


A low-angle, side-profile photograph of a woman with reddish-brown hair tied back, running vigorously against a clear, bright blue sky. She is wearing a black tank top and black shorts. Her right leg is extended forward, and her left leg is pushing off. Her arms are in a dynamic running motion. The image is partially framed by a dark blue vertical bar on the left and a dark purple horizontal bar at the bottom left. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the lower right portion of the image, containing the title and subtitle text.

**Recreation & Open Space
Strategy**

**Break O'Day Council
Municipal Management Plan**
October 2014

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Document Status			Approved For Issue	
Version	Author	Reviewer	Signature	Date
Draft	Anna Grant Elaine Treglown	Elaine Treglown	Authorised	25.7.14
Final	Elaine Treglown	Elaine Treglown		21.10.14

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1. Executive Summary

1 Executive Summary

Recreation and open space facilities play an important role in promoting a sense of community and in improving physical and mental wellbeing for residents. Break O'Day Council has embarked on the preparation of a Recreation and Open Space Strategy to address supply and demand requirements and to ensure that infrastructure and open space continues to meet the ongoing needs of participants. This strategy is one of a number of comprehensive studies which will inform the Municipal Management Plan, thereby ensuring that the future vision for Break O'Day and its townships is realised.

This report adopts the open space planning process as recommended by the *Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework Report* (Sport and Recreation Tasmania, 2010) which evaluates the current and projected demographic characteristics; establishes an open space inventory; applies the open space classification and hierarchy system to the inventory; assesses community and user needs; assesses trends in open space provision; and identifies improvements.

This strategy confirms that the Break O'Day Municipality is generally well resourced in terms of open space and reception facilities, subject to the provision of a small number of additional facilities in specified sports, such as basketball and swimming. There is also a need to improve the spatial distribution of facilities, particularly in outlying communities. Further, this strategy has also identified a need for expanded diversity in the range of facilities offered to provide for year round, multiple use activities. Such facilities will cater for indoor recreation, an aging population, and will support a broader range of activities for families. Facilities should also cater for an expanded range of activities, including individual activities which acknowledge the varied lifestyles of the community. Accordingly the key principles of this strategy are 'diversify opportunities', 'maximise accessibility', 'encourage participation' and 'improve linkages and useability'.

A number of other key outcomes have been identified within this strategy including the need for coordination of the management of major sporting facilities and in holding of informal sports sessions for particular target groups (eg. teenagers), to increase overall participation rates.

Council should also ensure that local open space continues to be provided in adherence to the Acceptable Solutions/Performance Criteria contained in the Recreation and Open Space Code (Part E10.0) of the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013, with amendment of such criteria to specify the value of the contribution or amount of land to be dedicated. This will ensure that future land which is dedicated or purchased for open space purposes has minimal constraints and is suitable for its intended purpose. Disposal of a number of sites which are zoned open space but which are not suitable for recreational purposes is recommended. Council should also actively encourage dedication of open space land in larger subdivisions, rather than a cash contribution, to create walkable communities and to ensure that a local park is provided within 500m of all urban dwellings.

To assist with funding of the Action Plan within this strategy Council should continue to pursue government funding for major infrastructure including a multi- purpose indoor recreation & aquatic facility at St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground and the St Helens Foreshore - Georges Bay Multi Use Track from St Helens to Akaroa link.



2. Introduction

2 Introduction

2.1 Background to the Study

In 2012 Break O'Day Council embarked on the preparation of a Municipal Management Plan which was intended to provide direction for future land use and development in Break O'Day. This Recreation and Open Space Strategy has been prepared as an integral part of the Municipal Management Plan, to address supply and demand requirements and to ensure that infrastructure and open space continues to meet the ongoing needs of participants. This strategy is one of a number of comprehensive studies which will inform the Municipal Management Plan, thereby ensuring that the future vision for Break O'Day and its townships is realised.

2.2 Benefits of Open Space Provision

Recreation and open space facilities play an important role in promoting a sense of community and in improving physical and mental wellbeing for residents. The vision for the open space system within Tasmania is described within the Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework (2010, Sport and Recreation Tasmania) which states that *"Tasmania will have a diverse, comprehensive and sustainable open space system, providing health and wellbeing, environmental, sport and recreation, social and economic benefits. The Tasmanian open space systems will be developed and managed in response to the needs of the community and visitors, whilst respecting our unique environment"*.

The benefits of both active and passive parks and recreation spaces include:

- *The attraction of businesses and employees in search of relaxed lifestyle and quality of life.*
- *The promotion of physical activity and a reduction in the risk of obesity.*
- *Effective strategic planning and utilization of spaces can assist in contributing to the 'livability' of towns and cities, including linear linkages for alternative transport (such as walking, cycling) and providing safe spaces for people to socialize in.*
- *Urban areas can be seen to benefit from parks, community gardens and recreational open space through stimulated commercial growth and inner city revitalization. Recreation and tourism are sometimes synonymous.*
- *Opportunities for diversification of recreational activities (opportunities for youth in particular).*

The population of the Break O' Day region exhibits a higher than average proportion of elderly residents and young families, which suggests that there is a need to target particular groups within the community and to ensure that facilities assist in meeting both the social and recreational needs of residents. The influence of climatic conditions, Break O'Day's ageing population, changing recreation participation levels and changing work patterns will influence the need for open space and the type and amount of open space required.

2.3 Aims and Objectives

The project aims of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy are to:

- (a) Identify the existing level, location and useability of recreational facilities and identify potential difference in supply and demand in terms of location and type of facility.
- (b) Determine the potential usage levels of existing facilities.

- (c) Identify areas where the supply of open space is insufficient and where there are gaps in recreation programs, infrastructure and policy procedures.
- (d) Ensure that the qualitative and locational distribution of open space and recreational facilities is appropriate based on area demographics.
- (e) Prepare a list of priorities for the provision of upgrading of facilities.
- (f) Identify mechanisms by which improved usage of facilities could be realised.
- (g) Identify the most appropriate use of community recreation facilities and open space, having regard to changes in the socio economic nature of the Council and recreation participation trends.
- (h) Recommend any possible combined use of facilities to maximise usage levels.
- (i) Suggest any possible linkages between open space areas and recreational facilities.
- (j) Develop a strategic framework and achievable action plan which addresses gaps and is fully integrated into other relevant Council planning processes and
- (k) Consider regional initiatives as well as existing services and facilities in neighbouring Councils when planning for the needs of the community.

2.4 Study Methodology

The methodology to be employed in the preparing the Recreation and Open Space Plan involved the following stages:

- (a) Review of existing studies and documentation pertaining to recreation and open space usage and facilities. This will be undertaken through visual inspections and through phone surveys of key facilities.
- (b) Review of the St Helens Sports Complex – Business Strategy and incorporation into the Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- (c) Prepare an inventory of existing key facilities and estimated levels of usage.
- (d) Review national, state and local trends and extrapolate data relative to the Break O' Day situation.
- (e) Create a database of recreation needs within the local government area, based on an analysis of demographics and existing facilities.
- (f) Define potential linkages with open space, based on the outcomes of the Open Space Strategy.

2.5 Open Space Planning Process

This report adopts the open space planning process as recommended by the 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework Report' prepared by Inspiring Place for Sport and Recreation Tasmania and the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Arts in December 2010. The recommended process is:

- a) Establish a Project Steering Team with representation from all key stakeholders;
- b) Define the provision purpose, principles and objectives;
- c) Review the policy context;
- d) Establish and implement a community consultation program;
- e) Evaluate the current and projected demographic characteristics;
- f) Establish an open space inventory;
- g) Apply the open space classification and hierarchy system to the inventory;
- h) Assess community and user needs;
- i) Assess trends in open space provision, use and need;

- j) Identify improvements to existing provision and additional provision ('Needs Analysis');
- k) Identify sites for acquisition, reallocation and development; and
- l) Proceed to acquisition and development .

The study area for the purpose of this strategy is the Break O'Day Municipality, is outlined in red in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Study Area - Break O'Day Municipality



3. Demographic Profile of Break O' Day

3 Demographic Profile of Break O'Day

The Economic Development Strategy which was prepared by Michael Connell and Associates in 2013 as a component of the Municipal Management Plan outlines the major trends and indicators within the Break O'Day region, a number of which have immediate relevance to the provision of open space and recreational facilities. Relevant data from this report, which is based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census results, is summarised below:

3.1 Population

In 2011 the Break O'Day local government area had a population of 5995 persons, an increase of 441 persons since 2001. Table 1 demonstrates that the population growth has slowed in the 2006 - 2011 period, following a period of growth from 2001 to 2006.

Table 1: Population Break O'Day Municipality 2001-2011

Year	Persons
2001	5,554
2006	6,019
2011	5,995

Table 2 provides a more detailed summary of the population growth by age cohort during this period, utilising the percentage of the population contained within each age cohort. This data highlights that over the last decade there has been:

- A decline in number of persons aged 25-44;
- A decline in the number of children under the age of 14 years;
- An aging of the population evidenced in an increase in persons aged 55 years and over.

Table 2: Population of Break O' Day Municipality by Age Cohort

Population						
Age Group	2001		2006		2011	
	Share%		Share%		Share%	
0-4 years	364	6.6	303	5.0	316	5.3
5-14 years	730	13.6	844	14.0	703	11.7
15-19 years	256	4.6	249	4.1	281	4.7
20-24 years	164	3.0	183	3.0	176	2.9
25-34 years	543	9.8	509	8.5	435	7.3
35-44 years	848	15.3	814	13.5	659	11.0
45-54 years	896	16.1	981	16.3	980	16.3
55-64 years	799	14.4	1063	17.7	1167	19.5
65-74 years	531	9.6	648	10.8	792	13.2
75-84 years	319	5.7	331	5.5	349	5.8
85 years and over	81	1.5	94	1.6	136	2.3
Total	5554	100.0	6,019	100.0	5,994	100.0

Table 2 demonstrates the aging of the population, with growth in all age cohorts above 55. This table also shows a reduction in the number of families and children, with a contraction in the 25-44 and 0-15 year age groups.

The median age of Break O'Day residents and occupancy rates per dwelling is shown in Table 3. In 2011 the median age for residents within the Break O' Day municipality was 49 years of age, with the average household size being 2.1 persons per dwelling. The following table demonstrates the increase in median age to 49 years in 2011 and a reduction in average household size to 2.1 persons.

Table 3: Median Age within the Break O' Day Municipality

Break O Day LGA	2001	2006	2011
Median age (persons) years	43	46	49
Average household size	2.3	2.2	2.1

3.2 Population Projections

The Demographic Change Advisory Council (quoted in MCa, 2013) has prepared projections for all Tasmanian LGA'S for the period until 2031, which indicates that the Break O' Day area is expected to increase in population by 20% between 2011 and 2031. However, MCa conclude that these projections will not be realised with the recent slowdown in population growth, particularly in the medium term. Based on a 20% increase from the current population of approximately 6,000 persons, MCa predict that the Break O'Day Municipality will increase to approximately 7200 persons by 2031.

3.3 Resident Population

The population within the Break O'Day municipality is concentrated in the coastal areas, with 76.5% of residents living in coastal areas in 2011 and a total of 23.5 % of residents living in inland areas. St Helens urban area contains the highest concentration of population with 1,498 persons (24.2% of LGA population), followed by St Marys with 800 persons (12.9%) and Scamander with 719 persons (11.6%). Table 4 details the number and proportion of residents within each town in the Break O'Day municipality. Also of interest are the large number of holiday homes in the area, with almost 40% of dwellings (1607) being holiday houses, as of 2011.

Table 4: Proportion of Resident Population By Town – Coastal and Inland 2011

Year	Persons	Share %
Coastal Locations		
St Helens (Urban Area)	1498	24.2
Stieglitz (includes Akaroa)	643	10.4
Binalong Bay	210	3.4
Ansons Bay/Pyengana	371	6.0
Beaumaris	282	4.6
Scamander	719	11.6
Falmouth/Four Mile Creek	195	3.1
Seymour (includes Gray)	141	2.3
Total Coastal	4059	65.5
Inland Locations		
St Marys	800	12.9
Fingal	366	5.9

Year	Persons	Share %
Mathinna	287	4.6
Balance (other Inland)	683	11.0
Total Inland	2136	34.5

3.4 Other Key Indicators

Within the Break O'Day area the overall labour participation rate was 43.9% in 2011, with this figure being higher in some of the smaller coastal locations.

Income levels for Break O'Day residents are typically not in the higher range, with 64% of individuals in 2011 having a personal income of less than \$600 per week and 35% having incomes of less than \$300 per week. Weekly incomes (for individuals and households) was higher for St Helens and St Marys in 2011. 43% of the population aged 15 year and over was in receipt of government payments in 2011 (Age Pension 19%; Disability Support Pension 9% and Newstart Allowance 7%).

3.5 Implications for Recreation Demand

The key indicators identified in Sections 3.1-3.4 above hold relevance in the assessment of the quantity, function and location of open space and recreation facilities throughout the Break O'Day area, with the implications of such data being:

- The need to consider the type of recreation facilities which will encourage retention of young families within the area;
- The aging of the population may impact on the overall demand for recreational facilities and open space, however there is a need to identify the type of facilities which are required by the elderly to encourage continued participation rates;
- The appropriate spatial distribution of facilities having regard to the distribution of the population;
- The implications of the utilisation of holiday homes during peak holiday periods which places considerable additional demands on recreation facilities; and
- The low levels of income within the Municipality which reflects limited ability to access recreational facilities and open space from a financial and mobility perspective.



4. Strategy Context

4 Strategy Context

4.1 State

Tasmania Together (Revised 2011), Tasmania Together Progress Board

This 'living' document sets 12 goals and 155 benchmarks to be reached by 2020 and is reviewed every 5 years. Goal 4 relates to active, healthy Tasmanians who have access to quality and affordable health care services.

Figures in relation to *Standard 4.1 Promote a Healthy Start in Life* indicate that the proportion of children (aged 5-14) participating in sport decreased from 2000 to 2010. The 2010 target was to see a 15% increase from the 2005 figures with a subsequent 5% each 5 year period to 2020. *Standard 4.2 Promote and Support Health Lifestyles* includes figures in relation to exercise and obesity, with the proportion of the Tasmanian population who do not do enough exercise to avoid chronic disease increased from 71.6% in 2001 to 72.7% in 2007-08, and the proportion of Tasmanians who are overweight or obese also increased in 2007-08 from 2001 figures.

Goal 5 relates to Vibrant Communities, where *Standard 5.4* seeks to support vibrant and connected communities through infrastructure and planning including encouraging community use of existing school facilities for community and recreation pursuits. In 2009, the number of hours of community use of school facilities state wide totalled 110,400. The state target for 2015 is a 20% increase on the number of hours from 2010 and a subsequent 15% increase to 2020.

Cycling for transport was a new benchmark which was introduced in the 2011 review. In 2011, 5.9% of Tasmanians cycled for transport. Future targets have not been established in the current review.

Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework, December 2010, Inspiring Place Pty Ltd, Prepared for Sport and Recreation Tasmania

This policy was born out of the absence of a state wide approach to open space planning, leading to a risk of open space planning being ad hoc, inconsistent and limited in addressing community needs or responding to emerging trends. The need to develop clear and consistent policies and strategies at state, regional and local level was sought to be addressed within the Framework.

The Framework sets out 4 key objectives and a number of recommended strategies to improve open space planning. A process of open space planning was also developed to provide a framework for consistent open space planning across the state to support the vision for the Tasmanian open space system: *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.

The Framework has developed an open space planning framework as a tool to contribute to the vision. One of the recommendations of this Framework is to adopt the open space planning process to facilitate a more orderly and consistent approach to open space planning across the state.

The Framework provides a context definition of Open Space, being:

Land and water settings maintained and managed for a range of environmental and social purposes and that are valued and may be used by the community, including: conservation of ecological processes (including ecosystem services such as clean water) native flora, wildlife habitat, conservation of cultural heritage and aesthetic values; sport, recreation and leisure functions both passive and active competitive and non competitive and including open space user support facilities but excluding indoor facilities; spaces to enhance the visual qualities and social character of urban and rural land scapes; linear linkages, including trails, pathways, road reserves, riparian reserves, habitat corridors; and beaches parks, playgrounds and other public spaces where the community can exercise, play, learn, and relax; hazard management, including but not limited to flood control, bushfire hazard management, climate change and rising sea level

Healthy by Design; A Guide to Planning and Designing Environments for Active Living in Tasmania, 2009-2010, National Heart Foundation of Australia

Healthy by Design aims to assist in the planning and design of the built environment to enable incidental physical activity in daily routines and is built upon research conducted by the Heart

Foundation. Tasmania currently ranks poorly against the national health averages, having higher rates of cardiovascular disease and preventable risk factors such as obesity and smoking.

A number of planning and design considerations are relevant to open space, including retrofitting strategies, a combination of new development and retrofitting strategies, and primarily new development. Such planning and design considerations include:

- Providing open spaces within safe and comfortable walking and cycling distances;
- Connecting open spaces to the broader walking and cycling network;
- Creating attractive open spaces;
- Encouraging active recreation;
- Providing for comfort and convenience;
- Creating safe open spaces;
- Fostering community spirit.

The Action Check List for open space management includes undertaking an audit of existing open space; looking for opportunities for new or upgraded facilities to create links; identifying opportunities for retrofitting; and monitoring the effectiveness of retrofitting strategies during regular maintenance activities.

One strategy outlined seeks to create walkable communities, where people have the opportunity to walk no further than 500m to a local park, and recognises that upholding this allocation in subdivision is necessary and vital to improve the health and social and economic viability of communities. One of the objectives in providing open space is to encourage individuals to engage in physical activity in open spaces when carrying out their daily activities such as shopping, working and studying, where open spaces are connected, accessible, well designed and maximise opportunities for planned and incidental activity.

4.2 Regional

Vision East 2030, The East Coast Land Use Framework, December 2009,

Vision East 2030 is a document which focuses on the community and economic potential of the east coast of Tasmania. The overarching aim is to provide a Land Use Framework to maintain the quality of life of the region by enhancing overall potential while protecting assets.

Consultation as part of the Vision East 2030 process revealed that easy access to a range of recreational opportunities is one of the key factors contributing to quality of life of the region, specifically providing opportunities for residents to pursue healthy lifestyles. The two issues addressed in the Framework relation to the location and number of parks and reserves, and recreation facilities. The two relevant policies are:

1. *Provide a comprehensive range of parks, reserves and sporting facilities throughout the East Coast in accordance with the Settlement Hierarchy.*
2. *Enhance the community's health and their enjoyment of the East Coast through the provision of a range of recreation facilities.*

The following actions have been outlined:

- LS25 Prepare an East Coast Parks and Reserves Network Strategy to coordinate the development of recreation areas throughout the East Coast.
- LS26 Prepare a Public Open Space Strategy to coordinate the development of public open space in urban areas.
- LS27 Include provisions in the planning schemes requiring new urban developments to provide public open space or cash in lieu in line with the Public Open Space Strategy.
- LS28 Provide for the development of recreation facilities that are consistent with the functions of the settlements as defined in the Settlement Hierarchy.
- LS29 Prepare recreation facilities and infrastructure plans for higher order centres (i.e. district towns)

In accordance with the Vision East hierarchy for the Break O'Day region, St Helens acts as a 'district town', St Mary's acts as a 'town', with Fingal and Scamander classified as 'villages', with all other settlements defined as 'hamlets'. From this it was also identified that St Helens features a high growth capacity, while St Marys and Scamander possess medium growth capacity. In this regard, it is essential that the provision of open space and recreational opportunities are in accordance with this hierarchy of settlements and their future growth capacity within the Break O'Day municipality, where St Helens acts as the highest order settlement and features the highest growth capacity within the municipality.

Regional Land Use Strategy of Northern Tasmania, 2011, JMC Engineers & Planners & Northern Tasmania Development

The purpose of the Regional Land Use Strategy of Northern Tasmania is to provide a strategic plan for the region of Northern Tasmania's future development and planning over the next 20 years to 2032. There are 4 key goals put forward in the strategy in relation to productivity, liveability, sustainability and strong governance. The Strategy recognises numerous benefits of regional recreation and open space planning. Goal 2 is set in relation to enhancing liveability, being to *"Enhance community and social development through liveability measures to create strong and vibrant urban and rural settlements in accordance with the regional land use categories and related regional planning policies."* One of the ways this is to be achieved is by ensuring the community has access to a range of quality open space and recreational opportunities.

It will be crucial to provide quality open spaces and recreation services which are accessible and safe to contribute to vibrant urban life, assist in community building, healthy lifestyles, contribute to amenity of the region as well as conservation of natural and cultural values.

Northern Tasmania Regional Recreation Trails Strategy, February 2004, Inspiring Place Pty Ltd

This Strategy was developed for the planning, development, management and marketing of multiple use trails within the northern Tasmanian region. It was identified that the number and diversity of trails within the region is great, where Break O'Day and Meander Valley local government areas feature 70% of the region's walking tracks.

The Strategy discusses trends in Australian recreation in sport such as a greater emphasis on cultural, non-competitive and passive leisure opportunities; a broader array of activities convenient to individual lifestyles rather than team sports; the desire for year round and multiple use facilities; the need for accessible facilities; and growing interest in environmentally sustainable activities. The main potential trails located in Break O'Day include the Blue Tier Trail and the East Coast Trail.

Two of the main impediments for the development of the Blue Tier Trail include the need to identify a suitable route in the eastern portion of the trail,

and the lack of developed facilities in the eastern portion of the trail. Opportunities for the development of the trail include utilising existing track networks.

The East Coast Trail would potentially utilise significant tracks, where the coastal settlements within Break O'Day – St Helens, Scamander and St Marys can provide the necessary infrastructure to cater for visitors, which includes campsites. The East Coast trail would provide walking, with select areas providing mountain biking and horse riding, with some nearby forestry tracks also providing four wheel driving opportunities.

Action Plans for the East Coast track include develop and upgrading the St Helens to St Marys segment of the trail to link the two settlements, and the segment between St Marys to Bicheno through Douglas Aspley National Park.

Mountain Bike Tourism Potential in Northern Tasmania, October 2011, SixDot Consulting

Due to the growth of participation in mountain biking, there are opportunities for rural and remote communities to tap into the growing mountain biking market, in which the document describes Northern Tasmania being well placed due to the availability and diversity of natural landscapes. Significant opportunities for mountain bike facility development was identified including improving access and the quality and quantity of trails and upgrading signage along the tracks along the Blue Tier trail.

Current riding areas are the Blue Tier area and the Scamander State Forest. Stakeholder assessment identified priorities for mountain biking relevant to the Break O'Day municipality include upgrades and additional trail developments including a new single track trail to provide a return loop to/from the Wellington Creek Track / Blue Tier Descent, and further investigation into the potential for mountain biking in certain sections of the North East Rail Trail.

The development of the Blue Tier /Derby/Welborough was identified as a high priority, while the Bay of Fires area was considered unsuitable for development currently.

4.3 Local

Break O'Day Settlement Strategy, November 1996

The Break O'Day Settlement Strategy formed the basis for the Planning Scheme 1996 and identified where and in what form development should occur in order to meet the goals and objectives of Council's Strategic Plan. In this Strategy, land was not to be accepted as open space unless it can form part of an existing open space system and is of value for recreation or environmental management.

The strategy acknowledged the recreational uses of the forests, specifically the Fingal Forests, in which the Miami Park Picnic Area, Mathinna Falls Walk, Evercreech Forest Reserve, Griffin Camping Area, Mt Puzzler Forest Reserve and the Scamander Forest Reserve were used for a range of recreational uses including swimming, camping, picnics, fishing, boating and scenic appreciation.

An inventory of recreation and open space facilities was included in the Strategy which included parks and recreation areas, golf courses, boat ramps, public camping areas, public toilets and sports grounds, identifying their concentration on the coast and within St Marys and Fingal. The major area of concern identified was in relation to the facilities within public camping areas managed by Parks and Wildlife Service, and the adequacy of public toilets outside of towns.

The Strategy concluded that the "Municipality has a good range of parks and recreation areas, golf courses and boat ramps. All of these facilities are well used and their maintenance appears to be adequate".

Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2011

The Draft Interim Planning Scheme recognises that the region has significant assets which include recreational opportunities (2.2.1). In this Scheme, a Recreation Zone and Open Space Zone has been included, as well as a Recreation and Open Space Code. The following definitions have been outlined in the draft Scheme:

Passive recreation: use of land for informal leisure and recreation activities principally conducted in the open. Examples include public parks, gardens and playgrounds, and foreshore and riparian reserves

Public open space: means land for public recreation or public gardens or for similar purposes.

Outdoor recreation facility: means use of land for outdoor leisure, recreation, or sport

Sports and recreation: use of land for organised or competitive recreation or sporting purposes including associated clubrooms. Examples include a bowling alley, fitness centre, firing range, golf course or driving range, gymnasium, outdoor recreation facility, public swimming pool, race course and sports ground.

The purpose of the Recreation Zone is (18.1.1) to provide for a range of active and organised recreational use or development and complementary uses that does not impact adversely on the recreational use of the land; with the objectives being (18.1.2) to ensure that residential amenity of adjoining residential properties is maintained; to limit the range of uses to only that necessary to serve the purpose of the zone; and to recognize historical development of recreation sites.

The Desired Future Character Statement is that recreation grounds will continue to provide recreation opportunities as their core function (18.1.3).

The zone purpose of the Open Space Zone is (19.1.1) to provide land for open space purposes including for passive recreation and natural or landscape amenity; with the objectives being (19.1.2) to ensure that residential amenity of adjoining residential properties is maintained; to limit the range of uses to only that necessary to serve the purpose of the zone; and to recognize historical development of open space sites

The purpose of the Recreation and Open Space Code is to consider the requirements of open space and recreation in the assessment of use and development, with emphasis on:

- (a) the acquisition of land and facilities through the subdivision process;
- (b) implementation of local open space strategies and plans to create quality open spaces;
- (c) the creation of a diverse range of recreational opportunities via an integrated network of public open space commensurate with the needs of urban communities and rural areas.
- (d) achieving an integrated open space network which provides for a diversity of experiences.
- (e) providing for appropriate conservation and natural values within recreation and open space.

The provision of public open space is addressed in E11.5.1, with the following objectives:

- (a) *To provide public open space which meets user requirements, including those with disabilities, for outdoor recreational and social activities and for landscaping which contributes to the identity, visual amenity and environmental health of the community.*
- (b) *To ensure that the design of public open space delivers environments of a high quality and safety for a range of users, together with appropriate maintenance obligations for the short, medium and long term.*

Break O'Day Strategic Plan 2011-2015

There are five goals of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015: Community Building; Environment and Planning; Leadership and Governance; Economic Development; and Asset Management to achieve the Strategy vision, being *to ensure an active, forward looking and well management community creating a unique and desirable place to live, work and visit.* The development of the Recreation and Open Space Plan is an identified activity under the umbrella goal of community building. Strategy 4 seeks to plan for and support access to quality services and facilities, with a key factor being that the needs of all age groups and communities are met, particularly youth, people with disabilities and the ageing population.

Part of the Goal for Asset Management, with the objective being to ensure the efficient and effective provision of appropriate community needs, is to provide a framework for Council to manage, maintain, enhance and develop open space for the benefit of residents and visitors.

Break O'Day Annual Plan 2013/14

A number of community assets associated with recreation and open space facilities have been identified in the Annual Plan 2013/14 for building work. Projects include the replacement of the toilet blocks at Talbot St, Fingal (\$110,000) and Fingal Recreation Ground (\$105,000) and the replacement of the scoreboard at St Marys Recreation Ground (\$18,000).

Community Plan 2000 – 2005

The Community Plan aimed to set out a number of goals and objectives in relation to the future of the Break O'Day community. A number of issues were identified through community consultation to be subsequently addressed through various objectives

and strategies. Under Program 4 Government Services, in order to retain and improve current levels of services and facilities, the development of an integrated recreation plan, and provision of a recreation officer were identified.

Break O'Day Tourism Development Strategy 2012-2017

The Tourism Development Strategy recognises tourism is critical to the future of the region, where the population more than doubles in size during summer holiday periods. The Strategy includes an Action Plan in which open spaces and natural assets are acknowledged. An Action Plan for enhancing the visitor experiences includes open spaces such as completion of the St Helens boardwalk, capitalising on existing nature based activities such as trails, and ensuring access roads to Blue Tier Trail are maintained all year round.

St Helens Structure Plan, Urbis, 2013

This Structure Plan includes benchmarks for recreation and open space facilities, guided by the *Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas ASR Research 2008* which outlines the following:

Indoor Recreation centres:

1 per 10,000 population

1 per 40,000 population (aquatic)

Active Open Space reserves:

1 (4.5ha) per 6,000 people

Passive Open Space:

0.7ha per 1000 people

Based on these benchmarks, the Structure Plan identified the current provision in St Helens and Surrounds and future requirements. This plan indicated that an indoor recreation centre in the form of an aquatic centre is not considered necessary unless it was to receive revenue from the summer population. In regard to active open space reserves, a future requirement identified is that of an outdoor basketball court for unstructured recreation use, and in regard to passive open space, no further provision is required except to ensure there is access to local open space to residents within new subdivisions.

The summary of land use and community needs assessment identified that the benchmarks do not take into consideration levels of isolation or specific community needs such as seasonal needs which

were instead considered within the recommendations. Section 3.5.3 Implications states: *"Although the quantitative analysis has shown that it may not be necessary to provide an aquatic centre / gym unless it would receive significant use and receive revenue from the summer population, given the lifestyle enhancements this would make to the community, it could be necessary from a qualitative perspective"*. Another implication is that improvements could be made to the existing areas of open space.

The Structure Plan also notes that *"no further provision of open space is required except to ensure there is access to local open space to residents within new subdivisions"*.

In regard to the Movement Network, it is recommended that a walking and cycling track be completed from St Helens to Binalong Bay, and from St Helens to Akaroa (recommended between 2014 – 2017).

Other actions and recommendations of the Plan include: maintain and enhance public access, including disabled access, to the coastline; provide for limited appropriately located and designed tourism and recreation related structures or buildings along the Binalong Bay foreshore; identifying areas of greatest need for additional public open spaces; ensure areas of public open space are located, designed, landscaped and development in accordance with the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles.

Feasibility Study for the Development of an Aquatic Centre in the Break O'Day Municipality, March 2004, Thompson Tregear Pty Ltd

This Feasibility Study was conducted as a result of community voice indicating a desire for an indoor aquatic facility within the towns of Break O'Day. However, the high capital and recurrent costs of such a facility has hindered such a development.

The lack of such a facility has placed increased demand upon school facilities, particularly the St Helens District High school 15m heated pool which has limited facilities for wider community use, however is the only formal aquatic facility available for the St Helens residential catchment and unable to provide memberships to all residents. A 25m pool is located at St Marys District High School however is unreasonable for this

facility to cater for the St Helens resident catchment (A 35km drive from St Helens to St Marys, and further for surrounding smaller communities).

The lack of such a facility also limits the availability of exercise and hydrotherapy for older resident population, which is a growing demographic within the Break O'Day municipality. The provision of an indoor aquatic centre is preferred near the St Helens township. The Feasibility Study did not believe the inclusion of an indoor sports hall was justified.

Recommendations of the Study include Council formally resolving to reserve the site on the north eastern corner of the St Helens Recreation Ground for the purpose of an aquatic centre, and that a staged development be considered to an enhanced facility due to the high capital costs involved in such a development.

Feasibility Study for the Development of an Aquatic Centre in the Break O'Day Municipality, September 2005, David H Brown

This Feasibility Study considers site location, management and design considerations of a potential indoor heated swimming pool at the corner of Tully and Young Streets, St Helens. The Study poses a number of questions of consideration to Council to consider in determining the feasibility of constructing a six lane 25m heated indoor pool.

Briefing Document St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground, 2013, Break O'Day Council & Jennifer Binns

In 2013 Break O'Day Council prepared a Briefing Document in relation to improvement to the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground at an estimated cost of \$18,844,981. The preparation of the Briefing Document was endorsed by Council to enable staff to pursue funding for major infrastructure projects. The document confirmed that upgrades include:

- new indoor and outdoor netball and basketball courts;
- indoor sports centre with a swimming pool, tennis courts, gymnasium, cricket, soccer, volleyball and badminton;
- athletic and cycling infrastructure upgrade;
- sports pavilion including amenities;
- new equestrian enclosure over existing area and upgraded clubrooms; and

- upgrade to roads and carparking.

The Briefing Document was accompanied by existing site plans and a draft masterplan identifying the location of the new and improved facilities prepared by Jennifer Binns. A cost estimate prepared by Exsto Management also accompanied the brief.

Briefing Document - St Helens Foreshore - St Helens Foreshore - Georges Bay Multi-User Track, 2013, Break O'Day Council & Jennifer Binns

In 2013 Break O'Day Council prepared a Briefing Document in relation to the upgrade and extension of the existing multi user track from St Helens to Akaroa. The preparation of the Briefing Document was endorsed by Council to enable staff to pursue funding for major infrastructure projects. The project includes extension of the existing multi user track at an estimated cost for \$17,267,561. Concept plans for the various sections of this link were prepared by Jennifer Binns.

St Helens Foreshore Redevelopment, 2013, Break O'Day Council & Jennifer Binns

In March 2014 Break O'Day Council exhibited the St Helens Foreshore Redevelopment Concept Plans which incorporate additional facilities including formalisation of carparking areas; outdoor recreation facilities for the 8-15 year age group; basketball and netball rings; lighting; motor home parking and a more functional arrangement of spaces. Lighting of the skate park has now been completed.

Douglas Apsley National Park Management Plan August 1993

The Douglas Apsley National Park lies wholly within the Break O'Day municipality, and provides visitors with relaxation, recreation and appreciation of the natural landscape of Tasmania's east coast. The park is divided into a number of zones, which includes a Visitor Services Zone, and a Recreation Zone. The Recreation Zone includes Heritage Falls, Nichols Cap and the Douglas River and provides camping and walking trails. Facilities in this zone will include walking tracks upgraded for safety and improved track marking. Designated camping areas with environmentally appropriate toilets and signs will be monitored and limited to locations beside the Douglas River.

Bay of Fires Conservation Area and Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area Site Plan, September 2011, Inspiring Place Pty Ltd

Due to the increasing level of interest to the Bay of Fires region, the Bay of Fires Conservation Area and Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area Site Plan provides guidance on sustainable management and positive visitor experience to the region. Consultation components of the Site Plan development identified the need for improving the safety for cyclists and possible bike path links between St Helens and Binalong Bay.

Four key day visitation sites were identified for enhancing the Bay of Fires experience and appropriately managing the recreational use of the area. These include a foreshore park in Binalong Bay to the east of the boat ramp facilities; Sloop Rock Point to the north of Seaton Cove; the southern end of Taylors Beach beside the Sloop Lagoon Inlet; and the northern end point of The Gardens Road.

The Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area is identified as an important recreation facility for visitors and residents providing camping, hiking and water activities.

4.4 Recent Reports to Council

October 2012 - Item No.10/12.157: Proposal to Relocate Fingal Tennis Court

This report considered the sale of the Fingal Tennis Court property and the use of the proceeds of sale to fund a new tennis court at the Fingal Recreation Ground. Council resolved that this matter be considered as a matter of priority in the preparation of the Recreation and Open Space Development Plan.

Council at its meeting of September 2013- Item 09/13.13.6 granted authorization for the sale of the Fingal Tennis Court Site.

January 2013 - Item No. 01/13.14.7: In -Principle Support for Construction of New Netball Court- St Helens Sports Complex.

This report confirmed that the St Helens Netball Association was seeking Councils in principle support for the construction of new netball courts and fencing adjacent to the St Helens Sports Complex Main Building. Council resolved to provide this support.

This matter was again considered in September 2013 (Item 09/13.15.7) with it being noted that Council had provided \$25,000 towards the new

netball court and the Netball Club had raised funds of \$25,000. The report sought Council's support for the funding shortfall of \$50,000 (exc GST) if the \$500,000 promised by the previous Labour Federal Government was not forthcoming.

Council resolved to continue to pursue the \$500,000 but if not successful that Council provide an additional \$50,000 of funding.

April 2013 - Item No. 04/13.15.6: Installation of Netball Hoop- Mathinna Recreation Area, Installation of Basketball Ring- St Helens and Installation of Half Court Ball Game Facilities

Council considered a report regarding the erection of a netball hoop at Mathinna Recreation Area and a basketball ring at St Helens Foreshore or St Helens Recreation Ground. The estimated costs were:

- i) Netball hoop -\$2000 – plus the costs of a slab
- ii) Basketball Ring -\$2000 – plus the costs of a slab
- iii) Half Court Ball Facilities-\$66,000 including preparation, 100mm concrete slab, flexi-pave/line marking, ring/hoop, lighting

Council resolved to erect the netball hoop at Mathinna Recreation Ground and the basketball ring at St Helens Foreshore or Recreation Ground following completion of a risk assessment to determine the most appropriate site.

Council also resolved that consideration be given to the possible installation of ball game facilities throughout the municipality during the preparation of the Recreation and Open Space Development Plans.

September 2013 – Item 09/13.14.6 – Fingal Sports Complex Toilet Block (Brown Street).

Council noted that the Fingal Recreation Ground Toilet Block is in disrepair and requires demolition however noted that it is generally only used for 3 events per year. Council resolved to defer the construction of the amenities building until further community feedback had been obtained.

September 2013 – Item 09/13.11.8: Kings Park – Open for Public Use

This report considered a resident's request that road access to Kings Park be made available during daylight hours. The report noted that resourcing to accommodate this would be maintenance costs of \$2,500 per year; opening/closure of gates of \$9,000 per year; minimal one off cost to change bins and replace

signage; and unquantified cost for additional rubbish bin collections.

Council resolved that the park be made fully open for public use but Councillors also noted that the parking area be improved near the BBQ, with bollards to stop vehicles going beyond that point.

September 2013 – Item 09/13.13.7: Blue Tier Mountain Bike Facility

The report considered final site plans and mountain trails prepared by Dirt Art, subject to cost identified in the tender process (by Dorset Council) being:

- Trail 1 – Weldborough to Poimena – 25km
- Trail 2 – Blue Tier summit area – 6km
- Trail 3 – Weldborough Loop – 12km

Council resolve to adopt the final site plan and mapping trails



5. Recreation Participation Trends

5 Recreation Participation Trends

5.1 National Participation

Survey results compiled by the Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey (ERASS) funded by the Australian Sports Commission and various government agencies reveals that there has been a slight increase in physical activity both in Australia and Tasmania over the past decade.

Across Australia, in 2010, an estimated 14.4 million persons aged 15 years and over, or 82.3% of the population, participated at least once annually in physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport (total participation). An estimated 8.3 million persons aged 15 years and over, or 47.7% of the population, participated at least three times per week, on average, in physical activity (regular participation).

The ERASS Annual Report provides a number of key trends in relation to national participation rates. Overall the regular participation rate appears to be slowly increasing, which has predominately been attributed to the increase in non-organised physical activity which increased by 11% between 2001 and 2010, compared to the increase in organised physical activity which increased by 3%. There was however a slight increase for club based physical activity (3% for males and 1% for females).

The top ten physical activities in 2010, in terms of total participation rate, were:

- walking
- aerobics/fitness
- swimming
- cycling
- running
- golf
- tennis
- bushwalking
- outdoor football
- netball

Of these top ten activities, the largest increase in total participation between 2001 and 2010 was for aerobics/fitness, which has been increasing steadily by 110% since 2001. Participation in running, outdoor football, cycling and walking also increased in the ten-year period. Of club based activities, martial arts and tennis experienced the greatest decline.

Activities which experienced declines in their participation between 2001 and 2010 included tennis (24% decrease compared to 2001), swimming (6% decrease since 2001) and golf (down 5% between 2001 and 2010).

For the non-organised physical activities in 2010, the top ten activities in terms of total participation rate were:

- walking,
- aerobics/fitness,
- swimming,

- cycling,
- running,
- bushwalking,
- golf, tennis,
- weight training,
- fishing.

The top ten organised physical activities in 2010 were

- aerobics/fitness,
- golf,
- outdoor football (soccer),
- netball,
- Australian Rules football,
- tennis,
- basketball,
- touch football,
- outdoor cricket and
- lawn bowls.

Of these, Australian Rules football experienced the greatest national increase, by 64%. Tennis declined by 24% and golf by 7%.

5.2 Tasmanian Participation

According to Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey (ERASS), in 2010, Tasmania was ranked 7th, out of the 8 Australian States and Territories for participation in exercise, recreation and sport. The Report '*An Analysis of the 2010 Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey Results: Participation of Australians and Tasmanians in Exercise, Recreation and Sport*' outlines a total 3.1% increase in total participation of Tasmanians to 80.3%, comparable to the 3% total increase of Australians of the period from 2001 to 2010.

The proportion of Tasmanians participating in regular physical activity increased 10.6% to 45.1% in this period. Total participation is highest amongst the 15-24 age cohort which then decreases with age, with the exception of the 35-44 age cohort. The total participation rate of the Tasmanian population aged over 65 years is the lowest, however, has experienced the greatest increase from 2001 to 2010, with a total increase of 11.5%.

Similar to the national trends, the most popular physical activities in Tasmania were walking, followed by aerobics, swimming, cycling and bush walking for non-organised activities. Of organised activities, the most popular is aerobics, followed by golf, Australian Rules football, netball and basketball.

A number of trends were highlighted by the Heart Foundation in Healthy By Design Guidelines, which was prepared in 2004. Tasmania had the second lowest life expectancy for all states and territories, with mortality rates for cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes significantly higher than the Australian average. Research in Tasmania has shown that:

- 71.7% aged 15 years and older are not sufficiently physically active (72.2% for 18 years and older)
- 23.9% aged 15 years and older smoke (24.9% for 18 years and older)
- 37.2% aged 18 years and older are overweight and 26.7% are obese, using measured body mass index.

Healthy by Design outlines *"the built environment can hinder or help an individual to be more active and healthy. In recent decades the segregation of land uses and activities, the huge emphasis on facilitating private vehicle travel and the scaling back of public transport—along with technological and wider social changes—have resulted in less daily walking and cycling. Incidental activity can also be achieved through engaging in outdoor activities in open spaces, such as community gardening, urban conservation work and play."*

Based on these trends, walking and cycling routes that enable people to be more active in their daily routines, together with access to sporting facilities is important in planning for healthy communities.

5.3 Local Participation

Report No. 8 Strategic Recreation Plan for Northern Tasmania and Report No. 2 – Participation in Regional Sport and Recreation (Northern Tasmanian Municipal Organisation (NTMO) Recreation Committee: Regional Recreation Planning Project, 2000) seeks to provide an analysis of regional participation and to establish a recreation planning framework for nearby municipalities of northern Tasmania. The Report states that important regional considerations for the needs, issues and demands are:

- Well developed facilities with on-going management, maintenance and programming appear to be the major barriers to maintaining high usage and quality.
- Need for more emphasis on open space and trail development to ensure that opportunities for unstructured activities are enhanced.

The report acknowledges that *"The implications of growth or decline in different age groups mean more or less need/demand for certain types of sport and recreation services in the region. For example, it is clear that older age groups will expand in number and proportion whilst each LGA will have either rising or declining numbers of young people due largely to population mobility."* Therefore, an understanding of the population demographics across the age cohorts within the municipality, play an important role in planning for sport and recreation facilities.

The Tasmanian Open Space and Planning Framework (Inspiring Place Pty Ltd, for Sport and Recreation Tasmania, 2010) identifies a number of trends influencing open space provision and utilisation. The following trends are considered to be most relevant to the Break O'Day context:

- **Population ageing**

The ageing of the overall Australian population has changed the nature of recreation activities in the community with a growth in the demand for non competitive pursuits. The pattern of change has not been uniform with the middle to inner areas of most towns and cities having the greatest concentration of older residents. These are often the areas with the lowest levels of open space

provision or that have open space developed in keeping with past provision strategies and needs. Growing in parallel with ageing and greater personal wealth has been the recognition of the strong positive links between leisure and recreation involvement and health, community well being, social cohesion and social capital. All have led to a greater acknowledgement of recreation as a key human activity and as a basic right of everyone in the community

- **Changing participation rates.**

The participation rates of many traditional, structured sports has stalled in recent times, whereas there has been strong growth in the participation rates of less structured activities such as walking and cycling (which have grown in participation by 39 per cent and 57 per cent respectively in Tasmania between 2001 and 2008, ERASS 2008). These changes in participation trends are likely to be affected by many of the other societal trends identified, such as an ageing population, and cultural changes. A reduction in free time that many of us face is also a likely factor where the freedom of these less structured activities allows for more flexibility in when and where an individual can partake.

- **Changing work hours and employment structures**

Fewer and fewer people are working a traditional five day, 40 hour week. With extended business and opening hours, more people are working odd shifts through the week or over weekends while there is a growing mass of casual and part time employees. These changes mean that there has been a spread of demand for recreation opportunities from a traditional weekend focus to a greater week day and week day evening focus.

- **Family structures**

Extensive changes have occurred in family structures over the past 30 years and these have further changed the demands on recreation resources and open space. The traditional nuclear family has declined in importance and is now in a minority as extended families with mixed generations of children and adults, group households and in particular, lone person households have become more common. These changes have led to new patterns and levels of demand for recreation and open space resources and to a more diverse and extended period of demand.

A number of other factors will also play a role in the provision and utilisation of open space including:

- Economic development and affluence
- Financial borrowing regulations.
- Population growth
- Changing home and living styles
- A multicultural society
- Community based cultural interests
- Growing levels of education
- Technology
- Equity and access.



6. Open Space Classification & Targets

6 Open Space Classification & Targets

6.1 Open Space Defined

The 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework' provides a context definition of **Open Space**, being:

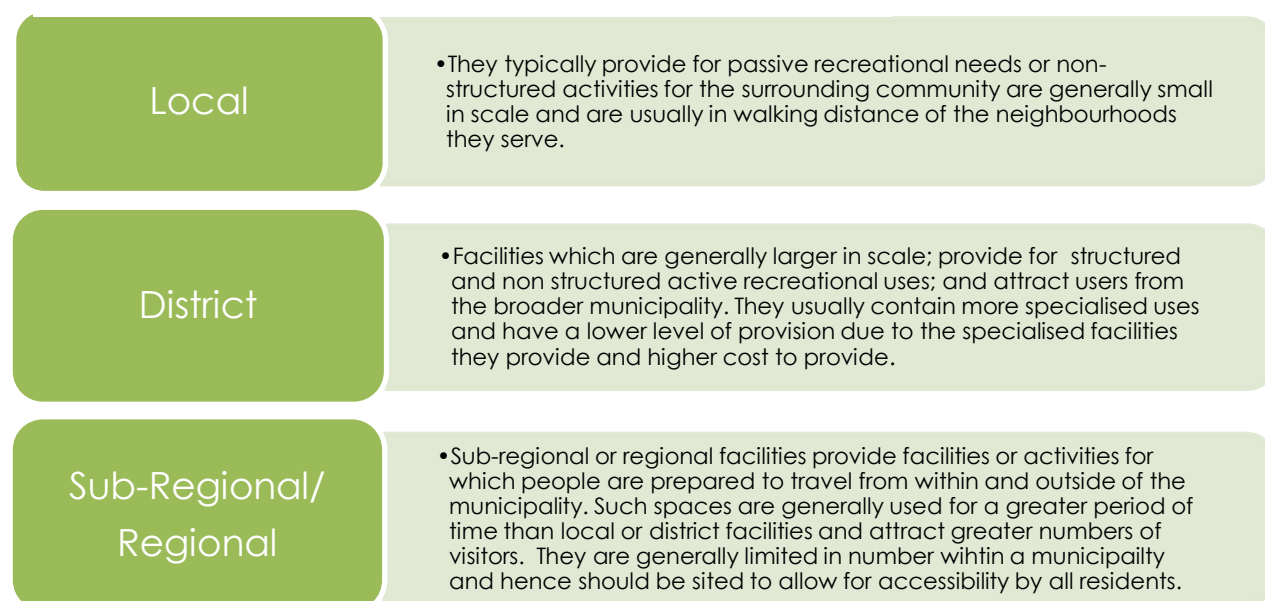
Land and water settings maintained and managed for a range of environmental and social purposes and that are valued and may be used by the community, including:

- *conservation of ecological processes (including ecosystem services such as clean water) native flora, wildlife habitat,*
- *conservation of cultural heritage and aesthetic values;*
- *sport, recreation and leisure functions - both passive and active competitive and non competitive and including open space user support facilities but excluding indoor facilities;*
- *spaces to enhance the visual qualities and social character of urban and rural land scapes;*
- *linear linkages, including trails, pathways, road reserves, riparian reserves, habitat corridors and beaches;*
- *parks, playgrounds and other public spaces where the community can exercise, play, learn, and relax;*
- *hazard management, including but not limited to flood control, bushfire hazard management, climate change and rising sea level.*

6.2 Open Space Hierarchy and Classification

For the purpose of the current analysis open space areas have been classified dependent on their hierarchy at a catchment level and based on their function or use. The hierarchy which is utilised is consistent with that recommended by the Planning Framework, to provide a level of consistency in the classification of open space throughout the state. Figure 2 below identifies the catchment levels and provides a description of the characteristics of open space areas within each category within this catchment level hierarchy.

Figure 2: Open Space Catchment Classification



6.3 Open Space Characteristics

As recommended by the Framework each parcel of open space designated for recreation purposes within Break O'Day has been classified within an inventory based on its characteristics and functions, with the intention that this classification will then inform the management of such land. The classifications are detailed in Table 5 below:

Table 5: Open Space Functional Classification

Catchment	Characteristics
Parks	An open space area which may be utilised for structured or non structured sporting activities or passive uses but which contains limited built facilities, with the exception of amenities etc.
Outdoor Sports Venues	A facility which is utilised for the purpose of active recreational pursuits in an outdoor setting.
Landscape and Amenity	Open space areas which are typically utilised only for passive purposes due to their dual functional purpose of providing a visual backdrop.
Linear and Linkage	Open space area which are elongated in form and which provide connection between facilities.
Foreshore and Waterway	Open space areas along foreshore or riparian areas.
Conservation and Heritage	Areas identified for open space purposes due to their heritage/biodiversity significance or which provide spatial separation to heritage structures which are sited on the land.
Utilities and services	Lands which contain utilities as their core function but which may also be utilised for open space purposes.
Proposed Open Space	Land which has been identified for future open space purposes.

6.4 National Benchmarks

In order to undertake a quantitative analysis of the provision of open space it is necessary to firstly determine if there is an appropriate benchmark by which the provision of open space and facilities should be assessed. The 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework' (2010) does not contain specific ratios for the provision of open space or recreational facilities and hence Table 6 contains a comparative analysis of the ratios and benchmarks for the siting of open space and recreational facilities which have recommended at the state level in Victoria and NSW. This table also contains in Column 4 the recommendations for siting of open space, as contained within the TASCORD guidelines prepared by the Department of Environment and Land Management in 1998.

Column 2 of this table incorporates the Victorian open space and recreation facility benchmarks contained in 'Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas' which was prepared by ARS Research in 2008, as contained in the St Helens and Surrounds Structure Plan prepared by Urbis in 2013. As a comparison, Column 3 contains the benchmarks and recommended siting of open space for NSW as contained within the 'Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government', prepared by Planning NSW in 2010. It should be noted that such standards have not been adopted statewide, with many local government areas adopting their own standards, dependent on local circumstances.

Table 6: Comparative Analysis of Victorian and NSW Recreation Benchmarks

Type of Facility	Benchmark Ratio		
	Victoria (Ref: Planning for Community Infrastructure in growth Areas, ARS Research, 2008)	NSW (Ref: Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government, Planning NSW, 2010)	Tasmania (Ref: TASCORD, Dept Environment and Land Management 1998)
Indoor Aquatic/Fitness Centre or Leisure Centre	1 aquatic leisure centre per 40 to 50,000 people	Not specified	Not specified
Indoor recreation centre	1 (2 court) facility per 20,000 to 30,000 people. 1 (4-6 court) facility per 40,000 to 60,000 people.	Not specified	Not specified
Active Open Space reserve	1 active open space reserve (8ha) per 6,000 people	5ha of local outdoor sporting area within 1km of most dwellings 5-10ha of district sporting area within 2km of most dwellings	2.83ha of open space per 1,000 popn District parks (of 3ha minimum area) to be provided within 2km of all dwellings in urban/suburban areas.
Passive Open Space Reserves	0.7 to 1ha of passive open space per 1,000 people	0.5-2ha park within 400m from most dwellings 2-5ha district park within 2km from most dwellings	
Tennis facilities	1 x 2 court facility per 25,000 to 35,000 people	Not specified	Not specified
Lawn Bowls Facility	1 lawn bowls facility (4 greens) per 40,000 people	Not specified	Not specified
Outdoor Netball Facilities	1 outdoor court per 3,500 people	Not specified	Not specified

6.5 Open Space Goals

It is apparent that the varied benchmarks which have historically been utilized in determining the required provision of open space vary significantly on a state and LGA basis and do not reflect the individual characteristics of a municipality and its residents. Clearly, there is a need to determine the provision of open space and recreational facilities having regard not only to a quantitative analysis but also an analysis which has regard to the unique circumstances of a local government area and the needs and expectations of a community.

Further, it is apparent that there is a move away from the traditional determination of open space and recreational needs based merely on population figures, towards benchmarks which are based on the siting of open space having regard to travel distance from dwellings. The need to provide open space and facilities

which encourage a high level of usage is also of high importance, rather than providing open space merely based on quantitative or locational criteria.

The 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework' prepared for Sport and Recreation Tasmania in 2010 acknowledges that the traditionally applied standard of four or more hectares of open space per 1000 residents or the payment of developer contributions at the rate of 5% of new subdivisions *does not necessarily result in improved planning outcomes*". Specifically, this study suggests that *"although much of the open space resources obtained through these processes make an invaluable contribution to meeting needs, they have often led to less than optimal outcomes because they generally do not achieve the best mix, diversity, size or distribution of provision"*. The shortcomings which this study has identified in utilising only this quantitative method include the following;

- The 5% contribution or 4 hectare per thousand person standard does not necessarily reflect the quantity or quality of open space which is needed to serve a community or municipality.
- There may be differences in the amount and type of open space which is required, dependent on whether the open space is to serve a new greenfield subdivision or a higher density residential environment.
- The quantitative approach may not meet the needs and desires of the community in relation to the type of activities and facilities they require nor does it reflect the demographics of a community;
- The application of a standard quantity of open space limits the ability to determine the appropriate provision based on an analysis of local, regional and state needs.

In the light of these limitations, this study suggests adopting a research-based approach to assessing open space provision needs. Accordingly, this analysis for the Break O'Day municipality utilises recommended benchmarks as a point of commencement in determining open space and recreational needs, but applies the individual circumstances of the area and the outcomes of the consultation process to determine the appropriate provision of facilities. Within the Break O'Day area a more place based approach is considered appropriately for existing settlements, having regard to the isolation of the townships throughout the municipality and the limited ability of residents to access regional sporting facilities. However, a qualitative and quantitative assessment is considered appropriate for new subdivisions where the characteristics of an estate are not yet known.

In selecting the standards which should be applied within the Break O'Day area it is noted that greater emphasis has been placed on the locational and area standards recommended within TASCARD, rather than the standards applied within NSW which would typically be appropriate in more dense urban situations. Further, the open space standards which are recommended within Victoria are generally based on a population density which does not reflect the local characteristics and separation of towns within the Break O'Day area from other urban settlements in the north-east of Tasmania. However, the Victorian benchmark standards for recreational facilities, which have also been utilised within the St Helens Structure Plan (Urbis, 2013) have been utilised as a point of commencement in determining the appropriate provision of recreational facilities, with further analysis occurring in the later sections of this study, having regard to the outcomes of community consultation and the individual need of Break O'Day residents.

Accordingly, Table 7 identifies the recommended principles for the provision of open space within the Break O'Day municipality, whilst Table 8 identifies the benchmark ratios and local issues which impact on demand for specified facilities.

Table 7: Recommended Principles for the Provision of Open Space & Recreational Facilities in Break O'Day

Open Space Catchment	Location	Function	Planning Principles
Local	Provide a local park (or 'pocket park' within 500m walking distance of all dwellings in urban areas.	Small local or pocket parks to allow for passive recreation uses and community gathering opportunities. Larger local parks to allow for passive recreation and/or limited active unstructured uses (such as ball games) or playground equipment.	Allow for multiple use of drainage networks for open space purposes where this space is functional and safe. Where feasible position passive open space areas in locations which encourage retention of remnant vegetation. Utilise and retain existing vegetation with passive open spaces to provide shade for gathering points.
District	Provide a district park within 2km of all dwellings in urban areas. Minimum of 3	District parks to allow for organised or structured recreational activities, with greater land area to accommodate such uses.	Provide for linkage of passive open space areas with adjacent or nearby active spaces or recreational facilities and ensure connectivity with adjacent community spaces.
Subregional/Regional	Such facilities typically provided in Launceston due to the isolation of the Break O'Day municipality.		

Table 8: Benchmark Ratios and Local Issues in Break O'Day Which Impact on Demand for Specified Facilities.

Recreational Facility	Benchmark Ratio	Local Issues Impacting on Demand
Indoor Aquatic/Fitness centre or Leisure Centre	1 aquatic centre per 40,000 to 50,000 people.	Community consultation indicates strong demand for an aquatic facility. Aging of the population supports provision of an indoor facility. Aerobics and fitness has experienced the highest growth in total participation in Australia, with a 110% increase since 2001. Will provide alternate recreational options for the increasing number of people who are no longer working a traditional five day, 40 hour week.
Indoor recreation centre	1 (2 court) facility per 20,000 to 30,000 people. 1 (4-6 court) facility per 40,000 to 60,000 people.	Break O'Day's climate warrants provision of a range of both indoor and outdoor venues. Outward movement of families and children from the region supports diversity in recreational facilities.
Tennis Courts	1 x 2 court facility per 25,000 to 35,000 people	Participation in tennis in Australia has decreased for the period 2011 to 2010.
Lawn Bowls	1 lawn bowls facility (4 greens) per 40,000 people	Aging of the population supports provision of lawn bowls facilities.
Outdoor Netball Facilities	1 outdoor court per 3,500	Will provide activities for various ages, focusing on teenagers and provides options for females, which has been identified as an area of need.
Basketball	1 outdoor court per 3,500	Will provide activities for all age groups in a sport identified in the top ten in Australia for participation rates.



7. Open Space and Facilities Provision

7 Open Space and Facilities Provision

7.1 Existing Provision of Reserves and Conservation Areas

The North-East region of Tasmania contains substantial areas of national park and reserves, a number of which contain trails for walking and mountain biking. According to Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey (ERASS), in 2010, the most popular physical activities in Tasmania were walking, followed by aerobics, swimming, cycling and bush walking. This indicates that the non-organised physical activities of walking, cycling and bushwalking rate highly when measured against participation rates for organised activities. Hence there is a need to ensure that opportunities are provided to encourage growth in all forms of physical activities, irrespective of whether they are conducted on an individual or group basis.

Open space within the Municipality comprises national parks under the management and ownership of the Parks and Wildlife Service, whilst local and district parks are under the care and management of Break O'Day Council. National Parks within the Break O'Day Municipality comprise the following:

- **Mt William National Park**, which extends north and west from Ansons Bay to Mussleroe Bay. Walks within the park include beach and coastal walks such as the Mt William Walk (90mins) and Cobler Rocks Walk (90 mins). Mt William National Park is also the north-eastern point of the Bay of Fires Walk.
- **Douglas Apsley National Park** which extends to the south of Four Mile Creek and the west of the Tasman highway. This park contains a range of short or longer distance and overnight walking trails including the Lookout Track (15 mins); Apsley Myrtle Rainforest Walk (30 mins); Apsley Gorge Circuit (3 - 4 hours return); Heritage & Leeaberra Falls (5 - 7 hours return) ; Heritage Falls/Rainforest Circuit (7 - 9 hours return/overnight trip); Leeaberra Track (2 1/2 days one way to Apsley Waterhole) (Source:Parks and Wildlife, 2013)

Other land which has been identified for open space and/or conservation purposes includes significant expanses of land identified under the Public Land Classification System, being reserves proclaimed under the Nature Conservation Act, Forestry Act and Crown Lands Act. This includes identified conservation areas, game reserves, nature conservation areas, nature reserves, regional reserves, state reserves and public reserves. Reserves which are located within the Break O'Day Municipality are listed in Table 9.

Table 9: Land Designated for Open Space and Conservation Purposes under Public Land Classification System in Break O'Day

Name	Location
State Reserves	
Mount Pearson State Reserve	South of The Gardens to South-east of Binalong Bay
Weldborough Pass State Reserve	South-east of Weldborough
St Columba Falls State Reserve	West of Pyengana
Little Beach State Reserve	North of Chain of Lagoons
St Patricks head State Reserve	East of St Marys
St Marys Pass State reserve	North-East of St Marys
Regional Reserve	
Frome Regional Reserve	North of Weldborough
Cameron Regional Reserve	West of Ansons Bay
Blue Tier Regional Reserve	East of Weldborough
Mt Victoria Regional Reserve	West of Pyengana
Waratah Creek Regional Reserve	Northwest of Pyengana

Name	Location
Doctors Peak Regional Reserve	Southwest of The Gardens
Bells Marsh Regional Reserve	East of Goshen
Kohls Falls Regional Reserve	South of Pyengana
Rayners Hill Regional Reserve	South-east of Pyengana
Mathinna Falls Regional Reserve	North of Mathinna
Evercreech Regional Reserve	North-east of Mathinna
Teds Flat Regional reserve	North-east of Mathinna
Avenue River Regional Reserve	North-west of St Marys
Huntsmans Cap Regional Reserve	North-west of St Marys
Nicholas Range Regional Reserve	North-west of St Marys
Scamander Regional Reserve	Scamander
German Town Regional Reserve	North of St Marys
Joye Creek Regional Reserve	West of Mathinna
Sawpit Ridge Regional Reserve	West of Fingal
Pepper Hill Regional Reserve	West of Fingal
Barway Spur Regional Reserve	South-west of Fingal
St Pauls Regional Reserve	South-west of Fingal
Dickies Ridge Regional Reserve	South of Fingal
Mount Puzzler Regional Reserve	South of Fingal
Break O'Day Regional Reserve	South of St Marys
Lower Marsh Creek Regional Reserve	South East of St Marys
Conservation Area	
Mussleroe Bay Conservation Area	North of Mussleroe Bay
Bay of Fires Conservation Area	South of Ansons Bay
McDonalds Point Conservation Area	St Helens Locality
Medeas Cove Conservation Area	St Helens Locality
Boggy Creek Conservation Area	St Helens Locality
St Helens Conservation Area	St Helens Locality
Scamander Conservation Area	Scamander Coast
Fingal Rivulet Conservation Area	South-east of Fingal
Cheesebury Hill Conservation Area	North of St Marys
Seymour Conservation Area	Seymour
Nature Recreation Area	
Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area	South and east of Binalong Bay

It is evident that the Break O'Day Municipality contains substantial area of land designated for conservation purposes, much of which does or could provide for a dual passive open use purposes. This land is well located throughout the Municipality, within reach of all settlements. This land is zoned Environmental Management under the Break O'Day Planning Scheme ordinance, to ensure its future preservation for its intended purpose. This land also provides opportunity for expansion of a range of non-structured recreation uses such as walking and mountain biking.

Much of this land also provides a **Landscape and Amenity** function as it is typically utilised only for passive purposes due to its dual functional purpose of providing a visual backdrop. It also provides a **Conservation and Heritage** function by allowing for the retention of areas of significant flora and fauna, with conservation significance. Further, it often satisfies a **Linear and Linkage** function providing a network of open spaces. This function could be further enhanced to provide improved walking trails for residents and tourists, particularly between key nodes.

7.2 Existing Provision of Open Space and Recreational Facilities

An inventory of recreational facilities and open space has been prepared for the purpose of this strategy to determine the quantity and quality of existing facilities and spaces (refer Appendix 1). This inventory includes land which is zoned open space and which incorporates **Local Parks**; land which is zoned recreation and comprises **District Parks**; land zoned recreation which contains **Outdoor Sports Venues**; and a number of **Foreshore /Waterway** open spaces which are zoned Environmental Management.

Those foreshore locations which are not predominantly utilised for recreational purposes have not been included within the inventory but have been considered within the Break O'Day Coastal Plan, prepared as a separate component of the Municipal Management Plan. Further, the inventory does not include details of parks and reserves under state control within the local government area, with this issue being further discussed in section 9.3 of this report. The inventory was prepared following completion of the following:

- A desktop review of the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme;
- Use of aerial photography;
- On the ground fieldwork;
- Review of Council documents including assets inventory and Council reports; and
- Liaison with Council officers.

Table 10 below contains a summary of the quantity of open space and recreation facilities, from the inventory.

Table 10: Quantity of Open Space and Recreation Facilities within Break O'Day LGA

Type of Facility	Number (Public Facility)	Suburb	Details
Indoor Aquatic/Fitness Centre or Leisure Centre	Nil		
Indoor Recreation Centre	Nil		
Multi Sports Complex (District Facility)	3	St Helens St Marys Scamander	St Helens Sport & Rec. Ground St Marys Recreation Centre Scamander Sports Complex
District Park	6	St Helens St Helens Scamander Falmouth Fingal Pyengana	Foreshore Reserve Kings Park Scamander Foreshore Park Falmouth - Frank St Fingal Recreation ground Pyengana Sport & Rec Ground
Tennis Courts	6	St Helens (1) Beaumaris (1) Bindalong Bay (1) Falmouth (1) St Marys (2) Fingal (1)	Final - Land to be disposed of by Council and tennis court relocated.
Netball Courts	4	St Helens – existing (2) St Helens – proposed (2)	St Helens Sports (2 new indoor courts to be constructed with \$500,000 grant funding)Complex
Basketball Courts	Nil		No public courts – court utilised for public purposes at St Helens High School

Type of Facility	Number (Public Facility)	Suburb	Details
Cricket Pitch	6	St Helens St Marys Scamander Beaumaris Four Mile Creek Pyengana	St Helens Sport & Rec. Ground St Marys Recreation Centre Scamander Sports Complex Local park, Beaumaris Foreshore Park, Four Mile Creek Pyengana Sport & Rec Ground
Bowling Green	2	St Helens Scamander	
BMX Track	1	Falmouth	
Skate Park	2	St Helens Scamander	
Equestrian Club	1	St Helens	
Shooting Range	1	Binalong Bay/St Helens	
Golf Course	4	St Helens St Marys Scamander Fingal	
Local Park	24	St Helens St Marys Scamander Fingal Beaumaris Binalong Bay Stieglitz Four Mile Creek Mangana Cornwall Mathinna	Memorial Park Seven (7) unnamed parks Library Park Esk Main Rd Park Railway Station Park Pioneer Park Foreshore reserve One (1) unnamed park Fingal Park Two (2) unnamed parks One (1) unnamed park Foreshore Park One (1) unnamed park Foreshore Park Two (2) unnamed parks Foreshore Park Community centre & playground Cornwall Park One (1) unnamed park Mathinna Recreation Ground

Table 1 confirms that there are:

- Three (3) principle outdoor sports venues (Multi sports complexes) located at St Helens, St Marys and Scamander which provide for a range of district sporting activities. Two of such facilities are provided in a coastal location (at Helens and Scamander), whilst the third (t Marys) services the rural community. The outdoor sports venues are located within the central or southern area of the municipality, with no such venue located in the northern area.
- Six (6) district parks are provided throughout a number of towns including one (1) in St Helens, two in the coastal location and Scamander and Falmouth and a further three (3) in the inland towns of Fingal Mathinna and Pyengana.
- There are four (4) golf courses throughout the LGA.
- There are a number of additional facilities for specific recreational purposes such as tennis, skating, BMX riding located throughout the LGA.
- Local parks, which provide for passive recreation purposes or which contain playground equipment for younger children are located throughout the LGA within residential estates, rural communities or in foreshore settings.



8. Consultation Outcomes

8 Consultation Outcomes

8.1 Engagement Process

Engagement with key focus groups, particularly sports and recreational groups and the broader community has been undertaken as a component of this study. The outcomes of this consultation process provided the following valuable input into the preparation of the Recreation and Open Space Study.

The consultation process for the Break O Day Arts and Cultural Strategy involved:

- (a) Targeted telephone surveys with Break O'Day-based sports and recreation groups. A list of individuals who participated in the targeted surveys is provided at **Appendix 1**.
- (b) Consideration of feedback from "drop-in" sessions held in November 2012, February 2013 and August 2013;
- (c) A review of the 52 written responses to the MMP community survey.
- (d) A review of Break O'Day Strategic Plan Review responses (2010), which provided a good range and number of responses in relation to this issue.

8.2 Targeted Phone Interviews

The targeted phone surveys focused on user groups of key sporting facilities and sought to obtain an understanding of existing facilities, usage and satisfaction levels. The main issues raised by such groups are summarised below:

- All groups expressed concern regarding the limited number of **volunteers** available to manage groups. Most groups indicated that there is a need for more staff, with one group suggesting that the introduction of paid employment would assist.
- The majority of groups noted that additional **infrastructure** is not required and in fact some groups believe there is a surplus of grounds. However, the Basketball Association noted that the only facility available is the court at St Helens High School and there is a need for more courts. It was noted that funding is available however a decision is needed on siting of additional courts.
- Both the St Helens/East Coast Cricket Association and the St Helens Netball Association suggested upgrading of their grounds/facilities to allow the grounds to be used for competitions by interstate or international teams, which would increase tourism to the area.
- Other suggested infrastructure includes the provision of an additional indoor netball court; re-sealing of the tennis courts at St Helens; and the provision of new shade coverings at the back entry to the St Marys District High School swimming pool;
- The provision of one **multi complex** which accommodates a number of clubs would be beneficial;
- Grounds are generally considered to be in reasonable/good condition. However, some users/groups thought there is a need for better regular **maintenance** of existing grounds. Specific maintenance suggested by groups include
 - the need for the netball courts to be resurfaced (note: this has now been completed) ;
 - grading of the road access to the Gun Club;
 - improved access roads within the St Helens Sports Complex;
 - upgrading of the kitchen at the St Marys Sports Centre (was raised by two user groups);
 - upgrading of the toilets at St Helens;

- upgrading of the floor of the basketball court and the score board at St Helens High School;
- Entry to a number of facilities requires key collection/return which can limit ease of **access**;
- Some facilities have a limited level of **usage**, only being utilised during club hours.
- Council does not **communicate** with people about what is happening in Break O'Day.
- Most groups noted that the local community is generally aware of the facilities/clubs available but new people moving into the area are sometimes not sufficiently aware. One group noted that it is difficult to disseminate information to the community about sport and social events.
- More **advertising** to attract tourists to sporting facilities/clubs would be of assistance. If more people could be attracted to the area this would allow facilities to be open for a longer period of time. One group (the St Helens Cricket/East Coast Cricket Association) noted that they now have a new committee which has started working to improve the exposure of the association. Another club noted that they advertise in a newspaper column every three weeks. One group raised concerns that they are not allowed to advertise their club room facility because of permit issues associated with the bar.
- **Participation** in some sports is low and the St Marys Sports Centre noted that they were now giving golf lessons to women to try to increase membership.
- One group (the St Helens Bowls Club) advised that its members are currently older people but it is looking at developing programs to encourage other groups such as schools and special needs groups.
- The difficulties with travelling to facilities within Break O'Day due to the isolation of some locations in the Municipality. There is a need for improved **transport** or a community bus or other affordable transport options. However, one group noted the ease of access to facilities in St Helens.
- One group also expressed concern regarding the travel distance to regional facilities.
- One group suggested that Council consider a reduction in rental **fees** for their facility to allow groups with lower incomes to join.
- One group indicated that there are issues associated with the cold **weather** and hence a need to provide heaters in older community buildings.
- **Conflicts** between sporting uses was raised by two clubs with one raising concern regarding conflict between orienteering and the gun club and motoring uses.
- The St Helens Football Club expressed concern regarding the need to share the change rooms with the netball club. It was suggested that there is a need for separate change rooms.
- The need for the St Marys Sports Complex to also act as a **community** hub which could provide regular Friday night meals. Upgrading of the children's playground could encourage more families to attend.
- The St Helens Croquet Club requested that a plot of land be reserved adjacent to the present lawns to accommodate another lawn should membership grow in the future.

8.3 Workshop and Meeting Outcomes

The following summary reflects the outcomes of the workshops, focus group meeting and drop in sessions held in November 2012 and March 2013.

Table 11: Outcomes of Workshops, Focus Group Meetings and Drop in Sessions

Issue	Feedback
Open Space & Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The area needs better signage – including signs and trails in the reserves/forests ▪ Need more maintenance of walking tracks (e.g. snakes). ▪ St Mary's needs trails in the area. ▪ Desire for a walk to be available from Fingal to St Mary's- although might prove difficult. ▪ Parks and Wildlife need to develop better walking tracks.
Open Space and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is a desire for a swimming pool at St Helens – even a small pool for the elderly. ▪ Tidal pool could be provided rather than a swimming pool. ▪ At Fingal the car parking area only includes 2 overnight spaces. There is a need for additional overnight spaces and also a shower. ▪ There is a concern that the recreation area at Fingal will reduce in size- it should be left as it is and Council should not be selling land to an adjacent owner. ▪ Questioned possible relocation of tennis court at Fingal. ▪ Toilet block needs upgrading at Fingal. ▪ The need for shelter facilities for campers and for residents at Fingal. ▪ There is a need for more recreational activities for the youth of Break O Day especially younger girls (e.g. boys have football). ▪ BBQ in shelter at St Helens needs to be replaced as you need to turn on 2 hours before commencing cooking. ▪ There is a need for there to be more activities for people (e.g. cinema/ bowling). ▪ Transport is an issue for youth. ▪ Skate park worthwhile.
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council needs to stop preparing studies and just actually implement some of the recommendations. Tired of not seeing any action. ▪ Funding issues – Council will have minimal money left after the MMP.

8.4 Survey Responses

A survey, seeking comment on a range of matters of relevance to the preparation of the Municipal Management Plan, was available on Council's web page and was also provided to attendees at the 'drop in' sessions held in February 2013. At the date of preparing this report there had been 52 respondents to the survey. The survey included a range of questions of relevance to the various studies undertaken as part of the Municipal Management Plan, including questions pertaining to the level of satisfaction with recreational facilities within the Break O'Day municipality.

The majority of respondents (30%) were from St Helens, followed by 17% from Binalong Bay, 14% from Scamander, 10% from St Marys and the balance from surrounding coastal and rural localities. The average number of years that respondents had lived in the area was 17. In relation to the age of survey respondents 44% were over 65 years of age, 41% aged 50-64 and 15% aged 30-49. In response to a question regarding the level of satisfaction with recreation facilities in the Break O'Day municipality, 53% of respondents indicated that they considered that their local area had good recreational facilities. The responses which are of relevance to the provision of recreation facilities and open space are summarised as follows:

Table 12: Summary of Survey Responses

Advantages and Disadvantages of the Break O' Day Region?	
Question	Participant Response
Key advantages of the Break O' Day area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy paced lifestyle • A good sense of community /pleasant seaside town • Coastal locations /beautiful scenery /mountains and beaches/ natural Landscape • Healthy environment • Climate /microclimate is favourable • Open spaces
Key disadvantages of the Break O'Day area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation • The cost and availability of transport/accessibility • Limited infrastructure and transport • Need to travel outside the area to access some services • Lack of opportunities for the youth of Break O'Day • Poor socio economic areas
What would make Break O' Day area an even better place to live and work?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop walking and cycling tracks and maintain existing • Bicycle paths along the coast and the hinterland • Ability to encompass needs and youth • More Recreational facilities e.g. a swimming pool

Recreational and Sporting Facilities	
Question	Participant Response
What recreational and sporting facilities do you use in your local area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach/river • Camping facilities • Bushwalking /Horse riding trails/Reserve track • Home gym equipment • Dog access areas • Athletics/ football/equestrian • Golf • Tennis court • Fingal valley community and sporting complex • Clubs and pubs • Fishing • Bowling club • Bike riding • Croquet • Skate park
Are there any recreational facilities that you would like to see provided within the municipality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate signage re: safety issues at river mouth • Cycling track extended • Safer walking areas along roads especially upper Scamander • Tennis court /Basketball/ Netball court. • Arthritis therapy pool/Swimming pool for residents use/An indoor pool • Roof on equestrian arena • Well marked bush walking and horse riding trails /Long distance walking/cycling tracks. • Walks to local attractions that are well sign posted. • A professional golf course • A gym • More wheelchair accessible walkways and more activities for disabled people • Improved skate park • Squash courts



9. Open Space and Recreation Facilities Review

9 Open Space and Facilities Review

9.1 Assessment Outcomes

An assessment of the quantity of recreational facilities has been undertaken utilising:

- a comparison of recreational benchmarks against current population levels, demographic characteristics;
- the inventory of facilities which was undertaken as part of this study;
- the outcomes of the consultation with sporting groups and the broader community; and
- participation trends at a national level and state level which provide guidance as to the activities currently experiencing highest participation rates.

The benchmarking analysis has been correlated against survey responses received by residents outlining which recreation and sporting activities were used in their local area. The areas principally used include the beach / river; camping facilities; bushwalking / horse riding trails / reserve tracks; home gym equipment; athletics / football / equestrian; golf courses; tennis courts; sporting complexes; bowling clubs; and bike riding routes. The results of this analysis have revealed that the Break O'Day municipality has substantial areas of state managed reserves and conservation areas, however improved facilities would encourage a greater level of usage and facilitate improved linkage between key nodes. Specifically, the results highlight the importance of the beach, river and foreshore areas in providing recreation and open space opportunities. There is a clear demand for upgrading of facilities and amenities in these areas including improved access to the foreshore areas through environmentally sustainable tracks, improving walking and cycling routes to these locations, and enhanced amenities including toilets and parking areas. This has been examined in detail within the Coastal Plan which has been prepared by TCG Planning as a component of the Municipal Management Plan. Section 9.3 over also examines the adequacy of open space areas to adequately accommodate activities such as walking and cycling.

Further, the analysis has revealed that, based only on the benchmarking indicators, the Break O'Day Municipality generally has sufficient recreational facilities. However, the benchmarking indicators fail to account for the relative isolation of the municipality and the limited opportunities for residents of Break O'Day to also utilise sporting facilities in adjacent local government areas including regional facilities in Launceston, with a travelling time of approximately 2 hours. Hence, opportunities for all of the organised activities featured as the highest participation rates in Australia and Tasmania are not available within Break O'Day, which is not surprising given the isolation and limited population of 6000 residents. There is also a need to improve the distribution of recreational facilities throughout the Municipality, with the northern sector of the LGA being poorly represented in the level of facilities provided, although this will need to be balanced against the limited population in this area.

The adequacy of recreational facilities to accommodate organised sports is examined in further detail in section 9.2, whilst Section 9.3 examines any necessary upgrades to infrastructure. The adequacy of open space is discussed in Section 9.4, whilst section 9.5 examines the spatial distribution and quantity of parks.

9.2 Assessment of Quantity and Distribution of Recreation Facilities

The benchmarking, consultation and participation rate review has revealed the following with respect to the adequacy of recreation facilities in the Break O'Day municipality:

❖ **Indoor aquatic fitness centre/ leisure centre/recreation centre:**

With a population of approximately 6000 persons the Break O'Day Municipality does not reach the population threshold for an indoor aquatic fitness centre/ leisure centre, which is typically supported by a population of 40,000 to 50,000 persons. However, the provision of such a facility is supported by:

- Community consultation which indicates strong demand for an aquatic facility.
- Aging of the population supports provision of an indoor facility for fitness and therapeutic purposes.
- Weather conditions which support provision of such a facility to increase participation rates all year round.
- The need to provide diversity in recreational facilities to limit the outward movement of families and children from the region.

Whilst St Helens District High School has a 15m heated pool and a 25m pool is located at St Marys District High School, such facilities do not adequately cater for broader community use. Accordingly, the provision of a purpose built facility is warranted and should be sited in the main town of St Helens, which is centrally located and which would promote the greatest level of access and utilisation of the infrastructure. Hence, Council's resolution (No. 04/13.15.7.110) of April 2013 which resulted in the preparation of a Briefing Document to assist with the obtaining of funding for upgrading of the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground, is supported. This briefing document has now been prepared and is accompanied by a draft masterplan identifying the location of the new and improved facilities prepared by Jennifer Binns (refer Appendix 4). A cost estimate prepared by Exsto Management also accompanied the brief and confirmed that the estimated cost for this facility is \$18,844,981. The Briefing Document confirms that upgrades include:

- new indoor and outdoor netball and basketball courts;
- indoor sports centre with a swimming pool, tennis courts, gymnasium, cricket, soccer, volleyball and badminton;
- athletic and cycling infrastructure upgrade;
- sports pavilion including amenities;
- new equestrian enclosure over existing area and upgraded clubrooms; and
- upgrade to roads and carparking.

It is noted that in 2013 Council was successful in obtaining \$500,000 of grant funding from the Tasmanian Government for the upgrading of the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground, to allow for the construction of two indoor netball courts. It is recommended that Council continue to pursue funding options for the construction of the additional facility as identified in the Briefing Document. The provision of a multi functional indoor sports centre and pool is considered to be essential to provide diversity in recreational facilities in the Break O'Day LGA, to assist in slowing outward migration and to provide a year round sporting facility for a wide range of age groups and interests.

Further, it is recommended that a full time coordinator be engaged to ensure that the facility is managed by a person in paid employment with particular expertise in this field. The limited number of volunteers available to

manage existing facilities has been identified as an area of concern by many sporting groups during consultation for this strategy. If the St Helens Indoor Sports Complex is to establish itself as a major regional facility, to be used for the holding of events by groups throughout the state, there is a need for this facility to be professionally managed and funds should be specifically provided for this purpose. This coordinator could also be engaged to coordinate access to other Council recreation infrastructure; coordinate volunteers in the holding of major sporting events; and could assist in the identification and holding of informal sports sessions (eg basketball) for particular target groups such as teenagers.

❖ **Aerobics/fitness/weight training:**

Public participation requires gym facilities and indoor/outdoor exercise equipment. There are currently no fitness gym facilities available in the Break O'Day Municipality and most noticeably in the main centre of St Helens. As confirmed by survey results compiled by the Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey (funded by the Australian Sports Commission and various government agencies) aerobics/fitness training was one of the top 10 organised physical activities in Australia in 2010. In Tasmania aerobics is the most popular organised activity.

In the absence of a formal facility to accommodate such organised activities, the use of home gym equipment is typical, given the convenient and generally alternative for fitness. Whilst the population of Break O'Day is unlikely to support the provision of a standalone gym/aerobic/weight training facility, the construction of an indoor fitness centre/leisure centre/recreation centre would allow for a broad range of fitness/recreation uses for all ages and would enable dual use of various spaces within such a facility. Such a facility would assist in improving health of the community and encourage community building through fitness programs, in addition providing a safe place for fitness activities.

❖ **Golf:**

Within the Break O'Day municipality there are four available golf courses – Scamander River Golf Course, St Helens Golf Course, St Marys Golf Course, and Malahide Golf Course at Fingal. These courses are geographically spread across the local government area. Given the population of the area is 6,000 residents, four golf courses located in the main centres is considered to be sufficient. However, the siting of an additional privately funded golf course within the Municipality, if proposed, is supported to encourage growth in tourism.

❖ **Tennis:**

There are seven (7) tennis courts within Break O'Day at St Helens, Beaumaris, Binalong Bay, Falmouth, St Marys (2) and Fingal. The number of tennis courts is adequate based on the benchmark of 1 x 2 court facility per 20,000 to 30,000 persons. Council at its meeting of September 2013 (Item 09/13.13.6) granted authorization for the sale of the Fingal Tennis Court site, located in Grant Street. The sale of this site is supported due to the level of maintenance which would be required to reinstate this court to a useable condition. Further, the siting of this court outside of the town centre and isolated from other sporting facilities is not considered to be ideal. Although the number of tennis courts (7) currently exceeds the number which would typically be required for a municipality with approximately 6,000 people (ie.2) it is considered reasonable to provide continued tennis facilities within Fingal given the distance to the nearest tennis courts within St Marys and the limited number of such courts in rural locations. It is understood that the proceeds of sale are to be utilised to fund the construction of a tennis court at the Fingal Recreation Ground, which will allow for clustering of recreation

facilities and will ensure that a tennis court remains available in the southwest of the Municipality. The funding and construction of this tennis court is supported.

The provision of an indoor facility within the proposed upgrading of the St Helens Sports Complex will provide year round options to participate in this sport. However, no further outdoor tennis courts are considered warranted, having regard to the lower level of participation in this sport which has been evident in the past decade.

❖ **Basketball:**

There are currently limited basketball facilities available within Break O'Day. Existing facilities include a half court at Falmouth and a basketball ring within the tennis court at Beaumaris. However, there are currently no formal basketball courts within Break O'Day, with the exception of the court at St Helens High School which is used by members of the St Helens Basketball Association, generally on Saturday mornings.

There is opportunity to expand organised basketball opportunities, through the construction of a purpose built facility. The sport provides an excellent opportunity to encourage increased participation rates for youth and to promote an indoor or outdoor organised activity which can be played year round. Further, it is a sport which typically attracts a range of participants focusing on youth and would provide an additional activity for teenagers who have a high level of demand for additional social activities. In support of improved basketball facilities it is noted that basketball is one of the most popular organised physical activities in Tasmania (ERSS, 2010) and Australia. The need for an outdoor basketball court was also appropriately identified within the St Helens Structure Plan (Urbis, 2013).

Based on a benchmark for basketball courts of one court per 3,500 persons, the provision of two courts would be adequate to satisfy the population of the Break O'Day municipality. Accordingly, in order to improve the level of basketball facilities, to allow for more structured games, and to provide additional activities for youth within Break O'Day the following basketball facilities are recommended, noting that Council has already supported a number of such courts:

- Two new indoor basketball courts at St Helens Sports Complex to provide a district basketball facility as supported by the Briefing Document prepared by Council and the Masterplan prepared by Jennifer Binns.
- The provision of a half basketball court at St Helens Foreshore, which is considered to be the preferred location to promote a higher level of use. This facility will be in addition to the main basketball courts to be located at St Helens Sports Complex should funding for such be obtained. Further, the siting of a half court basketball facility at St Helens Foreshore will provide a complimentary activity to the skate park which is well utilised by youth.
- To support the dispersal of recreation facilities throughout the municipality it is recommended that the following additional basketball facilities be provided in the medium term:
 - A half court facility at the St Marys Sport and Recreation Ground;
 - A half court facility at the Pyengana Sport Ground;
 - An upgraded half court facility at the local park in Beaumaris Ave.

❖ **Netball:**

The St Helens Netball Association is the only netball club within the LGA. There are currently two courts available at St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground. Such courts were resurfaced in 2014. Whilst the two courts meet the benchmark of 1 court per 3,500 persons there is also a need to ensure that recreational facilities are appropriately sited having regard to the dispersed population of the Break O'Day Municipality and that rural communities are adequately serviced. The level of transport and the limited number of organised social activities for youth were also identified as key issues during the community consultation for this current study.

Further, the limited number of sporting activities for young female members of the community was also raised as an issue by a community member in the report to Council of April 2013 (04/13.15.6) which considered the installation of ball game facilities throughout the municipality. Council supported the erection of a netball hoop at the Mathinna Recreation Area, once a risk assessment had been completed to determine the most appropriate site. This resolution is supported and installation of this facility is recommended in the short term.

Further, to support dispersal of recreation facilities throughout the Municipality it is recommended that a netball hoop be provided at Pyengana Sport & Recreation Ground due to the limited number of sporting options currently available in the northern sector of Break O'Day.

❖ **Lawn bowls/Bowling:**

Existing facilities include Scamander Bowling Club and the St Helens Bowling Club. Indoor bowls are also held in the St Helens Citizens Club twice a week. Based on the provision of one (1) lawn bowls facility (4 greens) per 40,000 persons the current level of provision is considered to be adequate.

❖ **Outdoor Football (soccer):**

The St Helens Soccer Club currently operates from an existing ground at the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground. It is considered that the existing soccer ground adequately caters for the existing population and accordingly no further facility is warranted.

❖ **Australian Rules Football:**

Existing facilities and clubs include the Fingal Valley Kangaroos of the Fingal Valley Football Ground, the St Helens Swans of the St Helens Football Ground and the St Marys Tigers at the St Marys Sports Centre. Existing facilities are considered adequate to cater for this sport.

❖ **Touch Football:**

There are no clubs or associations providing organised touch football opportunities within Break O'Day however it is considered that existing facilities are adequate to cater for this sport, if necessary.

❖ **Outdoor Cricket:**

Cricket in the municipality is organised by the East Coast Cricket Association, which uses the St Helens Sport and Recreation Centre. Cricket pitches are sited in the following locations:

- St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground;
- St Marys Recreation Centre;
- Scamander Sports Complex;
- The local park in Beaumaris Ave, Beaumaris;

- Foreshore Park, Four Mile Creek;
- Pyengana Sport & Rec Ground.

Whilst there is no clear quantitative benchmark governing the provision of cricket pitches, it is considered that the number of pitches and their dispersal throughout the Municipality is adequate to accommodate the needs of the existing population of Break O'Day. However, it is noted that upgrading of the cricket pitch at St Helens was raised by the east Coast Cricket Association during consultation. Whilst not a short term priority, upgrading of this pitch is appropriate in the medium term to ensure that facilities continue to accommodate this organised activity.

❖ **BMX Tracks and Skate Parks:**

A BMX track has recently been constructed at Falmouth, whilst skate parks are located at St Helens and Scamander Foreshore Parks. The skate park at St Helens was provided with lighting in 2014, which will allow for extended use of this facility. All such facilities provide both recreational and social gathering opportunities, particularly for youth. Whilst it is difficult to substantiate demand for additional BMX and skate facilities due to the limited population within Break O'Day, the lack of public transport and the limited ability for youth to access social activities was raised as a general concern within the broader consultation undertaken for the Municipal Management Project. Hence, additional BMX or skate parks are not warranted in the short term, however in the medium term, the provision of an additional skate park at St Marys or Fingal is recommended to provide improved distribution of facilities.

Council should also keep abreast of more innovative facilities within skate parks and undertake upgrading of the existing skate parks in Scamander and St Helens, as needed, to ensure that youth continue to be attracted to such facilities.

❖ **Equestrian Club**

The municipality is provided with one equestrian centre located in St Helens. Due to the specialised nature of this activity and the fact that this facility services the district, rather than merely local residents it is considered that one equestrian facility is adequate.

❖ **Shooting Range**

The municipality is provided with one shooting range located at St Helens/Binalong Bay. Due to the specialised nature of this activity and the fact that this facility services the district, rather than merely local residents it is considered that one equestrian facility is adequate.

9.3 Assessment of Adequacy of Recreation Infrastructure

Whilst Section 9.1 considers the need for additional recreational analysis based on a quantitative assessment of facilities, there is also a need to identify any short term upgrades of existing infrastructure which may be required due to the implications of this on Council's overall funding ability. It is noted that the scope of this current study does not extend to a building inspection of any defects or limitations of existing buildings however, irrespective of this, a number of necessary works have been identified through consultation and/or document review. Council's Annual Plan 2012/13 confirms that recently completed projects have included the

Pyengana BBQ replacement (\$14,000), work at the Recreation Ground St Marys involving the lining of the exhibition building (\$35,000) and re-roofing the exhibition building (\$30,000). Council has also committed to the provision of new play equipment at Fingal.

The provision of toilet blocks through recreation spaces in the Municipality is considered to be adequate, with all district parks currently provided with toilet facilities, with the exception of Kings Park, with nearby toilet facilities provided at Foreshore Park in St Helens. However, the implementation of a continued maintenance and upgrading programme for such facilities is recommended, through the ongoing completion of works identified in Council's "Public Toilet Maintenance and replacement plan" for the period 2015-2023.

The upgrades to existing recreational infrastructure and additional amenities which have already been committed to by Council (and which are supported) or which are considered necessary include the following which have been incorporated within the Action Plan:

Table 13: Schedule of Recreation Infrastructure Upgrades

Basis	Location	Infrastructure Item	Estimated Cost	Timing
Annual Plan 2013/14.	Talbot Street, Fingal	Replacement of the toilet block	\$110,000	2013/2014
	Fingal recreation ground	Replacement of the toilet block	\$105,000	2013/2014
	St Marys Recreation Ground	Replacement of the scoreboard	\$18,000	2013/2014
Public Toilet Maintenance and Replacement Plan	St Helens Sports Complex	Replacement of the roof and repainting of a toilet block	\$12,000	2015
	St Helens Sports Complex	Replacement of the roof and repainting of a toilet block at the Equestrian Building and Toilet Block	\$12,000	2015
	Lions Park	Replacement of the toilet block	\$90,000	2015
	Stieglitz	Replacement of the toilet block at the swimming hole	\$70,000	2016
	O'Connors Beach	Replacement of the roof and repainting of a toilet block	\$12,000	2017
	Mathinna Recreation Ground	Replacement of the toilet block	\$70,000	2018
	St Mary's Recreation Ground	Demolition of the ladies toilet block	\$5,000	2018
	St Marys Recreation Ground	Demolition of the Men's Urinal Race Day Rooms	\$5,000	2019
	St Marys Reserve	Replacement of the roof and repainting of a toilet block	\$15,000	2019
	Scamander Ave Reserve	Replacement of the toilet block	\$60,000	2020
	Wrinklers Lagoon Scamander Ave	Replacement of the toilet block	\$60,000	2020
	Falmouth	Replacement of the toilet block at Grant Street	\$60,000	2021
	St Helens Foreshore reserve	Replacement of the toilet and shower block	\$100,000	2022
	Lions Park	Replacement of the toilet block	\$70,000	2023
	Binalong Bay Road	Replacement of the roof and repainting of a toilet block	\$15,000	2023

9.4 Assessment of Adequacy of Open Space

Residents within Break O'Day and tourists also participate in a range of non-organised activities and consideration has also been given within this study to any inadequacies in infrastructure or limitations which may impact on participation rates.

❖ **Walking and Running:**

Participation in such activities preferably requires walking tracks and safe pedestrian pathways, although it is acknowledged that the existing sports complexes do provide opportunities for track activities. The need for pathways and cycle tracks has been identified in background documents and community consultation including:

- The St Helens Structure Plan (Urbis, 2013) which recommended that a walking and cycling track be completed from St Helens to Binalong Bay, and from St Helens to Akaroa (recommended between 2014 – 2017);
- The Break O'Day Tourism Development Strategy 2012-2017 (author) which also recommended the completion of the St Helens boardwalk, capitalising on existing nature based activities such as trails and ensuring access roads to Blue Tier Trail are maintained all year round.

Completion of this key piece of recreational infrastructure is considered to be a high priority to provide a high standard walking trail for residents; promote linkage between facilities; and to promote tourism within the Municipality. The St Helens Foreshore (Georges Bay Multi Use Track) Briefing Document, which has been prepared by Council, is accompanied by plans for the St Helens to Akaroa link (refer Appendix 5). This document, which has been prepared to facilitate the obtaining of funding for this link identifies the treatment of the cycleway/pedestrian foreshore link with an estimated infrastructure cost of \$18,267,561. It is recommended that Council continue to seek funding for this infrastructure due to the ongoing benefits which this link will provide both for the local community but also for tourist visitation numbers and length of stay.

In providing such pathways within urban areas Council should ensure that key sections are accessible by all members of the community, including those with mobility aids.

❖ **Cycling:**

This activity can be carried out on existing roads and footpaths, however, road markings for road cycling and dedicated cycle paths can aid in encouraging participation in this activity and improving the safety of participants. The need for cycle paths has been identified in background documents and community consultation. As noted above it is considered that the immediate priority is for the extension of the St Helens to Akaroa cycleway/pedestrian link.

❖ **Bushwalking:**

Although the Break O'Day area has substantial areas of national park, state reserves, conservation areas etc. participation in bushwalking activities requires marked and accessible trails. The Break O'Day Municipality presents significant opportunity to expand bushwalking activities due to the extent of land that has been identified for conservation purposes and the beauty of the natural landscape. However, it has been identified in background documents and community consultation that upgrading of existing trails, including signage presents an opportunity for increased participation for both visitors and local residents.

Further, whilst such lands provide significant lands within the classification of "Conservation and Heritage" and "Landscape and Amenity" it has been identified through consultation and analysis that such lands do adequately meet the "Linear and Linkage" open space classification. Whilst acknowledging that Break O'Day and Meander Valley local government areas provide 70% of the regions walking tracks, it is still considered that there is opportunity to further develop this key function, through the development of tracks which are promoted at a regional, State and national level. This issue was investigated by Inspiring Places in 2004 within the Northern Tasmania Regional Recreation Trails Strategy, with this strategy recommending a number of routes which would provide the "the best prospects for developing regional recreational trails". Two routes (as indicatively shown in Figure 3) are partly contained within the Break O'Day municipality being:



Figure 3: Indicative location of Blue Tier trail and East Coast Trail

- The Blue Tier Trail:

The Strategy confirms that the Blue Tier Trail is a "proposed multiple use walking trail (walking, mountain bike riding and horse riding) from west of the Blue Tier to Binalong Bay. The first stage links to Poimena from both Pioneer via the historic Three Notch Track) and Weldborough (via Emu Road). A second stage then links Poimena to the Bay of Fires (eg. Binalong Bay, The Gardens or thereabouts) using existing roads or new tracks as required." The Strategy identified that two of the main impediments for the development of the Blue Tier Trail include the need to identify a suitable route in the eastern portion of the trail, and the lack of developed facilities in the eastern portion of the trail.

- The East Coast Trail

The Strategy recommends that the proposed East Coast Trail "could extend from Cape Naturaliste located at the northern tip of Mt William National Park, south to Freycinet National Park, a distance of in excess of 170km"...."linking together two of the successful destination images now being used to promote the natural values of Tasmania, the Hazards-Wineglass Bay in Freycinet National Park and the Bay of Fires".

The strategy also notes that the East Coast Trail would potentially utilise significant tracks, where the coastal settlements within Break O'Day – St Helens, Scamander and St Marys can provide the necessary infrastructure to cater for visitors, which includes campsites. The East Coast trail would provide walking, with select areas providing mountain biking and horse riding, with some nearby forestry tracks also providing four wheel driving opportunities.

Action Plans for the East Coast track include the development and upgrading of the St Helens to St Marys segment of the trail to link the two settlements, and the segment between St Marys to Bicheno through Douglas Apsley National Park.

Planning for Sustainable Tourism on Tasmania's East Coast

In 2014 the Councils of Break O'Day, Dorset and Glamorgan Spring Bay commenced, in partnership with the Commonwealth government, a Sustainable Tourism plan for Tasmania's East Coast. This project will investigate the opportunities and constraints which exist for sustainable tourism on the East Coast; investigate cultural heritage and environmental issues; and make recommendations regarding development options in various locations. The project is scheduled for completion in early 2015. It is anticipated that the outcome of this study may include options for the provision of a trail between key tourist or development nodes on the east coast, thereby further promoting 'linkage' opportunities as recommended by this open space investigation.

Whilst the ability for Council to promote construction of the Blue Trail Route, East Coast trail and any additional trails which arise from the latest investigation is limited, it is recommended that Council continue to work with state and commonwealth agencies to pursue funding options for construction/upgrading of a state/regional trail which extends through the Break O'Day Municipality and which will allow for linkage of key nodes in the North East Coast of Tasmania. However, in the short term, it is recommended that Council work with Parks and Wildlife to ensure maintenance of existing tracks as a higher priority matter. Additional signage should also be considered in such locations to advise tourists and visitors of the natural attributes of an area and recreation trail opportunities.

❖ **Mountain Biking:**

In 2011 Six Dot Consulting completed the study 'Mountain Bike Tourism Potential in Northern Tasmania'. This study identified that there are opportunities for rural and remote communities in Northern Tasmania to tap into the growing mountain biking market. Recommendations of the study included improvements to access and the quality and quantity of trails and upgrading signage along the Blue Tier trail.

The study identified that current riding areas are the Blue Tier area and the Scamander State Forest and identified additional trail developments including a new single track trail to provide a return loop to/from the Wellington Creek Track / Blue Tier Descent, with further investigation recommended into the potential for mountain biking in certain sections of the North East Rail Trail. The development of the Blue Tier /Derby/Welborough trail was identified as a high priority, while the Bay of Fires area was considered unsuitable for development currently.

As with the walking trails, the capacity for Break O'Day council to implement the recommendations of this study are limited by financial capacity and municipal boundaries. Hence, it is recommended that Council continue to work with state and commonwealth agencies to pursue funding options for upgrading, improved signage, increased accessibility and the provision of additional tracks in the North - East of Tasmania in accordance with the recommendations of the Six Dot Consulting Study of 2011.

9.5 Assessment of Siting and Suitability of Parks

In addition to considering recreational infrastructure throughout Break O'Day this study has also investigated the placement and adequacy of Council owned parks throughout the municipality. The provision of such parks has been assessed against the benchmarks contained in Table 7, with particular consideration given to the siting of local parks and whether all urban dwellings are within a 500m walking distance of parks. An assessment has also been made of the useability of existing parks and their ability to meet the needs of users.

Appendix 3 contains maps detailing the placement of parks (ie whether they meet the 500m criteria), whilst Table 14 provides recommendations based on the outcome of such assessment.

Table 14: Assessment of Siting and Adequacy of Local Open Space

Suburb	Parks	Siting	Recommendation
Coastal			
St Helens	8 x local Parks 1 x District Park 1 x District Park (incorporating multi function uses) 2 x Foreshore Parks Other Sports Facility Sites (Tennis Court, Bowling Greens, Golf Course, Gun Club)	The majority of dwellings within residential areas are serviced by either local, district or foreshore parks. Whilst there are no local parks to the west of Annie St and North of Tully Street the St Helens Sports Complex provides adequate open space areas to provide for residents in such areas.	<p>No additional local or district parks required, however the provision of additional facilities within the St Helens Sports Complex is recommended as detailed in section 9.2 of this report.</p> <p>Further, upgrading of the St Helens Foreshore is recommended to improve the useability of this space for residents and tourists; create a more functional layout; and to provide new infrastructure in this area. Recreation equipment such as a rope climbing structure should be provided in this location to address the shortfall in equipment for older children. It is noted that this shortfall has been identified within the St Helens Foreshore Redevelopment plan and the recommendations of this plan, which pertain to the construction and siting of 'more challenging climbing structures' for 8-15 year olds, should be implemented. Ensure that access to this area is provided for people with poor mobility and consider play equipment which also caters for children with physical or intellectual limitations.</p> <p>Undertake ongoing maintenance of Kings Park including weed management to protect the ecological values of the park.</p> <p>Dispose of the local park located at corner of Lindsay Parade and Cameron St (Map Reference St Helens 14 in Appendix 3) as this land provides access to an adjacent commercial area, has a limited level of useability for open space purposes and is in the vicinity of other more useable foreshore and local parks in St Helens.</p> <p>Dispose of part of the local park located in Falmouth St, St Helens (Map Reference St Helens 15 in Appendix 3) as this land is too steep to be effectively used for open space purposes. Retain that portion of the land which is needed to retain a pedestrian linkage.</p>

Suburb	Parks	Siting	Recommendation
			<p>Dispose of the local park located at Cnr Mimosa St and Jason St, St Helens (Map Reference St Helens 18 in Appendix 3) as this land is too steep to be effectively used for open space purposes.</p> <p>It is considered that the remaining local parks will adequately cater for surrounding residents. Utilise part of the funds from the sale of such spaces for the provision of upgraded facilities (eg playground facilities) within remaining local parks.</p>
Scamander	2 x Local Park 1 x District Park 2 x Foreshore Park 1 x Other Sports Facility Site (Bowls Club)	The majority of allotments are serviced by either local, foreshore or district parks.	<p>No additional local or district parks required.</p> <p>Implement guidelines to ensure that local parks dedicated within new estates contain an adequate area of land for passive recreational purposes, not limited by constraints such as detention basins.</p>
Beaumaris	1 x Local Park	The residential allotments within the central area of Beaumaris are within acceptable walking distance of the local park in Beaumaris Ave.	Allotments in the southern and northern sector of the town are not within acceptable walking distance to a local park. However, it is difficult to justify duplication of parks given the limited population within the town. No additional local parks warranted. Upgrading of facilities is recommended including the provision of a basketball ring and upgrading of the cricket pitch.
Binalong Bay	1 x Foreshore Park 1 x Local Park	The majority of General Residential allotments are located within 500m of the local park and the foreshore park (which contains the playground).	<p>No additional local parks warranted in the short to medium term given the limited number of sites (to the southwest of the town) which are not within acceptable walking distance.</p> <p>General ongoing maintenance of the park in Treloggen Drive (Map Ref Binalong Bay 2) and replacement of picnic facilities within this park is recommended to increase its level of useability for local residents.</p>
Stieglitz	1 x Foreshore Park 2 x Local Parks	The majority of General Residential and Rural Living zoned allotments are within 500m of the local parks in Chimney Heights (Map Ref 1); Parnella Drive (Map Ref 3); and the foreshore park at St Helens Point Rd, with the exception of residential lots in the southern area of Stieglitz. However, many of such lots have access to passive recreation spaces on the foreshore and also the Parnella Conservation Area.	<p>Disposal of the local parks in Chimney Heights (Map Reference Stieglitz 2 in Appendix 3) is recommended as this land is an internal lots serviced by an access handle which significantly reduced their level of visibility and useability for open space purposes.</p> <p>A portion of funds should be utilised within Stieglitz to provide one appropriately located local park in a position accessible from residences in the southern section of Stieglitz and to upgrade facilities at the foreshore (Map Ref Stieglitz 1).</p> <p>Retain the park in Parnella Drive (map Reference Stieglitz 3) as it provides a habitat for plant and animal species. Ensure that ongoing maintenance of this park occurs and provide signage to increase its level of use for passive purposes.</p>

Suburb	Parks	Siting	Recommendation
Akaroa	Nil	N/A	Whilst a local park is not provided in this township all General Residential zoned lots are within 500m of St Helens Point Conservation Area . No additional parks warranted.
Ansons Bay	Nil	Ansons Bay does not have any local parks but has significant areas of land zoned Environmental Management, which contains a range of coastal boating, fishing and recreation opportunities as identified in the Coastal Plan prepared by TCG Planning.	Council should consider the provision of improved facilities such as a children's playground in an appropriately located position (eg. on environmental management zoned land within the town, possibly in proximity to existing coastal recreation facilities) which would provide greater diversity in the range of recreational options.
Falmouth	1 x Local Park (with BMX Track & Half Basketball) 1 x Other Sports Facility Site (Tennis Court)	All dwellings are within the Low Density Residential zone are within a 500m radius of a park.	No additional local park warranted , as duplication of facilities for the small number of additional dwellings it would serve is not warranted by population of Falmouth. Creek. The nearest District Facilities are St Marys and Scamander, which are all well in excess of 3km from Falmouth. However, no district park required , as it is not warranted by population of Falmouth.
Four Mile Creek	1 x Local Park	There is no residential zoned land in Four Mile Creek, however smaller allotments within the settlement are zoned Environmental Living and are all within 500m of the local park.	The existing local park adequately services all residents. No additional Local Parks warranted. The nearest District Facilities are St Marys and Scamander which are all well in excess of 3km from Four Mile Creek. However, no additional district park required , as it is not warranted by population of Four Mile Creek.
The Gardens	Nil	N/A	Whilst a local park is not provided in this township the population does not support the purchase of additional land for this purpose. No additional parks required.
Seymour	Nil	N/A	Whilst a local park is not provided in this township the population does not support the purchase of additional land for this purpose. No additional parks required.

Inland			
St Marys	1 x District Facility (St Marys Sports Centre) 3 x Local Parks 2 x Other Sports Facility Sites (Golf and Tennis)	All Urban Mixed Use, General Residential, Environmental Living and Rural Living zoned lands within 3km of a District Park (St Marys Sports Centre). There are areas of General Residential zoned and on the north-western, northern and eastern areas of St Marys which are in excess of 500m distance to a local park due to the clustering of local parks within the town centre.	No additional District Parks required. Whilst not a short term priority, consideration could be given as a medium term option is the provision of additional local parks to the east and west of the town should additional growth occur in St Marys in the future.

Inland			
Fingal	<p>1 x District Park (Fingal Recreation Ground)</p> <p>2 x Other Sports Facility Sites (Tennis Court and Golf Course)</p> <p>3 x local parks (Fingal Park and 2 unnamed)</p>	<p>All Village, General Residential and Rural Living Land in Fingal is within 3km of a District Park (Fingal Recreation Ground).</p> <p>There are currently 3 local parks and a tennis court (in Grant St), with all Village and general Residential zoned land within 500m of such parks.</p>	<p>No additional District Parks required.</p> <p>The tennis court in Grant Street (Map Reference Fingal 4 in Appendix 3) would require significant funds (or rebuilding) to reinstate it to a useable standard and would be best consolidated with other recreation facilities in Fingal Park. Hence, Councils recommendation to dispose of the Grant Street site is supported.</p> <p>The local park in Albert/Victoria Street (Map reference Fingal 5) is not utilised nor entirely suitable for recreation purposes and is in close proximity (200m) of the park to the East in Victoria Street. Disposal of the Albert Street site is recommended, although it is acknowledged that this will result in dwellings to the west of the town being sited a greater distance from a local park (up to 1000m). Whilst not a short term priority, consideration could be given as a longer term option is the provision of additional local parks to the east and west of the town should additional growth occur in Fingal in the future.</p>
Mathinna	1 x Local Park (Mathinna Recreation Ground)	All land zoned 'Village within 500m of Mathinna Recreation Ground (which has a district park function), Low Density Residential lots within 800m of Recreation Ground.	No additional parks required in Mathinna as majority of lots within 500m radius of a park. Duplication of facilities to service the limited number of lots which exceed the 500m distance to a local park is not warranted.
Mangana	1 x local park	<p>Majority of residential zoned land within 500m of main local park.</p> <p>Residential allotments are approximately 8km from closest district facility in Fingal.</p>	No additional local parks required in Mangana.
Cornwall	2 x Local Parks	<p>Majority of residential zoned within 500m of main local park in Alexander Street.</p> <p>Approximately 7km driving distance to District Park in St Marys</p>	<p>Vacant land in William Street (Map Reference Fingal 2 in Appendix 3) is not used nor required for open space purposes and is sited in close proximity to local park in Alexander Street. Duplication of parks is not required and hence the William Street land should be rezoned to Residential and disposed of.</p> <p>No additional district park required, as it is not warranted by population of Cornwall.</p>
Pyengana	1 x District Park (Pyengana Sport & Recreation Ground)	There are no residentially zoned lots in Pyengana. The recreation Ground has a district function for the surrounding rural areas.	No additional parks required in Pyengana.
Weldborough	Nil		No facilities warranted at this time given the limited population.



10. Recreation and Open Space Strategy

10 Recreation and Open Space Strategy

10.1 Vision

The Vision for open space and recreation facilities within the Break O'Day Municipality adopts the fundamental principles of the Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework (Inspiring Place Pty Ltd, prepared for Sport and Recreation Tasmania, 2010) and Vision East 2030, The East Coast Land Use Framework (2009). This Vision seeks to:

Provide a diverse, comprehensive and sustainable open space system, providing health and well-being, environmental, sport and recreation, social, and economic benefits for residents of Break O'Day, in accordance with the settlement hierarchy for the municipality. Ensure that the open space system is developed and managed in response to the needs of the community and visitors, whilst respecting the region's unique environment.

10.2 Summary of Outcomes

There are a number of key issues which have arisen during consultation, review of background documents and during assessment of the level and adequacy of open space and recreational facilities within the Break O'Day Municipality, being:

- Based on an assessment of existing population the Break O'Day is generally well serviced in terms of the level of open space and recreation facilities, however shortfalls in infrastructure have been identified in the following areas:
 - There is insufficient diversity in recreation facilities, particularly to address the needs of families and an aging population. Further, the facilities predominantly focus on outdoor activities, which do not encourage year round participation due to weather limitations. The construction of a multi-use recreation and aquatic facility will address this shortfall and will provide a major regional facility which will be a driver for tourism and growth in the area. Whilst population numbers within Break Day do not currently support construction of this facility, the relative isolation of the municipality and the financial, time and transport burden imposed on residents who seek to access regional facilities in Launceston support construction of such a facility in St Helens.
 - There is a need to construct two (2) purpose built basketball courts, preferably indoor, to meet the demands of the existing population, remove the reliance on the court at St Helens High School and to provide an additional sporting activity, particularly for youth.
 - The provision of an expanded range of recreational facilities, such as half court basketball and netball rings is recommended within outlying areas of the Municipality to encourage greater geographical distribution of facilities and to provide accessible activities for youth.
- The reliance on limited volunteers to access facilities and coordinate events was raised as an issue by many sporting groups during consultation. Whilst the use of volunteers is unavoidable, it is recommended that a coordinator be appointed upon future construction of the multi purpose indoor recreation & aquatic facility at St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground. The full time coordinator would be responsible for the management of the facility and should also be engaged to coordinate access to other Council recreation infrastructure; coordinate volunteers in the holding of major sporting events; and assist in the

identification and holding of informal sports sessions for particular target groups (eg. teenagers) to increase overall participation rates..

- Within the Municipality there are a number of allotments which have been zoned Open Space under the Break O' Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013, however such spaces have limited availability for open space purposes due to a lack of visibility, slope or location. Disposal of a number of such allotments is recommended as detailed in the Action Plan contained in section 11 of this report.
- Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 (Part E10.0 Recreation and Open Space Code) currently contains an Acceptable Solution which requires the payment of a monetary contribution towards the provision of open space in new subdivisions. However, dedication of land is only referenced in the Performance Criteria and hence is not actively encouraged (particularly in larger subdivisions), which in a number of instances would be a preferable option for Council and may provide an improved outcome for the community. Amendment to the scheme to incorporate updated Acceptable Solutions and Performance Criteria, which specify the quantity of land to be dedicated and/or the value of the contribution is recommended to ensure that Council is provided with sufficient financial resources to meet the recreational demands of the community. Whilst it is acknowledged that the 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework' (Sport and Recreation Tasmania, 2010) does not support this quantitative assessment as the best method of providing open space for communities, it is considered that this is an appropriate benchmark for future subdivision where the characteristics of available land and the demographics of a community are not yet well understood. The application of a quantitative contribution/dedication requirement should continue to be coupled with Acceptable Solutions and/or Performance Criteria within the Planning Scheme which specify appropriate design and siting requirements for new areas of open space.
- Specifically, Council should ensure that future land which is dedicated or purchased for open space purposes has adequate road frontage (ie. is not an internal lot), has minimal slope, is appropriately sited and does not have significant limitations (eg. drainage or vegetation).
- Whilst the ability to provide linkages between existing open space, foreshore areas and community spaces is limited by distance, land acquisition constraints and financial impediments it is recommended that greater consideration be given to linkages in the siting of open space within future subdivisions or when additional land is purchased by Council for this purpose. Specifically, Council should pursue future opportunities to provide linkage between open space areas, adjacent residential areas and/or other community facilities in its future selection of open space land.
- Within St Helens existing opportunity to provide improved pedestrian access from the town centre to the foreshore, through the provision of pedestrian access through Pendrigh Place, in accordance with the recommendations of the St Helens Traffic Management Strategy (Bitzios, 2013) and the St Helens and Surrounds Structure Plan. This would facilitate improved access to the foreshore, resulting in increased use of the upgraded recreational spaces which are proposed within the Masterplan prepared by Jennifer Binns (2013).
- To facilitate increased informal use of the St Helens Sports and Recreation Ground, particularly after completion of the additional courts and the future indoor recreation and aquatic centre, it is recommended that improved signage directing visitors to this facility be provided at the entrance to, and within, the town centre. This should be coupled with advertising and promotion of the facility, to update residents of activities and to advise tourists of events and available sporting options.

10.3 Key Principles

Following community consultation, a review of background studies and a qualitative and quantitative investigation this study has identified four key principles in relation to open space and recreation facilities provision, being:

Diversify Opportunities

This study indicates that the Break O'Day Municipality is generally well resourced in terms of open space and recreation facilities subject to the provision of a small number of additional facilities, particularly in outlying communities to improve the spatial distribution of facilities. However, this study has also identified a need for expanded diversity in the range of facilities offered to provide for year round, multiple use activities. Such facilities will cater for indoor recreation, activities for youth, an aging population, and to support a broader range of activities for families. Facilities should also cater for an expanded range of activities, including individual activities which acknowledge the varied lifestyles of the community.

Maximise Accessibility

In considering the demographic make up of Break O'Day, it is apparent that the diversity of the community impacts upon the demand for facilities. The demographic profile of Break O'Day identifies particular groups of high priority, being children and families, young people, and older people and seniors.

Potential recreation and open space demands for children and families include swimming pools, bike paths, playgrounds, fitness facilities, picnic areas and open grassed areas. An important element to these facilities is safety and accessibility. Potential demands for young people include organised sports activities, swimming pools, safe walking and bike tracks and skate parks. Potential demands for older people and seniors include low impact sports activities and facilities including lawn bowls and golf, walking and bike tracks with associated seating and fitness facilities catering for gentle exercise. There is a need to ensure that the range of facilities provided is diversified to accommodate a range of users.

Further, an important factor for planning for older people and seniors is accessibility. Hence, recreation facilities should be inclusive of all persons, irrespective of age, gender or physical ability.

Accessibility to facilities is also an issue for people of low income, due to Break O'Day's lower than average income levels. Due to the rural nature of the area and the lower socio economic demographic, there is also a demand to provide affordable and accessible activities and spaces close to communities.

Encourage Participation

Participation rates are significantly impacted by access to organised sporting activities, indicating the importance of sporting facilities, sporting teams and activities within Break O'Day communities. Strategies to maintain and increase participation in sport and community activity should be implemented to ensure that existing infrastructure is well utilised and not restricted to group activities.

Further active communication and /or advertising of such facilities for tourists and new residents will provide ongoing community and economic benefits to the area.

Formal coordination of recreation facilities within Break O'Day is also considered to be a key matter if the level of participation is to increase and if events and facilities are to be appropriately managed.

Improve Linkages and Useability

Walking and cycling trails should be used as a means of connecting key nodes within Break O'Day and as an economic driver for tourism. This should include the provision of formal tracks within urbanised areas or less formalised trails in bushland areas. Such pedestrian and/or cycleway linkages will provide increased recreation options for residents and visitors with an appreciation of the natural attributes of the region.

Further, whilst the ability to accommodate greater linkage between existing facilities is limited by distance, costs and acquisition constraints, open space within new subdivisions should be located to allow for linkage with existing residential areas, community spaces and other key nodes. Ongoing maintenance of trails within non urban areas should also occur to ensure continued useability of such facilities.

The key objectives which have been identified for the provision of recreation facilities and open space are as follows:

10.4 Objectives

Objective 1: Ensure recreational facilities and open spaces are accessible to the greatest range of users

Strategies:

- Encourage and promote healthy lifestyles through increased participation by all groups in recreation activities;
- Provide coordination in the management of recreation facilities;
- Implement a programme with local schools and community groups to ensure that recreation spaces meet the demands of users;
- Ensure accessibility of facilities to encourage an active lifestyle for residents and visitors;
- Locate open spaces within safe and comfortable walking and cycling distances to allow access by the greatest number of residents;
- Provide affordable or no cost to user facilities which allow access by people of all income levels;
- Promote public use of recreation facilities and open spaces;
- Ensure that facilities are available for informal use by individual or non group users;
- Encourage effective communication and dissemination of information regarding recreational facilities to promote ease of access and use;
- Promote alternative transport options to allow access to facilities and events by all income groups and ages;
- Provide an equitable distribution of open space facilities in coastal and inland locations.

Objective 2: Provide and maintain an appropriate level of infrastructure for recreational purposes
Strategies:

- Strengthen the appeal of Break O'Day as a place to live by providing an appropriate range of facilities, both indoor and outdoor in acknowledgement of weather conditions;
- Provide facilities, particularly within smaller towns, which foster community involvement and a sense of place;
- Ensure that facilities and spaces are safe and suitable for their intended function;
- Deliver high quality facilities;
- Encourage multiple use of infrastructure and facility sharing to accommodate the broadest range of uses possible, only where conflict between users will not occur.
- Continue to implement an ongoing programme for maintenance of infrastructure and ensure that funding is allocated for this purpose.
- Provide improved facilities in local parks, for local residents, including within parks which are not in foreshore locations.

Objective 3: Ensure there is diversity in the range of recreational facilities provided.
Strategies:

- Provide a range of facilities to accommodate people at all stages of life, including youth, families and the elderly;
- Provide recreational spaces or facilities which also create a strong social gathering place or network, particularly for youth and families;
- Ensure that open spaces accommodate a variety of passive and/or active recreational opportunities dependent on their identified purpose and siting;
- Ensure that open spaces are of an appropriate scale and shape to accommodate their intended function.

Objective 4: Implement effective planning strategies for open space provision
Strategies:

- Ensure that open space and recreational facilities are provided within Break O'Day having regard to the identified settlement hierarchy and having regard to the anticipated level of growth within centres;
- Provide local parks throughout neighbourhoods within walking distance of urban dwellings;
- Ensure that rural communities have access to a central open space area for recreation and social purposes;
- Encourage masterplanning of key sites to ensure that such land is developed to its optimal potential and accommodates a suitable range of functions for its intended users;
- Implement a contribution requirement within the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme requiring the dedication of open space or contribution to Council towards the provision of such within new subdivisions.
- Ensure that where new subdivisions are required to provide an area of open space, it is useable, centrally located and not limited by other functions.

- Ensure that future open spaces within new subdivisions provide effective linkages with key community infrastructure, other open spaces and/or existing settlement areas.

Objective 5: Promote linkage between open spaces

Strategies:

- Connect open spaces to the pedestrian and cycling network, where feasible;
- Extend the network of pedestrian pathways and bike tracks linking foreshore areas;
- Develop clear directional signage for residents and visitors identifying the extent of such pathways;
- Encourage the development of key nodes along pathways to invite a higher level of use;
- Continue to provide rest areas and/or amenities along pathways and bike tracks to encourage use by a greater range of users;
- Encourage the expansion and development of trails at a regional level within national parks and reserves and ensure that promotional materials effectively communicates the extent and location of such.

Objective 6: Ensure functionality of open spaces

Strategies:

- Ensure identified open spaces promote the conservation of natural and cultural values;
- Ensure that the functions of open space areas are selected having regard to the level of vegetation cover and the ability of this to provide shaded areas and accommodate passive uses;
- Provide open spaces which do not have a level of environmental or engineering constraint which would limit their use for recreational purposes;
- Ensure areas of public open space are designed and landscaped and that any playground facilities have regard to the 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles'.

10.5 Action Plan

The following strategy for implementation identifies the short, medium and long term actions which will assist in meeting Council's objectives for recreation and open space within the Municipality. The Action Plan provides:

- Short Term Priorities: 1 -3 years
- Medium Term Priorities: 3-10 years
- Long Term Priorities: >10 years
- Ongoing Works

The strategy provides priorities based on the following categories:

L: Land Use Planning

I: Infrastructure

M: Maintenance and upgrading

R: Resources/Staff

Table 15.1: Short Term Actions (1-3yrs)

Item#	Action	Approx Cost (\$ 2014)
I.01	<p>Council to continue to seek funding for the construction of a multi-purpose indoor recreation & aquatic facility at St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground based on the Briefing Document and the design prepared by Jennifer Binns. Such upgrades should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ new indoor and outdoor netball and basketball courts; ▪ indoor sports centre with a swimming pool, tennis courts, gymnasium, cricket, soccer, volleyball and badminton; ▪ athletic and cycling infrastructure upgrade; ▪ sports pavilion including amenities; ▪ new equestrian enclosure over existing area and upgraded clubrooms; and ▪ upgrade to roads and carparking. 	\$18,844,981 (based on cost prepared by Estro Management)
I.02	Construct two full sized basketball courts at St Helens to address the identified shortfall in the basketball facilities within Break O'Day.	\$500,000 grant funding provided
R.01	Appoint a full time coordinator to manage the St Helens multi purpose indoor recreation and aquatic facility, once funded constructed. This coordinator should also be engaged to coordinate access to other Council recreation infrastructure; coordinate volunteers in the holding of major sporting events; and assist in the identification and holding of informal sports sessions for particular target groups such as teenagers.	Approx \$100,000 per annum
I.03	Ensure that the multi-purpose sports complex accommodates indoor fitness/training and a space for indoor exercise classes for all age groups.	-
L.01	<p>Review the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 (Part E10.0 Recreation and Open Space Code) to allow for the imposition of a condition on approvals for new subdivisions. The revised Acceptable Solutions/Performance Criteria should encourage the dedication of land for open space purposes in large subdivision and should specify the quantity of land to be dedicated and/or the value of the contribution under the provisions of the Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993. To implement this it is recommended that the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 be amended to require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The dedication to Council of 5% of the total area of land to be subdivided for open space purposes; or ▪ Where this is not feasible due to the scale of the subdivision a cash contribution of 5% of the land value to be payable toward the provision of open space by Council. 	-
L.02	Review the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 to include additional Acceptable Solutions/Performance Criteria which require that land which is dedicated or purchased for open space purposes has adequate road frontage (ie. is not an internal lot), has minimal slope, is appropriately sited and does not have significant site constraints.	-
L.03	Review the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 to include additional Acceptable Solutions/Performance Criteria to ensure that local parks dedicated within new estates are not severely limited by constraints such as detention basins. Further, encourage siting of open space areas adjacent to existing corridors of vegetation and/or provide selected tree cover within spaces for shade.	-
I.04	Council to continue to seek funding for the construction of the St Helens Foreshore - Georges Bay Multi Use Track from St Helens to Akaroa link.	\$18,267,561 (based on cost from briefing document)

Item#	Action	Approx Cost (\$ 2014)
I.05	Council continue to work with state and commonwealth agencies to pursue funding options for construction/upgrading of a state/regional trail which extends through the Break O'Day Municipality and which will allow for linkage of key nodes in the North East Coast of Tasmania.	To be confirmed following completion of the 'Sustainable Tourism Planning for Tasmania's East Coast' investigations.
I.06	Proceed with its intended construction of a tennis court at the Final Recreation Ground to be funded by the sale of the Grant St tennis court site.	-
I.07	Provide more challenging climbing equipment for 8-15 year olds at the St Helens Foreshore in accordance with the St Helens Foreshore Redevelopment Plan prepared by Jennifer Binns. Further, when selecting specific equipment with this area investigate options for the provisions of play equipment for children with physical or intellectual limitations.	-
I.08	Provide a half court basketball facility at St Helens Foreshore to provide a complimentary activity to the skate park which is well utilised by youth.	Incorporated within Masterplan
I.09	Proceed with the construction of a netball hoop at Mathinna Recreation Area in accordance with Council's resolution (04/13.15.6) once a risk assessment had been completed to determine the most appropriate site.	\$2,000
I.10	Provide a netball hoop at Pyengana Sport & Recreation Ground To support dispersal of recreation facilities throughout the Municipality.	\$2,000
L.04	Dispose of the local park located at corner of Lindsay Parade and Cameron St, St Helens (Map Reference St Helens 14 in Appendix 3) as this land provides access to an adjacent commercial area, has a limited level of useability for open space purposes and is in the vicinity of other more useable foreshore and local parks in St Helens.	-
L.05	Dispose of part of the local park located in Falmouth St, St Helens (Map Reference St Helens 15 in Appendix 3) as this land is too steep to be effectively used for open space purposes. Retain that portion of the land which is needed to retain a pedestrian linkage.	-
L.06	Dispose of the local park located at Cnr Mimosa St and Jason St, St Helens (Map Reference St Helens 18 in Appendix 3) as this land is too steep to be effectively used for open space purposes. Utilise part of the funds from the sale of such spaces for the provision of upgraded facilities (eg playground facilities) within remaining local parks.	-
L.07	Dispose of the local park in Chimney Heights, Stieglitz (Map Reference Stieglitz 2 in Appendix 3) as this land is an internal lots serviced by an access handle which significantly reduces its level of visibility and useability for open space purposes.	-
M.01	Retain the park in Parnella Drive (map Reference Stieglitz 3) as it provides a habitat for plant and animal species. Ensure that ongoing maintenance of this park occurs and provide signage to increase its level of use for passive purposes.	-

Item#	Action	Approx Cost (\$ 2014)
L.08	Use funds from the sale of land in Stieglitz to provide one appropriately located local park in the town in a position accessible from residences in the southern section of Stieglitz and to upgrade facilities at the foreshore (Map Ref Stieglitz 1 in Appendix 3).	-
L.09	Dispose of the local park in Albert/Victoria Street, Fingal (Map reference Fingal 5 in Appendix 3) as this land is not utilised nor entirely suitable for recreation purposes and is in close proximity (200m) of the park to the East in Victoria Street.	-
L.10	Dispose of the vacant land in William Street, Cornwall (Map Reference Fingal 2 in Appendix 1) as this land is not used nor required for open space purposes and is sited in close proximity to local park in Alexander Street.	-
I.10	Undertake construction of the additional recreation facilities/upgrades as contained within the Break O'Day 2013/2014 Annual Plan including the replacement of the toilet block at Talbot St, Fingal (\$110,000) and Fingal Recreation Ground (\$105,000) and the replacement of the scoreboard at St Marys Recreation Ground (\$18,000).	\$233,000
M.02	Continue to implement the maintenance and upgrading programme for toilet facilities throughout the Municipality as recommended within Council's "Public Toilet Maintenance and replacement plan" for the period 2015-2016 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Helens Sports Complex toilet upgrade; St Helens Equestrian Club toilet upgrade; Lions Park toilet block replacement; Steiglitz swimming hole toilet block replacement; 	\$202,000 (based on cost from Council's Replacement Plan)
M.03	Upgrade the kitchen facilities at St Marys Sports Centre.	-

Table 15.2: Medium Term Actions (3yrs-10yrs)

Item#	Action	Cost (\$ 2014)
I.11	Complete the construction of a walking and cycling track from St Helens to Binalong Bay as recommended by the St Helens and Surrounds Structure Plan (Urbis, 2013)	-
I.12	Erect signage at the entrance to St Helens and within the town centre to direct visitors to the future St Helens multi purpose indoor recreation and aquatic centre.	-
M.04	Upgrade the cricket pitch at St Helens to accommodate regional activities.	-
I.14	Provide improved facilities such as a children's playground in an appropriately located position in Ansons Bay (eg. on environmental management zoned land within the town, possibly in proximity to existing coastal recreation facilities) which would provide greater diversity in the range of recreational options.	-

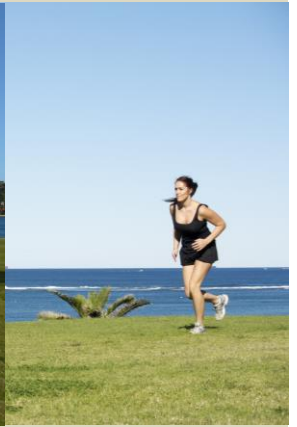
Item#	Action	Cost (\$ 2014)
R.03	Council continue to work with state and commonwealth agencies to pursue funding options for upgrading, improved signage, increased accessibility and the provision of additional mountain bike tracks in the North - East of Tasmania in accordance with the recommendations of the study "Mountain Bike Tourism Potential in Northern Tasmania" prepared by Six Dot Consulting in 2011.	-
M.05	Continue to implement the maintenance and upgrading programme for toilet facilities throughout the Municipality as recommended within Council's "Public Toilet Maintenance and replacement plan" for the period 2017-2023 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ O'Connors Beach toilet block upgrade; ▪ Mathinna toilet block replacement; ▪ St Mary's Recreation Ground toilet block replacement; ▪ St Marys Recreation Ground toilet demolition; ▪ St Marys reserve toilet block upgrade; ▪ Scamander Ave reserve toilet block replacement; ▪ Winklers' Lagoon toilet block replacement; ▪ Falmouth toilet block replacement; ▪ St Helens Foreshore Reserve toilet and shower block replacement ▪ Lions Park toilet block replacement; ▪ Bindalong Bay Road toilet block replacement. 	\$472,000 (based on cost from Council's Replacement Plan)
I.15	Implement a program to provide improved signage of key open space areas to inform residents and visitors of facilities and attributes of an area.	-
I.16	Proceed with investigation and construction of the 'Rail Trail' walking and cycle track along the old railway line from the St Marys Arts Cultural and Heritage Precinct in Fingal to Cornwall through to St Marys.	\$3.5m (for 'Rail Trail')
M.06	Re-seal the tennis courts at St Helens.	-
I.17	Council to remain informed of more innovative facilities within skate parks and undertake upgrading of the existing skate parks Scamander and St Helens, as needed, to ensure that youth continue to be attracted to such facilities.	
I.18	Provide an additional skate park at St Marys or Fingal to ensure improved distribution of facilities.	-
R.02	Investigate options for the provision of a shuttle bus service to allow access to major sporting events in St Helens from surrounding townships to encourage increased participation rates.	-

Table 15.3: Long Term Actions >10yrs

Item#	Action	Cost (\$ 2014)
L.11	Review the need for additional local parks to the east and west of the town should additional growth occur in St Marys.	-
L.12	Review the need for additional local parks to the east and west of the town should additional growth occur in Fingal.	-

Table 15.4: Ongoing Actions

Item#	Action	Cost (\$ 2014)
R.04	Continue to effectively communicate to residents information regarding the availability of access and the range of activities available at St Helens indoor recreation and aquatic centre (upon construction) to ensure that informal access to this facility is available at extended hours, in addition to coordinated group activities.	-
M.07	When replacing or providing additional play equipment within local parks consider providing diversity in the range of play equipment provided to cater for older children (8-12) and teenagers.	-
M.08	Undertake ongoing maintenance and upgrading of existing walkways to ensure that key sections of main routes are useable by persons with mobility aids.	-
I.19	Ensure that access to all new or upgraded sporting facilities is available for people with limited mobility and or disabilities.	-
M.09	Continue to work with Parks and Wildlife to ensure ongoing maintenance of existing trails throughout the municipality including land management (eg weed control) in areas adjacent to tracks.	-
M.10	Undertake ongoing maintenance of the park in Treloggen Drive (Map Ref Binalong Bay 2) and replace picnic facilities within this park to increase its level of useability for local residents.	-
I.20	Council to keep abreast of more innovative facilities within skate parks and undertake upgrading of the existing skate parks in Scamander and St Helens, as needed, to ensure that youth continue to be attracted to such facilities.	-
M.11	Undertake ongoing maintenance of Kings Park including weed management to protect the ecological values of the park. Undertake continued weed control within other parks, including at the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground, as required.	-
L.13	As future growth occurs within Break O'Day ensure that a local park is provided within 500m walking distance of all dwellings in urban areas.	-
I.21	Council ensure that space remains available at the St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground to allow for the development of another croquet lawn adjacent to the existing lawns should membership grow in the future.	-
R.02	Upon construction of the St Helens multi purpose indoor recreation and aquatic centre undertake an advertising and promotions campaign to inform residents and visitors of available activities and events.	-



11. Funding Options

11 Funding Options

This study indicates that the Break O'Day Municipality is generally well resourced in terms of open space and reception facilities subject to the provision of a small number of additional facilities, particularly in outlying communities to improve the spatial distribution of facilities. However, this study has also identified a need for expanded diversity in the range of facilities offered to provide for year round, multiple use activities. Such facilities will cater for indoor recreation, an aging population, and will support a broader range of activities for families. Facilities should also cater for an expanded range of activities, including individual activities which acknowledge the varied lifestyles of the community.

Funding for the infrastructure and resource items identified in the Action Plan can be provided from a number of sources including:

- State and/or Commonwealth funding for significant infrastructure items such as the St Helens Multi-purpose indoor recreation & aquatic facility at St Helens Sport and Recreation Ground.
- The recent \$500,000 state government funding provided for the provision of additional court facilities in St Helens;
- Proceeds from the disposal of a number of local parks, which should primarily be utilised to provide improved facilities within existing parks or to purchase more suitable land as recommended in this report.

To ensure that the provision of open space and recreational facilities keeps pace with future population growth within the Break O'Day Municipality it is recommended that Council continue to attach a condition on approvals for new subdivisions which requires the dedication of land for open space purposes or the payment of a contribution under the provisions of the Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993. Part E10.0 of the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 currently encourages payment of a contribution and does not readily facilitate dedication of land within larger subdivisions. Further, the value of the contribution or the quantity of land to be dedicated is not specified. To encourage the option for the dedication of suitable local open space land in larger subdivisions and to quantify the dedication/contribution requirement it is recommended that the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme 2013 be amended to require:

- The dedication to Council of 5% of the total area of land to be subdivided for open space purposes; or
- Where this is not feasible due to the scale of the subdivision a cash contribution of 5% of the land value to be payable toward the provision of open space by Council.

Appendices

Appendix 1:

Targeted Survey Respondents

- Nettie Berr, St Helens Community Shed
- Anita Silva, St Helens Little Athletic Centre Inc
- Todd Dudley, St Helens Soccer Club Inc
- Matt Osborne, St Helens Football Club Inc
- Mark Dickinson, St Helens Bowls Club
- Margaret Osborne, St Helens Netball Association Inc
- Matthew Osborn, St Helens Athletic Club
- Jake Ihnen, St Helens Basketball Association
- Margaret Osborne, East Coast Cricket Association
- Russel Montgomery, Sporting Shooters Association of Australia
- Eddy Burns and Lesley Burns, St Helens Croquet Club
- Mitch Price, St Helens Senior Citizens Club Inc and Indoor Bowls
- Annette Wines, St Marys Sports Complex
- Stan Hardcastle, Scamander River Golf Club
- Sharlene, St Marys District High School Swimming Pool
- Debbie, Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House
- Janet Bush, Orienteering Tasmania
- Mary Roach, St Helens tennis Club
- Todd Dudley, St Helens Soccer Club

Appendix 2

Inventory of Recreational Facilities and Open Space

Open Space and Recreation Facilities Inventory - Coastal

Map Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
St Helens							
1.	St Helens Sports Complex	Tully St, St Helens	Main building Athletics building Football clubrooms Bar Velodrome Axeman's building Equestrian building Grandstand TS Argonaut Building Croquet Field Cricket Pitches AFL Field Soccer Field New netball court with lighting Pergola/BBQs	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Helens Little Athletic Centre St Helens Athletic Club St Helens Soccer Club St Helens Football Club St Helens District Equestrian Club St Helens Basketball Association St Helens Croquet Club East Coast Cricket Association East Coast Junior Cricket Club TS Argonaut Navy Cadets North eastern Football Union 	A district facility which provides a range of active sporting opportunities.
2.	Seniors Citizens Room	Portland Memorial Hall	Indoor Bowls Parking	Yes	Yes	Public use St Helens Senior Citizens Club - Used for indoor bowls every Monday and Thursday at 1pm.	
3.	St Helens Tennis Club	Corner Bowen & Circassian Streets	Tennis court (1)	Yes	Yes	St Helens Tennis Club - Club use	Shared parking with adjacent Bowling Club
4.	St Helens Bowls Club	10 Circassian St, St Helens	Outdoor bowling greens and clubhouse	Yes	Yes	East Coast Bowls Association - Club use.	Shared parking with adjacent Tennis Club
5.	Percy Street Reserve (Foreshore Park)	Georges Bay Esplanade, St Helens	Toilet & shower block Skate park Information bay BBQ shelter Skate Park Fitness equipment Lookout Picnic tables Art & Interpretative signage Boat ramp Jetty Playground Parking	Yes	Yes	Public use	
6.	Fisherman Memorial park	Corner of Georges Bay Esplanade and Medea Cove Road, St Helens	Shelter Picnic tables Seating	Yes	Yes		Landscaped park located at the entrance to St Helens
7.	Kings Park	Corner of Tasman Highway and Medea Cove Road, St Helens 7216	BBQ shelter Lookout Walking trails Shelter/tables and chairs Gas BBQ	Yes	Yes		Road to BBQ area.

Map Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
8.	St Helens and District Equestrian Club	Tully St, St Helens	Club house and equestrian grounds	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Helens District Equestrian Club Riding for the Disabled Suncoast Pony and Riding Club 	
9.	SSAA St Helens	57 Argonaut Rd, St Helens Binalong Bay	Shooting range	Yes	Yes	Sporting Shooters Association Australia (St Helens) No public use	
10.	St Helens Golf Club	Argonaut Rd, St Helens	18 Hole golf course	Yes	Yes	Club open to visitors	
11	Lions Park	Corner of Tasman Highway and St Helens Point Road, St Helens	BBQ Shelter Toilet block Playground Shelter	Yes	Yes		
12.	Local Park	Cnr Cecilia St and McMichael Terrace. St Helens	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Lightly vegetated land bisected by a watercourse.
13.	Local Park	Thompson Court, St Helens	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Vacant level land which has a high level of suitability for passive open space purposes but is currently vacant.
14.	Local park	Cnr Lindesay Pde and Cameron St, St Helens	No formal Facilities	No	No	Local residents	Land provides access to adjacent commercial area and has limited level of useability for open space purposes.
15.	Local Park	Falmouth Street, St Helens	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Located opposite the St Helens Caravan Park. Limited level of useability due to vegetative cover.
16.	Local Park	Telernon Street, St Helens	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Vacant land bounded by roads on all four frontages.
17.	Local Park	Lawry Heights	No formal facilities photo	No	No	Local residents	Vacant sloping land which is moderately vegetated.
18.	Local Park	Cnr Mimosa St and Jason St, St Helens	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Vacant land which slopes from the road and has a limited level of useability for open space purposes due to its grade.
Scamander							
1.	Scamander Sports Complex	Old Coach Rd Scamander	Cricket pitch Tennis Court	Yes -	Yes	Scamander Cricket and Social Club	
2.	Scamander River Golf Club	Old Coach Rd, Scamander	9 hole golf course Golf Club house	Yes	Yes	Golf Course is open to the public 7 days a week	Club room is available Tuesday-Sunday and Mondays during summer.
3.	Scamander Bowls Club	Campbell Street Scamander	Bowling greens and club building	Yes	Yes	Club facility	

Map Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
4.	Scamander Foreshore Park	Scamander Ave Scamander	Skate park Surf lifesaving club Picnic tables BBQ Shelter Playground Information Bay	Yes	Yes	Youth Groups & General Public	
5.	Pioneer Park	Cnr Campbell St and Scamander Ave Scamander	Picnic table and chairs	No	No	Local residents	Vegetated moderately sloping corner site with a pathway running north/south.
6.	Foreshore Reserve	Thomas Street, Scamander	Nil	No	No	Local residents	Level site adjacent to the foreshore, which is sited to the rear of dwellings.
7.	Local Park	Wrinkler Drive	Nil	No	No	Local residents	Land within a relatively new estate which contains a detention basin which restricts its use for many recreational purposes.
Beaumaris							
1.	Local Park	Beaumaris Ave	Playground Cricket pitch Tennis/basketball court Shelter shed Picnic tables	No	Nil	Local residents	Includes recently provided picnic tables and a range of recreation options. This park has a high level of useability and could accommodate additional facilities to accommodate additional population growth in the town.
Binalong Bay							
1.	Foreshore Park	Binalong Bay Rd, Binalong Bay	Tennis Court Playground Seating	Yes	Yes	Local residents and public	Informal right angled parking to road. Recently constructed toilet block.
2.	Local Park	Treloggen Drive Binalong Bay	Shelter, Brick BBQ, Tables	No	Nil	Local residents	Vegetated site. Poor condition. Tables cannot be accessed due to overgrown vegetation.
Stieglitz							
1.	Foreshore Park, Playground and Boat Ramp	St Helens Point Rd	Playground equipment	Yes	Yes	Local residents/public	Local park sited on the foreshore. Facilities and parking could be upgraded.
2.	Local Park	Chimney Heights Road, St Helens Map Ref 45	Facilities Photo	No	No	Local residents	Vacant, although appears to be partially utilised by adjacent caravan park. Limited level of visibility due to access handle only fronting Parnella Drive.

Map Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
3.	Local Park	Parnella Drive, Stieglitz	No formal facilities	No	No	Local residents	Limited level of useability due to vegetative cover. Limited level of visibility due to access handle only fronting Parnella Drive.
Akaroa							
Nil							
Ansons Bay							
Nil							
Falmouth							
1.	Local Park	Franks St, Falmouth	BMX track Half basketball court Sports oval Seating	Yes	No	Local residents BMX track used by residents of the region	
2.	Falmouth Tennis Court	Morrison St, Falmouth	Tennis Court	No	Amenities within community centre	Local residents and club use	
Four Mile Creek							
1.	Foreshore Park and Playground	Cnr Four Mile Creek Rd and Greenbank Dr, Four Mile Creek	Playground Cricket pitch	Yes	Nil	Local residents	Facilities located adjacent to Four Mile Creek Rd with southern section of site vegetated and undeveloped.
The Gardens							
Nil							
Seymour							
Nil							

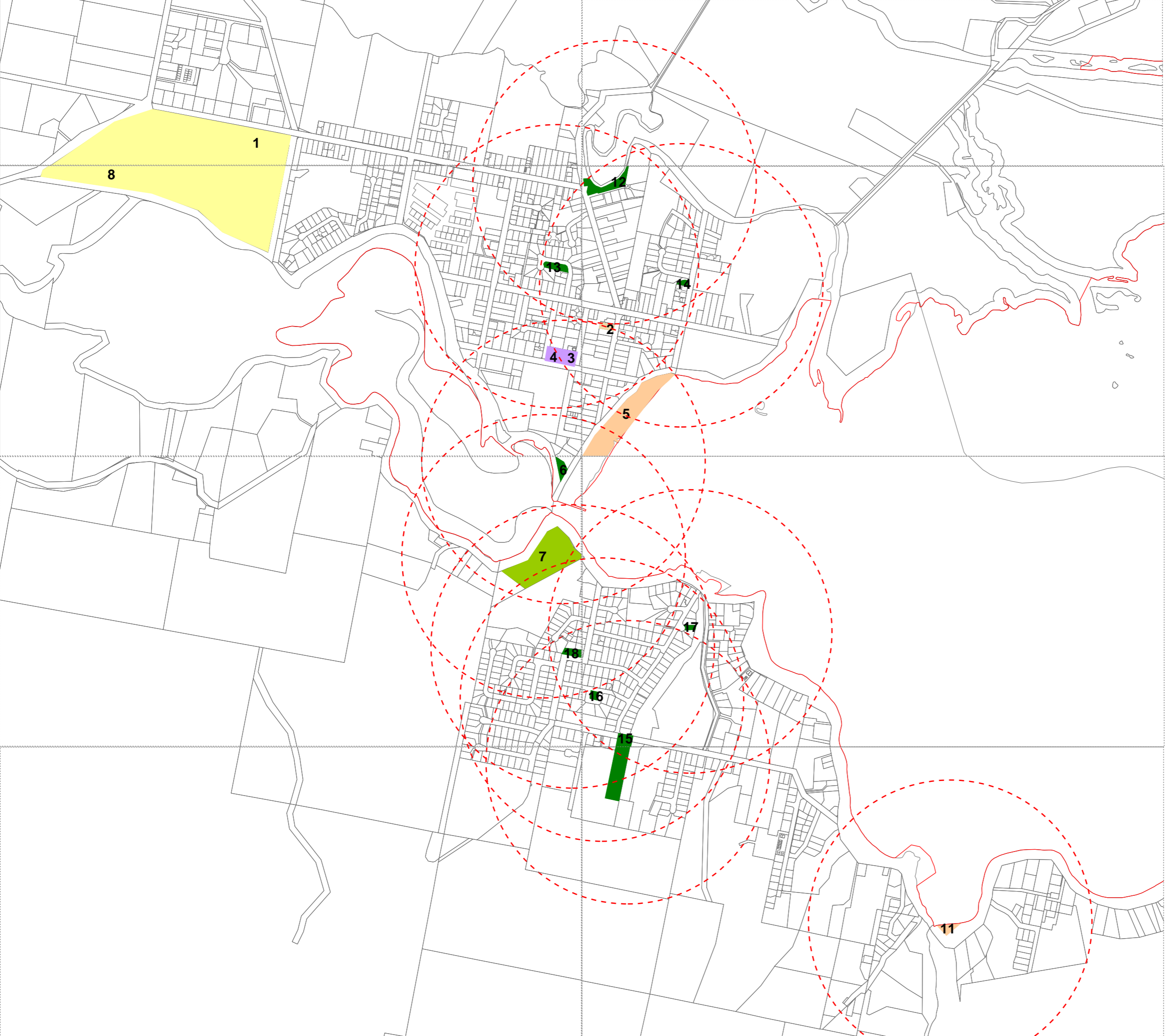
Open Space and Recreation Facilities Inventory - Inland

Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
St Marys							
1.	St Marys Sports Centre	Gray Road and Harefield Road, St Marys	Picnic Tables & shelter Club rooms Grandstand Exhibition hall Camping ground Golf Course-9 holes Cricket pitch Football Field Lawn bowls & Darts Racetrack Horse holding bays Playground	Yes	Yes Toilets & showers (3 amenities buildings)	Golf Course open seven days a week to the public.	A district facility which provides a range of active sporting opportunities.
2.	St Marys Tennis Ground	Main Street	Tennis club building Tennis Courts (2)	Yes	No		
3.	Library Park	Main Street (Esk Highway), St Marys	Playground Picnic tables Barbeque Pergola	Yes	Yes	Public use	A well landscaped park adjacent to the river which provides passive recreation opportunities.
4.	Esk Main Road Park	Main Street, St Marys	Picnic table	Yes	No		A passive open space area with limited facilities.
5.	Land Adjacent to St Marys Railway Station Building	Esk Main Road, St Marys	Railway Station building used as a museum No recreation facilities	Yes	Yes		Comprises land containing and surrounding the St Marys Railway Museum which extends along Esk Main Road.
6.	St Marys Community Hall	Main St, St Marys		Yes	Yes	Public use	
Fingal							
1.	Final Recreation Ground	Brown St, Fingal	Sports Oval Football clubrooms Storerooms Kiosk	Yes	Yes	Fingal Valley Football Union	
2.	Malahide Golf Course	Mangana Rd, Fingal	9 hole golf course Clubhouse	Yes	Yes		Private golf course.
3.	Fingal Park	Talbot St, Fingal	BBQ Picnic tables Playground	Yes	Toilet block		Limited caravan/RV spaces available. Powered sites.
4.	Fingal Tennis Courts	Grant St, Fingal	Tennis court and shelter	No	TBC		Basic facilities and tennis court. Council has resolved to dispose of this land.
5.	Local Park	Cnr Albert St & Victoria St, Fingal	Nil	No	Nil	Local residents	Vacant land which is currently not highly utilised.
6.	Local Park	Cnr Victoria St and Gray St, Fingal	Nil	No	Nil	Local residents	Vacant level land

Ref No.	Facility Name	Address	Facilities	Parking	Amenities	User Groups	Comments
Mathinna							
1.	Mathinna Recreation Ground	High St, Mathinna	Sports oval Shelter shed /clubhouse BBQ Picnic tables Playground	Yes	Toilet block	Local residents	Informal parking
Mangana							
1.	Community centre and Playground	Elizabeth St, Mangana	Nil	No	Nil	Local residents	Vacant land
Cornwall							
1.	Cornwall Park	Alexander St, Cornwall	Playground BBQ Pergola Picnic tables	No	Yes - in hall	Local residents	Facilities located in the southern portion of the site, whilst northern portion, with frontage to Lennox Street is vacant.
2.	Local Park	William St, Cornwall	Nil	No	Nil	Local residents	Land designated for open space but not utilised for such purpose.
Pyengana							
1.	Pyengana Sport and Recreation Ground	St Columa Falls Rd, Pyengana	Grandstand Hall Kiosk Store room Tennis court Cricket pitch/football oval	Yes	Yes	Local residents	
Weldborough							
Nil							

Appendix 3



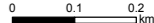
Open Space and Recreation Facilities Inventory Maps

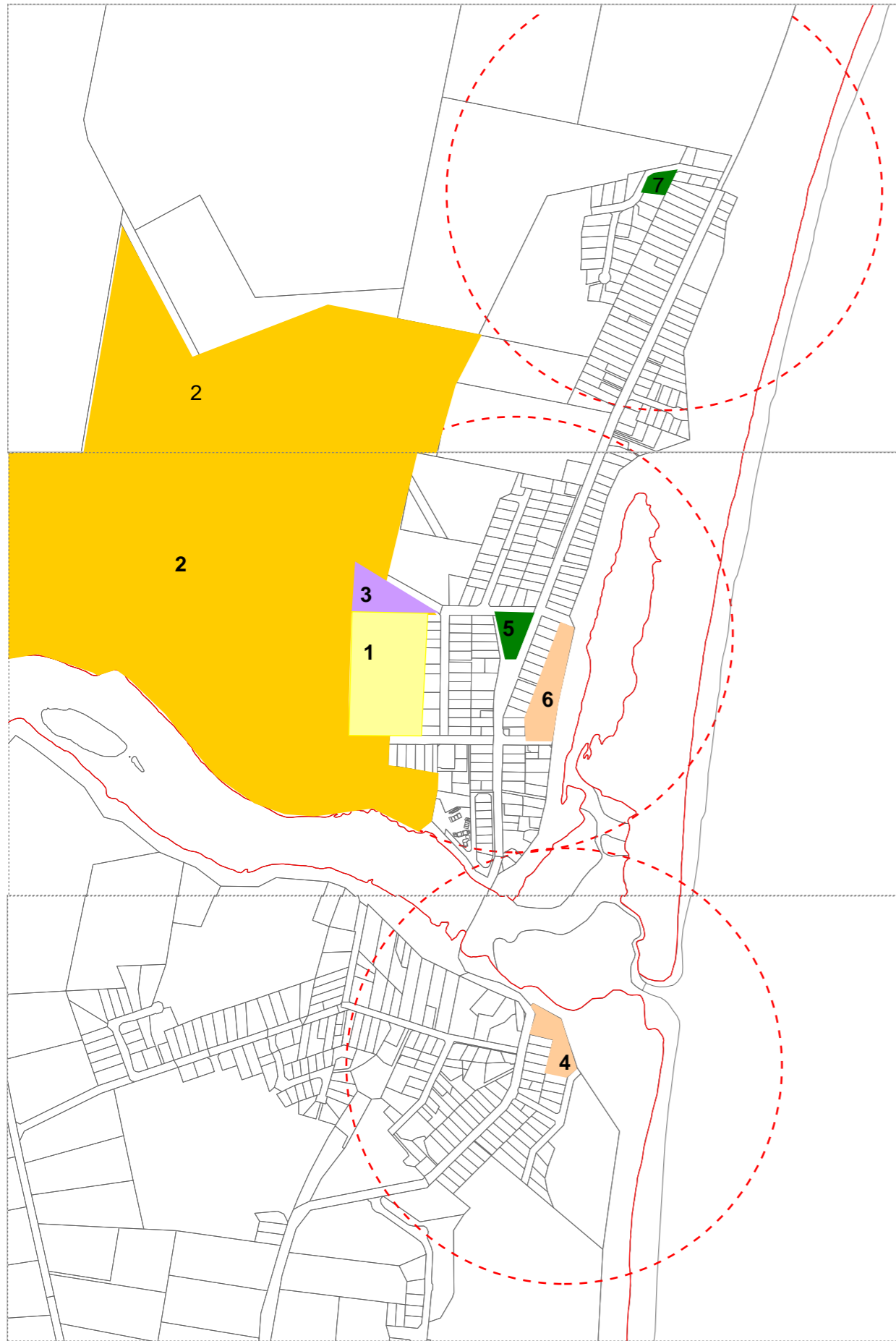


Legend

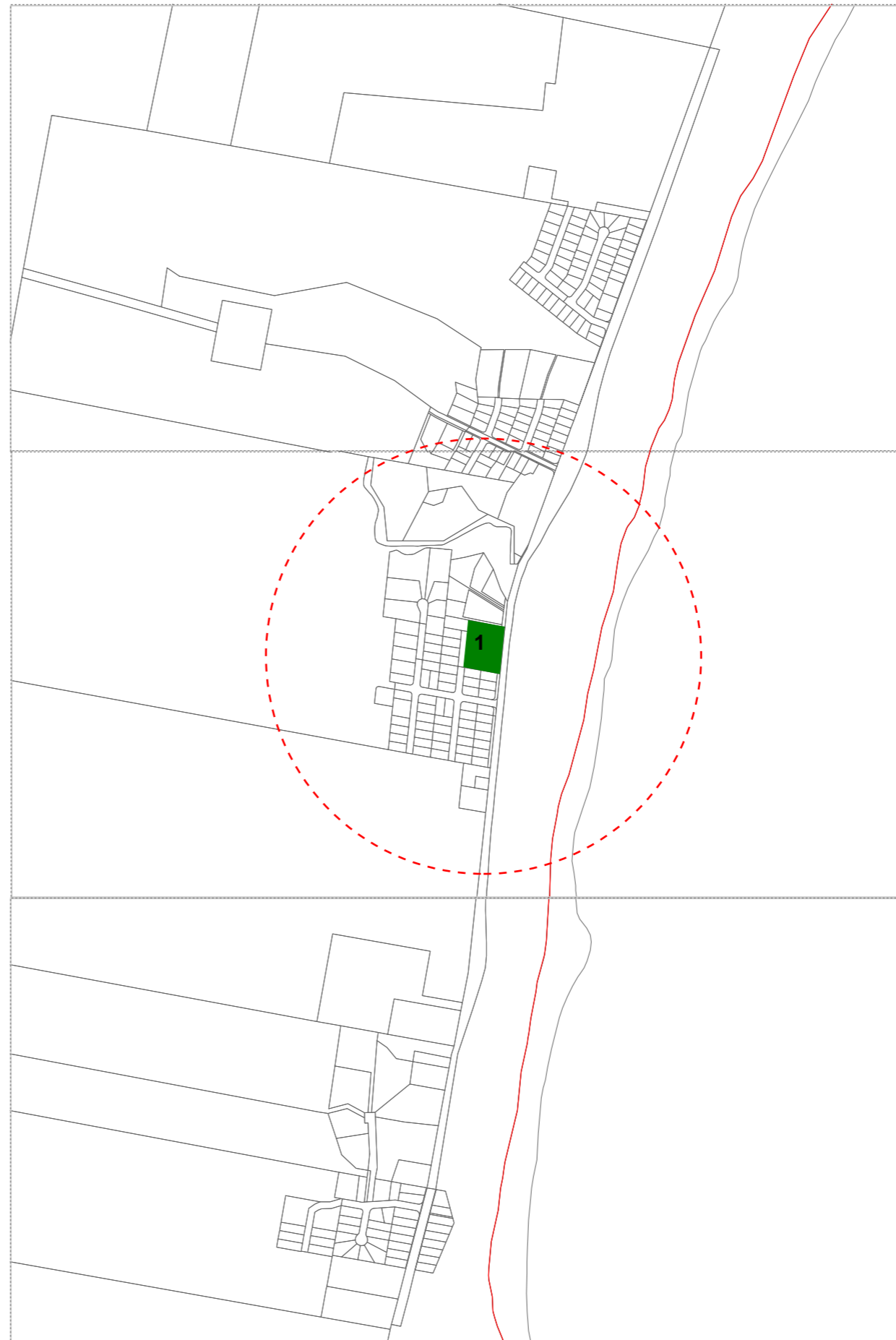
- Local Park
- District Park
- Multi Sports Facility
- Foreshore Park
- Golf Course
- Tennis
- Community Hall
- Bowling
- 500m radius

Refer to Inventory of Recreational Facilities & Open Space (Appendix 2)

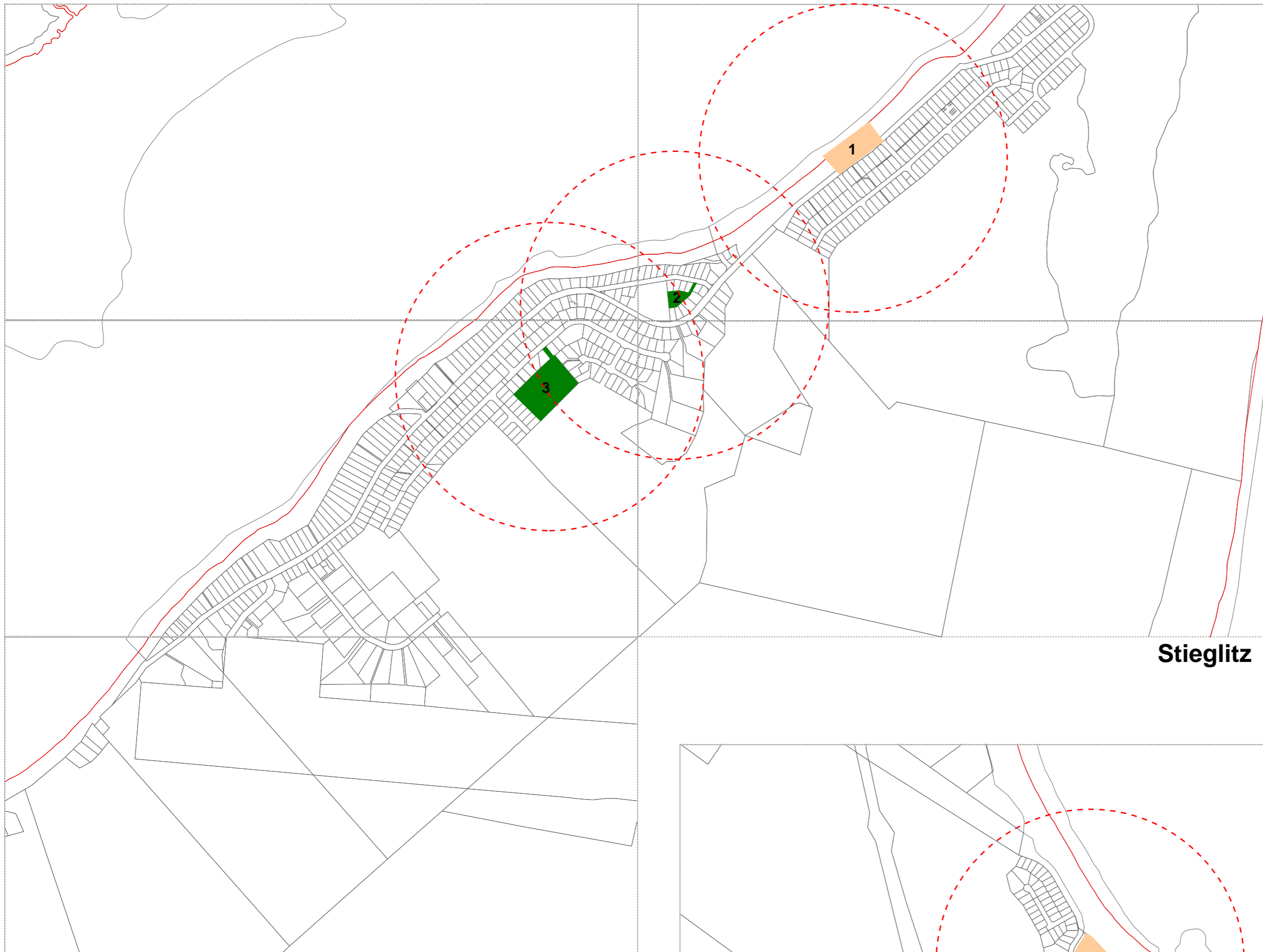
  



Scamander



Beaumaris



Stieglitz



Four Mile Creek



0 0.1 0.2 km



Binalong Bay



Falmouth



Binalong Bay Foreshore



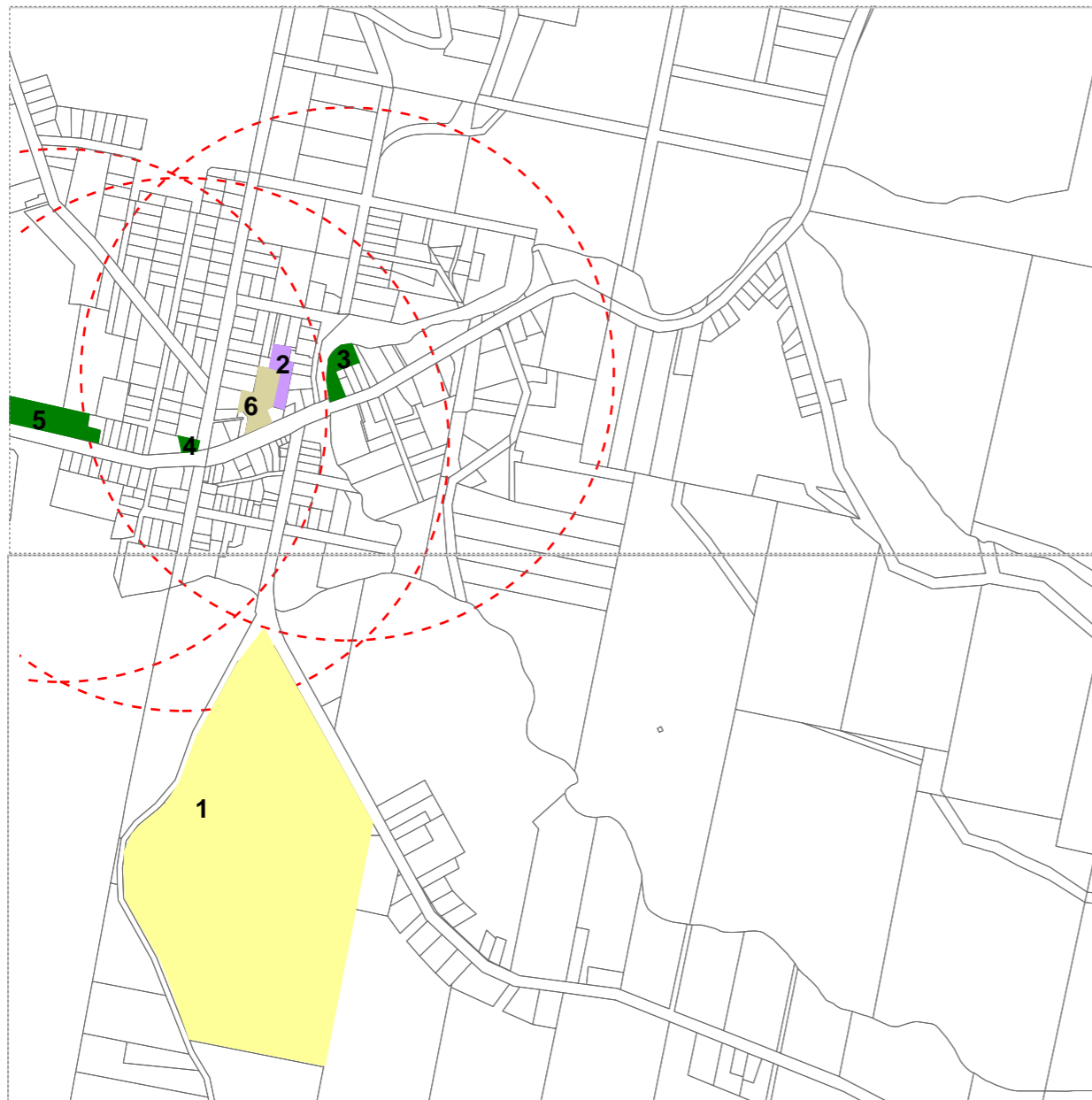
Binalong Bay Tennis Court



Falmouth Basketball Court



Binalong Bay Amenities



St Marys



Mathinna



Mangana



St Marys Sports Centre



Mathinna Playground



St Marys High School Pool



St Marys Sports Centre-Cricket



Fingal



Cornwall



Fingal Park



Fingal Recreation Ground



Cornwall Local Park



Fingal Recreation Ground

Appendix 4

Masterplan for Indoor Aquatic Fitness Centre/ Leisure Centre/Recreation Centre at St Helens
prepared by Jennifer Binns,

goals

further development of the st helens recreation ground as a focal point for sport and recreation

development of a community driven, socially and financially sustainable 10 - 20 year plan which delivers:

1. improved infrastructure to support the health and well-being of the community
2. support for community sport and recreation associations
3. a heated pool facility
4. a multi-purpose facility providing indoor courts, gym and fitness infrastructure, amenities and public event space

st helens recreation ground 01

existing site usage + community goals

break o' day council september 2011



jennifer binns

avery house 48 cedilla street st helens tasmania 7216
03 6376 2588 : 0439 765 452 : jenniferbinns@bigpond.com



north 1:2500 @ A3

- building
- vegetation
- sports ground
- roadway
- parking
- drainage area
- vehicle circulation
- fenceline



prevailing wind



st helens recreation ground 02

site analysis

break o' day council january 2012

approach from town centre

approach from town centre

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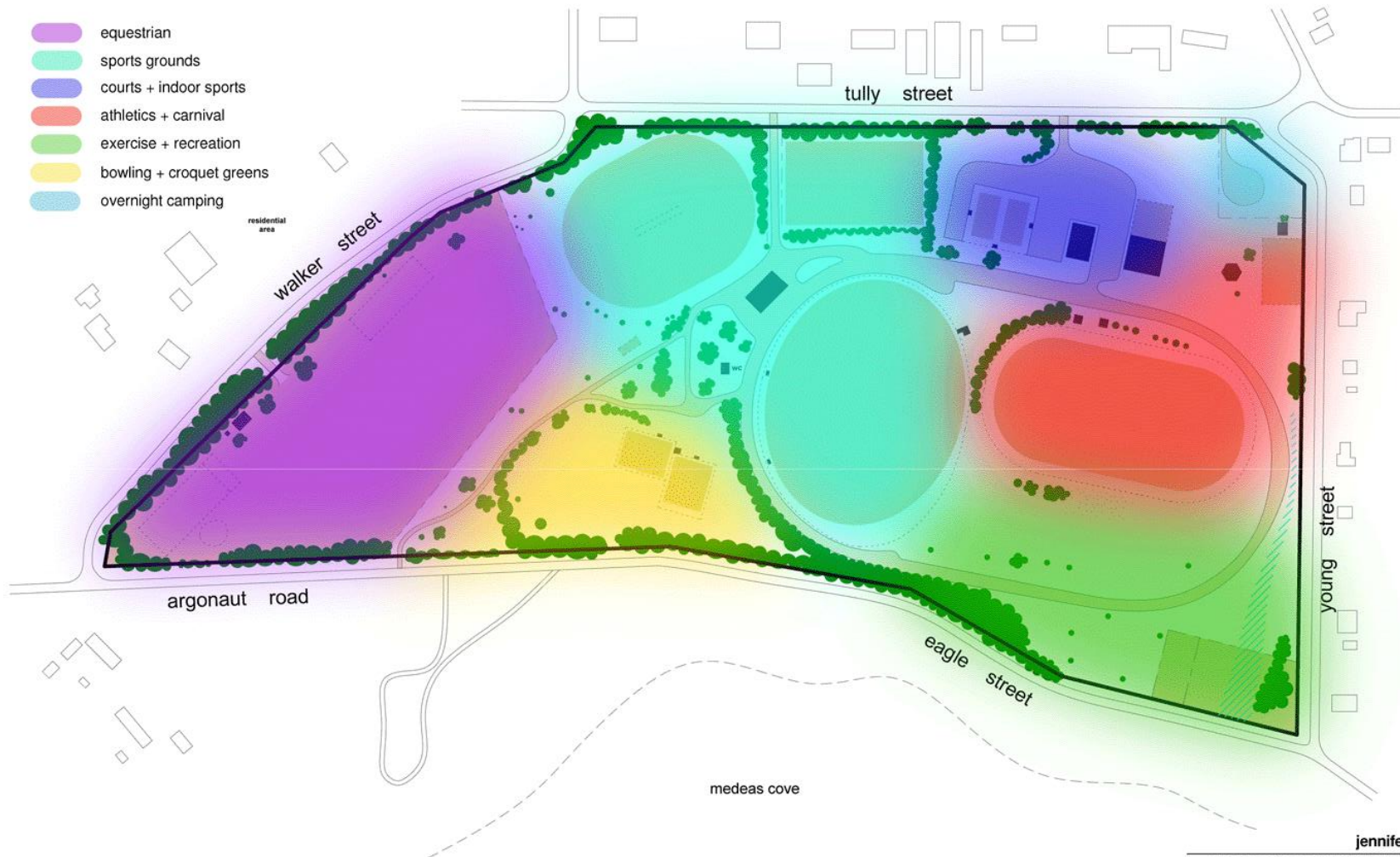
north 1:2500 @ A3

st helens recreation ground 03

existing related activity zones

break o' day council january 2012

- equestrian
- sports grounds
- courts + indoor sports
- athletics + carnival
- exercise + recreation
- bowling + croquet greens
- overnight camping



jennifer binns

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north 1:2500 @ A3

-  existing building
-  new building
-  vegetation
-  green space
-  roadway
-  existing sports ground
-  new sports ground
-  pedestrian zone

st helens recreation ground 04

draft proposed master plan
break o' day council january 2012



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every house 48 cedlia street st helens tasmania 7216
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01 central hub

renovated 'white elephant' building
 central changerooms + amenities to service multiple users, building on existing infrastructure
 entry point, reception, storerooms + office
 kiosk / cafe / bar facility
 multi-purpose indoor recreation room
 pedestrian courtyard with seating, shade, BBQ
 links to adjacent courts, indoor sports centre, navy cadets, athletics, camping + events area

02 ball courts

2 additional indoor courts adjacent to existing netball area
 multiple courts to cater for netball + basketball
 grandstand seating in indoor facility
 shade + improved viewing area for outdoor courts

03 indoor sports centre

indoor aquatic facility
 6 lane 25m pool with seasonal hydrotherapy use with spa + sauna facility
 4 indoor tennis courts
 gymnasium
 indoor cricket, soccer, volleyball, badminton
 interval training
 indoor climbing wall
 plant + storage rooms

04 navy cadets

revised vehicle circulation + parking to provide protection for parade ground
 vehicle access maintained around building
 link to central facilities maintained

05 camping + events

new dedicated vehicle access off young street for navy cadets, athletics, camping + events
 relocated camping area adjacent to existing sewerage + water infrastructure
 increased privacy and amenity for camping area
 passive surveillance over camping area maintained
 camper access to amenities adjacent woodchopping arena
 increased usage of rotunda shelter

06 athletics + cycling

revised vehicle circulation provides safe pedestrian movement between track + central facilities
 storage + clubroom facilities maintained
 upgrade to track + field infrastructure as required

07 exercise + recreation

removal of trotting track and grading to provide open landscaped recreation area
 fencing to enable expansion of existing dog exercise yards to entire recreation area
 park landscaping
 picnic infrastructure with tables + chairs + rubbish bins
 dedicated access and parking off eagle street
 children's park
 pedestrian access from adjacent areas of recreation ground

08 sports pavilion

new pavilion incorporating changerooms, public amenities, storage areas + kiosk facility
 pavilion sited centrally to service football, cricket + soccer grounds
 location at entry point from tully street assists with site orientation + wayfinding
 sited adjacent to football clubrooms to build on existing infrastructure

09 football

existing vehicle access + parking around ground maintained
 upgraded training lights
 access to new sports pavilion provides changerooms adjacent to ground

10 soccer

selective removal of vegetation to increase passive surveillance over pitch
 increased visibility over pitch from parking areas
 new areas of vegetation to be established south of pitch for wind protection + separation from football ground
 expanded green space south east of pitch
 access to new sports pavilion for changeroom, amenities + kiosk
 dedicated storage area incorporated into sports pavilion

11 cricket

new structure adjacent to ground to provide shade + shelter
 shade structure to incorporate dedicated storage area
 access to new sports pavilion for changeroom, amenities + kiosk
 upgraded practice nets

12 green space

existing amenities to be removed once replacement amenities have been constructed
 revised vehicle circulation to reclaim area for pedestrian movement only

13 greens

future expansion of existing croquet area to provide for bowls + bocce clubs
 new clubroom facility incorporating amenities, storage areas and social function space

14 equestrian

existing use of site and separate vehicle access to be maintained
 new enclosure over existing arena to extend use of arena through winter + broaden activities
 upgraded clubroom with improved amenities
 camp infrastructure
 cross country track around perimeter of equestrian area
 new post and rail yarding

Appendix 5

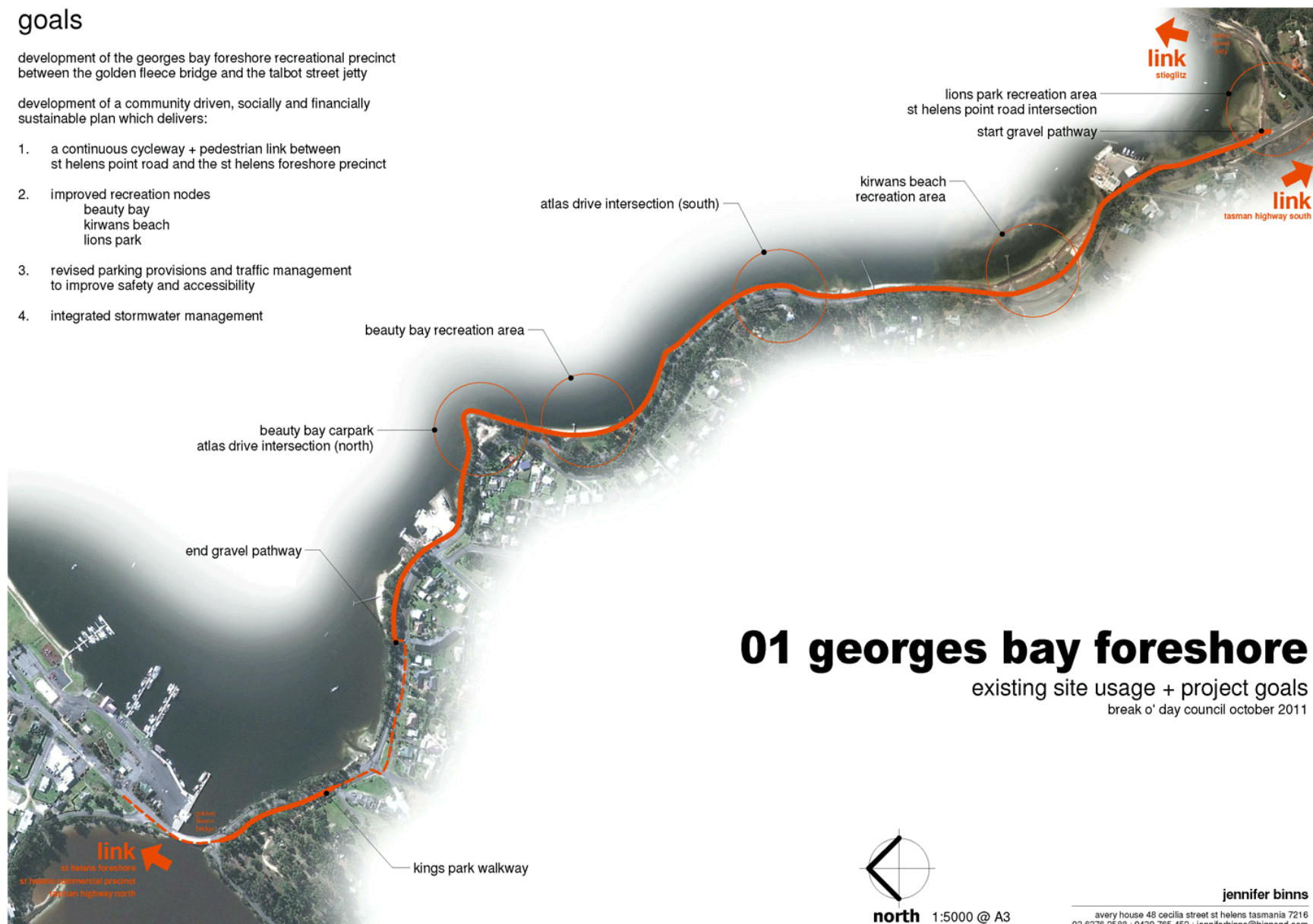
Masterplan for The St Helens Foreshore (Georges Bay Multi Use Track) prepared by Jennifer Binns

goals

development of the georges bay foreshore recreational precinct between the golden fleece bridge and the talbot street jetty

development of a community driven, socially and financially sustainable plan which delivers:

1. a continuous cycleway + pedestrian link between st helens point road and the st helens foreshore precinct
2. improved recreation nodes
beauty bay
kirwans beach
lions park
3. revised parking provisions and traffic management to improve safety and accessibility
4. integrated stormwater management



01 georges bay foreshore

existing site usage + project goals

break o' day council october 2011



north 1:5000 @ A3

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