ensure safety for all users. Some stakeholders mentioned that volunteers are starting to feel like “full-time employees” as they try to make the fields usable for their members, particularly after wet weather. Stakeholders believe that Council should play a more active role in this upkeep. Many stakeholders expressed an interest in having more all-weather facilities across the LGA, particularly in light of the recent bout of rainy weather.

“There is a feeling amongst the committee that Council could be doing more for the upkeep of the outer field [at Golden Jubilee] and general areas where people might sit. The back diamond has a lot of trip hazards, and many things that need upkeep. The back diamond looks out over Ku-ring-gai National Park and I would love to take more people out there to play, but it’s just not safe enough, especially older players in the club... Our current clubhouse doesn’t meet the fire safety requirements, it can be locked from the outside and no way out if you’re locked inside. We have tried raising this with Council for them to fix, and they haven’t yet.”

- A local club

Stakeholders feel that having their voice heard benefits planning for recreation and sport facilities

Stakeholders were thankful that Council had given them the opportunity to have their voices heard during this round of engagement. Many spoke about the benefits of recreation planning, including better engagement between Council and sporting organisations, being able to give feedback and getting clarity around Council plans. They also spoke to the importance of Council speaking to community members and organisations on the ground, who have different experiences and insights than those at Council.

“Thank you for valuing our voices as clubs. I think that often as clubs we feel we are in a silo, we are in control of x, y, z. By engaging with us, Council can get a larger cross-section and better understanding of what’s happening.”

- A local club

Partnerships between Council, sporting organisations and schools was often referenced as a 'big' idea by stakeholders

Stakeholders spoke to the role partnerships have, and can play in improving the experience of residents, sporting clubs and other stakeholders in the LGA. Some spoke about their current partnerships with other sporting clubs, that allow for shared space of sporting facilities and reduces the stress of having to book and organise leases themselves. Others spoke to the potential to work with schools and the Department of Education to lease school grounds on weekends. Stakeholders suggested that there is a current program called Share Our Space run by the Department of Education that Council could investigate. A local school spoke about their partnership with a local sporting club, where they share their lease, and in return allow them access to their grounds on a Sunday.

"One of the reasons we play on Sunday is so kids can do school sport on Saturday and come play with us on Sunday. Every season we go to a number of schools, get someone to speak, put up advertisements and contact the sporting department and say we can enhance your kid's sporting experiences through this club."

- A local club

"Why can't there be a secondary dog off leash area, where people can have dog off leash areas while sporting fields are in use? Beautiful forest areas, not about cutting trees but looking at the opportunities. The playground is average, so could you create an area at the opposite end of the pavilion so there was a playground and dog off leash area so people with children and animals can use it. This would provide better balance."

- A local club

"I would love to see spaces created for kids and adults to all feel like they are kids again. That could be through organized sport, bush walks or play... Recreation areas are areas of play and play is about creativity."

- A local club

"From a school perspective, partnerships is something that is very big for us. At the moment, it's a complicated booking process but for example for AFL and the use of Acron Oval, we actually utilise the local junior AFL Club – St Ives Junior AFL Club. They book it for Saturday and Sunday, and we work with them to tap into their booking. Council are aware, but we don't book it with Council. Similarly, with football, on Saturday when we use Council grounds, it's booked in association

with junior football association. That opportunity for partnerships... We are Saturday only sport, so occasions where we use Council ground through junior clubs and in return they can use our grounds for Sunday use. Need to still be conscious of use and overuse, but there are opportunities there for more partnerships. It is working quite well at the moment. They are currently informal, not sure if easier to do this through Council."

- A local club

Best practice case studies

We asked stakeholders to provide ideas around best practice case studies both from within and outside the LGA that could be used as inspiration for Ku-ring-gai open spaces and recreation. Some examples mentioned include:

Pennant Hills Park

Pennant Hills (Hornsby Shire Council)



Source: Hornsby Shire Council

- Tennis, netball courts
- Lots of work has been put into building facilities.

Koola Oval

East Killara (Ku-ring-gai Council)



Source: Ku-ring-gai Council

- Rugby, soccer, cricket, walking and lots of natural grass
- Example of what a great multi-use facility could be in Ku-ring-gai LGA.

Charles Bean

Lindfield (Ku-ring-gai Council)



- A good example of synthetic fields
- The area has two change rooms, a referee change room, disabled toilet and a second level for the community room
- It is multi-purpose and all-weather.

North Turramurra Arena

North Turramurra (Ku-ring-gai Council)



- Repositioned two golf courses to rebuild into soccer fields.

Boronia Park

Hunters Hill (Hunters Hill Council)



- The president of the junior cricket club in this area worked with the Hunters Hill rugby club to get a new community facility at the grounds, there was no financial contribution from Council. The area has change facilities for men and women and a community space Council can rent during the week
- Range of leisure and recreation activities as well as organized sporting uses
- Three full sized sports fields with floodlights, turf cricket wicket and practice nets, sealed and grass netball courts, playground, picnic.

Magdala Park

North Ryde (City of Ryde)



Source: Weekend Notes

- This area has a football field with an attached baseball area, recently updated the drainage so after the rain baseball can still happen.

Flatrock Reserve

Northbridge (Willoughby City Council)



Source: Willoughby Council

- A premier baseball facility with a home run fence.

Auluba Oval

South Turramurra (Ku-ring-gai Council)



Source: Ku-ring-gai Council

- An example of how much people care about their grounds, Kissing Point Baseball Club looks after this oval almost 100%.

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