



Kingborough



PLAY SPACE AND PLAYGROUND STRATEGY 2020

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TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS: The authors of this document and Kingborough Council acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the deep spiritual connection and relationship of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

COVER IMAGE: Artist's impression of Kingston Park Playground, image supplied by: Playstreet landscape architecture, play spaces, and urban design (www.playstreet.com.au); design consultants engaged by Kingborough Council to deliver Kingston Park Playground.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Local government is a key provider of play and recreational opportunities, through purpose-built playgrounds, play spaces, parklands and open spaces held in trust and managed on behalf of the community. Kingborough Council has an important role in providing safe and stimulating environments for outdoor recreation and play that provide positive community health and well-being outcomes for our residents. Public play spaces and playgrounds should provide balanced and varied recreational opportunities to suit the physical, social and intellectual needs of the children, carers, and family members who use them.

The Play Space and Playground Strategy 2020 (the Strategy) provides a framework through which to transform the way we approach the provision of play and recreational spaces within our community. The Strategy outlines a whole-of-park approach to play space and playground design, and encourages a move away from the predominately equipment-based approach that has informed historical outcomes across Kingborough. The Strategy aligns with the 'Kingborough Open Space Strategy 2019' and should be read in conjunction with the directions, visions, guiding principles, and actions contained therein.

The Strategy will give Councillors, Council's Executive Management and Council Officers a framework through which to invest in and manage Kingborough's play spaces and playground assets. A series of appendices form a ready reference toolkit through which management, design, and maintenance decisions can be made in accordance with the Strategy.

Quality recreational facilities and playgrounds provide spaces where a wide spectrum of community members can be active and socially engaged simultaneously. Recreation and play is a pivotal factor in the development of young minds and bodies; facilitating development of social connections, motor skills, vestibular and cognitive function, and problem solving skills.

Community expectations regarding recreation and playgrounds are constantly evolving. Current trends indicate a move towards more diverse, challenging, stimulating, and progressive design solutions that accommodate universal access (inclusive design) and incorporate nature play.

Challenges faced by Kingborough Council include:

- Managing a significant number of disparate recreation and playground assets spread across a relatively large geographical area;
- Asset deterioration;
- Existing playground designs and equipment that no longer meet community expectations;
- Managing the renewal of assets with little to no capital value within the constraints of finite budget allocations.

It is important for Council to engage with local community interest groups to ensure recreational and play infrastructure, and landscape settings, are upgraded to both industry standards *and* community expectations. Priority should be given to landscape elements and equipment that adds both amenity *and* play value to the play space or playground setting.

No two play spaces are the same, and no two parkland settings are similar either. Therefore, a site-specific approach is needed. The Strategy is structured to allow Council to respond to the unique challenges, constraints, and opportunities at each site - over time and as funding priorities and Community expectations change and develop.

The Strategy is an aspirational document that aims to set an agreed benchmark for provision of services and infrastructure in accordance with an agreed set of classifications. Conversations, including through community engagement, around exactly what this means for each site will occur on a case-by-case basis.

1.1. Actions

This Strategy recommends:

- 1) **AUDIT & PLAN:** Playground Audits, Action Plans, and Maintenance Plans should be undertaken / developed in accordance with this Strategy and cross referenced with Council's Asset Management and Replacement Registers. *These inputs are required to establish a base level of information from which all future planning, design, and investment decisions can be made. The Strategy aims to define the mandate under which the audits and action plans will be undertaken.*
- 2) **CONSULT:** Undertake community engagement, including engaging directly with children (where appropriate and where feasible), on a site-by-site basis. Engagement should, wherever possible, be undertaken and documented in accordance with the principles and methodology (model) defined by the International Association for Public Participation Australasia (iap2).
- 3) **IMPLEMENT:** Play spaces and playgrounds should be developed and upgraded in accordance with the priorities identified in Audits and Action Plans (ref. to action 1 above).
- 4) **ASSESS:** All play spaces in Kingborough be regularly assessed against the desired classifications and service levels defined within the Kingborough Play Space and Playground Strategy (the Strategy).
- 5) **EXPAND:** New play spaces are developed at sites where there is a gap in local level service provision (where appropriate and where feasible).
- 6) **INCLUDE:** Universal access (inclusive design) principles should be applied to all new play space and playground projects.
- 7) **REVIEW:** Universal access (inclusive design) should be reviewed and implemented at existing play spaces and playgrounds (where appropriate and where feasible).

- 8) **CONSIDER:** New play space and playground assets, and upgrades to existing assets, should be considered within the context of a whole-of-park upgrade wherever possible (and where feasible).
- 9) **MAINTAIN:** Maintenance and service level schedules should be developed for all play spaces, parks, and playgrounds in accordance with this Strategy.
- 10) **INSPECT & CERTIFY:** All playground equipment and play spaces should be inspected and certified annually by a qualified and authorised playground inspector (and documented with a Certificate of Compliance).
- 11) **INSPECT & CERTIFY:** All new playgrounds must be inspected and certified by a qualified and authorised playground inspector upon completion and before handover to Council.
- 12) **PROMOTE:** Play spaces and recreational facilities should be promoted via appropriate communication channels, including (but not limited to) Council's website, newsletters, special publications, brochures, etc.
- 13) **DIRECT:** All new signage (and upgrades) are to be installed in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, be DDA compliant, inclusive, and in accordance with Council's Signage Strategy.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. Purpose

The purpose of the Strategy is to guide the provision, design, and management of play spaces (including recreation and exercise facilities) and playgrounds within Kingborough in order to meet the current and future needs of residents and visitors. The Strategy will give Councillors, Council's Executive Management and Council Officers a framework through which to invest in and manage Kingborough's play spaces and playground assets. A series of appendices form a ready reference toolkit through which management, design, and maintenance decisions can be made in accordance with the Strategy.

The Strategy is structured to allow Council to respond to the unique challenges, constraints and opportunities at each site (over time, and as funding priorities and Community expectations change and develop).

No two play spaces are the same, and no two parkland settings are similar either. Therefore, a site-specific approach is needed. The Strategy is an aspirational document that aims to set an agreed benchmark for provision of services and infrastructure in accordance with an agreed set of classifications. Conversations (including through community engagement) around exactly what this means for each site will occur on a case-by-case basis.

2.2. Scope

The Strategy focuses on the provision of play, recreational, and exercise spaces for:

- toddlers (0 – 3 years of age),
- preschool and primary school aged children (4 to 12 years of age);
- youth and young adults (13 > years of age), and;
- our elders.

2.3. Policy Framework

The Strategy sits within a broader legislative and policy framework that includes national, state, regional, and locally focused documents. These include:

NATIONAL:

- Disability and Discrimination Act 1992
- Australian Standards (various)

STATE:

- *Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework 2010*

REGIONAL:

- *Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy*

LOCAL:

- *Kingborough Council Strategic Plan 2020-2025*
- *Kingborough Sport and Recreations Facilities Strategy 2013*
- *Kingborough Tracks and Trails Strategic Action Plan 2019 – 2022*
- *Public Toilet Strategy 2017*
- *Kingborough Open Space Strategy 2019*
- *Kingborough Youth Strategy 2019 - 2024*
- ***Kingborough Play Space and Playground Strategy 2020*** (this Strategy)

2.4. Context

Kingborough is situated 10kms south of Hobart, with a land area of approximately 720km² and a population of approximately 40,000. Kingborough is one of Tasmania's fastest growing municipalities, with population growth projected to remain stable into the near future.

Kingborough encompasses both sides of D'Entrecasteaux Channel, which influences a varying pattern of settlement, including: semi-urban town centres, suburban neighbourhoods, coastal lifestyle living, semi-rural and rural townships and villages, lifestyle acreages, and productive farmland. Bruny Island is part of Kingborough and has rapidly become one of Tasmania's flagship tourism destinations.

Kingborough occupies a highly attractive location within the greater Hobart metropolitan area. Our natural landscape assets – including our iconic coastline, rugged mountain landscapes, and dense bushland – provide our residents and visitors with a unique and attractive backdrop for play and recreation.

2.5. Population Statistics and Settlement Patterns

By 2022, Kingborough's population is likely to reach 41,000, representing approximately 5,000 additional residents (based on 2016 ABS census data), most likely in the over 40 age group. This will place significant demands upon existing public facilities, including play spaces, natural landscapes, tracks and trails, recreational, and community facilities.

Higher population densities are found in Kingston, Taroona, Blackmans Bay and Margate. Population densities decline sharply outside of these areas. Growth areas include Huntingfield, Whitewater Park and Spring Farm, Snug, with populations also growing on Bruny Island, including a sharp increase in daytime visitors to the island.

Town/Suburb	Pop.	%	Town/Suburb	Pop.	%
Taroona	3,070	8.5	Snug	1,199	3.3
Bonnet Hill	505	1.4	Lower Snug	442	1.2
Kingston	10,409	29	Coningham	253	0.7
Blackmans Bay	7,145	20	Oyster Cove	319	0.9
Huntingfield	428	1.2	Kettering	803	2.2
Howden	676	1.9	Woodbridge	503	1.4
Margate	3,920	11	Birches Bay	93	0.3
Sandfly	310	0.9	Middleton	252	0.7
Allens Rivulet	487	1.3	Gordon	199	0.6
Electrona	364	1.0	North Bruny	246	0.7
Leslie Vale	351	0.9	South Bruny	567	1.6
Longley	234	0.7	Lower Longley	279	0.8

Table 1: Population distribution in Kingborough (2016 ABS Census)

The median age in Kingborough is 42, in line with Tasmania's median age (ABS, 2016).

The percentage of people in Kingborough over 55 in 2011 was 29%, and in 2016 this figure was 32%, suggesting our population is aging relatively rapidly. Children (0 – 14) make up 19.9% of the population. Children under the age of 4 years make up 6.1% of the population in Kingborough (ibid). Kingborough's aging population is consistent with that of the Greater Hobart region (ibid).

2.6. Existing Playgrounds

Kingborough currently has 45 playgrounds, including 4 skate parks and 5 adult exercise sites dispersed across urban, suburban and rural areas. This number does not include the areas of natural open space or bushland areas that also provide play spaces and recreational opportunities. The current level of service at our play spaces varies, with many older playgrounds suffering from inadequate maintenance and with low quality or basic equipment that fails to inspire active participation by children and their families.

2.7. Design and Performance Standards

The design, construction, and inspection of playgrounds must be undertaken by qualified and certified professionals in accordance with relevant Australian Standards (ref. Appendix 4) and this Strategy.

2.8. Universal Accessibility (Inclusive Design)

Play spaces and playgrounds should be accessible to users with disabilities and their carers or supporting family members. Universal (inclusive) design principles should be applied wherever possible, and where feasible, and should occur throughout all levels of Council's play space and playground assets. This will help to ensure that users are not discriminated against by way of exclusion from our play space and playground assets. Accordingly, equitable distribution and access to quality play for all is a priority for Council.

2.8.1 Access, inclusion, participation, equity and dignity

'Everyone Can Play: a guideline to create inclusive playspaces' (NSW Government 2019) provides an effective and streamlined interpretation of inclusive design principles. These are:

- *Can I get there?*
- *Can I play?*
- *Can I stay?*

The 'Good Play Space Guide: I can play too' (Sport and Recreation Victoria, 2007 - p. 13) describes the main aspects of universal access (SEE OVER PAGE) with [additional information supplied by the Kingborough Access Advisory Committee].

ACCESS

- *Able to physically get there from the street and from the car.*
- *There is seamless access to the main activities and through the space.*
- *There are contrasting elements and landmarks that help me find my way around [including lighting].*
- *There are manageable grades at level changes.*
- *There is enough headroom to fit underneath.*
- *[There is space for resting at regular and convenient intervals.]*

INCLUSION

- *Welcomed by signage and details that make me think others want me here.*
- *Able to be included with everyone else, although I might not be able to do what others can do.*
- *There is space for me at tables and drinking fountains and in swing seats and at things that move.*

PARTICIPATION

- *Able to take part in activities alongside and equally with everyone else, and do them to the best of my ability. I can:*
 - *Reach movable items, and main points of interest;*
 - *Get my knees under counters, tables and the like;*
 - *Use gadgets; and*
 - *Choose what I can do and where I can go, [including access to breakout spaces for quiet contemplation and rest].*

EQUITY

I am:

- *Able to use the same entrance as everyone else;*
- *Able to sit where everyone else sits, next to my friends [and family];*
- *Not excluded by the design; and*
- *Able to play with other children in my neighbourhood just like they can.*

DIGNITY

I am:

- *Not made to feel uncomfortable and that all attention is on me, or that anyone has to make a fuss to let me do things;*
- *Able to go to the toilet in privacy, and have my pants changed; and*
- *Not made to feel embarrassed.*

2.9. Kingborough Council Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025

Kingborough Council's Strategic Plan 2020-2025 (Kingborough Council, 2019¹) adopts the following three key priorities:

- 1) *Encourage and support a safe, healthy and connected community;*
- 2) *Deliver quality infrastructure and services, and;*
- 3) *Sustain the natural environment whilst facilitating development into the future.*

Each of these priorities are supported by strategic outcomes that describe what Council aims to achieve. The outcomes identified within the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, which are relevant to the provision of play spaces and playgrounds, include:

- 1) *A council that engages with and enables its community;*
- 2) *An inclusive community that has a strong sense of pride and local identity;*
- 3) *A resilient community with the capacity to flourish;*
- 4) *Service provision meets the current and future requirements of residents and visitors;*
- 5) *Infrastructure development [is] ... underpinned by strategic planning;*
- 6) *Community facilities are safe, accessible and meet contemporary standards;*
- 7) *The organisation encourages... innovation.*

Consequently, Council strongly supports and prioritises a connected, supportive and thriving community and recognises the need to support increased participation in physical activity through the planning, delivery, and maintenance of appropriate play spaces, playgrounds and recreational facilities.

Council seeks to foster community pride and a strong sense of belonging by delivering convenient, quality, and attractive play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational facilities throughout Kingborough.

2.10. Economic Benefits

Quality play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational opportunities that enhance the vibrancy of a local area may also provide an economic benefit to the municipality; attracting users from other municipalities and, thereby, investment in the local economy.

Visitors and new residents may be attracted to Kingborough because of high quality, attractive play space and playground assets.

Accordingly, Council will invest in the development of a regional playground as part of the redevelopment of the Kingston Park precinct. The Kingston Park Playground is scheduled for completion in 2020.



Figure 1: Landscape Plan (indicative), Kingston Park Playground (image supplied by: Playstreet [www.playstreet.com.au])

3. 'WHY' AND 'HOW' WE PLAY

Kingborough Council seeks to provide play spaces that reflect community values and the positive public health outcomes that stem from play and recreation. Public play spaces and recreational facilities should, therefore, be equitably distributed throughout the municipality, well designed, and adequately maintained.

Play is a vehicle for self-expression and social interaction, and is often described as active, spontaneous, free, self-generating, purposeful, voluntary, fun, exploratory and intrinsically motivated.

(Sport and Recreation Victoria, 2007 - p.6)

The role of public play spaces and recreational areas is becoming increasingly important due to reductions in private open space provisions associated with higher density housing formats (ie. smaller or no backyards) in addition to the diminishing opportunities for exploring natural and undeveloped areas within proximity to places of residence.

Research suggests parents favour safe play environments that include opportunities to engage with other children who also live locally.

Furthermore, in order to promote and facilitate active and healthy lifestyles amongst our youth, young adult, and aging population (supporting positive public health outcomes), Council should aim to provide engaging and challenging recreational opportunities, spread equitably throughout the municipality, including (but not limited to):

- parkour facilities;
- exercise stations;
- informal ball sport courts (half-court basketball, for example, and others);
- mountain bike trails and jumps;
- walking tracks;
- well-developed, safe, and connected network of pedestrian and shared pathways.

Partnerships with community organisations (ie. Lions Club, Apex Club, Rotary Club, others) and government (ie. Department of Education, and others) should be pursued and cultivated in order to accelerate the expansion and implementation of a comprehensive network of play and recreational facilities in Kingborough.

3.1. Rights of the Child

Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child recognises a child's right to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to their age and to participate freely in cultural and artistic life (UNICEF, 1989).

3.2. Developmental Outcomes

Public play spaces should motivate children to become active and engage with others; enabling them to learn new skills and adapt to the needs and requirements of others, learn tolerance, build social skills, and develop their gross motor skills (Sport and Recreation Victoria, 2007). Play is, therefore, integral to growth and learning for human development. Accordingly, play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational facilities should seek to assist children reach their full potential.

3.3. Universal Access (Inclusive Design) and the General Population

For children with disabilities, opportunities to participate in play can be powerful and dignifying experiences. Additionally, contact between people without disabilities and those with mobility or intellectual disabilities may enhance understanding and build tolerance. Universal access and inclusive design is, therefore, of considerable benefit to the general population.

3.4. Whole-of-Family and Whole-of-Park Approach

In addition to the outcomes identified above, priority should be given to the creation of play spaces that stimulate imagination, present challenges, and provide opportunities to construct, create, or quietly absorb (contemplate) the various activities being undertaken by others. Consequently, a whole-of-park approach should inform play space and playground design, asset replacement, and play space and playground renewal.

Questions to ask when assessing a site, taking a whole-of-park approach, include:

- 1) How many play activities, both active and passive, are available?
- 2) What are the limitations and how will they be improved?
- 3) What are the existing linkages and access for people with disabilities?
- 4) What are the missing links in the play environment?
- 5) Who will be attracted to use this site?

- 6) How can greater diversity of play be encouraged?
- 7) How well is the play space or playground integrated within the wider landscape setting (parkland, streetscape, community facility, etc.)?

It is essential to design for the whole family, so that parents and carers can engage with and participate in play and recreational activities together with younger generations. Elements such as seating, shade, picnic facilities, litter bins, drinking fountains, appropriately designed fencing, and linkage pathways can help facilitate broader participation in our play spaces and playgrounds (National Heart Foundation of Australia, 2009).

3.5. The Benefits of Play

Children's play is generally characterised by:

- *a short span of concentration*
- *the need to make decisions involving personal risk; and*
- *informal competitiveness within their peer groups* (Urban Services, 2019).

According to *The Good Play Space Guide: "I can play too"* (Sport and Recreation Victoria, 2007 - p. 6), a **quality** play space offers:

- *An accessible environment which supports inclusion and participation;*
- *Choices in the types of activities that interest children of a range of ages and developmental stages;*
- *Cognitive and imaginative play opportunities as well as physically active play;*
- *Opportunities for people to meet and play together;*
- *Sensory qualities which provide interest to children;*
- *A comfortable physical environment (shade, shelter, winter sun);*
- *Risk and challenge, as well as a reasonable degree of safety;*
- *A combination of built and natural elements (ie cubbies amongst vegetation, sand, logs) and spatial qualities which enhance activities (i.e. partial enclosure, or a sense of elevation);*
- *Amenities which are easy and comfortable to use.*

(continued over page)

Furthermore, the Guide suggests that through play children develop the qualities necessary to live a full and positive life in adulthood, such as:

- Problem solving
- Resilience
- Flexibility and ability to deal with change
- Independence
- Creativity
- Spatial knowledge
- Self-awareness

3.6. Quality Play Spaces

Play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational facilities should provide a variety of experiences to suit the physical, social and intellectual needs of our community.

Play spaces should provide a range of play features and opportunities for users to interact with other users, expend energy and be physically active, play ball games, and interact with the natural environment. They should facilitate choice and risk taking within a safe environment.

Children should have the opportunity to test their skills and strengths, to socialise, to watch, learn, try and fail. Our play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational facilities should support physical and mental growth and provide a foundation for our children to mature into healthy and active adults.

Playgrounds are more than equipment, toilets and trees – they are about the relationships we build and the community links we create in those spaces.

(Female [35-54], Kingborough)

Play spaces and parkland settings function as vital restorative environments, where social interaction and physical activity can support positive public health outcomes, such as reablement and recovery.

Kingborough's play spaces, playgrounds, and recreational facilities should incorporate play value, accessibility and inclusion, and safety in conjunction with materials, structures, and sensory experiences that respond to the local landscape and environmental context.

4. PLAYGROUND CLASSIFICATIONS

The Kingborough Play Space and Playground Strategy 2020 - 2025 (this Strategy) adopts the following classification system, which is informed by the 'Tasmanian Open Space Policy and Planning Framework 2010' (Sport and Recreation Tasmania, 2010) and generally in accordance with the hierarchy of open space network classifications outlined in the 'Kingborough Open Space Strategy 2019' (Kingborough Council, 2019²). Where variations occur, classifications for play space and playground assets under this Strategy should be given precedence over those within the Kingborough Open Space Strategy:

1. **Local Urban**
2. **Local Suburban and Township**
3. **District**
4. **Sub-regional**
5. **Regional**

Play spaces are be classified by typology according to their location within the municipality and the role they perform in the overall play space and playground network.

Where necessary (and where appropriate), Council may decide to increase the quality of play infrastructure at a particular site(s) to ensure attractive and challenging play opportunities are reasonably accessible from a majority of dwellings.

See over page for definitions of each classification.

Note: *Definitions for each classification (typology) have been calibrated and applied to reflect Kingborough's unique settlement patterns, geography, topography, and the existing play space and playground provision within the municipality. Accordingly, the classification system aims to provide an authentic guide able to inform realistic outcomes in line with community expectations.*

Playground definitions and classifications should be reviewed regularly and updated as required.

4.1. Local Urban Playgrounds

- Inner-urban residential areas, including:
 - Kingston
 - Kingston Beach
 - Taroona
 - Blackmans Bay
- Located within 500 to 800m (or equivalent to a 5 to 10 minute walk) from majority of households.
- Play opportunities for younger children (<12 years old).
- Connected to surrounding residential neighbourhoods via a safe path network.
- Include seating, natural shade and natural landscape features.
- Nature play elements and play equipment.
- Exercise equipment and additional recreational facilities may be incorporated where appropriate.
- Used frequently and, at times, intensively.

4.2. Local Suburban and Township Playgrounds

- Outer suburban neighbourhoods and / or townships (and / or villages), including:
 - Snug
 - Margate
 - Woodbridge
 - Howden
 - Tinderbox
 - Longley
 - Kettering
 - Bonnet Hill
 - Middleton
 - Huntingfield
 - Gordon
 - Alonnah
 - Adventure Bay
 - Spring Farm and Whitewater Park
 - Dennes Point
- Located within 2km of households (or equivalent to a 15 to 20 minute walk) from majority of households.
- May be associated with other suburban or township facilities, such as: beaches; community halls; ovals; campsites; tennis courts; or recreation spaces servicing tourists.
- May be connected to surrounding residential neighbourhood via a safe path network.
- May be accessed by bicycle, car or public transport.
- Play opportunities for younger children (<12 years old).
- Include seating, natural shade and natural landscape features.

4.2. Local Suburban and Township Playgrounds (cont.)

- Nature play elements and play equipment.
- Used sporadically, occasionally intensively.

4.3. District Playgrounds

- Service a catchment with a radius of up to 10km (or equivalent to a 45 minute to hour walk or 5 to 10 minute drive) from majority of households.
- Small to medium play spaces and playgrounds set within parkland reserves or natural landscape settings.
- Provide a wide range of play opportunities and / or equipment.
- Accessed predominately by bicycle, car, or public transport.
- Users are likely to stay for longer periods and, therefore, amenities should include: public toilets; picnic shelters; seating; and pathways.
- May be linked with other community activities and / or facilities, and likely to be a focus for regular to semi-regular community gatherings.
- Offer a variety of play opportunities for both young and older children (up to 15 years old)
- Universally accessible.
- Open run about areas and ball bounce areas.
- Seating, natural shade and landscape features.
- Nature play.
- Pathways and linkages to other areas as appropriate.
- Adult exercise opportunities.
- Recreational opportunities designed to engage our youth.
- Adequate parking facilities within proximity, including safe pedestrian linkages and / or pedestrian crossings.
- Examples include:
 - *Christopher Johnson Memorial Park, Bonnet Hill;*
 - *Ashton Denehey Memorial Playground, Snug;*
 - *Gordon Recreation Reserve;*
 - *Silverwater Park, Woodbridge;*
 - *Tinderbox Beach Reserve;*
 - *Longley Recreation Reserve;*
 - *Rotary 'Ducks Playground', Kingston Beach*

4.4. Sub-regional

- Service a catchment with a radius of up to 15kms (or equivalent to a 10 to 15 minute drive) from majority of households.
- Offer a wide variety of play and recreational experiences for a wide range of users (all ages).
- Incorporate special or unique characteristics, either man made or natural, and are (ideally) in a prominent, attractive location.
- Accessible by public transport, vehicles, bicycle and pedestrian path networks.
- Include universally accessible facilities and a variety of universally accessible play areas for children and carers with varying physical and intellectual abilities.
- Picnic and bbq facilities, toilets, drinking fountains and off-street parking.
- Play elements should encourage exploration and challenge physical, sensory and emotional abilities using both equipment and the natural landscape.
- Destination, attracting visitors to unique landscape elements and inspiring play spaces.
- Located within an attractive parkland setting with paths linking amenities and play space features.
- Open run about areas, and ball play areas.
- May be co-located with other recreational facilities like tennis courts, bowls clubs or ovals.
- Usually visits to sub-regional play spaces are planned and in larger numbers.
- Food businesses (food vans/trucks, kiosks, cafes, etc.) should be encouraged and supported (where appropriate).
- Examples include:
 - Dru Point, Margate
 - Bruny Island (future, locations to be determined)

4.5. Regional

- Unique, highly desirable destinations, encompassing a diverse and well-integrated range of play and recreational opportunities.
- Significant level of financial investment to ensure play experiences are diverse, challenging, and engage physical, sensory, and emotional abilities, using both play equipment and natural landscape features.
- Include universally accessible facilities and a variety of universally accessible play areas for children and carers with varying physical and intellectual abilities.
- Ample shelter and shade should be provided to both passive and active recreation areas.
- Public art should be encouraged, facilitate, and integrated into landscape settings (where appropriate).
- Off-street car parking and bus parking to accommodate larger, organised group activities.
- Co-located in association with other significant community facilities.
- Significant financial investment in place space, park development, and maintenance.
- Integrated system of high-quality pathways providing inclusive access to majority of play and recreational areas.
- Seating, bbq facilities, shade, toilets, drinking fountains.
- Art and cultural aspects relevant to the Kingborough and Tasmanian Aboriginal Communities.
- Examples include:
 - Kingston Park Playground (2020).

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles should be considered when maintaining existing assets and when planning and designing new public play spaces and playgrounds within Kingborough:

5.2. Principle 1 - Location

- 1) Allocation of play spaces and recreational facilities throughout the municipality should be equitable and within appropriate and reasonable travel distances of the majority of residences.
- 2) Urban local playgrounds will be located within easy walking distance of residents, ie. within 500 to 800m (or equivalent to a 5 to 10 minute walk) of households.
- 3) Local suburban and township facilities will be located within a 15 to 20 minute walk (or approximately 2 km) of households.
- 4) Consideration should be given to the acquisition of land for (open space) and the development of 'Local Suburban / Township' play and/or recreational facilities at:
 - Howden (noting there is currently no land zoned as 'Open Space' in Howden).
- 5) District playgrounds will be provided within 10km of households.
- 6) Sub-regional playgrounds will be provided and maintained at two locations within the municipality:
 - Dru Point (existing, requires upgrading), and
 - Bruny Island (future, locations to be determined).
- 7) A regional playground will be provided as part of the redevelopment of Kingston Park, the former Kingston High School site, and should be completed in 2020.
- 8) Playgrounds and recreational facilities should be located in appropriate and attractive landscape settings, and be highly visible from surrounding dwellings, streetscapes and other public open spaces to maximise passive surveillance.
- 9) Where there is an oversupply of playgrounds within a given area, Council will develop a Playground Action Plan and undertake relevant assessments in order to rationalise the number of playgrounds in favour of *quality* over quantity. Appropriate community engagement should be undertaken when developing the Playground Action Plan (ref. 5.7).

5.3. Principle 2 - Universal Accessibility (Inclusive Design)

- 10) Universal accessibility will underpin the planning and design of play spaces and playgrounds in Kingborough.
- 11) Universally accessible play opportunities will be provided across a variety of playgrounds and play spaces in Kingborough, including areas for passive recreation, quiet contemplation, and rest (breakout spaces).
- 12) Facilities within Kingborough's suite of play space and playground assets should cater for a diverse range of ages, genders, interests, and physical and intellectual abilities (where appropriate and where feasible).
- 13) Whole-of-family play and exercise will be prioritised across the suite of play space and playground assets.

5.4. Principle 3 - Planning, Design, and Safety

- 14) Play spaces and recreational facilities will be planned, designed, managed, and developed in accordance with this Strategy (and all other relevant legislation and Australian Standards).
- 15) Play spaces and playgrounds will:
 - a) Respect Tasmanian Aboriginal heritage and express Culture (where appropriate and where feasible), in consultation with local Aboriginal Community members.
 - b) Incorporate features that support physical, social, emotional, and language development;
 - c) Provide opportunities to experience stimulating, fun, and appropriate risk-taking challenges;
 - d) Encourage interaction with the natural environment;
 - e) Incorporate planning and design decisions based on reliable, such as (but not limited to) the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC);
 - f) Integrate outcomes from relevant contemporary research on play space environments;
 - g) Demonstrate innovation;
- 16) Establishing natural shade for parks and playgrounds will be given priority over artificial shade structures (where appropriate and where feasible).
- 17) Council will continue to plant and promote appropriate shade trees throughout municipal parks.

- 18) Risk will be managed and monitored at all play spaces on the understanding that they are designed to expose children to age appropriate learning environments that are safe, but not necessarily risk free.
- 19) Supporting infrastructure will be generally consistent with the classification of each playground (local urban, local suburban/township, district, sub-regional, and regional) as outlined within this Strategy.
- 20) Natural assets (landscape elements) also have play value, such as: gullies; creeks; natural bushland; and beaches. As such, existing natural landscape features should be protected and incorporated into play space and playground design.
- 21) Fencing should be designed to compliment play spaces, recognising that “children who enjoy quality play environments in the company of their parents or adult carers... experience significantly less injury than those who play in isolation from supportive adults” (Play Australia, 2019).
 - a) Fencing should, therefore, be designed to enclose play spaces, playgrounds, informal play opportunities (ie. areas of open lawn), opportunities for nature play, supporting infrastructure (seating, shelters, etc.), and more without separating children from adults.
 - b) Design and layout of fencing should be considered on a case-by-case basis, giving regard to site context, play opportunities, and the visual and functional impact of fencing on the public domain (ie. fencing may not necessarily be required at all play and playground locations).
 - c) Fencing should be designed to be visually recessive, support passive surveillance, and, wherever possible, be integrated with (partial) screen planting.
 - d) Some child-proof gates and locking mechanisms may have the unintended impact of preventing certain users or groups from accessing play spaces. Consequently, locking mechanisms and gates to play space and playgrounds must be accessible to all users, including people with reduced mobility, people in wheelchairs, and people who utilise other mobility devices.
- 22) All new signage (and upgrades) are to be installed in accordance with Council’s Signage Strategy.

5.5. Principle 4 –Budget Allocations and Financial Investments

- 23) Budget allocations will be made in accordance with this Strategy.
- 24) Where open space becomes available to meet a gap in service provision, the development of a new play space at that site will be prioritized in Council’s Capital Works program.
- 25) Short term actions will focus on asset replacement and upgrading existing play spaces in accordance with this Strategy.

- 26) Identified gaps in play space provision will be rectified (through provision of additional facilities, upgrades of existing facilities and / or through land acquisition) where possible. If land is not available to accommodate a new play space or playground then improvements will be made to the nearest suitable play space or playground.

5.6. Principle 5 - Presentation (Maintenance)

- 27) Playgrounds will be managed and maintained in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, guidelines, and regulations.
- 28) Maintenance will be undertaken as required and where feasible.
- 29) The design and development of playgrounds will be appropriate in respect of Council's regular maintenance scheduling and capabilities.
- 30) Each play space and playground asset will be maintained in accordance with its classification (according to this Strategy), location, and frequency of use.
- 31) Maintenance schedules should be reviewed and revised regularly.
- 32) Regular safety audits should be carried out by qualified staff.
- 33) Annual safety and compliance audits should be undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced professionals. A Certificate of Compliance shall be issued to Council.
- 34) A detailed condition, usage, and play value assessment (audit) of existing play spaces is to be undertaken and cross referenced with Councils Asset Management and Replacement register.

5.7. Principle 5 - Information and Community Engagement

- 35) Council will engage with the Community, including engaging directly with children (where appropriate and where feasible) when designing new play spaces and playgrounds, or when existing assets require refurbishment, to ensure the needs and aspirations of the relevant user groups are understood and considered. Engagement should be undertaken on a site-by-site basis, including with users with disabilities and / or their carers.
- 36) Engagement should, wherever possible, be undertaken and documented in accordance with the principles and methodology (model) defined by the International Association for Public Participation Australasia (www.iap2.org.au).
- 37) New and existing play spaces, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and active transport networks will be promoted via Council's external communications channels in order to encourage increased participation in an active, outdoor lifestyle and to inform residents of forthcoming improvements and new developments.

6. ACTIONS

The Guiding Principles, as outlined in Chapter 5 (above), have been distilled into a series of actions. Each action has value individually, and may be implemented as a standalone measure; though, they should be applied systematically and concurrently for each play space and playground site.

This Strategy recommends:

- 1) **AUDIT & PLAN:** Playground Audits, Action Plans, and Maintenance Plans should be undertaken / developed in accordance with this Strategy and cross referenced with Council's Asset Management and Replacement Registers. *These inputs are required to establish a base level of information from which all future planning, design, and investment decisions can be made. The Strategy aims to define the mandate under which the audits and action plans will be undertaken.*
- 2) **CONSULT:** Undertake community engagement, including engaging directly with children and people with disabilities (where appropriate and where feasible), on a site-by-site basis. Engagement should, wherever possible, be undertaken and documented in accordance with the principles and methodology (model) defined by the International Association for Public Participation Australasia (iap2).
- 3) **IMPLEMENT:** Play spaces and playgrounds should be developed and upgraded in accordance with the priorities identified in Audits and Action Plans (ref. to action 1 above).
- 4) **ASSESS:** All play spaces in Kingborough be regularly assessed against the desired classifications and service levels defined within this Strategy.
- 5) **EXPAND:** New play spaces are developed at sites where there is a gap in local level service provision (where appropriate and where feasible).
- 6) **INCLUDE:** Universal access (inclusive design) principles should be applied to all new play space and playground projects.
- 7) **REVIEW:** Universal access (inclusive design) should be reviewed and implemented at existing play spaces and playgrounds (where appropriate and where feasible).
- 8) **CONSIDER:** New play space and playground assets, and upgrades to existing assets, should be considered within the context of a whole-of-park upgrade wherever possible (and where feasible).
- 9) **MAINTAIN:** Maintenance and service level schedules should be developed for all play spaces, parks, and playgrounds in accordance with this Strategy.
- 10) **INSPECT & CERTIFY:** All playground equipment and play spaces should be inspected and certified annually by a qualified and authorised playground inspector (and documented with a Certificate of Compliance).

- 11) **INSPECT & CERTIFY:** All new playgrounds must be inspected and certified by a qualified and authorised playground inspector upon completion and before handover to Council.
- 12) **PROMOTE:** Play spaces and recreational facilities should be promoted via appropriate communication channels, including (but not limited to) Council's website, newsletters, special publications, brochures, etc.
- 13) **DIRECT:** All new signage (and upgrades) are to be installed in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, be DDA compliant, inclusive, and in accordance with Council's Signage Strategy.

APPENDIX 1

Master List of Playgrounds by Classification

Suburb	Asset No.	Name	Location	Desired Classification (typology)	Actual Condition (Acceptable, Unacceptable, Critical, To Be Determined)
Taroona	1	Delta Avenue Reserve	14 Delta Av	Local Urban	TBD
	2	Taroona Park	32a Nubeena Cr	District	TBD
	3	Taroona Hall	32a Nubeena Cr	Local Suburban	TBD
	4	Taroona Beach Reserve and Foreshore	32a Nubeena Cr	District	TBD
	5	Louise Hinsby Reserve	19 Jenkins St	Local Urban (unembellished)	TBD
Bonnet Hill	6	Sedgebrook Reserve	Lot 1 Taronga Rd	Local Suburban (unembellished)	TBD
	7	Christopher Johnson Memorial Park	Tyndall Rd	District	TBD
Kingston Beach	8	Rotary 'Ducks Playground'	40 Balmoral Rd	Local Urban	TBD
	9	Kingston Beach	Osborne Espl	District	TBD
	10	Mount Royal Reserve	18 Nicholas Dr	Local Urban	TBD
Kingston	11	Kingston Park Playground	42 Channel Hwy	Regional	(2020)
	12	Willowbend Playground	84 Willowbend Road	Local Suburban	TBD
	13	Greenhill Drive Park	12 Greenhill Dr	Local Urban	TBD
	14	Thornbill St Reserve (Maranoa Community Playground)	58 Kingfisher St	Local Urban	TBD
	15	Kingston Community Garden (Gormley Park, Kingborough Sports Precinct)	10 Kingston View Dr (Gormley Dr)	DECLASSIFIED (unsuitable, TBC)	TBD
	16	Maranoa Heights Reserve	Lot 397 Hawthorne Dr	Local Urban (consider upgrade to District – TBC)	TBD
	17	Nolan Cr Reserve / Drysdale Avenue Playground	29a Nolan Cr & 41a Drysdale Av	Local Urban	TBD

Suburb	Asset No.	Name (A to Z)	Location	Desired Classification (typology)	Actual Condition (Acceptable, Unacceptable, Critical, To Be Determined)
	18	Freesia Crescent Recreation Area	Lot 101 Freesia Cr	PENDING (unembellished)	TBD
	19	Foley Road Reserve	Lot 98 Foley Rd	PENDING (unembellished)	TBD
	20	Campbell Street Reserve	37 Campbell St	Local Suburban	
Blackmans Bay	21	Donohoe Gardens	13 Donohoe Gardens	Local Urban	TBD
	22	Mirramar Park Reserve	Lot 1, Mirramar Park	Local Urban	TBD
	23	Blackmans Bay Hall	24 Ocean Espl	District	TBD
	24	Blackmans Bay Skate Park	24 Ocean Espl	District	TBD
	25	Blackmans Bay Foreshore	Adj. 28 Ocean Espl	District	TBD
	26	Alamo Close Reserve	8 Alamo Cl	Local Urban	TBD
	27	Burwood Park	1 Dianella Dr	Local Urban	TBD
	28	Suncoast Dr Playground	Lot 600 Suncoast Drive	Local Urban	TBD
Howden	29	Authority land and road casement within Environmental Living zone.	42 Allenwood Rd (adj. 259 Howden Rd)	Unembellished	Unacceptable (consider alternative sites within Howden)
Tinderbox	30	Tinderbox Foreshore Reserve	Fergusson Av	District	TBD
	31	Pierson's Point Reserve	310 – 316 Tinderbox Rd, Tinderbox	District	TBD
Huntingfield	32	Mayfield Park	112 Sirius Dr	Local Suburban	TBD
	33	Sirius Park	107 Sirius Dr	Local Suburban (unembellished)	TBD
Margate	34	Dru Point Reserve	10 Esplanade	Sub-regional	TBD
	35	Incana Road Reserve	48 Incana Rd	Local Suburban	TBD
Snug	36	Snug Memorial Hall	62 Beach Rd	Local Township	TBD
	37	Ashton Denehey Memorial Playground	64 Beach Rd	District	TBD
Kettering	38	Kettering Hall Reserve	2963 Channel Hwy	Local Township	TBD
	39	Kettering Skate Park	2963 Channel Hwy	District	TBD

Suburb	Asset No.	Name (A to Z)	Location	Desired Classification (typology)	Actual Condition (Acceptable, Unacceptable, Critical, To Be Determined)
	40	Kettering Oval Exercise Precinct	2963 Channel Hwy	District	TBD
	41	Trial Bay Reserve	Adj. 3057 Channel Hwy	Local Township	TBD
Woodbridge	42	Silverwater Park	3473 Channel Hwy	District	TBD
Middleton	43	Middleton Hall	25 McDowell St	Local Township	TBD
	44	Middleton Foreshore	Esplanade Rd	Local Township	TBD
Gordon	45	Gordon Recreation Reserve	Opp. 4800 Channel Hwy	District	TBD
Longley	46	Longley Recreation Reserve	616 Huon Rd	Local Township (consider upgrade to District)	TBD
Leslie Vale	47	Leslie Vale Recreation Ground (Oval)	550 Leslie Rd	Local Township	TBD
Sandfly	48	Sandfly Hall	811 Sandfly Road	Local Township	TBD
Dennes Point	49	Lennon Memorial Hall (At the Point – hall, café, gallery)	18 Bruny Island Main Road	Local Township	TBD
	50	Dennes Point Recreation Ground (Oval)	10 Sports Rd	Local Township	TBD
Alonnah	51	Alonnah Foreshore Reserve	Opp. 3889 Bruny Island Main Rd	District	TBD
	52	Alonnah Recreation Reserve (Oval) inc. Bruny Island Skate Park	14 School Rd	District	TBD
Adventure Bay	53	Adventure Bay Quiet Corner (Adventure bay Coastal Reserve)	Opp. 670 Adventure Bay Rd	Local Township	TBD
	54	Adventure Bay Hall (Adventure Bay Playground)	5 Kellaway Rd	District (consider upgrade to Sub-regional)	TBD

APPENDIX 2

Play Space Framework

The following framework has been adapted (using the City of Whitehorse Play Strategy 2011) to guide assessment, planning, design, and maintenance of new and existing play spaces and playgrounds within Kingborough. It identifies desirable play features and links these with appropriate amenities for each play space or playground classification (typology).

●●● More relevant for this classification ● Less relevant for this classification - not relevant

Ingredients	Local Urban	Local suburban/ Township	District	Sub-regional	Regional
Features for younger children (4 – 12)	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Features for older children (12 >)	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Accessible play elements	●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Site location considerations					
Passive surveillance	●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Good street frontage	●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
On-street parking	-	-	●●	●●●	●●●
Site Amenities and features					
Shade trees	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Shade structures (to play elements)	●	●	●●	●●●	●●●
Seating	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Picnic tables and seating	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Drinking fountain	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
BBQ	●	●	●●	●●●	●●●
Picnic shelter	●	●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Rubbish bins	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Park name	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Directional signage	●	●	●●	●●●	●●●
Toilets	-	-	●●●	●●●	●●●
Interpretative signage	●	●	●●	●●	●●●
Off-street carpark	-	●	●●	●●●	●●●
Disability parking and accessible paths	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Play Features					
Nature play	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Play equipment	●●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Area of open space for free play	●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Hard surfaces for activities such as scooters, bikes	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Bushland features and natural landscape elements	●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Existing trails and other links	●	●●	●●	●●●	●●●
Maintenance					
Low	●●	●●			
Medium			●●●		
High				●●●	
Superior (flagship quality presentation)				●●●	●●●

APPENDIX 3

Play Space Framework Checklists

The following checklists will guide maintenance, upgrades, and future design interventions relating to play space and playground assets within Kingborough. The checklists should be used systematically, and will help to ensure investments are made in accordance with the desired classification and play space framework.

Local Urban Park Framework Checklist

PARK NAME AND ADDRESS PID	COMMENTS
1. Does the park look well used? If not why?	
2. What are the features for younger children?	
3. Are there any accessible play elements?	
4. What is the play value of the park?	
5. Is the play space able to be accessed easily?	
6. What is the level of shade provided?	
7. Are seats or picnic tables provided?	
8. Is there a rubbish bin?	
9. Does the park have a name?	
10. Are there natural play elements?	
11. What is the condition of the play equipment? Itemise the elements.	
12. What age range is being catered for in this park?	
13. Is there a special quality in this park?	
14. How is the park presented?	
15. What actions would improve the quality of this park?	
16. Is there a maintenance schedule for this park?	
17. What actions are recorded on the annual play equipment assessment?	

Local Suburban / Township Park Framework Checklist

PARK NAME AND ADDRESS PID	COMMENTS
1. Does the park look well used? If not why?	
2. What are the features for younger children?	
3. Are seats or picnic tables provided?	
4. Are there any accessible play elements?	
5. What play value is in the park both built and natural?	
6. Is the play space able to be accessed easily?	
7. What is the level of shade provided?	
8. Is there a rubbish bin?	
9. Does the park have a name?	
10. What is the status of the play equipment?	
11. What age range is being catered to by this park?	
12. Does the park have any special features?	
13. How is the park presented?	
14. What actions would improve the quality of this park?	
15. Does the park have any paths?	
16. Is there open free space in this park?	
17. Is this park connected to other facilities? If so name them.	
18. Does this park have a special role in the community?	
19. Is there a maintenance schedule for this park?	
20. What actions are recorded on the annual play equipment assessment?	

District Park Framework Checklist

PARK NAME AND ADDRESS PID:	Comments
1. Does the park look well used? If not why?	
2. Is there a variety of play opportunities for young and older children?	
3. Are seats or picnic tables provided?	
4. Are there any accessible play elements?	
5. What play value is in the park both built and natural?	
6. Is the play space able to be accessed easily?	
7. What is the level of shade provided?	
8. Are there rubbish bins?	
9. Does the park have a name?	
10. What is the status of the play equipment?	
11. What other recreational facilities are associated with the park? If so name them.	
12. Does the park have any special features?	
13. How is the park presented?	
14. What actions would improve the quality of this park?	
15. Does the park have any paths?	
16. Is there open free space in this park or ball game sites?	
17. Is there adult exercise equipment?	
18. Does this park have a special role in the community?	
19. Does the park have a park sign?	
20. Does the park have public toilets?	
21. Is this park accessible? What does it need to improve accessibility?	
22. Is there a carpark, bbq, shelter or picnic facilities? Provide details.	
23. Is there a maintenance schedule for this park?	
24. What actions are recorded on the annual play equipment assessment?	

Sub-regional Park Framework Checklist

PARK NAME AND ADDRESS PID:	COMMENTS
1. Does the park look well used? If not why?	
2. Is there a variety of play opportunities for young and older children?	
3. Are seats or picnic tables provided?	
4. Are there any accessible play elements?	
5. What play value is in the park both built and natural?	
6. Is the play space able to be accessed easily?	
7. What is the level of shade provided?	
8. Are there rubbish bins?	
9. Does the park have a name?	
10. What is the status of the play equipment?	
11. What other recreational facilities are associated with the park? If so name them.	
12. Does the park have any special features?	
13. How is the park presented?	
14. Are there any educational activities and storytelling opportunities?	
15. What actions would improve the quality of this park?	
16. Does the park have any paths?	
17. Is there open free space in this park or ball game sites?	
18. Is there adult exercise equipment?	
19. Does this park have a special role in the community?	
20. Does the park have a park sign?	
21. Does the park have public toilets?	
22. Is this park accessible? What does it need to improve accessibility?	
23. Is there off street carparking, bbq, shelter or picnic facilities? Provide details.	
24. Is there a maintenance schedule for this park?	
25. What actions are recorded on the annual play equipment assessment?	

Regional Park Framework Checklist

PARK NAME AND ADDRESS PID:	COMMENTS
1. Does the park look well used? If not why?	
2. Is there a variety of play opportunities for young and older children?	
3. Are seats or picnic tables provided?	
4. Are there any accessible play elements?	
5. What play value is in the park both built and natural?	
6. Is the play space able to be accessed easily?	
7. What is the level of shade provided?	
8. Are there rubbish bins?	
9. Does the park have a name?	
10. What is the status of the play equipment?	
11. What other recreational facilities are associated with the park? If so name them.	
12. Does the park have any special features?	
13. How is the park presented?	
14. Are there any educational activities and storytelling opportunities?	
15. What actions would improve the quality of this park?	
16. Does the park have any paths?	
17. Is there open free space in this park or ball game sites?	
18. Is there adult exercise equipment?	
19. Does this park have a special role in the community?	
20. Does the park have a park sign?	
21. Does the park have public toilets?	
22. Is this park accessible? What does it need to improve accessibility?	
23. Is there off street carparking, bbq, shelter or picnic facilities? Provide details.	
24. Is there a maintenance schedule for this park?	
25. What actions are recorded on the annual play equipment assessment?	

APPENDIX 4

Safety and Compliance

All playgrounds must comply with the following standards:

- AS 4658.1:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods (EN1176-1:2008, MOD).
- AS 4658.2:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods for swings (EN1176-2:2008, MOD).
- AS 4658.3:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods for slides (EN1176-3:2008, MOD).
- AS 4658.4:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods for cableways (EN1176-4:2008, MOD).
- AS 4658.5:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods for carousels (EN1176-5:2008, MOD).
- AS 4658.6:2014 Playground equipment and surfacing-General safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment.
- AS4685.11:2014 Playground equipment –Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for spatial networks (EN1176-11:2008).
- AS/NZ 4422: 1996 Playground surfacing – Specifications, requirements and test method.

Background Information

Council currently carries out regular maintenance inspections weekly, quarterly, and annually and documents the findings.

An annual assessment is undertaken by an external consultant who visits each playground providing a report with visual images and a list of actions. There is currently no assessment of natural play spaces within parklands and there appears to be no reporting evident on whether appropriate rectifications are completed following the assessment. The annual assessment should be comprehensive and reflect the true condition of the assets. Certification should be provided for current equipment as required under Australian Standards.

Council should engage a suitably qualified person to undertake an engineering audit of all existing play spaces and playgrounds to ensure they are compliant with current standards and are structurally sound. A current structural certificate of all existing play equipment and play spaces including nature play areas and surfaces should be contained in the audit.

Council staff should be adequately trained to undertake regular maintenance inspections to

ensure public safety is maintained and reduce litigation risks to Council. Evidence of actions linked to the assessment should be compiled and recorded appropriately. This process of auditing and reporting should be reviewed and adjusted accordingly to ensure that play spaces and playgrounds are assessed from the viewpoint of play value and quality.

Connecting playground assessments and audits with Council's asset register, including all relevant information pertaining to playgrounds and parks, will improve Council's service delivery of as well as providing transparent processes that link design, asset renewal and maintenance. This may help to reduce Council's risk and liability.

Next Steps

Playground Audits, Action Plans, and Maintenance Plans should be undertaken / developed in accordance with this Strategy (ref. to Chapter 6. Actions). These inputs are required in order to establish a base level of information from which all future planning, design and investment decisions can be made.

APPENDIX 5

Current Development Trends

Notes Regarding Existing Infrastructure

Margate: Dru Point (classification: District Playground), and a small local park at Incana Drive. However, with increasing levels of residential and commercial development more local parks are required west of the Channel Highway.

Electrona: Increased residential development. Is currently poorly serviced by play opportunities for local family groups.

Snug: Recent community consultation indicated high priority for a family orientated park west of the Channel Highway. Ashton Denehey Memorial Playground was recently unveiled at Snug oval.

Woodbridge: Facilities at Silverwater Park requires upgrading to District classification as the town expands and visitation increases as a result of tourism activity in the area.

Kettering: A consolidated recreational space located at the oval with walking tracks, playground, skate park, tennis courts and exercise equipment. However, the play space is of a poor quality. This district park is also experiencing increased tourist numbers who pass through *en route* to Bruny Island.

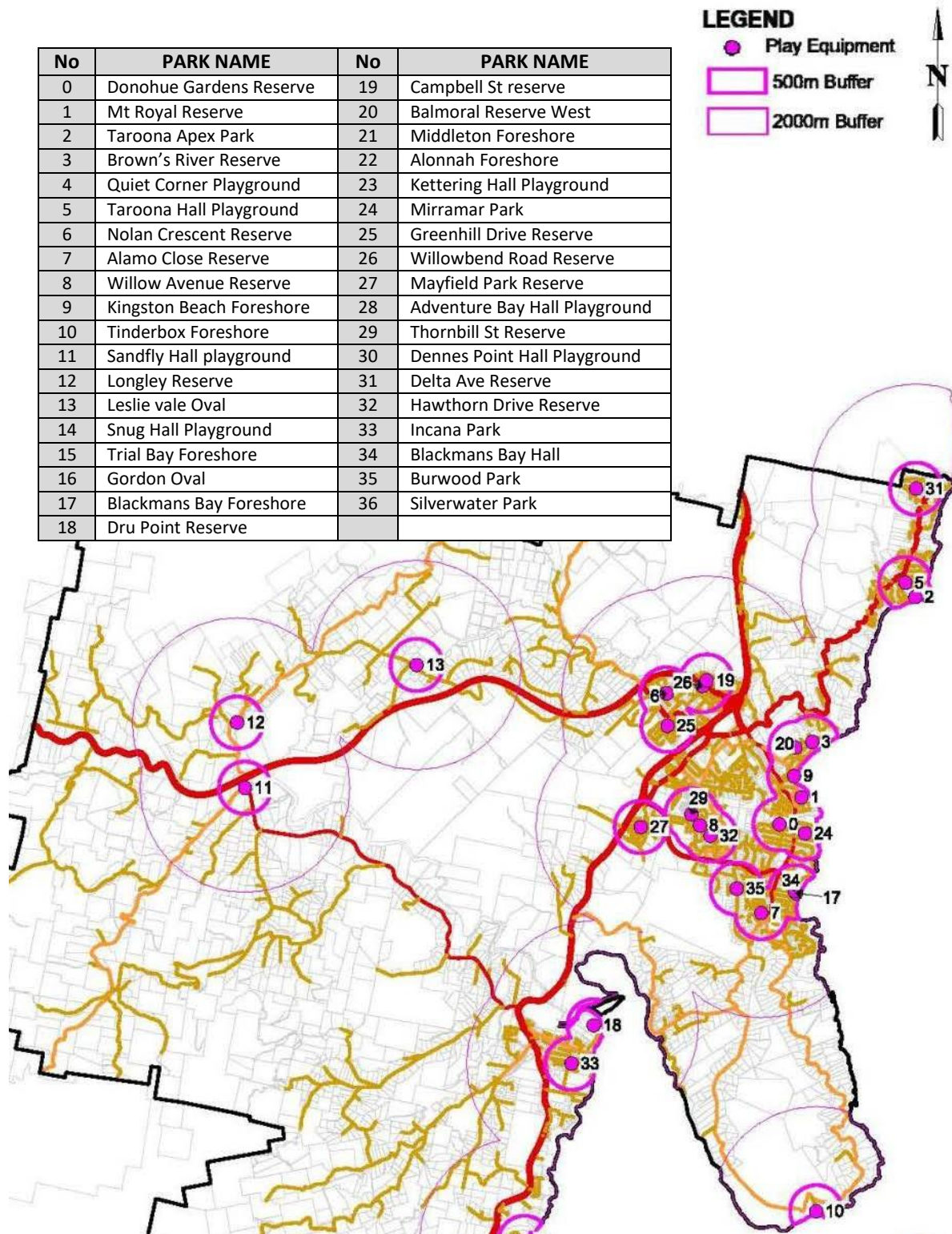
Bruny Island: Playgrounds are co-located with community halls or other community facilities. Playground facilities at Alonnah should service a district-wide catchment, and, accordingly require upgrading. Dennes Point has a swing located within the grounds of the Lennon Memorial Hall and Community Centre. Consideration should be given to District level facilities in Dennes Point. Adventure Bay has a cluster of recreational facilities located near the hall including a tennis court, bowls club, exercise site and playground. The beach has multiple access points along Adventure Bay Road. This area services the main settlement area of Bruny Island and visitors and, accordingly, consideration should be given to upgrading this space to a Sub-regional play space and playground.

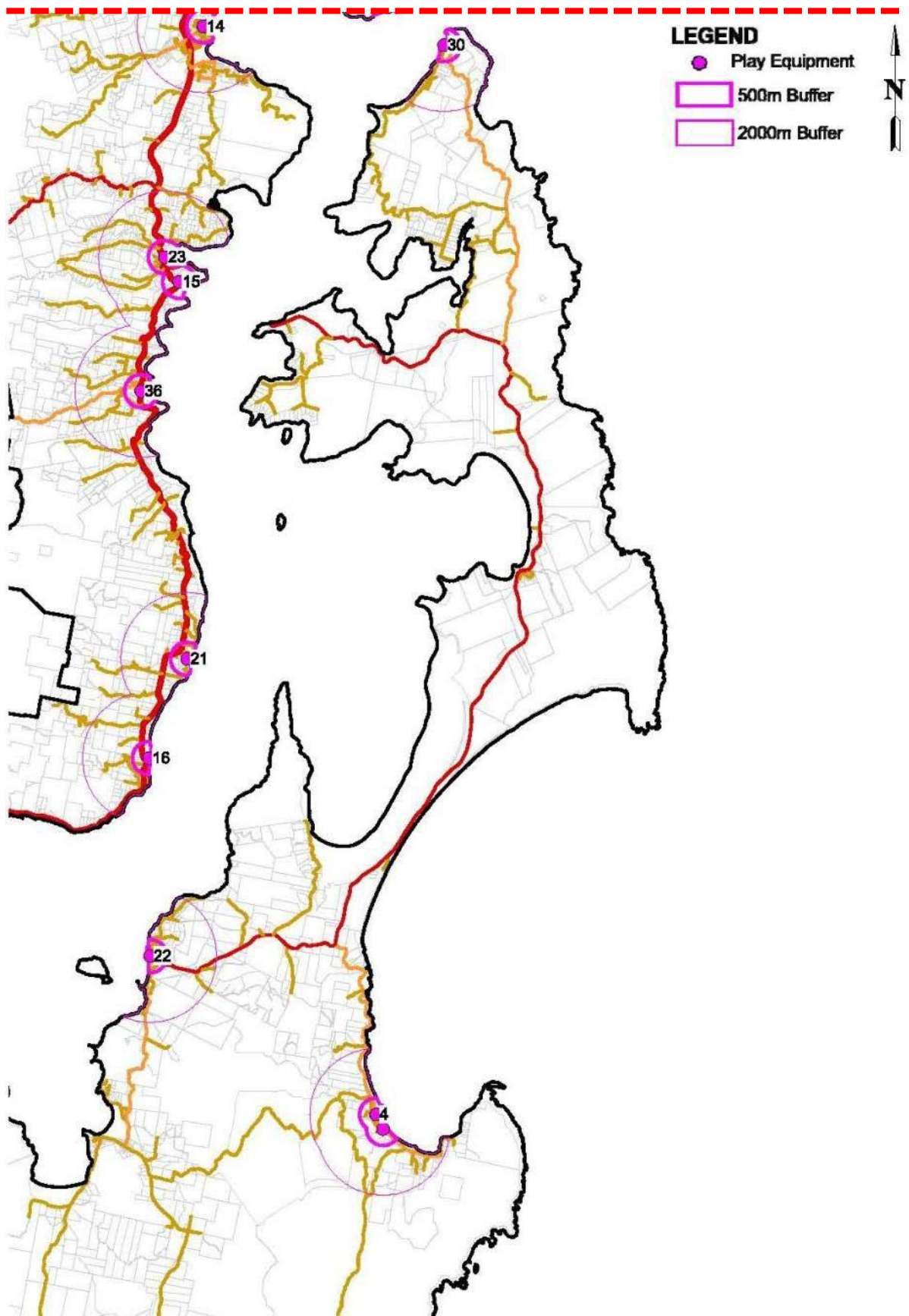
Feedback indicates some rural living areas do not have land set aside for local open space and/or play spaces, including (but not limited to) Howden.

APPENDIX 6

Existing Playgrounds

A selection of existing playgrounds and their distribution within Kingborough are illustrated on the following maps. For up-to-date information please refer to the Recreation and Facilities Map at: www.kingborough.tas.gov.au/recreation-facilities/map/





APPENDIX 7

References

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