

# HUDSON PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Title

This plan is titled Hudson Park Plan of Management.

This plan of management (PoM) has been prepared by Strathfield Council and provides direction as to the use and management of council-owned community land and council-managed Crown reserves classified as 'community land' in the Strathfield Council area. The PoM is required in accordance with Section 3.23 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and Section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This PoM specifically addresses the management of Hudson Park. The PoM outlines the way the land will be used and provides the framework for Council to follow in relation to the express authorisation of leases and licence on the land.

This land is primarily owned by the Crown and managed by Strathfield Council as Crown Land Manager under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Information and assessment of Hudson Park's environmental features was prepared by Anne Carey and Meredith Brainwood of Applied Ecology Pty Ltd in January 2021. This includes Section 5 – Environmental Features and Appendix A – Flora and Fauna Surveys.

This PoM was placed on public exhibition from xx to xx, in accordance with the requirements of section 38 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. A total of xx submissions were received. Council considered these submissions before adopting the PoM.

In accordance with section 39 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, prior to being placed on public exhibition, the draft PoM was referred to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands, as representative of the state of NSW, which is the owner of the Reserve. Council has included in the plan any provisions that have been required by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands.



Figure 1 - Hudson Park location map



## 1.2 Land Description

This plan of management covers Hudson Park. The reserve information is detailed in Table 1.

The area of Hudson Park in Lot 7303 DP 1160180 was dedicated as Crown Land on 3 October 1930 for Public Recreation with the exception of:

- Lot 877 DP1218285 Title is held by The State of New South Wales. and
- An unused road reserve described as ‘a strip 1 chain wide extending from Arthur-street to an overbridge on the Flemington to Campsie Railway Line, used as a road and vested in fee-simple in the Railway Commissioners for New South Wales of strips 20 feet wide along each side of each roadway’<sup>1</sup>

The water supply pipes are underground; however, the surface land is maintained as parkland. The road reserve appears to have never been used as a road and the overbridge described in the Gazette notice was not built. This land is used and maintained as parkland.

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<sup>1</sup> For Public Recreation (1930, October ), NSW Government Gazette, page 3944

The land owned by the Crown is managed by Council as Crown land manager under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Hudson Park is located between Mitchell Road, Arthur Street and Centenary Drive Strathfield. Hudson Park is the largest park in the Strathfield Local Government Area with a total land area of 16.9 hectares. The park is separated by Centenary Drive into east and west sections.

The western boundaries of the park are located on the western boundary of the Strathfield Local Government Areas that adjoins with Cumberland Council's eastern boundary. The surrounding areas have a variety of land zonings and land uses including low-rise residential and medium density units (east and north of the park) and industrial lands (west of the park). The land west of this site is occupied by freight lines and Rookwood Cemetery. There is no residential land west of the park.

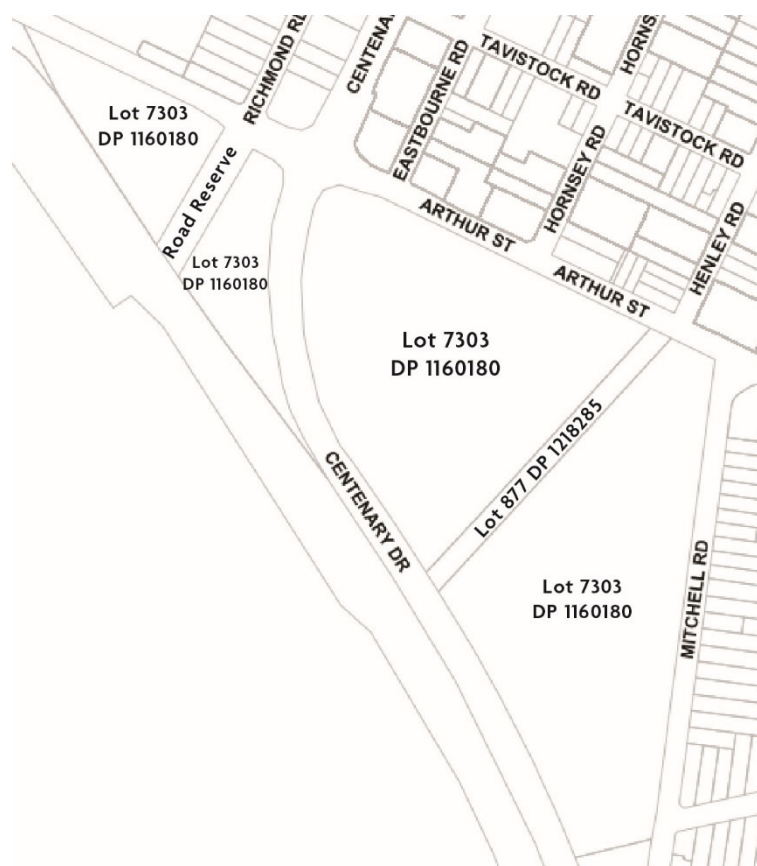
Hudson Park East contains a sporting oval (Hudson Oval), golf driving range and parklands. Until recently, the largest land use was a golf course, however since the decommissioning of the golf course, the park has been undergoing a transformation into a district park. Stage 1 and 2 upgrades have been completed. This included establishment of a new lake, pathways, landscaping features, building of a new pavilion and toilet block, BBQ and shelters and courts. Stage 3 works are planned from 2024-2025 and will include works such as installation of a high-intensity playground including a fitness area and equipment, climbing area and interactive ball gaming, upgrading of the Oval fencing, lighting and wicket renovation, upgrading irrigation and drainage throughout the park, upgrading of seating, renovation of the Hudson Park Pavilion.

***Table 1 – Information about the land covered by this Plan of Management,***

<b>Reserve Number</b>	Hudson Park Reserve (R62163)
<b>Reserve purpose</b>	Public Recreation
<b>Land classification</b>	Community
<b>Land parcel/s</b>	Lot 7303 DP 1160180 (Crown Land)
<b>Area (Ha)</b>	16.9 hectares
<b>LEP zoning</b>	RE1 – Public Recreation
<b>Assigned categories</b>	Park and Sportsground
<b>Proposed categories</b>	Park, Sportsground, Natural Area (Bushland), General Community Use

***Note there are two parcels of land not included by Reserve 62163 – the road reserve and Lot 877.***

Figure 2 – Hudson Park - Land ownership map



## 1.2 Purpose of this Plan of Management

The *Local Government Act 1993* and amendments to the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* require all public land including Crown Reserves, owned or managed by Council, to be classified as either 'community' land or 'operational' land. Land classified as 'Community' land is managed and used in accordance with an adopted Plan of Management.

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (the CLM Act) authorises local councils (council managers) appointed to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land to manage that land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act). Therefore, all Crown land reserves managed by council are also required to have a PoM under the LG Act.

The purpose of this PoM is to:

- contribute to the council's broader strategic goals and vision as set out in Strathfield Community Strategic Plan (CSP)
- ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*
- provide clarity in the future development, use and management of the community land
- ensure consistent management that supports a unified approach to meeting the varied needs of the community.

Plans of Management are developed by Council in consultation with the community. A Plan of Management describes the features of the community land and outlines how the land may be managed and used, consistent with land categorisations, core objectives and zoning, to provide a transparent and co-ordinated approach to public land management.

The purpose of this Plan of Management is to:

- contribute to the strategic goals and vision as set out in the Strathfield Community Strategic Plan
- ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and relevant legislation and guidelines
- provide clarity regarding use and access to the community land as described in this plan.

## 1.3 Background to this Plan of Management

There are four parks in the Strathfield LGA which are Crown Land Reserves. This includes Hudson Park, Strathfield Park, Bressington Park and Mason Park. These are also the largest parks in the LGA (more than five hectares) and are important to the local area providing significant open space and recreation facilities.

With the adoption of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*, all Crown Land Reserves are required to be managed similar to Council owned land under the *Local Government Act 1993*. This requires land to be classified as community or operational land and categorised based on its primary use, consistent with the purpose of the land.



Strathfield Council adopted a Plan of Management for Hudson Park in 1999, which is no longer relevant to management of the land. Hudson Park contains a sports oval, golf driving range but the majority of the land was dedicated to a Golf Course. The Golf Course ceased use in 2019. Since 2019, the golf course has been transformed into a district park.

## 1.4 Contents of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management is divided into the following sections, as outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Structure of this Plan of Management**

Section	What does it include?
1. Introduction	Title, land covered by plan, land description, purpose of the plan, background, legislative framework, review of plan
2. About the Strathfield LGA	Recognition of traditional custodians, Strathfield LGA snapshot, trends, community vision and strategic directions, community engagement, references
3. Basis of Management	Management principles, categories and classifications of community land, land categorisations (including map), Council's strategic objectives and priorities, land use/history, description and condition of land and structures, heritage, native title review, condition of assets, maintenance of park, future development, minor development, scale and intensity of land use
4. Development and Uses	Permissible uses and development, authorisation of leases and licences, short term uses, current leases, licences etc.
5. Environmental Features	Soil landscapes, detailed description of park flora and fauna, ecological values
6. Management of the land	Objectives, performance targets, means and manner for assessment of performance
Appendix A	Flora and Fauna Surveys
Appendix B	Community Engagement documents

*Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (LG Act) provides the legislative framework for Council's management of community land. The LG Act requires all community lands to be covered by a Plan of Management that must identify:

- the category of the land

- objectives and outcomes for the land
- how Council proposes to achieve objectives and outcomes
- the way by which Council proposes to assess its performance
- expressly authorise any leases, licences or other estates

*Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (NSW)* (CLM Act) assigns certain functions to Council managers. As a crown land manager, Council is authorised to classify and manage its dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it were public land within the meaning of the LG Act. Dedicate or reserved Crown land may only be used for the following purposes:

- the purposes for which is dedicated or reserved, or
- any purpose incidental or ancillary to a purpose for which it is dedicated or reserved, or
- any purpose specified in a plan of management for the land, or
- any other purposes authorised by the Act

Council, as Crown Land Manager, may issue leases and licences over Crown land in line with the LG Act, as per the assigned category and with consideration of the reserve purpose.

Generally, when managing dedicated or reserved Crown land, and for the purposes of this Plan of Management, Council:

- must manage the land as if it were community land under the LG Act, and
- has for that purpose all the functions that a local council has under that Act in relation to community land (including in relation to the leasing and licencing of community land)

*Native Title Act (Commonwealth) 1993* (NT Act) concerns the legal recognition of the individual or communal rights and interests which Aboriginal people have in land and water, where Aboriginal people have continued to exercise their rights and interests in accordance with traditional law and custom. On Crown land, native title rights and interests must be considered unless:

- Native title has been extinguished, or
- Native title has been surrendered, or
- Determined by a court to no longer exist.

Council must manage Crown land in accordance with Part 8 of the CLM Act in relation to native title and ensure the requirements of the NT Act for the management of Crown Land are addressed.

*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* (EP&A Act) is the principal planning legislation for NSW, that provides a framework for the environmental planning and assessment of development proposals and preparation of environmental planning instruments (including the Local Environmental Plan or LEP).

*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)* (BC Act) requires that Councils consider the impact on threatened species, populations and communities in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities under the

EP&A Act for development approvals. It also covers management of threatened species and communities on Council owned lands.

*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)* (EPBC Act) provides a national scheme for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation and incorporates referral mechanisms and environmental impact assessment processes for projects of national significance.

*Companion Animal Act 1998 (NSW)* requires the identification and registration of companion animals (e.g. cats and dogs) and sets out the duties and responsibilities in relation to management of animals and specific areas of land.

*Local Land Services Act 2013 (NSW)* provides a framework to ensure the proper management of natural resources in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State. Strathfield is part of the Greater Sydney Local Land Services (GSLLS), which provides guidance on matters such as community engagement, biosecurity and weeds.

Also relevant are:

- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW)*
- *Water Management Act 2000 (NSW)*
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (NSW) and Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (NSW)*
- *Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW)*
- *Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW)*
- *Rural Fires Act 1997 (NSW)*
- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)*

#### **Related Strathfield Council policies and plans**

- Strathfield Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030
- Strathfield Community Strategic Plan (CSP)
- Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Development Control Plans 2005
- Strathfield Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020
- Disability Inclusion Plan 2020-2024

### **1.5 Change and Review of Plan of Management**

This Plan of Management will require regular review in order to align with community values and changing community needs, and to reflect changes in Council priorities. The performance of this Plan of Management will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the park and sportsground use of land and buildings are well maintained and provide a safe environment for public enjoyment.

Strategic reviews of this Plan of Management will be required where there is significant change to legislation or at five (5) year intervals.

Council may continue to acquire or divest land for the benefit of the community and as such, land may also come into Council's ownership by dedication of land for open space. As such, the Plan of Management may be updated from time to time, reflecting significant changes to the condition of the community land, or to reflect new acquisitions or dedications of land.

The community will have an opportunity to participate in reviews of this PoM.

DRAFT



## 2. About the Strathfield Local Government Area

### 2.1 Recognition of Traditional Custodians

Strathfield Council would like to show respect and acknowledge the Wangal people, the traditional Custodians of the lands on which the Strathfield area is located. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

### 2.2 Snapshot of Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA)

The Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) is well known for transport connections, educational opportunities, attractive streetscapes, parks, heritage and buildings. The Strathfield LGA is centrally located in Sydney's Inner West, approximately 10.5 kilometres from the Sydney CBD and halfway between Parramatta and the Sydney CBD. The LGA includes the suburbs of Strathfield (postcode 2135), Strathfield South (2136), Homebush (2140), Homebush West (2140), part of Belfield (2191) and part of Greenacre (2190). Sydney Markets (postcode 2129) is also located within Strathfield LGA.

Strathfield LGA is well known for its extensive green open spaces and high-quality recreational facilities, which enhance the liveability, amenity and sustainability of the local area. The Strathfield LGA has a total area of approximately 1390 ha (13.9km<sup>2</sup>) with 104 ha of the total area being public open space (2018 estimates). There is currently 9.06 hectares of remnant bushland in the LGA and about 6 hectares is under Council management.

The estimated residential LGA population is about 46,000 residents (2022 ABS ERP) and by 2036, the resident population is estimated to reach about 55,000 people (Forecast ID 2023). The growing population and accompanying building density will continue to increase demand for access to and usage of available open space and community facilities. Therefore, management of community land is of critical importance to current and future communities.

Open spaces range from regional and district sporting grounds to smaller local parks and reserves. Significant parks with major sporting facilities include Airey Park, Bressington Park, Bark Huts Reserve, Begnell Field, Cooke Park, Hudson Park, Mason Park and Strathfield Park. Many local biodiversity conservation and habitat connectivity priority areas, including flora and fauna assets, are located within Strathfield LGA's parks and reserves. A number of connected parks and open spaces form the Cooks River Foreshore open space network, an important local and regional habitat corridor and pedestrian and cycle transport connection.

Strathfield LGA also provides many community facilities, located on community land including meeting rooms, halls and community centres which are available for hire by groups and individuals for sporting, community, recreation, social and other purposes.

## **2.3 Strathfield LGA community and recreational trends**

Some of the challenges facing the Strathfield LGA include increasing and competing demands for public open space and community facilities. Strathfield Council is strongly focused on identifying and meeting the current and future needs of the Strathfield community in a sustainable manner.

Recent community engagement and analysis of social and recreational trends indicate increasing participation in recreation, sporting and leisure activities such as organised team sports, walking, cycling, running, aerobic fitness and dog walking. There is increased demand for access to community and recreation facilities, outdoor and indoor.

Priorities for Council involve increasing the capacity of local community facilities, parks and sportsgrounds, developing new community and recreational facilities as required and ensuring equity of access to land and facilities, to meet changing and diverse needs.

## **2.4 Community Engagement**

Prior to developing the Hudson Park Plan of Management, Strathfield Council undertook community engagement and encouraged local residents and park users to be involved in the future planning for the park. An information sheet issued with a survey that asked for responses on the following questions as well as identifying personal data:

- Importance of Hudson Park features
- Proposed changes or improvements to the park
- Comments about future proposals to the park (refer to the Community Information Sheet in Attachment B which included a community or recreational centre and a Council Depot on Hudson Park West)
- Additional comments

The survey was open from 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021 (refer to Appendix B for consultation documentation). A letter advising of the consultation was distributed to all households in the Strathfield LGA by letterbox drop. Emails issued to clubs and park users regarding the consultative process. The survey was notified on Council's website and the Council e-News each week while the survey was open.

A total of 244 survey responses and 13 submissions were received during the consultation period.

### **Community Engagement Outcomes**

The feedback received showed a high and varied degree of community interest in Hudson Park. 89% of respondents were residents of the Strathfield LGA. Of the persons surveyed, 15% identified they played sport and 10% identified as a member of an organisation that uses the park.

Over 48% of those surveyed visited Hudson Park at least once a week and 25% at least once a month. The remaining respondents visited the park infrequently with 10% stating they had never visited the park.

The survey requested respondents rate important features of the park. At least one response was required, but multiple responses were permitted.

The features of Hudson Park rated as important (based on indicating 'very important' or 'important' on the survey) were primarily passive activities including trees, vegetation and landscaping at 93% (highly scored across all age groups), walking jogging or running at 92%, relaxing in open spaces or near the Lake (83%), gatherings in opens spaces for picnics, BBQ (76%) and personal exercise/leisure (76%).

Playgrounds were rated as very important/important by 72% of respondents. Playgrounds are not currently featured in Hudson Park but are proposed as Stage 2 works. This was most highly rated by persons in age groups 30-39, 40-49 and 60+, which are likely to be parents and grandparents.

66% of respondents rated Multi-Purpose Courts as very important/important. This was most highly rated by persons under 29 years.

Hudson Park, a formal sportsfield was rated very important/important by 60% of respondents. In contrast, respondents who identified as playing sport or a member a club using the park rated Hudson Oval as the most important feature of the park at 87% (very important/important). Dog walking overall rated in importance 48%, though there was significant variation between age groups with persons under 29 years at 65%, while the lowest was persons over 60 years at 32%.

Playing self-organised ball games was 65%, though scored over 70% in age groups 0-49 years. The Golf Driving range was rated as very important/important by 42% of respondents.

**Table 3 - Survey results importance of key features of Hudson Park (by age group)**

Feature/Activity	< 29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60+ years
Trees, vegetation and landscaping	88%	96%	96%	90%	100%
Walking, jogging	88%	92%	92%	90%	96%
Open space relaxing	76%	92%	92%	76%	90%
Gatherings in open space	82%	92%	92%	69%	82%
Personal exercise	74%	69%	69%	71%	80%
Playgrounds	56%	80%	80%	59%	79%
Multi-purpose courts	88%	69%	69%	61%	50%
Hudson Oval	50%	57%	57%	67%	55%
Dog walking	65%	58%	58%	55%	32%

Feature/Activity	< 29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60+ years
Self-organised ball games	73%	70%	70%	56%	52%
Golf driving range	53%	37%	37%	40%	41%

### Comments on improvements to Hudson Park

Hudson Park is currently undergoing transformation with the recent completion of Stage 1 works. Many of the suggested improvements are included in the works schedule for Stage 2 such as inclusion of courts (8% of respondents), shade (5%), outdoor fitness/gym equipment (5%), public toilets (9%), café (8%), dog off-leash area (7%), children's playground and cycle track (8%). There were many comments about protecting and providing open/greenspace as well as additional trees and vegetation in the park.

Some comments were received concerning an additional sportsfield at Hudson Park. Hudson Park has a large oval and golf driving range. This plan does not support an additional sportsground as this would significantly reduce the available space for other recreation and leisure activities in the park. Council has upgraded 4 sportsgrounds to all weather synthetic surfaces (Strathfield Park, Mason Park and Cooke Park) and added four new sportsfields at Bressington Park in the last five years to meet community demand. The plan also includes multi-purpose courts and courts for netball and tennis.

### Comments on future proposals for Hudson Park

The survey requested comments on future development in Hudson Park. 192 survey responses were returned with comments of future development. The majority of surveys responses were generally supportive of Council's future proposals for Hudson Park for provision of recreation facilities.

6% discussed the need for multipurpose courts in Hudson Park. These are scheduled for inclusion in Stage 2 works.

7% discussed the proposed community or recreation centre (Strathfield Leisure Centre). Most of these comments were in support of a centre and particularly for swimming facilities. Of these, one respondent did not support the proposal on the basis of traffic conflicts with Centenary Drive and Arthur Street. There were a few comments about traffic congestion on Arthur Street, which would need to be addressed in the design of a centre should it proceed.

The consultation also invited comments on a proposal to relocate the Council Depot and SES building to Hudson Park West. Of the feedback received, 30 respondents (including submissions) made comments concerning Hudson Park West. Some persons lodged both a submission and a survey. Comments concerned the potential use of the land at Hudson Park West. Some argued that this site should contain open space or nature reserve, others suggested that the land should be used to accommodate the move of the golf driving range with a parking area built, skateboard park or sports aimed at teenagers (e.g. skate, courts etc) or an additional sportsfield constructed. Many raised issues with traffic congestion in this area, claiming it would affect future developments or future developments such as a Council depot would create traffic conflicts.



A summary of the comments concerning the proposal to relocate the Council Depot at Hudson Park West stated the following:

- That the land should be dedicated for park purposes
- That using land for a Depot/SES office is not consistent with the use of Crown Land
- That the location is in a high traffic area.
- Questions about the cost of building a depot

Council resolved on 1 February 2022 (16/22) to withdraw the proposal to move the Depot and SES building to Hudson Park West. The Council further resolved that the land be restored as a park and the underground tunnel which connects Hudson Park East to West be restored and reopened for access to the community to both sections of the park. While there were community comments about including recreational facilities for teenagers on Hudson Park West, there are difficulties in providing safe pedestrian access to this site. It was considered a better option to maintain the open space and improve the urban forest on Hudson Park west and focus active recreation at Hudson Park East which has better and safer public access.

Council resolved on 6 November 2022 not to proceed with plans for a Leisure Centre at Hudson Park. The area of Hudson Park which was allocated for a potential centre will be used as parkland.

The survey also invited respondents to make additional comments. Of the 174 responses, 61 provided no further comment and 30 stated they were satisfied with the plans for Hudson Park. While there was some repetition of responses from previous questions, many of the comments were more generalised comments about Hudson Park, which included:

- Time taken to implement new works.
- Maintenance of the park and facilities
- Upgrade existing buildings e.g. Hudson Oval toilets/clubhouse.
- Importance of preservation of open/green spaces
- Storage for sporting clubs

## 2.5 References

Eco Logical Australia and Strathfield Council, 2019, *Strathfield Biodiversity Strategy 2020-2030*, viewed at <https://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au/live/biodiversity/>

ID Profile, June 2023, Strathfield Community Profile, viewed at <https://profile.id.com.au/strathfield/population-estimate>

ID Profile, June 2023, Strathfield Community Forecast Data, viewed at <https://forecast.id.com.au/strathfield>

Insight Ecology, 2017, *The Fauna of Strathfield (Local Government Area)*, viewed at <https://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au/live/biodiversity/>

Jones, Cathy, 2019, Hudson Park, on Strathfield Heritage website at <https://strathfieldheritage.com/parks-and-reserves/hudson-park/>

Near Maps – Strathfield LGA, 2019 at <https://www.nearmap.com/au/en>

Strathfield Council, *Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012*, viewed at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2013/115>

Strathfield Council, 2022, *Community Strategic Plan – Strathfield 2035* viewed at <https://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au/council/policies-plans-and-regulations/community-strategic-plan/>

Strathfield Council, 2019, Geographical Information System (GIS) Data

### 3. Basis of Management

#### 3.1 Management principles

Strathfield Council intends to manage its community land to meet:

- assigned categorisation of community land
- the Local Government (LG) Act guidelines and core objectives for community land
- the council's strategic objectives and priorities
- development and use of the land outlined in Section 6 of the LG Act.

All community land is required to be categorised as one or more of the following categories. Where the land is owned by the Crown, the category assigned should align with the purpose for which the land is dedicated or reserved.

The LG Act defines five categories of community land:

- Park – for areas primarily used for passive recreation.
- Sportsground – for areas where the primary use is for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.
- General Community Use – for all areas where the primary purpose relates to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social, and intellectual welfare or development of members of the public. This includes venues such as community halls, scout and guide halls, and libraries.
- Cultural Significance – for areas with Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research or social significance.
- Natural Area – for all areas that play an important role in the area's ecology. This category is further subdivided into bushland, escarpment, foreshore, watercourse and wetland categories.

Hudson Park has multiple categorisations which are identified and mapped in Section 3.3.

### 3.2 Categories and classifications of Community Land

The management of community land is governed by the categorisation of the land, its purpose, and the core objectives of the relevant category of community land.

Council may then apply more specific management objectives to community land, though these must be compatible with the core objectives for the land.

The guidelines for categorisation of community land are set out in the *LG (General) Reg.* The core objectives for each category are set out in the LG Act. The guidelines and core objectives for the Park, Sportsground, General Community Use and Natural Area categories are set out in the relevant category sections of this plan of management.

Community land is valued for its important role in the social, intellectual, spiritual and physical enrichment of residents, workers, and visitors to the Strathfield Council area.

The intrinsic value of community land is also recognised, as is the important role this land plays in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem function.

Strathfield Council encourages a wide range of uses of community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of its land, where appropriate. Within buildings, swimming pools, and recreational and sporting facilities in particular, Strathfield Council intends to permit and encourage a broad range of appropriate activities.

The management of community land is governed by the categorisation of the land, and the core objectives of the relevant category of community land. The core objectives for each category are set out in the *Local Government Act 1993*. The guidelines and core objectives for relevant categories are set out in Table 4.

**Table 4 – Guidelines for and core objectives of community land**

Category	Guidelines <sup>2</sup>	Core objectives <sup>3</sup>
Park	<i>Regulation cl.104</i> Land which is, or proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.	<i>Category Park – (Section 36G)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities.</li><li>• provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games.</li><li>• improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve</li></ul>

<sup>2</sup> *Local Government General Regulation 2021*

<sup>3</sup> *Local Government Act 1993*

Category	Guidelines <sup>2</sup>	Core objectives <sup>3</sup>
		the other core objectives for its management.
Sportsground	<i>Regulation cl.103</i> Land should be categorised as 'sportsground' if the land is used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.	<i>Category Sportsground - (Section 36F)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and</li> <li>to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.</li> </ul>
General Community Use	<i>Regulation cl.106</i> Land that may be made available for use of any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public	<i>Category General Community Use - (Section 36I)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public.</li> <li>- in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Natural Area	<i>Regulation cl.102</i> Land containing primarily native vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or although not the natural vegetation, is still representative of the structure or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality.	<i>Natural Area - (Section 36E)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised to a natural area; and</li> <li>to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and</li> <li>to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and</li> <li>to provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and</li> </ul>



Category	Guidelines <sup>2</sup>	Core objectives <sup>3</sup>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to assist in and facilitate the implement of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> or the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i></li> </ul>
Natural Area – bushland	<p><i>Regulation cl.107</i></p> <p>Land that contains primarily native vegetation that is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or although not the natural vegetation, is still representative of the structure or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality.</p>	<p><i>Natural Area - Bushland (Section 36))</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and</li> <li>to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and</li> <li>to promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and</li> <li>to restore degraded bushland, and</li> <li>to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and</li> <li>to retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and</li> <li>to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.</li> </ul>

Council must manage community land in according to these core objectives. Any activities or uses of the land should be consistent with the core objectives for that category of land. Additional objectives which support the above core objectives are included in Section 5 Management of the land.

The land classified as community land under the *Local Government Act 1993* is categorised as Park, General Community Use and Sportsground. The categorised areas are marked in Figure 2.

### 3.3 Hudson Park – Land Categorisations

Hudson Park was gazetted on 3 October 1930 for Public Recreation as the Hudson Park Reserve (R62163). The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure notified that approval was granted for the initial classification of Hudson Park as 'community land' and the categorisations of park and sportsground in February 2020.

- Park. The major area of land in Hudson Park is categorised as park. This land is used for a variety of recreation and leisure purposes.
- Sportsgrounds. These are the areas of Hudson Park which contain a sporting oval (Hudson Oval) and Golf Driving Range.

The following additional categorisations are proposed:

- General Community Use. These areas contain or are proposed to contain built structures. These include: the Pavilion building which is adjacent to Hudson Oval and contains amenities (toilets) and a clubhouse on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, the Pro Shop is a building adjacent to the Golf Driving Range, which provide toilets, service desk and administration/storage for the driving range and the new Amenities building opposite the lake which contains toilets and a cafe.
- Natural Area (Bushland). Areas within Hudson Park have been identified as wildlife corridors and therefore are categorised as Natural Area (bushland). These are located on land bordering Centenary Drive on the west and eastern sections of the park and the freight corridor on the western section of the park.

Figure 3 – Map of Hudson Park land categorisations



### 3.4 Material Harm Considerations

The land at Hudson Park was dedicated in 1930 for the reserve purpose of Public Recreation. This Plan of Management contains four land categorisations for Hudson Park. All land categorisations support the reserve purpose of Public Recreation. Material harm considerations are set out under each land categorisation and address the considerations set out in Section 2.14(3) of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

#### ***Current categorisations***

##### Park

The majority of land at Hudson Park is categorised as 'Park' and has a land area of about 113,721 m<sup>2</sup>, which is about 67% of the total land area. The land categorised as 'Park' contains mainly open space, landscaping, pathways, fragrant gardens, a maze and an artificial lake. The land has been upgraded since its conversion from a former Golf Course, which has improved the condition of the land, though removal of tees and bunkers and restoration of the land to a park. The land is open and accessible to the public for a range of recreational and leisure activities, generally informal and for short and intermittent periods. There is minimal likelihood of harm to the land by these activities or fixtures. The land is maintained by Council to a high standard.

##### Sportsground

The Sportsground categorisation contains a Golf Driving Range and Sports Oval (Hudson Oval). This area measures about 37,344m<sup>2</sup> which is about 23% of the total land area. The Golf Driving Range was upgraded in 2021-22 and nets have been erected around the driving range to minimise accidents and hazards from golf balls from the driving range into the park or nearby roads. Access to the Golf Driving Range is open to the public during times of operation. The Driving Range is lit at night which permits day and night use. The Sports Oval is used for summer and winter sports. The Oval lights support night use of the facility. The Oval is accessible at all times except when hired for formal sports. The land is maintained by Council to a high standard.

#### ***Additional categorisations***

##### Natural Area

Areas within Hudson Park have been identified as wildlife corridors, which have been categorised as Natural Area (bushland). This land measures about 11,012m<sup>2</sup> or about 7% of the total land area. These are primarily located on the land bordering Centenary Drive on the west and the eastern sections of the park and the freight corridor on the western section of the park. The additional categorisation will cause no material harm to the land. Council has increased planting of trees in the park and proposes to increase the urban forest particularly on Hudson Park West, which will protect and improve biodiversity and the natural environment.

## General Community Use

The area categorised as General Community Use is about 7071 m<sup>2</sup> square metres or about 4% of the total land area. Facilities such as toilets and storage sheds are included as ancillary in the Park or Sportsground land categories. However, the General Community Use land category includes built structures which include cafes, commercial uses, clubhouses etc which can be licenced or leased. These include:

- Hudson Park Pavilion building which is adjacent to Hudson Oval and contains amenities (toilets) and a clubhouse on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, which is subject to a licence agreement.
- The Golf Driving Range Pro Shop which provides toilets, service desk and administration/storage for the driving range.
- Hudson Lake Pavilion is located opposite the lake and contains toilets, café and a community room.

These buildings provide facilities which support the Reserve Purpose of Public Recreation, either by providing administration for the sports facility (e.g. pro shop, clubhouse) or cafes and community room providing refreshments or indoor space for leisure activities. All buildings are permanent structures. Access to facilities which are leased or hired is dependent on their opening times.

### **3.5 Councils strategic objectives and priorities**

Strathfield Council, in consultation with the community, has developed the following strategies and plans to identify the priorities and aspirations of the community and the delivery of a vision for the future. They have a direct influence on the objectives, uses and management approach covered by PoMs.

The community vision describes the community's aspirations for the future of the Strathfield Local Government Area by 2035:

*"Located in the heart of Greater Sydney, Strathfield is highly connected to transport, education and employment. It's culturally diverse and socially cohesive community is proud of its heritage and residential character, safe neighbourhoods, leafy environments and parklands. Strathfield is a place that embraces learning, culture, productivity and opportunity."*

Strathfield 2035 is the community strategic plan (CSP) for the Strathfield Local Government Area until 2035. The plan was developed following extensive community engagement and is divided into the key themes of Connectivity, Community Wellbeing, Celebrating Culture and Place, Liveable Neighbourhoods and Responsible Leadership. The following themes, goals and strategies are relevant to this Plan of Management.

CSP Theme	Goal	Strategies
Connectivity	1.1 Sustainable growth supported by well-	1.1.1 Collaborate with NSW Government and agencies to plan and deliver high quality and

CSP Theme	Goal	Strategies
	planned and accessible infrastructure and services	accessible infrastructure to support population growth and increasing density 1.1.2 Plan and deliver high quality and strategically located local infrastructure to support current and future population needs
Community Wellbeing	2.2 Healthy & Active Communities	2.2.1 Manage open space, recreation and community facilities and programs to provide fair access and meet community, leisure and recreational needs 2.2.2 Promote healthy and active living programs
Liveable Neighbourhoods	4.3 Healthy, thriving, sustainable and resilient environments	4.3.1 Conserve, restore and enhance Strathfield's biodiversity, ecological health, tree canopies and resilience 4.3.2 Implement sustainable practices and efficiencies in resource use to support a healthy built environment
Responsible Leadership	5.1 Council's leadership and decision making reflects community priorities and values 5.2 Council is effectively and responsibly managed and responds to community needs	5.1.1 Strathfield community is well informed, engaged and represented in Council policy making and advocacy 5.2.1 Prepare and implement plans and strategies to deliver and resource efficient and accountable services, programs and infrastructure

This plan is aligned with the Strathfield Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which defines the long-term vision for land use and infrastructure provisions within the Strathfield LGA and supports place within the Greater Sydney and District planning frameworks. This plan of management aligns with the priorities and actions set out in the LSPS

- Priority P13 'Biodiversity and ecological health and resiliency is conserved, restored and enhanced' and
- Priority P15 'Quality Open Spaces and thriving green corridors offset the impacts of growth across the LGA'
- Action A93 'review and prepare new plans of management'.

### 3.6 Hudson Park - prior use and history<sup>4</sup>

Hudson Park Strathfield is located on land once controlled by the Church of England Cemetery Trust as reserve land for Rookwood Cemetery. The building of the freight railway line to the Enfield Marshalling Yards severed this land from Rookwood Cemetery in 1914. In 1930, the NSW Government gazetted the land as a park and transferred control and management of the Crown Land to Strathfield Council under a Reserve Trust. The park was originally known as 'Hampstead Downs' and in 1935 was renamed 'Hampstead Park'.

In 1953, the name of the park was changed to Hudson Park. The park named after Colin Hudson, a former Mayor of Strathfield [1944-49]. Hudson served as an Alderman on Strathfield Council from 1941 to 1952 and once held the record as longest serving Mayor. From the 1930s, Council undertook various improvement works such as tree planting and laying out of multiple cricket pitches in the Park.

These uses ceased when the Strathfield Council Public Golf Course opened in 1956. Hudson Oval was built and opened in 1962. The construction of the Oval cost over £8000 and was funded by Council with a contribution of £2000 by St Patricks College, who have had a long association of use of Hudson Oval. The golf course was redesigned after the construction of Centenary Drive in 1970's, which ran through Hudson Park. In 1978, Strathfield Council opened a Night Golf Driving range to complement the golf course.

In 2019, Hudson Park Golf Course closed operations due to falling numbers of players. Plans to transform the site into a park were developed including building a new artificial lake, courts, walkways and areas for passive recreation.

The historic photographs of Hudson Park indicate the development of the park since the 1940s with addition of a golf course and sporting oval. The last photo shows the transformation of the park since the closure of the golf course.

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<sup>4</sup> Jones, C, 'Hudson Park' history, <https://strathfieldheritage.org/parks-and-reserves/hudson-park/>



Figure 3 - Historical photographs of Hudson Park



Aerial photograph of Hudson Park (1947)



Hudson Park (1960). Strathfield-Homebush District Historical Society.



Hudson Park aerial with Golf Course  
2018 © Near Maps



Hudson Park aerial during Stage 1 works  
December 2020 © Near Maps





Hudson Park aerial May 2022 after stage 1 works  
© Near Maps



Hudson Park aerial post park transformation  
December 2023 © Near Maps

### 3.7 Hudson Park – Description and Condition of land and structures

Hudson Park is the largest park in the Strathfield Local Government Area with a total land area of 16.9 hectares. The park is located on Arthur Street Strathfield, bounded to the east by Mitchell Road. The park is bisected by Centenary Drive, a regional road with significant traffic and connections to major road networks such as M4 and M5 motorways, Parramatta Road and Liverpool Road. Centenary Drive has separated the park into east (13ha) and west (3.9ha) sections, referred to in this plan as Hudson Park East and Hudson Park West.

The Bay to Bay walk/cycleway, which runs from Botany Bay to Homebush Bay, is located on the Mitchell Road border of the park and provides regional cycle and pedestrian access to the park. Flemington Rail Station is located within a 10 minute walk of the park.

The park is located on the western boundary of the local government areas of Strathfield and Cumberland Councils. The surrounding areas have a variety of land zonings and land uses including low-rise residential and medium density units (east and north of the park) and industrial lands (west of the park).

The east side of the park is the larger area and is bounded by Mitchell Road to the east, which contains low density residential, Arthur Street to the north with medium density units and Centenary Drive at west.

The western side of the park (Hudson Park West) is bounded by Centenary Drive at the east and Arthur Street at the north which contains an industrial site with various business parks facing Arthur Street and Richmond Road. The land west of this site is occupied by freight lines and Rookwood Cemetery. There is no residential land at west of the park.

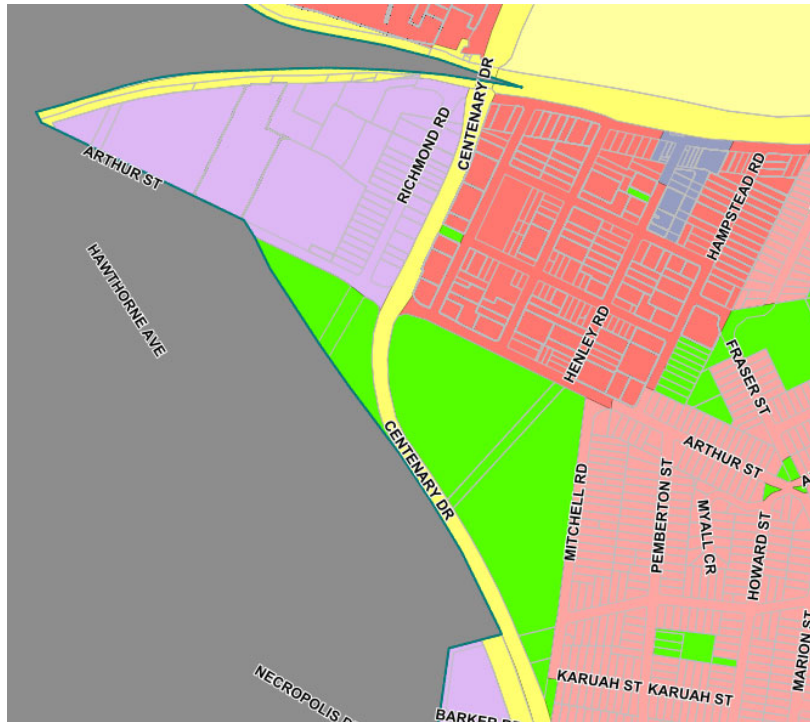


Figure 4 - Zoning LEP 2012 map

Hudson Park East contains a sporting oval (Hudson Oval), golf driving range and parklands. Until 2019, the largest land use was a golf course. A small brick park depot building which serviced the course and park was demolished in 2022.

Since the closure of the Golf Course, a series of works have been implemented to upgrade the park recreational facilities and landscaping elements. These have been focused on Hudson Park east. This includes the construction of an artificial lake, new amenities including toilets and a café, a fragrant garden and maze, which were completed in 2022. The golf driving range was upgraded with new fencing, netting, installing synthetic grass and multi-coloured bunkers and greens. Additional works were completed in 2023 in the north-eastern area of the park which included additional shade and seating, off-leash dog park, BBQ and sheltered picnic areas, children's playground, outdoor fitness equipment, sports courts for basketball and volleyball, outdoor table tennis tables and toilet amenities. Plans have been prepared for additional works in Stage 3.



Figure 5 Map of Hudson Park West stage 1 & 2 works



## Existing facilities

While the Golf Driving Range has been retained, the length of the range was shortened. The ancillary buildings e.g. office, toilets, storage etc may be upgraded or demolished in future.

Hudson Oval was built in 1962 and accommodates a variety of sports including rugby and cricket. There are proposals to upgrade Hudson Oval in 2024-2025 with installation of new fencing, upgrading sporting ground lighting and renovating the centre wicket. The Hudson Park Pavilion will also be renovated with inclusion of male and female changerooms with accessible toilets, storage facilities and a second floor viewing area available for community booking.

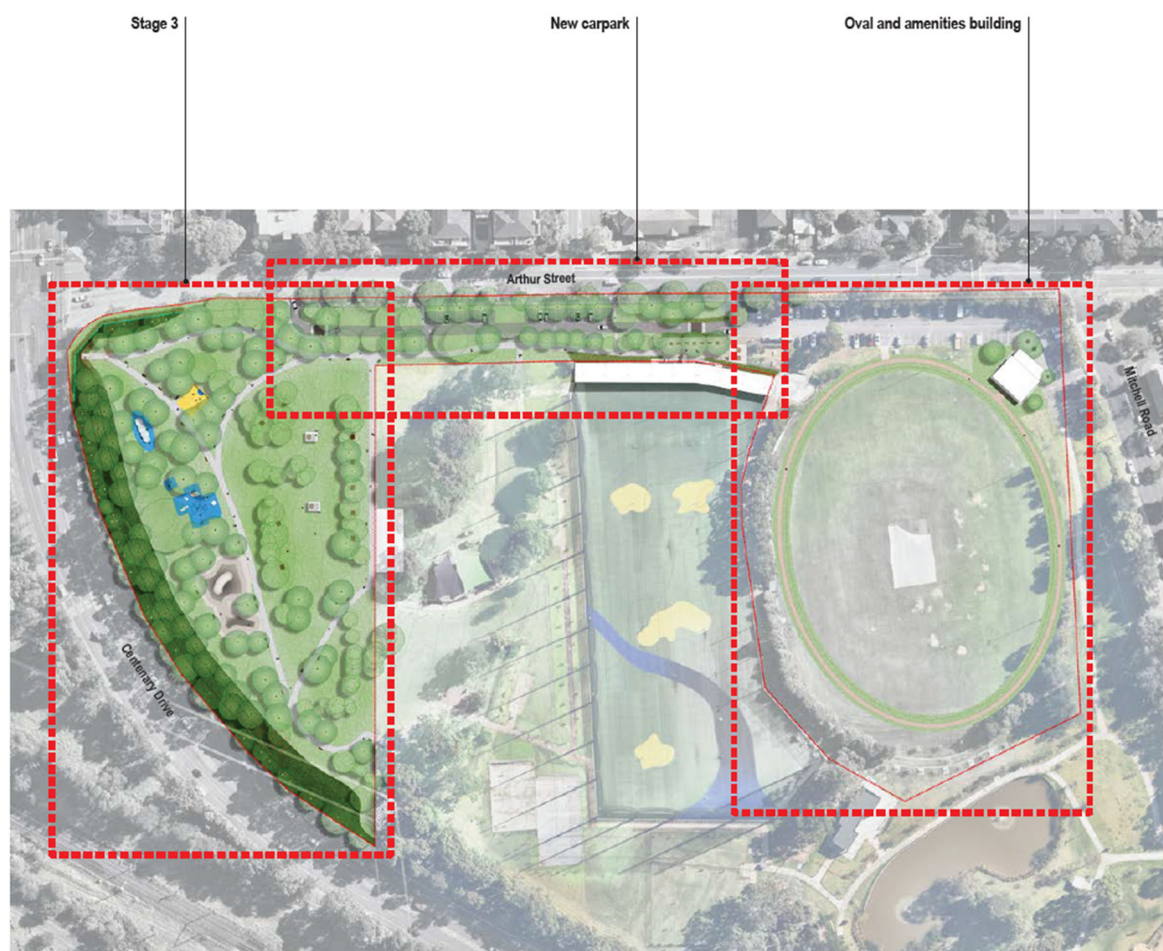


Figure 6 Location of proposed stage 3 works on Hudson Park East (near Arthur Street at north and Centenary Drive at west)

## **Changes to Hudson Park from 2019-2024**

### **Stage 1 works (2019-2021)**

In 2019, Council commenced works to decommissioning the Golf Course at Hudson Park and implementing a new landscape plan to develop more accessible and sustainable use of the park. Hudson District Park East is located east of Centenary Drive and contains a sportsground (Hudson Oval) and a Golf Driving Range. This area is about 13 hectares in size. The areas of land formerly occupied by the golf course, are being transformed into district park in a staged approach.

Stage 1 works have been completed which include landscaping and open grassed areas with shelters and BBQs, additional tree plantings, new pathways and the building of a new lake and garden maze. Construction of a Fragrant Garden and Pavilion (toilets and café) were completed in 2022. Stage 1 also involved significant tree planting of mature trees which is designed to provide shade as well as improve the tree canopy.

### **Stage 2 works (2021-2023)**

Stage 2 works were completed in Hudson Park East in 2023 and were implemented in the north-west section of the park and included the following features additional shade and seating, off-leash dog park, BBQ and sheltered picnic areas, children's playground, outdoor fitness equipment, sports courts for basketball and volleyball, outdoor table tennis tables and toilet amenities.

### **Stage 3 works (2023-2025)**

Council secured funding under the WestInvest program for the following works in Hudson Park to commence in 2024-2025.

- Installation of a high-intensity playground including a fitness area and equipment, climbing area and interactive ball gaming.
- Upgrade to Hudson Park Oval by installing new fencing, upgrading sporting ground lighting, and renovating the centre wicket.
- Upgrading of the irrigation and drainage systems throughout the park.
- Installation and upgrading of seating throughout the park.
- Renovation of the Hudson Park Pavilion (near Hudson Oval) by including female and male changerooms with accessible toilets, council and stakeholder storage facilities, and a second floor viewing area available for community booking.
- Extend the car park to provide more parking spaces for park users.
- Install new pathways to facilitate easier movement within the park.
- Planting and landscaping of the park to improve its aesthetics.
- Creating sheltered areas with BBQs for park users.
- Enhancing passive recreation areas.
- Demolishing or enhancing the existing Driving Range pro shop.
- Installation of a new fence along Arthur Street.



Council also intends to upgrade improving Centenary Drive & Arthur Street traffic by extending the left turn lane from Arthur Street into Centenary Drive.



Sketch View of Pavilion from Carpark

**Figure 7 Sketch of proposed upgrade to Hudson Park Pavilion**

### **Hudson Park West**

Hudson District Park West is the area of the park located west of Centenary Drive. This area is about 3 hectares in size but is isolated by major roads, heavy traffic and the railway line on the southern boundary. There is limited pedestrian access to this area.

Hudson Park west is bounded at south and south-west by the freight rail and behind that Rookwood Cemetery. Richmond Road once extended through this site to the Cemetery, but this access road is closed, and the land assumed into the park. Some golf tees were located on Hudson Park West and a pedestrian underpass was built under Centenary Drive to connect the two sides of the park. However, the underpass closed with the closure of the golf course due to safety concerns. Future works include restoring pedestrian access between Hudson Park East and West through the underground underpass.

This land is isolated from public access due to the road networks. The site has limited pedestrian access from Centenary Drive or Arthur Street. Centenary Drive has no footpaths and there is no footpath on Arthur Street near Hudson Park West. There are no pedestrian crossings at the traffic lights at Arthur Street and Centenary Drive to this site. High voltage power lines cross lengthways through the centre of the land, with a stanchion almost right in the middle. As a result, there are large areas that are cleared and need to remain that way as there are height limits for vegetation under power lines. This part of Hudson Park backs onto the Lidcombe branch of the Bankstown City Rail line. Extensive revegetation

has been undertaken along the rail corridor fence, resulting in the greater diversity of local native species including several specimens of Downy Wattle (*Acacia pubescens*), a threatened species listed as Vulnerable under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Towards the western end, where Hudson Park becomes quite narrow, most if not all of the vegetation are weeds.

The land at Hudson Park West will be maintained as a park open space, though part of this site is in poor condition and heavily weeded.

### **3.8 Heritage**

There are no statutory heritage listings associated with this land. There is a historic memorial dedicated in 1933 to the late Bernard Firth, which is surrounded by a grove of trees. This memorial should be retained.

### **3.9 Native Title Review**

Crown land has significant spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance to the Aboriginal peoples of NSW. The CLM Act recognises and supports Aboriginal rights, interests and involvement in Crown land.

On Crown land, Native Title rights and interests must be considered unless Native Title has been extinguished, surrendered, or determined by a court to no longer exist.

Dealings in land or water that affect (impair or extinguish) Native Title are referred to as 'Future Acts' and these acts must be done in compliance with the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) ("NT ACT"). The NT Act specifies procedures that must be followed before future acts can be done legally.

Some examples of acts which may affect Native Title on Crown land managed by Council include:

- The construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, basketball courts, grandstands and barbecues
- The construction of extensions to existing buildings
- The construction of new roads
- Installation of infrastructure such as electricity transmission towers, sewerage pipes, etc.
- The creation of an easement
- The issue of a lease or licence
- The undertaking of major earthworks.

On Crown land, a future act undertaken by Council which is not covered by one of the Future Act subdivisions of the NT Act will be invalid.

Section 8.7 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 requires that written Native Title Manager advice is required before a council Crown land manager does any of the following:

- a. Grants leases, licences, permits, forestry rights, easements or rights of way over the land

- b. Mortgages the land or allows it to be mortgaged
- c. Imposes, requires or agrees to covenants, conditions or other restrictions on use (or removes or releases, or agrees to remove or release, covenants, conditions, or other restrictions on use) in connection with dealings involving the land
- d. Approves (or submits for approval) a plan of management for the land that authorises or permits any of the kinds of dealings referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c). Accordingly, Native Title Manager advice must be obtained prior to the approval (or submittal for approval) of a PoM that allows a dealing in (a)–(c) and the execution of any lease, licence, permit, etc. that may be authorised under that plan.

Council's Native Title Manager has been and will continue to be consulted in all relevant aspects of Native Title pertaining to the land that is covered by this Plan of Management.



### 3.10 Condition of Assets at Hudson Park

The criteria for assessing the condition of land and structures upon adoption of this plan of management are shown in Table 5 and the interpretation of the condition of infrastructure in Table 6. The condition ratings of existing facilities were assessed in April 2021. New works have been added since 2021 and dates of construction or installation are noted.

**Table 5 - Condition rating assessment criteria**

Rating	Descriptor	Guide	Residual Life as a % of Total Life	Mean % age residual life
1 - Excellent	Sound physical condition. Asset likely to perform adequately without major work.	Normal maintenance required	>86	95
2 – Good	Acceptable physical condition, minimal short-term risk of failure.	Normal maintenance plus minor repairs required (to 5% or less of the asset)	65 to 85	80
3 – Satisfactory	Deterioration evident, failure in the short term unlikely. Minor components need replacement or repair now, but asset still functions safely.	Significant maintenance and/or repairs required (to 10-20% of the asset)	41 to 64	55
4 – Worn	Deterioration of the asset is evident, and failure is possible in the short term. No immediate risk to health and safety.	Significant renewal required (to 20 - 40% of the asset)	10 to 40	35
5 – Poor	Failed or failure is imminent or there is significant deterioration of the asset. Health and safety hazards exist which present a possible risk to public safety.	Over 50% of the asset requires renewal	<10	5

**Table 6 – Photos and Condition of assets at Hudson Park**



*Hudson Park Lake. Built in 2021. The condition of the lake is assessed as excellent.*



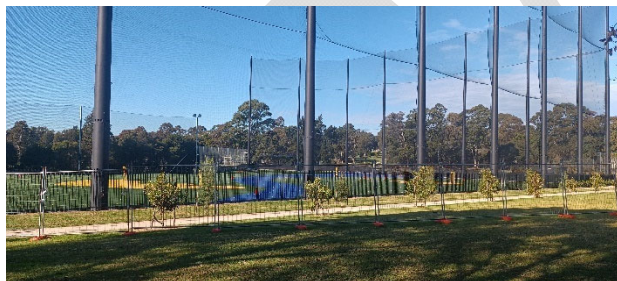
*Garden Maze. Built in 2021. The condition of the maze is assessed as excellent*



*Hudson Oval including lighting. The condition of the Oval is assessed as Good and the sports lighting as Satisfactory.*



*Hudson Oval Pavilion. The condition of the Pavilion is assessed as Good.*

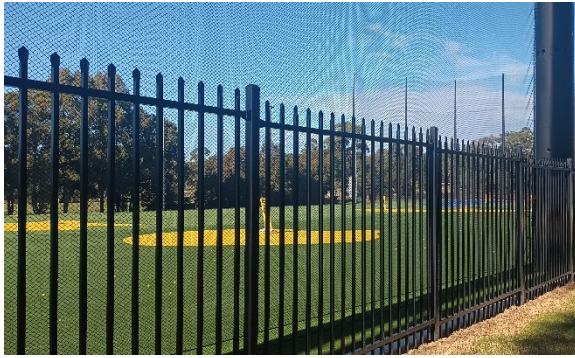


*Golf Driving Range renovation with new surfacing and new nets. Works occurred in 2022-2023*



*The Proshop services the Golf Driving Range.*





*Hudson Park Golf Driving Range fencing upgrades in 2023*



*Shade structure and seating. The shade structure and seating were built in 2020/2021. The condition rating is excellent.*



*The carpark faces Arthur Street. The condition rating is satisfactory.*



*Pathways were built in 2020 and 2021. The condition of the pathways is assessed as excellent.*



*Hudson Lake Pavilion located adjacent to the lake was completed in 2022 and is in excellent condition*



*Hudson Park Fragrant Garden completed 2022.*



*Hudson Park outdoor table tennis tables installed 2023*



*Courts installed in 2023.*





*Toilets, shelter and BBQs built 2023*



*Hudson Park Fitness station installed 2023*

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### **3.11 Maintenance of Hudson Park**

Council's management of community and Crown land integrates with strategies set out in the Community Strategic Plan, actions in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and resourcing and operational plans, especially resource and asset management plans and operations to meet community needs and priorities. Major parks such as Strathfield Park provide significant recreational and community facilities and are highly valued by the community. To ensure the park is well and safely maintained, there are weekly visual inspections of the grounds and equipment. The park operates on a two weekly maintenance cycle. The park is undergoing transformation and installation of new facilities. As these are completed, new maintenance arrangements will be developed to ensure the parks and its facilities are fully maintained to high levels of safety and amenity.

### **3.12 Minor development and development processes**

Minor changes to community land are regularly made on a routine basis, such as garden beds are replanted, and damaged play equipment is replaced.

In the event of potential future development other than that listed, proposed changes of use of community land will:

1. Be consistent with the purpose for which the land is dedicated or reserved
2. Meet legislative requirements - zoning tables in the Strathfield Council Local Environmental Plan specifies the range of uses and activities that may be permitted on the land. A number of uses are also set out in the Regulations to the *Local Government Act 1993*.
3. Be consistent with the guidelines and core objectives of the community land category - under the *Local Government Act 1993* uses and development of community land must be consistent with the guidelines for categorisation and the core objectives of each category, and any other additional objectives the Council proposes to place on the community land categories.
4. Be consistent with relevant Council policies - substantial upgrades and proposed new development will take into account a range of factors, including:
  - this Plan of Management and the core objectives for the land
  - the planning controls for the land
  - Council's adopted policies
  - the characteristics of the land affected, including existing and future use patterns
  - any landscape masterplan for the land.

### **3.13 Scale and intensity of land use**

The scale and intensity of use and development associated with community land in Strathfield is generally dependent on:

- the nature of the approved uses and developments
- approved Development Applications and any conditions
- an approved masterplan
- the physical constraints of the land
- the carrying capacity of the land
- relevant government legislation
- permissible times of use
- proximity of neighbours

The scale and intensity of use of parks and sportsgrounds should be monitored by:

- regular inspection of the physical impacts on the park or sportsground
- reports to Council regarding any conflicts between park and sportsground users
- reports to Council from adjoining neighbours.

## 4. Development and Use

Community land is valued for its important role in the social, intellectual, spiritual and physical enrichment of residents, workers, and visitors to the Strathfield Council area.

The intrinsic value of community land is also recognised, as is the important role this land plays in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem function.

Strathfield Council encourages a wide range of uses of community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of its land, where appropriate. Within buildings, swimming pools, and recreational and sporting facilities in particular, Strathfield Council intends to permit and encourage a broad range of appropriate activities.

The use of community land is often supported by appropriate ancillary development such as playground equipment, amenity blocks or food kiosks.

The general types of uses which may occur on community land categorised as Park, Sportsground, General Community Use and Natural Area (Bushland), and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in the tables below in relevant categories of this plan of management.

### 4.1 Permissible uses and developments

The tables below set out the purpose/use of the land consistent with the purpose for which the land is dedicated or reserved, the land categorisation and the types of development generally associated with those uses. Facilities on community land may change over time, reflecting the needs of the community. The anticipated uses, and associated development, identified in the categories below are intended to provide an overview or general guide.

#### 4.1.1 Park

Parks are defined in clause 104 of the *LG (General) Regs* as land which is improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

The core objectives for parks, as outlined in Section 36G of the LG Act, are to:

- encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities
- provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games
- improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

**Table 7 - Permissible uses of land categories – Park**

Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active and passive recreation including children’s play</li> <li>• Group recreational use, such as picnics and celebrations</li> <li>• Publicly accessible ancillary areas e.g. toilets</li> <li>• Festivals, fairs, similar events and gatherings</li> <li>• Low intensity commercial activities</li> <li>• Filming and photographic projects</li> <li>• Public address (speeches)</li> <li>• Easement, utilities and estate</li> <li>• Community gardening</li> </ul> <p>Note: Some of the uses above require a permit from Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development for the purposes of improving access, amenity, and the visual character of the park e.g. paths, pergolas, flagpoles, lights, water bubblers, seating, paved areas, hard and soft landscaped areas etc</li> <li>• Development for the purposes of active recreation e.g. play equipment, children’s playgrounds, exercise equipment, courts etc</li> <li>• Amenities to facilitate leisure use of the park e.g. picnic tables and shelters, BBQ’s &amp; sheltered eating areas</li> <li>• Kiosk/café, mobile food vans or refreshment areas including external seating</li> <li>• Storage areas associated with functions, gardening equipment</li> <li>• Hard and soft landscaped areas</li> <li>• Transport access and service areas ancillary to the use of land (e.g. public transport, car parking, loading zones, bicycle racks)</li> <li>• Community gardens</li> <li>• Off-leash areas</li> <li>• Heritage and cultural interpretation e.g. signs, public art etc</li> <li>• Locational, directional and regulatory signage</li> <li>• Advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that relate to approved uses/activities, discreet and temporary and approved by Council.</li> <li>• Water/Energy savings initiatives including bio-detention basin (lake)</li> <li>• Bio-banking and carbon sequestration initiatives</li> </ul>

#### 4.1.2 Sportsgrounds

Sportsgrounds are defined in clause 103 of the *LG (General) Reg* as land used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or playing outdoor games.

The core objectives for sportsgrounds, as outlined in Section 36F of the LG Act, are to:

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



Hudson Park contains two areas which are categorised as Sportsgrounds. These contain Hudson Oval, which is primarily used for the playing of formal sports such as Rugby, Football and Cricket, and the Golf Driving Range.

**Table 8 - Permissible uses of land categories – Sportsgrounds**

Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active and passive recreational and sporting activities consistent with the nature of the particular land and any relevant facilities</li> <li>• Organised and unstructured recreation activities</li> <li>• Community events or gatherings, and public meetings</li> <li>• Commercial uses associated with sports facilities</li> <li>• Easement, utilities and estate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development for the purpose of conducting and facilitating organised sport (both amateur and professional)</li> <li>• Sportsfields (turf and synthetic) including cricket, football, soccer, track and field athletics, baseball, softball etc</li> <li>• Aquatic facility (learn to swim classes, squad training, fitness and health classes including aqua aerobics, recreational and competitive swimming and diving, organised water sports)</li> <li>• Professional rooms for hire</li> <li>• Golf driving range</li> <li>• Courts (basketball, netball, badminton, tennis, hockey, badminton etc)</li> <li>• Facilities for sport training e.g. batting cages, tennis rebound walls</li> <li>• Amenities e.g. change room, lockers, shower/toilet facilities, first aid rooms, seating</li> <li>• Café or kiosk facilities, mobile coffee cart or food vending subject to site assessment and Council approval</li> <li>• Car parking and loading areas</li> <li>• Ancillary areas e.g. staff rooms, meeting rooms, equipment storage areas</li> <li>• Shade structures</li> <li>• Seating and scoreboards</li> <li>• Sports or fitness training, and practice facilities</li> <li>• Equipment sales/hire areas</li> <li>• Heritage and cultural interpretation e.g. signs, public art</li> <li>• Advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that relate to approved uses/activities, discreet and temporary and approved by Council.</li> <li>• Water/Energy savings initiatives</li> <li>• Lighting and water (e.g. taps, bubblers)</li> <li>• Locational, directional and regularly signage</li> </ul>

### 4.1.3 General Community Use

General community use land is defined in clause 106 of the *LG (General) Reg* as land that may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, and does not satisfy the definition of natural area, sportsground, park or area of cultural significance.

The core objectives for community land categorised as general community use, as outlined in Section 361 of the LG Act, are to:

- promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land
- provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:
  - (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and
  - (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Hudson Park contains a number of areas which are categorised as General Community Use. This includes the Pavilion building containing amenities and a clubhouse, the Pro Shop servicing the Golf Driving Range and a new Amenities building containing toilets and a cafe.

**Table 9 - Permissible uses of land categories – General Community Use**

Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a location for, and supports, the gathering of groups for a range of general social, cultural or recreational purposes</li> <li>• Council facility to support and deliver Council services</li> <li>• Includes multi-purpose buildings e.g. leisure centre, aquatic centre, indoor courts, sports, community halls, childcare etc. Uses may include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ casual or informal sporting and recreational use</li> <li>○ meetings (including for social, recreational, educational or cultural purposes)</li> <li>○ functions</li> <li>○ leisure or training classes including fitness</li> <li>○ educational and community centres, including libraries, information and resource centres</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Development for the purposes of social, community, cultural, recreational activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provision of buildings or other amenity areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community</li> <li>• provision of building to support delivery of Council services</li> <li>• development (particularly within buildings) for the purposes of addressing the needs of a particular group (for example, a stage)</li> <li>• landscaping and finishes, improving access, amenity and the visual character of the general community area</li> <li>• water-saving initiatives such as rain gardens</li> <li>• energy-saving initiatives such as solar lights and solar panels</li> <li>• car parking and loading areas</li> <li>• advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ relate to approved uses/activities</li> <li>○ are discreet and temporary</li> <li>○ are approved by the council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• childcare such as a crèche, in the form of short-term care for users of the facility</li> <li>• concerts</li> <li>• performances (including film and stage)</li> <li>• exhibitions</li> <li>• fairs and parades</li> <li>• workshops</li> <li>• designated group use</li> <li>• entertainment facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locational, directional and regulatory signage.</li> </ul>

#### 4.1.4 Natural Area

Bushland is defined in clause 107 of the *LG (General) Reg* as land containing primarily native vegetation that is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or although not the natural vegetation, is still representative of the structure or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality.

The core objectives for bushland, as outlined in Section 36J of the LG Act, are to:

- ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna of the land and other ecological values
- protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land
- manage the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures to minimise or mitigate disturbance caused by human intrusion
- restore degraded bushland
- protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores
- retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term
- protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.

Hudson Park was identified as part of a wildlife corridor linking Homebush West to Rookwood, partly due to its mature revegetation plantings and proximity to core habitat areas in Rookwood Cemetery (Native Habitats and Fauna, Parramatta River Catchment Group). Council's Biodiversity and Conservation Strategy 2020 (p41) also identified Hudson Park as a Biodiversity Connectivity Priority Area. Established vegetation within the park can be considered a wildlife corridor and categorised as a natural area within the meaning of the *LG (General) Reg*. Section 5 of this plan contains descriptions and analysis of Hudson Park's environment with survey data results outlined in Attachment A.

**Table 10 – Permissible uses of land categories – Natural Area (Bushland)**

Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking and cycling</li> <li>• Guided bushwalks and bird watching</li> <li>• Environmental programs and scientific study</li> <li>• Preservation of biodiversity and habitat</li> <li>• Bush regeneration and revegetation works</li> <li>• Relaxation and passive informal recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpretative and directional signage</li> <li>• Seating</li> <li>• Lighting</li> <li>• Low impact carparks</li> <li>• Low impact walking trails</li> <li>• Water saving initiatives e.g. swales, sediment traps, rainwater gardens</li> </ul>

## 4.2 Authorisation of leases, licences or other estates over community land

Under section 46(1)(b) of the LG Act, leases, licences and other estates formalise the use of community land. A lease, licence or other estate may be granted to organisations and persons, community groups, sports clubs and associations, non-government organisations, charities, community welfare services, non-profit organisations and government authorities.

The lease or licence must be for uses consistent with the reserve purpose(s), the assigned categorisation and zoning of the land, be in the best interests of the community as a whole, and enable, wherever possible, shared use of community land.

Any lease or licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this PoM and the capacity of the community land itself and the local area to support the activity.

A lease is normally issued where exclusive control of all or part of an area by a user is proposed. In all other instances a licence or short-term licence or hire agreement will be issued.

When planning to grant a lease or licence on Crown reserves, Council must comply with the requirements of the Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993 (NT Act) and have regard for any existing claims made on the land under the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983. Council's Native Title Manager will provide written advice in certain circumstances to advise if the proposed activities and dealings are valid under the NT Act.

This plan of management **expressly authorises** the issue of leases, licences and other estates over the land covered by the plan of management, provided that:

- the purpose is consistent with the purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved
- the purpose is consistent with the core objectives for the category of the land
- the lease, licence or other estate is for a permitted purpose listed in the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *LG (General) Reg*
- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate and the provisions of the lease, licence or other estate can be validated by the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth)
- where the land is subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* the issue of any lease, licence or other estate will not prevent the land from being transferred in the event the claim is granted
- the lease, licence or other estate is granted and notified in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *LG (General) Reg*
- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate will not materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it was dedicated or reserved.

Under Section 46 of the LG Act, a lease or licence may only be granted for a maximum term of 21 years including options, or for 30 years with consent of the Minister. A lease or licence for a term exceeding five (5) years may be granted only by tender unless it is granted to a non-profit organisation. All leases and licences must be publicly notified for a minimum period of 28 days.

Agreements for a short-term, casual purpose may be issued in accordance with Section 46 of the LG Act where that purpose is prescribed by the Regulations.

The tables set out below in the relevant categorisations of this plan of management further identifies the purposes for which leases and licences may be issued over the reserves identified in this plan of management.

***Table 11 - Leases, Licences and other estates***

<b>Type of Arrangement Authorised</b>	<b>Land and Facilities covered</b>	<b>Purposes for which long term leasing/licensing will be granted</b>
Lease	Park	<p>A lease proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kiosk/café and refreshment purposes including seating and tables</li> <li>• management of court, driving range or similar facilities</li> <li>• Hire or sale of recreational equipment</li> </ul>
Licence	Park	<p>A licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sporting and recreational purposes, including team sports, fitness activities and games</li> <li>• Outdoor kiosk/café and refreshment purposes including seating and tables</li> <li>• management of court, driving range or similar facilities</li> <li>• Hire or sale of recreational equipment</li> </ul>
Lease	Sportsground	<p>A lease proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kiosk/café and refreshment purposes including seating and tables</li> </ul>

Type of Arrangement Authorised	Land and Facilities covered	Purposes for which long term leasing/licensing will be granted
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>management of court, driving range or similar facilities</li> <li>Hire or sale of recreational equipment</li> </ul>
Licence	Sportsground	<p>A licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sporting and recreational purposes, including team sports, fitness activities and games</li> <li>Outdoor kiosk/café and refreshment purposes including seating and tables</li> <li>management of court, driving range or similar facilities</li> <li>Hire or sale of recreational equipment</li> </ul>
Lease	General Community Use	<p>Any lease proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>childcare or vacation care</li> <li>health or medical practitioners associated with the relevant facility (for example, nutrition, physiotherapy)</li> <li>educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops</li> <li>cultural purposes, including concerts, dramatic productions and galleries</li> <li>recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes and games</li> <li>sporting uses developed/operated by a private operator</li> <li>kiosk, café and refreshment purposes</li> <li>commercial retail uses associated with the facility (e.g. sale or hire of sports goods)</li> </ul>
Licence	General Community Use	<p>Any licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p>

Type of Arrangement Authorised	Land and Facilities covered	Purposes for which long term leasing/licensing will be granted
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• social purposes (including childcare, vacation care)</li> <li>• educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops</li> <li>• recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes</li> <li>• café/kiosk areas</li> <li>• sale of goods or services that are ancillary to community land use and reserve purpose</li> </ul>
	Natural Area (Bushland)	<p>Any lease or licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and Council's goals and objectives in its Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program and the capacity of the land area to support the activity. Sympathetic, compatible uses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• educational or environmental programs, scientific studies and surveys or similar</li> <li>• walkways, pathways, bridges or causeways</li> <li>• signs, observation platforms</li> <li>• information kiosk</li> <li>• small kiosk (not restaurant) selling light refreshments</li> <li>• work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land</li> <li>• temporary erection or use of structures to enable a filming project or works to be carried out</li> </ul>
Other Estates	Park Sportsground General Community Use Natural Area (Bushland)	<p>This Plan of Management allows Council to grant 'an estate' over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</p> <p>Estates may also be granted across community land that is not affected by endangered communities for the provision of pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the Council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land.</p>

The grant of a lease or licence is an important step in using community land, but there may be other requirements relevant to any proposed use. For example, the refurbishment of a kiosk may also require development consent under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Any interested person should check carefully to make sure they are aware of all relevant requirements.

### 4.3 Short Term Uses



Short-term licences and bookings may be used to allow the council to program different uses of community land at different times, allowing the best overall use. Short-term licences are authorised for the purpose of:

**Table 12 - Seasonal, regular and casual use agreements**

Community land category	Purposes for which short term uses may be granted subject to council approval	Requirements
Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>community events and festivals</li> <li>playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward</li> <li>picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings</li> <li>filming, including for cinema or television</li> <li>conducting a commercial photography session</li> <li>public performances</li> <li>engaging in an appropriate trade or business</li> <li>delivering a public address</li> <li>community events</li> <li>fairs, markets, auctions and similar activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proposed use must comply with terms and conditions approved e.g. SafeWork NSW regulations, insurance, waste management etc.</li> <li>the use should not result in physical damage to the park, sportsground or natural area</li> <li>the use should not result in a significant adverse impact on adjoining residents or disturbance to nearby residents</li> <li>organisers of the site should be responsible for cleaning up the site and notify authorities and Council of any damage or incidents that may occur</li> </ul>
Sportsgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>community events and festivals</li> <li>sporting fixtures and events</li> <li>sports and fitness training and classes</li> <li>filming or photography of sporting fixtures or events</li> <li>uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events</li> </ul>	
Natural Area (Bushland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>educational or environmental programs, scientific studies and surveys or similar</li> <li>temporary erection or use of structures to enable a filming project to be carried out</li> </ul>	
General Community Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>public speeches, meetings, seminars and presentations, including educational programs</li> <li>functions (including commemorative functions, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proposed use must comply with terms and conditions for facility use</li> <li>the use should not result in physical damage to the facility</li> <li>organisers of the site should be responsible for cleaning up</li> </ul>

Community land category	Purposes for which short term uses may be granted subject to council approval	Requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades and shows</li> <li>• events (including weddings, corporate functions, and community gatherings)</li> <li>• concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV)</li> <li>• broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech</li> <li>• engaging in an appropriate trade or business delivering a public address, community events; auctions, markets and similar activities</li> </ul>	the site and repairing any damage that may occur.

In assessing community land categorised as Park, General Community Use, Natural Area (Bushland) or Sportsground as a venue for any proposed utilisation, the Council applies the following minimum criteria:

Council reserves the right to refuse bookings based on previous unsatisfactory payment or performance history or where proposed use would damage the facility or cause significant disruption to other regular users.

Fees for short-term casual bookings will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Fees and Charges at the time.

#### **4.4 Current leases, licences and uses of Hudson Park**

Hudson Park Oval including the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Pavilion building ('Clubhouse') is currently licenced to the Trustees of Christian Brothers for a ten-year period from 1 December 2015 to 29 November 2025. The licence allows use of the Oval and Pavilion building all day Saturdays and Sundays and from 3.30pm weekdays.

Part of the Amenities building near Hudson Lake is licenced for use of café including outdoor dining areas to St Merkorious Charity Association from 1/3/2024 to 28/2/2027 for 3 years with options for 5 + 5 years.

## 5. Environmental

### 5.1 Soil landscapes

The site is underlain by two soil landscapes (Figure 8). Soil landscapes inform the types of vegetation that were very likely present pre-European occupation and can assist in making sound ecological decisions when choosing plants for landscaping and revegetation works. Most of the two sections of Hudson Park are on Blacktown soil landscapes, while the area that includes the driving range is described as Disturbed terrain.

The Blacktown soil landscape occurs extensively on the Cumberland Lowlands between the Georges and Parramatta Rivers in the south-west and is part of the Wianamatta Group -Ashfield Shale consisting of laminite and dark grey siltstone and Bringelly Shale which consists of shale, with occasional calcareous claystone, laminite and coal. This landscape has been almost completely cleared with only very small remnants of the original wet sclerophyll forest containing Sydney blue gum *E. saligna* and blackbutt *E. pilularis*. The original woodland and open forest in drier areas to the west were dominated by forest red gum *E. tereticornis*, narrow leaved ironbark *E. crebra* and grey box *E. moluccana* (Bannerman SM and Hazelton PA 1990).

Disturbed terrain occurs in areas of previous swamps, estuaries and wetlands. Previously estuarine shores of Port Jackson, along the lower reaches of the harbour foreshores (Parramatta and Georges Rivers). It also includes cut and fill areas. Examples of cut-and-fill for site levelling include Enfield railway marshalling yards and Randwick racecourse. Disused quarries occur in locations such as Ashfield, Homebush and Terrey Hills. Rubbish disposal dumps are located at Frenchs Forest, North Turramurra and Tempe. Areas levelled for heavy industry occur at Silverwater, Canterbury and Botany. Numerous areas of disturbed terrain are located throughout the Sydney Region.

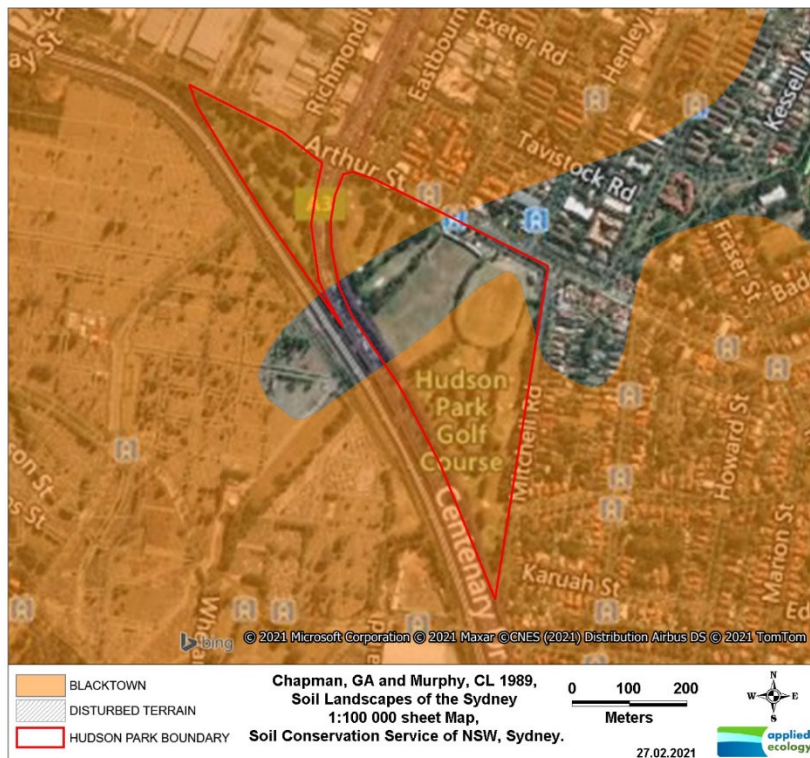


Figure 8 Soil landscapes underlying Hudson Park

Vegetation in Hudson Park has been mapped by OEH in 2016 as part of the Native Vegetation of the Sydney Metropolitan Area (v3.1). This mapped vegetation on site as Urban Exotic/Natives (Figure 9) and this was confirmed during site surveys as being present on site.

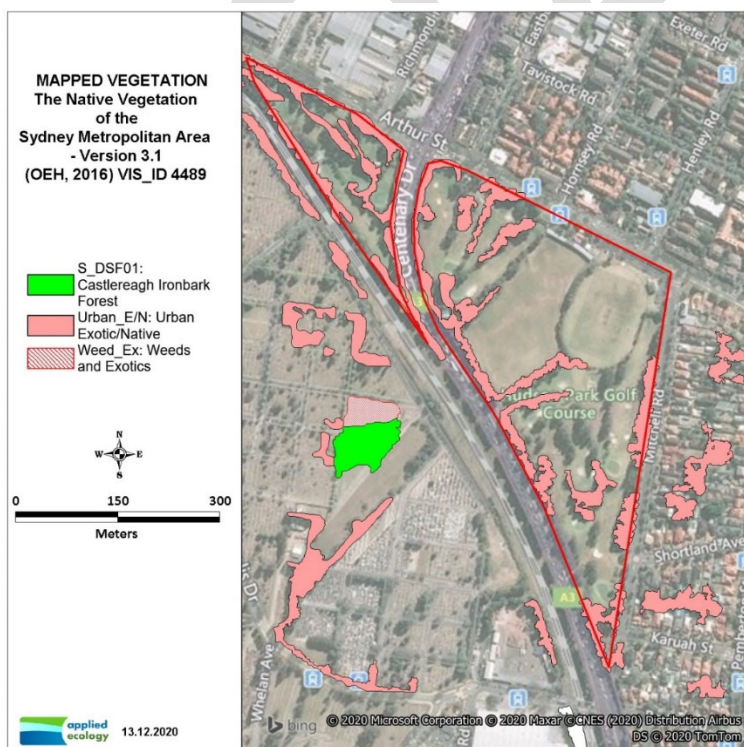


Figure 9 Vegetation mapping for Hudson Park and surrounds (OEH, 2016)

The park has a long history of land modification. In 1943 the area was entirely cleared and/or modified for uses other than native vegetation retention (Figure 10).

Figure 10 1943 aerial imagery featuring current names and locations of streets. ([SIX Maps \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.sixmaps.nsw.gov.au))

The golf course has since been decommissioned due to a decline in interest in the sport and other courses available nearby. The oval and golf driving range are still popular venues and have been retained, along with the buffer plantings and the grassed fairways. The existing vegetation complies with the description of the mapped vegetation for the site – Urban Exotics and Natives. These are described in more detail in the following section.



## 5.2 Detailed description of park flora and fauna

Hudson Park has a number of areas with different vegetation, generally associated with either the previous land use or the current or intended park uses (Figure 11).



Figure 11 Hudson Park as of December 2020



## 5.2.1 Hudson Park East

### *Oval and parking area*

The sports oval and parking area are located on the corner of Arthur St and Mitchell Rd (Figure 12 & 13). A sporting clubhouse adjoins the carpark and the oval and is used by sporting clubs using the oval. The carpark is also used by the golf driving range. The oval is fully fenced, and there is a row of revegetation planting around the outer edge of this. Some of these are quite recently planted saplings (Figure 14) that have replaced the large Coral Trees that have been removed from the area.



*Figure 12 Club house and facilities separate the oval from the carpark, which also serves the driving range*



*Figure 13 Hudson Park Oval is located at the corner of Arthur St and Mitchell Rd*



*Figure 14 New mature revegetation plantings have replaced Coral Trees along the oval's fence*



### *Golf Driving range*

The golf driving range is a popular feature of Hudson Park. The driving range was upgraded in stages from 2001-2023 with new fencing and installation of synthetic grass. It incorporates the original golf shop with toilet facilities and picnic facilities, set in a landscaped garden that needs rejuvenating (Figure 15).



*Figure 15 The driving range incorporates the Pro Shop, toilets, picnic facilities (source: Google Earth street view)*

The actual driving range is fully fenced to reduce the potential for impacts on users in surrounding areas of the park and on nearby roads. The driving range is regularly used at night which requires that it is very well lit. There are obvious impacts from this lighting for fauna use of the surrounding areas.

A stand of mature trees provides a buffer between the driving range and Centenary Drive to the west, and recent revegetation planting has served to consolidate this buffer to some degree (Figure 18).



*Figure 16 Hudson Park driving range is in use day and night (source: manofmany.com)*



*Figure 17 The driving range is fully fenced to reduce impacts on surrounding park areas (Source: Google Earth street view)*



*Figure 18 Recent revegetation planting will consolidate the vegetation buffer around the driving range*

### ***Open space and footpath network***

The main area of Hudson Park consists of the former fairways, tees and greens that made up the golf course. Today the resulting grassed open space is interspersed with stands of canopy plantings that previously were used to separate the different golf holes. A network of concrete footpaths/cycle paths meanders through these areas and are popular with locals and visitors to the park (Figure 19).



*Figure 19 Passive use open space areas within Hudson Park are linked by a network of footpaths starting from the carpark*



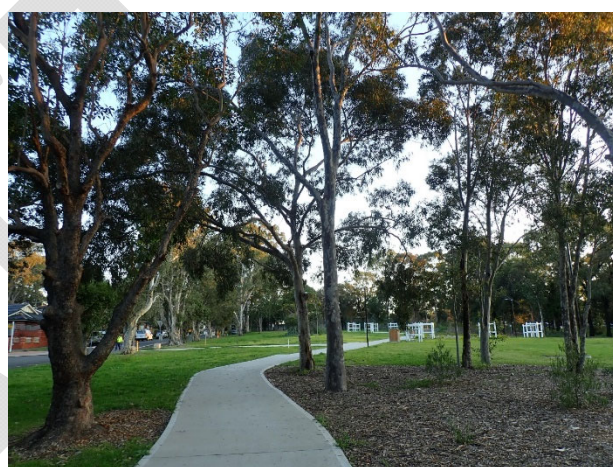
The open space areas are enjoyed by a range of park users and for a variety of purposes (Figure 20). Common among these are walking, especially later in the day, dog walking and cycling. The footpaths provide a circuit route that can be used by children on bicycles accompanied by adults with dogs. The grassed areas are used for passive recreation, informal games and exercises such as Tai Chi. The local native Australian Wood Ducks appear unaffected by the activity and continue to forage among the longer grass.

The path meanders around the perimeter of this part of the park through a pleasant combination of native 'garden style' plantings and more formal introduced tree plantings, seen with painted white wooden framing to protect the trees as they grow over the next decade or so (Figure 21).

### ***Existing buffer planting***



***Figure 20 The open space areas are enjoyed by a range of park users and for a variety of activities***



***Figure 21 The footpath follows the perimeter of the park through areas of tree planting***

Stands of trees have been arranged to create vegetated buffers that softening the views from the days when the park was a golf course (Figure 21). These are particularly common along urban interface areas and along the Centenary Drive boundary fence.

At its southernmost end, Hudson Park joins with Frank Zions Reserve (Figure 23). Revegetation plantings in this area include a pleasant arrangement of ironbarks and paperbarks over gardens of saltbush, resulting in combinations of colours and textures that are reminiscent of 'typical' Australian vegetation from western NSW.





**Figure 22** Tree plantings form vegetation buffers along residential interfaces and along Centenary Drive



**Figure 23** Hudson Park joins with Frank Zions Reserve at its southernmost end, where revegetation includes ironbarks and paperbarks

### ***Buffer plantings on mounds***

The existing buffer planting along the Centenary Drive boundary includes a number of mature trees that generally form a narrow strip of vegetation. These are being supplemented with additional planting of young saplings. Boundary vegetation includes a number of mature remnant trees including Forest Red Gums (Figure 23). Ongoing planting in this area aims to fill the gaps between these trees to create a more effective visual buffer.

Earth mounds have been constructed along the inner edge of the Centenary Drive boundary and these function as a visual barrier (Figure 24). The footpath network follows along the inside of these mounds. The series of mounds are currently being planted with young saplings in a staged process that will provide good separation between the park and the surrounding areas, with areas of good shade developing as the plantings mature (Figure 25-27).



**Figure 24** Earth mounds have been constructed along the inner edge of Centenary Drive and are being planted



**Figure 25** The new plantings aim to fill the gaps between mature trees along the edge of the old golf course



*Figure 26 Existing buffer plantings form a narrow strip along Centenary Drive and are being supplemented with new plants*



*Figure 27 Planting is being undertaken in stages along a series of earth mounds to buffer the visual impacts of Centenary Drive*



## *Lake and surrounds*

A recently constructed lake is now a central feature of Hudson Park. The lake is surrounded by mown lawns and footpaths that connect the larger path network with seating and picnic shelters beside the lake (Figure 28). These provide opportunities to sit and relax while watching the water fountains that aerate the large lake.

Extensive revegetation planting was included in the design plans for the stormwater lake, including a colour coordinated arrangement of exotic canopy trees within a formal setting immediately east of the lake (Figure 30). The lake's perimeter has been planted with a narrow strip of wetland plants (Figure 31), including Water Ribbons (*Cycnogeton procerum*) which is uncommon in this type of setting and will benefit from the recirculating water.



*Figure 28 A recently constructed lake is now a central feature of Hudson Park*



*Figure 29 The lake is surrounded by seating and picnic areas, and there are plans to undertake extensive planting in this area*



*Figure 30 Revegetation associated with the lake extends to mature trees planted around the footpath nearby*



*Figure 31 The lake's perimeter has been planted with a narrow strip of wetland plants*

### **Sensory garden**

The sensory garden and maze are recent constructions. The promotional signage (Figure 32) advises that this feature will assist with making play spaces more inclusive within a Liveable Neighbourhood, and will include:

- Interactive and inclusive footpaths
- Stepping stones and bollard mazes
- Raised sensory planter bed
- Inclusive accessible sensory tunnel

These will add an exciting new element to Hudson Park that will continue to be a formal, managed landscape section. It is unlikely to add to the ecology of the park to any great degree.





*Figure 32 A promotional sign for the new sensory garden and maze in 2020 during construction*

## 5.2.2 Men of the Trees corridor

The Men of the Trees corridor runs along the eastern side of Centenary Drive and forms a grove of planted trees along both sides of a gravel access road (Figure 33). The trees are a mix of mostly eucalypts, mostly found in the Sydney region, and now form a stand of mature buffer plantings. The trees were planted by the Men of the Trees, a self-funding Not for Profit organisation founded in Australia in 1979 and now known as Trillion Trees Australia (Figure 34). The Men of the Trees corridor ends near the high voltage power stanchion at the rear corner of the driving range (Figure 35). This corridor of mature trees along both sides of the access road provides limited value in terms of ecological integrity for a vegetation community. However, it does provide many of the ecosystem services and habitat resources that can be found in a more authentic ecosystem, and this adds to the value of the trees, especially in the context of Hudson Park.



*Figure 33 An access road runs beside Centenary Drive and has mature buffer plantings on both sides*



*Figure 34 These trees were planted by Men of the Trees, a volunteer organisation now known as Trillion Trees Australia*



*Figure 35 The Men of the Trees corridor ends near the high voltage power stanchion at the corner of the driving range*

## *Open space*

West of the driving range is an area of open space that formerly contained four former golf holes, minus the tees, greens and bunkers and a small building used as a storage and works area for the former golf course and park. Part of this area was upgraded in the Stage 2 works in 2023. The small works building was demolished, and a number of new facilities were installed. The new facilities included:

- Build Children's playground and bicycle track
- Amenities block (toilets and shaded seating area)
- Multipurpose courts
- Outdoor fitness gym
- Enhance Open Passive Space
- Upgraded Golf Driving Range
- Off-leash dog area

The remaining area close to the intersection of Arthur Street and Centenary Drive is scheduled for upgrading with Stage 3 works from 2024.



Figure 36 Stage 2 and Stage 3 works in Hudson Park



Currently, the remaining grassed open spaces are interspersed with stands of trees that were planted to separate the individual fairways, and the driving range (Figure 39).

The boundary with Centenary Drive is planted with a mix of trees that provides a visual barrier for the park. The remaining vegetation is still almost entirely introduced, giving it minimal ecological value from the view of a native bushland but will be altered with Stage 3 works.



*Figure 37 There is a mix of trees planted along Centenary Drive to form the vegetation buffer*



*Figure 38 The area west of the driving range has former fairways separated by stands of young trees*

### 5.2.3 Hudson Park West

The western section of Hudson Park is effectively isolated from the eastern section by Centenary Drive. Golfers had access via a tunnel under the road, but this has been closed off since the course closed. The two sections are quite different in terms of current vegetation condition and usage. Unlike the eastern section the western section is currently less actively managed and more vegetated, although this is also not remnant vegetation. Despite this there are areas of good canopy cover over a degraded understorey (Figure 39), especially along the Arthur St frontage.



*Figure 39 The western section has areas with canopy trees over degraded understorey vegetation*

High voltage power lines cross lengthways through the centre of the reserve, with a stanchion almost right in the middle (Figure 41). As a result, there are large areas that are cleared and need to remain that way as there are height limits for vegetation under power lines. Consequently, treed areas are interspersed with grassed open spaces throughout this part of Hudson Park (Figure 42). These are currently based on the organisation of previously existing golf course elements, in particular the fairways.

This part of Hudson Park backs onto the Lidcombe branch of the Bankstown City Rail line, opposite some of the better vegetated sections of Rookwood Cemetery. Extensive revegetation has been undertaken in Hudson Park along the rail corridor fence, resulting in the greater diversity of local native species observed here. Of particular note is the presence of several specimens of Downy Wattle (*Acacia pubescens*), a threatened species listed as Vulnerable under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act*



2016 (Figure 41). Towards the western end, where Hudson Park becomes quite narrow, most if not all of the vegetation is weedy, including numerous priority control weeds (Figure 42).



*Figure 40 High voltage power lines run through this area, with a major stanchion present*



*Figure 41 Treed areas are interspersed with grassed open space areas that were formerly fairways etc*



*Figure 42 Towards the western end of the section the vegetation is entirely weedy, including numerous priority control*



*Figure 43 Several specimens of Downy Wattle were present in understory areas that have been extensively revegetated*

### 5.3 Ecological values

No native vegetation communities have been mapped for the vicinity of Hudson Park (Figure 9). One threatened flora species has been regularly reported on BioNet from nearby areas, including a possible location in the western section of the park. The Downy Wattle (*Acacia pubescens*) is listed as Vulnerable under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and was recorded during the current survey (spring 2020) at an additional location within the western section of the park. Three species of threatened mammal were also observed foraging in the Park in spring 2020, the Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*), the Little Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus australis*) and the Eastern Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*). Lighting in the park at night attracts insects that certain species of microbat that are adapted to foraging along edges and in open space can exploit. The extant vegetation on site appears to occur in several age classes, including:

- Scattered mature to overmature remnant native canopy trees along the Centenary Drive boundary (100 years plus)
- Immature to mature trees planted by Men of the Trees, most likely in the 1980s (around 40 years old)
- More recent planting including buffer planting between fairways and along residential interfaces (around 20 years old)
- Revegetation planting along the rail corridor boundary (5 to 10 years old)
- Numerous very recent plantings generally less than 3 years old

Considering the native flora species more holistically, there is no recognizable local vegetation community on site. This is despite the reasonably large numbers of species recorded in the area (including 67 native species and 91 introduced species) recorded during a snapshot survey of the park in 2020 to assist in preparing this Plan of Management. Survey results for flora and fauna assessments are provided in Appendix A.

The reserve could be considered a 'gateway' reserve with multiple zones – one which allows visitors the opportunity to 'meet' and enjoy Australian native species, encouraging local residents to become more familiar with native species and native bushland species so they then become more desirable in the urban landscape. Given the extensive tree planting that has occurred on the site, one option would be to continue to provide education about individual eucalypt species in an arboretum style. At the moment, there are:

- 10 local native *Eucalyptus* species
- 1 local *Angophora* species
- 1 local *Casuarina* species
- 1 local *Corymbia* species
- 1 local *Syncarpia* species
- 5 local *Melaleuca* species
- 1 local *Melia* species
- At least 2 nonlocal *Eucalyptus* species
- 1 nonlocal *Ficus* species

Other Australian tree species may also be present as not all trees could be accurately identified given the absence of buds and fruit in many specimens. As well, a mix of 10 *Acacia* species from around NSW were also present on site. Supplementing these with other *Eucalyptus* species, for example, from around NSW could introduce trees with foliage in a range of colours and textures, helping people to acknowledge their potential roles in urban landscaping in private gardens as well as urban reserves. Signage can include information about origin, typical vegetation community, uses by Aboriginal people and uses by early settlers, also any information that separates this species from others, including how to identify it accurately. Small and simple signs will attract interest to individual trees. Describing the collection as a local arboretum will help bring together what is currently a largely ad hoc collection of species.

The most common vertebrate fauna species in the park was Noisy Miners (*Manorina melanocephala*). This species thrives in simplified habitats where native canopy trees are present in patches or as edges and scattered through mown open space. They aggressively exclude other species to the point where 'Aggressive exclusion of birds from woodland and forest habitat by abundant Noisy Miners, *Manorina melanocephala* (Latham, 1802)' is listed as a key threatening process in the Biodiversity Conservation Act (2016, Schedule 4). The park's previous use as a golf course would have provided ideal habitat for Noisy Miners and the current configuration will continue the trend of providing favourable habitat for this species. The recent construction of a large freshwater lake has attracted new species to the park and, as the lake matures and planting works undertaken around the edge and shallows, is very likely to attract more species to the park. Peron's Tree Frogs (Figure 46) and Common Froglets are present at the lake in good numbers and the park has resident Australian Wood Ducks (Figure 45).

Grey-headed Flying-foxes were observed coming to the park at dusk to drink from the lake. Water quality testing of the lake revealed it was somewhat turbid and slightly alkaline, but this should abate as the clay lining of the lake ages and settles. The lake will provide an important source of fresh drinking water for local birds and mammals (bats, microbats and possums) and habitat for frogs. Mature trees provide nesting, foraging and roosting opportunities for birds (Figure 44) and mammals, and grassed open space provides foraging opportunities for species such as Masked Lapwings, Australian Magpies and species that feed on grass seeds, including Crested Pigeons and many of the parrot species typically found around open space parks in Sydney. The park offers areas of shade, which is vital during summer, for birds in particular, if wildlife is to persist through increasingly hot summers.





*Figure 44 A small flock of Australian King-parrots were observed in Hudson Park. This species is generally associated with rainforests or wet sclerophyll forests illustrating the value of Hudson Park as a stepping-stone habitat*

*Figure 45 Australian Wood Ducks are resident in the park utilizing the lake as refuge and grazing on the grassed areas.*



*Figure 46 Peron's Tree Frogs are resident in the sandstone block work around the lake emerging to call loudly at night*

Twenty-three species were observed during the survey and a further fourteen species have been recorded in and around the park. Rookwood cemetery has in excess of 100 bird species on the ebird database from recent surveys (past 5 years) and improvements to fauna habitat in Hudson Park would undoubtedly see an increase in species moving between Hudson Park and Rookwood cemetery. It is likely that a variety of terrestrial migratory species that visit the park on seasonal migrations on a temporary basis. Species lists from the current survey and public databases are provided in Appendix A.

## 6. Management of the land

### 6.1 Objectives and management of community land

The land is managed in accordance with the objectives and methods set out below:

*Table 13 - Objectives, means and performance measures for parks, sportsgrounds and general community use*

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
<b>Access</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Provide safe and improved access to the parks, sportsgrounds and general community use properties for pedestrians and cyclists.</li><li>2. Provide access to and within parks for people with disabilities.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Upgrades, refurbishments and/or improvement works on community land to consider public access requirements for mobility and connections.</li><li>2. Proposed ramps, stairs and pathways to comply with relevant Council and BCA requirements consistent with Australian Standards.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Audits of community land and facilities to comply with standards</li></ol>
<b>Provide varied recreation and sporting facilities in Hudson Park</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ensure there is a range of facilities provided in Hudson Park to meet the needs of all age groups and wide areas of interest</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Monitor and maintain a balance between organised and informal/unstructured activities in Hudson Park</li><li>2. Plan for a range of activities which cater to all age groups and variety of interests in Hudson Park</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Monitor local use of parks and sportsgrounds by bookings, surveys, complaints and observation.</li><li>2. Ranger patrols in park</li></ol>

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
<b>Manage safety and risk in Hudson Park</b>	1. Provide safe use and access to public land and facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design and maintain layouts, landscaping and facilities in accordance with CPTED principles (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) principles including passive surveillance, good sight lines, territorial reinforcement and space management and lighting.</li> <li>Review lighting and security for both day and nighttime use.</li> <li>Work with local police to identify and act on safety issues.</li> <li>Utilise CCTV to support park safety, where required</li> <li>Install and maintain facilities in accordance with relevant Australian standards.</li> <li>Maintain sportsfields, courts and playgrounds to a safe and usable condition</li> <li>Repair vandalism or graffiti within 48 hours where possible.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works to be in accordance with relevant Australian Standards and CPTED principles.</li> <li>Monitor and action incident and accident reports.</li> </ol>
<b>Manage traffic and park around Hudson Park</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage traffic and parking to and in Hudson Park</li> <li>Implement strategies to reduce traffic congestion and conflicts</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrades - Centenary Drive &amp; Arthur St traffic improvements – extension of left turn lane from Arthur St into Centenary Drive</li> <li>Upgrade Hudson Park car park</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle conflicts.</li> <li>Improved public safety.</li> <li>Traffic access to community land is via agreement.</li> </ol>



Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibit vehicle access to the park except for Council authorised service and emergency vehicles</li> <li>Install signage and barriers to prevent vehicles from entering unauthorised areas.</li> <li>Where vehicles are permitted, provide clearly marked areas for vehicle movement</li> <li>Monitor traffic impact on the amenity of the neighbouring properties and adjacent streets such as Mitchell Road</li> <li>Ensure on-street parking near Hudson Park is patrolled by Council rangers</li> <li>Promote public transport and community transport to visit Hudson Park.</li> <li>Install bicycle racks in Hudson Park</li> <li>Provide parking at Hudson Park West</li> <li>Ensure future development of recreation facility includes parking provisions</li> </ol>	
<b>Management of dogs in Hudson Park</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog walking is a popular activity in the park. Ensure dog in Hudson Park are exercised on-leash and the park is kept free of faecal matter.</li> <li>Consider developing a fenced dog off-leash area in Hudson</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure owners of dogs are held responsible for clean-up faecal matter</li> <li>Enforce that dogs are kept on-leash within the park (except where a designated off-leash area is provided)</li> <li>Ensure receptacles for dog waste disposal are available in the park</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor behaviour of dogs in parks</li> <li>Actions to address infringements</li> </ol>

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
	Park, which would allow for safe off leash play away from habitat areas, lake and general park areas.	4. Rangers regularly patrol the park and take action on infringements	
<b>Managing assets</b>	1. Provide effective and efficient management of community land and facilities	1. Schedule regular inspections and condition assessments. 2. Inclusion of maintenance standards in licence, lease or hire agreements.	1. Respond to complaints and audits. 2. Monitor agreements 3. Review and update asset management plans periodically
<b>Natural Environment</b>	1. Maintain and enhance the health of park ecology, including flora and fauna, trees and soil	1. Manage trees, gardens and natural areas to maintain and improve the quality of the environment in accordance with Council's tree management, biodiversity strategies and actions detailed in this plan. 2. Retain habitat trees, protect foraging habitat and improve wildlife/habitat corridors 3. Ensure revegetation is undertaken using locally sourced stock from agreed planting lists (refer Strathfield Biodiversity Strategy) 4. Maintain weed management program to minimise spread of weeds 5. Implement individual specific actions for flora, fauna and zone management of the park.	1. Measure and monitor tree canopies, vegetation, weeds and habitat. 2. Undertake periodic flora and fauna reviews

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
<b>POM review</b>	1. Review Plan of Management regularly	1. Review Plan of Management at least every five years to conserve, maintain and enhance the values and character of the park	1. Implement Plan of Management actions
<b>Promote varied recreational uses</b>	1. Enhance opportunities for a balanced organised and unstructured recreational use of public open space 2. Optimise public access to public open space. 3. Maintain condition and useability of sportsgrounds and 'sustainable capacity'.	1. Implement schedule of works program for Hudson Park 2. Promote a range of organised and informal/unstructured activities at Hudson Park 3. Provide amenities that support use and enjoyment of parks and sportsgrounds e.g. toilets, change rooms and kiosk/café facilities.	1. Monitor local use of parks and sportsgrounds by bookings, surveys, complaints and observation.
<b>Protect and promote aesthetic character, historic and Aboriginal history and heritage</b>	1. That aesthetic character and visual quality of public open spaces is enhanced 2. Identify, commemorate and educate on the historical, heritage and environmental significance of Hudson Park.	1. Design buildings, structures and features that complement and enhance the park setting and character including consistency of selection and design of park and sportsground furniture, paving, fencing etc 2. Implement and maintain co-ordinated signage and public art strategy including providing information on key park features, natural environment (e.g. trees, plant species etc), Aboriginal heritage etc 3. Incorporate historical and educational information on signage to enhance	1. Community consultation and satisfaction surveys. 2. Installation of signage and historical/educative information throughout the park

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
		<p>understanding and appreciation of the park and its features</p> <p>4. Retain and enhance the Firth Memorial and its setting</p>	
<b>Provide a safe environment and facilities for children's play.</b>	1. Provide children's facilities and ensure safe maintenance of play equipment	<p>1. Provide children's play areas that allow for a range of ages and activities</p> <p>2. Provide adequate shade over and around children's play areas</p> <p>3. Provide seating and shading is provided for adults supervising children's play areas.</p>	<p>1. Ensure all play equipment meets all relevant standards</p> <p>2. Ensure play items are kept free of rubbish and hazardous items, such as needles or broken glass</p>
<b>Provide safe access, pathways and facilities for all community members including seniors and persons with disabilities</b>	1. Provide safe access to and within the parks for persons of all abilities	<p>1. Ensure upgrades, refurbishments and/or improvement works on community land to consider public access requirements for mobility and connections.</p> <p>2. Ensure buildings ramps, stairs and pathways are fully accessible and comply with relevant Council and BCA requirements consistent with Australian Standards.</p> <p>3. Provide and maintain all abilities facilities including playgrounds in Hudson Park</p> <p>4. Provide clear directional signage in the park to key facilities</p> <p>5. Ensure seating is provided within the park near primary pathways, playgrounds and</p>	<p>1. Audits of community land and facilities to comply with standards</p> <p>2. Comply with actions and measures in the Council Disability Inclusion Plan</p>

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
		<p>sportsfields which are accessible for seniors and persons with disabilities</p> <p>6. Unless designated for cycles or shared use, all pathways in Hudson Park are pedestrian access only.</p>	
<b>Sustainability</b>	<p>1. Implement best environmental management practises and principles having regard to environmentally sustainable design, resource use and maintenance.</p>	<p>1. Ensure community facilities meet sustainable building requirements and/or are progressively upgraded to incorporate best practice energy and water efficiencies to minimise water and energy use in parks, sportsgrounds and ancillary facilities.</p> <p>2. Promote waste reduction strategies in Hudson park</p> <p>3. Increase tree canopies and vegetation to improve shade, natural heating and cooling (island effect)</p>	<p>1. Monitor usage and trends via quarterly and annual consumption and billing.</p> <p>2. Periodically monitor tree canopy and heat island effect in Hudson Park</p>
<b>Licence, leases, permits and other estates</b>	<p>1. To facilitate the use of Hudson Park for a range of recreation, sporting and community activities</p>	<p>1. Review and grant licence, leases, permits, other estates and short-term use agreements for use of facilities in Hudson Park in accordance with legislative and policy requirements.</p>	<p>1. Leases and licences prepared and adopted in accordance with provisions of LG Act and CLM Act. Native Title Manager advice is received for all proposed leases and licences</p> <p>2. Monitor agreements in accordance with terms and conditions of agreement.</p>

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Performance Indicators
<b>Waste and rubbish management</b>	1. Provide effective and efficient waste management of park and facilities	1. Provide waste and recycling bins in park and regular collection of bins to minimise litter overflow 2. Inclusion of litter management standards in licence, lease or hire agreements.	1. Measure against Service Standard KPIs. 2. Monitor and respond to complaints and audits.

**Table 14 – Fauna objectives, means and performance measures**

Actions can be taken to improve habitat and outcomes for local fauna species within Hudson Park. There are opportunities to expand/create bushland zones with structural and plant species diversity in areas where the continuous noise from Centenary Drive diminishes the value of the area as passive recreation areas for people. These zones are also close to remnant woodland vegetation in Rookwood cemetery that supports a surprisingly diverse suite of woodland birds. Hudson Park can act as supplementary and buffer habitat for this important urban habitat. Habitat elements including woody debris and rocks can be imported to create ground level refugia for frogs and reptiles in large beds and revegetation areas. Buffer planting to the open side of the lake and introduction of some woody snags in the shallow sections of the lake will provide perching opportunities for birds, habitat for reptiles and frogs and discourage off leash dog swimming.

**Table 15 Actions for fauna**

Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Priorities	Performance Indicators
Improve habitat for local habitat species	There is very little ground level refugia for reptiles. Species that would benefit include Eastern Blue-tongue Lizards and garden and Grass Skinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Import larger woody debris and rock into the wider beds and revegetation areas.</li> <li>• Create complex piles of woody debris and rocks for basking.</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of (harmless) reptiles in the park.</li> <li>• Increased complexity in landscape beds.</li> </ul>

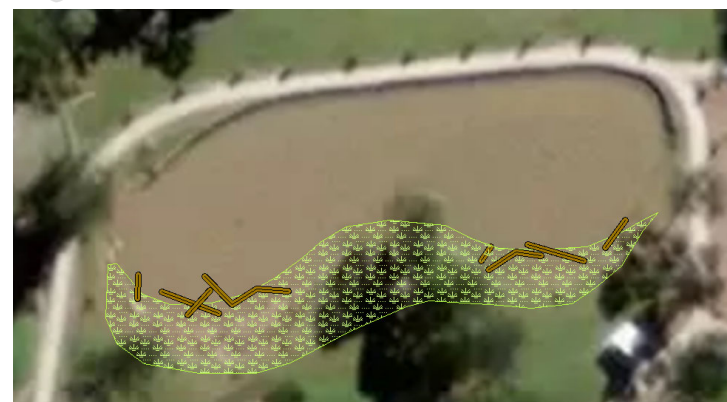


Management Issues	Objectives	Actions	Priorities	Performance Indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase diversity of ground cover plantings whilst retaining basking areas.</li> </ul>		
Planting plan for the lake	Develop a planting plan for the lake including dense plantings of macrophytes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake planting of macrophytes (see Figure 45)</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bank and lake edge vegetated</li> </ul>
	Dogs and park users access the lake from the open edge on the south side	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplement macrophyte plantings with terrestrial plantings of low prickly, spikey natives that discourage access.</li> <li>• Introduce semi submerged woody debris along open edge to provide perching opportunities for birds and to discourage access (Figure 45).</li> <li>• Ensure flight lines are maintained to lake</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top of bank vegetated.</li> <li>• Dogs do not access lake.</li> <li>• Increased waterbird diversity.</li> <li>• Increased frog diversity.</li> <li>• Flying foxes and microbats continue to use lake as source of drinking water.</li> </ul>

### ***General Actions for Flora***

Control of state and regional priority control weeds is strongly recommended. Rookwood Cemetery is quite close for birds and limiting the propagules available in Hudson Park will help to protect the natural resources in the cemetery grounds.

Expanding areas of vegetation does not need to be limited to simply planting more plants, but could include use of artificial habitat elements, harvested natural habitat elements such as hollow logs and tree mounted hollows that provide habitat. Adding these elements to areas where there has been extensive tree planting will assist with creating a more sustainable ecosystem rather than an area of urban forestry plantings. Targeting the creation of areas of feed trees, shrubs and groundcovers is also an option. Selection of



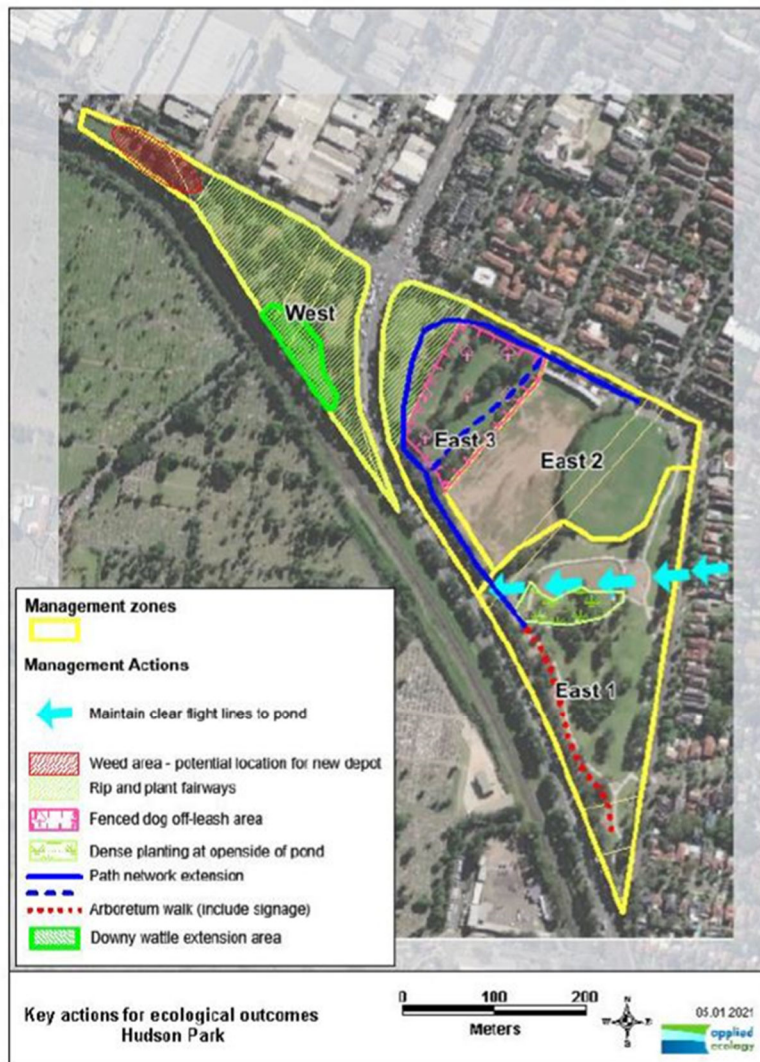
*Figure 47 Location of macrophyte planting and example locations of woody debris*

flora species for planting that add to the food resources on site should be managed based on the results of the recent fauna surveys.

Specific actions that target particular areas are described in the following section.

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### *Specific Actions for Landscaping/Vegetation Zones*



Hudson Park was divided into management zones based on existing land use and future potential for ecological gains and improvements. Some recommendations are based on potential future uses for some areas of the park. Before undertaking further development within the park, it is important to ensure that adjoining uses do not compromise the existing and/or potential ecological values and recreational uses. Developing a park masterplan would ensure that these often contradictory and conflicting needs are met and maintained and that the park will continue to protect ecological values within the Strathfield Council area into the future.

Zone East #1 includes the lake, sensory garden, buffer plantings and new plantings on mounds, and the open space footpath network. These are the areas that are currently most frequently used by park visitors outside of the golf driving range and sports oval.

**Table 16 Management actions recommended for landscaping/vegetation zones in East #1 zone for Hudson Park**

Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
<p>Improve the areas located in Zone East #1. This is area faces Mitchell Road and contains landscaping/vegetation zone which includes the lake, sensory garden, buffer plantings and new plantings on mounds, and the open space footpath network. These are the areas that are currently most frequently used by park visitors outside of the golf driving range and sports oval.</p>	Lake and surrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake regular water quality testing</li> <li>• Undertake revegetation as directed in the design plans, specifically the ephemeral batter, shallow and deep marsh planting.</li> <li>• Expand the vegetated zone using grasses and shrubs as specified in the lake design plans, except where these species are known to become a weed problem in bushland (e.g. <i>Lomandra hystrix</i>)</li> <li>• Add terrestrial habitat elements among plantings such as large boulders, hollow logs etc</li> <li>• Include dedicated open space areas to maintain flight lines for aquatic birds to access the lake</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Plants installed and maintained</li> <li>• Habitat elements installed</li> <li>• Increased diversity of fauna</li> <li>• Open space dedicated for flight lines</li> </ul>
	Arboretum walk – buffer planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake weed control on a regular basis</li> <li>• Develop a species list for tree planting that is based on a central theme, e.g. 'East meets West – important/interesting trees from around NSW'</li> <li>• Install signage to identify and explain the values of each species. Make these smaller so that people need to get closer to the tree to read about it</li> <li>• Consider incorporating as an extension to the sensory garden, e.g. Different textured bark, foliage, sweet, scented gums, etc</li> </ul> <p>Supplementary planting to:</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Plants installed and maintained</li> <li>• Habitat elements installed</li> <li>• Cultural elements added</li> <li>• Increased diversity of fauna</li> </ul>



Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ground layer complexity</li> <li>• Increase species diversity</li> <li>• Add to sensory garden</li> </ul> <p>Addition of habitat elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hollow logs and piles of woody debris</li> <li>• Rock piles for basking and refuge</li> <li>• Artificial hollows and nest boxes</li> </ul> <p>Addition of cultural elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal sculptures using a range of textured materials that can be felt and explored</li> </ul>		
	Mitchell Rd buffer planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage these areas as a vegetated connectivity corridor between key fauna habitat areas on the northern and southern boundaries.</li> <li>• Undertake weed control on a regular basis</li> <li>• Consider adding nest boxes, especially for arboreal mammals (possums, microbats), and ensure these are monitored and maintained,</li> <li>• Supplementary planting to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase availability of deep shade</li> <li>○ Increase ground layer complexity</li> <li>○ Increase species diversity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Plants installed and maintained</li> <li>• Habitat elements installed</li> <li>• Increased diversity of fauna</li> </ul>

Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
	Sensory Garden and Maze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain as per design specifications</li> <li>• Link with other park elements including the lake and the arboretum walk</li> </ul>	Medium	Refer design and construction specs
	Passive recreation open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain areas of grassed open space to ensure there is always space for people to engage in informal or individual recreation activities</li> <li>• Open space is psychologically important as well as physically important and allows for non-structured thinking and activities</li> </ul>	High	Continued use by local residents

*Table 17 Management actions recommended for landscaping/vegetation zones in East #2 zone for Hudson Park*

Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
Zone East #2 is the mid-area of Hudson Park close to Arthur Street containing the Golf Driving Range and Sports Oval. It includes landscaping and vegetation zone includes all the formal sporting areas – the golf driving range and the sports oval, with the adjacent carpark. These areas have existing dedicated uses that have actual or potential impacts on the surrounding areas of the park.	Golf driving range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reestablish adequate grass cover on the driving range to minimise the mobilisation of dust clouds</li> <li>• Maintain buffer plantings to reduce the spread of dust</li> <li>• Remove inappropriate species</li> <li>• Undertake weed control as required</li> <li>• Minimise impacts on surrounding areas of Hudson Park, e.g. light spill during night usage – use full cut off lighting, consider using motion sensing dimmers and ensure adequate dark hours are maintained throughout the year,</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Potential for dust clouds reduced</li> <li>• Full cut off lighting installed</li> <li>• Impacts minimised</li> </ul>

Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
	Sports oval and carpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain buffer plantings</li> <li>• Remove inappropriate species</li> <li>• Undertake weed control as required</li> <li>• Minimise impacts on surrounding areas of Hudson Park, e.g. light spill during night sports</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Comprehensive vegetated buffer maintained</li> <li>• Minimal impacts</li> </ul>

Zone East #3 includes the least used parts of the Eastern Section of Hudson Park. There is considerable potential in this zone for expanding the park's recreational facilities as well as increasing the availability of ecological resources.

*Table 18 Management actions recommended for landscaping/vegetation zones in East #3 zone for Hudson Park*

Management Issues	Location	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
Zone East #3 is located in the north-west of Hudson Park west. It currently includes the least used parts of the Eastern Section of Hudson Park, though works are proposed in 2024. There is considerable potential in this zone for increasing the availability of ecological resources.	Nature restoration area - rip and plant fairways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a 'nature restoration area' that incorporates threatened flora from the local area</li> <li>• Rip and sow the whole area or use garden style plantings with good structural organisation</li> <li>• Include habitat elements such as sandstone boulders and logs</li> <li>• Create meandering path through the area</li> <li>• Retain small grassed open spaces and fit with seating for small group socializing or resting</li> <li>• Consider including nature play elements, nature sculpture installations etc</li> <li>• Consider including a small water feature to add to the habitat resources of the area</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revegetation completed and maintained</li> <li>• Social areas installed</li> <li>• Cultural and/or recreational elements installed</li> </ul>
	Men of the Trees corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake weed control on a regular basis</li> <li>• Supplement the existing plantings where necessary to ensure a good buffer around the driving range is maintained</li> <li>• Use as linking route between other parts of the park</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed free</li> <li>• Comprehensive vegetated buffer maintained</li> </ul>



*Table 19 Management actions recommended for landscaping/vegetation zones in Hudson Park West*

Management Issues	Location/Area	Actions	Priorities	Performance Measures
The West Zone includes all of Hudson Park West. This area has considerable potential for ecological gains and outcomes. Potential conflicting uses include the existing high voltage power lines within this zone. Access needs to be maintained to the power stanchion and vegetation heights need to be limited under the power lines. Given the location of this zone it is ideal to be developed and maintained as 'natural' open space for quiet enjoyment, and not to be used for formal recreation or children's play areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threatened and rare flora extension area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand area around extant Downy Wattles as a rare flora garden-potential area of 4000m<sup>2</sup> dedicated to local species</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of expansion of Downy Wattles</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature restoration area – weed control, rip and plant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rip and sow the whole area or use garden style plantings with good structural organisation</li> <li>Include habitat elements such as sandstone boulders and logs</li> <li>Retain small grassed open spaces and fit with seating for small group socializing</li> <li>Consider including a small water feature to add to the habitat resources of the area</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weed control completed</li> <li>Revegetation completed and maintained</li> <li>Habitat elements installed</li> </ul>

### Plant species for supplement planting

Some general considerations for selecting plant species for different parts of the reserve include:

- Maintaining sight lines near roads and access points, especially to larger sporting facilities
- Maintaining good vegetation cover within fauna habitat areas
- Ensure that short lived species are regularly replaced if they do not establish local self-sustaining populations
- Control of weeds, including priority control species, environmental weeds and garden escape species

Plantings should be organised to create areas with structural diversity as well as species diversity. Include habitat elements except in areas where there are high levels of pedestrian or vehicular traffic, or high levels of light spill from playing fields. The following sketch provides an example of a diverse habitat created in association with a water feature (Figure 48).

Be sure to include as many of the following elements as possible:

- Old growth trees with hollows, or maturing trees that may form hollows in the future
- Consider adding nest boxes – target these for species appropriate to the reserve and likely to be present, and be sure to allow for regular maintenance
- Rocks and hollow logs for refuges for ground dwelling animals
- Grasses for food and cover as animals approach the water
- Several connected lakes or a single lake – configuration with a recirculating pump system to reduce mosquito breeding. Position the lakes under trees to provide good shade and reduce evaporation in summer
- Dense shrubs around one side of the lake for small bird refuge habitat near the water
- At least one small patch of reeds in the water to allow for frog calling and breeding – choose target species and ensure their specific habitat requirements are present



Figure 48 Floristically and structurally diverse habitat created in association with a wide bed between the access road and grassed open space.

# Appendix A – Flora and Fauna Surveys

## 1. Flora and Fauna Surveys 2020

### 1.1 Desktop Surveys

Searches of several databases were made to identify threatened species and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) that may potentially be found on the subject site. Databases were accessed on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020. These included:

- NSW Wildlife Atlas ([www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/)),
- EPBC Act database ([www.environment.gov.au/erin/ert/epbc/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/erin/ert/epbc/index.html)).

#### 1.1.1 Flora Field Survey Methods

Hudson Park was traversed using the Random Meander method for flora surveys (Cropper, 1993). Typically, this involves inspecting each area of different vegetation, including around waterways, rocky areas, dense vegetation and sparse patches to compile a flora inventory for the site. For Hudson Park this method was adapted to include investigating all of the vegetation patches in each section of the park and recording flora species. Species identification and nomenclature were generally in line with PlantNet (<https://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/search/simple.htm>). Data on this site are derived from the printed Flora of New South Wales series, published by the UNSW Press, augmented with data from electronic sources maintained by the National Herbarium of New South Wales.

The website owners note that data have not been fully checked for consistency and are not fully up to date. State and federal weed control requirements were obtained from NSW WeedWise (<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/WeedBiosecurities?ArealId=3>), maintained by DPE. Regional weed control requirements are additional and have been developed for each region by Local Land Services in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

#### 1.1.2 Results

Field surveys were conducted within the subject site on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Weather was warm and sunny during surveys following recent heavy rain. A total of 67 species of native flora were recorded on the subject site (Table 20). One threatened species was recorded in the western section of the park. No threatened populations were recorded during the current study.

**Table 20 Native flora species recorded in Hudson Park in September 2020 (\* denotes threatened species)**

Species Name	Common Name	Plant Form	Eastern Section	Western Section
<i>Acacia binervia</i>	Coast Myall	shrub	y	y
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	Sydney Green Wattle	shrub	y	y
<i>Acacia falcate</i>	Hickory Wattle	shrub	y	

Species Name	Common Name	Plant Form	Eastern Section	Western Section
<i>Acacia fimbriata</i>	Fringed Wattle	shrub	y	y
<i>Acacia implexa</i>	Hickory Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Acacia linifolia</i>	White Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Acacia longifolia</i>	Sydney Golden Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Acacia longissimi</i>	Long-leaf Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Acacia pubescens</i> *	Downy Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	Sweet Wattle	shrub		y
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth-barked Apple	tree	y	
<i>Austrostipa ramosissima</i>	Stout Bamboo Grass	grass	y	y
<i>Breynia oblongifolia</i>	Coffee Bush	shrub	y	
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	shrub	y	y
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	Crimson Bottlebrush	shrub	y	y
<i>Callistemon salignus</i>	Willow Bottlebrush	shrub	y	
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Dolly Bush, Dogwood	shrub		y
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	Swamp Oak	tree	y	y
<i>Clematis glycinoides</i> var. <i>glycinoides</i>	Headache Vine	vine	y	
<i>Commelina cyanea</i>	Scurvy Weed	groundcover	y	
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum	tree	y	
<i>Cycnogeton procerum</i>	Water Ribbons	aquatic	y	
<i>Desmodium varians</i>	Slender Tick-trefoil	vine	y	
<i>Dianella caerulea</i> var. <i>producta</i>	Blue Flax Lily	groundcover	y	y
<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	Flax Lily	groundcover	y	y
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed	groundcover		y
<i>Dodonaea triquetra</i>	Large-leaf Hop-bush	shrub	y	
<i>Einadia hastata</i>	Berry Saltbush	groundcover	y	y
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Climbing Saltbush	groundcover	y	y
<i>Einadia trigonos</i>	Fish Bones	groundcover		y
<i>Einadia polygonoides</i>		groundcover	y	y
<i>Eremophila longifolia</i>	Emubush	shrub	y	
<i>Eucalyptus amplifolia</i>	Cabbage Gum	tree	y	y
<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i>	Narrow-leaved Ironbark	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i>	Thin-leaved Stringybark	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus longifolia</i>	Woollybutt	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> subsp. <i>paniculata</i>	Grey Ironbark	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	Grey Gum	tree	y	
<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> subsp. <i>resinifera</i>	Red Mahogany	tree	y	y
<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>	Sydney Blue Gum	tree		y
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Forest Red Gum	tree	y	y
<i>Euchiton japonicus</i>	Creeping Cudweed	groundcover	y	y
<i>Gahnia aspera</i>	Rough Saw Sedge	groundcover		y

Species Name	Common Name	Plant Form	Eastern Section	Western Section
<i>Hakea sericea</i>	Needlebush	shrub		y
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsparilla	vine	y	y
<i>Homolanthus populifolius</i>	Bleeding Heart Tree	shrub	y	
<i>Juncus usitatus</i>	Common Rush	sedge	y	y
<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	Tick Bush	shrub		y
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny Mat-rush	groundcover	y	
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	Many-flowered Mat-rush	groundcover	y	
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	shrub	y	
<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>	Flax-leaved Paperbark	shrub		y
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	Broad-leaved Paperbark	tree	y	
<i>Melaleuca sieberi</i>		shrub	y	
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Prickly Paperbark	shrub	y	y
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	tree	y	
<i>Oxalis exilis</i>		groundcover		y
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	Rough-fruit Pittosporum	shrub	y	
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Sweet Pittosporum	shrub	y	y
<i>Pomaderris aspera</i>	Hazel Pomaderris	shrub		y
<i>Pomaderris lanigera</i>	Woolly Pomaderris	shrub	y	
<i>Schoenus melanostachys</i>	Black Bog-rush	groundcover	y	y
<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Turpentine	tree	y	y
<i>Syzygium australe</i>	Brush Cherry	tree		y
<i>Viminaria juncea</i>	Golden Spray	shrub		y
<i>Wahlenbergia stricta</i>	Tiny Bluebell	groundcover	y	y

A total of 91 species of introduced flora were recorded on the subject site in September 2020 (Table 21). The Biosecurity Act 2015 lists priority control weeds for the Greater Sydney LLS region. All weeds listed under this Act have a General Biosecurity Duty as follows:

*All plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.*

**Table 21 Introduced flora species recorded in Hudson Park in September 2020**

Species Name	Common Name	Eastern Section	Western Section	Priority
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	May Bush	y		
<i>Abutilon grandifolium</i>	Hairy Indian Mallow		y	
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	Cootamundra Wattle (WS, NSW)	y		
<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>	Agapanthus	y		Weed of Regional Concern



Species Name	Common Name	Eastern Section	Western Section	Priority
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	Crofton Weed		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madeira Vine	y	y	State - Prohibition on dealings
<i>Araujia sericifera</i>	Moth Vine		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Cape Daisy		y	
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed		y	Regional Priority
<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>	Asparagus Fern	y	y	State - Prohibition on dealings
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Oat Grass		y	
<i>Axonopus filiformis</i>	Narrow-leaved Carpet Grass	y		
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Cobblers Pegs	y	y	
<i>Brassica fruticulosa</i>	Twiggy Turnip	y	y	
<i>Bromus catharticus</i>	Prairie Grass	y	y	
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherds Purse	y	y	
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Common Bittercress	y		
<i>Cedrus libani</i>	Cedar of Lebanon	y		
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Chinese Hackberry	y	y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>	Kikuyu	y	y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	y		
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Mouse-eared Chickweed	y	y	
<i>Cestrum parqui</i>	Green Cestrum	y	y	Regional Priority
<i>Chloris gayana</i>	Rhodes Grass		y	
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera</i>	Boneseed	y		State - Control Order, Prohibition on dealings
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel	y	y	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	y	y	
<i>Coleonema pulchellum</i>	Diosma, Confetti Bush	y		
<i>Conyza sp</i>	Fleabane	y	y	
<i>Cotoneaster glaucophylla</i>	Cotoneaster		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Cotula coronopifolia</i>	Water Buttons	y	y	
<i>Cyclospermum leptophyllum</i>	Slender Celery	y		
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Common Couch	y	y	

Species Name	Common Name	Eastern Section	Western Section	Priority
<i>Dietes bicolor</i>	Butterfly Iris	y	y	
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i>	Ehrharta, Panic Veldt Grass	y	y	
<i>Ehrharta longiflora</i>	Annual Veldtgrass		y	
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	y		
<i>Erythrina x sykesii</i>	Coral Tree		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Eucalyptus bicostata</i>	Eurabbie, Southern Blue Gum (GDR)	y		
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum (West NSW)	y		
<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Petty Spurge		y	
<i>Ficus microcarpa hillii</i>	Hills Weeping Fig (SQld)	y	y	
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Climbing Fumitory		y	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers		y	
<i>Gamochaeta calviceps</i>	Cudweed	y	y	
<i>Gomphocarpus fruticosus</i>	Narrow-leaved Cotton Bush	y		
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	y		
<i>Hypochaeris albiflora</i>	White Flatweed	y		
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Flatweed	y	y	
<i>Ipomoea cairica</i>	Mile-a-Minute, Coast Morning Glory		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Koelreuteria elegans</i>	Golden Rain Tree	y	y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	y	y	
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana		y	State - Prohibition on dealings
<i>Lepidium bonariense</i>	Peppergrass		y	
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Large-leaved Privet		y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	y	y	
<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	y	y	
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Mallow	y		
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Burr Medic	y	y	
<i>Medicago praecox</i>	Small-leaved Burr Medic	y	y	
<i>Modiola caroliniana</i>	Red-flowered Mallow	y	y	

Species Name	Common Name	Eastern Section	Western Section	Priority
<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	Orange Jessamine	y		Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Oenothera stricta</i> subsp. <i>stricta</i>	Small-flowered Evening Primrose	y		
<i>Olea europaea</i> subsp. <i>cuspidata</i>	African Olive	y	y	Regional Priority
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Soursob	y		
<i>Panicum maximum</i> var. <i>maximum</i>	Guinea Grass		y	
<i>Petrorhagia prolifera</i>	Proliferous Pinks		y	
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary Island Date Palm	y	y	Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Plantain	y		
<i>Poa annua</i>	Winter Grass	y	y	
<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i>	Four-leaf Allseed	y	y	
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	y		
<i>Romulea sp</i>	Onion Grass	y	y	
<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	Fireweed	y	y	State - Prohibition on dealings
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Blackberry Nightshade	y	y	
<i>Soliva sessilis</i>	Bindii	y	y	
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Milk Thistle, Sowthistle	y	y	
<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	Staggers	y		
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed	y	y	
<i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	Firewheel Tree (FNC/QLD)	y		
<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>	Buffalo Grass	y	y	
<i>Strelitzia nicolai</i>	Bird of Paradise Tree	y		
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion	y	y	
<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Star Jasmine	y		
<i>Tradescantia albiflora</i>	Trad, Wandering Jew	y		Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Yellow Suckling Clover	y		
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	y		
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	y		Weed of Regional Concern
<i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	Purple Top		y	

Species Name	Common Name	Eastern Section	Western Section	Priority
<i>Vulpia myuros</i>	Rats-tail Fescue		y	

There were eight national or state level priority control weeds recorded on the subject site. Their control requirements are as follows.

Control Order, Prohibition on dealings:

- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera*)  
**Boneseed Control Zone (Whole of NSW):** Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.

Prohibition on dealings - Must not be imported into the State or sold:

- Asparagus Fern/Ground Asparagus (*Asparagus aethiopicus*)
- Madeira Vine (*Anredera cordifolia*)
- Lantana (*Lantana camara*)
- Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*)

Regional Recommended Measures – see specific requirements below:

- Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*) - Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
- Green Cestrum (*Cestrum parqui*) - Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to land used for grazing livestock. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
- African Olive (*Olea europaea subsp. cuspidata*) - An exclusion zone is established for all lands in Blue Mountains City Council local government area and in Penrith local government area west of the Nepean River. The remainder of the region is classified as the core infestation area. Whole region: The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. Core infestation area: Land managers prevent spread from their land where feasible. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* provides powers to Local Control Authorities to take action in relation to regional priority control weeds in particular circumstances, for example where a weed threatens a high value asset and prevention, elimination or reduction of the risk is feasible and reasonable. Regional priority control weeds and weeds of regional concern on this site are known to affect environmental assets and human health and would be expected to be controlled within the subject site during any works that affect vegetation. The following 15 species of weeds are listed in the Greater Sydney region as Weeds of Regional Concern:

- Agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*)
- Moth Vine (*Araujia sericifera*)
- Kikuyu (*Cenchrus clandestinus*)
- Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster glaucophylla*)
- Coral Tree (*Erythrina x sykesii*)
- Mile-a-Minute, Coast Morning Glory (*Ipomoea cairica*)
- Golden Rain Tree (*Koelreuteria elegans*)
- Orange Jessamine (*Murraya paniculata*)
- Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)
- Trad, Wandering Jew (*Tradescantia albiflora*)
- Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)
- Crofton Weed (*Ageratina adenophora*)
- Chinese Hackberry (*Celtis sinensis*)
- Large-leaved Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*)



## 1.2 Fauna Survey

### 1.2.1 Methods

The site was visited four times in the Spring of 2020 with the Park traversed and fauna species present noted. Spotlighting was undertaken on two nights. Opportunities to deploy remote equipment discreetly were limited but bat detectors were deployed for 16 full nights and used during spotlighting transects (part nights).

### 1.2.2 Results

The following table provides data from the 2020 survey and other sources. BioNet records were obtained for the 1995-2020 period however all records in BioNet are from 2014-2020 and drawn from WIRES records of rescued injured fauna. Ambrose Ecological Services Pty Ltd conducted a vertebrate fauna study in 2008-9 for Council and these results were not in BioNet so are tabled separately below. There were no ebird records for the site.

**Table 22 - Fauna records - various sources**

Species	Scientific Name	Applied Ecology 2020	Birdlife data	BioNet*	Ambrose 2008
<b>Birds</b>					
Australasian Figbird	<i>Sphecotheres vieilloti</i>				x
Australian Magpie	<i>Cracticus tibicen</i>	x	x		x
Australian King-Parrot	<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	x			
Australian Raven	<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	x	x		x
Australian White Ibis	<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	x	x		
Australian Wood Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	x			
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike			x		x
Channel-billed Cuckoo	<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	x			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>				x
Crested Pigeon	<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	x	x		
Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapillus</i>	x		x	x
Grey Butcherbird			x		x
Little Corella			x		
Long-billed Corella	<i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>	x			
Magpie-lark			x		x
Masked Lapwing	<i>Vanellus miles</i>	x			
Noisy Miner	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	x	x	x	x
Pied Currawong	<i>Strepera gracula</i>	x	x		
Rainbow Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	x	x	x	x
Red Wattlebird			x		
Spotted Pardalote			x		

Species	Scientific Name	Applied Ecology 2020	Birdlife data	BioNet*	Ambrose 2008
Spotted Turtle-Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	x			
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	x			
Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	x	x		
<b>Mammals</b>					
Common Brushtail Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>				x
Eastern Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	x			
Grey-headed Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	x			
Gould's Wattled Bat	<i>Chalinolobus gouldii</i>	x			
Little Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	x			
White-striped Free-tailed Bat	<i>Austronomus australis</i>	x			
<b>Herpetofauna</b>					
Common Froglet	<i>Crinia signifera</i>	x			
Dark-flecked garden sun skink	<i>Lampropholus delicata</i>	x		x	
Eastern Blue-tongue Lizard				x	
Elegant Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Cryptoblepharus pulcher</i>				x
Pale-flecked garden sun skink	<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>				x
Peron's Tree Frog	<i>Litoria peronii</i>	x			
Red-bellied Blacksnake	<i>Pseudechis porphyriacus</i>			x	

\*All records from Wildlife Rehab Database 2014-20 (WIRES rescues)

### 1.3 Water Quality

The ANZECC 2000 Guidelines advocate a risk-based approach to water quality assessment and management. That is, the intensity of assessment of current water quality status or impacts on water quality should reflect the risk of impacts on the achievement/protection of the water quality objective. The lake in Hudson Park is not currently used for irrigation and is not utilized in any way that requires testing and compliance with primary or secondary contact parameter guidelines. However, it is an important new habitat feature for local wildlife and monitoring water quality, especially for excess nutrients, will help maintain a healthy habitat feature in the park. The lake is supplied with water from arterial road run off via the stormwater system and it is recommended that annual checks are done for a wider range of parameters including trace metals and volatile organics. Ph and turbidity are likely to reduce as the lake matures and the clay base settles. Dissolved oxygen will remain high as the lakes are regularly aerated. There is potential to balance the aeration with biological needs.

Raw water quality results are tabled below:

**Table 23 - Water quality results**

Date	23 Sept 2020	13 Oct 2020	19 Oct 2020	28 Oct 2020	Within normal range?*
Temperature (C)	19.86	23.19	22.51	18.9	
Conductivity (mS/cm)	0.387	0.426	0.458	0.427	✓
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	11.13	9.43	9.36	9.36	
pH	8.27	7.99	8.82	7.93	X ✓
Salinity (PSS)	0.19	0.21	0.23	0.21	✓
Dissolved Oxygen (%)	113.5	108.6	109.8	110.13	X ✓
Turbidity (NTU)	27	29	32	38.4	X
Phosphates low LAMOTTE TEST	0.02	0.08	0.042		X
Odour?	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Scum or films?	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	

\* Lakes & reservoirs triggers ANZECC Guidelines. \*\*Note NSW coastal rivers are typically in the range of 200–300  $\mu\text{Scm}^{-1}$

### 1.3.1 ANZECC trigger values for Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River catchments

The ANZECC water quality guidelines were developed for natural waters in 2000. Since then, they have been updated and expanded to include trigger values for a range of objectives, including primary or secondary contact (e.g. swimming or boating), livestock, irrigation, domestic use (rural), groundwater, and aquatic foods. As well, trigger values or acceptable ranges have been identified for different catchments based on factors such as geology and other catchment specific variations. In this setting the closest relevant guideline is for lakes and reservoirs and lowland rivers (Table 24).

**Table 24 Water quality guidelines for aquatic ecosystems in Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River catchments**

[Water quality objectives - Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/water-quality-objectives-sydney-harbour-and-parramatta-river)

Aquatic ecosystems	
Indicator	Numerical criteria (trigger values)
Total phosphorus	Upland rivers: 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$
	Lowland rivers: 25 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for rivers flowing to the coast
	Lakes & reservoirs: 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Total nitrogen	Upland rivers: 250 $\mu\text{g/L}$
	Lowland rivers: 350 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for rivers flowing to the coast
	Lakes & reservoirs: 350 $\mu\text{g/L}$
	Estuaries: 300 $\mu\text{g/L}$
Chlorophyll-a	Upland rivers: not applicable
	Lowland rivers: 5 $\mu\text{g/L}$
	Lakes & reservoirs: 5 $\mu\text{g/L}$
	Estuaries: 4 $\mu\text{g/L}$

Aquatic ecosystems	
Indicator	Numerical criteria (trigger values)
Turbidity	Upland rivers: 2–25 NTU
	Lowland rivers: 6–50 NTU
	Lakes & reservoirs: 1–20 NTU
	Estuaries: 0.5–10 NTU
Salinity (electrical conductivity)	Upland rivers: 30–350 $\mu$ S/cm
	Lowland rivers: 125–2200 $\mu$ S/cm
Dissolved oxygen	Upland rivers: 90–110%
	Lowland rivers: 85–110%
	Freshwater lakes & reservoirs: 90–110%
	Estuaries: 80–110%
	Note: Dissolved oxygen values were derived from daytime measurements. Dissolved oxygen concentrations may vary diurnally and with depth. Monitoring programs should assess this potential variability.
pH	Upland rivers: 6.5–8.0
	Lowland rivers: 6.5–8.5
	Freshwater lakes & reservoirs: 6.5–8.0
	Estuaries: 7.0–8.5
	Changes of more than 0.5 pH units from the natural seasonal maximum or minimum should be investigated.

### 1.3.2 Understanding water quality results

#### pH

pH measurement is an important parameter in nearly every water quality application. In environmental sampling and monitoring, high or low pH values can be indicative of pollution.

pH describes how acidic or basic a solution is. Whether an aqueous solution reacts as an acid, or a base depends on its hydrogen ion ( $H^+$ ) content. Acids are substances which release hydrogen ions (i.e. protons), so a solution is considered acidic if it contains more hydrogen ions than neutral water. Bases are substances which accept hydrogen ions. Basic solutions contain fewer hydrogen ions than neutral water. A reaction between an acid and base involves a transfer of protons.

Solutions with a relatively high concentration of ions may yield a determination of ion concentration that is unusually low. Therefore, solutions begin to behave as if some of the ions are no longer present. This apparent loss of ions is caused by the interaction of ions in solution, ultimately resulting in significant deviations from ideal behaviour. In order to take this interaction into account, pH measures the ion activity, also known as the effective ion concentration.

For Hudson Park lake the pH values are 'high', indicating a basic condition. Basic pH can cause metals and other substances to become solubilized from sediments, affecting water quality and affecting living conditions for aquatic animals and for animals that rely on the water as a source for drinking.

## **Dissolved oxygen (DO)**

Dissolved oxygen is the presence of these free O<sub>2</sub> molecules within water. A DO level that is too high or too low can harm aquatic life and affect water quality. Dissolved oxygen enters water through the air or as a plant byproduct from photosynthesis. From the air, oxygen can slowly diffuse across the water's surface from the surrounding atmosphere, or be mixed in quickly through aeration, whether natural or man-made. Dissolved oxygen is also produced as a waste product of photosynthesis from phytoplankton, algae and other aquatic plants. For Hudson Park lake the high levels of DO are most likely to result from the recirculation of the water via the fountain.

Biological oxygen demand directly affects the amount of dissolved oxygen in rivers and streams. The rate of oxygen consumption is affected by a number of variables: temperature, pH, the presence of certain kinds of microorganisms, and the type of organic and inorganic material in the water. While this was not measured during the current study it can provide useful information about how the lake is functioning and whether or what organisms can live in the current conditions.

## **Temperature**

Temperature of water is one of its most basic properties, and many other parameters depend on temperature for accuracy. Many aquatic organisms are sensitive to high temperatures. The solubility of oxygen is lower in warmer water, thus limiting oxygen supply. Thermal stratification can develop in still waters, where the surface water is warmer than the deeper waters, limiting some organisms to the warmer or cooler areas, depending on their needs. Given the regularity of recirculation of water in Hudson Park lake, stratification is unlikely to occur. However, if temperatures increase too high in the lake, then many organisms will be unable to survive, and the water will become unsuitable for drinking. Higher temperatures also contribute to the levels of dissolved compounds that can remain soluble in the water (think sugar in coffee!), contributing to increases in pH and ORP values.

## **Turbidity**

Turbidity is the measurement of water clarity. Suspended sediments, such as particles of clay, soil and silt, frequently enter the water from disturbed sites and affect water quality. Suspended sediments can contain pollutants such as phosphorus, pesticides, or heavy metals. Suspended particles cut down on the depth of light penetration through the water, hence they increase the turbidity -- or "murkiness" or "cloudiness" -- of the water. High turbidity affects the type of vegetation that grows in water. Ironically, highly coloured water may not be very turbid.



## 1.4 Threatened Species and Protected Matters

### 1.4.1 Threatened Species Searches

A search of Bionet-NSW Wildlife Atlas was undertaken for records within a 10km<sup>2</sup> cell centred on the subject site. A total of 48 threatened species including 37 threatened fauna species and 11 threatened flora species have been recorded in this area (Table 25).

**Table 25 Bionet threatened fauna and flora records within a 10km<sup>2</sup> cell centred on the subject site**

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comm. Status	Records
Amphibia	<i>Litoria aurea</i>	Green and Golden Bell Frog	EI,P	V	12907
Aves	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	P	V,C,J,K	18
Aves	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern	EI,P	E	6
Aves	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>	Black Bittern	V,P		3
Aves	<i>Circus assimilis</i>	Spotted Harrier	V,P		4
Aves	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	V,P		274
Aves	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	V,P		5
Aves	<i>Pandion cristatus</i>	Eastern Osprey	V,P,3		3
Aves	<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe	EI,P	E	3
Aves	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot	P	E,C,J,K	13
Aves	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	EI,P	CE,C,J,K	243
Aves	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	Great Knot	V,P	CE,C,J,K	1
Aves	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	Broad-billed Sandpiper	V,P	C,J,K	1
Aves	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	V,P	C,J,K	1
Aves	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew	P	CE,C,J,K	10
Aves	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	Terek Sandpiper	V,P	C,J,K	1
Aves	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Little Tern	EI,P	C,J,K	3
Aves	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little Lorikeet	V,P		3
Aves	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	EI,P,3	CE	1
Aves	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	Turquoise Parrot	V,P,3		2
Aves	<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	V,P,3		28
Aves	<i>Tyto longimembris</i>	Eastern Grass Owl	V,P,3		1
Aves	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	E4A,P	CE	2
Aves	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	White-fronted Chat	V,P		208
Aves	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	White-fronted Chat population in the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Area	E2,V,P		208

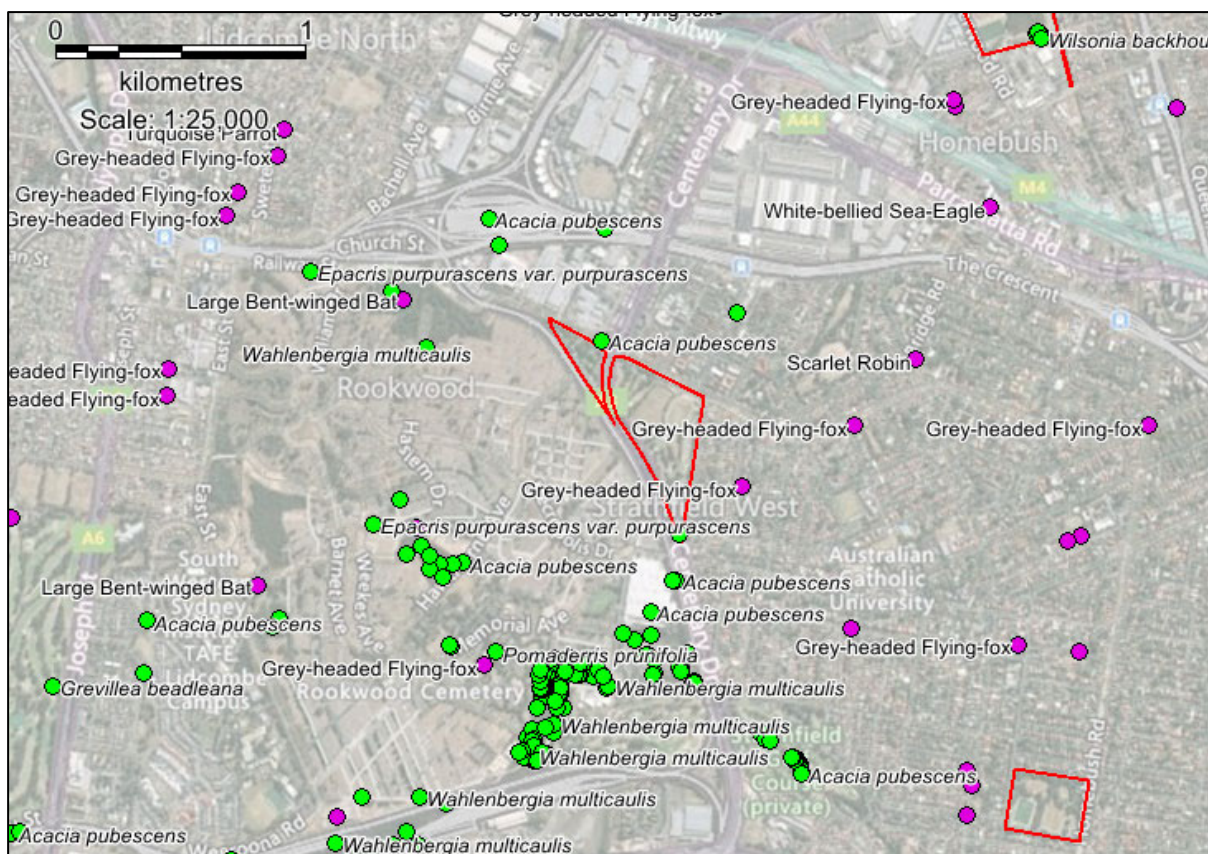
Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comm. Status	Records
Aves	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	V,P		8
Aves	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	V,P		3
Aves	<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	Flame Robin	V,P		1
Mammalia	<i>Perameles nasuta</i>	Long-nosed Bandicoot population in inner western Sydney	E2,P		1
Mammalia	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	V,P	V	2
Mammalia	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	V,P	V	494
Mammalia	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	V,P		5
Mammalia	<i>Micronomus norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	V,P		4
Mammalia	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	Southern Myotis	V,P		29
Mammalia	<i>Scoteanax rueppellii</i>	Greater Broad-nosed Bat	V,P		1
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-winged Bat	V,P		1
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	V,P		71
Flora	<i>Wahlenbergia multicaulis</i>	Tadgell's Bluebell in the local government areas of Auburn, Bankstown, Baulkham Hills, Canterbury, Hornsby, Parramatta and Strathfield	E2		104
Flora	<i>Wilsonia backhousei</i>	Narrow-leaved Wilsonia	V		97
Flora	<i>Epacris purpurascens</i> var. <i>purpurascens</i>		V		18
Flora	<i>Dillwynia tenuifolia</i>		V		1
Flora	<i>Acacia pubescens</i>	Downy Wattle	V	V	516
Flora	<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	V	V	1
Flora	<i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i>	Wallangarra White Gum	E1	V	1
Flora	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Magenta Lilly Pilly	E1	V	3
Flora	<i>Grevillea beadleana</i>	Beadle's Grevillea	E1,3	E	1
Flora	<i>Pomaderris prunifolia</i>	P. prunifolia in the Parramatta, Auburn, Strathfield and Bankstown Local Government Areas	E2		13
Flora	<i>Zannichellia palustris</i>		E1		5

In reality, there were few threatened species records in the vicinity of Hudson Park (Figure 49). These consisted of several records of Downy Wattle nearby, in the 1990s. Numerous additional records are reported from Rookwood Cemetery from the 1990s and 2000s. Other threatened species records in the area are also from Rookwood and include a single record of *Epacris purpurascens* from 1999, one record of a Regent Honeyeater in 1987, and one of the Large Bent-winged Bat in 1999. Threatened and listed migratory species records within 2km of the Hudson Park are provided below.

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**Table 26 Threatened and listed migratory species within 2km of Hudson park (BioNet 1995-2000)**

Class Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	NSW Status	Comm Status	Record count
Aves	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	V,P		3
Aves	Latham's Snipe	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	P	J,K	2
Aves	Turquoise Parrot	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	V,P,3		1
Aves	Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	V,P		1
Mammalia	Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	V,P	V	57
Mammalia	Large Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	V,P		4
Flora	Tadgell's Bluebell in the local government areas of Auburn, Bankstown, Baulkham Hills, Canterbury, Hornsby, Parramatta and Strathfield	<i>Wahlenbergia multicaulis</i>	E2		104
Flora	Narrow-leafed Wilsonia	<i>Wilsonia backhousei</i>	V		6
Flora	<i>Epacris purpurascens</i> var. <i>purpurascens</i>		V		21
Flora	Downy Wattle	<i>Acacia pubescens</i>	V	V	111
Flora	Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	V	V	1
Flora	Wallangarra White Gum	<i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i>	E1	V	1
Flora	Magenta Lilly Pilly	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	E1	V	1
Flora	<i>P. prunifolia</i> in the Parramatta, Auburn, Strathfield and Bankstown Local Government Areas	<i>Pomaderris prunifolia</i>	E2		12



**Figure 49 Threatened species sightings recorded within the vicinity of Hudson Park on any date (BioNet)**

#### 1.4.2 Protected Matters Searches

The EPBC Act lists environmental assets that are protected at a federal level. The Protected Matters databases summarise the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area nominated.

##### *Summary of Protected Matters databases*

The following Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) were reported for a 2km buffer of the study area (Table 27).

**Table 27 Summary of Protected Matters searches**

Protected Matters	Present at or near study area
World Heritage Properties	None
National Heritage Places	None
Wetlands of International Significance (RAMSAR Sites)	None
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	None
Commonwealth Marine Areas	None
Threatened Ecological Communities	6
Threatened Species	37
Migratory Species	18



### ***Threatened Ecological Communities***

The following Threatened Ecological Communities were reported for a **2km** buffer of the study area (Table 28).

***Table 28 Threatened Ecological Communities listed in the protected matters search within a 2km buffer of the study site***

<b>Threatened Ecological Communities</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Type of Presence</b>	<b>Present on site?</b>
Castlereagh Scribbly Gum and Agnes Banks Woodlands of the Sydney Basin Bioregion	Endangered	Community may occur within area	no
Coastal Swamp Oak ( <i>Casuarina glauca</i> ) Forest of New South Wales and Southeast Queensland ecological community	Endangered	Community may occur within area	no
Cumberland Plain Shale Woodlands and Shale-Gravel Transition Forest	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area	no
Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest of the Sydney Basin Bioregion	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area	no
Shale Sandstone Transition Forest of the Sydney Basin Bioregion	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area	no
Western Sydney Dry Rainforest and Moist Woodland on Shale	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area	no

### Threatened fauna species

The following threatened fauna species were reported for a 2km buffer of the study area (Table 29).

**Table 29 Threatened fauna species listed in the protected matters search within a 2km buffer of the study site**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Type of Presence	Bionet Records
<b>BIRDS</b>				
<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	Critically Endangered	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour likely to occur within area	0
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit, Western Alaskan Bar-tailed Godwit	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Thinornis cucullatus</i>	Hooded Plover (eastern), Eastern Hooded Plover	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<b>Fish</b>				
<i>Macquaria australasica</i>	Macquarie Perch	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<b>Frogs</b>				
<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>	Giant Burrowing Frog	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Litoria aurea</i>	Green and Golden Bell Frog	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Type of Presence	Bionet Records
<b>Mammals</b>				
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	Spotted-tailed Quoll	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Petauroides Volans</i>	Greater Glider	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (Qld, NSW and ACT)	Koala (combined populations)	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Mouse, Pookila	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour likely to occur within area	57
<b>Reptiles</b>				
<i>Holocephalus bungaroides</i>	Broad-headed Snake	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0

### Threatened flora species

The following threatened flora species were reported for a 2km buffer of the study area (Table 30).

**Table 30 Threatened flora species listed in the protected matters search within a 2km buffer of the study site**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Type of Presence	Bionet Records
<i>Acacia bynoeana</i>	Bynoe's Wattle, Tiny Wattle	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Acacia pubescens</i>	Downy Wattle, Hairy Stemmed Wattle	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Allocasuarina glareicola</i>		Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Caladenia tessellata</i>	Thick-lipped Spider-orchid, Daddy Long-legs	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Cryptostylis hunteriana</i>	Leafless Tongue-orchid	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Darwinia biflora</i>		Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Type of Presence	Bionet Records
<i>Genoplesium baueri</i>	Yellow Gnat-orchid	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Melaleuca deanei</i>	Deane's Paperbark	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Persicaria elatior</i>	Tall Knotweed	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Persoonia hirsuta</i>	Hairy geebung	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Pimelea curviflora</i> var. <i>curviflora</i>		Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Pimelea spicata</i>	Spiked Rice-flower	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Pterostylis saxicola</i>	Sydney Plains Greenhood	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Magenta Lilly Pilly	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	1
<i>Thesium australe</i>	Austral Toadflax	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0

### ***Migratory species***

A number of faunal groups, including migratory terrestrial birds, are identified as having potential presence within a 2km radius of the study site. These were assessed for likely presence (Table 31).

***Table 31 Terrestrial migratory species protected under EP&BC Act within 2km of Strathfield Park***

<b>Species Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Type of Species</b>	<b>Bionet Records</b>
<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfields Cuckoo	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Monarcha melanopsis</i>	Black-faced Monarch	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Monarcha trivirgatus</i>	Spectacled Monarch	Species or species habitat may occur within area	0
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0
<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	0
<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	Rufous Fantail	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	0



# Appendix B – Community Consultation

## Hudson Park draft Plan of Management Community Consultation (April 2021)

Strathfield Council is preparing new plans for managing Hudson Park and is interested in your views and ideas. This consultation will take less than 5 minutes to complete. All personal data collected will be kept confidential. Reporting on results from this consultation will not identify individuals.

### 1. How often do you visit Hudson Park?

- ☐ At least once a week
- ☐ At least once a month
- ☐ Couple of times each year
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Every couple of years
- ☐ Never

### 2. What is your connection to Hudson Park? Please choose all that apply

- ☐ I am a local resident living in the Strathfield Council area
- ☐ I am a local business owner
- ☐ I am a visitor from outside the local area
- ☐ I am a student at a school in the Strathfield Council area
- ☐ I play sport at the park
- ☐ I am a member of an organisation that uses the park
- ☐ I work in the Strathfield Council area
- ☐ Other (please specify)

### 3. What features of Hudson Park are important to you?

- ☐ Walking, jogging or running
- ☐ Personal exercise/leisure eg yoga, tai chi
- ☐ Hudson Oval for playing of formal sports
- ☐ Trees, vegetation and landscaping
- ☐ Playing self-organised ball games

- ☐ Multi-purpose courts
- ☐ Gatherings in open spaces for picnics, BBQs
- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Relaxing in open spaces or near Lake
- ☐ Walking the dog
- ☐ Golf driving range

4. Can you suggest any changes or improvements that should be made to the park?

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5. Do you have any comments about Hudson District Park future proposals (refer to the Information Sheet)?

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6. Any other comments about Hudson District Park?

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7. To assist us understanding your needs, could you please provide some information about yourself? What is your age group?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60 or older
- ☐ Don't want to say

8. Please provide your contact details

Name 

---

Email address 

---

Phone number 

---

Home address 

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9. Do you wish to enter the draw to win one of three \$50 shopping vouchers?

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Please return completed surveys to:**

Hudson Park Consultation, Strathfield Council, PO Box 120, Strathfield NSW 2135. Should you have questions regarding this project, please contact Cathy Jones, Executive Manager, Corporate Strategy and Performance, email: [cathy.jones@strathfield.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cathy.jones@strathfield.nsw.gov.au) or 9748 9937

DRAFT