

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management



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Reconciliation Statement

Our vision for reconciliation is a Sydney that values the living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, embraces the truthful reflection of the history and experiences of First Nations peoples, and is dedicated to equity, opportunity and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In taking action, the City strives to reflect the needs and aspirations of Sydney's First Nations communities and recognise their impact and contribution. The City will listen to and elevate the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Source:
City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Plan
November 2020 – November 2023

Executive Summary

The City of Sydney recognises the importance of public open space and the need to ensure that it is appropriately managed in a way that is inclusive, regenerative and resilient for future generations.

This Plan of Management has been prepared in accordance with the City's objectives identified within the Strategic Community Plan. This includes the City's commitment to sustainability, climate action, equity, access and Caring for Country.

Within this plan, management targets and strategies have been established that seek to Care for Country and to create sustainable spaces that are accessible for all.

Part A

Management Framework

1. Introduction

What is a PoM

A Plan of Management (“**PoM**”) is a document which provides a clear set of guidelines for the short and long-term management of a parcel of community land owned by Council or Crown land under Council’s care, control and management.

A PoM outlines how a park, facility or civic space will be used, improved and managed in the future. It identifies Council’s goals and objectives for the land, and establishes the overall direction for its planning, resource management and maintenance.

Under section 36(3A) of the Local Government Act 1993, the PoM must also:

- Describe the condition of the land, any buildings or other improvements on the land as at the adoption of the plan
- Describe the use of the land
- State the purposes for which the land will be used.

This PoM has been prepared in accordance with and seeks adoption under the LG Act and CLM Act.

Need for the PoM

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 (“**CLM Act**”) commenced on 1 July 2018, introducing a consolidated, modern piece of legislation to govern the management of Crown land in New South Wales.

The CLM Act introduces significant changes to the management of Crown land by councils. Specifically, councils are now required to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it were public land under the Local Government Act 1993 (“**LG Act**”).

Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve (Crown Reserve D.500429) are now treated as “community land” under the LG Act requiring a PoM.

Process for preparing the PoM

Figure 1 on the following page illustrates the process for preparing the PoM that has been undertaken by the City of Sydney.

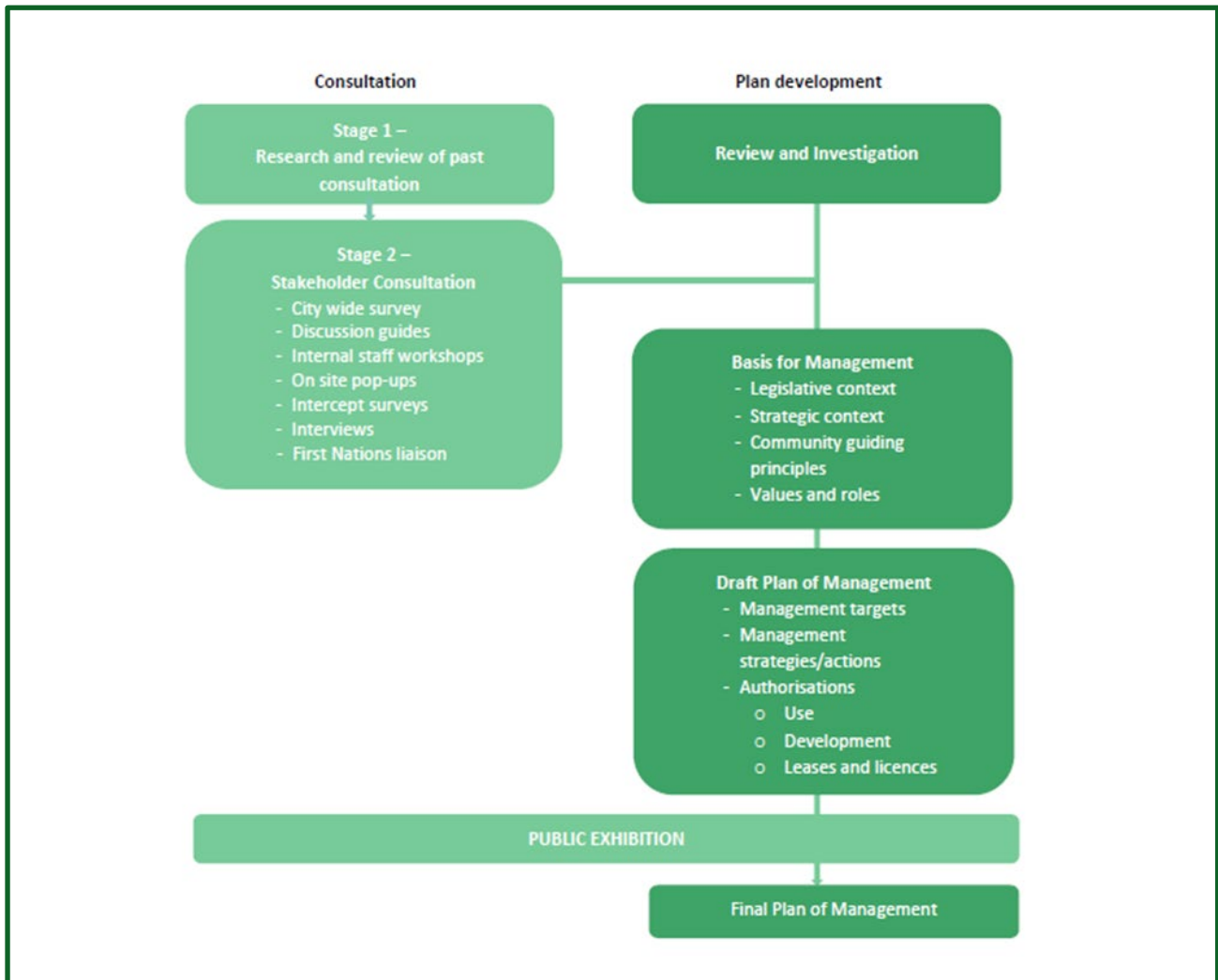
The process has integrated extensive consultation with the broader community, First Nations stakeholders and other authority stakeholders.

Purpose of the PoM

Under section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993, a PoM must:

- Categorise the land in accordance with the legislation
- Contain objectives and performance targets for the management of the land
- Specify the means by which Council proposes to achieve the objectives and performance targets
- Specify how achievement of the objectives and performance targets are to be assessed.

Figure 1. PoM process



Consultation

Purpose of the consultation program

The purpose of the community engagement was to understand the community's vision for Crown land spaces, how the community use the land now and how they would like to use the land in the future.

An important aspect of the engagement program was to recognise the important relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have to these spaces, strengthen the relationship with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and use the PoMs as an opportunity to further recognise and foster Aboriginal people's custodianship, living culture and connection to these places.

The opportunity to participate in the engagement program was communicated to the community via:

- A letter to local residents from the City of Sydney
- Sydney Your Say web page
- Notification signs in parks
- Decals with QR code on footpaths in parks, reserves and civic spaces
- E-newsletter sent to a targeted stakeholder list.

The Engagement program

The engagement program consisted of an online survey, intercept surveys and pop-ups at some of the Crown land spaces, a conversation guide and community and staff workshops.

The surveys and pop-up boards sought to gather statistical data around community values and uses of Crown land, and the workshops provided an opportunity for more in depth discussions around Crown land within different locations across the city and specifically with the First Nations community.

Children's activity kits were also sent to schools in the area and provided an opportunity for children in years 3-6 to participate.

Detailed findings of the engagement program are outlined in the separate Crown Reserves Plan of Management Engagement Report 2021.

What we heard – community engagement

The community engagement report noted the following highlights:

- **Strong support for the recognition and practice of First Nations people's continuous Connection to Country and important role as caretakers and knowledge holders of these spaces**
- **Public open spaces are important for mental health, wellbeing and provide a place of refuge and sanctuary for all**
- **Open, green and natural public spaces in the city are highly valued and should accommodate the needs of the growing population**
- **Accessible, safe and inclusive open spaces are important for everyone to enjoy**
- **Diverse and unique open spaces that manage our shared spaces fairly**
- **Open spaces that support wildlife and biodiversity**
- **Preserving our open spaces and safeguarding their history for the future**
- **Improving amenities in our open spaces to increase accessibility and support community use**

City-wide survey: seek to understand community values and visions for their open spaces (informs both generic and specific Plans of Management)

Discussion guides: guided opportunity for regular user groups (e.g schools, sporting clubs) to map values, and places of significance.

Internal staff workshop: internal City of Sydney staff workshop



Engagement tools to inform general plans of management

City-wide survey: opportunity to comment on general issues in addition to specific parks according to preference.

Discussion guides: guided opportunity for regular user groups (e.g schools, sporting clubs) to map values, and places of significance.

On-site pop-ups/intercept surveys: pop-ups/intercept surveys in the specific parks at specific times to capture a wide variety of feedback.

Interviews with key stakeholders: We will conduct interviews with key external stakeholders.



Engagement tools to inform specific plans of management

Work in partnership with local First Nations leaders and groups: liaison with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders.



Children told us they value parks because...

"It has at least one thing everybody likes"

"Its just beautiful"

"There is space"

"They make me happy"

"When going outdoors it's nice to be in a place that is well maintained and easy to access"

"I like having time with nature"

"Everyone's welcome there"

What we heard – First Nations engagement

A series of **general principles** for the integration of First Nations input into the management of Crown land in the City of Sydney were identified during the conversations. These included:

- **Access to land as a human right of Indigenous peoples (UN Convention on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)**
- **Recognition and respect for sacred sites and places**
- **Truth telling**
- **Talking about Country helps bring the community together**
- **The environment as living culture**
- **Importance of waterways and wetlands-rivers tell stories**
- **Creating opportunities for Aboriginal economic benefit**
- **First Nations design principles that recognise:**
 - **Local cultural knowledge**
 - **Sustainability and resilience**

Putting the principles into action – potential ways that these principles can be followed through by Council and others were also discussed:

The environment as living culture

Imagine having a space like this in Sydney that is real and permanent, not just digital (in response to Brett Leavy's animation – Warrane)

- Respecting ancestral sites
- Connecting places by Songlines (these include many main roads in Sydney)
- Returning Country to how it was (pre-invasion)
- A holistic approach: not just land but also water, sky, seasons, cultural calendar, plants and animals
- Implement 'Caring for Country' principles (including maintenance, planting, holistic understanding of Country, etc.)
- Important to return the knowledge of waterways and wetlands. Rivers tell stories and are an historical link that have been covered up over time

- Commitment to healing Country
- Designing with Country – a number of participants referred to the work of the State Government Architect

Language and naming

The use of language needs to go beyond naming

- Dual naming in local language based on a geographical feature
- Incorporating Gadigal language into descriptions will help the community better understand the meaning of these places
- Recognising that the first language of this place is the authentic language
- Removal of colonial names of parks

Decolonising spaces and truth-telling

We need a different way of looking at 'monuments' – as significant, empowering, culturally correct markers of the truth

- Trees of significance as monuments
- Sites of significance as monuments
- Take leadership on dealing with colonial artefacts
- Gadigal artists creating new markers of truth

Visibility

We are here - this land was never ceded

- The need to make this more visible in Sydney
- Participants referenced how New Zealand is Indigenous culture, practices and perspectives visible to international visitors
- The potential to push digital notifications when walking on different bits of land (i.e. a notification to acknowledge/welcome to country, when you are close to a sacred site or a burial ground, etc.)
- Permanent acknowledgement in each space that enlivens and engages - not just commemorative

Significance of Sydney as the site of invasion and first contact

Make these important places recognisable to Aboriginal people

- Sydney as the first frontier means it is a critical place for truth-telling and healing trauma

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- Recognise the cultural disruption and diaspora in Sydney
- Burial grounds and should be part of truth-telling
- Recognise places of protest

Practicing and sharing culture and supporting community

- Returning cultural fishing (e.g. Woolloomooloo and Pyrmont)
- Dedicated spaces to practice culture and interact with the community
- Dedicated ceremonial spaces practical for events
- Maker-spaces (places for creating) that are culturally correct
- Locations to busk, make things, be social and demonstrate culture
- Importance of community festivals – Yabun at Victoria Park

Economic and cultural ownership and management

- Importance of cultural ownership and intellectual property rights
- Ongoing employment and business opportunities at all levels
- Making, markets, food, trading, learning etc should be able to be practiced somewhere permanently (not a one-off event)
- There are effective working examples of shared arrangements with State Government (DPIE) who work with Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council on protecting and managing places
- The Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council sought that the City of Sydney provides Crown land or City-owned sites to MLALC for local Aboriginal community needs of culture, health wellbeing, housing and business.
- The Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council asked that the City of Sydney support addressing the issue of underpayment of NSW Aboriginal Land Rights fund of \$500 Million in perpetuity for all Freehold, Leasehold, Pastoral, National Parks, State Forests, Reserves and Parks as well as mineral and water

Advocacy/leadership/influence

- Encourage the City of Sydney to take on the hard issues and use position to influence other organisations including other councils and government departments
- Work with other authorities who have ownership over Crown Land parcels
- Advocate and work at local, state and federal levels

Barriers

Several existing barriers to First Nations people's cultural and spiritual use of Crown land were raised that the community want to see resolved. These include:

- Red-tape constraints to the economic use of spaces
- Barriers to the practice of living culture.

It is proposed that the City of Sydney continue to engage with the First Nations community to explore avenues to pursue the above principles and actions.

Section 5 of this plan details a series of "Community Guiding Principles". It is proposed that ongoing management of Crown and community land pursue these principles.

Specific feedback related to Erskineville Oval

The engagement report identifies the following outcomes specifically related to the subject site.

What we heard - Specific POMs snapshot:

Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve, Erskineville



Number of people who commented on this park:



17

people completed the online survey for Erskineville Oval & Harry Noble Reserve Park.



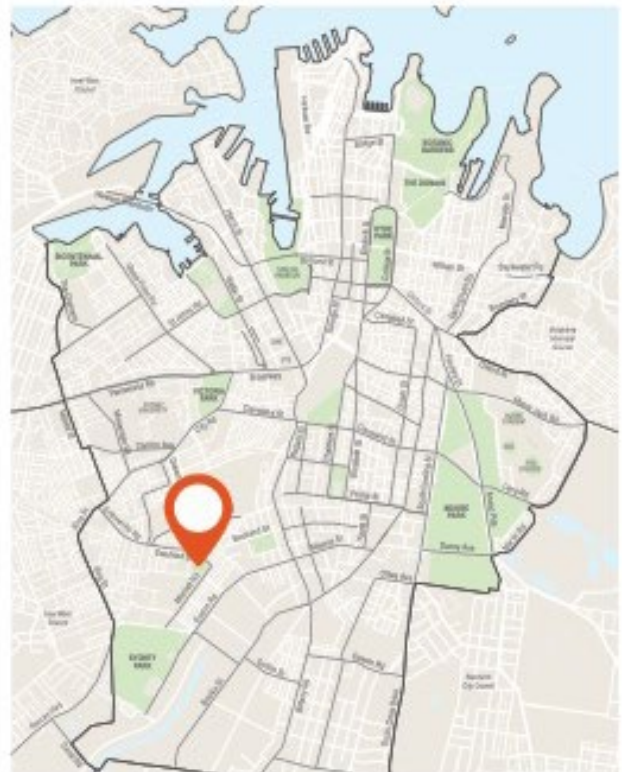
17

people participated in the community pop-ups at Harry Noble Reserve.

Current visitation to Erskineville Oval & Harry Noble Reserve

Survey respondents were more likely to live nearby to the area (82%; 14 respondents). This was followed by respondents who visit the area (29%; 5) and work nearby (18%; 3).

- Approximately one third of survey respondents visit the park weekly (29%; 5), or monthly (29%; 5); followed by respondents who visit daily (24%; 4)
- The majority of respondents usually visit Erskineville Oval & Harry Noble Reserve in the afternoon/evening (6pm - 9pm) (65%; 11). This was followed by afternoon (12pm - 4pm) (41%; 7) and early morning and morning (before 9am and 9am - 12pm) (35%; 6, respectively).



Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve, Erskineville

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What people value about Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve

Overall

Across engagement, participants were asked to choose what they value most about Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve.

As shown in Table 6 2, the top values as indicated by all engagement participants was that it is a relaxing place (47%; 16). This was followed by 35% or 12 participants (respectively) that indicated it's a peaceful place, it's family friendly, it's friendly and welcoming and it's a place for community.

Survey

Top values as indicated by survey respondents are:

- It's a cultural place (59%; 10 respondents)
- Its a peaceful place (41%; 7), and
- Its a relaxing place and its family friendly (35%; 6, respectively).

Other reasons why respondents value Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve include that there are public toilets there, it has an open view to the sky and it is unceded Aboriginal land.

Pop-up

Top values as indicated by pop-up participants are:

- It is a place for community (65%; 11 participants)
- Its a relaxing place (59%; 10), and
- It's easy to access for everyone (59%; 10 respectively).

Participants also told us they value Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve because it is a dog friendly place.

Respondents told us...

"Erskineville has evolved into a diverse and family centric community. It has been a place for new mums to gather and support each other, people to exercise their dogs and local schoolchildren to enjoy given limited school facilities."

- Survey respondent

"The oval and park is the beating heart of the Erskineville community, with many homes with small or no backyards it's a meeting place for kids and adults, a chance to catch up, relax and unwind or walk the dog."

- Survey respondent

"Oval is good for community use, exercise and running. Park is lovely to picnic, play, wander and sit. Sometimes there are too many dogs."

- Survey respondent



Table 2 - What do you value most about this place? Choose up to 5

Values	Survey		Pop-ups		Total	
	%	#	%	#	%	#
It's a relaxing place	35	6	59	10	47	16
It's a peaceful place	41	7	29	5	35	12
It's family friendly	35	6	35	6	35	12
It's friendly and welcoming	29	5	41	7	35	12
It's a place for community	6	1	65	11	35	12
It's well maintained	18	3	41	7	29	10
It's accessible	0	0	59	10	29	10
It's a cultural place	59	10	**	**	-	-
It feels safe	24	4	29	5	26	9
Its nature and natural elements	24	4	29	5	26	9
Its beauty	18	3	12	2	15	5
It's a fun place	6	1	18	3	12	4
Its formal/traditional design	12	2	6	1	9	3
Its buzzing atmosphere	6	1	12	2	9	3
It's a place for sport	0	0	18	3	9	3
Its history & heritage	0	0	12	2	6	2
It's interesting	6	1	0	0	3	1
It's an iconic place	6	1	0	0	3	1
Its diverse landscape	6	1	0	0	3	1
It's a spiritual place connecting to a sense of Country	0	0	6	1	3	1
Its views	*	*	6	1	-	-
Other (please specify)	18	3	82	14	50	17
Total participants (#)	17		17		34	

*This value was not an option in the online survey

**This value was not an option on the pop-up boards, however was significant for survey respondents

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Current activities at Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve

Overall

As shown in Table 73 the top activity consultation respondents are doing at this park is walking to get somewhere else (59%; 20). This was followed by:

- Walking or running for exercise (56%; 19)
- Sitting and relaxing (41%; 14), and
- Walking the dog (41%; 14).

Survey

59% or 10 survey respondents indicated the most popular activities they currently do at Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve is walking through to get somewhere else.

This was followed by walking or running for exercise (47%; 8) and meeting with friends (41%; 7).

Other activities survey respondents currently do at this park include astronomy.

Pop-up

59% or 10 pop-up participants respectively indicated the most popular activities they do at Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve are walking their dog and walking through to get to somewhere else.

Other activities pop-up participants do at Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve is sitting and relaxing and walking for exercise.

Future activities at Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve

One pop-up participant would like to do group fitness classes at the park in the future. Survey respondents suggested:

- Placing a turf cricket square at the ground
- Providing information about the history and heritage of the place, and
- More exercise equipment, BBQs, and a children's playground including water play.

Table 3 - What are the main activities you do here?

Activities	Survey		Pop-ups		Total	
	%	#	%	#	%	#
Walk through to get somewhere else	59	10	59	10	59	20
Walking or running for exercise	47	8	65	11	56	19
Sitting and relaxing	41	7	41	7	41	14
Walking the dog	24	4	59	10	41	14
Meet with friends	41	7	35	6	38	13
Picnics and BBQs	24	4	41	7	32	11
Watching the world go by	41	7	24	4	32	11
Playing with kids	24	4	29	5	26	9
Enjoying nature	35	6	18	3	26	9
Informal games and sports	12	2	18	3	15	5
Sight-seeing/enjoying the views	12	2	12	2	12	4
Cycle, scoot or skate	12	2	12	2	12	4
Eat lunch	18	3	0	0	9	3
Fitness training or classes	12	2	6	1	9	3
Attend cultural/ community events	6	1	6	1	6	2
Attend sporting events	6	1	0	0	3	1
Formal team sports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	18	3	100	3	18	6
Total participants (#)	17		17		34	

"I like it as it is, the refurbishment done when the Rabbitohs were training there was fantastic, laser levelling of the playing surface, the removal of the outside fencing, and the painting of the grandstand. Well done."

- Survey respondent



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Additional comments about Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve

Survey respondents and pop-up participants were asked if there was anything else they would like to share about Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve, with comments including:

- It is loved by the community
- The public toilets are an asset, and
- It is important open space for the growing community.

Respondents told us...

"Erskineville oval and Harry noble deserve more investment in amenity as more high density living has been created and is planned. More people but less access will drive more stress and conflict over desired use e.g. children vs dogs vs young adults. Park Sydney and like developments are delivering more people but haven't seen similar investment in community amenity."

- Survey respondent

"Having parks with public toilets is really important for extended park gatherings with family and friends so I think they should be opened as much as possible."

- Survey respondent

"Needs more undercover picnic areas"

- Survey respondent

"It is well used and loved by the community."

- Survey respondent



Image: Pop-up consultation at Erskineville Oval.
(Source: Matthew Duchesne/ Fancy Boy Photography)

2. Land description

Location and description

Erskineville Oval including Harry Noble Reserve is located on Fox Avenue, Erskineville. The precinct is bordered by the collector roads of Mitchell Street, Copeland/Swanson Street and Ashmore Street. The park has two distinct precincts – Erskineville Oval and Grandstand dedicated to active and organised sports, and Harry Noble Reserve which forms the primary park space.

A Site Plan has been provided on page 18, refer to **Figure 2**. The table below summarises key land information for Erskineville Oval.

Table 1. Summary land information

Item	Description
Site Name	Erskineville Oval including Harry Noble Reserve
Address	149 Mitchell Road, Erskineville
Ownership	Crown (The State of New South Wales)
Crown Reserve No., purpose and gazetted date	Dedication 500429, Public Recreation, 18/11/1942
Zoning	RE1 Public Recreation
Area	Erskineville Oval – 29,997.94m ² Harry Noble Reserve – 10,800m ²
Lot & DP	
Crown Reserve	Lot 10 DP 1163738 (Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve)
Miscellaneous Land	Land and Housing Corporation: Lot 11 DP 1163738 – Erskineville Oval Lot 12 DP 1163738 and Lot 2 DP 529823 – Harry Noble Reserve
Restrictions / easements	N/A

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Item	Description
Community land categorisation	
Erskineville Oval	General Community Use / Park / Sportsground
Harry Noble Reserve	Park
Condition of land	refer to Table 2 for Condition Summary

Figure 2. Site Plan



Heritage and culture

Overview

The land Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve are situated upon lies on the Gadigal people's traditional lands.

Post colonisation, the site was part of land grants to Nicholas Divine in 1794 and John Thomas Campbell in 1825, and later sold to William Hutchinson in 1829. The land remained undeveloped due to protracted lawsuits until in 1885, 22 acres bounded by Ashmore, Binning, Swanson and Copeland Streets and Mitchell Road was proclaimed as Macdonaldtown Park. The name was changed to Erskineville Park when the municipality name changed in 1892.

A sportsground for cricket and football was built in the park, and the football ground was later enlarged for Australian Rules matches. It was the home ground for the Newtown Rugby League Team from 1913 to 1954.

In 1937, the park was taken over to build model housing, which was known as the Erskineville Housing Scheme. Sixteen blocks of flats and the Lady Gowrie Child Care Centre were built on part of the park and the sports oval was reconstructed in its current position. The child care centre was an integral part of the progressive new housing estate, designed to provide families with young children better living conditions.

Upon completion of the housing scheme, the residual land being the remaining 2 acres of the original 22 acre park were handed back to Council, with the formation of Harry Noble Reserve to the West to add to the Erskineville Oval precinct.

Harry Noble Reserve was named after a local Alderman and state politician.

The park and oval have had a long-standing association with community use, providing important recreational green space in the suburb with few open parks and spaces for the many residents of the surrounding Erskineville area. The park is also located in proximity to Newtown and Redfern/Waterloo and has an ongoing association with the development of Aboriginal sports and social history within the areas.

Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve provide a civic focus and are of high local aesthetic and social significance as an active

and passive open space in the area and is integral to the surrounding streetscape.

Heritage Context

Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve are not identified on Schedule 7 Environmental Heritage of the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012. They are located within the boundaries of Erskineville Estate—HCA 22, and in the vicinity of the following places:

- Malcom Estate—HCA 24
- Electrical Substation (1A Ashmore Street)—SLEP # I1603
- St Mary's Church Group including buildings and their interiors and fencing (21-23 Swanson Street)—SLEP #I1627
- Terrace group including interiors (30-33 Copeland Street)—SLEP #I13

History

The two park spaces are located on part of grants to Nicholas Divine in 1794 and John Thomas Campbell in 1825, sold to William Hutchinson in 1829. The land remained undeveloped due to protracted lawsuits until in **1885**, when **22 acres** bounded by Ashmore, Binning, Swanson and Copeland Streets and Mitchell Road was **proclaimed as Macdonaldtown Park**. The name was changed to **Erskineville Park** when the municipality name changed in **1892**.

In the **1930's**, part of Erskineville Park was recycled for an experiment in public housing, which saw the construction of seven blocks of dwellings by 1938. The NSW Government's Erskineville Rehousing Scheme set an example to encourage councils to replace slums with low-cost housing. Previous housing in the area had been described as badly built and poorly ventilated, with 'crude sanitary arrangements'. Over half the old houses had no bathroom or laundry. Few of the kitchens had running water and most of the buildings were dilapidated.

Instead of clearing the slum houses, however, the new dwellings were built on part of Erskineville Park. The **Erskineville Rehousing Scheme** area is now bounded by Elliott Avenue, Swanson, Binning and Ashmore streets. Another part of the park was taken over for the **Lady Gowrie Child Care Centre, completed in 1940**. The centre was part of a national program of the

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Commonwealth Government aimed at improving the poor health and nutrition of many inner-city children. It was named after Lady Gowrie, the wife of Baron Gowrie who was Australia's Governor-General in 1936–1945.

The residue of just over **2 acres was returned to Council in 1955** and the **bowling club was built in 1956**. This **reserve was named in 1960 after Harry Noble**, an Alexandria alderman from 1928 to 1932 and State MP for Redfern from 1947 until his death in 1949, at the age of 58. Harry was born in Darlington in 1891 and trained as a gasfitter with the railways where he was employed from 1908 until his election to Parliament. He was an active member of the ALP and served on Bill McKell's campaign committee for 21 years until he succeeded him in the seat. His son Cliff Noble was a City Council alderman from 1959 to 1965.

In **2006, a major upgrade** was carried out to provide training facilities for the South Sydney Rabbitohs Rugby League Club during the complete redevelopment of Redfern Oval.

Statement of Significance

The following Statement of Significance has been taken from the Erskineville Estate Heritage Conservation Area inventory sheet.

The Conservation Area is of local historical significance for being dedicated as Macdonaldtown Park in 1885 and for the later development of the western section of the park for the Erskineville Housing Scheme. The housing scheme was in response to the Housing Improvement Act of 1936 and 1937 and was an important precursor to work undertaken later by the NSW Housing Commission in the post-World War II period. The housing scheme is rare example of public housing erected during the inter - war period and the only major scheme to have been built by the Housing Improvement Board.

The Erskineville Housing Scheme has important associations with two prominent and influential architects William Ronald Richardson and Morton Herman, while its planning and design of the individual buildings demonstrate the influence of advanced European thinking on public housing. The clean simple lines of the Erskineville Public Housing Scheme reflect the austerity of the times and the influence of European functionalism on architecture of the Inter - war period.

The buildings and open space that make up the Scheme are generally intact and provide important

evidence of inter - war attitudes to social issues and concepts of appropriate responses to "slum" clearance.

The Lady Gowrie Child Centre, which has close visual and historical connections with the Erskineville Scheme, remains as Sydney's example of the six centres built in the Australia's six capitals in the 1930s. Designed by prominent architectural practice of Fowell, McConnell and Mansfield, it provides evidence of the attitudes towards the care of children in the inter-war period.

Erskineville Park has high local aesthetic and social significance as an active and passive open space in the area and is integral to the surrounding streetscape. It also provides a civic focus.

Key Heritage features

The following elements within the reserve are key features contributing to the signifies and character of Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve.

Erskineville Oval:

- Oval, including the sandstone retaining wall and edging
- Grandstand
- Grassed areas around the perimeter of the oval
- Mature plantings to the perimeter of the site, including Eucalyptus trees planted on the boundaries of the oval and a band of Lombardy Poplars which form a strong end to the north-east corner of the Oval, accentuating the broadly banked landform.

Harry Noble Reserve:

- Open grassed areas
- Stone retaining wall to the perimeter of the park
- There are a number of Eucalypts on the western edge of the reserve and Peppermint Trees on the eastern edge which contribute to the setting of the park and tie into the streetscape of the heritage conservation area.

Note: the plantings within these two spaces are not identified on the City of Sydney Significant Tree Register however, are considered significant to the character and setting of the heritage conservation area and setting of the reserves and adjacent streets.

Environment and landscape

Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve (separated by Fox Avenue) have played a major role in the provision of sporting and informal open space within the inner city suburbs of Erskineville, Alexandria and neighbouring areas.

Physical Characteristics

Landform, Soil, Drainage

The Erskineville / Alexandria district is located on the side of a valley in the form of a broad amphitheatre. It is possible to view the whole district from Sydney Park. Erskineville Oval lies on a relatively flat, low point of this valley and is approximately 10 metres above sea level.

The precinct was established on old swamp lands as these were considered unsafe for any other type of development.

The major soil characteristic consists of fine to medium grained, well sorted marine quartz sand, with a high soil permeability and a very low fertility. The precinct lies in the extensive dune system of the Botany Lowlands.

Erskineville Oval has an established a reputation as a reliable 'wet weather' sporting venue as excellent drainage exists on all grassed surfaces. This is enhanced by the soil's drainage capabilities, and the concrete dish drain with stormwater sumps which encircles the Oval and removes excess surface water.

Microclimate

The surrounding topography and vegetation contribute little to protecting the precinct from harsh winds. The precinct is particularly prone to the southerly winds that start on Botany Bay and pick up momentum moving along the lowlands towards the valley that contains the Erskineville Oval precinct. This can affect levels of comfort for users within the precinct.

Landscape Character and visual amenity

Upgrades over the last 20 years have enhanced the overall landscape identity and improved the visual relationship of the open space with the streetscapes. The tree lined streets on the north, south and east side boundaries contribute to the overall setting of both park and oval.

The visual amenity of the precinct has been greatly improved since 2004 with upgrades to boundary edge treatments – walls and fences

(materials and location) to both Harry Noble Reserve and the Oval. Entries to both spaces have been made apparent with entry features and improved signage.

The lack of street tree planting on the west side of Fox Avenue and parking detracts from the overall setting. A more continuous tree canopy would help to soften, green and provide a shaded route along this edge.

The precinct is visually linked with its immediate neighbourhood, particularly through views along the adjacent streets while vantage points within the precinct also allow certain distant views including those to Sydney's Central Business District.

The sloping grassed banks to the oval enable long views over the oval with the streetscape/ boundary tree planting providing a pleasant green backdrop to the space.

The new 6-7 storey residential development on Ashmore Street overlooking the oval, has replaced the large format warehouse/light industrial buildings and a sense of enclosure on the southern edge of the oval.

Harry Noble Reserve is characterised by its large central open grassed areas with mature shade trees to the periphery. Park furniture, seating and picnic settings are located around the central grassed area. A shaded playground is located on the southern boundary between the park and adjacent bowling club.

Views in and out of the park are possible on the north, east and west sides. The southern boundary is bordered by the child care centre and bowling club. The park boundaries are defined by a low sandstone block wall to 3 sides with defined entries into the park at each corner and on Swanson Street at the intersection with Park Street.

Planting and Layout

The existing vegetation structure consists of introduced Australian native plants, primarily Eucalypt species supplemented by plantings of exotic trees. The native plantings are generally located on the perimeter of Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve, while the exotic species act as a specimen or street tree plantings. Erskineville Oval has a band of Lombardy Poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') which form a strong edge to the north-east corner of the Oval, accentuating the broadly banked landform.

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

The street tree plantings are important streetscape elements while also linking spaces for similar land use. The trees contribute to the character of the street and adjacent open spaces. There is very understorey planting in the park with some small planted areas around the play space in Harry Noble Reserve.

Access and Circulation

Access to the park – The park is easily accessed from the surrounding street network.

There is no parking available within the open space, but unrestricted parking is available on the surrounding streets and Fox Avenue. Fox Avenue has unrestricted parking both sides of the street with car spaces in constant use.

The park can be easily accessed from public transport with bus stops available on Mitchell Road and Swanson/Copeland Streets. The park is also within walking distance of Erskineville Station.

Shared paths on three sides of Erskineville Oval provide connections to the local city cycle networks and connections to Erskineville Station and Sydney Park.

The park/oval can be entered from various points on all boundaries. The main access point to the oval and facilities is from Fox Avenue, on the north side of the grandstand.

Pathways within the Harry Noble Reserve are situated on key desire lines from Fox Avenue to Elliot Avenue and Swanson Street.

Reserve development

Erskineville Oval has had major renovations. The first was the NSW Government's Erskineville Rehousing Scheme which took place in 1937. The second occurred in 2006 in anticipation of the South Sydney Rabbitohs' temporary use of the oval.

The following is a summary of the key milestones in the development of the open spaces:

- 22 acres bounded by Ashmore, Binning, Swanson and Copeland streets and Mitchell Road proclaimed as Macdonaldtown Park in 1885
- Name was changed to Erskineville Park when the municipality name changed in 1892
- Part of Erskineville Park was recycled for an experiment in public housing in the 1930's

- Oval was reconstructed in 1940's in its current position, and Fox Avenue constructed bisecting the space
- 2 acres of land was returned to Council in 1955 from the public housing project
- Harry Noble Reserve named in 1960
- Major upgrades to Erskineville Oval in 2006.

2006 upgrade works:

In 2006, Erskineville Oval received facility upgrades in preparation for its temporary use by the South Sydney Rabbitohs as a training ground. This upgrade was done in consultation between the City of Sydney and the South Sydney Rugby League Club. The following works were undertaken:

- Improvement of the oval playing surface e.g. top dressing and turf grass improvements
- Installation of an oval perimeter fence (one metre high)
- Repairs and painting to timber bench seats in stadium and open air seating area
- Provision of a pedestrian path between Ashmore Street and Fox Avenue
- Improvements and upgrades to the pedestrian access onto the oval from Ashmore Street
- Completion of an arborist review/maintenance works on existing trees
- Provision of some new tree plantings
- General audit of existing building conditions and minor building repairs, including painting and gutter replacement
- Upgrade of oval training lights (replaced luminaries)
- Upgrade of public toilet facilities.

Capital Works Upgrades:

The City of Sydney has also foreshadowed in its forward capital works planning the following projects:

1. Water Re-Use Project

- Re-instatement of the bore pump onsite which pumps into existing storage tank (35kL)
- Potential to add another tank for increased reliability and for treated water ready for

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

irrigation (not in sketch below, but to be part of next revision)

- Configuration of grandstand and adjacent buildings downpipes for rainwater capture and gravity feeding into the storage tanks
- Potable water top-up of storage and/or irrigation tank with EC meter
- Install new treatment processes including screen filters, UV filter to treat the water prior to use (within storage rooms onsite)
- Utilise existing irrigation system in Erskineville Oval

2. Small Parks Upgrade to Harry Noble Reserve

- Playground replacement, court and landscaping works proposed for 2023.

Past studies and master plans:

- Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016
- Erskineville Oval Draft Plan of Management and Master Plan 1992

Reserve purpose and community use

Crown Reserve Purpose

Crown land is to be used for the original purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved. Multiple uses of reserves are encouraged, where those uses are consistent with the original purpose of the Crown reserve.

The public purpose for Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve Crown reserve is **Public Recreation**.

Community usage

The precinct accommodates a variety of uses and activities, providing an essential amenity to the Erskineville / Alexandria district. The oval and park space both attract intense usage for active and passive recreation. Harry Noble Reserve is popular for keeping active and getting together with family and friends.

Types of activities include team ball sports (football codes and cricket); fitness training groups; school groups; children's play; informal netball; social ball games, off-leash dog walking;

pedestrian and cycling access; picnic and BBQ; sitting and rest, and occasional community events.

The precinct is regularly used as a pedestrian through route linking the surrounding neighbourhoods to Erskineville Station. Local school groups are major precinct users with school sports activities on the oval.

The oval is predominantly used for organised spectator sporting events and is in high demand on weekends and evenings during the week from late January to September.

- Winter use: Rugby League, Rugby Union, Soccer and AFL
- Summer use: cricket uses the oval on weekends from January to end of March

Conflicts between sporting codes can occur in the changeover between the two seasons.

Recent user intercept surveys undertaken for the Crown Reserves Plan of Management in 2020, indicate that the most popular activities undertaken in the park by respondents were:

- Walking to get somewhere else
- Walking or running for exercise
- Sitting and relaxing
- Walking the dog

The majority of the survey respondents were more likely to live nearby the area. Approximately one third of survey respondents visit the park on a weekly basis with the most popular time to visit being in the afternoon / evening (6pm-9pm).

Facilities

Harry Noble Reserve

- Path network: The reserve is used as thoroughfare to link the districts amenities and facilities with the neighbourhood, as well as being used by locals as an open space for various activities.

The reserve is easily accessed and is more or less in constant use either as a recreational or transitional / accessway space. Its location near to commercial activity on Swanson / Copeland Streets and higher density residential areas strengthens its importance as a much needed public open space, providing a 'village green' atmosphere.

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

- The play space: A large fenced playground with shade sail catering for children of all ages and includes swing, slide and climbing play equipment. A basketball practice hoop and netball practice area is adjacent to the playspace
- Bitumen cricket pitch
- Picnic tables, shade shelters and barbecue area
- Dog off-leash at all times.

Erskineville Oval

- Access to public toilets
- Spectator grandstand
- Changing rooms and team sports facilities
- Ancillary areas (open space areas outside of formal oval) used for sitting, relaxing, exercising and moving through the reserve.

Event use of the oval/reserve

The oval and grandstand facilities are used by sporting codes throughout the year for sporting fixtures for social, club and school sports.

Harry Noble Reserve has hosted small community focused events i.e. community consultation, community gatherings.

The City of Sydney registered a total of 17 events registered between 2015-19. Attendance ranges from 40-500. No recurring events are currently registered.

Table 2. Usage and condition of facilities and improvements

Facilities	Usage	Condition assessment (source / reference)
Erskineville Oval		
Grandstand with toilets, changerooms	Organised sports users General public (toilets)	Average (3)
Sports Oval	Organised sports Users General public	Average
Bus shelter	General public	Very Poor (5)
Water reuse/irrigation	n/a	Average
Public Toilets + Kiosk building	Organised sports Users General public	Average
Footpaths	General public	Average
Oval fence, Perimeter fence	n/a	Average
Harry Noble Reserve		
Playground Includes swing, slide and climbing play equipment.	General public	Good (2)
Basketball/Netball practice area	General public	Average
Picnic Shelters	General public	Average
BBQ	General public	Average
Park Furniture - Seats	General public	Average
Park Furniture - Bins	General public	Average
Park Furniture - Lighting	n/a	Average
Park Furniture – Signage (CoS)	General public	Average
Park Entry & Arbor/Pergola	General public	Average
Footpaths		Average

(#) City of Sydney Asset Assessment - other assessments by general observation for PoM

Table 3. Existing leases and licences

Lease / licence	Crown Reserve / Lot and DP	Lease / licence holder	Date commenced Date expiring Term	Purpose / Comments
Heads of Agreement – Erskineville Oval	R.500429 / part Lot 10 DP 1163738	South Sydney District Junior Football Club	01/03/2017 Expiry 01/03/2022 5 years	Usage includes playing of Rugby League Football games and training Currently in negotiation for new Licence Agreement. The Club occupies the entirety of Erskineville Oval, including the grandstand and change rooms.

3. Legislative context

Ownership and management

Erskineville Oval is a Crown reserve owned by the State of New South Wales. The City of Sydney is the Crown land manager responsible for the management of the Crown reserve. Refer to **Section 2**, pages 16-17 for further property details.

Relevant legislation

Crown Land Management Act 2016

Crown land is governed by the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (“**CLM Act**”). Historically, reserve trust managers were appointed as the custodians of Crown reserves. Upon the introduction of the CLM Act in 2018, the reserve trust regime was abolished. The management of Crown reserves is now delegated to Crown land managers, many of which are local councils.

The Objectives of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 under section 1.3 are identified as:

- Provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of NSW
- Provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land
- Require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be considered in decision-making about Crown land
- Provide for the consistent, efficient, fair and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of NSW
- Facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of NSW because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land
- Provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

State Environmental Planning Policy – Infrastructure 2007

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (“**ISEPP**”) aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across NSW. The Infrastructure SEPP assists local government and the communities they support by simplifying the process for providing essential infrastructure.

The ISEPP has specific planning provisions and development controls for 25 types of infrastructure works or facilities including roads, emergency services, electricity delivery, parks and other public reserves and telecommunications networks.

The ISEPP outlines the planning rules for such works and facilities, including:

- Where such development can be undertaken
- What type of infrastructure development can be approved by a public authority under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (“**EP&A Act**”) following an environmental assessment (known as ‘development without consent’)
- What type of development can be approved by the relevant local council, Minister for Planning or Department of Planning under Part 4 of the EP&A Act (known as ‘development with consent’)
- What type of development is exempt or complying development.

Of relevance to Erskineville Oval is Clause 65 that specifies that development for any purpose may be carried out without consent if the development is for the purposes of implementing an adopted Plan of Management. The clause also lists a range of ancillary developments permitted without consent.

Clause 66 provides for a range of exempt developments within a public reserve such as the construction, maintenance and repair of walking tracks, boardwalks, stairways, gates, seats shelters and shade structures.

Applicable planning controls for the reserve

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Local Environmental Plans are statutory planning tools that set controls over development in the area to which they apply and are one of the main instruments for implementing the EP&A Act. They contain zoning controls as well as controls for heritage conservation areas and protected areas, amongst other matters.

Erskineville Oval is zoned **RE1 – Public Recreation**.

1 Objectives of zone

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes
- To provide links between open space areas
- To retain and promote access by members of the public to areas in the public domain including recreation facilities and waterways and other natural features.

2 Permitted without consent

Environmental protection works

3 Permitted with consent

Aquaculture; Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Centre-based child care facilities; Community facilities; Electricity generating works; Emergency services facilities; Environmental facilities; Food and drink premises; Horticulture; Information and education facilities; Jetties; Kiosks; Marinas; Markets; Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Registered clubs; Research stations; Respite day care centres; Roads; Roadside stalls; Signage; Water recreation structures; Water recycling facilities; Water supply systems

4 Prohibited

Any development not specified in item 2 or 3.

Native Title

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 the City of Sydney include:

- The construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, tennis courts, grandstands and barbecues
- The construction of extensions to existing buildings
- The construction of new roads
- Installation of infrastructure such as powerlines, 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 the City of Sydney 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.

The City of Sydney 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.

Heritage management

The planning and management of Erskineville Oval including Harry Noble Reserve will respond and adhere to any Local or State heritage listings if they should be proposed in the future.

At the time of preparation of this Plan of Management, Erskineville Oval including Harry Noble Reserve were not listed at either level.

4. Strategic context

Past planning and management

Planning and management directions have been established for Erskineville Oval including Harry Noble Reserve through past master planning and plans of management (Erskineville Oval Draft Plan of Management 1992). This Plan of Management references the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016, as the current planning direction for the reserve and supersedes the Draft Plan of Management 1992.

Key strategic directions

The following guiding strategic directions are summarised for the planning and management of Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve.

Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016

The following Strategic Directions are items specific to Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve:

- 8. Looking After Our Parks, Sport and Recreation Facilities:** Efficient and effective planning, management and maintenance of our resources.

Directions:

- 8.1** Continue the preparation of Plans of Management and Master Plans to provide long term strategic directions and ensure that decision-making takes a coordinated approach.
- Prepare and update specific plans of management.
 - Update and revise park master plans - Erskineville Oval / Harry Noble Reserve.

City of Sydney Strategies

- The City of Sydney's Liveable Green Network Open Space / Recreation Facility Linkages.

Key Directions/Projects:

- Erskineville Oval/Harry Noble Reserve – Master Plan Review, update, and revise.
- **Sydney Water - Epsom to Bourke Road Easement** - Creation of open space link to provide connections to Perry Park, Green Square, Erskineville Oval.

Draft Plan of Management and Master Plan 1992

The following summary from the Draft Plan of Management and Master Plan 1992 has been included here for reference as an effective guiding vision:

The main focus of the Master Plan is to re-establish the Erskineville Oval Precinct as one complete element by linking Erskineville Oval with Harry Noble Reserve, establishing clear entry / arrival points into the precinct, creating a Precinct character through the original park plantings and developing a 'family' of individual park furniture.

Many of the strategies outlined within the Master Plan 1992 have been implemented.

Demographic context

As part of the Plan of Management process Cred Consulting reviewed the demographic and recreational context of the subject reserve which provides useful background to ongoing planning and management.

Key observations are summarised following:

More residents

The City of Sydney's increasing resident population and density will result in more use and capacity pressures on all levels of the open space network, particularly the larger parks that offer opportunities for active sport.

The majority of population growth will be accommodated in various urban renewal areas. This trend will continue over the next 10-15 years.

The planning of urban renewal areas will provide opportunities to increase the open space and recreation facility network provision and provide linkages to the established open space network.

More workers and visitors

In the city centre and other concentrations of workforce population and visitors the quality of public spaces to allow people to lunch sit and socialise as well as provision of larger spaces for lunch time sport and exercise needs to be an important consideration.

Increasing density

Open space provision will be critical to the liveability of higher density urban areas by supporting community well-being, physical activity, social interaction, and a sense of space within an otherwise intensive built environment.

More lone persons

The acceptance for high density housing in order to live close to the city centre and lone person households places importance on the distribution of the open space network to ensure people have convenient access to a park that serves as a “backyard” and facilitates social interaction and recreation opportunities. Open space planning and management is an important component of the liveability and quality of high density developments.

More young and old people

The age structure profiles increasing in the city of families with young children, young adults, and older people are expected to be heavy users of open space network.

In 2041, 47% of the City of Sydney’s residents will be between 18 and 34 years of age. This age group has high participation rates in active sports and recreation, and many reside in new high density urban renewal areas which suggests higher density communities could potential be very active communities and will require opportunities for physical activity and social interaction.

The open space network needs to be flexible and provide a diverse offer of recreational, social, cultural and creative activities and facilities to cater for various age, cultural and income groups.

Total population

City of Sydney is forecast to grow by 949,824 people or 37% in 2041. The highest growth will be in Green Square-City South, CBD-Harbour, Chinatown-CBD South and Redfern Street villages respectively.

Service age structure

Decrease in the proportion of 25 to 49 year old people

While the working age population will remain the largest demographic group to 2041, the proportion of this age group decreases across the Local Government Area (“LGA”). The villages with the most significant change in this age group proportion will be King Street (-5%), Glebe Point Road (-4%), Harris Street (-4%), Macleay Street-Woolloomooloo (-4%) and Oxford Street (-4%).

Increase in the proportion of 60 to 84 year old people

The proportion of people aged between 60 and 84 years is forecast to increase by 2% in 2041. While the increase in proportion of 60 to 69 year old people is consistent across all villages within the LGA, the increase in proportion of 70 to 84 year old people varies. The villages with the highest increase in proportion of 70 to 84 year old people will be Glebe Point Road (+4%), Crown – Baptist Streets (+3%), Harris Street (+3%), Macleay Street-Woolloomooloo (+3%) and Oxford Street (+3%).

Households

The total number of dwellings in the LGA is forecast to increase by 35%. The villages that will see the highest increase in number of households are CBD-Harbour, Green Square – City South and Redfern Street. Villages including CBD-Harbour and Redfern Street with a high number of Crown lands will cater to an increasing number of households by 2041.

Household type

The overall LGA is forecast to see a high increase in households with one parent families and group households. However, there are variations in forecast household type across the villages including those within this PoM study area:

- CBD-Harbour and Redfern Street will have a steep increase in one parent families
- King Street will have a high increase in other families, group households and couples without dependants

Overnight and daily visitors

The City of Sydney is Sydney's premier metropolitan core that contains regional and village level services including retail to health, education to entertainment. The Sydney CBD and surrounds are also attractive places for tourists to visit, explore and stay overnight.

Given the diversity of offerings across the LGA, visitors are distributed to places such as Oxford Street, Kings Cross/Darlinghurst, Newtown, the Rocks, Chinatown and Central Station. Accommodation is provided throughout the LGA via short term rental accommodation as well as through traditional hotel and hostel services. The City of Sydney's experiences 680,000 daily and overnight visitors for range of purposes and services including:

- Shopping
- Health and education
- Recreation and entertainment
- Accommodation
- Personal business
- Work related business.

It is forecast that this will grow to approximately 860,000 by 2036. (*Source: Infrastructure Baseline Assessment, City of Sydney 2019*)

Social and cultural considerations (as per 2016 census data)

Cultural diversity

47.7% of City of Sydney population are born overseas with top countries of birth being China, United Kingdom and Thailand. Villages areas with highest born overseas rates include Chinatown and CBD South (76%), Harris Street (57.1%) and Green Square and City South (54.7%).

36.1% of City of Sydney population speak a language other than English with top languages being Mandarin, Thai and Cantonese. Village areas with highest percentage of other language speakers include Chinatown and CBD South (71%), Harris Street (47.1%) and Green Square and City South (45.9%).

Low-income households

18.2% of households in City of Sydney LGA are characterised as low-income households. Village areas with highest percentage of low-income households include Redfern Street (29.5%), Chinatown and CBD South (17.5%) and King Street (15.6%).

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA Index)

City of Sydney has a SEIFA index 1,027. Village areas with lowest SEIFA scores being Chinatown and CBD South (940.2) and Redfern Street (970.2).

City of Sydney Policy and Strategy framework

The City of Sydney has developed an extensive range of policies which provide guidance to Council decision-making. A number of these influence planning and management decision-making for open space and must be referred to in conjunction with this Plan of Management.

The City of Sydney has also developed a range of strategies focused on specific issues. While strategies are high-level guideline documents and usually carry less influence than policies, they can provide important references for planning and management of open space.

Generally, policy guidance for management of specific issues shall take precedence where no guidance is provided in the plan. However, all decision-making, and ongoing management must also have regard to the conservation of the specific park values and application of the core objectives of the applicable community land category/categories.

A summary of the key policies and strategies is provided in the Appendices to this plan.

Future Policy and Strategy guidance

In addition, it is intended that future policy and strategy development should also inform specific aspects of reserve planning and management as applicable.

5. Community guiding principles

The City acknowledges the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of our local area, and we acknowledge their continued Connection to Country. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging.

The City of Sydney has an important role as caretaker of these places. We will consciously consider these principles in the decisions we make for the Crown and community land we are responsible for. This includes how we maintain, change, and manage this land.

Aboriginal world view of Country – First Nations workshop participant

Country is our identity; spiritually, culturally, physically, and socially. We refer to Country as part of the family. We speak to Country; we sing to Country; and we dance for Country.

Increasingly we worry for Country and seek greater protection measures to carry out our cultural obligations to the land and waterways. These are our fundamental rights and cultural responsibilities in protecting country as First Nations People.

Community and place

These are the principles for our plans of management for Crown and community land. They were developed by listening to our communities – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, community gardeners, bushcare contributors, local residents, school children, city workers and visitors, and they reflect their values.

These principles are guided by the world view of Aboriginal people. They reframe our systemic relationship with the land. Since invasion, the relationship between people and land has been disrupted with little respect for the land, animals, waterways, and First Peoples. We've seen the extinction of plants and animals and damage to waterways and land. Aboriginal lives have been lost in trying to protect Country. By challenging our approach in this way, we hope to cause no further harm and begin to heal.

We are on Gadigal Country

These principles are founded in the understanding of **Country** in the worldview of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This understanding of Country includes the landscape – land, water and sky, the plants and animals, and the relationship between these. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's responsibility for Care of Country and the continuation of these relationships. Country has existed in this place for thousands of generations. Country precedes the colonial boundaries and definitions of 'Crown land'. We acknowledge the responsibility that First Nations people have in the carriage of their living cultures including access to land for practising culture. Crown and community land should bring social, spiritual, and economic benefit to First Nations people.

We commit to truth-telling and decolonisation

Gadigal Country was never ceded. In managing the Crown and Community land in Gadigal Country, we recognise the significance of this land as the site of invasion.

We work towards telling the history of these places with honesty and acknowledge the negative impacts caused to Country and to the people.

We endeavour to cause no further harm to Aboriginal people and the relationship they hold to the land.

We challenge ourselves to decolonise our approach to managing Crown and community land. This is evident in the decisions we make as we manage these places.

We value how important these places are to people's wellbeing

Crown and community land are a place of refuge and respite in an intensely urban environment. These places have cultural and community significance to many people. They are places of shared identity and pride, of community connection and celebration, and of protest and social transformation. They must be welcoming to all people and will provide equity of access to all to enjoy. We strengthen the connections between and within these places.

We are guided by Country and strive to heal and care for it

We learn about how this Country has been cared for thousands of generations. We respect the natural landforms, waterways, and endemic species. We work to heal places that have suffered degradation. We support these places to play their role in the health of the whole environment.

We protect these places for future generations

We accept our role as caretakers of these places. These places must benefit the community now and in the future. As we face a changing climate and growing population, we make decisions that prepare these places and ensure their continued health into the future.

Guiding documents

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Principles of Co-operation with Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council

City of Sydney Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols

City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2020-2023

City of Sydney Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy

Designing with Country – NSW State Architects

6. Basis for management

Values and roles of Erskineville Oval

Community values and roles have guided the development of this Plan of Management. Values are the qualities and roles of the park that the community wishes to protect, conserve, and enhance. These have been identified through:

- Consideration of past plans of management and master planning for the site
- Past and current community engagement
- Liaison with City of Sydney staff
- Site appraisal.

In brief, these values and roles are identified as:

1.0 Identity Character and Experiencing the Place

- A meaning of the place that resonates with Country
- A place which signposts and celebrates local, natural and cultural history
- A 'Village Green' for a high-density residential area

2.0 Access, Connections and Accessibility

- A well-connected space to adjoining neighbourhoods and to district and regional users
 - Wayfinding that seamlessly aids access and use
 - A place that is clear, easy and safe to move around
 - An appropriately lit environment
 - A community destination accessible from the cycle network
 - A place that is not compromised by parking and vehicle access
-

3.0 Community Use and Activation

- A place of respite for users and adjacent residents
- Spaces and facilities that support youth use of the park
- A place for daily fitness
- Access to dog off leash areas
- A place that recognises and celebrates First Nations living culture
- A place for events
- A place that is open and usable by all members of community
- A safe place to visit day and night
- A place that provides access to public amenities
- A place for organised sports

4.0 Facilities and Built Infrastructure

- A heritage bus shelter
- Play facilities for the local community
- Court facilities for the general community
- Park elements that support park use and create an attractive character
- Underground infrastructure

5.0 Environment and Sustainability

- Resilient landscaping to future-proof our green spaces
- Landscaping and planting that interprets the original natural environment
- A place of diverse habitats
- Places that are connected to support biodiversity
- A place that is cool, calm and comfortable in summer heat

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- Established plantings which contribute to the park setting and habitat
- A place exhibiting water sensitive urban design
- A place exhibiting sustainable energy management
- A place exhibiting sustainable waste management practices

6.0 Culture and Heritage

- A place that represents Aboriginal people and their living culture
- A place which is a conservatory of natural and cultural heritage
- A place that connects the community to the city's past and present
- A place that provides a canvas for arts and culture

7.0 Management and Maintenance

- To provide a holistic approach to park planning
- A place which is clean, well-maintained and carefully managed
- Facilities that continue to service and meet the community's needs
- Appropriate leases and licences

Reflecting Crown reserve purpose

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (“**LG Act**”), all community land is required to be categorised. Where the land is owned by Crown Lands, one or more categories may be assigned that should align with the public purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved.

The public purpose for Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Crown reserve is **Public Recreation**.

Current / existing use

In accordance with Crown Lands requirements the City of Sydney has established initial categorisations for Erskineville Oval. The application of these categories are consistent with the way in which Erskineville Oval is currently used and has been endorsed by Crown Lands.

Any change to the initial categorisation to support a future use should be altered via an amendment to the Plan of Management and in accordance with requirements under the LG Act.

Figure 3 maps out the community land categorisations in the context of Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve.

Characteristics of the land

The physical characteristics of the land must be considered in applying community land categorisations. Land that possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature should be considered for categorisation as one of the Natural Area categories. In such a case the plan should describe the related characteristics of the land.

For Erskineville Oval there are no site characteristics that would justify Natural Area categorisation.

Likewise, where land is of Aboriginal or historical heritage significance Council should consider whether Area of Cultural Significance is applicable. This should consider whether there are heritage listings or controls on the land that address heritage conservation. Where such protections are not afforded and a site warrants

heritage significance, the Area of Cultural Significance category may be applicable.

For Erskineville Oval, **Section 2** describes the heritage characteristics of the land, and the applicable listings and controls. These will be considered in all management decisions related to the land. The additional layer of Area of Cultural Significance categorisation is not deemed to be required.

Proposed community land categorisations

Table 4 outlines the guidelines for categorisation as listed in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Part 4 - categorisation, use and management of community land for the applicable categories to Erskineville Oval. Under the guidelines for each category, their interpretation and application to Erskineville Oval is explained.

In addition, the core objectives and purpose (as outlined in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021), are also listed.

Table 4. Community land categorisation

Guidelines for categorisation and application to Erskineville Oval	Core objectives for management
<p>Sportsground</p> <p>Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.</p> <p>Application</p> <p>The Sportsground categorisation applies to the footprint of Erskineville Oval and will enable the continued use of the space for active and organised sports.</p>	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and (b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
<p>Park</p> <p>Land should be categorised as a park under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others</p> <p>Application</p> <p>The Park categorisation applies to the residual green space within Erskineville Oval and the entirety of Harry Noble Reserve. The categorisation enables the space to be used and developed to complement social, active and passive recreational activities.</p>	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.
<p>General Community Use</p> <p>Land should be categorised as general community use under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and (b) is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102–105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance. 	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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).

Erskineville Oval
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Guidelines for categorisation and application to Erskineville Oval

Core objectives for management

Application

The General Community Use categorisation applies to the footprint of the Grandstand and associated buildings. The categorisation enables these facilities to be leased/licenced for social, recreational and community purposes.

Figure 3. Community land categorisation map



7. Review of the plan

Lifespan of the plan

If the Plan of Management (“**PoM**”) is to remain relevant in the future it is essential that its implementation is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure any relevant changes are incorporated.

Changes that may need to be addressed include:

- New legislation
- Changes in community values
- Inclusion of additional land
- Project priorities
- Funding resources
- New opportunities for future upgrades.

Given that community expectations and requirements change over time, this plan also needs to have some flexibility to adapt to any changes of circumstance.

Other triggers for review / update

Should a major development or works be proposed that is not represented in the authorised uses and developments listings, the PoM will require amending.

Should changes in categorisation be proposed, the PoM will require amendment, re-exhibition and the need to undertake a public hearing prior to adoption.

Process for review

It is recommended that the plan be reviewed in the following sequences and time spans:

Annually: Monitor progress of PoM

Every five years: Undertake a review of all values based on revised analysis, issues and amended planning legislation

Review outcomes against survey information, photographic record and register of correspondence

Review and amend the PoM, where required

Every ten years: Review of the PoM

Part B

Management of community land categories

8. General requirements

This section sets out the specific requirements for the individual management areas located within Erskineville Oval and is applicable to the community land categories, as outlined in **Section 6** of this Plan of Management (“**PoM**”).

Management Framework

A Management Framework is provided in **Section 9** of this PoM. It provides a decision-making framework for the future management of Erskineville Oval and addresses the requirements of Section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993 (“**LG Act**”).

Management targets

The framework sets out management targets that define a series of “desired outcomes” for the management of Erskineville Oval. The outcomes seek to conserve and enhance the values of Erskineville Oval and address management challenges and opportunities identified by the community and City of Sydney.

Means of implementation

In response to the identified management targets, the means of implementation define recommended strategies to be implemented over the life of this PoM.

Assessment indicators and measurement

A means of assessing the achievement of the identified management targets is provided for ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

Permitted development and use

Section 36 of the LG Act states that a PoM must expressly authorise any proposed uses and development activities on community land.

The City of Sydney encourages a wide range of uses on community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of the land, where appropriate. 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 and General Community Use, and the forms of development generally associated with those uses are set out in **Sections 10-12** within this PoM.

Any proposal for the development and use of buildings, structures and spaces at Erskineville Oval will be considered on merit and benefits to the community and balanced against physical constraints, the amenity of adjoining residents and land uses.

Restrictions on management of Crown land

The City of Sydney is the Crown land manager of the Crown reserve described within this PoM in accordance with the legislation and conditions imposed by the minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016. The use and development of the land described in this PoM must:

- Be consistent with the purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved
- Consider native title rights and interests and be consistent with the provisions of the Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993
- Consider the inchoate interests of Aboriginal people where an undetermined Aboriginal Land Claim exists
- Consider and not be in conflict with any interests and rights granted under the Crown Land Management Act 2016
- Consider any interests held on title.

Legislative requirements

The Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 (“**LEP**”) specifies the range of uses and activities that may be permitted on the land, in accordance with the relevant zoning and associated objectives. Several uses are also set out in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (“**Regulation**”).

Guidelines and core objectives of the community land category

Under the LG Act, uses and the development of community land must be consistent with the guidelines for categorisation, the core objectives of each category, and any other additional objectives that Council proposes to place on the community land categories.

Consistency with Council adopted policies and strategies

Relevant Council policies and strategies as at the date of adoption of this PoM are identified in the Appendices and have been used to guide the outcomes of this PoM.

Council’s adopted policies and strategies will continue to develop after the preparation of this PoM. Management of Council assets, and their development will consider existing policies and strategic frameworks at the relevant time.

Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Protocols

Activities that involve the representation or depiction of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s heritage or living culture must adhere to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Protocols.

Community Engagement

Community engagement is guided by the City of Sydney’s Community Engagement Strategy.

To ensure that that matters impacting Crown and community land continue to reflect community values, priorities and interests, the City of Sydney will undertake engagement activities that are:

- Clear in scope and purpose
- Promote dialogue and open up a genuine discussion
- Influence outcomes and decisions
- Are inclusive and accessible

In addition, engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities must be guided by the City’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols and respect cultural practices and Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights.

In line with this Plan of Management, the Native Title Act 1993 and Crown Land Management Act 2016, the City of Sydney will always notify Traditional Custodians and Cultural Knowledge Holders on decisions about Crown land that may impact Native Title.

Buildings and structures

Express authorisation

This PoM expressly authorises the development of new buildings, structures and civil infrastructure, and the redevelopment / refurbishment of buildings, structures and civil infrastructure which support the desired use of Erskineville Oval.

Such buildings, structures and civil infrastructure will not materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes in which it was dedicated or reserved and will be consistent with the:

- Core objectives of the categories that apply to the land
- Crown reserve purpose
- LEP and any other applicable Environmental Planning Instruments
- Applicable master plans, asset management plans and any subsequent detailed design plans.

Consistent with the objectives of this PoM, development activities must also include sustainable initiatives and measures, where feasible.

Native Title and Public Works

Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land, where Native Title is not extinguished, prior to approval, the City of Sydney will ensure that Native Title Manager advice is sought to ensure that the works can be validated under the Native Title Act 1993 and the appropriate native title holders, claimants or NTSCorp will be provided

the appropriate procedural rights as required under the Native Title Act 1993.

Assessment and approval of permissible uses and development activities

The authorisation in a PoM gives ‘in principle’ support for uses and development activities consistent with the objectives for land categorisation to proceed to development assessment under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (“**EP&A Act**”).

This PoM does not in itself imply or grant consent for uses or development activities. Any proposed uses and development activities which are consistent with this PoM must still be referred for development consent and where required, be advertised widely for information and invitation to comment. Any subsequent application for development consent would be supported by and assessed against this PoM.

Prohibited activities

Activities and uses that are inconsistent with the Crown reserve purpose or core objectives associated with the applicable community land category are prohibited.

Certain activities at Erskineville Oval may also be prohibited by the applicable land use zoning. The City of Sydney may prohibit certain activities from time to time. Prohibited uses will be communicated via City bookings, lease, and licence agreements, or otherwise communicated where prohibited activities may be temporary.

Managing impacts on adjoining land uses

Uses and activities permitted at Erskineville Oval must consider the needs of and impacts on residents, workers and adjoining land uses in terms of accessibility, noise, lighting, traffic and parking.

Scale and intensity of use

The scale and intensity of development and activities on Crown and community land is to be generally compatible with the scale and anticipated use of the park, reserve and associated facility.

In particular, the scale and intensity of use will be consistent with the carrying capacity of the land, and any master plan or development consent relating to the land.

Organised sports use

This PoM specifically authorises activities at Erskineville Oval which may attract high numbers of people including organised sport activities and training, school sport competitions, commercial activities and one-off community events and performances.

The allocation of Erskineville Oval for organised sport and school sport will comply with the City of Sydney’s seasonal allocations process. Applications for permissible activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by Outdoor Venue Management.

The scale and intensity of such activities will be managed by City’s booking process and associated conditions of use.

Informal use

The intensity of use for informal recreational activities across Erskineville Oval and settings (such as playgrounds, fitness stations and park seating) will be determined by the community use of the site but will be managed to avoid undue impacts on park fabric and environment.

Commercial uses

Commercial operations for cafes, markets and kiosks that support and encourage community use of the open space, and/or address a community need are to be assessed based on the proposed scale and intensity of use and are authorised subject to compatibility with the objectives identified within this PoM.

Funding

Funding is integral to implementing the management targets identified with this PoM and is defined under two categories:

- Capital works involving the construction and development of new facilities and structures
- Maintenance and management of the park.

The implementation of this PoM is achieved through its linkage with Council's management plan, operational budget, and capital works program.

Council currently funds management and maintenance costs through its annual budget allocation and uses capital funds and 7.11 contributions for capital and nonrecurrent works.

Funding arrangements for the park need to address recurrent costs of management and maintenance, together with capital costs for new facilities or upgrading works. Funding for construction of new facilities is generally through the annual budgeting process, but special projects may be partly funded through New South Wales Government grant allocations, which may involve matching funding from Council.

Sources of funding include but are not limited to:

- 7.11 contributions – utilised for new landscaping and/or facilities complementary to the core management objectives.
- Partnerships – there is an opportunity to develop further partnerships with residents and interested people in relation to park improvements and ongoing management, such as bush regeneration.
- Park revenue – income from the park is generated by lease and licence fees, and from applicants for approved functions and events.
- Grants – several state and federal government grants are available to assist with capital works in the park.

What are leases and licences

Leases and licences formalise the use of Crown and community land by groups such as sporting clubs, community groups and schools, or by

commercial organisations and individuals providing facilities or services for public use. The occupation of Crown and community land not only applies to the surface of the land but also includes the airspace above and subsurface below.

A lease is normally issued where exclusive control of all or part of an area by a user is proposed. Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A licence may be required where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of the park, or associated facilities are proposed. Several licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest.

The City of Sydney's ability to lease or licence Crown reserves managed as community land such as Erskineville Oval is authorised by Section 3.22 of the CLM Act, which requires the preparation of a community land PoM, adopted by Council, to authorise an occupancy or use agreement.

What are short-term uses

Agreements for the use of Crown and community land may be granted for short-term activities such as access, filming and events. These casual arrangements allow for non-exclusive use of any associated land and/or facility that may range in duration from a few hours to 12 months. The short-term uses permissible within this PoM are detailed within **Sections 10-12**.

Other Estates

Easements across Crown and community land for the purpose of public utilities, providing pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground, for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility on the community land shall be authorised by this PoM, and shall be subject to the following criteria:

- There is no feasible alternative to connecting to a facility on the community land
- There is no significant impact on the land

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- Where the proposal involves the creation of an easement and/or a restriction on the future development potential of the property, compensation is assessed.

In instances where there is an encroachment (existing or proposed) upon public land by a permanent structure, and the structure does not significantly interfere with the functioning of the Crown reserve, the City of Sydney may consider the creation of an easement. In all cases, the applicant is to be responsible for all costs incurred by City of Sydney in the creation of the easement.

Subject to the provisions of Section 47F of the LG Act, an estate in respect of this land category is expressly authorised by this PoM for the purpose of a “public road” where the provision of that road is consistent with the core objectives stated herein and where the road is necessary for the enjoyment of that land.

Authorisation of tenure

Tenure may be granted for exclusive and non-exclusive uses to any organisation for any compatible purpose, as determined by Council, on such terms as Council may provide.

Under Section 46 of the LG Act, a lease or licence may only be granted for a maximum term of 21 years, including options. A lease or licence for a term exceeding 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.

To ensure that usage or occupation of a Crown reserve is appropriate for the proposed tenure, a council Crown land manager must always consider:

- Compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose, and core objectives for the category of the land
- Compatibility with the applicable land zoning
- If development consent is required and has been obtained (and other consents under the EP&A Act and LG Act)

- Environmental and social impacts of the activities to be permitted by the proposed tenure
- Appropriate term (period of occupation)
- Capability of the Crown reserve to support the proposed tenure
- Current and future use of the land
- If the issue of the proposed tenure will materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it was dedicated or reserved.

In addition to the conditions provided within the authorisations, the granting of tenure must also:

- Have no negative impact on historical heritage sites or significant fabric
- Not alienate the park or reserve unreasonably
- Be ecologically sustainable
- Have a component of community benefit
- Demonstrate a clear nexus between the activity and the park or Crown reserve
- Not result in overuse of the area or conflict with community use of the area
- Ensure traffic, parking and essential or required vehicular access implications are considered
- Be in accordance with all Council policies and procedures governing the use of open space.

A use agreement (lease, licence, short-term use or other estate) on Crown land may impact Native Title rights and interests. A use agreement issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with future act provisions of the Native Title Act 1993, and in accordance with Part 8 of the CLM Act unless Native Title is extinguished. For Crown land, which is not excluded land, this will require written advice from Council's Native Title Manager that it complies with any applicable provisions of the Native Title legislation.

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.

Express authorisation of Tenure under this Plan of Management

Sections 10-12 detail the specific authorisations and purposes for which tenure may be granted in accordance with the community land categories for Erskineville Oval. The purposes for which tenure may be granted are consistent with existing uses and will enable the social, intellectual, spiritual and physical enrichment of residents, workers, and visitors to the City of Sydney area.

The following outlines general authorisations applicable under this PoM and an indication of the criteria in which specific activities are to be assessed by the City of Sydney.

Access

Access for building-related activities including for construction or maintenance purposes

Access across community land shall be authorised under this PoM provided that (but not limited to):

- The access is of a temporary nature
- In circumstances where proposed works require access and it is associated with an adjoining property, proponents must clearly demonstrate that there are no alternative means of access available to avoid access through community land to undertake the required development works
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with the City of Sydney
- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Temporary structures

Land use planning controls

Under the LEP, the temporary use of community land may be deemed as exempt development if the proposed activity can be authorised under the LG Act and is no more than 52 days in any 12-month period ("**the prescribed period**").

Temporary structures for building-related activities including for construction or maintenance purposes

The City of Sydney may authorise a short-term licence for the placement of temporary building-related structures provided that (but not limited to):

- The use of community land is within the prescribed period
- In circumstances where the proposed works are associated with an adjoining property, proponents must clearly demonstrate that there are no alternative means of placement available to avoid use of community land to undertake the required development or maintenance works including satisfying any safety requirements under the Work, Health and Safety Act 2011
- Building-related structures comply with the City of Sydney's technical requirements
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with the City of Sydney
- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Proponents can refer to the following City of Sydney documents as a technical guide for temporary structures until such time as they are revised and adopted:

- Guidelines for Hoardings and Scaffolding 2017
- Draft Code of Practice for Hoisting and Construction Activities in Public Places.

If the City of Sydney is unable to approve short-term licence for these activities, applicants should consider an application under the

provisions of the Access to Neighbouring Lands Act 2000.

- Addressing safety and security requirements.

Temporary structures related to events

The use of community land for the placement of temporary event structures shall be authorised under this PoM provided (but not limited to):

- The use of community land is within the prescribed period
- The event structures comply with the City of Sydney's technical specifications and where required, relevant standards identified within the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with the City of Sydney
- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Venues for hire

The City of Sydney offers a diverse range of indoor and outdoor venues for hire on a short-term or hourly basis that service the community enabling cultural, recreational and social outcomes.

Applications to use venues for hire are to be assessed and approved in accordance with City's venue for hire approval process and in line with existing applicable guidelines, policies and legislative requirements.

All applicable fees are outlined in Council's adopted schedule of fees and charges.

Banner Hire

The City of Sydney banner network is used to promote events and activities which are of public interest. Banner campaigns are subject to approval and must comply with the City's Banner Terms and Conditions. All applicable fees are outlined in Council's adopted schedule of fees and charges.

Bookings and events

Temporary events and activities are to be assessed and approved in accordance with the City of Sydney's temporary event approvals process and in line with existing applicable guidelines, policies and legislative requirements, both locally and at a State Government level.

The following criteria is not an exhaustive list but provides guidance on how temporary events and activities are assessed:

- Location including permissible use and compatibility with the relevant land
- Scale and intensity
- Duration and date sensitivity
- Proposed operational times
- Required infrastructure and proposed production design
- Access and logistics requirements
- Environmental impacts
- Proposed signage and/or advertising

Personal trainers

The City of Sydney encourages all members of its community to use parks and open space responsibly in meeting their health, wellbeing and fitness needs.

The City of Sydney chooses not to charge for the use of its parks and open spaces for outdoor fitness training as it does not wish to create a barrier to participating in physical exercise.

Personal fitness trainers including commercial, not-for-profit and community groups, wishing to train outdoors in Council's local government area are expected to comply with the Outdoor Fitness Training Voluntary Code of Conduct and its criteria for use.

Fitness training groups and activities that are exempt from this Code are:

- Walking groups
- Activities of schools under the supervision or a teacher
- Hirers that have a current booking with the City to use a sports field, oval or court and comply with the City of Sydney's Terms and Conditions of Use.

9. Management targets and strategies

The table below outlines the management targets or desired outcomes for Erskineville Oval, including the means and strategies for their realisation, and means of assessment and review by the City of Sydney.

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
1.0 IDENTITY CHARACTER AND EXPERIENCING THE PLACE				
1.1	A meaning of the place that resonates with Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement a meaning and description that reflects connection to place 	Work with the community to establish a meaning and description that captures the place's Connection to Country	Consultation completed Adopted meaning and description
1.2	A place which signposts and celebrates local, natural and cultural history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to the spaces identity and character 	Investigate the inclusion of informative and interpretive elements that reflect the spaces historical identity and natural character	Increased visibility of park identity
1.3	A 'Village Green' for a high-density residential area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain the park's dual roles for organised sports and informal recreation 	Management to recognise the parks varied roles and have regard for an effective balance	Targeted user surveys
2.0 ACCESS, CONNECTIONS AND ACCESSIBILITY				
2.1	A well-connected space to adjoining neighbourhoods and to district and regional users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide functional, inviting, accessible and safe routes to the park from adjoining areas 	Review, monitor and work towards improving local access routes for workplace precincts and adjoining residential areas	Maintain records of public comments in relation to park access. Regular review of register to guide future directions
2.2	Wayfinding that seamlessly aids access and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide effective wayfinding and signage for park users and cyclists 	Maintain and upgrade wayfinding and signage in accordance with asset management plan Where required, implement new wayfinding and signage	Increased local use of park, measured by observation Routine surveys, audits and inspections
2.3	A place that is clear, easy and safe to move around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide functional, attractive and compliant internal circulation routes and path networks 	Maintain and upgrade paths and pavements in accordance with park service levels Where required, implement new pathways to create greater connectivity in park	Path and pavements managed in accordance with Australian Standards Routine surveys, audits and inspections
2.4	An appropriately lit environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide adequate lighting to support desired night access, recreational and leisurely use of open space 	Maintain and renew lighting in accordance with asset management plan Monitor to identify lighting issues and address as require	Lighting maintained in accordance with Australian Standards Routine surveys, audits and inspections

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Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
2.5	A community destination accessible from the cycle network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable park to be effectively accessed from cycle network and encourage cycle use 	<p>Investigate the integration of park access to potential future cycle corridors</p> <p>Where required, integrate enhancement of cycle facilities into park improvements</p>	Increased local use of park by cyclists, measured by surveys and observations
2.6	A place that is not compromised by parking and vehicle access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a balanced approach to parking To provide and manage functional maintenance and emergency access mitigating adverse impacts on park and uses Prevent unauthorised vehicle access 	<p>Manage existing off-street parking to ensure efficiency and equity</p> <p>Ensure that permitted use of vehicles in park are regulated and do not affect community use of space</p> <p>Ongoing surveillance and enforcement of open space areas</p> <p>Incorporate educational activities into ongoing management</p>	<p>Reduced pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle conflicts</p> <p>Improved public safety</p> <p>Management measures carried out</p>
3.0 COMMUNITY USE AND ACTIVATION				
3.1	A place of respite for users and adjacent residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that the park provides a range of flexible and informal use spaces that are attractive and comfortable to be in 	Ensure that park planning, and management maintains and enhances flexible informal use of spaces for broad community benefit	Increased local use of park measured by survey and observation
3.2	Spaces and facilities that support youth use of the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustainably respond to youth needs for gathering and activity spaces 	Manage spaces and facilities to support youth gathering and activity	Increased youth participation measured by survey and observation
3.3	A place for daily fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support and manage a sustainable level of fitness activity in the park 	<p>Support the role of the park for fitness activities in accordance with Council's policy framework</p> <p>Assess suitability for implementation of fitness equipment</p> <p>Monitor to identify management issues and address as required</p>	Maintain records of public comments in relation to fitness activities. Regular review of register to guide future directions
3.4	Access to dog off leash areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for effective dog exercise in accordance with Companion Animals Act 	<p>Manage off leash dog access to spaces as defined by City's Companion Animals Policy</p> <p>Monitor to identify management issues and address as required</p>	<p>Dog access maintained</p> <p>Reports of conflicts between dogs and other park users</p>
3.5	A place that recognises and celebrates First Nations living culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To celebrate First Nations heritage and living culture 	For the pursuit of 'practising living culture', work with the First Nations community to understand the processes and procedures required to enhance access to spaces and facilities	Review existing policies and procedures
3.6	A place for events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustainably encourage temporary event use that contributes to local activation and cultural and community outcomes 	<p>To facilitate temporary event use that is appropriate to scale of spaces and in consideration of other park uses</p> <p>Develop guidelines for event use of parklands defining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usable area and capacity Other specific event management and approval requirements 	<p>Increased use of park for events appropriate to scale and intensity</p> <p>Developed guidelines</p> <p>Ongoing review and compliance</p>

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
3.7	A place that is open and usable by all members of community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the park is managed as part of a coordinated compassionate approach across the city to assisting homeless persons 	Ongoing management of people sleeping rough in the park needs to be in accordance with the City of Sydney's policy on homelessness in public spaces, which 'recognises the right of everyone in the community to use public spaces' (Homelessness Action Plan 2019) and aims to ensure that public space can be accessed and enjoyed by everyone, including people who are homeless	Maintain records of public feedback in relation to people sleeping rough. Regular review of register to guide future directions
3.8	A safe place to visit day and night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the park and park facilities provide a safe place to visit and pass through, appropriate to intended (and varied) usage times of facilities and access routes 	<p>Monitor ongoing safety and access in park and facilities</p> <p>Coordinate with local police to identify and act on safety issues</p> <p>Where improvements are proposed, ensure that they are designed and maintained in accordance with Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles</p>	<p>Percentage of people who feel safe in these spaces</p> <p>Safe spaces with no reported incidents</p> <p>Sustained relationship with local police</p>
3.9	A place that provides access to public amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain access and provision of public toilet facilities for all park users 	Monitor to identify management issues for public toilet facilities, address as required	Maintain records of public comments in relation to toilets. Regularly review of register to guide future directions

Erskineville Oval

3.10	A place for organised sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that management of access to designated sports use areas is clear and unambiguous 	Ongoing provision of adequate venue management services to facilitate bookings of oval	Venue bookings
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4.0 FACILITIES AND BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE

Heritage bus shelter

4.1	A heritage bus shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a functioning bus shelter 	Plan and implement a renewal of the bus shelter maintaining its heritage fabric	<p>Renewed bus shelter</p> <p>Measured against contract KPIs</p>
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Play spaces

4.2	Play facilities for the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide play environments that encourage activity and support family use of park 	Plan and implement a renewed play space and related landscape settings	<p>Updated play space</p> <p>Measured against contract KPIs</p>
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Court facilities

4.3	Court facilities for the general community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain and manage courts and related fixtures to meet community needs and optimise useful and sustainable lifespan 	Plan and implement a renewed basketball half-court	<p>Updated outdoor courts</p> <p>Measured against contract KPIs</p>
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Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
Park elements				
4.4	Park elements that support park use and create an attractive character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support recreational and leisure use of park while avoiding proliferation of elements 	Maintain and renew park furniture and other park elements in accordance with asset management plan Monitor the appropriateness of placement Implement new improvements, where required	Measured against contract KPIs Routine surveys, audits and inspections
Underground infrastructure				
4.5	Underground infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure services infrastructure requirements are effectively integrated into planning and design 	Liaise and coordinate with services authorities to identify amplification and renewal works that may impact spaces Manage to limit impacts on use and facilitate effective make good / integration	Sustained relationship with authorities
5.0 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY				
Vegetation and urban ecology				
5.1	Resilient landscaping to future-proof our green spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustain a green landscape for continued community enjoyment 	Maintain and renew horticulture, grass cover and plantings in accordance with park service levels and City guidelines	Improved grass cover condition Measurement and monitoring of vegetation Compliance with park service levels
5.2	Landscaping and planting that interprets the original natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase indigenous plantings within the park landscape 	Where appropriate and site conditions allow, investigate the planting of indigenous species	Increased indigenous plantings
5.3	A place of diverse habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase habitat value of natural and built features To protect and improve existing habitat areas 	Investigate the potential to enhance habitat values through areas of built form and natural ground Maintain and manage areas of bush restoration in accordance with Bush Restoration Service Levels Monitor sites for species and conservation values	Monitoring of habitat values Compliance with bush restoration service levels
5.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance ecological importance in open space 	Maintain urban ecology advisory role for proposed works associated with open space Where appropriate, explore opportunities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with the Aboriginal community to celebrate, promote and educate on ecological knowledge and principles Increase community understanding and participation in the preservation of green space and ecological elements 	Ongoing internal participation in open space works Consultation completed Increased public participation in community greening initiatives

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
5.5	Places that are connected to support biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase biodiverse connectivity within the site and surrounds 	Increase habitat value for key sites and species, as identified in the biodiversity corridor Implement in accordance with Landscape Code and Park Service Levels	Monitoring of habitat values Compliance with landscape code and park service levels
Shade and temperature management				
5.6	A place that is cool, calm and comfortable in summer heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve existing shade tree canopy and to selectively extend to create new shade 	Maintain and manage existing tree canopy for ongoing health Plan for and integrate tree canopy shade in suitable locations across site	Preserved and increased shade cover Increased use of park measured by observation
5.7	Established plantings which contribute to the park setting and habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively maintain and manage the existing tree resources at optimum health for their safe and practical lifespans To effectively plan for succession planting 	Implement tree management including pruning and/or removal of trees and replacement planting in accordance with park service levels and City guidelines Plan and implement a succession planting program	Improved tree health and successful establishment of new trees as measured by arborist's survey Compliance with park service levels and City guidelines Implemented succession planting
Water management				
5.8	A place exhibiting water sensitive urban design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively manage water use and runoff 	Where feasible, implement water saving initiatives, alternative water sources and install metering to effectively manage water use Implement water-sensitive urban design to minimise environmental degradation and improve waterway quality	Increased savings in water consumption Reduced potable water demand for park Improved water quality
Energy management				
5.9	A place exhibiting sustainable energy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively manage energy use 	Where feasible, implement energy management initiatives, renewable energy, investigate alternatives to temporary generators and install metering as appropriate to effectively manage energy	Sustainable initiatives implemented Increased savings in energy consumption Reduction in open space maintenance post event activities
Waste management				
5.10	A place exhibiting sustainable waste management practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A place that maximises the diversion of waste away from landfill 	Ongoing implementation and support of best practice waste management activities	Minimised waste measured against contract KPI's and audits
6.0 CULTURE AND HERITAGE				
6.1	A place that represents Aboriginal people and living culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and interpret Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the local area 	Consult with Aboriginal people on how to interpret and integrate cultural heritage values in ongoing planning of improvements	Consultation completed Implementation of processes
6.2	A place which is a conservatory of natural and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To appropriately manage and conserve elements of heritage significance To guide management and design decision making to achieve optimum heritage management outcomes 	Preparation and ongoing implementation of supporting documentation to guide the maintenance of sensitive and significant heritage assets or fabric	Completed supporting documentation

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
6.3	A place that connects the community to the city's past and present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable park users to understand the rich and complex layering of natural and cultural values represented on the site and add to the experience and use of the park 	Develop a cohesive framework that recognises Strategies 6.1-6.2	Adoption of supporting framework
6.4	A place that provides a canvas for arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate public art in temporary and permanent forms that complements the park setting and adds to the range of experiences provided 	Consider opportunities to implement temporary and permanent art installations, where appropriate	Increased representation of public art in park
7.0 MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE				
7.1	To provide a holistic approach to park planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an effective direction for park improvements 	Prepare a concept plan for Erskineville Oval and Harry Noble Reserve	Adopted concept plan
7.2	A place which is clean, well-maintained and carefully managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide well-maintained parklands 	Maintenance programs carried out in accordance with City of Sydney Parks Maintenance Technical Specifications	Regular visitation and condition assessments Measured against contract KPI's and audits
7.3	Facilities that continue to service and meet the community's needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide well-maintained facilities 	Maintain and renew facilities in accordance with asset management plans	Regular visitation and condition assessments Measured against contract KPI's and audits
7.4	Appropriate leases and licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that tenure and permitted use arrangements allow the widest possible community access to open space and are orientated to mutually compatible recreational, sporting, community, educational, cultural and social activities 	All future leases and licences to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Land Management Act 2016 and Native Title Act 1993	Ongoing review and compliance of leases and licences

10. Park category – authorisations

Table 5. Permissible uses and development activities – Park Category

Table 5 outlines the permitted uses and development activities of the areas of Erskineville Oval categorised as Park subject to City of Sydney assessment, approvals and booking/hire systems.

This is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed uses and development activities may still be permitted subject to merit and compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose, core objectives and aims of this Plan of Management.

Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property)– Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage)– Broadcasts associated with any event, concert or public speech– Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables– Casual and informal recreation– Catering and coffee carts– Community, cultural, educational and social uses– Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV)– Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993)– Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows– Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery– Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Advertising structures and signage (e.g. banners and signage) that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ relate to approved uses/activities○ are discrete and temporary○ complies with Planning requirements○ are approved by the City of Sydney– Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables– Development that facilitates community, cultural, educational, recreational and social activities, including but not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Adaptive reuse of existing building/structures for a use compatible with the park○ Amenities to facilitate the safety, use and enjoyment of the park (e.g. seating, shade structures, BBQ, picnic tables, toilets, bike rings)○ Ancillary areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community (e.g. storage and change rooms, car parks)○ Buildings and structures that facilitate the permissible uses and activities (e.g. grandstands, pavilions, fitness equipment, playgrounds, outdoor courts)○ Community greening○ Improving access including active transport, disability access to facilities, amenity and the visual character of the general community area (e.g. fountains, pathways, lighting, paved areas, hard and soft landscaped areas)

Erskineville Oval
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Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Markets – Outreach services – Passive and active recreational activities – Playgroups – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art or other cultural installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars and presentations, including educational programs – Publicly accessible ancillary areas (e.g. toilets) – Recreational and sporting activities consistent with an outdoor recreational facility, for example but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marked courts (basketball, volleyball, badminton and netball) – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Social events (e.g. weddings, picnics and community gatherings) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Storage (e.g. ancillary to use of park) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue hire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development that facilitates energy and water efficiencies (e.g. solar lighting and photovoltaic panels, stormwater harvesting and storage, swales, rain gardens, irrigation and reticulation systems) – Environmental management (e.g. remediation and flood mitigation work) – Heritage and cultural interpretation (e.g. memorials and public art) – Markets – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related)

Table 6. Express authorisation of tenure – Park Category

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that any lease, licence, short-term use or other estate over community land must be expressly authorised by a Plan of Management. **Table 6** outlines purposes for which tenure may be granted on community land categorised as Park. Licences and approvals for short-term casual use or occupation for a range of uses may also be granted for Erskineville Oval in accordance with Clause 116 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Any lease, licence or short-term proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and the capacity of the area to support the activity. The below is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed purposes may still be permitted subject to merit.

Erskineville Oval
Plan of Management

Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
Lease (up to 21 years)	<p>Sympathetic, compatible uses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Café/kiosk areas, including seating and tables
Licence (up to 21 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables – Coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational and social uses – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Markets – Outreach services – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of park)
Short-term agreement (12 months or less)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Broadcasts associated with any event, concert or public speech – Casual and informal recreation – Catering and coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational and social uses – Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV) – Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities) – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Kiosks – Markets – Outreach services – Playgroups – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars and presentations, including educational programs – Signage

Erskineville Oval
Plan of Management

Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Social events (e.g. weddings, picnics and community gatherings) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of park) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue hire
Other estates	<p>This Plan of Management allows City of Sydney 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 Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>Estates may also be granted across community land 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> <p>Note: refer Section 8 for Express authorisation of tenure under this Plan of Management.</p>

11. Sportsground category - authorisations

Table 7. Permissible uses and development activities – Sportsground Category

Table 7 outlines the permitted uses and development activities of the areas of Erskineville Oval categorised as Sportsground subject to City of Sydney assessment, approvals and booking/hire systems.

This is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed uses and development activities may still be permitted subject to merit and compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose, core objectives and aims of this Plan of Management.

Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Active recreational and sporting activities consistent with a recreational area or outdoor facility, for example but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oval (cricket, football, rugby, soccer, Australian rules, track and field athletics, hockey, baseball, softball) – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Ancillary ceremonies (e.g. rehearsal of opening and closing ceremonies, cheer squads) – Broadcasting of sporting fixtures – Casual or informal recreation – Community, cultural, educational and social uses (e.g. events, gatherings and public meetings) – Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advertising structures and signage (e.g. banners and signage) that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ relate to approved uses/activities ○ are discrete and temporary ○ complies with Planning requirements ○ are approved by the City of Sydney – Amenities to facilitate the safety, use and enjoyment of the recreational area or outdoor facility (e.g. seating, shelters, shade structures, drinking fountains) – Development for the purposes of conducting and facilitating organised sport (both amateur and professional) – Development for the purposes of improving access including disability access and facilities, amenity and the visual character of the recreational area or outdoor facility (e.g. landscaping, lighting, paved areas, hard and soft landscaped areas) – Development of outdoor recreational facilities that support the permissible uses and activities (e.g. sports fields, skateparks, courts, goal posts, sight screens and fencing) – Development that facilitates energy and water efficiencies (e.g. solar lighting and photovoltaic)

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Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Management and operation of recreational facilities – Organised and unstructured sporting activities (including fixtures and events) – Seating embankment for spectators along edge of playing field – Shade structures, storage ancillary to recreational uses, community events or gatherings, and public meetings – Shelters, seating and drinking fountains associated with path around perimeter of playing fields – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events (e.g. “guest” events for juniors, gala days, club meetings) – Venue hire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> panels, water storage vessels, irrigation and water reticulation systems) – Environmental management (e.g. remediation and flood mitigation work) – Promotion of organised and unstructured recreation activities – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related)

Table 8. Express authorisation of Tenure – Sportsground Category

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that any lease, licence, short-term use or other estate over community land must be expressly authorised by a Plan of Management. **Table 8** outlines purposes for which tenure may be granted on community land categorised as Sportsground. Licences and approvals for short-term casual use or occupation for a range of uses may also be granted for Erskineville Oval in accordance with Clause 116 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Any lease, licence or short-term proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and the capacity of the area to support the activity. The below is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed purposes may still be permitted subject to merit.

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
Licence (up to 21 years)	<p>Sympathetic, compatible uses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Management and operation of recreational area or outdoor facility
Short-term agreement (12 months or less)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Active recreational and sporting activities – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Ancillary ceremonies (e.g. rehearsal of opening and closing ceremonies, cheer squads, etc.) – Broadcasting or filming of sporting fixtures – Casual or informal recreation – Community, cultural, educational and social uses (e.g. events, gatherings and public meetings) – Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Organised and unstructured sporting activities (including fixtures and events) – Seasonal, one-off, and irregular sporting competitions and training – Signage – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events (e.g. “guest” events for juniors, gala days, club meetings) – Venue hire
Other estates	<p>This Plan of Management allows the City of Sydney 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 Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>Estates may also be granted across community land 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> <p>Note: refer Section 8 for Express authorisation of tenure under this Plan of Management.</p>

12. General Community Use category - authorisations

Table 9. Permissible uses and development activities – General Community Use Category

Table 9 outlines the permitted uses and development activities of the areas of Erskineville Oval categorised as General Community Use subject to City of Sydney assessment, approvals and booking/hire systems.

This is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed uses and development activities may still be permitted subject to merit and compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose, core objectives and aims of this Plan of Management.

Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property)– Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage)– Broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech– Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables– Catering and coffee carts– Commercial uses ancillary to community and indoor recreational facilities (e.g. sale or hire of recreational equipment, sports tuition, health-related services)– Community, cultural, educational and social uses– Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV)– Conducting a commercial photography session and filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993)– Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Advertising structures and signage (e.g. banners and signage) that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ relate to approved uses/activities○ are discrete and temporary○ complies with Planning requirements○ are approved by the City of Sydney– Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables– Development that facilitates community, cultural, educational, recreational and social activities, including but not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Amenities that facilitate the safety, use and enjoyment of the facility (e.g. kitchens and toilets)○ Buildings and structures that facilitate the permissible uses and activities○ Improving access including disability access to facilities, amenity and the visual character of the general community area (e.g. fountains, pathways, lighting, paved areas, hard and soft landscaped areas)○ Provision of ancillary areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community (e.g. storage, waste rooms and change rooms/showers)

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Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities) – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Management and operation of community facilities – Markets – Outreach services – Playgroups – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art or other cultural installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars and presentations, including educational programs – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Social events (e.g. weddings and community gatherings) – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of community or recreational facility) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue for hire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development that facilitates energy and water efficiencies (e.g. solar lighting and photovoltaic panels, stormwater harvesting and storage, irrigation and reticulation systems) – Environmental management (e.g. remediation and flood mitigation work) – Heritage and cultural interpretation (e.g. memorials and public art) – Markets – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related)

Table 10. Express authorisation of Tenure – General Community Use Category

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that any lease, licence, short-term use or other estate over community land must be expressly authorised by a Plan of Management. **Table 10** outlines purposes for which tenure may be granted on community land categorised as General Community Use. Licences and approvals for short-term casual use or occupation for a range of uses may also be granted for Erskineville Oval in accordance with Clause 116 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Any lease, licence or short-term proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and the capacity of the area to support the activity. The below is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed purposes may still be permitted subject to merit.

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
Lease (up to 21 years)	<p>Sympathetic, compatible uses may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables
Licence (up to 21 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables – Commercial activities ancillary to community, cultural and recreational use (e.g. hire or sale of recreational equipment, physiotherapist, dietician) – Community purposes (e.g. community meetings) – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Health or Social Support services (e.g. medical practitioner) – Management and operation of community facility – Markets – Outreach services – Recreational purposes (e.g. fitness and dance classes, games) – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to community or recreational use)
Short-term agreement (12 months or less)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Active and passive recreational activities – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech – Catering and coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational and social uses – Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV) – Conducting a commercial photography session and filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery – Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities) – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Kiosks – Markets – Organised and unstructured sporting activities (including fixtures and events) – Outreach services

Erskineville Oval Plan of Management

Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Playgroups – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art or other cultural installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars and presentations, including educational programs – Seasonal, one-off, and irregular sporting competitions and training – Signage – Social events (e.g. weddings and community gatherings) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of community or recreational facility) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue hire
Other estates	<p>This Plan of Management allows the City of Sydney 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 Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>Estates may also be granted across community land 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> <p>Note: refer Section 8 for Express authorisation of tenure under this Plan of Management.</p>

13. Appendices

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Categorisation	<p>This informs the category for the specified land under the Local Government Act 1993</p> <p>Confined to Park, Sportsground and General Community Use</p>
Community Greening	Community participation in activities, initiatives and programs that promote education and awareness on greening and the environment
Community Land	Classification of land under the Local Government Act 1993 requiring a Plan of Management
Council Crown Land Manager	City of Sydney's appointed position under the Crown Land Management Act 2016
Crown Land	Land owned by the State of New South Wales
Crown Reserve	Crown land that has been dedicated or reserved in accordance with legislation
Outreach Services	<p>Voluntary and Professional Services - a service, group or program that provides food and material support, social contact, clinical outreach, and critical care to people who are homeless as well as other disadvantaged groups</p> <p>Mobile voluntary services are not provided from a building or other fixed place but are provided from vehicles or general 'pop up' infrastructure within an outdoor public space</p>
Temporary Structure	<p>Is not designed, installed or constructed to be permanent; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is erected on public land to facilitate demolition, excavation, construction, or maintenance work; and site safety/security fencing, scaffolding, cantilevered work platforms and other constructed-related temporary structures; or• Is erected on public land to facilitate events activities and involves the installation of stages, platforms, tents, marquees, booths, and other events-related temporary structures.
Tenure	The authorisation upon which land or buildings are occupied, e.g. lease, licence, short-term agreement or easement

References

- Erskineville Oval Draft Plan of Management and Master Plan, City of Sydney 1992
- City of Sydney Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study, City of Sydney 2016
- Crown Reserves Plan of Management Engagement Report, City of Sydney 2021

Refer also to policies and strategies review in this Appendix.

City of Sydney Policy framework

The City of Sydney has developed an extensive range of policies which provide guidance for decision-making. The policies that have informed the preparation of this Plan of Management have been referenced in the table below.

Policy Name
A City for All – Social Sustainability Policy 2016
Asset Management Policy 2016
Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy 2019
Community Gardens Policy 2016
Companion Animals Policy
Environmental Sustainability Policy 2021
Inclusive and Accessible Public Domain Policy 2019
Markets Policy 2019
Mobile Voluntary Services Policy 2020
Naming Policy 2018
Outdoor Dining Policy 2016
Public Art Policy 2016
Tree Management Policy 2013

City of Sydney Strategy framework

The City of Sydney has also developed a range of strategies focused on specific issues and open space considerations relevant to planning and management. While strategies are high-level guideline documents and usually carry less influence than policies, they can provide important references for planning and management decision-making for open space. The strategies that have informed the preparation of this Plan of Management have been referenced in the table below.

Strategy Name
A City for All – Community Safety Action Plan 2019-2023
A City for All – Homelessness Action Plan 2020
A City for All – Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan 2017-2021
A City for All – Social Sustainability Policy & Action Plan 2018-2028
A City for All – Youth Action Plan 2017-2027
Adapting for Climate Change 2019
Asset Management Plan 2020
City Centre Public Art Plan 2013
City Plan 2036 – Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020
Climate Emergency Response 2020
Creative City – Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014-2024
Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030
Decentralised Water Master Plan 2012-2030
Energy Efficiency Master Plan 2015-2030
Environmental Strategy 2021-2025
Greening Sydney Strategy 2020-2030
Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2015-2017

Erskineville Oval
Plan of Management

Strategy Name
Leave Nothing to Waste – Waste Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2030
Open Sydney – Future Directions for Sydney at Night Strategy and Action Plan 2013-2030
Park Fitness Equipment Plan 2015
Parks Water Saving Action Plan 2012
Public Art Strategy 2011
Public Toilet Strategy 2014
Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2020-2023
Sustainable Sydney 2030 Community Strategic Plan 2017-2021
Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan 2014
Urban Forest Strategy 2013
Walking Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2030
Wayfinding Strategy Report 2012

