



Central Coast Council Open Space Plan



Parks & Playgrounds
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION



**CENTRAL COAST
COUNCIL**

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Definition of Terms

Access way/Trail	Primarily an off road trail/green corridor path, link or walkway between streets/ neighbourhoods and areas of public open space.
Buffer	Areas of open space retained as such to provide a buffer between industry, hazardous areas, transport routes, or significant sites and residential areas. May also be steep areas subject to landslip, or unsuitable for building.
Cemetery/Remembrance	Areas dedicated to the memory of people or events.
Civic gathering/Forecourt	Outdoor areas or forecourts associated with an indoor facility used for civic or community occasions, presentation and social recreation or relaxation.
Community horticulture	Areas dedicated to horticultural or agricultural recreation activities, such as community garden plots.
Condition assessment	Condition and performance information supports decision making and is critical to the management of risks and performance in achieving service standards. Condition data is used to determine the need and timing of some preventative or remedial action to prevent loss of service or economic life.
Conservation of cultural heritage	Areas dedicated to the protection, or interpretation of indigenous cultural heritage or European settlement.
Customer levels of service	A customer level of service is how the customer receives or experiences the service. Generally used in public documents and aimed at the layperson.
Drainage	Areas of open space designated for drainage/water quality treatment functions, floodway or retardation.
Flora/Fauna conservation	Areas protected and managed for the significance of the flora and fauna. May include recreational opportunities associated with interpreting these features.
Lookout	Areas dedicated to viewing scenery, or the protection of view sheds and skylines.
Maintenance	Regular ongoing day-to-day work necessary to keep assets operational, e.g. road patching.
New	Creation of a new asset to meet additional service level requirements, e.g. new building, new footpath etc.
Operations	Regular activities to provide public health, safety, and amenity, e.g. street sweeping, grass mowing, street lighting.
Public Open Space	Means space for public recreation or public gardens or for similar purposes as defined in Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993.
Relaxation/Contemplation	Parklands dedicated to relaxation, contemplation, and escape, with no dedicated facilities other than seats, paths, viewing areas, interpretative signage etc.
Renewal/Refurbishment	Restores, rehabilitates, replaces existing asset to its original capacity.
Passive Recreation	Areas that provide opportunities for a range of age groups typically catering for play, picnics, casual hard court and kick-to-kick ball games, path activities, dog exercise, relaxation and possibly environmental activities.
Technical level of service	A level of service is defined as what the organisation does to deliver the service. Support customer measures and used internally to measure performance.
Upgrades/Improvements	Enhances existing asset to provide higher levels of service, e.g. widen road, widen seal.
Visual amenity	Usually, small areas of open space designed to provide visual relief from urban surroundings and enhance amenity of streetscapes. They may also help to meet tree canopy goals.
Water-based recreation	Areas principally designed to support water-based recreation activities such as fishing and boating.

1. Introduction

The provision of open space – including parks, playgrounds, and recreation areas – is essential for fostering a healthy and active community. These spaces serve as long-term assets that support passive recreation and contribute to the well-being of residents.

The objectives for the development of open spaces, parks, and play areas include:

- Promoting a sense of place and community across all age groups
- Providing opportunities for social interaction in appropriate settings and times
- Enhancing local character and defining the landscape identity
- Establishing focal points that connect and unify the community

Central Coast is distinguished by its diverse open spaces, ranging from regional and precinct parks – such as Fairway Park, Bicentennial Park, and Hiscutt Park – to smaller local open spaces integrated within residential neighbourhoods.

In 2024, the Council launched its 10-year municipal plan *Our Place – Our Future: The Strategic Plan* (hereafter *The Plan*), which defines the Council’s strategic direction. This plan was shaped through extensive community engagement and places residents at the core of future development.

As part of formulating *The Plan*, a locality analysis was conducted to assess:

- Existing open space provision and spatial distribution
- Opportunities to enhance access and supply across Central Coast

This Open Space Plan (OSP) has been developed in alignment with *The Plan* and the following complementary strategies:

- Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan
- Vegetation Management Strategy
- Greening Central Coast Strategy
- Footpath Asset Management Plan
- Building Asset Management Plan
- Playground Policy
- Public Open Space Contribution Policy
- Climate Change Policy
- Public Open Space Policy

The OSP outlines Council’s strategic direction for the

planning and management of the public open space network from 2025 to 2035, encompassing playgrounds, parks, gardens, and pedestrian linkages. It aims to ensure that the quantity and quality of open space continues to meet community expectations.

Key Components of the OSP

1. Classification hierarchy based on catchment scale and functional use
2. Standards for supply, including quantity benchmarks and accessibility distances
3. Supply and demand analysis to identify current provision levels and service gaps
4. Action Plan outlining implementation and improvement priorities



2. Open Space Strategic Context

The development of *Our Place – Our Future: The Strategic Plan* aligns with strategic planning frameworks across state, regional, and local levels. This section outlines how these frameworks inform open space planning within Central Coast.

State-Level Vision

Tasmania's Resource Management and Planning System sets the foundation for statewide open space policy. It defines a vision for Tasmania's open space network:

"Tasmania will have a diverse, comprehensive and sustainable open space system, providing health and well-being, environmental, sport and recreation, social, and economic benefits. The Tasmanian open space system will be developed and managed in response to the needs of the community and visitors, whilst respecting our unique environment."

Regional Strategy

At the regional level, the Cradle Coast Open Space Plan provides planning guidance across nine municipal councils, including Central Coast. A key goal of the plan is to:

"Provide quality open spaces that offer diverse recreation opportunities and enhance the viability of infrastructure."

To achieve this, the plan advocates for increased investment, clustering and co-location of amenities, and targeted development to better serve diverse age groups and elevate the function of local spaces.

Local Framework & Contemporary Direction

Locally, strategic decision-making has evolved. While previously guided by the Strategic Framework for Settlement and Investment, Council now references *Our Homes – Our Future: Central Coast Housing*

Strategy as its primary framework for residential and associated infrastructure planning.

This housing strategy:

- Provides structure plans for key townships including Ulverstone, Penguin, Forth, and Preservation Bay
- Integrates housing, land use, infrastructure, and community development
- Reinforces the need for accessible and inclusive open space linked to residential planning
- Aligns with broader sustainability and urban design goals
- It emphasizes the importance of integrating open spaces with:
 - Natural features such as rivers, wetlands, and parklands
 - Educational and community services
 - Retail and commercial facilities
 - Sporting infrastructure
 - Cycleways and walkability

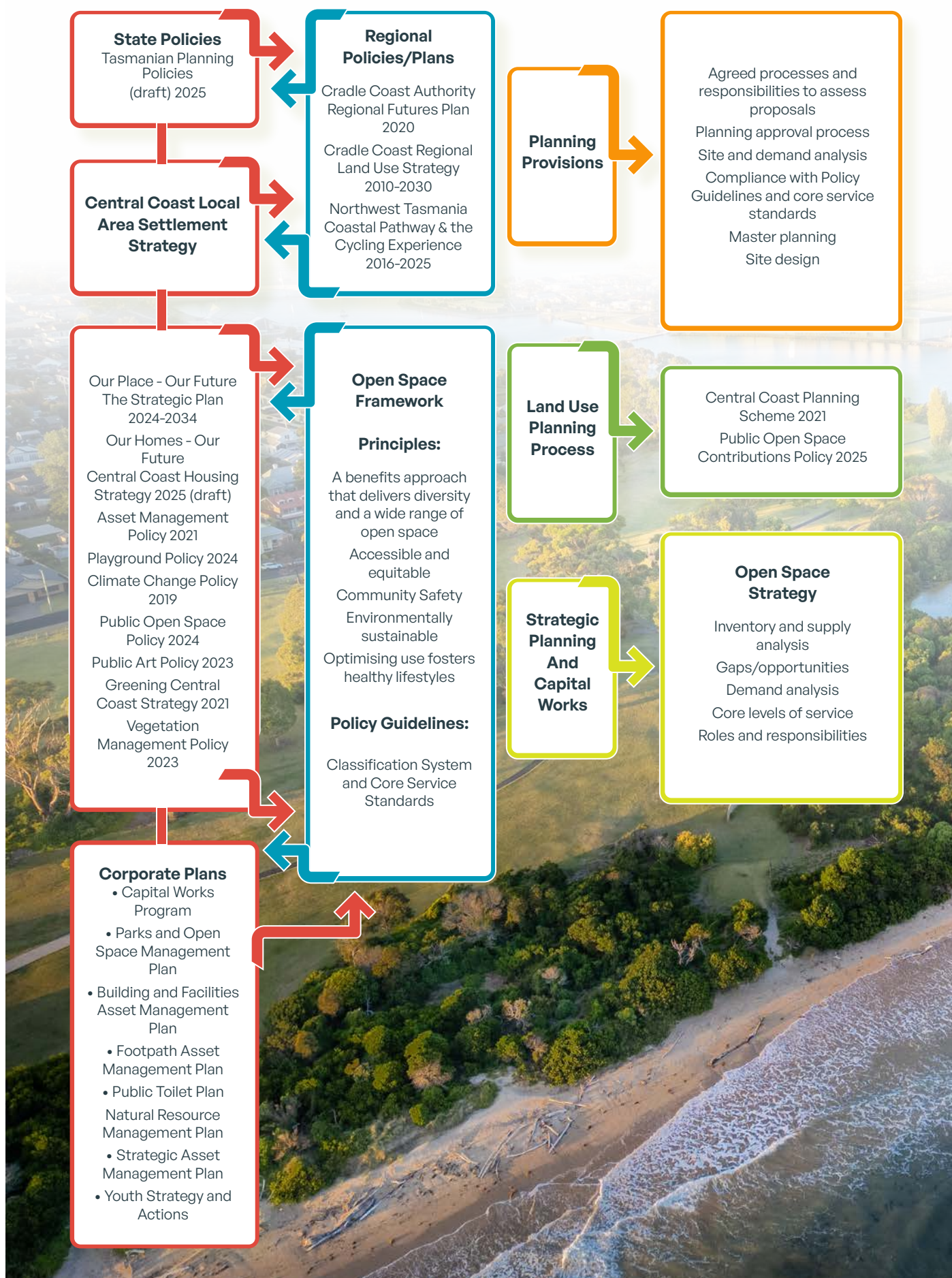
Sustainability & Asset Management

The Strategic Plan's Growing Sustainably direction promotes inclusive and future-focused open space design, supporting all demographics regardless of ability, ethnicity, age, gender, or religion.

In support of this, the Council's Asset Management Policy (2021) reinforces its commitment to:

- A whole-of-organisation approach
- Integrated planning across departments
- Enhanced decision-making for present and future generations
- Resource-efficient systems guided by consistent data and community needs





3. Open Space Policy Statements

The following statements reflect the objectives of the Council with respect to the provision of open space and recreation:

- Open space developments initiated or supported by the Council will only proceed where they are the outcome of the Open Space Strategies 2025-2037.
- The Council will endeavour to facilitate the provision of recreation opportunities/projects for the community where there is an identified 'gap' in provision;
- Ensure Council Asset Management responsibilities are met in alignment with the Playground Policy and Asset Management Plan.
- The Council will only provide or support new facilities, opportunities and service which reflect researched community needs, help achieve optimal

use, offer a diversity of measurable beneficial outcomes and maintain or broaden the base for participation at all appropriate skill levels.

- Unless a strong case to the contrary can be demonstrated, open space and built facilities will only be developed where this supports multiple uses and users.
- The public open space policy is to provide for the purchase of land in areas deficient in open space, to fulfil local, district and regional open space needs and to achieve the development of facilities on open space as per the Public Open Spaces Contributions Policy.
- The Council will actively support local community industry sectors that can generate sustainable, measurable open space and recreation outcomes.

4. Open Space Planning

The Council manages the open spaces in the municipal area in accordance with the following planning framework:

The object of the open space planning process is to identify actions which need to be undertaken to meet the open space and recreational needs of the community.

The community's needs and expectations are determined primarily through community survey results as well as from consultation undertaken in the development of the Strategy, community plans, local area plans and other strategies.

4.1 Site Master Planning

Under this Plan it is proposed that detailed master plans must be developed for all regional Open Spaces in Central Coast. Each plan must provide details about assets necessary to provide the desired level of service to meet the needs of the community and the proposed systems of management.

Classification of Open Space

Precinct Framework – Open Space Plan

This Plan adopts the precincts identified to provide a structured and place-based approach to open space planning across the Central Coast municipality. Each precinct reflects distinct geographic, environmental, and community characteristics, allowing for tailored planning responses that align with local needs and values.

Precinct 1: Turners Beach / Leith

A coastal precinct known for its recreational beaches, foreshore reserves, and strong community stewardship of natural assets.

Precinct 2: East Ulverstone

A residential and recreational hub featuring parks, sporting facilities, and access to the Leven River foreshore.

Precinct 3: West Ulverstone

Characterised by its proximity to the Zig Zag track gardens, riverfront spaces, and emerging community-led stewardship initiatives.

Precinct 4: Penguin

A vibrant township with a mix of formal parks, coastal reserves, and heritage landscapes, supporting both locals and visitors.

Precinct 5: Sulphur Creek / Preservation Bay

A quieter coastal area with significant natural values and opportunities for low-impact recreation and conservation.

Precinct 6: Heybridge

A semi-rural precinct with riverine and coastal interfaces, offering potential for nature-based recreation and habitat protection.

Precinct 7: Forth River Corridor (including Forth, Kindred and Sprent)

A scenic inland corridor with strong agricultural and environmental values, supporting passive recreation and ecological connectivity.

Precinct 8: Leven River Corridor (including Gawler, Gunns Plains, Nietta, North Motton and Preston)

A diverse landscape of river valleys, forested areas, and rural communities, rich in biodiversity and outdoor recreation potential.

Precinct 9: Dial Range Corridor (including West Pine, Riana and South Riana)

A rugged and forested precinct with high conservation significance and opportunities for bushwalking, mountain biking, and nature appreciation.

Precinct 10: Blythe River Corridor (includes Cuprona)

A remote and ecologically sensitive area with limited development, offering scope for habitat protection and low-impact access.

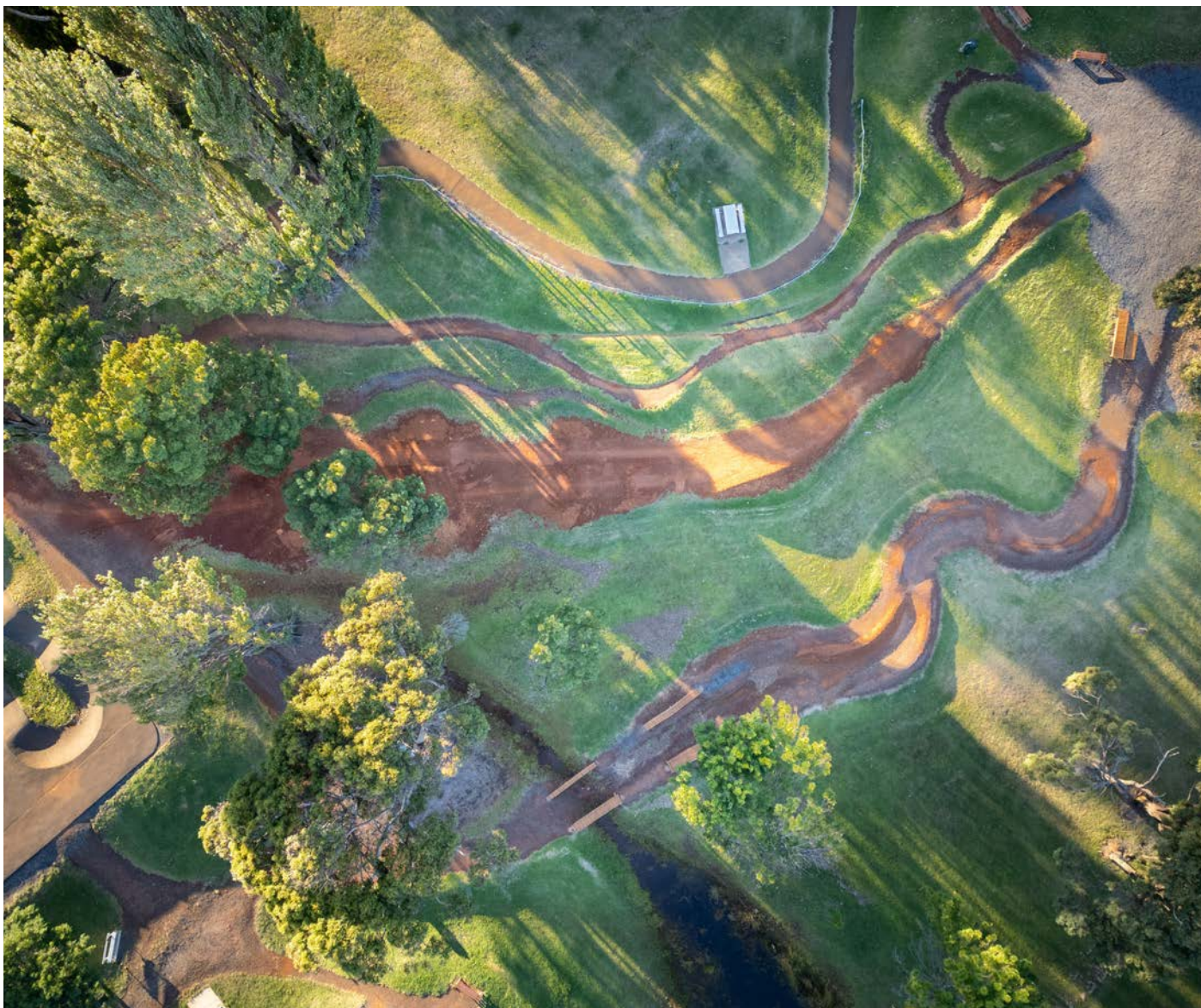
This Open Space Plan has adopted and enhanced the open space classification hierarchies which were developed in several associated Asset Management Plans. The open space classification hierarchy addresses the role that open space is expected to perform, it's size and the scale and quality of the assets,

services and other resources which are expected to be provided in the open space.

The classification hierarchy provides direction for the distribution of open spaces throughout the municipal area based on their catchment or sphere of influence (i.e. the origins of its users). This in turn determines an open space's scale, asset provision and standard of maintenance.

The catchment types are classified as local, precinct and regional open space. Within these catchment types there are various open space classifications which describe the function and purpose of the open space. These are described in the Table on the following page.

Additionally, there are 'unclassified' open spaces which do not provide any of the functions or purposes identified in the hierarchy. These open spaces are discussed in Appendix 1 of the Plan



5: Open Space Classification Hierarchy

Catchment	Classification	Provision, Function and Purpose	Examples:
Local	Passive	- Open space generally with no or limited recreational infrastructure; - Primary functions are social/family recreation and relaxation, but can include access way/trail, flora/fauna conservation (NRM Plan) or drainage; - May include picnic facilities and seating as required; - May contain off-road walking and cycle tracks and create excellent habitat corridors for local wildlife; - May include grassed surface areas that form detention basins.	Perry-Ling Gardens
	Neighbourhood	- Primary functions are social/family recreation and relaxation; - Small open space areas which provide space to service the immediate locality; - Areas which provide space for informal, non-competitive recreation and relaxation for local residents; - Suited to specific purpose trips (e.g. playground usage); - Provides items of play equipment and park furniture; - In rural settlements generally located within populations of approx. 300 people that are not already serviced by a Precinct or Regional Park;	Hope Street Reserve Lions Park Ulverstone Kelvin Street Reserve
Precinct	Precinct	- Primary functions are social/family recreation, relaxation, sport, civic gathering, community horticulture and visual amenity; - Are provided for structured and unstructured recreation; - Cater for family or group outings; - Contain a playground with children's play equipment which is more sophisticated than that provided in local open spaces; - Contain other park facilities such as car parking, rubbish bins, picnic facilities, BBQ and hardstand areas; - May contains dog exercise facilities and equipment where appropriate: and - Generally, attract and support longer duration visits than local open spaces; - One located in each precinct; - Will often incorporate formal playing fields or courts for a variety of competitive sports; - Have wayfinding signs and general park information signage at entry points	Hiscutt Park Forth Reserve Anzac Park
Regional	Specific Purpose	- Multiple functions including relaxation, civic gathering, community horticulture and/or visual amenity, conservation and may include family/social recreation; - Includes recreational facilities such as boat ramps, tourism facilities, cemeteries, boardwalks, beach accesses. May include the provision of public toilets in accordance with the Public Toilet Provision and Maintenance Strategy; - Contains seating, picnic facilities and BBQs where appropriate; May require additional maintenance due to factors such as location and function.	Apex Park Shropshire Park
	Regional	- Primary functions are social/family recreation, relaxation, sport, civic gathering, community horticulture and visual amenity; - Large expansive open space areas, with a mix of natural areas and developed landscapes settings; - Contains a playground with play equipment catering to all age children of all abilities; - Have the scope to attract visitors from all parts of the region and visitors will often spend more than several hours enjoying the experience of the open space - Equipped with barbecue, picnic facilities and public toilets; Have wayfinding signs and general park information signage at entry points; - Located in the major activity centres of Ulverstone and Penguin; - Includes a sealed car park with lighting	Fairway Park Dial Park

In summary:

What defines Local Open Space?

They are areas of open space servicing the people of one residential neighbourhood within a safe walking distance of approximately 5 minutes' walk for 90% of residents in the surrounding area. They provide recreation opportunities closest to home. Local open space will generally have a limited number of play equipment, seating and often a 'kickabout' space. Good supervision and safety considerations are essential as these spaces are small with close street frontage and adjoining residences.

What defines Precinct Open Space?

Precinct open space is generally larger than local open space servicing the people of a broader area within the Central Coast Council area and are within a safe walking distance of approximately 15 minutes' walk for 90% of residents in the surrounding area. A precinct open space typically provides a more comprehensive range of facilities including public amenities, car parking, playground equipment, skate parks, barbecues and picnic facilities.

What defines Regional Open Space?

Regional open spaces are generally larger tracts of land intended to serve the municipal area and adjacent communities. They cater to wider age range than Neighbourhood and Precinct open spaces and are within a safe driving distance of approximately 15/20 mins for 90% of residents in the surrounding area. It is expected that people would generally stay longer due to the variety of activities that can be undertaken. These are great places for events, community gathering and family gatherings. The facilities quality and quantity should reflect the standard that Central Coast Council wishes to present to the rest of the region.

6. Levels of Service

The Council provides and administers open space facilities to encourage and facilitate community wellbeing by catering for recreational, sporting, leisure, and cultural needs. The Council operates and improves the parks and reserves assets on behalf of the community and strives to meet the level of services they demand.

The level of service is the defined quality for a particular service against which performance may be measured. Service levels usually relate to the quality, quantity, reliability, accessibility, responsiveness, environmental, acceptability and cost of a service.

Renewal of park assets and playground equipment is driven by the Asset Management Plan for the 10 year planning period.

understand how the public open spaces are performing and what needs to be improved upon in this 10-year plan period. The results show that overall, the community is satisfied with the performance of the open spaces over the last 10 years, but expectations are that play needs have changed and our spaces need to reflect this. The main areas of future focus are Safety - with the requirement for more playground fencing and general park/footpath lighting, Vegetation - with requests for more canopy and landscaping in parks and open spaces, Modernisation of playgrounds - with a need for more challenging and naturalised play, shade cover, inclusive play equipment that provides better play value, water play spaces and age focused play spaces, Public Amenities - provision for more all-abilities access to public toilets, family rooms and adult changing rooms, public water stations, barbecues and mobility inclusive beach accesses.

7. Community Surveys

Central Coast Council have undertaken several community engagement and consultation events to

Playground survey

While it is acknowledged that the community satisfaction surveys provide valuable data on which to base the Council's open space levels of service, it is data of a generalised nature which does not specifically target the open space users. Accordingly, in July 2024 a community survey focusing on current service levels with Central Coast Council playgrounds was conducted across the entire municipality.

The survey was conducted to inform and refine our Open Space Plan by highlighting key community feedback and satisfaction trends on our current service levels. Results reveal several issues that are of concern to our community and highlights the disparity between community expectations and our current service provisions. Our open spaces require strategic planning if improvements are to be made to raise our standard to meet the expectations of the community.

The survey ran for the entire month of July asking 13 questions focused on public perception of quality and condition of playground and park equipment provided, toilet facilities, shade, lighting, pathways, and perceptions of safety. There were 3 responses over the month. Quantitative questions asked respondents to rate each element on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 having a rating of poor and 5 rating as excellent. In addition to the quantitative questions, we gave respondents the opportunity to state one element they would change at the park they were visiting.

8: Survey Results

In analysing the survey results, several key themes have emerged, each reflecting distinct aspects of community preferences and areas for improvement.

- Modern and diverse play opportunities
- Safety – including fencing of play zones
- Lighting along pathways
- Shade
- Toilets

There is a strong demand for modern and diverse play equipment that is tailored to various age groups and abilities. Respondents emphasized the importance of enhancing safety and accessibility across playgrounds, with the addition of fencing around play zones being a key issue highlighted by many respondents.

Only 11% of respondents indicated they were highly satisfied with the playground equipment we are providing within our playgrounds. The majority of

respondents (60%) rated our play equipment at 3 or less out of 5, indicating we have a bit of improvement to do. Past history of underfunding renewals has led to a deterioration of playgrounds and amenities.

Only 9% of people rated their satisfaction with our toilet facilities as High, with a mean satisfaction rating of only 2.59 out of 5 overall. Our toilet facilities are aging rapidly, and this is reflected in the feedback we have received.

We are doing well with overall maintenance of playgrounds and parks in general with a mean satisfaction rating of 3.3 and 3.6 out of 5 respectively for cleanliness and general maintenance.

Based on the survey data, the frequency of park visits varies significantly among respondents. The most common visiting pattern is weekly, with 164 people reporting they visit the park on this schedule, indicating a strong and consistent engagement with the park's amenities.

Daily visits are also notable, with 80 respondents enjoying the park every day, highlighting a dedicated group of regular users. Monthly visits account for 64 responses, suggesting that while these users are less frequent, they still incorporate park visits into their routine. Seasonal visits are less common, with 26 respondents indicating they visit during specific times of the year, possibly aligning with seasonal activities or weather conditions.

Yearly visits are rare, with only 2 respondents making an annual visit, suggesting that these users may visit the park for special events or occasionally. A notable number of respondents do not visit the park at all, although this figure is not provided in the data.

The top priorities identified through the survey for future investment included:

- Nature based playgrounds
- Activities for teenagers
- Effective asset management of reserves, associated facilities, and general ground maintenance including more effective waste disposal
- Safety and security including fencing around spaces/more fencing in parks and play zones and lighting of pathways
- Dedicated play areas for younger children within regional parks
- More shaded spaces; including increased canopy cover in parks and along pathways
- More toilet facilities and outdoor facilities such as water stations and showers

9: Open Space Consultation and Survey

During the review of the Open Space Plan, extensive community consultation was undertaken to gauge public appetite for past uncompleted actions and newly proposed actions. An online survey was conducted via the Council website, with promotions on social media, postcards and posters in strategic venues, electronic posters in school newsletters and at other targeted stakeholder groups. The online survey ran for the entire month of May 2025. To support the survey, an outdoor roadshow took place for a week running in locations at Penguin, Forth, West Ulverstone and Ulverstone. These sessions were well attended and provided the opportunity to speak to the community about their concerns and ideas.

As part of this consultation, the community were offered the opportunity to raise any issue or concerns they had regarding our Public Open Spaces. The results were very positive, and consensus is that generally we are doing a good job with the assets we are providing, the maintenance of these assets and the wider open spaces in general. Overall, the feedback reflects a community eagerness for well maintained, safer, greener, and more inclusive outdoor spaces that respect environmental sustainability and community identity, while opposing loss of green spaces to development.

General Feedback Themes:

- Strong desire for more greenery, shade, and nature-based play areas, including nature play among trees and community tree planting.
- Support for all-ages and inclusive playgrounds, with separate toddler areas, accessible equipment for children with disabilities, and features for older kids and adults (e.g., adult gym equipment, adventure/ninja courses).
- Requests for improvements to park infrastructure, including picnic shelters, BBQ areas (with wind protection), toilets and change rooms, more seating, and better path maintenance.
- Better lighting, seating, bins, and maintenance requested, especially along coastal and shared paths. Plus, safer playground surfacing (soft fall preferred over bark).

- Concerns over environmental degradation and maintenance, especially at Alma Bridge Reserve and Leven River Corridor, citing litter, illegal dumping, vehicle damage, invasive weeds, and poor Council oversight.
- Opposition to selling or subdividing public green spaces and playgrounds, with a preference for upgrading and preserving existing parks.
- Emphasis on community involvement and volunteerism, including tree planting days and trained local volunteers for clean-up and monitoring.
- Support for regional cohesion and consistent design aesthetics, favouring natural materials (timber, metal, earthy tones) over bright plastics, and strengthening local identity through design.

Precinct-Specific Highlights:

Ulverstone: Emphasis on not spreading resources thinly but focusing on destination parks. Fairway Park is seen as a key opportunity for a major upgrade with water play, climbing areas, adult gym equipment, and more shade.

Penguin: Favour natural, coastal design with native plantings, slip stabilisation, improved pathway and playground connections, upgraded play equipment, and amenities like beach showers. Oppose subdivision and loss of green space. Whittle Street Park needs upgrades, lighting for safety, BBQ and seating areas. Hiscutt Park: Support for a large inclusive playground with splash pad and safe pond fencing.

Frustration over unclear camping rules and camping changes, fire hazards, dogs, tree damage, litter, and neglect.

Forth and Leven Canyon Corridor; calls for better camping management and reinvestment in the area.

Sulphur Creek & Preservation Bay received no comments.

Turners Beach & Leith: Upgrade play equipment with natural, beach-appropriate materials and provide more facilities for older children. Improve safety and accessibility through better pathways and beach access to support growing local families.

10. Asset Provision Standards

The following asset provision standards have been established in accordance with the Council's Asset Management Policy and are aimed at providing the desired level of service to meet the community's needs and expectations in a financially sustainable manner. Assessments of the Council's current open spaces is discussed within each relevant Precinct plan..

	Neighbourhood	Specific Purpose	Precinct	Regional	Passive
Toilets	Not provided.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need.	Provided	Provided	Not provided.
Tracks and Paths	Provided on a case by case basis	Circuit or linear path with links to regional networks.			
Play-ground	- Typically targets 1-12 years age group. - Contains up to 5 play elements that encourage imaginative play. Includes some all-access play elements. - Fitness stations not provided.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need	- Includes multi-age facilities. - Includes swings and slides and minimum 5 play elements that encourage imaginative play. - Includes some all-access play equipment. - Fitness stations optional. - Playground equipment provided at recreation grounds.	- Wide range of activities and age groups. - Contains fenced toddler play area; - Multiple play opportunities that cater to all ages and abilities; - Open Space Master Plan required. - Fitness stations Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need	Playground equipment not provided unless identified as part of specific need
Dog exercise areas	Not provided.	Not provided.	- Up to 3 parks provided across the municipality; - Contains seating including: 1 x covered; - May contain picnic facilities; - Water – including automatic shut-off valve; - Adequate shade natural/ artificial; - Segregated small/large dog areas where space allows; - Agility equipment; - Controlled access point; - Park signage; - Dog waste bag dispenser; - Bins; - Fully fenced.	Not provided.	Not provided.
Soft fall	Provide in playgrounds to Australian Standard and manufacturers specifications.				
Showers	Not provided.	Additional showers are optional where swimming occurs in foreshore open spaces.			Not provided.
Seats	Typically, two seats 1 x DDA compliant	Optional, typically 2- 4 seats 1 x DDA compliant;	Minimum of two seats for every playground; At least 1 DDA compliant seat for every 2 seats provided.	Minimum of two seats for every playground, plus one per every 100m; At least 1 DDA compliant seat for every 2 seats provided;	Optional, 2-4 seats; At least 1 DDA compliant seat for every 2 seats; 200m apart for shared pathways.

	Neighbourhood	Specific Purpose	Precinct	Regional	Passive
Tables	1 DDA compliant table is provided.	Optional.	Minimum of two 1 x DDA compliant.	Minimum of two 1 x DDA compliant.	Not provided.
Barbecue	Not provided	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need	Provided	Provided	Not provided unless identified as part of specific need.
Artificial Shade Structures	Provide over suitable playground equipment				Not provided.
Shelters	1 seating shelter where no natural shelter is provided	Minimum 1 seating shelter. Larger shelters optional.	Minimum 1 seating shelter. Larger shelters optional.	As per Master Plan.	Not provided.
Rubbish Bins	Not provided.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need	Minimum of one bin set (waste and recycling); plus One bin per barbecue.	Minimum of one bin set (waste and recycling); plus One bin per barbecue.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need
Water	Not Provided.	Hose taps only.	Hose taps and drinking fountains at picnic/BBQ facilities.	Hose taps and drinking fountains at picnic/BBQ facilities.	Not provided.
Turf	Turf 70% cover excluding retained native vegetation.	No standard set.	Turf 80% cover excluding soft fall, garden beds and retained native vegetation.	Turf 80% cover excluding soft fall, garden beds and retained native vegetation.	No standard set.
Gardens	Around shade trees as space permits and/or as part of interactive play elements.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need	Shrub gardens to enhance amenity to provide 5-10% coverage.	Shrub gardens to enhance amenity to provide 5-10% coverage; Otherwise as per Master Plan.	Not provided.
Irrigation	Not provided.	As required for garden bed maintenance.	As required for garden bed maintenance.	As required for garden bed maintenance.	Not provided.
Tree Planting	At least 15% coverage to provide adequate shade, shelter and amenity.	Optional to provide adequate shade, shelter and amenity.	At least 15% coverage to provide adequate shade, shelter and amenity.	At least 15% coverage to provide adequate shade, shelter and amenity.	As per Open Space Master Plan or Management Plan.
Lighting	Along walkway routes if present	Along walkway routes if present	In car parks, along walkway routes, barbecue areas, toilets as provided.	In car parks, along walkway routes, barbecue areas, toilets as provided.	Along walkway routes.
Visitor Info	Standard name and control signage	Standard name and control signage. Interpretation as appropriate			Standard name and control signage
Way-finding signage	Not provided	Along walkway routes and interest points			

	Neighbourhood	Specific Purpose	Precinct	Regional	Passive
Fencing	Only at playgrounds provided for ages <6 or where identified by a risk assessment.			Includes 1 fully fenced toddler play area and then only where identified by a risk assessment to other areas	Only where identified by a risk assessment.
Memorial Provision	Not provided.	Provided	Optional.	Optional.	Not provided.
Public Art	Not provided.	Not Provided unless identified as part of specific need by the Public Art Committee			Not provided.
Flagpoles	Not provided.	Provided at Memorial Sites	Not provided.	Not provided.	Provided at Memorial Sites
Power Outlets	Not provided.	Provided as required.			Not provided.

NOTE: Assets are generally not to be provided on unclassified open space.



11. Open Space Supply and Demand Analysis

The following open space supply and demand analysis has been undertaken in Central Coast on a precinct basis in accordance with the Plan's open space standards.

This analysis has identified local issues and opportunities for improving the supply and access to open space in Central Coast. Overall, there are four key issues which have been identified as being consistent across all precincts:

- There is generally a good distribution of open space providing social and family recreation.
- There is a need to update and consolidate play spaces within the municipality in order to provide better play experiences than is currently being provided.
- There is opportunity to capitalise on unique river and bushland environments and provide nature-based recreation activities such as bushwalking and mountain bike/BMX riding; and
- Central Coast will face climate change pressures on foreshore, riparian corridors and in natural bushland environments and these open spaces should be protected and enhanced.

Active Transport and Physical Activity Demand

Recent national and regional data (including findings from the 2022 Tasmanian Population Health Survey), highlight strong community engagement in walking and cycling across Tasmania, including the Central Coast municipality. These trends reflect growing demand for accessible, safe, and connected open space infrastructure that supports active transport and recreational movement.

Walking

85.3% of residents in regional Tasmania walked for at least 10 minutes in the past week.

Walking is primarily undertaken for recreation/exercise (72.1%), shopping (58.4%), and escorting others (21.7%). Median walking time: 3.4 hours/week across 4.6 days.

Cycling

13.2% of residents cycled in the past week; 34.9% cycled at least once in the past year.

Cycling participation has increased significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local infrastructure projects, such as the Coastal Pathway, are expected to further support and increase cycling uptake.

Running

While specific local data is unavailable, national statistics show 22.4% of adults meet vigorous activity guidelines, which includes running.

Running is typically grouped under general physical activity in national datasets and contributes to demand for open space suited to high-mobility recreation.

These figures demonstrate a clear and ongoing demand for open space that supports walking, cycling, and running, reinforcing the importance of strategic investment in connected pathways, safe crossings, and recreational corridors throughout the municipality.

Based on these expected participation rates, there is a likely demand for these activities in Central Coast's open spaces in years to come.

There are other activities that are likely to be in high demand in Central Coast due to the nature of the physical environment especially the coastline and forested areas that are not captured by leisure activities statistics. These include dog exercising, fishing, mountain biking, canoeing and boating, and 4x4 activities.

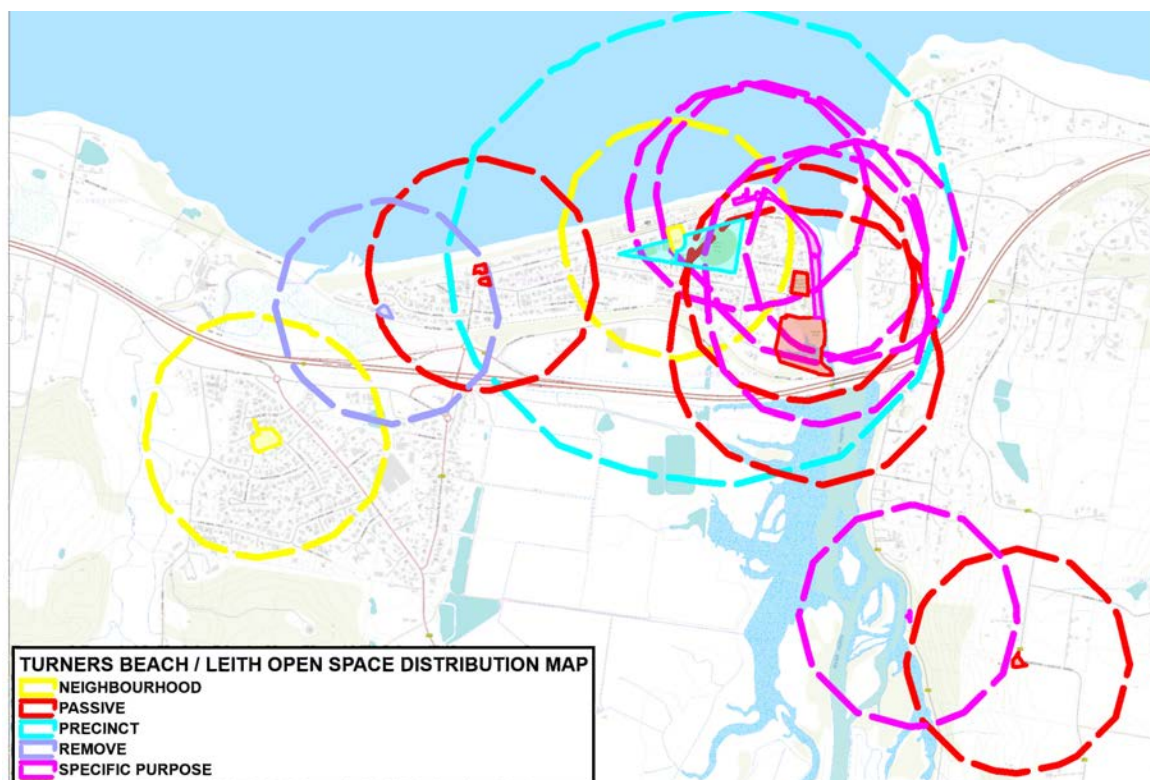
11.1 Precinct 1: Turners Beach/Leith



11.1.1 Provision of Open Space

There is a mix of landscape settings in Turners Beach and Leith that offer varied experiences to residents and visitors including the foreshore, beaches, a waterway corridor along the Forth River, bushland, managed sports turf and open parkland.

The open spaces provided in the Turners Beach/Leith precinct are described in the following table:



Open Space	Classification	Description
NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE		
H.W. Braid Reserve	Neighbourhood	A large local open space with an area of 6,643m ² . It contains two swings, a slide, a table, a half-court basketball facility and a large kick around area. This reserve is larger than the preferred area for a local open space.
West End Park	Specific Purpose	Small local park which provides an access onto Turners Beach. Contains public toilets, a beach access and viewing platform, swings, tables, seats and a kick around area in the grassed area adjacent to the Esplanade.
Groom Street Reserve	Passive	A small area of open space containing no assets.
East End Park	Specific Purpose	A small local park which provides access onto Turners Beach. Contains a beach access and viewing platform, swings, barbecue, tables and seats.
Turners Beach Boat Ramp	Specific Purpose	Boat ramp and associated vehicle manoeuvring and parking areas.
Leith Road Boat Ramp	Specific Purpose	Boat ramp and associated vehicle manoeuvring and parking areas.
Logan Street Boat Ramp	Specific Purpose	An informal boat access to the Forth River.
Braddons Lookout	Specific Purpose	A lookout with a north-westerly aspect which contains a table, rubbish bins and signage.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Turners Beach Recreation Precinct	Precinct	A football/cricket ground with clubroom, change rooms, toilets, scoreboard, parking area, cricket nets, fencing and gates, basketball half court and play equipment. The Turner's Beach Hall is also located in the precinct, which contains a community garden and fenced playground catering for younger children.

11.1.2 Discussion, Opportunities and Gaps

Refer to the Turners Beach/Leith precinct open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, it is determined that the following open spaces are appropriately distributed throughout the precinct to provide equitable access for residents and are adequately meeting the open space needs of the local community:

- H.W. Braid Reserve,
- West End Park,
- East End Park,
- Turners Beach Hall, and
- Gables Park,

The East End Park continues to be a well-used informal play area during the summer months. The play area at the recreation ground is also well utilised. The implementation of the Shared Pathway along the Esplanade has removed roadside parking near the O.C. Ling Caravan Park. There is a need to replace this parking, and it is considered logical that the old carpark, situated north of the Hall, be reinstated. This will require the toddler playground to be removed. The assets associated with this playground are all expired and require replacement. However, it is recognised that there is a need of an enclosed play space attached to the Hall to cater for users of this facility. It is therefore recommended that the playground fence be replaced to enclose the sandpit area in the upper play space, the rest of the playground be removed and new assets relocated to the Turners Beach Recreation Ground, and the carpark reinstated and expanded on lower site of the existing playground.

H.W. Braid Reserve (with an area of 6,643m²) is over-sized for a Neighbourhood open space. However, Turners Beach is divided by the major traffic route of the Bass Highway, and Public Open Space provision is limited on the southern side. There are limited opportunities for acquiring new appropriate Public Open Space on this side of the Highway, and the growing level of subdivisions means that the southern side of Turners Beach is not being meeting service levels required. It is therefore recommended that H.W Braid Reserve be upgraded to a precinct service level. This will allow for the inclusion of other park assets and increase the capacity for H.W. Braid Reserve to meet the growing needs of the Turners Beach community.

Surplus Local Open Space

It is apparent from the open space distribution map there is an oversupply of local open space in the northern settlement area of Turners Beach. There are five local open spaces provided within this small settlement area with most being distributed well within 400m of each other. In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, it is determined that the following local open spaces are over-servicing the area and will not be required as future local open space. Accordingly, these open spaces are considered to be surplus open space.

- Groom Street Reserve

These open spaces are discussed further in Actions.

Specific Purpose Open Space

The East End and West End Parks provide multiple functions to the community including visual amenity, beach access, toilet facilities picnic shelter, a barbecue and a small playground. Because of the multiple functions these open spaces serve they are classified as Specific Purpose open spaces rather than Neighbourhood open spaces.

Boat Ramps

There are currently three boat ramps servicing the precinct. The Turners Beach boat ramp is the largest most formalised of these facilities, with a smaller basic concrete ramp provided at Leith Road and an informal access at Logan Street. The main Turners Beach boat ramp is MAST responsibility however neither the Leith Road nor the Logan Street boat ramps are Council owned or maintained, and it is considered that the Turners Beach boat ramp is sufficiently servicing the area. Therefore, it is recommended that the Council downgrade the Leith Road and Logan Street boat ramps to unclassified open space and resolve not to undertake any maintenance or renewal works on the facilities. Additionally, it is recommended that the boat ramp sign be removed from the Logan Street site.

Precinct Open Space

The Turners Beach Recreation Ground Precinct provides the precinct open space function for the Turners Beach/Leith precinct. The Recreation Ground is located within 800m of most households in the precinct and includes a good quality playing surface for football and cricket with cricket nets for training and a multi-use clubroom facility also provided. The Recreation Ground is well used as the home ground for the Turners Beach Cricket Club in summer and the Turners Beach Football Club in winter with the precinct also used by the Turners Beach Bowls Club and Turners Beach Tennis Club

Regional Open Space

The regional open space needs of the precinct are met in Ulverstone, as residents are within a 5-10 minute drive of accessing regional open spaces such as Fairway Park and Anzac Park. Additionally, the Ulverstone to Turners Beach shared pathway has increased the connectivity to these open spaces as residents are now provided with safe, flat access for pedestrians and cyclists.

11.1.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the open space assets provided in the precinct's open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council's **Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan**. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset is included as an action in the Plan.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
H.W. Braid Reserve	- Requires additional shading to be provided (tree planting) - Under the recommended up-grade requires, Picnic and BBQ facilities, Inclusive play equipment, seating, and rubbish bins
West End Park	No current gaps
Groom Street Reserve	No current gaps
East End Park	No current gaps
Gables Park	Overserviced by four tables
Custom Reserve	High conservation priority site with informal trails
Turners Beach Boat Ramp	No current gaps
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE	
Recreation Precinct	Provide additional parking

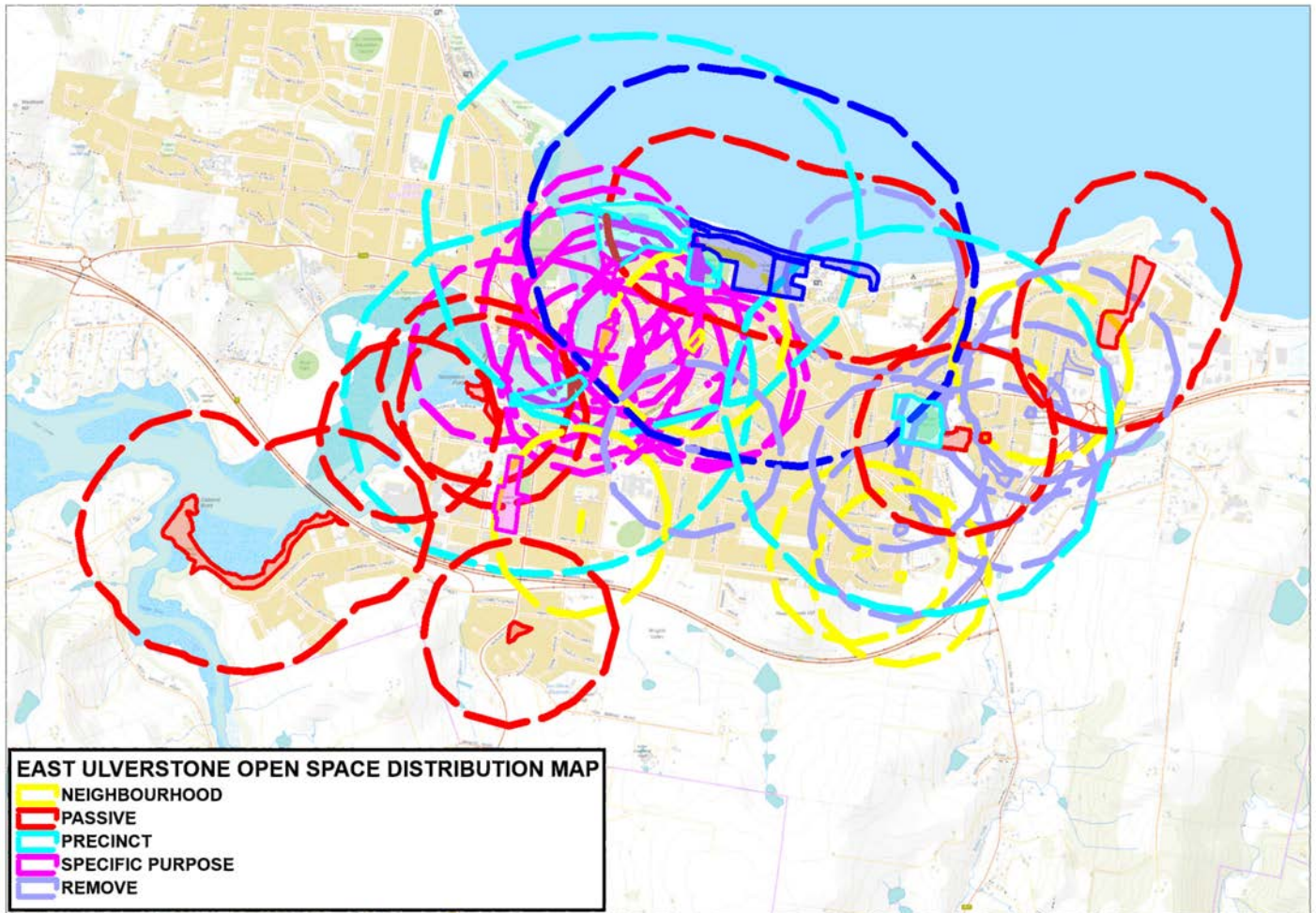
11.1.4 Actions

- Recommend decommissioning the Grooms Street Reserve as nearby parks provide sufficient space.
- Undertake an upgrade of the H.W. Braid Reserve with shade, seating, BBQs and inclusive play equipment and reclassify to Specific Purpose.
- Reclassify the Leith Road and Logan Street boat ramps to unclassified open space.
- Continue location investigation for a dog park.
- Develop and implement a Shared Pathway Masterplan.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct, specifically including replacement playground equipment at:
 - Turners Beach Recreation Ground
 - W.H Braid Reserve
- Turners Beach Hall Playground relocated to Recreation Ground and the preexisting carpark reinstated.
- Investigate consolidating Customs Reserve into existing foreshore lease.



11.2 Precinct 2: East Ulverstone





11.2.1 Provision of Open Space

For the purposes of this Plan, Ulverstone has been broken into two precincts, East Ulverstone, and West Ulverstone.

There are 40 Council managed public open spaces and recreation areas located in the East Ulverstone Precinct. These are spread over a mix of landscape settings including the foreshore, beaches, a waterway corridor along the Leven River, bushland, lawn, open parkland and gardens.

The varied landscape settings complement the expansive foreshore and riverside parks, providing a range of social/family recreation activities and experiences for people to escape, relax and recreate.

There are significant foreshore and riverside open spaces including Fairway Park, Bicentennial Park, and Shropshire Park. These open spaces stretch along Buttons Beach and the Leven River and have camping grounds, picnic areas, trails, playgrounds, areas to exercise dogs, a skate park, space for informal ball games, a water slide, and an outdoor entertainment centre.

Other open space functions include sport, water-based recreation opportunities and off-road trails and pathways. There are also several Specific Purpose open spaces that serve primarily as dedicated spaces for memorials and reflection spaces.

The major open spaces currently provided in the East Ulverstone precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps	
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Thomas Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood open space provided with swings, a slide and a play structure.
Travers Place Reserve	Neighbourhood	A medium sized Neighbourhood open space with an area of 1,300m2 which is provided with a double swing and a kick around space.
Smith Street Playground	Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood playground containing swings, a play structure and a seat located in the centre island of Smith Street
Smith Street Reserve	Passive	A grassed open space which is serving as a buffer zone for the Dysons Lane industrial area.
Spencer Place (Frog Lane)	Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood playground containing a slide, a play structure, other miscellaneous play equipment and a seat.
Eastland Drive Reserve	Passive	A large parcel of open space which is serving as a buffer zone between residential and industrial uses. The open space comprises a grassed area which contains no assets. It serves as a kick around space and a connection to Nell Crescent, Cluan Crescent, Fieldings Way, and Eastland Drive.
Allambie Crescent Reserve	Passive	A large, grassed parcel of open space with an area of 3,160m2. It is an internal block which borders 13 residential lots and a church. There are no assets provided.
Ocean Drive Buffer Zone	Passive	A grassed open space which is serving as a buffer zone for the Industrial Estate and providing connection for people accessing the shared pathway.
McCulloch Street Reserve	Passive	A medium size open space with an area of 2,100m2. The site is grassed, contains no assets, and potentially serves as stormwater detention site.
Charleston Crescent Reserve	Neighbourhood	Medium sized Neighbourhood open space with an area of 2,051m2. The space is provided with a double swing, a basic play structure and provides a kick about space.
Barker Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood open space with an area of 1,398m2 provided with a double swing and several seats.
Hope Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood open space with an area of 817m2 provided with a double swing, a slide, a seat, and playground fencing.
Hensby Court Reserve	Neighbourhood	Small open space with an area of 1,440m2 located in the centre island of Hensby Court. The open space has limited assets with only a slide currently provided.
Henslowes Park	Passive	Large foreshore open space along the eastern bank of the Leven River south of the Bass Highway and provides a bushland track network and passive river accesses. It is managed in Central Coast Council’s Natural Resource Management Plan 2021.
Eastland Drive (old Visitor Information centre)	Passive	Small (765m2) parcel of open space which previously housed the Ulverstone Information Centre. The lot comprises a grassed area and site for the Container Refund Scheme.
Riverside Avenue Reserve	Passive	A medium sized grassed reserve which serves as a connection for residents accessing Anzac Park. It is managed in Central Coast Council’s Natural Resource Management Plan 2021.
Lions Park	Neighbourhood	A large open space in the Ulverstone CBD which includes a play structure and slide, seats, and a table. A pedestrian pathway with lighting runs through the centre of the space and there are maintained gardens and trees.
Civic Park	Specific Purpose	This small grassed open space plays an important aesthetic role in the precinct around the library, Council Chamber and Civic Centre. It has several seats provided as well as several plaques set amongst maintained gardens and trees.
Apex Park	Specific Purpose	A small paved open space in the heart of the Ulverstone CBD. It includes seating, a shelter, plaques, and signage as well as maintained gardens and trees.
Lighthorse Park	Specific Purpose	Set alongside the Ulverstone Memorial Clock, this small open space plays an important civic and aesthetic function for the Ulverstone CBD. It is a grassed open space which is fenced and provided with lighting and seating as well as maintained gardens and trees.
Memorial Park	Specific Purpose	A small paved open space beside the Ulverstone Memorial Clock which includes a podium, flagpole, lighting and maintained gardens and trees.
Wharf Precinct	Specific Purpose	A large open space along the Leven River providing place for civic gatherings and connection between Anzac Park and Pedros Park and connected pathways.
Shropshire Park	Specific Purpose	This is a medium sized memorial open space which performs an important civic role for Central Coast. It includes memorials, a pathway, some play equipment, extensive seating, tables, barbecues, and shelter together with maintained gardens and trees.
Leven Yacht Club	Passive	This is a medium sized open space which provides connections to other open spaces as well as to the Leven River. It includes two boat ramps, parking, seating, tables, a barbecue, and several plaques.

Open Space		Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Queen's Gardens	Specific Purpose	This small open space includes an ornamental garden, seating, flagpoles, a monument and fencing. It plays an important aesthetic and civic role for the western entrance to Ulverstone.
Nicholsons Point	Passive (includes Specific Purpose boat ramp)	A large coastal open space with an area of 4,500m2 and contains a boat ramp and associated parking area.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Haywoods Reserve	Precinct	Located on the eastern side of Ulverstone, this large open space provides a broad range of functions and assets including playground, kick about space, and is a flood mitigation area for the Buttons Creek stormwater overflow.
Anzac Park	Precinct	Located on the southern side of the Ulverstone Leven River Bridge this large open space provides a broad range of functions and assets including playgrounds, seating, tables, barbecues, pathways, kick around space, gardens, trees, fountain etc.
Bicentennial Park	Precinct	A large foreshore open space which provides a broad range of functions and assets including playgrounds, seating, tables, barbecues, pathways, kick around space, gardens, trees etc.
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE		
Fairway Park	Regional	A large foreshore open space which provides a broad range of functions and assets including playgrounds, seating, tables, barbecues, pathways, kick around space, skate park, niche walls, cairn, pergola, gardens, trees etc.

11.2.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the East Ulverstone open space distribution map.

Local Open Space Analysis

It is clear from the open space distribution map that local open spaces are reasonably well distributed throughout the precinct and are generally located within easy walking distance where most people live. However, there are some areas in the precinct which are over-serviced and other areas which are, or in the future, will be under-serviced.

In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, it is determined that the following local open spaces are appropriately distributed throughout the precinct to provide equitable access to residents and are adequately meeting the local open space needs of the East Ulverstone precinct:

- Civic Park
- Ocean Drive Buffer Zone
- Eastland Drive Reserve
- Thomas Street Reserve
- Charleston Crescent Reserve
- Hope Street Reserve
- Hensby Court Reserve
- Lions Park
- Apex Park
- Leven Yacht Club Reserve

- Nicholsons Point Reserve
- Henslowes Park
- Riverside Avenue
- Local parks provided in Anzac, Bicentennial and Fairway Regional Parks.

It is clear from the open space distribution map that the area between Eastland Drive and Trevor Street is currently provided with nine local open spaces within close proximity to each other. These open spaces include Eastland Drive (old Information Centre), Smith Street Playground, Travers Place Reserve, Spencer Street (Frog Lane), Allambie Crescent Reserve, McCulloch Street Reserve, Charleston Crescent Reserve and Barker Street Reserve. By having so many local open spaces in such close proximity to each other the Council is over-servicing the area under the open space classification hierarchy.



Barker Street Reserve

To achieve an open space distribution which complies with the open space classification hierarchy it was recommended that the Barker Street Reserve be retained, and assets increased to provide for the new subdivisions surrounding the park.

It is further recommended that the Smith Street Reserve be retained as a buffer zone for the Dysons Lane industrial area and that the Eastland Drive (old Information Centre), Smith Street Playground, Charleston Crescent Reserve, Travers Place Reserve, Spencer Street (Frog Lane), Allambie Crescent Reserve, McCulloch Street Reserve and Barker Street Reserve be deemed as surplus open space. These open spaces are discussed further in *Appendix 2 Surplus Open Space*.

Given the proximity of Anzac Park, and the upgrades that have occurred in the park, it is considered that Hope Street Reserve and Hensby Court Reserve areas are already well serviced by the park. However, Hensby Court Reserve is a narrow parcel of land situated in the middle of the court and is therefore considered undesirable as a residential parcel. Hope Street Reserve is ideally situated and not encumbered by underground services. It is therefore recommended Hope Street Reserve is surplus open space and Hensby Court Reserve be retained as a Neighbourhood Open Space.

It is also noted that McCulloch Street Reserve may be providing ongoing stormwater detentions to the uphill developments. As a public reserve, it is not offering any benefit to the community and is considered surplus to requirements. Investigations should be undertaken as to its requirements once the developments behind Barker Street are complete, and offered for disposal if not serving as stormwater detention.

It is also apparent from the open space distribution map that open space is not equitable is the 'newer' communities located between Trevor Street and the Bass Highway and in the area to the immediate south of the highway. A subdivision has been approved by the Council at 126A Trevor Street and another subdivision to the east behind Barker Street off Rawson Street. As part of the subdivision a parcel has been taken and added to the existing Barker Street Reserve. This addition will supply a linkage through to the new estates and the facilities at the reserve can be upgraded.

Additionally, the area immediately south of the Bass Highway around Gawler Road is currently under-served by local open space.

It is also noted that the Council has approved a 129 lot subdivision of the property off Henslowes Road. As part of this subdivision the developer has provided a 2,000m²

parcel of land for public open space because the area is outside of the open space hierarchy distribution of 400m to existing local open spaces. Therefore, once this parcel of land is developed the Council will need to provide it with local open space assets in accordance with the Plan's standard asset provision.



Local Open Space provided in subdivision (off) Henslowes Road

Surplus Local Open Space

In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, the open space analysis has determined that the following local open spaces are surplus open space as they are over-servicing the areas in which they are located and will not be required as future local open space in accordance with this Plan:

- Charleston Street Reserve
- Travers Place Reserve
- Eastland Drive (former visitor information centre site)
- Smith Street Playground
- Spencer Street (Frog Lane)
- Hope Street Reserve, and
- McCulloch Street Reserve (provisos for stormwater).
- +/- 3,220m² area at the eastern end of Fairway Park between the Big 4 Caravan Park and Water Street

Open spaces are discussed further within each Precinct Action plan.

Connectivity

There is a good network of footpaths in the business precinct and surrounding residential areas, however, the footpath system requires upgrading in places to improve accessibility and connectivity. Additionally, the pathway network will gradually be extended to the outer limit of the residential area where no trails are currently provided. Such improvements will be achieved through implementation of the Council's **Footpath Asset Management Plan** and the **North West Coastal Pathway Plan**.

Specific Purpose Open Space Analysis

The East Ulverstone precinct has a number of open spaces which are used for civic gatherings or for community gardens and visual amenity. Open spaces such as Light Horse Park and Memorial Entry Park fulfil an important role along with the Ulverstone Memorial Clock site at the eastern entrance to the Ulverstone CBD. While additionally along the banks of the Leven River open spaces such as the Queen's Gardens, the Ulverstone Wharf Precinct and Shropshire Park combine to provide connected, multi-use civic gathering areas with well-presented and maintained community gardens. These open spaces create a welcoming western entrance to the Ulverstone CBD.

Boat Ramps

There are currently three regularly used boat ramps located in the precinct; one at Nicholson's Point Reserve and two at the Leven Yacht Club Reserve.

Access to the Nicholsons Point boat ramp is also in poor condition with numerous risk issues and currently requires renewal.

Cemeteries

The Ulverstone General Cemetery is located in the precinct and it is in need of development works to improve seating, signage and road maintenance on the site. A Cemeteries Improvement Plan is under development for this and other cemetery sites.

Precinct Open Space Analysis

The Ulverstone precinct features several large open spaces that serve multiple community functions.

Haywoods Reserve, located on the eastern side of Ulverstone, offers a playground, informal play areas, and also functions as a greenway connection between neighbourhoods.

Anzac Park, situated just south of the Leven River Bridge, provides a diverse range of amenities including playgrounds, seating, barbecues, pathways, gardens, and a central fountain. Along the foreshore.

Bicentennial Park offers similar facilities, creating a vibrant and accessible recreational corridor that supports both passive and active use.

Regional Open Space Analysis

Fairway Park is a key Regional Open Space in Ulverstone, offering a wide range of recreational and environmental amenities. Located opposite Ulverstone Beach, the park includes expansive lawns, a palm-lined walking trail, playgrounds, picnic facilities, and direct beach access. It also incorporates the popular Skate Park and Pump Track, making it a central destination for youth and families. Guided by a long-term master plan, Fairway Park continues to evolve with planned additions such as a bike safety track, parkour space, and ninja warrior course, enhancing its role as an inclusive and active community space. The Fairway Park Master Plan actions will continue to be implemented and more details of the proposed project can be found in that document.



11.2.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the East Ulverstone open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it falls due for replacement in accordance with the Council's Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset will be included as an action in this plan.

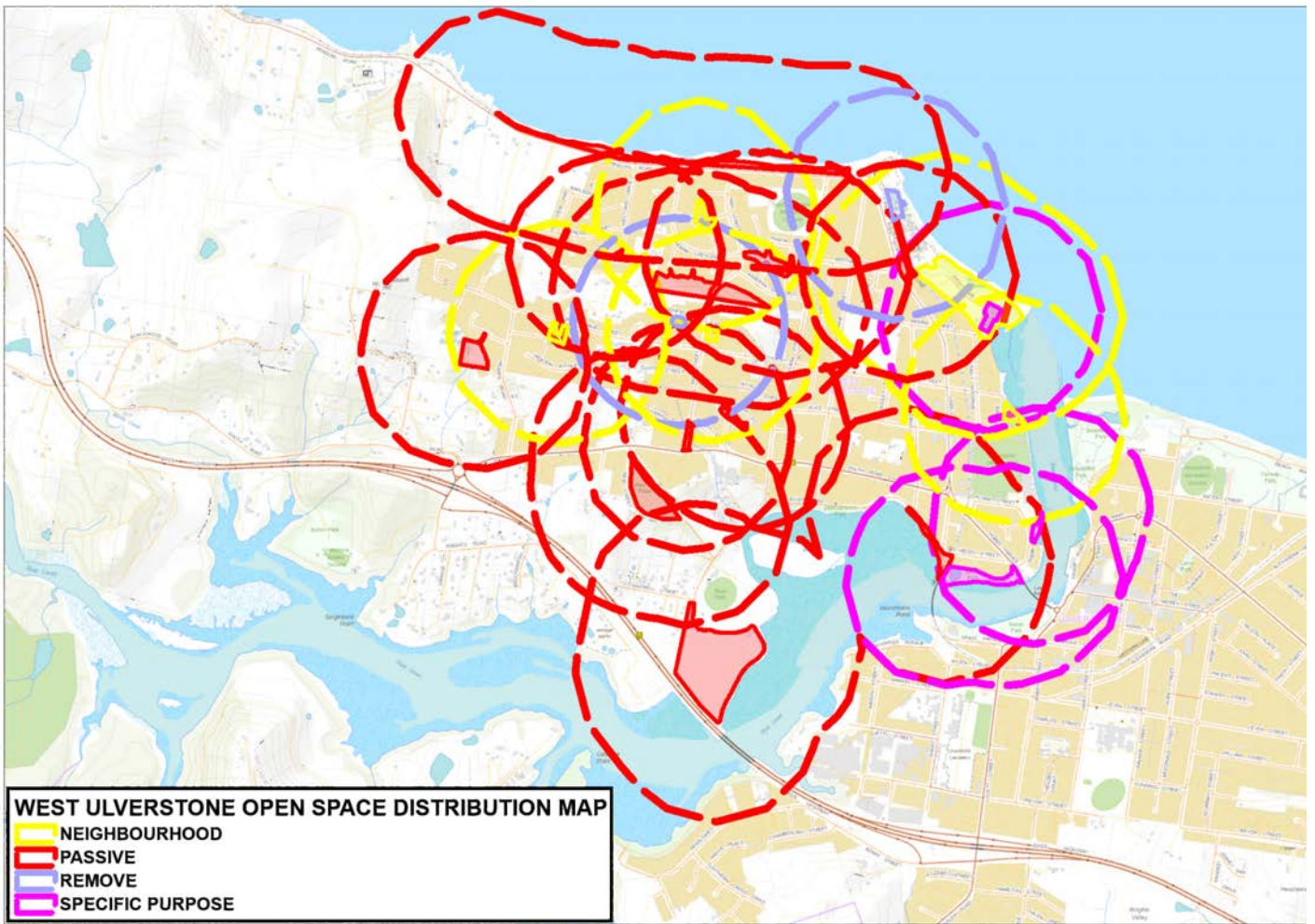
Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Thomas Street Playground	• Additional seat required
Barker Street Reserve	• Further play equipment is required to align the playground with the new recommended service levels and increase in park size due to the subdivision. • Additional seat required. • Picnic facilities are required • More trees for shelter are required
Hensby Court Reserve	• Newer natural play and landscaping elements are required • Additional seat required
Leven Yacht Club Reserve	• Over-serviced by parking, two tables, two rubbish bins and water infrastructure

11.2.4 Actions

- Ensure that any future subdivision of 112 Trevor Street, Ulverstone provides a parcel of land as a public open space contribution. The Council must then provide a local level open space.
- Establish a local level park on the public open space provided as part of subdivision off Henslowes Road, Ulverstone.
- Recommend decommissioning the following surplus open spaces:
 - Travers Place Reserve
 - Hope Street Reserve
 - Eastland Drive (partial disposal only)
 - Smith Street playground
 - Spencer Street (Frog Lane);
- Adopt a master planning approach for the future development of Bicentennial Park with an aim to upgrade layout, add flexible spaces, and improve facilities with a focus on a First Nations Cultural Hub.
- Adopt a master planning approach for the future development of Anzac Park.
- Develop and implement an Improvement Plan for the Ulverstone General Cemetery.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct, specifically including replacement playground equipment at:
 - ANZAC Park
 - Bicentennial Park
 - Fairway Park
 - Thomas Street Playground
 - Lions Park
- Finalise and Implement the Fairway Park Master Plan.
- Develop and implement a Shared Pathway Masterplan.

11.3 Precinct 3: West Ulverstone





11.3.1 Provision of Open Space

There are 19 Public Open Spaces located within the West Ulverstone Precinct within a mix of landscape settings. These include the foreshore, beaches, a waterway corridor along the Leven River, bushland, lawn and open parkland. The varied landscape settings complement a full range of open space functions including large bushland and foreshore parks offering social/family recreation, major venues for sport, water based recreation opportunities and off-road trails.

The open spaces currently provided in the West Ulverstone precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space		Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Richardson Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	Small open space which comprises two parcels of land which are encircled by Richardson Street. Both parcels are grassed and contain one seat and trees.
Markm Court Reserve	Passive	Large grassed open space with an area of 2,992m ² which contains no assets but serves as a stormwater detention basin.
Burnett Crescent Reserve	Neighbourhood	A medium sized open space with an area of 1,657m ² . It includes a playground with a double swing, slide and play structure.
Highfield Crescent Reserve	Passive	Small open space which contain no assets. This parcel of land is encircled by Highfield Crescent.
Roland View Reserve	Neighbourhood	A large open space with an area of 3,502m ² which contains a lookout, half-court basketball facility, seats, water infrastructure, tree plantings and a basic playground with a double swing and additional play equipment.
Off Hearps Road	Passive	A large parcel of bushland open space which contains no assets but serves as a stormwater detention basin
Westfield Court Reserve	Passive	A very small parcel of open space which contains no assets and is encircled by Westfield Court (roundabout).
Westland Drive Reserve	Passive	A small open space which has been established in the Westland Drive road.
Tingha Way Reserve	Linear	A large tract of open space which includes a pathway with lighting connecting Clara Street and Amy Street in the northern area of West Ulverstone
Lugana Crescent Reserve	Neighbourhood	A large open space with an area of 4,702m ² which includes a playground with a double swing, slide, play structure, managed lawns and trees.
River Road Reserve	Linear	A foreshore reserve which connects with Tobruk Park and contains several seats.
Picnic Point Reserve	Linear	A small open space which provides access to the Picnic Point Beach. It contains a parking area, toilet complex, swings and other play equipment.
Queen Street Reserve	Linear	A small open space providing access to the West Beach Reserve which contains several seats and tables.
West Beach Reserve Local Park	Neighbourhood	A playground located in the larger district West Beach Reserve which contains a slide, play structure and other play equipment in addition to kick around space.
Legion Park	Neighbourhood	A medium sized local open space located on the foreshore which contains double swings, a slide, a play structure and other play equipment in addition to a kick around space. It also includes a seat, several tables, barbecues and a shelter.
Air Force Park	Specific Purpose	A medium sized open space located on the foreshore which includes a table and several barbecues.
Ulverstone Boat Ramp	Specific Purpose	Boat ramp.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Tobruk Park	Parkland	A medium sized open space located on the foreshore with a parking area, toilets, multiple seats, tables, barbecue, shelter, gardens and tree plantings.
West Beach Reserve	Parkland	A large foreshore open space which provides a broad range of functions and assets to the community including beach access, playground, seating, tables, barbecues, pathways a kick around space.
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE		
There are no Regional Open Spaces located in this Precinct		

11.3.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the West Ulverstone open space distribution map.

Local Open Space Analysis

It is clear from the open space distribution map that open spaces in the West Ulverstone precinct are generally over serviced. However, there are some areas in the precinct which are under-serviced.

In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, it is determined that the following local open spaces are appropriately distributed throughout the precinct to provide equitable access to residents and are adequately meeting the local open space needs of the West Ulverstone precinct:

- Air Force Park
- Legion Park
- West Beach Reserve Local Park
- Tingha Way Reserve
- West Ulverstone Primary School
- Burnett Crescent Reserve
- Markm Court Reserve.

It is also apparent from the distribution map that local open space is not equitably provided to residents around the southern end of Amy Street and Clara Street. This area is currently provided with four open spaces within close proximity to each other including Highfield Crescent Reserve, Richardson Street Reserve, Markm Court Reserve and Burnett Crescent Reserve. By having so many local open spaces in such close proximity to each other the Council is over-servicing the area. However, given the topography of the precinct it is difficult to provide suitable connectivity across neighbourhoods. Therefore, despite the overservicing, Council recommends that these assets remain as is.

It is worth acknowledging that during the development of this Open Space Plan, Central Coast Council at the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 May 2024 (Minute No. 135/2024) retained the Richardson Street open space.

Another area which the Council is currently over-servicing with local open space is the Queen Street area. Local playgrounds are provided in this area at both the Picnic Point Reserve and West Beach Reserve. It is worth acknowledging that during the development of this Open Space Plan Review Community Consultation showed strong community support for the retention of the playground at Picnic Point.

In 2022, Health Consumers Tasmania identified a need for a community garden in West Ulverstone. The former clay-courts site was identified as a suitable location, and it is recommended that Council consider supporting a

garden and outdoor learning hub on the two western courts.

It is also apparent from the open space distribution map that there is currently no Council owned local open space provided in the Maud Street/Alice Street area. However, the West Ulverstone Primary School is providing a local open space function for the area with numerous pieces of play equipment and kick around spaces freely available to residents outside of school hours.

Surplus Local Open Space

Although there appears to be an over servicing of public open space in accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, the topography of the precinct restricts connectivity between the precinct neighbourhoods, with only the Picnic Point playground identified as surplus open space.

Connectivity

There is a good network of footpaths in the residential areas located closest to the Leven River and foreshore. The system will gradually be extended to the outer limit of the residential area where no trails are currently provided. The off-road trail network in West Ulverstone is limited and an off-road trail network that connects residential areas with the open spaces, sports grounds and trails on the foreshore and Leven River is required. The trail network should also link local schools, community centres and the West Ulverstone commercial strip.

Specific Purpose Open Space

Boat Ramps

A boat ramp is located at Flora Street near the Ulverstone Showground providing access to the Leven River for water recreation activities. This boat ramp is the largest facility provided in Ulverstone and has recently been upgraded to lengthen the ramp to improve launch and return access.

Precinct Open Space

There are two precinct open spaces that caters for West Ulverstone; located at West Beach Reserve and Tobruk Park.

The West Ulverstone Precinct provides access to the Leven River, Picnic Point Beach and includes the continuation of the Shared Pathway, with BBQ facilities and a public toilets.

Tobruk Park also provides access to the Leven River, includes a pathway and the Stage 1 of the Tobruk Park Sensory Garden. Stage 2 concept has been proposed with links the carpark to the garden through a senior exercise area.

It is recommended that a playground be established on

the site of the River Road Recreation Ground to cater for the increased housing development in the area and provide additional supporting infrastructure to the families using the ground.

Regional Open Space

There are no Regional Open Spaces located in this Precinct

11.3.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the West Ulverstone precinct against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-served by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council's Parks and Open Space Service and Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-served by an asset, the provision of the required asset will be included as an action in this plan

11.3.4 Actions

- Markm Court Reserve and Off Hearps Road to remain as a passive open space to provide ongoing stormwater detentions to the upstream developments.
- Explore the potential to relocate the Picnic Point playground equipment to West Beach Reserve to consolidate these facilities.
- Undertake stage 2 of the Sensory Garden at Tobruk Park.
- Undertake landscaping of the Highfield Court Reserve to provide a lower maintenance open space.
- Provide additional equipment at Legion Park to provide access to all abilities.
- Establish a playground at the River Park Recreation



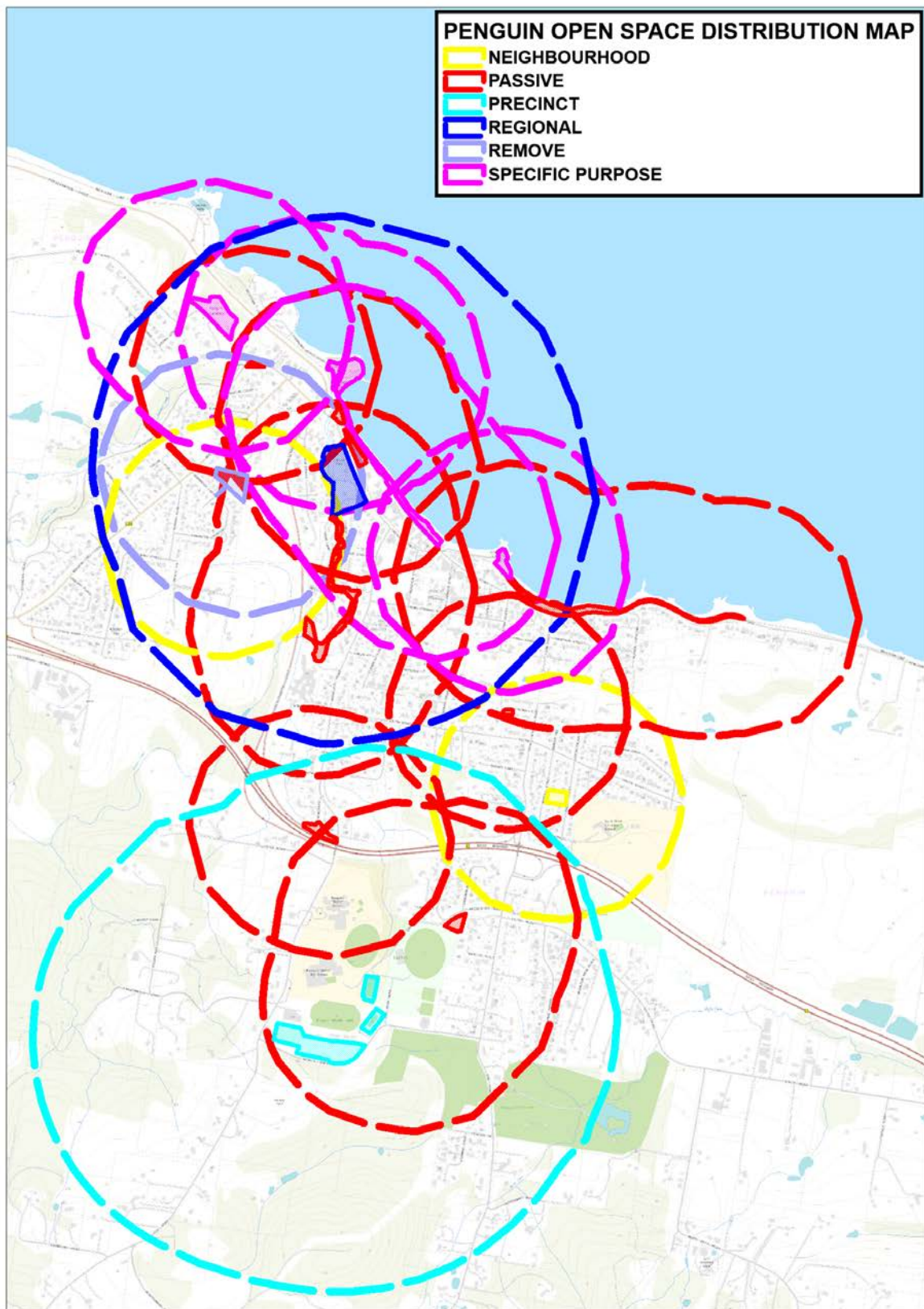
Ground to cater for the increased developments occurring south of South Road and families attending events at the ground.

- Investigate the interest for a public group/committee to manage the landscaping and maintenance of the ZigZag track off Clara Street.
- Develop and implement a Shared Pathway Masterplan.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct,

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Markm Court Reserve	• Retain for other services such as a stormwater detention basin..
Legion Park	• An additional seat is required
Lugana Crescent Reserve	• Playground equipment upgrades are required
Roland View Reserve	• Playground equipment upgrades are required
Off Herps Road	• Retain for other services such as a stormwater detention basin.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE	
West Beach Reserve	• Playground equipment upgrades are required

11.4 Precinct 4: Penguin





11.4.1 Provision of Open Space

The coast and foreshore are the key natural landscapes in the Penguin precinct with settings including beach, foreshore, bushland, lawn, open parkland and community gardens. The functions of open space in the precinct include social/family recreation, sport, flora and fauna conservation, and water-based recreation.

The open spaces currently provided in the Penguin precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps	
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Whittle Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	A large local open space with an area of 3,059m ² which contains a double swing, slide, play structure, additional play equipment, a seat and a half-court basketball court. The open space also provides a grassed kick around space.
Recreation Drive Reserve	Passive	A large 3.2ha parcel of land which is zoned Residential and contains no assets.
Ironcliffe Court Reserve	Passive	A small area of open space owned by DIER beside the Bass Highway.
Adina Court Reserve	Passive	A small open space with an area of 556m ² which is encircled by Adina Court and contains no assets.
Perry-Ling Gardens	Passive	An area of community garden established to the north of Penguin Road. The space contains two tables and interpretive signage.
Zvoni Gornik Lions Park	Specific Purpose	A large open space (5,369m ²) which serves various roles including beach access, family/social recreation, and civic gathering. This space includes parking and public toilet facilities, tables, a barbecue several shelters, trees and a large, grassed kick around area.
Penguin Beach Foreshore Reserve	Specific Purpose	An area of coastal open space which fronts the Penguin settlement to the north. It includes parking facilities, seats, a pathway and the ‘Big Penguin’ statue.
Penguin Beach Playground	Neighbourhood	A small, fenced playground located in the Penguin Beach Foreshore Reserve which contains a double swing, a slide and several other pieces of play equipment.
Killara Avenue Reserve	Passive	An area of open space which follows the Penguin Creek providing access and an informal path of travel along the creek.
Penguin Railway Station	Specific Purpose	A large open space which is located at the western entrance to Penguin. It provides an important family/social recreation and civic gathering function and is largely a grassed area with trees planted throughout and contains a seat.
George Hooper Reserve	Passive	A parcel of roadside open space which provides a small, grassed area and contains a seat.
Ashwater Crescent Reserve	Neighbourhood	A large open space with an area of 6,612m ² . This provides a kick around space and contains a double swing and three smaller play items. The open space also has two seats, a table and a rubbish bin.
Penguin General Cemetery	Specific Purpose	A cemetery.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Dial Park Sports Complex	Precinct	A large open space which contains an athletics facility (synthetic track and field facilities), indoor sports stadium, wood chopping centre; tennis court facility, lawn bowls greens and playground. The open space also includes a bushland corridor.
Johnsons Beach Reserve	Precinct	A large foreshore open space which provides a broad range of functions and assets including beach access, playground, seating, tables, barbecues, shelter, pathways, skate park, model railway, fountain flagpole, gardens and trees.
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE		
Hiscutt Park	Regional	A large open space which provides a broad range of functions and assets including playgrounds, seating, tables, barbecues, shelter, a half-court basketball facility, pathways, fountain, flagpole, gardens and trees

11.4.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Penguin open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

It is clear from the open space distribution map that local open spaces are reasonably well distributed throughout the Penguin precinct and are located within 400m of where most people live. However, there are some areas in the precinct which are over-served and other areas which are under-served.

In accordance with the open space classification hierarchy, it is determined that the following local open spaces are appropriately distributed throughout the precinct to provide equitable access to residents and are adequately meeting the local open space needs of the precinct:

- Whittle Street Reserve
- Ashwater Crescent Reserve
- Penguin Beach Foreshore Reserve
- Perry-Ling Gardens
- George Hooper Reserve
- Zvoni Gornik Lions Park, and
- Penguin General Cemetery.

Additionally, it is considered that with an area of 3,059m² the Whittle Street Reserve is over-sized for a local open space. The site is large enough to enable two residential lots to be developed whilst retaining an adequate Local open space. The development of two residential lots would be desirable from a site security perspective and it is therefore recommended that the Council subdivide the land to create a residential lot whilst retaining the balance of the land as local open space. A potential subdivision plan is provided below:



Possible subdivision of Whittle Street Reserve

Surplus Local Open Space

It is worth acknowledging that during the development of this Open Space Plan, Central Coast Council at the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 May 2024 (Minute No. 135/2024) disposed of Commonwealth Court, Fairway Drive open spaces and retained the Ashwater Crescent open space.

Connectivity

There is a network of footpaths in the business precinct and surrounding residential areas in the precinct as well as access ways and off-road trails along the foreshore. However, there are few local trails in residential areas. The pathway network will gradually be extended to the

outer limit of the residential area where no trails are currently provided. Such improvements will be achieved through implementation of the Council's Footpath Asset Management Plan and the North West Coastal Pathway Plan.

Specific Purpose Open Space

The Penguin precinct has a number of open spaces which are used for civic gatherings, community gardens and visual amenity. In the Penguin CBD, the Zvoni Gornik Lions Park provides the community with these functions together with beach access, access to Perry-Ling Gardens, public toilets, a barbecue and picnic facilities.

The Penguin Railway Station plays an important community gathering and aesthetic role at the western entrance to the Penguin CBD.

Boat Ramps

The precinct is serviced by a boat ramp and jetty at the Johnsons Beach Reserve which provides high and low tide access to Bass Strait for water recreation activities.

Cemeteries

The Penguin General Cemetery (Heritage listed) is located in the precinct and it needs to be maintained in accordance with the Central Coast Cemeteries Development & Operations Plan once it is developed.

Precinct Open Space

There are two open spaces categorised as Precinct under the Plan; Dial Park and Johnsons Beach Reserve. Each are sited so as to provide good coverage to their respective topographical areas.

Both open spaces offer barbecue and picnic facilities for families and group outings. Most residents in Penguin can access these open spaces within 800m of where they live.

Regional Open Space

Hiscutt Park poses risk of drowning with no fencing along the creek and around the pond. In addition, Penguin creek splits the park with its steep embankments that provide a barrier to a child exiting the water once they are in the creek. The current layout of the park is such that adequate supervision of children might be difficult.

The pond wall is degraded and beginning to collapse in several places. There are no public rescue devices installed in the park.

Given the target age of the playground at Hiscutt Park, it is considered a risk to maintain this park as a Precinct Playground. However, there are no suitable current

parcels of land within the Penguin Precinct that would provide sufficient space as a replacement, therefore a Master Plan approach should be undertaken to ensure the ongoing viability of the space.

11.4.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The table below provides an assessment of the assets provided in the Penguin precincts open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council's Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset will be included as an action in this Plan.

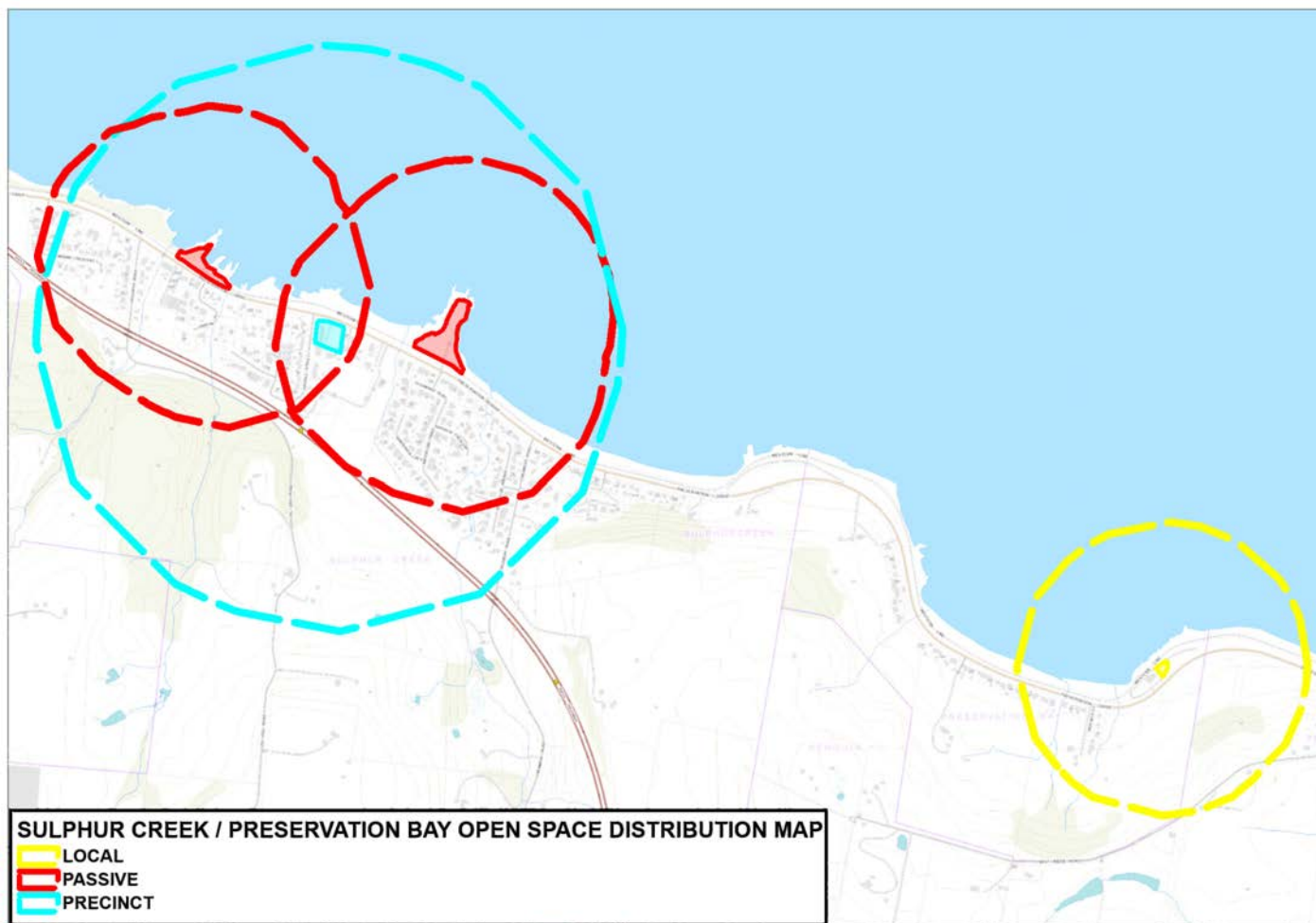
11.4.4 Actions

- Explore the reclassification as a passive site, or potential disposal of Adina Court.
- Upgrade asset provision to Ashwater Crescent.
- Subdivide the Whittle Street Reserve to create two residential lots and retain the balance of land as Neighbourhood open space.
- Develop a Hiscutt Park Masterplan and review safety risk of the pond.
- Investigate the interest for a public group/committee to manage the landscaping and maintenance of the ZigZag track off Mortimer Road.
- Develop and implement a Shared Pathway Masterplan.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Ashwater Crecent	Further asset provision is required
Whittle Street Reserve	Further asset provision is required
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE	
Hiscutt Park	Further asset provision is required as per Master Plan

11.5 Precinct 5: Sulphur Creek/Preservation Bay





11.5.1 Provision of Open Space

The foreshore and beaches are the primary open space setting types in the precinct with the main open space functions including social/family recreation, water-based recreation opportunities and landscape values.

The open spaces currently provided in the precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Classification	Description
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Dunkies Reserve	Passive	A small foreshore open space on the northern side of Preservation Drive which includes a parking area, a table and an informal boat ramp.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Sulphur Creek Hall Reserve	Precinct	A small space containing public toilets, community garden, picnic shelter with BBQ, seating and partially fenced playground, and a single piece of outdoor gym equipment.

11.5.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Sulphur Creek/Preservation Bay open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

It is clear from the open space distribution map that local open spaces are not well distributed in the Sulphur Creek/Preservation Drive precinct.

The Sulphur Creek Hall Reserve provides the only local open space outside that offered by the foreshore. The Reserve has been upgraded with playground assets, picnic and BBQ facilities, community garden and accompanying storage, seating, toilets, and outdoor exercise equipment.

The Penguin Surf Lifesaving Club offers the only structured sport opportunity in the precinct and is located in Preservation Bay.

Connectivity

Sulphur Creek/Preservation Bay residents need to travel to the neighbouring township of Penguin to access Precinct and Regional open spaces for sport and social/family recreation. A new shared pathway was constructed in 2023 between Sulphur Creek and Penguin.

Specific Purpose Open Space

Boat Ramps

There is a small boat ramp built and maintained by the local community provided in the precinct located in the Dunkies Reserve. However, the ramp is closely bordered by rock shelves on both sides and it is not considered to be a safe launching facility and access is becoming an issue with vehicles and trailers crossing the railway

line. Given that there are boat ramp and jetty facilities provided in both Penguin and Heybridge, the Sulphur Creek boat ramp is over-servicing the precinct. At the Council meeting held on 21 October 2013 (Minute No. 328/2013) the Sulphur Creek rail crossing and boat ramp was considered and the Council carried the following motion, “That the Council consult with the community with regards to whether the Sulphur Creek boat ramp should be closed due to safety concerns and provide a report back to the Council.” As part of the Parks and Playground Community consultation in May 2025, no community feedback was received which leaves this still unresolved.

Precinct/Regional Open Space

The Precinct/Regional open space needs of the precinct are provided via Sulphur Creek Hall Reserve.

11.5.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the Penguin precinct’s open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council’s Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset is included as an action in this Plan.

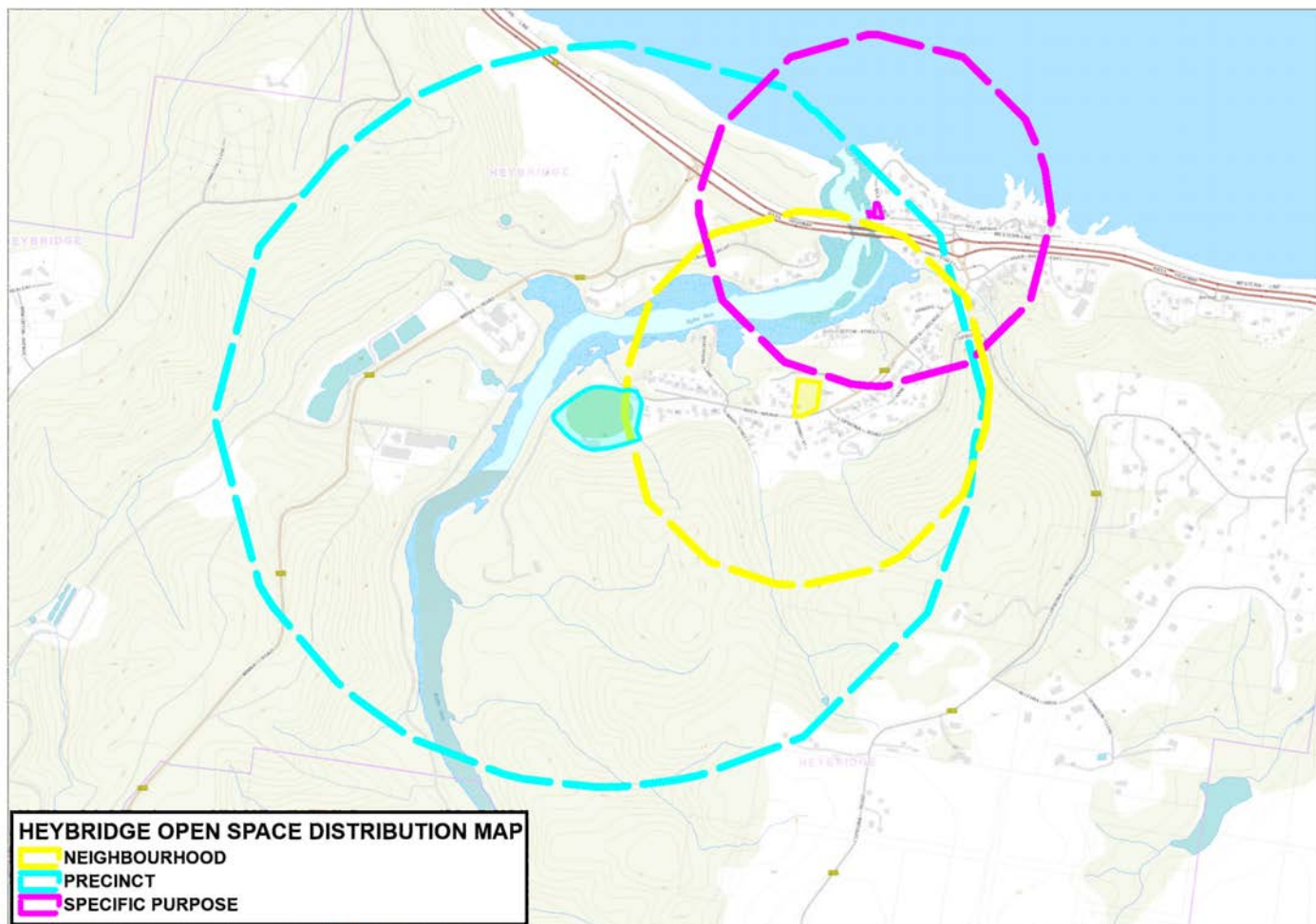
11.5.4 Actions

- Increase landscaping and canopy cover within the precinct.
- Consider closing the boat ramp at Dunkies Reserve.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Reserve opposite Dunkies	Over-serviced by a parking area, boat ramp and table
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE	
Sulphur Creek Hall Reserve	Some landscaping is required

11.6 Precinct 6: Heybridge





11.6.1 Provision of Open Space

The open spaces in Heybridge comprise the riparian corridor along the Blythe River to Blythe Heads, the foreshore and beach and the Blythe River bushland area.

Open space settings provided in the precinct include the waterway corridor, bush land, lawn or managed sports turf and open parkland which provide for bushland trails, social/family recreation, water-based recreation as well as flora and fauna conservation.

The open spaces currently provided in the precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Classification	Description
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Blythe Heads Hall Playground (non-Council owned)	Local	A small local playground provided near the foreshore with play equipment and a kick around space.
Sice Avenue Reserve	Passive	A small local space located at the western end of Sice Avenue with picnic assets and a boat ramp.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Heybridge Recreation Ground	Sports Surface	A recreation ground with opportunity for a playground.

11.6.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Heybridge open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

It is clear from the open space distribution map that open spaces are not well distributed throughout the Heybridge precinct.

The Blythe Heads Hall, and its associated open space, is located on the foreshore overlooking the coastline. This hall and open space is managed by the Heybridge Improvement Association and includes a small playground area, public toilet and outdoor shower. It is recommended that the Council work with the Association to assist in the development and maintenance of this open space in the future.

There is also a local playground provided on the Fire Station Reserve which council installed on Crown owned land.

It is recommended that when the asset life expire towards the end of this current plan, the assets within this reserve are disposed and new play opportunities provided to users of the Heybridge Recreation Ground and the local population.

The Council does not currently provide any local open spaces in the area surrounding Cuprona and with a population of 140 people area does not meet the open space classification hierarchy requirement to be provided with local open space.

Connectivity

There are no footpaths in the residential areas, although a pathway runs from Heybridge along the southern side of the Bass Highway linking the precinct with Sulphur Creek. It has been proposed to provide a footpath along River Avenue to improve connectivity within the settlement.

Specific Purpose Open Space

Boat Ramps

There is a boat ramp and jetty located at the mouth of Blythe River that offers access to the river for water recreation opportunities. It is recommended that this boat ramp be retained as it offers access to the Blythe River and Bass Strait for boat users located in the western portion of the municipal area.

Precinct/Regional Open Space

Currently the Heybridge Recreation Ground provides a Precinct open space function for the precinct. There is future opportunity for a playground.

The Precinct and Regional open space needs of the Heybridge precinct are predominantly met by the Penguin precinct, as residents in the precinct are within a 10 minute drive of accessing open spaces such as Hiscutt Park and the Penguin Recreation Ground.

11.6.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

There are currently no open spaces provision gaps.

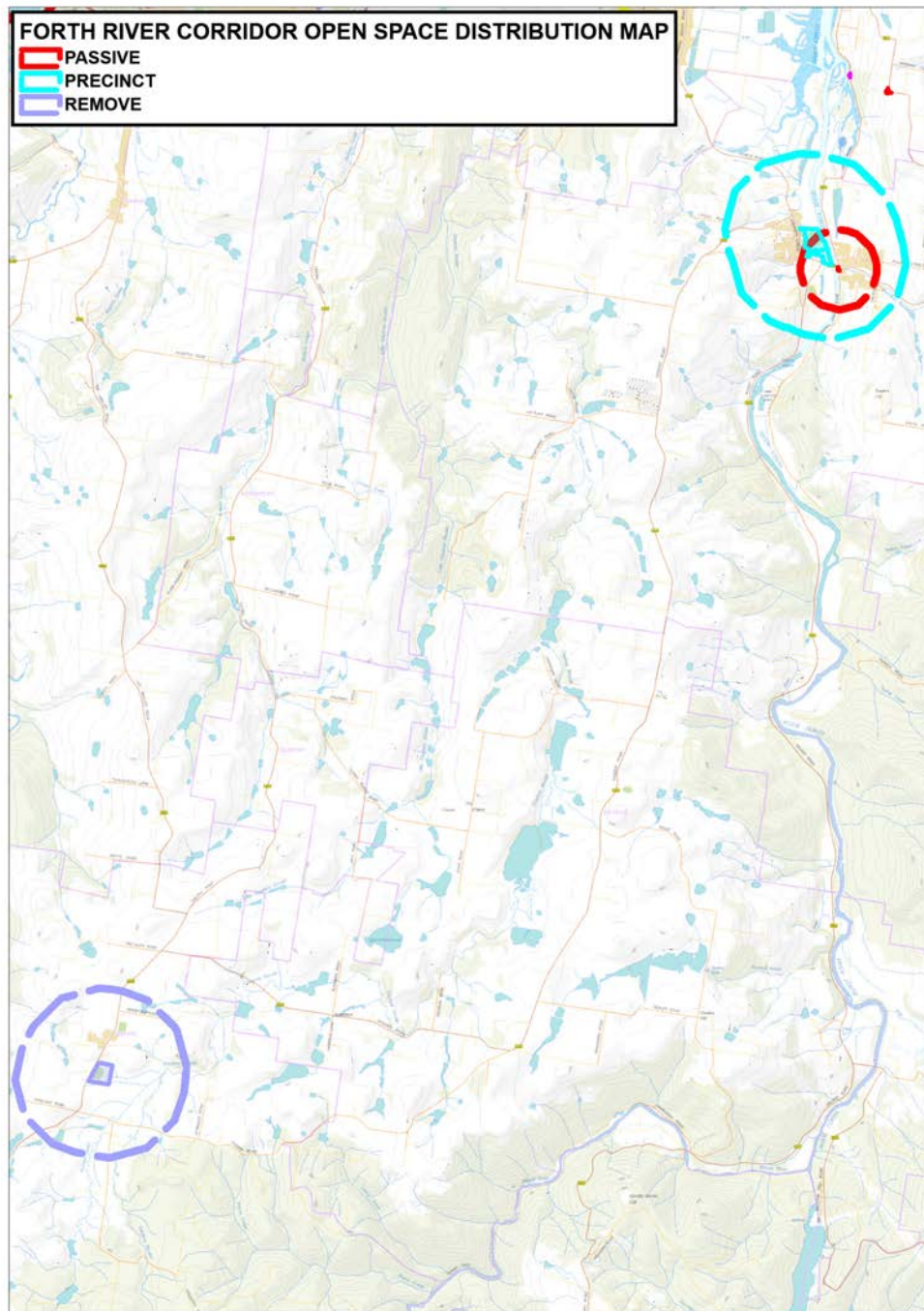
11.6.4 Actions

- Keep the Blythe River boat ramp available for public use.
- Work with the Heybridge Improvement Association to develop and maintain the equipment provided in the Blythe Heads Hall Reserve.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct.
- Dispose of park and playground assets in Fire Station Reserve and provide new playground at Heybridge Recreation Ground.

11.7 Precinct 7: Forth River Corridor

(Includes Forth, Kindred and Sprent)





11.7.1 Provision of Open Space

The open space settings provided in the precinct include a waterway corridor, wetlands, managed sports turf and open parkland providing functions including sport, social/family recreation, water-based recreation as well as flora and fauna conservation.

The open spaces currently provided in the precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Classification	Description
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Forth Bridge Reserve	Passive	A small open space overlooking the Forth River containing several tables.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Forth Recreation Ground	Precinct	A large local open space which includes a playground. There is a large, grassed area for use as a kick around space while trees are planted throughout.

11.7.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Forth River Corridor open space distribution map.

Local and Precinct Open Space

It is clear from the open space distribution map that local open spaces are generally well distributed in the Forth River Corridor precinct.

The Forth Recreation Ground which has been identified as a precinct open space as it contains a local open space component in the form of a playground. The Forth Specific Local Area Plan identified through the strategy of “strengthen the sense of community” to provided facilities and activities for children and young people.

This required a review of the playground facilities at the Forth Recreation ground. It was found that the existing equipment needed some upgrade to ensure an acceptable standard along with appropriate equipment for young children, including a climbing structure or the like. Fencing of a play area was also deemed appropriate (depending on a risk assessment) along with the provision of seating and shade.

While there is currently no Council owned local open space provided in Sprent, the Sprent Primary School is providing a local park function with numerous pieces of play equipment, oval and hard court area freely available to the community outside of school hours. The Council would need to provide a local open space in Sprent if the school were to close in the future.

Connectivity

There is a good network of footpaths in the Forth village, however, this network is incomplete in places. These gaps will be addressed through planned footpath extensions in the Forth Specific Local Area Plan. This proposal is supported by this Plan as, from an open space perspective, it is clear that the Forth community needs to travel to the neighbouring settlements of Turners Beach and Ulverstone to access Precinct and Regional level open space for sport and social/family recreation.

Regional Open Space

The Regional open space needs of the Forth River Corridor precinct are met by Ulverstone, as residents are within a 10-15 minute drive of accessing Regional open spaces such as Fairway Park.

11.7.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the Forth River Precinct’s open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council’s Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset will be included as an action in the Plan.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Sprent	No provision of Council owned local playgrounds or passive spaces.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE	
Forth Recreation Ground	All access play equipment required.

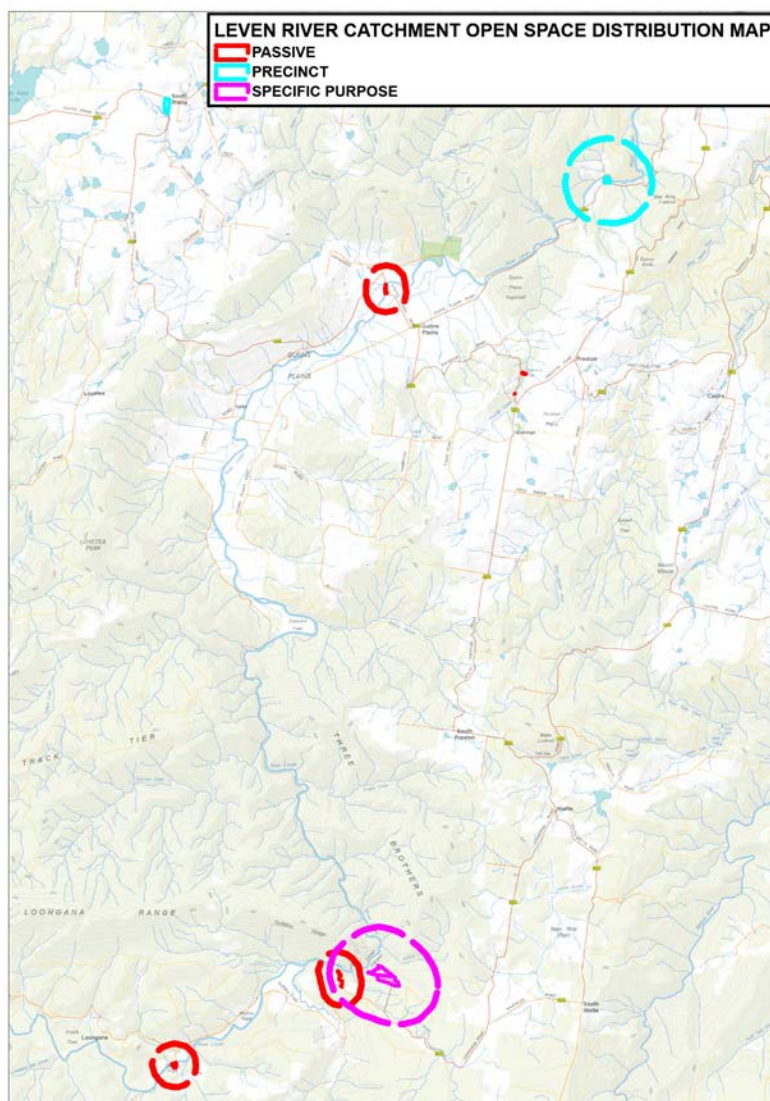
11.7.4 Actions

- Consider if Council should provide a local level playground in Sprent.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct.
- Provide future playground services (if supported) at Forth Recreation Ground.
- Investigate provision of off-leash dog exercise park

11.8 Precinct 8: Leven River Corridor

(Includes townships of Gawler, Gunns Plains, Nietta and North Motton)





11.8.1 Provision of Open Space

The Leven River runs from the coast to the Leven Canyon. The river corridor is a wildlife corridor and contains considerable biodiversity in the Central Coast. The open space functions provided in the precinct include sport, social/family recreation, water-based recreation as well as flora and fauna conservation.

The open spaces currently provided in the Leven River Corridor precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Classification	Description
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
North Motton Reserve	Local	A large local open space with an area of 4,001m ² containing a double swing, slide, play structure, seats, tables, barbecues, a shelter and a small kick around space.
Preston Falls	Passive	A small open space containing a boardwalk, bridge, signage and a rubbish bin.
Castra Falls	Passive	A natural space containing a flagged walking track with no other assets
J.R. Lee Memorial Park	Passive	A medium sized open space of 3,218m ² which includes several seats, a table, trees and a grassed kick around space.
Taylors Flats		A small open space with access to the Leven River no facilities.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE		
Bannons Park	Precinct	A large open space on the upper banks of the Leven River provided with toilet facilities, barbecues tables, trees and grassed areas. The space is used for fishing, camping and picnics as well as general group and family outings.
REGIONAL OPEN SPACE		
Leven Canyon Reserve	Regional	A large open space which provides bushland trails and two lookouts over the Canyon together with barbecue facilities, shelters, toilets, car parking and kick around spaces.

11.8.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Leven River Corridor open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

The precinct's open space distribution map illustrates that there are adequate local open spaces provided to service this rural precinct.

The settlements of Gunns Plains is serviced by J.R. Lee Memorial Park which adequately meets the rural community's neighbourhood open space needs. The park provides a passive local open space in Gunns Plains which can be used for picnics and as a kick around area.

North Motton is also well serviced for local open space with the centrally located North Motton Reserve providing a playground and kick around space.

It is apparent from the precinct's open space distribution map that the settlement of Gawler is currently under-serviced by local open space. Gawler has a population of around 703 people with 120 or so school aged children living in the area and therefore, it is recommended that the Council investigate the opportunity of a neighbourhood open space in the Gawler area such as the Gawler Hall site. Regional open spaces such as Fairway Park and Anzac Park are only a five minute drive away.

Central Coast Council sign a lease agreement with Sustainable Timbers for the management of the approximately 48 hectares of the Castra Falls area as a public recreational reserve including the Casta Falls walking tract circuit.

Precinct Open Space

The only open space Council owned Precinct is located in North Motton and is associated with the North Motton Equestrian Complex. As a precinct open space as it contains a neighbourhood open space component in the form of a playground.

Bannons Park in Gunns Plains is providing a Precinct open space function on the upper banks of the Leven River. It is provided with toilet facilities, barbeques and tables and attracts people for fishing, camping and picnics as well as general group and family outings. Although this open space is not located within the defined settlement area with people in close proximity, and there are low numbers of children residing in the Gunns Plains area, it is a well visited area and numbers of tourist using this site is increasing, it is therefore recommended that this Park be provided with 'neighbourhood' service level play equipment.

Regional Open Space

The Leven Canyon is located 42km's south of Ulverstone and covers approximately 5,000ha. Spectacular views are provided down 250m into the Canyon from two lookouts. The Canyon provides bush land trails and lookouts over the Canyon together with a large open area provided with barbecue facilities, shelters, toilets, car parking and two open self-contained fire pits. The Canyon is classified as a Regional Open Space as it attracts visitors from all parts of the region who will often spend more than several hours enjoying the experience of the open space, with increasing numbers of overnight stays also occurring on the site. Expired assets have recently been renewed and ongoing works to the track are underway.

11.8.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the Leven River Corridor precinct's open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council's Parks and Open Space Service and Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset is included as an action in the Plan.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
Castra Falls	Undertake track and asset review.
PRECINCT OPEN SPACE	
Bannons Park	Investigate the opportunity to provide playground assets

11.8.4 Actions

- Investigate a small playground at Bannons Park.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct.
- Undertake track and asset review at Castra Falls.
- Define Taylors Flats as Passive

11.9 Precinct 9: Dial Range Corridor

(Includes townships of West Pine, Riana and South Riana)





11.9.1 Provision of Open Space

The Dial Range is a chain of mountains and covers some 5,200ha of Crown land. The range consists of three State Reserves:

- 4,354ha is State Forest and Forest Reserves managed by Forestry Tasmania;
- 300ha is within the Mount Montgomery State Reserve managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service;

- 35ha is within the Ferndene State Reserve managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service.

The primary landscape setting in the precinct is bushland/foreshore while the open space functions include social/family recreation and water-based recreation as well as flora and fauna conservation.

The open spaces currently provided in the Dial Range Corridor precinct are described in the following table:

Open Space	Classification	Description
LOCAL OPEN SPACE		
Pioneer Park	Local (non-council managed)	A local open space provided with toilet facilities, play equipment, grassed areas and trees. Managed by the Riana Pioneer Tourist Association.
Montgomery Trail Head	Unclassified Open Space	A carpark containing public toilets and picnic shelter assets. This site services the Mount Montgomery State Reserve.

11.9.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Refer to the Dial Range Corridor open space distribution map.

Local Open Space

Riana Primary School is providing a local open space function with numerous pieces of play equipment and kick around areas freely available to the community outside of school hours. Additionally, Pioneer Park provides a space for family recreation and includes barbecue facilities and a basic playground. This area is managed by the Riana Pioneer Tourist Association and Council works with the association to assist in the development and maintenance of this open space.

The Council still owns the site of the former South Riana Recreation Ground which is currently vacant and unused for any structured open space activities. Because of the local open space offering at both the Riana Primary School and Pioneer Park it is considered that the provision of further local open space at this locality would over-service the precinct. Additionally, the site is not required as a recreation ground because the Riana Recreation Ground is adequately servicing the precinct. Accordingly, it is considered that the South Riana Recreation Ground is surplus open space.

Precinct Open Space

There are no identified Precinct Open Space areas.
Regional Open Space

The Regional open space needs of the Dial Range Corridor precinct are provided in Penguin and Ulverstone as residents are within a 10-20 minute drive of accessing Regional open spaces such as the Dial Park, Hiscutt Park, Fairway Park.

11.9.3 Open Space Asset Provision Gaps

The following table provides an assessment of the assets provided in the Dial Range Corridor Precinct’s open spaces against the asset provision standards. Where an open space is over-serviced by an asset, the asset will be removed when it is due for replacement in accordance with the Council’s Parks and Open Space Asset Management Plan. Where an open space is under-serviced by an asset, the provision of the required asset is included as an action in the Plan.

Open Space	Asset Provision Gaps
LOCAL OPEN SPACE	
–	Nil

11.9.4 Actions

- Work with the Riana Pioneer Tourist Association to maintain and improve the social/family recreation infrastructure provided in Pioneer Park.
- Replace ageing equipment such as seats and tables across the precinct.



11.10 Precinct 10: Blythe River Corridor

(Includes township of Cuprona)



11.10.1 Provision of Open Space

A riparian corridor along Blythe River and the Blythe River Conservation Area are the two significant open spaces in the precinct. These flora and fauna conservation sites also provide off-trail, and water-based recreation functions.

There are no local open spaces in the Blythe River Corridor precinct.

Bushland trails are provided in the Blythe River Conservation Area. There is an opportunity to connect these trails with a future trail network in Heybridge.

11.10.2 Discussion, Gaps and Opportunities

Local Open Space

The Council does not currently provide any local open spaces in the area surrounding Cuprona and with a population of 140 people area does not meet the open space classification hierarchy requirement to be provided with local open space. Heybridge township has a playground with local standard assets provided at the Fire Station Reserve, and a non-council managed playground north of the chopping arena at the mouth of the river.

Precinct/Regional Open Space

The Precinct/Regional open space needs of the Blythe River Corridor precinct are met by Penguin as residents are within a 10-15 minute drive of accessing Regional open spaces such as the Penguin Recreation Ground and Hiscutt Park.



Appendix 1: Unclassified Open Space

Unclassified open spaces do not provide any of the functions or purposes identified in the open space classification hierarchy on page 20 of the Plan. Unclassified operational open spaces are sites which are currently maintained by the Council while, as the

name suggests, unclassified non-maintained open spaces receive no Council maintenance.

Central Coast’s unclassified open spaces are listed below:

Unclassified Operational Open Space	
Nature Strips	Parks
Water Street (Ulverstone Bowls Club)	Western Interchange
Eastland Drive (East Ulverstone School)	Eastern Interchange
Eastland Drive (Deegan Marine)	Industrial Drive/Ocean Drive traffic islands
Flora Street (nature strip)	Ocean Drive traffic islands
Flora Street (Showgrounds)	Marion Street grassed area
Forth Road (Poynton’s)	Penguin Surf Club
Henslowes nature strip/Chamberlain Street corner	Miscellaneous
Beach Road verge – Caravan Park to end	Allambie Crescent Creek
Wrights Road South nature strip	Buttons Creek Caravan Park – April/November
Clarke Street and Trevor Street nature strip	The hive gardens
Ihlata Street including Riverside Avenue	Gawler Hall (front section)
Home Court around the seat	TJ McKenna House
Queen Street at the Caravan Park	Ironcliffe Road (opp. Penguin Primary School)
Turners Beach Road and Forth Road	Coroneagh Street traffic island
Crescent Street, Penguin	Stubbs Court, Penguin
Recreation Drive nature strip	Penguin Refuse Disposal Site\ Montgomery Trail Head
Olympic Court nature strip	Gardens
Deviation Road	Information Centre, Penguin
	Wongi Lane