

FLOCKHART PARK SPORTSGROUNDS PLAN OF MANAGEMENT





Suite 1, Level 2, 1-17 Elsie Street, BURWOOD NSW 2134 Phone: 9911-9911 Fax: 9911-9900 Email: council@burwood.nsw.gov.au Website: www.burwood.nsw.gov.au

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1. Introduction

1.1 Plan of Management Requirements

Plans of Management are required to be prepared by Council in consultation with the community, for all public land classified as community land, under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. A Plan of Management (PoM) is a long-term land management document describing the characteristics of the applicable land, requirements for its management, and permissible uses both now and into the future.

Community land is required under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* to be categorised as **Park**, **Sportsground**, **Natural Area**, **General Community Use** or an **Area of Cultural Significance**. The *NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* further details the guidelines for these categorisations, as follow:

- **Park** non-sporting community land which is mainly to be used for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits
- **Sportsground** community land which is predominantly to be used for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games
- **Natural Area** bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse, foreshore, or another category prescribed by the regulations of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*
- **General Community Use** land which may be made available for use by the public, and does not satisfy the guidelines for any of the other categories
- Area of Cultural Significance an area of Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research, or social significance (NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005)

A PoM may be Generic, relating to all land of a particular type, or Specific to a particular area. A specific Plan of Management is required under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* for some **Natural Areas** or **Areas of Cultural Significance**.

There are no areas categorised as Natural Areas within the Burwood Local Government Area (LGA). Woodstock Park (containing the Woodstock Community Centre) has been declared an Area of Cultural Significance and also categorised as General Community Use. Woodstock is managed by a specific Plan of Management.

Some Parks and Sportsgrounds in Burwood have specific PoMs and other Parks are addressed in the Generic Plan of Management – Parks. There are three (3) sportsgrounds within the Burwood LGA. This PoM applies to one (1) of these, Flockhart Park, with the remaining two (2) being covered by specific PoMs for Blair Park and Henley and Grant Parks (refer section 1.6).

1.2 Scope

Flockhart Park is categorised as both Park and Sportsground. This PoM refers to the part of Flockhart Park that is categorised as a Sportsground (refer section 2). The remaining part of Flockhart Park is addressed in the Generic Plan of Management – Parks. The adoption of this PoM will supersede the Cook's River Foreshore Area Plan of Management, June1996.

Table 1 lists criteria as set down in the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, which provides a legal framework to guide councils in their responsibility for the management, improvement and development of land classified as community land.

Local Government Act 1993 minimum	Section where this PoM addresses
requirements	these requirements
Categorise the land	2.0 The Sportsgrounds in Flockhart Park
Objectives and performance targets for the land	7.0. Action Plan
Means by which Council will achieve the	7.0. Action Plan
objectives and performance targets	
Manner in which Council will assess its	7.0. Action Plan
performance	
Public exhibition of Draft PoM	1.3. General PoM Implementation Process
Additional inclusions	
Description of the condition of the land and any	8.0 Specific Management Information
buildings or improvements on the land	
Permissible uses	5.0. Land Uses and Development
Permissible development	5.0. Land Uses and Development
General schedule of maintenance	8.2. General Schedule of Maintenance
Proposed capital works & improvements	8.3. Proposed Capital Works Priority Table

Table 1: Local Government Act 1993 requirements and inclusions

1.3 General PoM Implementation Process

The general process for the implementation of the Draft Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds Plan of Management PoM is as follows:

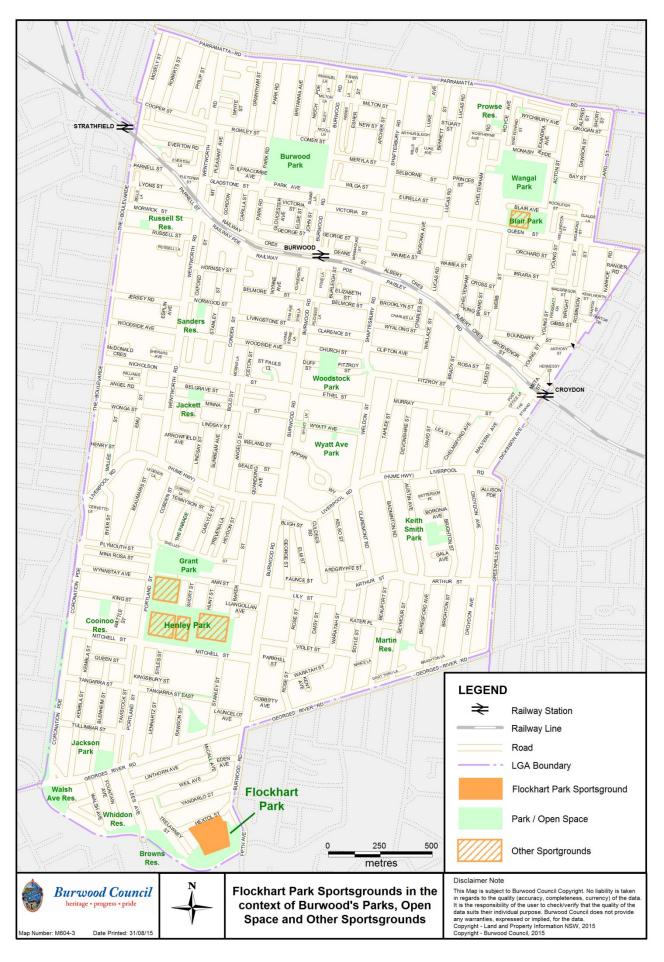
- Preparation of the document
- Draft PoM presented to Council for approval for public exhibition.
- In accordance with the NSW Local Government Act 1993, a public hearing must be held if Community Land is proposed to be categorised or re-categorised
- Draft PoM is placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days, with written submissions taken for at least 42 days from the first day of public exhibition.
- Council staff review comments received, and make changes to the Draft PoM accordingly.
- Revised Draft PoM presented to Council for adoption.
- Final Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds PoM is adopted, implemented and made available for public view on Council's website, in the Burwood Library and Community Hub, and at Council's Administration Centre.

1.4 Review

This PoM will be reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and Council procedures. The schedule for this review is every five years from the date of adoption of this PoM.

1.5 Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds in the Context of the Burwood LGA

The Burwood LGA covers approximately 7.2 square kilometres with approximately 0.4 square kilometres of community land and open space. There are 29 parks/open space areas and 3 categorised sportsgrounds. Map 1 below shows all of Burwood Council's sportsgrounds in the context of other parks and open space in the Burwood LGA.



Map 1. Sportsgrounds, other parks and open space in the Burwood LGA

1.6 Burwood's Sportsgrounds, Parks, Open Space and Other Plans of Management

The formation of new sportsgrounds, parks and open space is limited by the availability of suitable public-owned land and the expense, due to high property values, of purchasing private land for public purposes. Accordingly, there is pressure to ensure that the existing sportsgrounds meet the needs of users and serve multiple purposes. Therefore, Council's focus is on improving the appeal, useability and quality, of the existing sportsgrounds, parks and open space across the Burwood LGA through responsible and ongoing management.

Table 2 below details the category and ownership of Burwood Council's Sportsgrounds. The grey highlighted entries are the sportsgrounds managed by other specific PoMs.

Park / Land	Category	Land Owner
Blair Park	Park / Sportsground	Council
Flockhart Park	Park / Sportsground	Council
Henley Park	Park / Sportsground	Council / Crown

Table 2: Burwood Council's Sportsgrounds

Other Burwood Council Community land is managed under the following specific PoMs:

- Blair Park Plan of Management, 2013
- Burwood Park Plan of Management, April 2008
- DRAFT Henley Park and Grant Park Plan of Management (pending document)
- Woodstock Plan of Management, 13 December 2005
- Wangal Park Draft Plan of Management, April 2013
- Active Recreation Generic Plan Plan of Management (for Keith Smith Reserve tennis courts)

All other Parks are managed under the Generic Plan of Management – Parks.

Council owns and manages some landscaped open space areas which are part of road reserves. These open space areas are not community land however; they are managed under Burwood Council's Landscaped Public Road Register.

2. The Sportsgrounds in Flockhart Park

2.1 Location Description and Land Categorisation

Flockhart Park is located on the northern side of the Cooks River in the Burwood LGA. The Flockhart Park sportsgrounds front onto Hextol Street with vehicular access from Hextol Street, Burwood Road or Trelawney Street in the suburb of Croydon Park. The Cooks River bicycle and pedestrian path provides linkages between Flockhart Park to other LGAs and their open space facilities along the Cooks River from Botany Bay to Homebush Bay. The Flockhart Park sportsgrounds are used for organised cricket and soccer competitions and also enjoyed by the community for passive recreation and informal ball games.

Flockhart Park is categorised as Park on the eastern, southern and part of the western side (Part 1 in DP 456857, Lot 3 in DP 365495, Part of lots A & B in DP 389672 and Lots D & E in DP 18129) which is used for passive recreation (refer Generic Plan of Management – Parks).

Flockhart Park's sportsground is located on the northern side and centre section (Lots 32, 33, 37, 38, 39 & 40 in DP 12912, Lot 1 in DP 368641, Parts of Lots A & B in DP 389672, Lot 1 & 2 in DP 519086) which is used for organised sports and active recreation. For Lot and DP references refer to Map 2 below and Section 8. The Sportsgrounds in Flockhart Park have been categorised in accordance with guideline 103 of the *NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* which states:

Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is used or is proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.



Map 2. Plan of Flockhart Park showing land categorisation and land title references

3. Legislation / Basis of Management

3.1 Legislative Framework

The following documents have been referred to in, or complement, this PoM.

The legislation, regulations, and policies:

- NSW Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Heritage Act 1977
- Department of Local Government, Public Land Management Practice Note No. 1, rev. May 2000
- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Telecommunications Act 1997

Council's policies, strategies, guidelines and plans:

- Community Strategic Plan Burwood2030
- Burwood Local Environment Plan 2012 (BLEP 2012)
- Burwood Development Control Plan (BDCP)
- Graffiti Management Strategy 2011-2015
- City Safe Program Code of Practice
- Landscaping Code
- Public Works Elements Manual 2006
- Memorials Policy
- Disability Access Plan 2014-2017
- Community Facilities & Open Space Strategy, 2014
- Companion Animal Management Plan
- Prohibition of Alcohol in Public Spaces Policy
- Smoke-Free Environments Policy
- Burwood Cultural Plan 2015 2018
- Burwood Community Engagement Strategy
- Landscaped Public Road Register
- Park Hire/ Event Application
- Ageing Strategy 2011-2016
- Multicultural Strategy for the CALD Community in Burwood 2013-2016

Other relevant documents which complement this PoM are:

- Sydney Water's Cooks River Bank Naturalisation Masterplan
- Sydney Water's Cooks River Waterway Improvement Plan

4. Objectives

4.1 Core objectives for Sportsgrounds from the *NSW Local Government Act* 1993

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a **sportsground** are:

- to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and
- to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences (NSW Local Government Act 1993).

4.2 Zoning Objectives from Burwood LEP 2012

Flockhart Park - Sportsground is zoned RE1 – Public Recreation under the *Burwood Local Environmental Plan 2012 (BLEP 2012).* The objectives of this zoning are:

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes.
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses.
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.

4.3 General Objectives of the Plan of Management for Sportsgrounds

The general objectives for the management of Flockhart Park's Sportsgrounds are to:

- Ensure the adequacy, quality, safety, accessibility, cleanliness, aesthetics, and maintenance standard of the facilities provided to the community in sportsgrounds.
- Provide an Asset Management approach to proactively implement schedules of monitoring, audits, maintenance, repair, replacement, improvement of sportsgrounds, with available funding and staff to provide optimal community open space compatible with community requirements.
- Consider the community in the provision of sportsgrounds in terms of accessibility, values, health and safety, security, heritage, and avoiding damage or nuisance to neighbouring residences.
- Protect and improve the natural and urban environment, both locally and broadly, in accordance with Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles, including vegetation, soil, waterways, air and biodiversity, and minimising resource use in the management of sportsgrounds, including water, energy, transport and waste.
- Provide a rationale for the prioritisation of funding opportunities in support of capital works, from external sources.
- Consider sale/disposal of Community Land which is under-utilised or unsuitable as public land, if required.

4.4 Burwood Community Strategic Plan (Burwood2030) Goals and Actions

The *Community Strategic Plan Burwood2030* (*Burwood2030*) involved extensive community consultation and analysis of Council's role, with the outcome of a set of key themes which articulate the values of the community and provide the basis for the development of Council's future strategic goals and actions. The key themes are:

- A Sense of Community
- Leadership Through Innovation
- A Sustainable Natural Environment
- Accessible Services and Facilities
- A Vibrant Economic Community

The community's values as compiled through *Burwood2030* and the goals of that strategy have informed the objectives of this PoM. In particular the following Strategic Goals extracted from Sections 1, 3, and 4 of *Burwood2030* have contributed to the development of the objectives of this PoM. These values will be considered in the ongoing management of Burwood's Sportsgrounds.

A safe community for residents, workers and visitors

Maintain clean and attractive streets and public spaces

 Support and implement programs that aim to reduce anti-social behaviour such as graffiti and littering

High quality activities, facilities and services

- Pursue partnerships and opportunities, including with neighbouring councils and organisations, to access additional funding to maintain, upgrade and develop new recreational facilities and meeting places for the community
- Upgrade existing playground areas and park structures to cater for wider community

A sense of community pride

Preserve Burwood's diverse heritage and provide more information on the history of the area.

Maintain and enhance open green spaces and streetscapes

- Implement strong planning controls to protect open green space
- Provide adequate funding to maintain open space areas
- Pursue partnership and opportunities to create new open spaces
- Ensure all public parks and open spaces are accessible, maintained and well managed to meet the current and future recreation needs of the community

Educate the community on sustainable practices

- Promote public transport and more active forms of transport, such as cycling and walking
- Focus planning on environmentally sustainable development to reduce impacts on the environment

Accessible services and facilities that are well utilised

- Explore options for funding new spaces and upgrading old facilities
- Improve accessibility of Council owned community facilities

Safe facilities and services

- Design footpaths to increase pedestrian only spaces for improved pedestrian access and safety
- Improve street lighting and lighting in public places

5. Land Uses and Development

This PoM authorises the granting of the following potential uses and developments to be considered for Flockhart Park - Sportsgrounds. Approval of uses and developments is dependent on various factors including site conditions within and surrounding a particular sportsground, the community's needs, and availability of resources. Some uses and developments will require development consent, including the associated community consultation process.

Under the *BLEP 2012*, in land zoned Public Recreation; the following development is permitted without consent: environmental facilities; environmental protection works; and roads.

The following development is permitted with consent: building identification signs; business identification signs; child care centres; community facilities; emergency services facilities; flood mitigation works; function centres; kiosks; recreation areas; recreation facilities (indoor); recreation facilities (outdoor); respite day care centres; and restaurants or cafes.

In addition to the *BLEP 2012*, some works can be undertaken by Council on a public reserve as development permitted without consent or exempt development under clause 20A, 65 and 66 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*. These include outdoor recreation

facilities, play equipment, park furniture, shade structures and amenities environmental management works.

5.1 Supported Developments

Apart from those uses and developments regulated by legislation, this PoM provides the following guidance around the types of activities which will be supported and prohibited within Flockhart Park.

The currently supported developments in Flockhart Park sportsgrounds are listed below. Further information on future capital works development can be found in Section 8.

- Sporting facilities
- Hard and soft landscape
- Amenities
- Access paths
- BBQs
- Lighting
- Café/kiosk
- Community gardens
- Recreational facilities
- Playground equipment and shade structures
- Improvement of access, amenity and aesthetics of a park / sportsground
- Council park provisions signage
- Flood lighting

- Amenities to facilitate recreational use such as toilets, change rooms, stores
- Fitness circuit equipment
- Drinking fountains
- Park seating
- Picnic tables / seating / shelters
- Recreational equipment e.g. chess board, bocce court
- Public toilets
- Gazebo
- Rotunda/Bandstand
- Bicycle racks
- Cycle / walking pathways
- Ornamental pond / fountain
- Parks operations depot buildings

5.2 Supported Uses

The currently approved uses in Flockhart Park –Sportsgrounds are listed below:

- Passive and active recreation
- Formal sporting activities, games and training
- Informal games, sports & activities
- Children's play
- Exercise
- Walking
- Cycling
- Informal group recreational gatherings

- Public accessibility
- Storage for equipment associated with maintenance or management
- Service areas associated with maintenance or management
- On-leash dog walking
- Council and Community events
- Personal training (refer page 13)
- Picnics

5.3 **Prohibited Uses**

The following activities (but not limited to) are prohibited within Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds:

- Motor bikes
- Horses
- Open fires
- Camping
- Golf
- Motorised hobby articles (including but not limited to motor vehicles, boats, aeroplanes and bikes)
- Dumping of rubbish
- Off-leash dog walking

5.4 Public Art

Council has a strong commitment to accessible public art in shared community spaces such as Parks and Reserves. Proposed artworks should complement the natural and cultural heritage of the Flockhart Park sportsground. The placement and installation of public art in or around the sportsgrounds will be considered on a case by case basis following the provisions outlined in the Burwood Cultural Plan 2015-2018 and approved by resolution of Council.

It should be noted that the mural on the amenities block in Flockhart Park has was the target of regular malicious damage. Unfortunately the mural has now been removed. Graffiti management in Parks is an ongoing issue. Council responds to graffiti damage promptly and regular patrols are conducted by staff. Offenders of malicious damage to Council property will be prosecuted.

5.5 Leases, Licences, Easements and Other Estates

The *NSW Local Government Act 1993* permits Council to grant leases, licences and other estates over all or part of community land. Leases and licences are a method of formalising the use of land and facilities. Leases and licences can be held by groups such as community organisations, schools, commercial organisations, or individuals providing facilities and/or services for profit.

A lease is a contract between a land owner and another entity, granting that entity a right to occupy an area for a specified period of time. Council will consider leasing areas of the land covered by this PoM under the following circumstances:

- that there is a clear reason for granting a lease, and the lease is consistent with the intended use of the land e.g. a child care operator may need exclusive occupation and control of the child care centre,
- the occupant has made (or intends to make) a significant financial contribution to the asset, or
- there is a demonstrated link between the nature of the asset and the proposed tenant consistent with the objectives of the PoM.

Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A licence may be required where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of the sportsground is proposed. A number of licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest. A licence allows occupation and a clear and transparent way of identifying the permitted activity. The main difference between a lease and licence is that a licence does not permit the sole, or exclusive, use of the area. Licences may be granted to formally recognise and endorse shared uses. For example, an area may be licensed for use by a commercial photographer at a particular time, and family gatherings at other times. Short term licences and bookings may be used to allow Council to program different uses at different times, allowing the best overall use.

The definition of "estate", under Section 21 of the *Interpretation Act 1987,* includes other rights over land, such as easements, including "interest, charge, right, title, claim, demand, lien and encumbrance, whether at law or in equity".

Easements or other rights over land for public utilities (electricity, telecommunications, water, drainage, sewerage, gas etc) may be granted in Flockhart Park - Sportsgrounds following application and approval by Council. Where possible, Council will coordinate to minimise the disruption to public use of the Sportsground.

5.6 Licences Applicable to Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds

Under the conditions outlined above, this PoM expressly authorises the granting of short-term licences in Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds that fall within the following categories:

- Markets
- Concerts and performances
- Delivering a public address
- Commercial photographic sessions
- Picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings
- Filming for cinema, television and other media
- Community, educational and/or sporting activities/uses for single one-off events
- Personal training sessions (see 5.8 below)

In regard to granting such a licence, Council must take into consideration whether:

- The use/activity is in the public interest
- The use/activity would not cause any significant detrimental impact on the Sportsground or on The local community

No permanent buildings or structures are to be erected as part of a Licence.

5.7 Flockhart Park sportsground hire

Hire of Flockhart Park's Sportsgrounds requires a Park Hire/Event Application form to be completed and submitted to Council. Bookings may be one-off or seasonal dependent on availability and the applicant complying with the conditions of park hire including appropriate insurance, risk management and other requirements listed on the application form. Confirmation from Council of a booking is required prior to the applicant occupying the area on the booking date from Council's Team Administrator-Works Depot.

5.8 Personal Training

The use of Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds by Personal Trainers will be considered on a commercial basis. A Draft Policy for this park activity is under consideration. The working title for the Draft Policy is: 'Conditions on the use of Council's Open Space for Training and Well Being Activities.

5.9 **Telecommunications**

Council may consider the granting of a lease or licence for the erection and use of "low impact" telecommunications towers as defined by the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and provided the terms are consistent with Council's obligations under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

5.10 Oil Pipeline – Cooks River Parks

Under an agreement between Burwood Council and the Shell Company of Australia Ltd and Sydney Metropolitan Pipeline Pty Ltd in 1978, easements were granted in Flockhart Park, Brown Reserve, Walsh Avenue Reserve and Whiddon Reserve and oil pipelines of 200mm and 500mm diameter were constructed through these parks. A further pipeline of 350mm diameter has been partly constructed along the route. These are subject to payment of an annual rental. The pipelines are inspected by surveillance contractor Savcor. All proposed works in the vicinity of the easements require prior coordination with Savcor. The oil pipeline easement in Flockhart Park is beyond the scope of this Plan of Management. However, this information has been included in the interest of protecting the oil pipeline asset.

5.11 Compliance

Regulatory enforcement of sportsground and park provisions is carried out by Council's Compliance team. All officers within the Compliance Team are delegated to enforce sportsground and park provisions. The Team performs proactive patrols of all sportsgrounds, parks and reserves and any person observed breaching the regulations may receive an infringement notice which may

result in legal action. Provision signage is placed in each sportsground to inform all users of prohibited activities.

Sportsground users are encouraged to report any breaches of the Sportsground and Park provisions to Council. Council's Compliance Team will follow up on all information submitted and enforcement action may occur if offences can be proven.

5.12 Alcohol in Public park/sportsgrounds

Flockhart Park is not currently governed by Alcohol Prohibited Area provisions. However, Council has the authority to declare a park or section of a park as an Alcohol Prohibited Area if such conditions are required to control alcohol related behaviour. Any such declaration may occur for a specific period of time by order of Council and such declaration will result in signage being installed in the relevant section of the park. For further information on the enactment and suspension of Alcohol Prohibited Areas refer to Council's Prohibition of Alcohol in Public Spaces Policy.

5.13 Smoking in public parks/sportsgrounds

This PoM acknowledges and references Burwood Council's *Smoke-Free Environments Policy*. Under this policy, smoking is currently banned within 10 metres of children's and young people's activities and play equipment, and all Council owned and managed buildings.

5.14 Car Parking

Many sportsgrounds in urban areas have limited parking due to the intensive land use and occupation. While some larger parks in the Burwood LGA contain car parking for sportsground users, generally it is considered that parks will be used by local residents, and that recreation rather than parking makes better use of the limited community land. There are some parking spaces on Hextol Street for users of the sportsground. Unless authorised, parking of a vehicle within a sportsground is prohibited. Local residents are encouraged to walk or bicycle to the Flockhart Park sportsgrounds.

6. Strategies for Management

Section 36 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* requires a PoM to detail objectives and performance targets, the means by which Council will achieve these and how Council intends to assess their performance.

These have been prepared for each Management Principle which applies to the management of sportsgrounds in Burwood LGA, and are grouped into the categories of Facilities, Asset Management, Community, and Environment and Sustainability. The Action Plan in Section 7 details how Burwood Council addresses each of the strategies in this section.

6.1 Facilities

Facilities are the physical fabric of sportsgrounds which Council provides and manages for community use. All Council owned facilities are managed under Council's Assets Management Plan (refer to section 6.2).

Play Equipment

Burwood Council recognises the value of playgrounds to contribute to the quality of community life and support the recreational and developmental needs of children of all ages and abilities. Burwood's playgrounds will be routinely inspected and maintained. Council has identified a playground replacement strategy for all existing playgrounds to consider the following:

- Estimated life expectancy of the play equipment
- Warranty of the play equipment
- Availability of replacement parts
- Compliance with all relevant Australian Standards for Play Equipment and Surfacing
- Development of new play equipment styles
- Play equipment will be installed and/or replaced and scheduled according to yearly Capital Works programs
- Council will undertake the appropriate community consultation process

Sporting and Recreational Facilities

Council aims to provide a wide range of recreational facilities and opportunities, contributing to the health and social life of the community. Cycle paths are provided in some parks and sportsgrounds, and aim to be part of the broader network of cycleways through and around the local area. Council has created a Cycle Map – 'Burwood LGA Cycle Network' which is available on the Council website.

Sportsgrounds

Flockhart Park contains two (2) soccer fields (refer plan in section 8.1) with a synthetic cricket wicket located between the two fields. Near to the Hextol Street frontage are two practice cricket pitch nets, a sportsground amenities building, which includes public toilets and a kiosk area.

The hire of the Sportsground and associated facilities are administered by Council's Team Administrator-Works Depot. The normal practice is to give preference to local sporting organisations. Sportsground hire fee is payable for the use of facility with extra payment for amenities and other special services.

The existing incumbent users of the Flockhart Park Sportsground are the Canterbury - Western Suburbs Cricket Association during the summer season and Trinity Grammar School during the winter season for soccer. The sportsground and associated facilities are otherwise available on a casual basis to the general public.

Buildings and Structures

Where buildings and structures are provided within sportsgrounds, they are to be in keeping with the character and intended use of the land, and repaired and maintained to facilitate continued use. Toilets, change rooms and other buildings may be provided depending on levels and types of usage. The Flockhart Park Sportsground is serviced by the aforementioned amenities building.

Park Furniture

The Flockhart Park Sportsground has provisions for park furniture, such as seating, picnic tables, drinking fountains and dog waste bins. Inclusion of other Park elements will consider size, purpose, and usage rates of the Sportsground, durability of materials, minimisation of vandalism by design and maintenance availability. Placement of seating should be comfortable, convenient and accessible. Seating should consider shade/solar access, views, visual surveillance, and social interaction.

Park Infrastructure

Infrastructure which supports the use of a sportsground such as lighting, drainage, services, and irrigation are provided at the Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds. All Council owned infrastructure is managed under Council's Assets Management Plan (refer to section 6.2).

Dog Off-leash Areas

Council is committed to providing dog off-leash areas, consistent with the *Companion Animal Management Plan.* There are currently four time-limited fenced and unfenced dog off-leash areas within Burwood LGA. They are located in Blair, Burwood, Grant, and Henley Parks. The Flockhart Park Sportgrounds do not have dog off-leash areas. The objectives of sportsgrounds are generally incompatible with dog off-leash areas.

6.2 Asset Management

Asset Management refers to the whole of life cycle approach to Burwood's sportsgrounds, from planning, through to maintenance and monitoring, to replacement and disposal of assets.

Asset Management Plan

Council owned park assets are managed according to the principles prescribed by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Limited 'National Asset Management System' (NAMS Plus).

The Asset Register catalogues all Council owned equipment and infrastructure in Council's parks and sportsgrounds. It contains key data to assist with the management of future repairs, maintenance and replacement of sportsground and park assets. Additionally, it assists Council in establishing and maintaining appropriate park management budgets.

The replacement of Flockhart Park Sportsground assets may be included in the yearly Capital Works Program. Day to day maintenance and replacement of assets are included in the yearly park maintenance budget.

The Asset Register also informs the strategy for playground management by detailing the locations, estimated cost, and proposed dates for existing play equipment to be replaced. This strategy will ensure that the community is well provided with playground facilities and will assist Council to better understand the community's needs for the future development and maintenance of play facilities in sportsgrounds.

A key objective, from a risk and insurance perspective, is the reduction and prevention of injuries and damages claims that may have been caused by Council's parks and reserves assets. This will be achieved by the provision of well-maintained assets and playground equipment, compliant with Australian Standards.

Maintenance

Council aims to provide efficient and effective maintenance of its sportsgrounds to meet the needs of the community. Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds require ongoing scheduling for cleaning, maintenance, repair and replacement of assets. Monitoring of sportsgrounds and their assets is carried out as part of the maintenance process, to identify inadequate or faulty assets.

Maintenance of Parks Signage

General Park provisions signage is provided in Flockhart Park. Signage is maintained, repaired and replaced or revised on an ongoing basis as required.

Capital Improvements

Capital improvements are systematically planned, managed, and prioritised. New facilities are budgeted for and scheduled for installation as required, and may involve community consultation and other feasibility studies.

Cooks River Alliance

The Cooks River Alliance was formed in 2011 consisting of eight councils in the Cooks River Catchment. The Alliance aims to achieve sustainable urban water management in the Cooks River Catchment. Burwood Council is involved in the improvements including the implementation and management of the Cooks River Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Pathway.

Cooks River Bank Naturalisation

The Sydney Water Corporation implemented and completed the Cooks River Bank Naturalisation project. This is an urban stormwater management project aimed to improve the health of Sydney's waterways. The project includes the removal of a section of the Cooks River concrete stormwater channel south of the Flockhart Park sportsground. The removed concrete section has been replaced with gently sloping rock stabilised and landscaped banks with native plantings. The ongoing maintenance of this project will be carried out by contractors of the Sydney Water Corporation. The maintenance of the naturalised areas will be undertaken as part of the construction contract until February 2017. After this the maintenance will be carried out under Sydney Water's ongoing Riparian Lands and Natural Asset Management Contract.

Future Planning

Council aims to improve the use of and access to sportsgrounds. The ongoing planning and management of Flockhart Park Sportsground will be in accordance with the objectives of this PoM. Consideration will be given to the relevant legislation, including but not limited to the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure), and BLEP 2012.*

6.3 Community

This section addresses the principles which advance and promote community use of sportsground facilities.

Equal Access

Access is to be provided to enable equitable use and enjoyment of community facilities. Consideration is given not only to the items within Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds, but the entryways and footpaths, as well as the availability of transport to access the Park.

Under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) and in accordance with Council's *Disability Access Plan 2014-2017*, public places must be accessible to people with a disability. Access includes paths of travel between and through spaces to ensure people with disabilities can enjoy and utilise all areas of Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds and move between activities.

Accessibility will be considered during improvement of Flockhart Park Sportsground including features such as play equipment, drinking fountains, and picnic tables. Fencing, signage, and delineation of boundaries also improve the usability of the park.

Values

The community values from *Burwood2030* which are addressed in this PoM are a sense of community, a sustainable natural environment, and accessible services and facilities.

Health, Safety and Security

Burwood Council has an ongoing commitment to minimise risks by designing and improving open spaces as necessary to improve the safety of the community. Council has a duty of care to provide public spaces which comply with the relevant Australian Standards and Building Codes.

Relevant Council staff and the NSW Police Force meet regularly as part of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Standing Committee. This Committee discusses and implements improvements to safety and security to all Council sportsgrounds.

Community Engagement

Refer to the Burwood Community Engagement Strategy

Heritage

Burwood Council aims to maintain and protect any heritage features in its reserves. Interpretive signage and/or design features will be utilised where appropriate to protect and increase awareness and appreciation of heritage values.

6.4 Environment and Sustainability

Council is committed to addressing the environmental considerations and responsibilities involved in managing and maintaining Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds.

Environment

To protect and enhance the natural and urban environment of Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds consideration will be given to the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Design during maintenance and management. Particular attention will be given to:

- Vegetation
- Soil
- Waterways
- Air
- Biodiversity
- Waste management

and minimising resource use including:

- Water
- Energy
- Transport

Trees

Trees are valuable community assets within the complex public infrastructure system, and are worthy of retention and protection to contribute to the Urban Forest. Council acknowledges the many economic, social, environmental, and ecological benefits that trees provide to our urban environment. Some notable examples are:

- Reduction in stormwater runoff
- Improving soil health
- Temperature regulation
- Biodiversity, and
- Improved community life

The Urban Forest, including trees in and around the Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds, are managed and maintained in accordance with the *BLEP 2012*, *Development Control Plan, Burwood2030* and industry best practice. The trees in and around the Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds are periodically pruned by Council's Tree Maintenance Team for dead wood, storm damaged branches, crown lifting and selective pruning as determined by Council's Tree Management Officer.

Trees will only be removed when they are dead, dying, structurally defective or adversely interacting with structures where there are no repair alternatives available. Trees are not pruned or removed due to complaints regarding:

- Dropping of leaves, flowers, fruit, cones, bark, twigs or other debris.
- Bird droppings
- Insects
- Shading
- Loss of views

Insurance claims regarding property damage from trees located in parks are referred to Council's insurer for determination. Tree planting is carried out in parks as budget and resources allow, with species chosen according to the constraints and opportunities of the site.

Environmental Community Engagement

Community engagement, with the objectives of improving the environment within sportsgrounds, may include:

- Provision of signage with environmental information
- Community events which improve the environment
- Consulting with the community regarding proposed works

7. Action Plan

7.1 Facilities

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Landscape elements / aesthetics	 Maintain high quality visual character Designed to achieve and support the other objectives and functions Clean and well maintained 	 Landscape to suit /improve character Engage community in planting projects Consistent palette of landscape materials Maintain healthy plants and control weeds 	 Community feedback Assessment of plant health and landscape condition
Play equipment	 Meet Australian Standards and the needs of the community Fenced as required Shade structure installation as required 	 Schedule playground replacement Regular inspections and repair of faults Identify needs for additional play equipment & fences as required 	 Replaced & fenced as per Playground Replacement Strategy Audits and quarterly inspections Community feedback No faulty play equipment No incidents reported
Provision of facilities, signage	 Multiple use Quality of facilities Amenities Adequate signage Accessibility 	 Maintain facilities in good clean condition, Repairs as required Facilitate multiple uses Coordinated signage strategy, regular inspections 	 Facility inspections and audits Community feedback Signage replaced as required All signs free of faults and graffiti
Furniture (seating, fencing, lighting, drinking fountains, BBQs)	 Maintained in safe and clean working condition – adequate and appropriate 	 Provide, monitor, maintain, repair, replace as whole life cycle approach and as per Maintenance Schedule 	 Checks and feedback Asset Register
Drainage	 Effective stormwater management Water Sensitive Urban Design consideration 	 Planning and designing for stormwater requirements 	 Reduced stormwater flood incidents Reuse of water
Irrigation	 Efficient use of irrigation as required to maintain use of sportsgrounds 	 Monitor irrigation needs and adjust, repair as required 	 Regular inspections Community feedback

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Rubbish bins and litter	 Adequate bins provided for waste management Minimise litter 	 Recycling bins where appropriate Regular waste and litter collection 	 Waste collected regularly Regular inspections Community feedback
Toilets and change rooms	 Provide in clean, safe, working condition 	 Cleaning and inspections as per General Schedule of Maintenance 	 Regular inspections Community feedback
Provision of sporting facilities	 High quality sporting facilities compatible with community requirements Optimise recreation facility usage across the LGA 	 Capital works for improvements Maintenance Line marking and seasonal setup 	 Completed Capital works Regular inspections Community feedback
Buildings and structures	 Suit the character of the locality Provided in good condition, safe and well maintained Contribute to park amenity and use 	 Design considers existing character, expected use and the environment Regular maintenance, monitoring and repairs as per Capital Works Program and Maintenance Schedule 	 Community feedback Regular inspections, audits and checks Increased/ maintained sportsground bookings and use

7.2 Asset Management

Management	Objectives and	Means of Achieving	Manner of Assessing
Principle	Performance Targets	Objectives	Performance
Maintenance	 Well maintained sportsgrounds/ facilities 	 Maintenance as per General Schedule of Maintenance Ongoing planting as required to replace or improve 	 Regular inspections Community feedback
Monitoring	 Infrastructure monitored for condition and cleanliness 	 Implement program of monitoring, as part of maintenance 	 Monitoring program implemented successfully
Funding	 Adequate funding to	 Explore various	 Successful funding
	maintain and	funding	sourced, projects
	upgrade facilities as	opportunities	completed Maintenance
	needed	including grants Council Budget	budget adequate

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Capital Improvements	 Assets replaced according to the Asset Management Plan 	 Refer to Asset Register 	 Checks and audits Record-keeping of Asset Register
Permissible uses and development	 Compatible with community requirements, benefits the community & in accordance with this PoM Encroachments and breaches identified and rectified 	 Community consultation Provide facilities for permissible uses as required Due diligence checks for leasing arrangements and new developments 	 Increased use of sportsgrounds measured by survey and observation Appropriate development completed Reduced breaches of park provisions
Future planning	 Sporting needs of community identified Continue to provide appropriate facilities for community use Stormwater strategy / Water Sensitive Urban Design considered and integrated 	 Community consultation Maintain ownership of Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds for maximum community benefit Improve accessibility where possible Development works meet relevant development controls/guidelines 	 Increased use of Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds measured by survey and observation Maintain or increase community satisfaction of Flockhart Park Sportsground
Leases, licences and other estates	 Ownership and permitted use arrangements allow the wide community access to Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds that are compatible with recreational, sporting, community and other activities 	 Assess leases and uses against the principles in this PoM All future leases and licences to meet the requirements of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 	 Type and extent of licensing as measured by survey and observation of uses

7.3 Community

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Access and circulation	 Equal access Paths, ramps, pedestrian and cycle access Boundary definition 	 Maintaining pathways Adding or upgrading paths as required Boundaries clearly defined and signed 	 Adequate paths measured by feedback and observation Clear boundary markings Increased sportsground use
Traffic and parking	 Car parking limited to Hextol Street Avoid adverse interactions between cars and people 	 Monitor parking requirements and consider new parking where appropriate Design to clearly define vehicle and pedestrian spaces 	 Reduced user conflicts and increased public safety by utilising best practice design standards
Values	 Consider community values in planning and design 	 Community consultation Communicate Council's objectives to the community 	 Community feedback Minimise neighbour complaints
Health, safety, risk management, security	 Security, safety Shaded areas, especially playgrounds, paths, entryways Adequate fencing Discourage vandalism, graffiti, littering, dumping Risks from Council assets minimised 	 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) consultations, design and manage open space for security and safety including lighting, anti-vandal devices etc Provision of shade, via tree planting, or shade structures Regular schedule for inspection, repairs, tree maintenance 	 Works in accordance with Australian Standards Regular inspections, audits of risks, incident Community feedback Trip hazards minimised Reduced incidence of vandalism, graffiti, rubbish dumping

Management **Objectives and** Means of Achieving Manner of Assessing **Principle Performance Targets Objectives** Performance **Biodiversity** Maintain and Plant suitable tree Stable or improved improve species including tree & vegetation natives for native biodiversity health fauna habitat Monitor native Manage and vegetation and control noxious habitat weeds Protect waterways Regular inspections Soil, water, and Design to . Avoid soil, water and audits minimise chemical air & air pollution Community use and avoid Minimise soil feedback environmental erosion, impact compaction. Chemical use sedimentation and limited and used degradation in accordance Clean and tidy with legislation sportsgrounds Water interceptor Manage runoff devices where water appropriate Water saving Ensure adequate Reduction in Resource use • . initiatives supply of litter and consumption of recycling bins energy and potable Energy saving initiatives Manage waste water in Flockhart Waste reduction collections from Park Sportsgrounds site and management Consider introduction of water and energy saving initiatives over time Community Engage and Provide Adequate signage . . Engagement inform the educational community signage about environmental features Coordinate with Trees Maintain. Health of trees preserve, protect Tree Management maintained and improve the Officer regarding Increased quantity health of trees development of trees over time impacts on trees and increase the Reduced damage **Urban Forest** Optimise tree claims regarding Planting of site planting trees appropriate opportunities Regular tree replacement trees Species selection inspections Community and new trees and planting Promote trees for locations to feedback carbon consider future sequestration, issues solar access and Protective shade. measures to Minimise adverse reduce ongoing interactions damage

7.4 Environment and Sustainability

Management	Objectives and	Means of Achieving	Manner of Assessing
Principle	Performance Targets	Objectives	Performance
	between trees and people or property	 Pruning or removal of trees where defects or adverse interactions exist with and no repair alternatives 	

8. Specific Management Information

This section provides detailed information on the Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds including the condition and improvements of the land and buildings. This section also includes a general schedule of seasonal maintenance and the proposed Capital Works for the years 2015 to 2020.



Map 3. Plan of I	Flockhart Park land	d titles and sports	ground area
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Location	Burwood Road, Hextol Street, Trelawney Street, Croydon Park		
Approximate Park	45,039m ² Council ID number: 0120		
Area (green outline)			
	04.400 2		
Approximate	21,492m ²		
Sportsground Area			
(orange hatch)			
Land Owner	Council.		
	Ausgrid owns Lot 1 in DP 519086 which contains a substation.		
Zoning	RE1 – Public Recreation		
LGA 1993	Park/Sportsground		
Categorisation			
Property Type	Passive and active recreation open space with sports fields		
Condition of land and	Assets in Flockhart Sportsgrounds and the amenities have average		
structures	condition rating of 2-3		
	The below criteria determines condition rating:		
	1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition		
	2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only		
	 Average – maintained but in need of repair 		
	5		
	 Poor – in need of major repair or renewal 		

	5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading require		
Heritage	Park not heritage listed		
Facilities	☑ 2 x Cricket practice nets ☑ Dog waste bin ☑ 2 x Soccer fields ☑ Irrigation (field) ☑ Drinking fountains ☑ Picnic table ☑ Seats ☑ Synthetic grass cricket pitch ☑ Rubbish bins ☑ Change rooms / toilets ☑ Kiosk ☑ ☑ Playground		
Legal Description	Lots 32, 33, 37, 38, 39 & 40 Part of Lots A & B in DP 389672 in DP 12912 Lot 1 in DP 519086 (Ausgrid) Lot 1 in DP 368641 Lot 2 in DP 519086		
Specific Management	Seasonal set ups for soccer and cricket.		
Requirements	Report non-working park lighting to service provider. Repair and replacement of synthetic cricket pitch as required.		
	Sportsground not affected by oil pipeline (in Park section).		
Specific Sportsground Usage and hire			
Leases, licenses and hiring	Seasonal and casual bookings by Council's Team Administrator- Works Depot. Ausgrid substation access easement.		
Five year proposed capital works schedule	Refer Proposed Capital Works Priority Table below.		

8.1 General Schedule of Maintenance Table

Maintenance Task	Service Level	Schedule Interval
Turf maintenance	Mown turf at acceptable length	1-4wks depending on season in
		active areas
		2-4wks depending on season in
		passive areas
	Minimise weeds in turf	Weed spraying in spring and as required
Sports field	Soccer & cricket fields set up	Yearly
maintenance	Line marking (seasonal)	Every 4 weeks minimum
	Soil test	Yearly
	Aerate and fertilise fields	In spring and as required
	Returf and topdress fields	In spring and as required
	Over sow high traffic areas	In autumn or as required
	Irrigation where provided	As required
Waste collection	Adequate emptying of bins	3 times/wk active areas
	Regular litter pick up	3 times/wk active areas
	Dog litter bins serviced	Weekly
Amenities	Toilets clean	Cleaned min. 3 times/wk
maintenance	Amenities building maintained	As required
(where provided)	Toilets open	Saturday, Sunday and Public
		Holidays and by arrangement with
		Council at other times.
	Seats, picnic shelters, drinking	Clean and repair as required

Maintenance Task	Service Level	Schedule Interval
	fountains, bins, fences, signs, lights - clean and maintained	
Gardens and trees	Trees maintained	Pruning of defects as required Pest-disease treatment as required
	Removal of dead or dangerous trees	As assessed and required
	Garden beds maintained	Pruning, planting, watering, fertilising as required
	Mulched garden beds and tree surrounds	Mulch applied as required
	Irrigation	New system required
	Control weeds in gardens	As required
Playgrounds	Inspected regularly for safety, cleanliness, damage	Weekly checks, quarterly comprehensive inspections Repair, clean as required
Access	Report illegal access, or prohibited use	As required
	Provide access for services, emergencies	As required
	Paths clear of obstructions & trip points	Clear and repair as required

8.2 Flockhart Park Proposed Capital Works Priority Table

Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds Proposed Capital Works for years 2015 to 2020	Priority Rating
Replace post and rail fence along Burwood Road frontage	High
Install park/ sportsground name signage	High
Install park/ sportsground provision signage	High
Install equal access requirements for the Sportsground	High
Replace field synthetic grass cricket pitches	High
Install floodlighting over the playing fields	High
Install shade structure over the existing play equipment	Medium
Replace cricket practice concrete install synthetic grass overlay	Medium
Replace cricket practice net fencing	Medium
Playing field upgrade include turf stripping, drainage and irrigation	Medium
Replace existing bubblers	Medium
Install barbecue and picnic shelters	Medium
Install sealed pathway link from Cooks River to park amenities block	Medium
Replace existing goal posts	Medium
Replace post and rail fence along the Hextol Street frontage	Medium
Replace bollard at the Trelawney Street entrance	Medium
Replace existing irrigation system	Low
Replace existing play equipment (refer notes below)	Low

8.3 Play Equipment Maintenance and Replacement

Council repairs and maintains the play equipment in Flockhart Park under the recommendations of Council's contracted play equipment inspector and Council staff to ensure compliance with Australian Playground Standards. If this is not possible the play equipment will be removed and replaced following community consultation as appropriate.

The play equipment in the Flockhart Park Sportsground area was installed in 2011. At the time of the adoption of this Plan of Management the playground was well maintained and in good condition. Accordingly, there is low priority for replacement of the play equipment in the Flockhart Park Sportsgrounds.

9. References

City of Canada Bay Council, March 2007, Generic Plan of Management.

City of Sydney, 2012, Generic Plan of Management: Parks, Sportsground, General Community Use Land.