

WOLLONDILLY SHIRE

COMMUNITY SPORT AND RECREATION NEEDS STRATEGY

SUMMARY REPORT





Acknowledgement^{*}

Wollondilly Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land in Wollondilly, the Dharawal and Gundungurra peoples.

We acknowledge the living culture and spiritual connections to the land for the Dharawal and Gundungurra people and all Aboriginal Nation Groups that may have connections to the area; and that Wollondilly is remarkably placed as the intersection of many tribal lands.

We recognise the traditional Custodians who have occupied and cared for this Country over countless generations and celebrate their continuing contributions to the Shire.

We also acknowledge and remember the Dharawal and Gundungurra peoples who were killed in the Appin Massacre on 17 April 1816.

**We acknowledge our continuing collaboration with the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council*

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Project Background

The Community Sport and Recreation Needs Strategy (the Strategy) provides a framework to guide the development of sport and recreation infrastructure within Wollondilly Shire over the next 10 years. It addresses the challenges of a changing community profile and growing population, the urbanisation of some rural areas, and the pressures on existing community sport and recreation infrastructure.

The intention of the Strategy is to:

- understand the current and future sport and recreation needs of the Shire
- ensure a sound base to advocate for funding and resources from internal and external sources
- supersede the Open Space, Recreation and Community Facilities Strategy, 2014.

It also provides the Shire with a framework by establishing best practice benchmarks and an action plan to meet the needs of the current and future population of the Shire. In alignment with broader goals, it reinforces Council's commitment to achieving 50/50 gender participation in sport locally and gender all-inclusive facilities by 2032.

Note: Community Facilities included in the previous 2014 Strategy are not within the scope of this Strategy.

Project Methodology

The four stage methodology used for this project included:

- Stage 1: Informing
- Stage 2: Preparation
- Stage 3: Draft Community Sport and Recreation Needs Strategy
- Stage 4: Final Community Sport and Recreation Needs Strategy

Regional Context

Wollondilly Shire is situated on the rapidly growing southwestern periphery of the Sydney metropolitan region, situated approximately 75 kilometres from the Sydney CBD. The Shire covers an area of 2,556 square kilometres with an approximate population of 55,801 people (Profile ID 2022 ABS ERP).

There is significant growth forecast for Wilton Growth Area and Appin Growth Area. By 2051 the combined population of these two areas is expected to reach 115,420 people, more than double the current size of Wollondilly LGA.

Therefore, in light of the projected growth of the Shire, strategically positioned local, district, shire-wide, and regional social infrastructure is imperative to facilitate the well-being and social connectivity of its residents.

VISION

“In Wollondilly, we envision a vibrant community where the beauty of our landscape serves as the backdrop for a rich tapestry of sporting and recreational activities. Our vision is anchored by the belief that sport and recreation are not just pastimes but essential elements in fostering physical well-being, social cohesion, and economic development. We strive to create an environment where residents of all ages and abilities have easy access to high-quality and fit for purpose sporting facilities and recreational spaces.”

PLANNING PRECINCTS

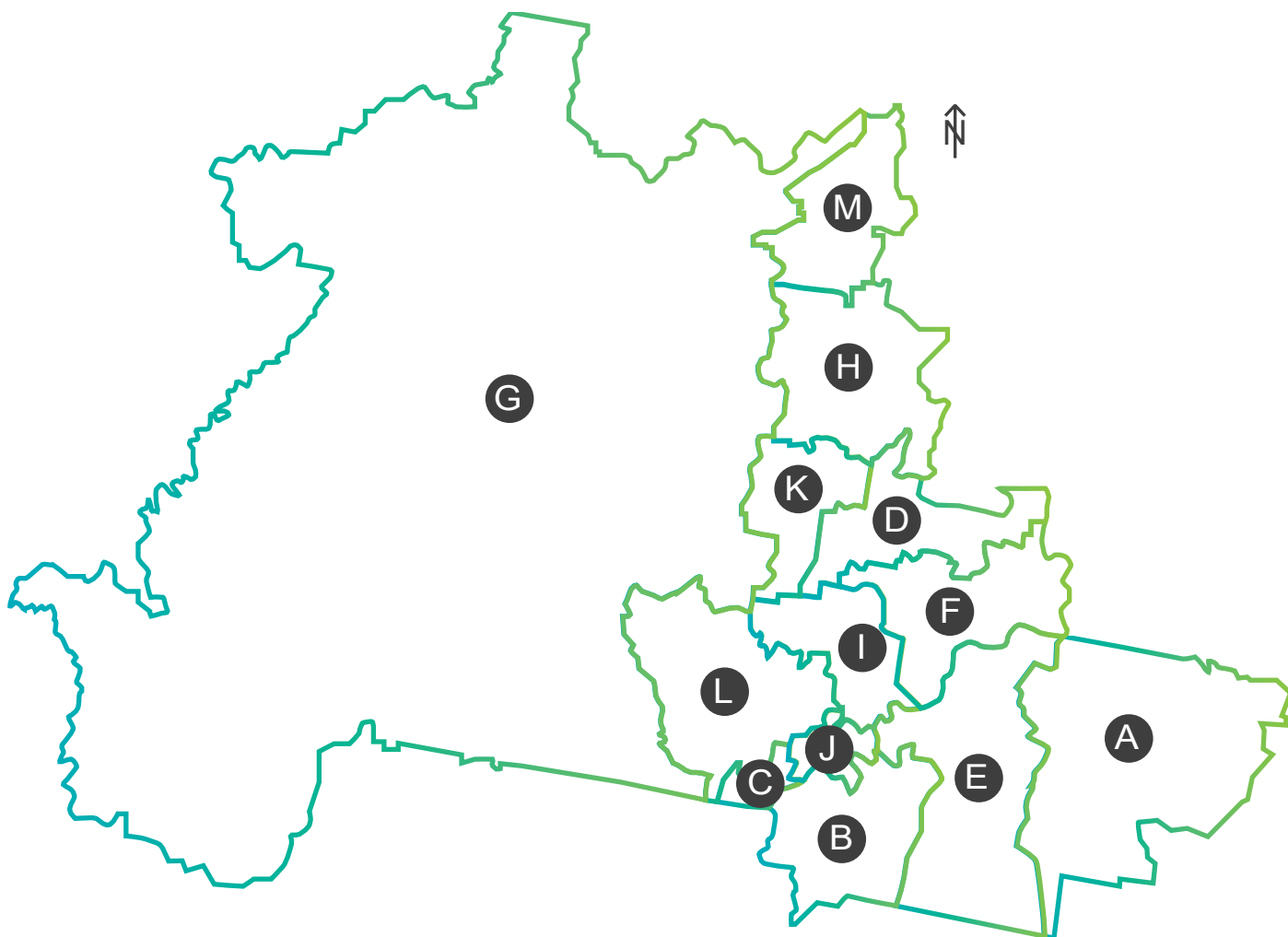
Planning Precincts

To support a comprehensive analysis of sport and recreation facility issues and opportunities across the Shire, 13 'precincts' have been used to categorise geographic areas.

These precincts are aligned with the precincts created by Profile.id which provides data for the region relating to population, demographics, projected growth, economic and social indicators based off the ABS Census.

Disclaimer: In accordance with Resolution 91/2025, the profile.id precinct boundaries have been altered, with Douglas Park now included in Precinct F alongside Menangle – Razorback.

- A** Appin - Cataract - Darkes Forest
- B** Bargo - Yanderra - Pheasants Nest
- C** Buxton – Couridjah
- D** Camden Park - Mount Hunter – Cawdor
- E** Wilton
- F** Menangle – Razorback – Douglas Park
- G** Oakdale - Nattai - National Park
- H** Orangeville - Theresa Park – Werombi
- I** Picton - Mowbray Park – Maldon
- J** Tahmoor
- K** The Oaks - Belimbla Park – Glenmore
- L** Thirlmere – Lakesland
- M** Wallacia - Warragamba – Silverdale



BENEFITS OF SPORT AND RECREATION

Benefits of Australia's Sport Sector

It is well recognised that sport and recreation activities provide social benefits, health benefits and economic benefits. Councils are key contributors through the provision of Council assets, including facilities and playing areas along with the provision of services and support. Without fit for purpose facilities being available, sport and active recreation clubs, groups and community organisations would not be able to exist, grow and prosper.

While the benefits of sport and active recreation are particularly difficult to quantify, significant efforts have been made to quantify and publish the benefits of Australia's sport sector.



Close to **12 million** Australians participate in sport annually



A further **3.4 million** are involved in sport through non-playing roles (volunteering, coaching, officiating, administration)



Sport generates **2-3%** of Australia's gross domestic product



220,000 people are employed across the sports sector

Source: 2019-2022 Corporate Plan, Australian Sports Commission

Value of Community Sport Infrastructure



Community sport infrastructure generates an annual value of more than **\$16.2 billion** to Australia, and **\$6.3 billion** worth of economic benefit

Plus construction, maintenance and operation of community sport infrastructure, **and** increased productivity of those who are physically active as a result of such infrastructure



\$4.9 billion worth of health benefit

Plus personal benefits to those who are less likely to contract a range of health conditions which are known to be associated with physical inactivity

Plus the benefits to the health system from a healthier population

And benefits to the health system from a healthier population



\$5.1 billion worth of social benefit

Plus increased human capital resulting from the social interactions that are facilitated by community sport infrastructure

And the broader community benefits of providing green space



Community sport infrastructure is supported by **56.5 million** hours of volunteer time annually, and is used by **8 million** people annually

Source: The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure (KPMG, 2018)

EXISTING FACILITIES

Facilities Audit

Site audits provided a detailed understanding of the existing sport and recreation facilities across the Shire including their condition, functionality, and key infrastructure. The site audits also helped to verify the key issues and opportunities. The spatial information, data and findings from the field were collected and documented. The additional information gathered from the site audits was then added to the facilities inventory.

A: Appin - Cataract - Darkes Forest	
A1	Appin AIS Sportsground
A2	Appin Park
A3	William Woods Reserve Playground
A4	Heritage Drive Playground
B: Bargo - Yanderra - Pheasants Nest	
B1	Bargo Sportsground
B2	Bargo Community Park Playground
B3	Birralee Park
C: Buxton – Couridjah	
C1	Teloopa Park
D: Camden Park - Mount Hunter – Cawdor	
D1	Cubbitch Barta Reserve
D2	Peppercorn Park Playground
E: Wilton	
E1	Wilton Recreation Reserve
F: Menangle – Razorback - Douglas Park	
F1	Dean McGrath Park Playground
F2	Rotolactor Park Playground
F3	Menangle Old School Site
F4	Douglas Park Sportsground
F5	Camden Road Reserve Playground
G: Oakdale - Nattai - National Park	
G1	Willis Park
G2	Oakdale Community Hall Park
H: Orangeville - Theresa Park – Werombi	
-	No existing facilities



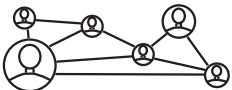


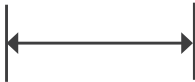
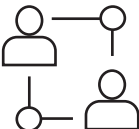



I: Picton - Mowbray Park – Maldon	
I1	Hume Oval
I2	Victoria Park
I3	Picton Sportsground
I4	Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre
I5	Botanic Gardens Playground
I6	Wild Street Playground
I7	Picton RSL Park Playground
J: Tahmoor	
J1	Tahmoor District Sporting Complex
J2	Emmett Park
J3	Ibbotson St Reserve Playground
J4	Tahmoor Community Centre Playground
J5	Progress St Park Playground
J6	The Acres Park
K: The Oaks - Belimbla Park - Glenmore	
K1	Dudley Chesham Sportsground
K2	Browns Rd Reserve Playground
K3	W.S Williams Park Playground
K4	Gundungurra Park Playground
K5	Harold Noakes Park Playground
K6	Barrallier Park Water Play Facility
K7	Fisher Street Playground
L: Thirlmere – Lakesland	
L1	Thirlmere Sportsground (including Thirlmere Memorial Park)
M: Wallacia - Warragamba – Silverdale	
M1	Warragamba Sportsground
M2	Warragamba Swimming Pool (Mary Walker Memorial Swimming Pool)
M3	Warragamba Waterboard Oval (including Warragamba Recreation Reserve)
M4	Dunbar St Reserve Playground
M5	Eugenie Byrne Park Playground
M6	Lake Victoria Way Playground
M7	Warragamba Civic Park Playground

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Consultation Findings

The objective was to ensure that the community and key stakeholders had the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Community Sport & Recreation Needs Strategy, and to ensure that the values and aspirations of the community and stakeholders are reflected. The themes which emerged from the consultation processes are outlined below with regards to key positive feedback and key issues.

Positive Themes

-  Appreciation of natural landscape (bush setting, rural).
-  Accessibility and location of facilities.
-  Community and social benefits.
-  Success of recent upgrades to facilities.
-  Facility components tailored to each site.
-  Wide range of activities and facilities.
-  Club relationships, participating in mutually supportive endeavours.
-  Increase in female participation in non-traditional sports.
-  Organisation and management provided by volunteers.
-  Friendly environments created by clubs and user groups.

Key Issues

-  Increasing population (i.e. Wilton and Appin Growth Areas)
-  Restrictions in new growth areas (i.e. topography, land size)
-  Need for new facility developments to meet future demand (i.e. multi-use precincts & indoor sports facilities)
-  Challenges relating to ageing or poorly designed facilities
-  Insufficient capacity at particular existing sport and recreation facilities
-  Lack of all access and female friendly community sport facilities
-  Programs not meeting community demand (incl. sports on the rise)
-  Travel to neighbouring LGA's to access particular sport and recreation opportunities
-  Climate impacts (i.e. sportsground closures due to drainage)
-  Maintenance demands and required upgrades
-  Increasing pressures on volunteers
-  Unable to cater for sports tourism (i.e. limit accommodation)

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

Community Sport and Recreation Planning Principles

The planning principles outlined below have been developed based on community aspirations and industry best-practice, to guide the development and management of sport and active recreation across the Shire. The planning principles underpin the Strategy and Action Plan.



STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Overview

The Strategy and Implementation Plan for developing sport and active recreation across the Shire is summarised over the following pages. Each of the components of sport and active recreation planning have been addressed through a series of strategies and actions, which are guided by the planning principles, and strive to achieve the vision.

Within the full version of the Strategy report, each specific strategy is provided with a supporting rationale and a series of actions with corresponding timeframes, partners and estimated resource requirements.

The Strategy and Implementation Plan has been prepared with the intention of remaining flexible to adapt to dynamic influences such as community needs, funding opportunities, technological advances and delivery of infrastructure by external parties.

Focus Area

Planning for sport and active recreation is multifaceted and interrelated. Consideration needs to be given to the three major components of planning: facilities, clubs and service providers; and programs and events which are detailed below. These components cannot be considered in isolation.



Facilities



Clubs and Service Providers



Programs and Events

Timeframes

Timeframes for each action within the full Strategy report have been identified using the following scale:

- Short (2025 – 2031)
- Medium (2032– 2036)
- Long (2037 - 2040)
- Extended Term (2041 – 2050+)
- Ongoing.

Resources & Partners

Implementation of the Strategy and Implementation Plan will require significant resources from Council and its partners including state and federal government, schools, state sporting organisations, associations, clubs, community groups and the private sector including developers. There has been no financial commitment from the Council to implement the actions identified and relevant actions will be considered as part of normal annual business planning/budgeting and long-term financial planning processes.

The Strategy and Implementation Plan within the full Strategy report provides the following indicative financial resource requirements:

- Low (\$0 – \$500,000)
- Medium (\$500,000 – \$5,000,000)
- High (\$5,000,000+).

TAHMOOR DISTRICT SPORT

FOCUS AREA 1 -
FACILITIES

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Growth Areas

Strategically plan for and locate shire-wide, district, local sport and recreation facilities to meet the significant growth anticipated in Wilton and Appin, to maximise community participation and to encourage active lifestyles.

Strategy 1: Wilton Growth Area

No	Action
1.1	Shire-wide Indoor Recreation Centre (Sports Courts and Aquatic Centre): Plan towards and deliver a Shire-wide Indoor Recreation Centre (Sports Courts and Aquatic Centre).
1.2	District double sportsfields: Plan towards and deliver x6 District double sportsfields.
1.3	Local multipurpose outdoor courts: Plan towards and deliver x27 local multipurpose outdoor courts.
1.4	Outdoor fitness stations: Plan towards and deliver x4 local outdoor fitness stations.
1.5	Shire-wide playground: Plan towards and deliver a Shire-wide playground.
1.6	District playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x4 District playgrounds.
1.7	Local playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x 22 Local playgrounds.
1.8	Shire-wide youth precinct: Plan towards and deliver x1 Shire-wide youth precinct.
1.9	Local youth precincts: Undertake a Feasibility Study to consider the viability and implementation of x5 Local youth precincts.
1.10	Parks: Plan towards and deliver x34 parks.
1.11	Planning Alignment: Identify the planning pathway to amending the Wilton Structure Plan to align this strategy with the existing structure plan and any resourcing implications (Resolution 91/2025).
1.12	Rugby League Precinct: Investigate in consultation with relevant Rugby League Clubs the planning and establishment of a District Level Rugby League precinct at Wilton (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 2: Appin Growth Area

No	Action
2.1	District Indoor Recreation Centre (sports courts and aquatic centre): Plan towards and deliver a District Indoor Recreation Centre (sports courts and aquatic centre).
2.2	Double sportsfields: Plan towards and deliver x8 District double sportsfields.
2.3	Multipurpose outdoor courts: Plan towards and deliver x42 local multipurpose outdoor courts.
2.4	Outdoor fitness stations: Plan towards and deliver x6 Local outdoor fitness stations.
2.5	District playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x5 District playgrounds.
2.6	Local playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x34 Local playgrounds.
2.7	Local youth precincts: Plan towards and deliver x6 Local youth precincts.
2.8	Parks: Plan towards and deliver x40 parks.

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Existing Facilities

Ensure that Wollondilly Shire Council offers a balanced network of sport and recreation facilities across its towns and rural localities through provision of strategically distributed, quality and diverse regional, district and local-level facilities.

Strategy 3: Appin - Cataract - Darkes Forest

No	Action
3.1	Appin AIS Sportsground: Prepare a staged master plan for the AIS Sportsground to guide the short, medium and long-term provision of high-quality, local level sport and recreation facilities.
3.2	Appin Park: Implement, in stages, the Appin Park Master Plan (2019).
3.3	Playspaces: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging or outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
3.4	New Sport and Recreation Infrastructure - Implement additional local, district, shire-wide and regional sport and recreation infrastructure.

Strategy 4: Bargo - Yanderra - Pheasants Nest

No	Action
4.1	Bargo Sportsground: Prepare a staged master plan for the Bargo Sportsground to guide the short, medium and long-term provision of high-quality, local level sport and recreation facilities.
4.2	Playspaces: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
4.3	Playspace: Investigate establishment of a new east Bargo park through acquiring land or through establishing a strategic partnership with NSW Department of Education to upgrade the existing playground to cater to the school students and community on the eastern side of the railway (Resolution 91/2025).
4.4	Berrico Park: Embellish Berrico Park, Bargo as a local park (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 5: Buxton – Couridjah

No	Action
5.1	Telopea Park: Retain and maintain the Telopea Park. Including formalisation of the car parking arrangements as per the masterplan (Resolution 91/2025).

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Existing Facilities

Strategy 6: Camden Park - Mount Hunter – Cawdor

No	Action
6.1	Playspaces: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
6.2	Cubbitch Barta Reserve: Retain and maintain the courts (tennis and multi-purpose) at Cubbitch Barta Reserve to cater to the recreational needs of the local community.

Strategy 7: Wilton

No	Action
7.1	Wilton Recreation Reserve: Implement, in stages, the remaining Wilton Recreation Reserve Landscape Master Plan (2016) which includes Hannaford Oval Sportsfield renovations and improvement.
7.2	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
7.3	New Sport and Recreation Infrastructure - Implement additional local, district, Shire-wide sport and recreation infrastructure. Refer to Strategy 1.

Strategy 8: Menangle – Razorback – Douglas Park

No	Action
8.1	Menangle Old School Site: Continue to implement the Menangle Old School Site for optimised activation of this site for the benefit of the community.
8.2	Douglas Park Sportsground: Continue to implement, in stages, the Douglas Park Sportsground Landscape Master Plan (2021) with the intention to review at expiry.
8.3	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
8.4	Multi-purpose court: Plan towards and deliver x1 multi-purpose court in future development areas areas (Resolution 91/2025).
8.5	Razorback Lookout: In consultation with the community, explore opportunities to develop the site as a tourism stop and potentially as an area for passive recreation.
8.6	Sportsfields: Plan towards and deliver additional sportsfields (Resolution 91/2025).
8.7	Nepean River Reserve: Investigate pedestrian linkage to the existing Nepean River Reserve providing local access to natural swimming facilities (Resolution 91/2025).
8.8	Douglas Park Causeway (“Archies Crossing”): Investigate a strategy for Douglas Park Causeway (‘Archies Crossing”) at Douglas Park to improve access and safety to natural swimming and recreation facilities (Resolution 91/2025).

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Existing Facilities

Strategy 9: Oakdale - Nattai - National Park

No	Action
9.1	Willis Park: Continue with progressive facility enhancements at Willis Park (i.e. carpark, driveway) to foster community pride.
9.2	Oakdale Community Hall Park: In consultation with the community and user groups, review the function of the Oakdale Community Hall Park and ensure that a strategic direction is provided for this facility to meet the needs of the community. Accommodate for flexible use and diversification of programs for further activation of the facility. Including delivery of the new hall and prioritise any outstanding embellishments for the site, like parking, should it be needed in the future (Resolution 91/2025).
9.3	Council Owned Land: Identify and investigate the embellishment of the council owned land adjacent to Braycharlo Estate to a local level park (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 10: Orangeville - Theresa Park – Werombi

No	Action
10.1	Future facility requirements: Continue to monitor sport and active recreation needs in the area to determine any future facility requirements.

Strategy 11 : Picton - Mowbray Park – Maldon

No	Action
11.1	Hume Oval Precinct Master Plan: Implement, in stages, the Picton Parklands Master Plan (2022).
11.2	Victoria Park: Prepare a staged master plan for the Victoria Park to guide enhancement.
11.3	Picton Sportsground: Implement, in stages, the Picton Parklands – Plan of Management and Master Plan (2022).
11.4	Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre: Investigate the feasibility of developing a multi-purpose outdoor court at the Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre.
11.5	Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre: Develop and implement an asset management plan for the Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre.
11.6	Redbank Reserve: Implement the Redbank Reserve Master Plan (2022) with consideration for integrating youth-orientated elements.
11.7	Local Youth Precinct: Plan towards and deliver x1 local youth precinct (skate/bmx)
11.8	Local playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x2 Local playgrounds
11.9	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
11.10	Antill Park Country Golf Club: Retain and continue to develop a strategic partnership framework with the private management provider to enhance the overall value and impact of the Antill Park Golf Club for the community.

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Existing Facilities

Strategy 12: Tahmoor

No	Action
12.1	Tahmoor District Sporting Complex: Continue with the enhancements at Tahmoor District Sporting Complex for activation at the district-level, as well as to support the attraction of competitions and events.
12.2	Tahmoor District Sporting Complex: Retain and maintain the provision of Reserve R56019 to meet the needs of the Tahmoor Riding for the Disabled and Pony Club Facility now and into the future.
12.3	The Acres Park: Retain and maintain The Acres Park.
12.4	Multi-purpose court: Plan towards and deliver x1 multi-purpose court.
12.5	Emmett Park: Retain and maintain Emmett Park.
12.6	Multi-purpose court: Plan towards and deliver x1 multi-purpose court.
12.7	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.
12.8	District Park: Plan towards and deliver a potential District Park at Tahmoor Park (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 13: The Oaks - Belimbla Park – Glenmore

No	Action
13.1	Dudley Chesham Sportsground: Implement, in stages, the Dudley Chesham Sportsground Master Plan (2019).
13.2	Multi-purpose court: Plan towards and deliver x2 multi-purpose courts.
13.3	Barrallier Park Water Play Facility: Implement a comprehensive maintenance plan to uphold the facility's functionality and safety standards.
13.4	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement. Playgrounds exist at the following locations

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Existing Facilities

Strategy 14: Thirlmere – Lakesland

No	Action
14.1	Thirlmere Sportsground: Implement, in stages, the Memorial Park & Thirlmere Sportsground Master Plan (2024)
14.2	Outdoor fitness equipment: Plan towards and deliver x1 outdoor fitness equipment. Refer to Strategy 14.1
14.3	Multi-purpose court: Plan towards and deliver x2 multi-purpose courts. Refer to Strategy 14.1
14.4	Local Youth Precinct: Plan towards and deliver x1 local youth precinct (skate/bmx): Refer to Strategy 14.1
14.5	Memorial Park: Implement, in stages, the Memorial Park & Thirlmere Sportsground Master Plan (2024)
14.6	Local playgrounds: Plan towards and deliver x2 Local playgrounds

Strategy 15: Wallacia - Warragamba – Silverdale

No	Action
15.1	Warragamba Swimming Pool (Mary Walker Memorial Swimming Pool): Develop and implement an asset management plan for the Warragamba Swimming Pool.
15.2	Warragamba Swimming Pool (Mary Walker Memorial Swimming Pool): Implement, Warragamba Sportsground Master Plan swimming pool long term 10-20 year cycle pool refurbishment.
15.3	Warragamba Recreation Reserve & Warragamba Sportsground: Implement, in stages the Warragamba Open Space Master Plan.
15.4	Playspace: Retain and maintain the provision of playspaces, including regular assessments of existing equipment to identify aging our outdated installations. Prioritise the timely replacement of aging playground equipment with modern, trend-aligned installations to enhance safety, improve accessibility and enhance user engagement.

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Non-Council owned or Managed Facilities

Strategy 16: Non Council Owned or Managed Facilities

Support the continued provision of high-quality sport and recreation facilities at non-council owned/ managed venues, contributing to a balanced network across Wollondilly Shire Council.

No	Action
16.1	School Infrastructure: Establish a strategic partnership with the NSW Department of Education (School Infrastructure) to develop shared use recreational and sports facilities in new and expanding areas, such as Appin and Wilton.
16.2	Non-Council owned or Managed Facilities: Support and encourage the continued provision of high quality sport and recreation facilities which are used and valued by the community, host events and encourage active lifestyles.
16.3	Private Gyms, Fitness Centres and Independent Studios: Continue to support the provision of high-quality, commercially viable gyms, fitness centres, yoga, Pilates and dance studios to facilitate active lifestyles for the growing population.
16.4	National Parks and Conservation Areas: Work collaboratively with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services and other key stakeholders to promote the regions trail opportunities relating to walking, running, mountain biking, horse riding and canoe/kayaking.

FOCUS AREA 1 - FACILITIES

Research and Planning

Strategy 17: Research and Planning

Strategically research and plan for the continued progression of sport and recreation across the Wollondilly Shire Council area to ensure the provision of a balanced network of facilities to meet the needs of current and future populations.

No	Action
17.1	Community Facilities: Prepare a Community Facilities Strategy to strategically plan for future infrastructure needs and programming, encompassing the aspects related to community facilities outlined in the Open Space, Recreation and Community Facilities Strategy (2014)
17.2	Hierarchical Provision of Facilities: Where opportunities arise, align facilities with strategic hierarchies/directions identified by state sporting organisations.
17.3	Master Plans: Continue to prepare master plans to guide the development and enhancement of sport and recreation precincts.
17.4	Integration with Strategic Plans: Ensure that strategic direction for sport and recreation is integrated into Council's suite of strategic planning documents and implemented accordingly, for example Wollondilly 2033 – Community Strategic Plan 2022/23 – 2032/33.
17.5	Parks Hierarchy Plan: Develop a Parks Hierarchy Plan as a strategic framework to guide the current and future provision and services of parks and open space across the Wollondilly region. Incorporate the delivery of unique architectural playgrounds, design aspects and destination playgrounds like Wadanggari Park, Sydney and Bradbury Park, Brisbane. Review Council's land register to ensure all parks and recreation areas are captured when developing the Parks Hierarchy Plan (Resolution 91/2025).
17.6	Playspace and Outdoor Fitness Strategy: Review the distribution of playspaces and outdoor fitness equipment across the Wollondilly region to ensure a strategic direction.
17.7	Recreational Trails Strategy: Prepare a Wollondilly Regional Recreational Trails Strategy to strategically plan for the enhancement of existing trails and the development of new trails across the region, assessing opportunities relating to walking, mountain biking, horse riding and canoe/kayaking.
17.8	Strategic Facility Planning Training: Support and encourage clubs and service providers to prepare strategic facility plans. Consider introducing the requirement for business/facility plans to be prepared and submitted by the lessee/club when seeking future facility leases and for major funding applications through Council.
17.9	Healthy and Inclusive Cultures: Promote active and healthy lifestyle choices across all sport and recreation providers (i.e. responsible alcohol consumption, healthy eating) to encourage community involvement and facilitate a healthy, inclusive culture.
17.10	Employment Lands: In cases where proposed zoning leads to new major employment generating developments, ensure the provision of local sport, recreation and amenities for workers.
17.11	Facilities Design Manual: Prepare a Facilities Design Manual to provide guidelines and best practice for construction of future infrastructure needs and the renewal of existing facilities. Encompassing aspects such as but not limited to preferred equipment, provision of amenities, landscaping and fencing.



**FOCUS AREA 2 -
CLUBS AND SERVICE
PROVIDERS**

FOCUS AREA 2 - CLUBS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Strategy 18: Women in Sport

Implement measures to promote gender inclusivity and enhance accessible sporting facilities and initiatives across the Shire, aiming to achieve to achieve equal participation opportunities with a balanced 50/50 gender participation ratio in local sports and Council facilities.

No	Action
18.1	Gender All-inclusive: Facilitate the continuous development and improvement of sport and recreation facilities to establish gender all-inclusive and accessible environments
18.2	Female Representation: Implement initiatives to ensure that the Sportsground Volunteer Engagement Panels achieve a minimum of 50% female representation in their next election cycle.
18.3	Fees and Charges: Update the fees and charges and hire policies.
18.4	Marketing Campaign: Continue to promote and celebrate female athletes and their achievements, aiming to inspire increased participation among girls and women in sport.
18.5	Training Programs: Encourage and work with state and national bodies to consider providing localised, cost effective training programs tailored for women and girls (Resolution 91/2025).
18.6	Annual Progress Review: Report annually on progress towards Council's goal of all-inclusive facilities and 50/50 participation in sport (Resolution 91/2025).
18.7	All-inclusive Facilities Audit: Conduct and audit and provide a report to Council on the current state of gender all-inclusive facilities and a recommended priority works list to be incorporated in the Capital Works Program (Resolution 91/2025).
18.8	Future Sports Demand Analysis: Periodically assess participation rates and demand for sports not yet catered for in Wollondilly, like Hockey and ensure early planning is considered for their needs (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 19: Advanced Technology

Adopt strategic IT implementations to enhance operational efficiency, improve customer service, and increase financial viability of all of Council's sport and recreation facilities.

No	Action
19.1	Incorporate Advanced Technology: Integrate state of the art technology solutions.
19.2	Enhance Customer Experience: Continue to support and improve the existing online booking system, facility reservations and program registration platform to further enhance user convenience.
19.3	Sustainability: Integrate eco-friendly technologies, such as solar panels and water tanks.
19.4	Enhancing Access: Locate access keys where feasible in local towns and villages for better customer experience in the short term and to investigate and implement keyless facilities and improved online booking systems in the medium to long term (Resolution 91/2025).
19.5	Asset Protection: To install CCTV Cameras where antisocial behaviour or high value assets require additional surveillance (Resolution 91/2025).

FOCUS AREA 2 - CLUBS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Strategy 20: Governance, Training & Development

Support training and development opportunities for volunteers and administrators of sport and recreation clubs, associations and service providers to continually improve their governance and management.

No	Action
20.1	Sports Operational Meetings: Continue to facilitate Sports Forum on a biannual basis to discuss and proactively improve day to day operations and functions unique to a sport.
20.2	Training and Development: Support members of the Wollondilly region volunteering community to upskill and attend relevant training courses which enhance the operations of sport and recreation clubs and build upon community-based leadership capacity. This may include training in subjects such as strategic facility planning, child protection requirements, recruitment, retention and management of volunteers, event planning, financial management, risk management and governance.
20.3	Club Accreditation: Encourage all sport and recreation clubs to become accredited with relevant schemes such as Good Sports, Football's National Club Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) or Rugby League's Blue Shield Program and She Hoops, which encourage good governance, and safe and inclusive environments which maximise community participation.
20.4	Healthy and Inclusive Cultures: Promote active and healthy lifestyle choices across all sport and recreation providers (i.e. responsible alcohol consumption, healthy eating) to encourage community involvement and facilitate a healthy, inclusive culture.

Strategy 21: Volunteering

Assist clubs and service providers in developing and maintaining strong volunteer bases

No	Action
21.1	Volunteer Recognition and Awards: Recognise and honour volunteers in sport and recreation by enhancing the celebrations during National Volunteer Week (20-26 May). Additionally, maintain the tradition of hosting the Citizen of the Year awards ceremony to acknowledge outstanding contributions by sport and recreation volunteers, such as administrators, coaches and officials
21.2	Volunteer Webpage: Update the Volunteering on Wollondilly webpage regularly to provide current information that connects individuals with training opportunities and volunteer position available in compatible organisations.
21.3	Volunteer Training Courses: Support members of the Wollondilly region volunteering community to upskill and attend relevant training courses which enhance the operations of sport and recreation clubs and build upon community based leadership capacity.

FOCUS AREA 2 - CLUBS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Strategy 22: Partnerships

Foster partnerships with sport and recreation clubs, associations, service providers, schools, other Local Governments, state and federal governments to develop and provide sporting opportunities in the Wollondilly region.

No	Action
22.1	Establish and Maintain Partnerships: Establish and maintain partnerships with national and state peak bodies, private industry, government, non-government organisations, health and education bodies to enhance club development and participation. (i.e. advocate during the early stages of planning projects to integrate sport and recreation infrastructure into the overall project design)
22.2	Regional Sport and Active Recreation Council: Regularly meet with staff responsible for sport and recreation planning from other local government areas (i.e. Camden, Wingecarribee, Wollongong) to discuss and collaborate on regional sport and recreation matters
22.3	SSO Regional Strategic Plans: Encourage state sporting organisation's (SSOs) to formulate and distribute strategic plans for the advancement of their sports within the region.
22.4	Cross-Sport Member Attraction: Support and encourage clubs and service providers to collaborate with other sports to attract members across different sports seasons, particularly those that complement each other in winter and summer.



FOCUS AREA 3 -
**PROGRAMS AND
EVENTS**

FOCUS AREA 3 - PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Strategy 23: Events

Actively seek opportunities to host sport and recreation events in Wollondilly and support organisers to maximise the associated economic benefits.

No	Action
23.1	Events Strategy: Seek strategic opportunities to host and support sport and recreation events in Wollondilly, aiming to enhance community engagement and economic benefits.
23.2	Events Inventory: Compile and promote a comprehensive events inventory and promote on Council's website & visit Wollondilly. Collaborate with neighbouring regions if feasible to promote regional event coordination.
23.3	Partnership Development: Establish and nurture partnerships with local organisations, clubs, and regional event organisers to secure hosting rights for a variety of sport and recreation events.
23.4	Operational Support: Provide operational support to sport service providers such as expertise in training, marketing and event management to support service providers to deliver successful events, programs and services across the Wollondilly region.
23.5	Data Collection and Analysis: Collect data relating to significant sport and recreation events to allow for retrospective analysis of the economic impacts to the regional economy, and to inform projections for future events.

Strategy 24: Communication

Develop a range of informative and innovative communication initiatives to keep the community engaged and informed about sport and recreation opportunities in the Wollondilly region.

No	Action
24.1	Sport and Recreation Contacts: Ensure that a comprehensive database of sport and recreation clubs and organisations is kept up to date to support club development, club sustainability and ongoing relationships. Ensure that contact details are routinely updated.
24.2	Sport and Recreation Webpage: Further develop and continually maintain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data.wollondilly https://data.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/pages/parks-sportsgrounds/ Council's web page
24.3	Marketing and Promotion: Continue to market and promote sport and recreation opportunities and programs to the community.

FOCUS AREA 3 - PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Strategy 25: Resourcing

Obtain the necessary resources to effectively coordinate the implementation of the Community Sport and Recreation Needs Strategy.

No	Action
25.1	Budget Allocations: Ensure ongoing budget allocations for Council's Parks and Recreation Division to support the implementation of the Community Sport and Recreation Needs Strategy.
25.2	Grant Information Sessions: Provide education and information sessions for sport and recreation organisations regarding best-practice for accessing grant funding. This may be linked with training courses relating to governance (Refer to Action 20.2)
25.3	Support for Funding Applications: Provide letters of support to community organisations for funding applications which align with the vision and principles of this Strategy.
25.4	Developer Contribution Implementation: Develop and implement a formal approach to engage with developers to secure contributions (facilities) for implementing infrastructure benchmarks (i.e. Refer Strategy 1 & 2 Appin and Wilton Growth Areas)
25.5	Private Investment and Commercial Partnerships: Explore options for private investment and commercial partnerships for the continued provision of high-quality sport and recreation opportunities across the region.
25.6	Strategy Monitoring and Review: Include a minor review every 4 years and a major review every 8 years and prior to any review of the Wollondilly Contributions plan (Resolution 91/2025).

Strategy 26: Accessibility and Inclusion

Improve the accessibility of sport and active recreation opportunities for all members of the community.

No	Action
26.1	Introductory Activities: Support clubs and service providers who conduct 'Come n Try' days and similar participation events on a regular basis for both children and adults. Encourage integration with clubs and service providers to provide ongoing participation opportunities and encourage a noncompetitive environment to encourage new participants.
26.2	Third Party Initiatives: Support programs and initiatives which are facilitated by other organisations (e.g., the Active and Creative Kids Vouchers facilitated by Service NSW) to encourage the breaking down of barriers which prevent community members from participating in sport and recreation. Encourage clubs, service providers and schools to cross-promote such initiatives.
26.3	Targeted Programs: Support the delivery of sport and active recreation events, programs and services which target people who are not currently participating in sport and recreation, or leading healthy and active lifestyles.
26.4	Modified Activities: Support service providers with the provision of modified versions of sport and active recreation activities to encourage maximum community participation.
26.5	All Abilities: Ensure that all new sport and recreation facilities are accessible to all people, and that a program of works is established to adapt existing facilities to be inclusive.
26.6	Transport: Explore the feasibility of a Regional Sport and Recreation Transport Network, potentially volunteer-operated, to support people living in outlying areas to access sport and recreation facilities, programs and events.
26.7	Flexible Use: Ensure that sport and active recreation facilities and spaces are accessible to the community for casual/informal participation, as well as organised sport.
26.8	Active Transport Network: Develop an Active Transport network plan to connect sportsgrounds and town centres, facilities, and other transport nodes (Resolution 91/2025).



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