

# WHY IS THE FINGAL RV PARK RELOCATING?



## WHY ARE YOU RELOCATING THE FINGAL RV PARK?

Last year the Tasmanian Government introduced new legislation called the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023. This new legislation is about ensuring the safety of young people no matter where they are and places the responsibility for ensuring this safety on adults and organisations.

This means that Council, like all other councils and organisations, is responsible for ensuring that all our parks, buildings and other facilities are considered a safe environment for children and young people under this new Act.

During an internal review of our facilities, we identified a conflict with the Act at Fingal Park. Essentially, having public and free RV parking available right next to a Children's playground is considered a potential risk to child safety. As we, the managers of the Park, are unable to ensure that children and young people will be safe. The only way for us to resolve this is by moving the RV parking to the Fingal Recreation Ground.

## WHY THE RECREATION GROUND?

This space is currently underutilised by the Valley community and is still located a close distance to the centre of Town. The site also provides many of the amenities that RV campers will expect such as:

**Space to Park** – there will be even more room for RV Campers at this location

**Showers and Toilets** – There are already toilets and showers at this location including disability access.

**Flat and Open** – the location is flatter and more open providing more space for campers to spread out and enjoy the area.

## DOES COUNCIL HAVE ANY OTHER PLANS FOR THE RECREATION GROUND?

The first step will be for us to relocate the RV Camping and publicise this (more info on promotion is included in this FAQ.) Once we have done this we plan on developing a Master Plan for the Area so we can look at the whole ground and its use holistically which will include asking the community what their ideas are for the Recreation Ground. We plan on budgeting for this project in the 2025-2026 budget.

## DOES COMMUNITY HAVE ANY SAY ON THIS CHANGE?

Unfortunately, no. This is a change that we must make to meet our obligations under the Act. However, community will have a say on any new developments at the Fingal Recreation Ground when we are ready to develop the Master Plan.

## HOW ARE YOU GOING TO LET RV CAMPERS KNOW ABOUT THE MOVE?

We will erect signage at the Fingal Park directing campers to the new location at the Recreation Ground

We will erect signage at the Recreation Ground explaining the facilities and use of the area

We will erect signage on the approaches to town directing people to the new location.

We will contact RV camping groups and websites such as wiki camps etc advising them of the change.

We will draft and supply a media release to news outlets including appropriate camping publications.

## WHAT ARE THE PLANS FOR THE EXISTING FINGAL PARK?

Council is still going to re-develop Fingal Park so that it is better equipped for children and youth. This includes some new plantings, developing a pumptrack and a basketball half court. Both these facilities were at the top of the Fingal Community's list when we consulted residents in July last year. We will also give the existing facilities an upgrade or facelift to complete the park. We have included the designs for this work below and we are currently looking for a consultant to do this work.

- **Dump Point** – The dump point will be staying at it's current location for the time being
- **EV Charging Station** – Will stay in its current location
- **Picnic Tables** – We will upgrade and relocate the picnic tables (see plan)
- **Heritage Stack** – This will remain in place and we will introduce signage explaining its significance.
- **Playground** – This will remain in place and receive some rehabilitation works
- **Exercise Equipment** – We will relocate the exercise equipment
- **Screening** – we will introduce plantings to act as a buffers for certain areas and adjoining properties.

Below image: New site plan for Fingal Park.

