



REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Lockyer Valley Regional Council

public parks strategy 2019



recreation  
open space  
and sport  
specialists

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# Table of contents

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1.0 Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 Overview .....	6
1.2 Project purpose .....	6
1.3 Project methodology .....	6
1.4 Strategic inputs and outputs.....	7
1.5 Strategic context .....	8
1.6 Community profile.....	9
1.7 Benefits of public parks.....	10
<b>2.0 Community engagement summary</b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 Community engagement summary.....	12
<b>3.0 Demand for Public Parks</b>	<b>16</b>
3.1 General trends.....	16
3.2 Embellishments and park users .....	18
3.3 Public parks assessment .....	20
3.4 Planning considerations .....	20
3.5 Public parks classification .....	21
3.6 Classifying public park parcels .....	22
3.7 Desired Standard of Service .....	23
3.8 Public park types .....	25
<b>4.0 Region-wide assessment</b>	<b>26</b>
4.1 Demand generation .....	26
4.2 Demand, gap assessment and analysis .....	27
4.3 A localised approach to provision .....	28
4.4 Vision and guiding principles .....	29
<b>5.0 Catchment analysis</b>	<b>30</b>
5.1 Gatton Town Planning District .....	30
5.2 Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District .....	36
5.3 Helidon Village Planning District.....	42
5.4 Murphys Creek and Surrounds Planning District.....	48
5.5 Withcott Planning District.....	54
5.6 Forest Hill Planning District.....	60
5.7 Laidley North and Plainland Planning District .....	66
5.8 Laidley Town Planning District.....	72
5.9 Morton Vale Planning District.....	78
5.10 Rural South Planning District.....	84
5.11 Rural West Planning District.....	90

<b>6.0 Future directions</b>	<b>96</b>
6.1 Future directions .....	96
6.2 Key recommendations .....	98
6.3 Future works summary .....	99
6.4 Investment plan .....	100
<b>7.0 Appendix one desired standards of service</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>8.0 Appendix two Tiered approach to access and provision</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>9.0 Appendix three Access to experiences</b>	<b>107</b>





# Executive summary

## Background

The Public Parks Strategy sets the direction for public park planning and provision.

With the former Strategy developed in 2012, an updated Strategy was required to:

- ▶ understand
  - current community preferences and desires for public parks
- ▶ ensure
  - Council's public parks are well-managed, well-maintained and accessible
  - optimal public parks outcomes are achieved in new land developments
  - alignment with Council's vision
  - the public parks network is affordable.

Identifying the community's needs, aspirations and expectations in regards to public parks are important in the development of the Strategy. It quantifies the value of open space to the Lockyer Valley community, and will become the lead document for the planning and development of public parks within the Region.

The Public Parks Strategy is required to inform Council's Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP).

## Open space in the Lockyer Valley

Public parks in the Lockyer Valley Region include parks for passive social and family recreation and sporting reserves for active sport and recreation.

While there are almost 437ha of open space across the Region, only 176ha are considered trunk public parks in line with the statutory requirements of the LGIP.

## Vision and guiding principles

The vision sets the desired scene for public park development in the Lockyer Valley. It reflects the community's aspirations and Council's corporate vision.

*To continue to deliver high quality, connected and sustainable public parks that will provide the community with social, health, economic and environmental benefits.*

The guiding principles describe the over-arching intentions for the provision and management of public parks for the Lockyer Valley Region. The guiding principles themes are listed below with additional detail included in the Strategy.

- ▶ diversity of spaces
- ▶ partnerships
- ▶ accessible and connected
- ▶ attractive
- ▶ sustainable
- ▶ affordable
- ▶ adequately resourced.

## Supply and demand assessment

The Strategy has concluded that the Region has an abundance of recreation parks, however has a shortfall of sports parks within the planning horizon. However, it is important to note that at an individual planning district level, future shortfalls in both recreation parks and sports parks are predicted for a number of planning districts. These shortfalls reflect population growth as well as accessibility shortfalls.

## Key actions

A range of future directions and actions are presented to lead Council decision-making with regard to public park planning and provision. Key issues addressed include:

- ▶ investigate options to increase resourcing for public parks development and renewal to ensure the ongoing provision of a quality public parks network
- ▶ the need to ensure resource allocations reflect the maintenance and upgrade requirements necessary to sustain a quality public parks network
- ▶ the reduction of unnecessary embellishments including barbecues in local recreation parks
- ▶ the focus on provision of high-quality district and regional level facilities rather than a high distribution of local level facilities offering little experience
- ▶ cease to provide future local recreation parks within the region
- ▶ recognise the diversity of activities sought by the community and investigate additional recreation opportunities such as outdoor recreation and use of linear corridors for informal activities.



# Introduction

## Overview

The residents of the Lockyer Valley Region consider public parks to be highly valued assets. Consultation conducted in this Strategy has highlighted the high level of importance placed on the provision of quality public park opportunities by the local community. The Strategy includes actions designed to reflect community need and enhance further the quality of the network.

Public parks are fundamental to people being able to participate in recreation and sporting activities. It also creates desirable neighbourhoods that lead to healthy and attractive places to live and visit. While the health status of the Lockyer Valley community does not rely solely on Council, Council does have a responsibility to provide opportunities for residents to recreate and be physically active to improve health and prevent associated health risks.

Quality Public parks are also integral to environmental protection and can provide notable opportunities for economic development.

Public parks play a major role in improving community health, both physical and mental, reducing crime, stimulating economic growth and even boosting property value. It can also establish a sense of ownership and belonging to local communities, with these attributes being known to improve the well-being of individuals and communities alike.

This Strategy has been developed giving thought to what we know about the Region's Public parks, our understanding of the local community's preferences to different Public parks types and functions and Council's (and the community's) capacity to deliver the required infrastructure to meet community needs and future demand.

## Project purpose

Council is reviewing the its Public Parks Strategy 2012 to ensure currency and affordability. The review includes an audit and assessment of the existing and proposed public parks network (this Strategy). The purpose of the public parks strategy is to:

- ▶ provide input into Council's future Local Government Infrastructure Plan
- ▶ set the strategic direction for public parks across the Lockyer Valley Region
- ▶ provide affordable recommendations that meet the needs of the current and future community
- ▶ ensure the development of the right types of public parks within the right locations.

## Project methodology

The methodology used to develop the Strategy is broken down into stages. This helps to show the sequential development of a strategic framework and detailed analysis of open space across the Region. The information gathered and generated throughout this process provides the various outputs required for the Strategy. The stages are:



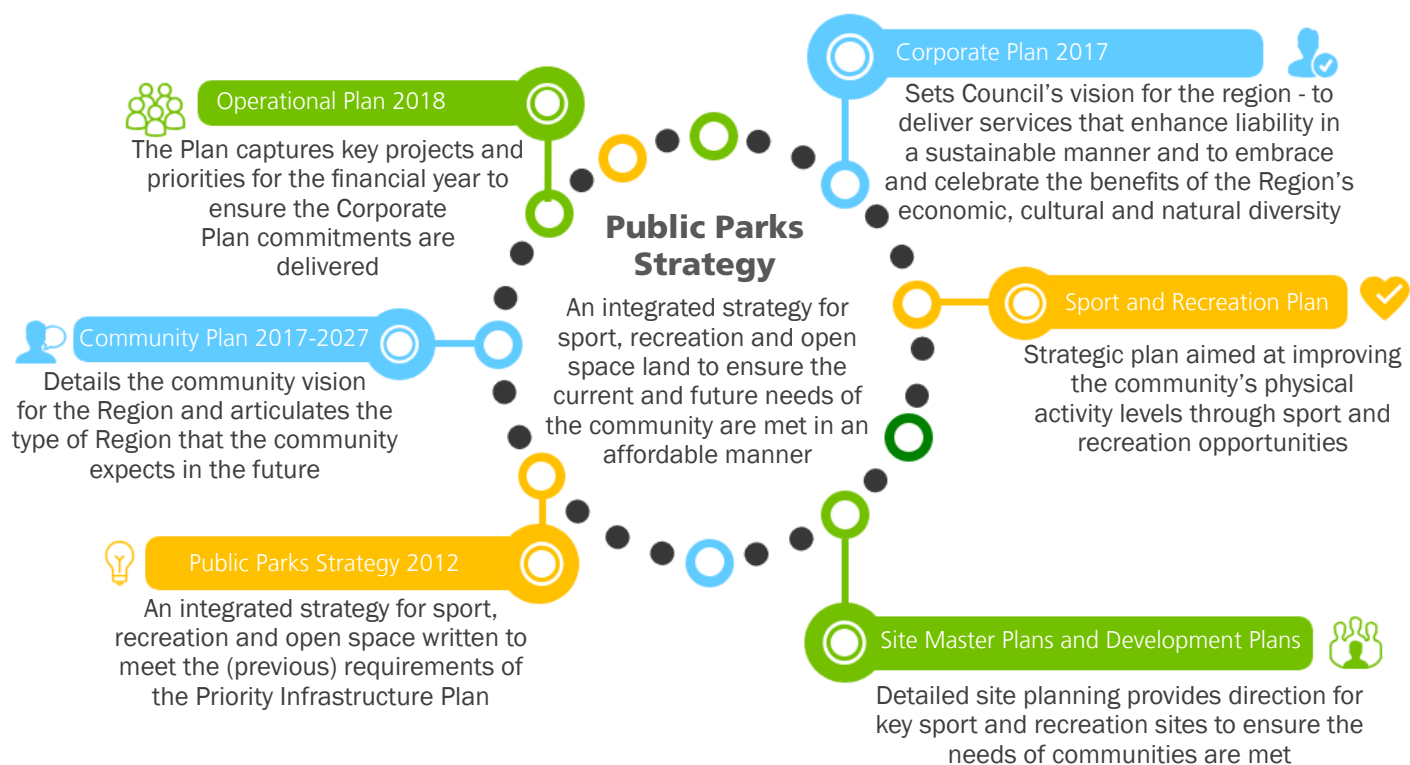
## Strategy inputs and outputs

The development of the Strategy has been informed by relevant local strategies and plans and an effective community engagement process to ensure a current assessment of residents' priorities and needs.



## Strategic context

The Lockyer Valley Regional Council approaches strategic planning pro-actively and with a clear and consistent vision for the community. Consistent themes link Council's various strategies, plans and policies effectively and assist to guide additional planning activities. Relevant Council planning documents have been reviewed to establish the strategic context for the Public Parks Strategy and are summarised below.



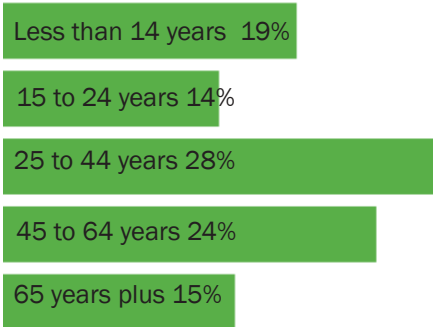


## Community profile

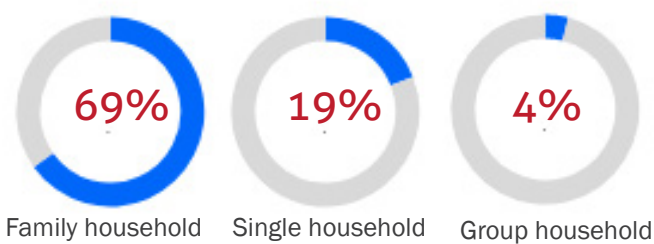
An individual's preference to participate in sport and/or recreation activities and their level of participation is influenced by their stage in life. Understanding the Region's demographic variations, such as age, household composition and income and employment patterns is fundamental to responding to, and planning for the future provision of the Region's public parks network.

### Population

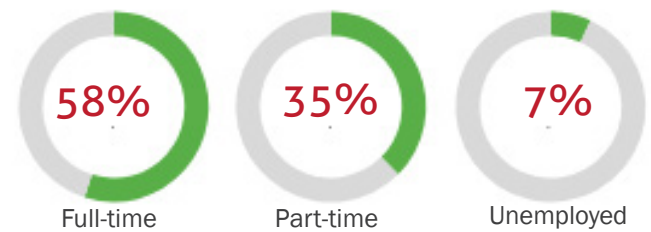
Current population **41,011**



### Household composition



### Employment



### Income

Median weekly household income **\$1,298**



### Vehicle

Access to one or more motor vehicles **85%**



### Internet

Households with access to the internet **72%**



### Population change

The future population is expected to reach 60,742 by 2041, an increase of 19,731 people.

The population will be accommodated in a number of growth areas including the Laidley North and Plainland Planning District (the main localities include Plainland, Hatton Vale, Glenore Grove, Kensington Grove), Gatton Town, and Laidley Town. There is also expected to be some level of urban infill developments in larger urban centres including Gatton, Laidley and Withcott.

\*Not all questions add up to 100% due to non-responses as well as some 'Other' categories  
The information in this section is derived using the Profile Id for the Lockyer Valley Regional Council



# Benefits of public parks, sport and recreation

Public parks are one avenue that can help to improve the quality of life and well-being of our community and have far-reaching social, economic, environmental and health benefits for the Region.

A summary of these benefits are outlined in the following section

## Social

- ▶ connects and builds strong communities and families by providing opportunities for local people to come together for a range of leisure, cultural and celebratory activities
- ▶ enhances opportunities for social cohesion and inclusion
- ▶ improves liveability in urban environments by offering a diverse range of recreation opportunities for the community
- ▶ creates opportunities for, and promotes volunteering
- ▶ provides a vehicle for inclusion, drawing together people of different races, religion and culture
- ▶ contributes to social capital
- ▶ fosters community pride
- ▶ provides a sense of belonging
- ▶ active kids learn better and are more likely to enjoy school
- ▶ contributes to lifelong learning and develops leadership skills.

## Economic

- ▶ people will often seek out areas of high amenity when determining their place of residence. Having parks within walking distance and/or having significant recreational and/or sporting facilities in an area can contribute to higher population growth when compared to areas of lower amenity
- ▶ studies indicate that it was not uncommon for properties within an 800m radius of a park to have a value that is 3–5 per cent higher than properties further afield
- ▶ contributes to the local economy. Healthy workers are more productive and take less sick day
- ▶ eases pressure on the health system
- ▶ economic growth through business investment, employment, major events and tourism.





## Environmental

- ▶ helps to sustain the environment through protecting open space and natural areas
- ▶ protection of areas of conservation, biodiversity or cultural heritage value
- ▶ managing climate change impacts by:
  - providing shade and cooling
  - contributing to stormwater management
  - contributing to urban heat abatement
  - reduction of air and noise pollution.

## Health

- ▶ provides work/life balance
- ▶ contributes to higher levels of self-esteem and self-worth
- ▶ improves mental health and reduces stress
- ▶ can help to reduce screen time (television, computer)
- ▶ can help to prevent cardiovascular disease, diabetes and some cancer
- ▶ reduces obesity, tones and strengthens the body
- ▶ promotes a healthy, active lifestyle
- ▶ encourages physical activity and enhances physical health
- ▶ helps reduce the risk of developing health issues
- ▶ assists in recovery from mental fatigue
- ▶ enhances children's development and well-being.





# Community engagement summary

The Lockyer Valley Region has distinct geographic communities, each with their own individual preferences for public parks, sport and recreation. To help Council understand the role public parks play in the social fabrics of these communities, community engagement was undertaken to ensure all interested people had the opportunity to provide input into the development of the Strategy.

Engagement with the community involved the following:

## Community drop-in sessions

- ▼ Gatton
- ▼ Laidley
- ▼ Withcott
- ▼ Plainland

## Community survey

Throughout the community engagement period Council received 146 community surveys. Of these respondents:

- ▼ 47% of respondents were aged 30-39 years
- ▼ 85% of respondents were female
- ▼ 28% of respondents were from Gatton
- ▼ 19% of respondents were from Plainland
- ▼ 15% of respondents were from Hatton Vale
- ▼ 12% of respondents were from Laidley
- ▼ 12% of respondents were from Regency Downs

A summary of the community survey outcomes are included on the following pages.



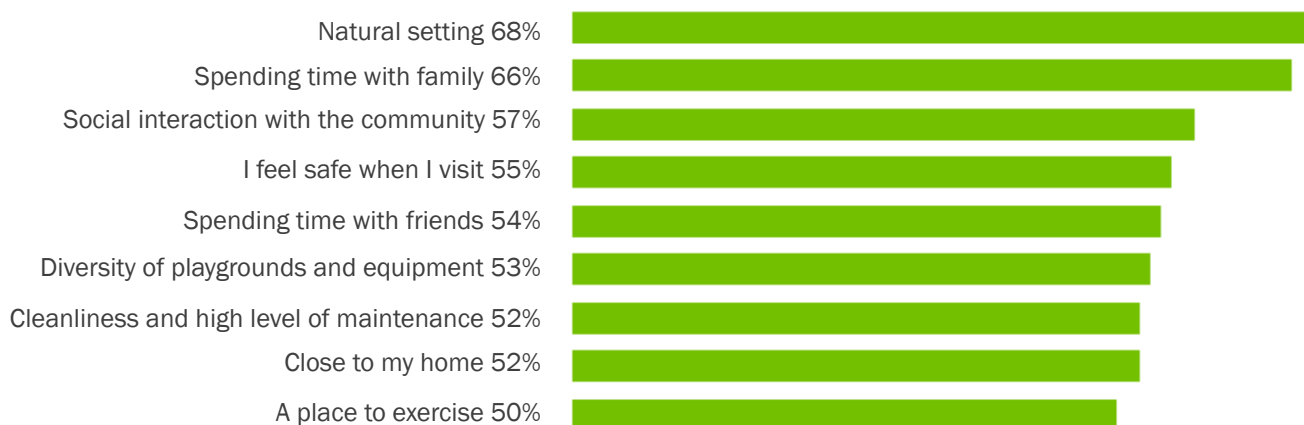


## High importance of open space

The Lockyer Valley community highly values the provision of public parks in the Region, with 90% of survey respondents rating public parks as being 'Very Important' to themselves and their family.

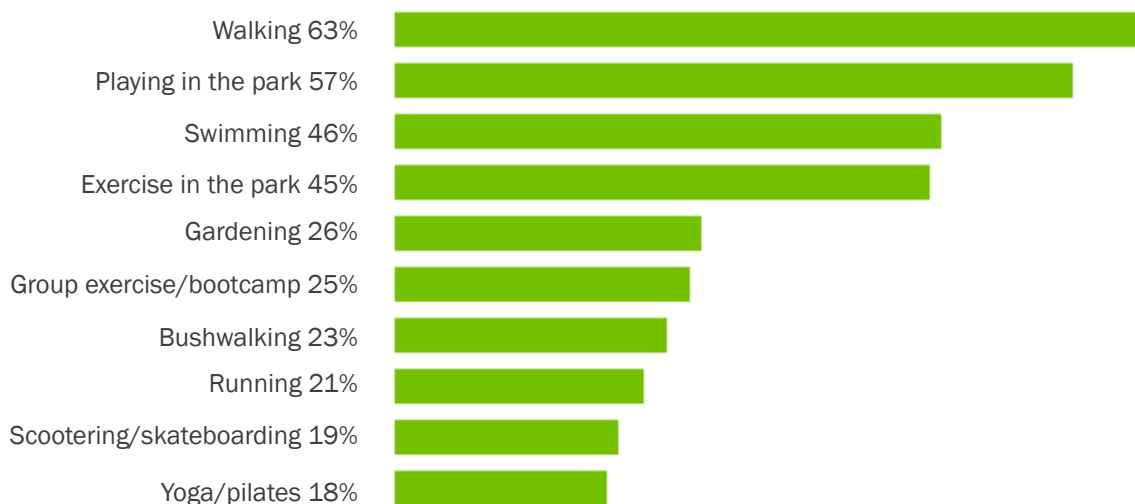
## What the community value about the Region's open space

The natural setting and the opportunity for social interaction were prominent when survey respondents were asked what they value about the Region's public parks. The results below show the top responses\*.



## Top ten recreational activities

Survey respondents provided details on the recreational activities they participate in. The following graph shows the top ten responses\*.



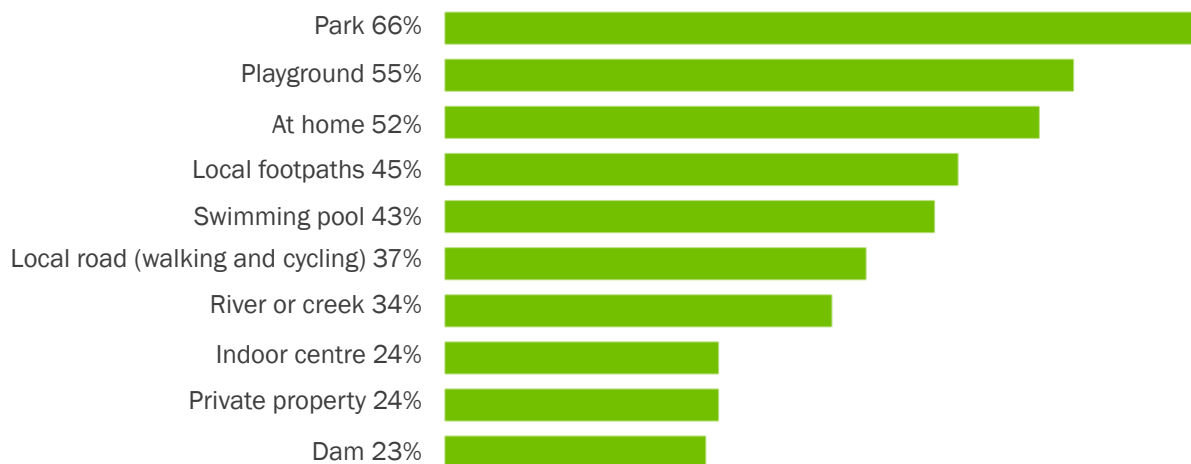
## Participation in organised sport

In line with State and National trends, the survey respondents demonstrated a low rate of participation in organised sports, with 27% indicating that they participate in organised sport within the Lockyer Valley. A further 9% participate in organised sport within another local government area.

\*Does not add up to 100% as multiple responses were sought

## Preferred places to recreate

Survey respondents provided their preferred places to recreate, with the top ten places listed in the graph below\*.



## Favourite public parks

Overwhelmingly, when asked about their favourite public park within the Lockyer Valley, survey respondents listed Lake Apex Park in Gatton. A distant second favourite among survey respondents was the Laidley Recreation Reserve.

## Visitation

In line with the community's high value of public parks, 23% of survey respondents reported visitation to public parks most days, and a total of 79% reported to visit public parks at least weekly.

## Preference for local V regional public parks

In regards to the future provision of public parks, the survey respondents were asked if they had a preference for the provision of a number of regional parks that provide a range of facilities and experiences, or smaller neighbourhood/local level parks offering limited experiences and lesser facilities.

60% rated a preference for the provision of regional parks, with 25% showing a preference for the focus on neighbourhood/local level parks.

Interestingly, the two favourite public parks listed by survey respondents are regional level facilities that provide a wide range of high-quality open space, sport and/or recreation opportunities to the wider Lockyer Valley community.

\*Does not add up to 100% as multiple responses were sought



## Barriers

Survey respondents were asked if they experienced any barriers to using public parks within the Lockyer Valley. The top responses are listed below\*



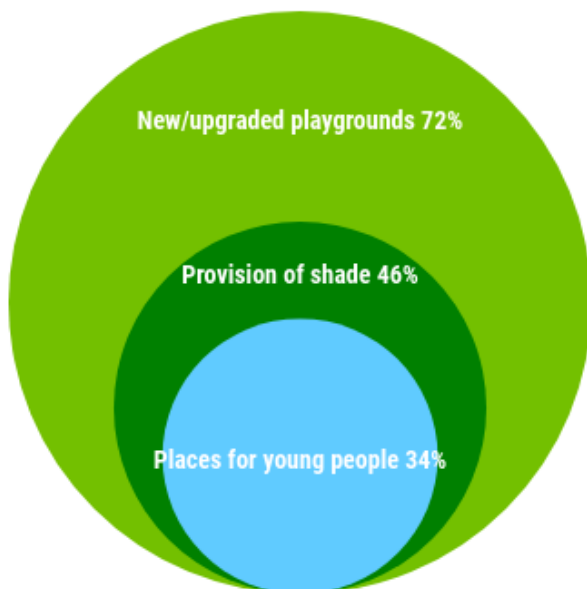
## Quality of the Region's Public Parks

The overall quality of the Lockyer Valley's public parks were rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being 'Poor' and 5 being 'Great'. The following lists a summary of responses\*.

- ▶ 59% rated sports fields as at least 'Good'. 20% of responses rated them as 'Great'
- ▶ 72% rated playgrounds as a 3 or less - being 'Poor' to 'Indifferent'
- ▶ 52% rated skateparks as a 3 or less - being 'Poor' to 'Indifferent'
- ▶ 72% rated having places to relax and socialise as a 3 or less - being 'Poor' to 'Indifferent'
- ▶ 61% rated activities for youth as a 2 or less - being 'Poor' to 'Low Quality'
- ▶ 73% rated activities for families as a 3 or less - being 'Poor' to 'Indifferent'

## Top Public Park priorities

Survey respondents provided the following priorities for public parks in the Region over the next ten years\*.



## Public Parks to be upgraded

Respondents were asked to nominate the public parks that they would like to see upgraded within the Lockyer Valley. The table below provides a summary of the responses.

Table 01: Community response to parks to be upgraded

Park Name	Details
Laidley Recreation Reserve	Upgrade of the playground and recreational elements
Lake Apex Park, Gatton	General upgrades to park
Lake Apex skatepark, Gatton	Upgrade skatepark
Koffal Park, Plainland	Shade, more variety of play equipment
Bertrand Avenue Park, Kensington Grove	Improved surveillance, shade, formalised recreation trails in the large undeveloped area of the park
Littleton Park, Gatton	Increased variety of play equipment
Jean Biggs Park, Withcott	General upgrades to park

\*Does not add up to 100% as multiple responses were sought



# Demand for public parks

## General trends in sport and recreation

Being active in the outdoors has always been a big part of the Australian culture. In a region like the Lockyer Valley where the climate allows residents to enjoy participation in sport and recreation activities all year-round, understanding what type of sport and recreation activities people want to participate in, is important as Council looks to develop strategies, programs and facilities to support and encourage people to live healthy lifestyles.



### Population growth and change

- ▶ by 2041 an additional 19,731 people will be residing in the Region
- ▶ majority of growth will occur in the Plainland, Hatton Vale, Gatton and Laidley areas
- ▶ new residents moving to the Region will be mostly families
- ▶ an ageing of the population.

An ageing population will have different sport, fitness and recreation needs, behaviours and preferences than young adults and families.

The affordable lifestyle is also an attraction for young families. Those with children will be looking for sporting opportunities, quality playgrounds and safe cycling/ pedestrian networks that provide connectivity to key destinations (schools, shopping centres and parks).



### Individualised activities

- ▶ preferring passive and active recreation activities over formal sport
- ▶ want to be physically active when it is convenient
- ▶ more concerned with individual results and personal bests than competition.

As society is becoming more convenience orientated, people are less willing to commit time to training and competition days. The result is a rise in individualised active and passive recreation activities such as running, walking, cycling and yoga.

It is believed that people are becoming less competitive and instead are more concerned about beating their personal best.

This trend may see an increase in participation and demand for more programs similar to Park Run, pilates and martial arts.



### Time fragmentation

- ▶ less free time
- ▶ less time to spend on recreation and sport
- ▶ seeking opportunities to play sport that fit into a busy schedule
- ▶ seeking facilities with flexible operating hours.

People are constantly juggling work and family commitments. With 58% of the Lockyer Valley community working full-time and 69% of the households being family households, a proportion of the community may be struggling to find time to participate in sport and recreation activities.

Those with a competitive nature, that are not interested in individualised activities, may be turning to non-organised sports.



### Play expectations

- ▶ more challenging and imaginative play
- ▶ bringing risk back into play
- ▶ connection with nature.

Open space planning is beginning to take a new direction. While some people still value their local recreation park and the green escape they provide, many contain the 'kit playground', often described as boring, lacking in creativity and too safe.

Awareness of the benefits of children's contact with nature is also growing, with many councils embracing the concept of developing nature play spaces within their parks and bushland reserves.





## Technology

- ▶ rise of social media as the main means of communication for sporting clubs
- ▶ increasing use of Smartphone Apps for personal fitness
- ▶ WiFi access in parks to increase visitation.

Technology remains one of the main contributors towards decreased physical activity and increased sedentary behaviour. However, there are also increasing expectations of technology within open spaces including WiFi access in key parks, promoting existing geocaching and by using QR codes on tracks and signage.

Changes in technology for recreation are also bringing about an increasing divergence of outdoor recreation activities. Participants are able to map their route, record their times and upload digital images of their experience. This allows them to compete and compare results with past and future users (Strava, Map My Ride/Run etc).

A current trend in the fitness sector is the use of social media to build and foster sporting communities, such as Facebook groups. Many clubs now use Facebook as their main source of communication. This often makes it difficult for councils to communicate with clubs or for residents to find information on the local clubs.



## Sharing of facilities

- ▶ sports codes are extending their seasons toward year-round activity
- ▶ councils and state government like to encourage shared use of sports facilities.

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, sharing of field space is becoming more difficult. While providers strive to maximise the use of community resources, the reality is that shared use of ancillary facilities rather than fields (e.g. clubhouses, carparks) may be a more appropriate goal.

A number of Lockyer Valley sporting clubs share facilities. With many clubs struggling to maintain their playing fields and ancillary facilities, the sharing of facilities means that they do not have to maintain them in the off-season. Issues arise when pre-season training conflicts with the other competition season.



## Spoilt for choice

- ▶ increasing variety of sport and recreation opportunities
- ▶ extreme sport and recreation is becoming more affordable
- ▶ many sports are now available all-year round.

The variety of sport and recreation activities available can be overwhelming. In the Lockyer Valley Region alone, residents can participate in traditional sport, equestrian, shooting, motor sports, remote control activities, water based sport, just to name a few.

As individuals become more affluent, the proportion of income spent on goods and leisure increases. As people spend more money on recreation and associated equipment, an increase in outdoor and passive recreation activities, previously offered by commercial operators, has been observed (eg. canoe and kayaking). Despite cost being a barrier to participation in organised sport, participants appear more prepared to make a one-off investment in equipment for passive recreation that they can use at their convenience.

## Embellishments and park users

Embellishments are the basic building blocks of a park. Quality embellishments give people of various ages and abilities, a reason to come to the park and to return. These embellishments should provide for a range of demographics, including young, elderly, physically or mentally challenged, as well as for those that wish to relax, watch, meet people, gather or be active. The parks design should be flexible enough to allow for a wide range of activities.

Good parks have a range of precincts as well as recreation nodes that comprise clustered embellishments, such as picnic and play areas. Recreation nodes are surrounded by green (grass, trees and shrubs) to create an oasis, while sandy areas are kept to a minimum, to reduce heat.

Parks should also provide basic elements such as shade, pathways, adequately spaced benches, water bubblers, bike racks and signage. Ramps, accessible amenities and safe pedestrian crossings are also basic elements that attract a wider demographic of users.

## Children and youth

Parks, particularly playgrounds are becoming more than a place for children and youth to play. Parents/guardians are seeking more challenging and imaginative play for all age groups at the one location. The following are a few of the design/embellishment trends that are reinvigorating playgrounds:

### ▶ Mega/destination parks

Mega parks are a new type of park being developed more frequently. They generally feature multiple play areas to cater for different ages, gardens, water play areas and lagoons, large open grassy spaces, shady picnic spots and kilometers of shared paths and boardwalks to explore.

### ▶ Themed playgrounds

Theme playgrounds continue to be a popular trend. They create an environment that brings excitement, added challenges and take children to the next level of play.

### ▶ Natural playgrounds

Nature play is an emerging trend particularly in urban environments, where access to nature is not readily available. Nature inspired playgrounds encourage children to connect with the natural surroundings as they navigate through giant boulders, tree stumps, and logs with friends.

### ▶ Inclusive and intergenerational playgrounds

An inclusive playground includes a balance of play experiences for all abilities. They are designed to provide a safe place that encourages and enables children with a disability and able-bodied children alike to engage with one another in play and discovery.

As playgrounds become a meeting space for families, there is a growing trend to develop inter-generational playgrounds. These spaces include something for everyone, such as shade and seating in areas where grandparents or parents can rest while children play. They also include embellishments such as outdoor fitness nodes, games tables and other amenities to engage adults, who also want to play in the outdoors.

## Millennials

Over the next 10 years, millennials (born after late 1990's to 2000) will potentially be one of the main users of parks. As such, it is important to understand their needs to ensure today's parks remain relevant and desirable.

### ► Social gathering

Millennials prefer to do things in groups. Parks need to include areas that promote gathering and group activities. Activation of these parks via boot camps, events, fun runs and markets will be essential in capturing their attendance and retention for future visits.

### ► Digital connections

Users will require access to WiFi as it enables them to stay "connected". Infrastructure such as recharge stations for smart phones and outside work spaces will also be important.

### ► Brag-worthy experiences

Millennials are more likely to visit a park for large scale events, such as Tough Mudder, so that they can share their experience between social media platforms.

## Aging society

While the Australian and Lockyer Valley Region populations continue to increase, it is the aging of society that will have most impact on the way that parks are used in the future.

An older society will have a greater demand for passive and informal recreation opportunities compared to a younger society. For older people, access to playing fields and formal sport opportunities are not as important as walking and bike paths, dog off-leash areas and picnic grounds. This does not mean that the Lockyer Valley will require fewer sports fields than it has in the past - there will always be enough young people to require formal sports fields. It does mean, though, that new developments need to recognise the needs of this changing demographic and provide adequate facilities.

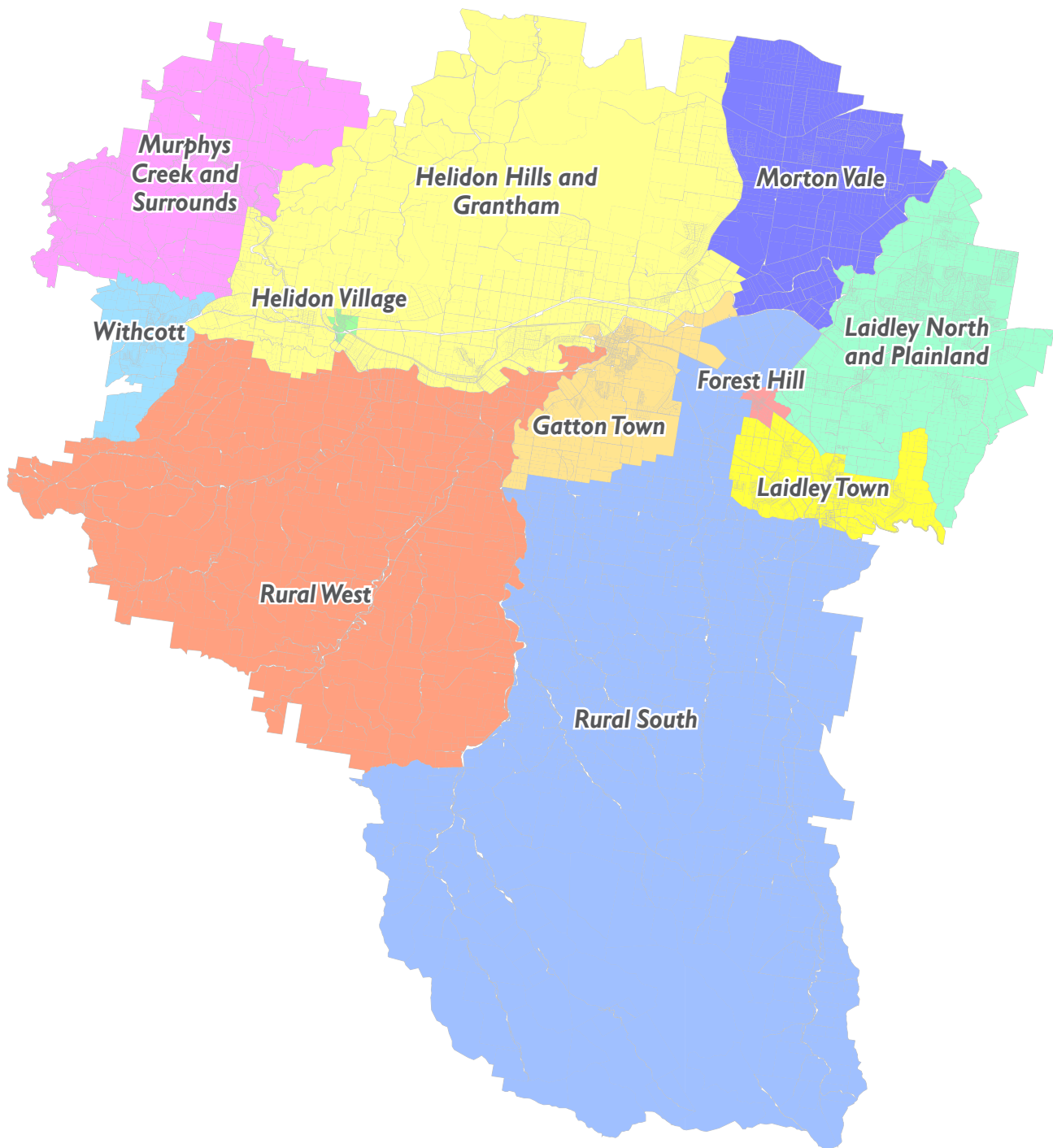


# Public parks assessment

## Planning considerations

### **Planning districts**

There are eleven open space planning districts that have been used throughout the open space assessment of the Strategy. These districts are consistent with Council's Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP). The purpose of these districts is to understand sub-regional pressures and to appreciate the individual nuances of each district (and township). Additionally, this approach assists to structure the findings and ensure that the Strategy is easy to navigate.





## A public parks classification for the Lockyer Valley

This Strategy has assessed all publicly accessible public parks land within the Region under Council ownership or control. To determine the current public parks network function and capacity, the Strategy has identified a naming convention for the classification of land according to its function and service.

The public parks network has been categorised into four open space classifications and the framework has been developed to classify public parks based on land and activity use. The various public parks classifications possess different values, functions and settings. Importantly, the hierarchy does not necessarily reflect (nor dictate) the importance or resource requirements for the various public parks types. Resource allocation should continue to be a balance between asset maintenance strategies, community demand, legislative requirements and resource realities.

Table 02: Open space classification

Classification	Description	Sub-classification and hierarchy	Trunk Public Parks (LGIP)
Recreation parks	Established for a range of structured and unstructured activities, community recreation, cultural activities or wellbeing uses. Includes landscaped parklands, playgrounds, passive spaces and community gardens	Local	Yes
		District	Yes
		Regional	Yes
		Civic and memorial	Yes*
		Undeveloped	Yes*
Sports parks	Parks that primarily cater for a variety of formal sporting activities through the provision of a range of training and competition infrastructure. These parks include: facilities for undertaking competitive, organised activities; ancillary infrastructure to support sporting activities; and/or free, unrestricted access to the public at times when formal sport is not being undertaken	District	Yes
		Regional	Yes
Other sport	Other sport parks are either specialised in nature (requiring specific infrastructure to make them usable) or are private sports facilities that may not be publicly accessible	Specialised	No
		Indoor and aquatic	Yes (part of land for community facilities network)
		Private	No
Other open space	Other open space as a classification type captures non-trunk land that currently is not (and potentially never will be) considered as part of the trunk network. It includes a variety of functions (shown in the sub-classification) that may offer some community benefit, although normally have little recreation value (where recreation value exists this is usually a secondary function of the land)	Rest stop	No
		Utility land	No
		Natural areas	No
		Community facilities	Yes, land only (as part of the community facilities network)



\*Some civic and memorial parks have a high recreation function and can be considered trunk infrastructure

## Classifying public park parcels

A public park element can be comprised of one or multiple land parcels. Additionally, a public park element can have either one singular function, or multiple functions (such as a primary function of district sport, with a secondary function of local recreation).

The overall/final classification of the land parcel is determined by its primary function (depicted by the largest portion of the pie graphs below). The table below provides some examples:

Table 03: Examples of public park parcel composition

Name	Composition		Classification
Littleton Park (Gatton)	80% District recreation park 20% Civic and memorial park		Primary function: district recreation park Secondary function: civic and memorial park
Springbrook Park (Withcott)	70% District sports park 10% Local recreation park 20% Other sport (indoor sport)		Primary function: district sports park Secondary functions: ▶ local recreation park ▶ Other sport (indoor sport)

## Desired standards of service

### Background

In addition to the public parks classification and hierarchy outlined on the previous page, the desired standards of service (DSS) are the level of public parks that Council strives to provide as a minimum to all residents across the local government area. DSS are often categorised under four broad measures:

1. quantity of land for open space
2. access to open space
3. land characteristics
4. improvements.

The access and quantity standards are, traditionally, the two primary measures used to assess and plan for public parks land demands. Land characteristics and the level of improvement provide additional information that should be used as a guide in developing public parks. Recognising that it is equally important to provide a diverse range of public parks opportunities must also be considered in this process.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible to apply these standards for each different classification of open space as many of them are opportunistic, dependant on site-specific attributes (e.g. topographical or geographical) and/or are intrinsically linked to social or environmental descriptors. As such, it is commonplace that DSS are only set for core public parks (recreation parks and sports parks).

### Quantity standard

The quantity standard identifies the recommended minimum standards for the provision of land for open space.

### Accessibility standard

The accessibility standard is used to guide appropriate spatial distribution of open space in terms of the accessibility and distances of the park to its visitors.

The recommended spacing and distribution of open spaces will vary depending on the hierarchy, population to be serviced, lot sizes, zoning and predominant land uses. Whilst spatial distribution data has been provided, it is only a guide. It is hoped that all residents within more urban areas are within easy walking distance to a recreation park, regardless of its hierarchy. This natural and man-made constraints (such as rivers, major highways and so on) must also be considered.

The accessibility standard for sports parks is somewhat different to that of recreation parks. There is less rigidity to strive to meet the accessibility standards given a number of sport planning trends. Firstly, it is widely accepted by the sporting industry<sup>1</sup> that people drive (as opposed to walking or cycling) to participate in the activity. Secondly, people choose which sport they participate in - a decision rarely influenced on what facilities are in close proximity to where they live. As long as a facility is available within reasonable driving distance (e.g. 15-25 minutes), people will travel to play their chosen sport. Therefore, having a diversity of choice of activity options (again within reason and based on the feasibility of success of that sport) is often more important. As such, sport provision, including accessibility needs to consider and reflect demand by the population. Additionally, sports parks require large, flat parcels of land, often resulting in any new sports park being located on the outskirts of urban areas. An accessibility standard has been provided as a guide for the purpose of determining any substantial shortfalls in accessibility across the Region.

<sup>1</sup> a 2014 review of open space DSS for Queensland councils showed the most common accessibility standards for district level active open space to be 15-20 mins drive (5-15km)

### **Land characteristics standard**

These standards are used as a base in determining the lowest quality land characteristics for each classification type. Importantly, a range of land types are required to provide diversity within the open space network. These recommended minimum levels of provision will ensure a realistic and achievable quality open space network that is in accordance with the proposed vision. Land character standards include consideration of:

- ▶ size of the park
- ▶ preferred shape of the park
- ▶ flood immunity
- ▶ road frontage
- ▶ topography and gradient
- ▶ avoids damage to cultural heritage
- ▶ avoids damage to biodiversity values
- ▶ other site features (creeks, outcrops etc).

### **Improvements standard**

Improvements standards are very important in defining open spaces, and also important in making them attractive for people to use. Facility improvements include consideration of:

- ▶ activity options - play/recreation opportunities irrespective of the age and ability of users
- ▶ park furniture (e.g. tables, seats and bins)
- ▶ picnicking infrastructure
- ▶ public amenities (toilets and showers)
- ▶ sports infrastructure
- ▶ buildings
- ▶ signage
- ▶ landscaping
- ▶ car parking
- ▶ fencing
- ▶ lighting
- ▶ pathways.





## Desired standards of service - public park types

This section provides a snapshot of the DSS for the trunk public park types within the Lockyer Valley.

It helps to inform the future improvement and upgrade of existing public parks and the planning and delivery of future open space. Further influencing development considerations, is the need to provide a range of different recreation opportunities in smaller Planning Districts.

A more detailed description of the classification of trunk public parks; recreation parks and sports parks is provided in the Appendix.

Table 04: *Desired standards of service - public parks*

Classification	Hierarchy	Size	Accessibility	Desired provision rate
Recreation parks	District	1.5ha-4ha	1,000m of at least 95%of dwellings  Aligned to planning districts	0.7ha/1,000 people
	Regional	4ha-10ha	4,000m+  Aligned to Council boundaries	0.6ha/1,000 people
Sports parks	District	4ha-10ha (min. 8ha preferred)	2,000m of at least 95%of dwellings	0.7ha/1,000 people
	Regional	10ha+ May include specialised sporting infrastructure in smaller parcels	4,000m+  Aligned to Council boundaries	1ha/1,000 people
Total				3.0ha/1,000 people



# Region-wide assessment

## Demand generation

Demand for public parks is generally based on residential population. However, a number of social and geographical inputs also affect what on-ground demand is generated for public parks, including:

- ▶ age and population distribution
- ▶ housing type, lot size and access to private open space
- ▶ housing density
- ▶ inputs such as natural and man-made geographic influences.

The projected populations for each of the planning districts and the Region as a whole are highlighted in the table below.

Table 05: Projected population by planning district<sup>1</sup>

Planning district	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Gatton Town	8,035	9,781	11,704	13,911	15,974	17,991	29,640
Helidon Hills and Grantham	4,060	4,462	4,842	5,157	5,573	5,886	7,665
Helidon Village	963	1,028	1,076	1,118	1,154	1,183	1,353
Murphys Creek and Surrounds	1,601	1,638	1,678	1,715	1,758	1,794	2,003
Withcott	2,055	2,221	2,379	2,502	2,634	2,751	3,376
Forest Hill	523	531	537	543	548	553	577
Laidley North and Plainland	10,925	11,947	13,041	14,116	15,102	15,882	20,618
Laidley Town	6,138	6,583	7,173	7,751	8,460	9,984	12,685
Morton Vale	1,276	1,288	1,301	1,313	1,332	1,349	1,449
Rural South (including Lawes University)	1,986	2,046	2,110	2,168	2,205	2,238	2,430
Rural West	1,925	1,953	1,982	2,009	2,019	2,032	2,106
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,486</b>	<b>43,477</b>	<b>47,824</b>	<b>52,302</b>	<b>56,758</b>	<b>60,742</b>	<b>83,903</b>

## Current supply

All Council-managed public parks were visited as part of the assessment. A summary of the Lockyer Valley's current open space network is presented in the table on the following page.

<sup>1</sup> LGIP extrinsic material, Integran October 2018

## Demand, gap assessment and analysis

The table below details the likely demand and gap assessment for the Lockyer Valley's (Council-managed) public parks extrapolated out until 2041. This is calculated by multiplying the desired land standard for public parks (1.3ha/1,000 for recreation parks and 1.7ha/1,000 for sports parks) by the projected population.

Table 06: Public parks demand assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)
Recreation park	93.34	51.33	42.01	56.52	36.82	62.17	31.17	67.99	25.35	73.79	19.55	78.96	14.38
Sports park	83.01	67.13	15.88	73.91	9.10	81.30	1.71	88.91	-5.90	96.49	-13.48	103.26	-20.25
Total core open space	176.35	118.46	57.89	130.42	45.92	143.47	32.88	156.91	19.45	170.27	6.07	182.23	-5.87

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

### Recreation parks

This analysis highlights that at a Region wide level, Council has sufficient supply of recreation parks to meet current and future need. However there are deficiencies at a Planning District level.

With Laidley North and Plainland Planning District predicted to be the key precinct attracting population growth, this area should be a focus for additional parks. There is currently 14ha of future recreation and sport park planned to be developed within this Planning District (Hatton Vale Regional Park).

### Sports parks

These results indicate a significant under-supply of land for sports parks across the Region by 2041.

The proposed Hatton Vale 'Regional Park' within the Laidley North and Plainland Planning District will provide some additional sports land and subsequently reduce this under-supply.

Additionally, further interrogation at individual planning districts highlight a number of areas that will be under-supplied within the Strategy's planning horizon without additional development.

A separate assessment has also been provided for each individual planning precinct commencing in the following section.

## A localised approach to provision

The built and natural environment can influence the way in which an individual and/or community uses public parks. For example, anecdotal evidence suggests those living in:

- ▶ urban areas are more likely to seek:
  - a highly walkable open space network
  - a diverse range of settings
  - variety and choice of sport and recreation opportunities
  - equitable geographic spread of recreation spaces
  - connected open spaces by corridors (linear parks) and off-road cycle and pedestrian paths
  - clusters of open space nodes that complement surrounding land uses, such as schools and community facilities.
- ▶ rural and hinterland areas are more likely to seek:
  - high-quality recreation spaces in key towns
  - attractive, well-designed and embellished spaces for residents and visitors, in particular, passing tourists
  - co-located sport and recreation opportunities
  - neighbourhood level sports facilities are also important as these will be used by residents in rural areas near the towns.

The approach of local government authorities in determining standards for providing infrastructure across their LGA is varied. The majority provide only one standard for infrastructure provision across their LGA, with an emerging group acknowledging the above trends and developing differential standards based on demographic and geographic variances. The high existing provision and equitable distribution of public parks within the existing urban areas of the Lockyer Valley coupled with the limited development of future urban communities (within the exception of Plainland and Hatton Vale) limits the need for differential standards.

## A new approach for the Lockyer Valley Region

The past approach for public park provision within the Region has focussed heavily on the provision of local recreation parks. Additionally, limited historic financial allocation for the provision and maintenance of public park infrastructure has not met community demand, resulting in thinly spread infrastructure across a large network. This has led to limited recreational experience.

The analysis of the Region's existing network coupled with the demand and gap analysis for the future populations has highlighted a need for a new approach to the planning and provision of public parks.

The Strategy focuses on the following elements in creating a successful future public parks network:

- ▶ amendment of the desired standard of service to include
  - the removal of future local recreation parks
  - increasing the accessibility provision from 500m to 1,000m acknowledging the community drive to access high quality spaces and facilities
  - a focus on the provision of high quality regional level facilities with a range of activities.

In addition to the amended desired standards of service, there is a need for a diversification of the public parks network to acknowledge the preferences of the community. Ensuring a range of opportunities are available within each Planning District i.e. traditional play spaces, nature play spaces, active spaces, passive spaces and linear activities.





## Vision for the Lockyer Valley

The vision sets the desired scene for public parks development. It reflects the community's aspirations and Council's corporate vision. The vision for the public parks network for the Lockyer Valley Region is:

*To continue to deliver high quality, connected and sustainable public parks that will provide the community with social, health, economic and environmental benefits.*

## Guiding principles

The guiding principles outlined below describe the over-arching intentions for the provision and management of public parks for the Lockyer Valley Region.

### Diversity of spaces

The public parks network should provide a diverse range of settings and opportunities that cater for the varied recreational needs of residents.

Park settings should range across the spectrum from natural and semi-natural places to highly modified areas for organised sports. Parks should be located and designed to highlight significant local features such as waterways, hills and ridgelines.

Parks that are primarily for sports activities should also include informal recreation opportunities to cater for diverse user groups.

### Partnerships

Council will ensure that the community are provided with a range of opportunities to become involved in decision-making processes regarding public park provision. Council will work closely with other key land managers (State Government, local schools etc) to ensure opportunities are maximised for joint-use, as well as an integrated approach to open space management.

### Accessible and connected

Public parks should be distributed and located to provide high levels of accessibility and form part of an integrated public parks network.

Facilities will be safely and conveniently accessed by existing and new users through 'access for all and universal' design principles. Park design should ensure that all members of the community, regardless of age or ability, have access to suitable recreation opportunities.

### Attractive

Council will ensure that open space areas are designed and effectively maintained to a high quality to encourage the community to value them and to foster high levels of use.

### Sustainable

Council will encourage the sustainable use of public parks within its social, cultural, environmental and economic capacity. Cultural landscapes and ecological processes are understood, protected and enhanced in public parks managed by Council.

### Affordable

Parks should be planned and designed to balance capital costs with ongoing maintenance and operational costs.

The multiple use of parkland and shared use of facilities, can be considered where the proposed uses are safe and compatible, as a means of reducing initial development costs and the ongoing costs of the parks network to the community.

Specific initiatives that are encouraged to achieve this principle include co-location of recreation, sporting and community facilities, shared use of recreational facilities such as school ovals, and use of natural and semi-natural areas for compatible recreation purposes. The inclusion of multiple use elements such as utility corridors, flood and stormwater elements should not diminish the functionality of the park or its recreational use values.

Embellishments should be long lasting, require limited maintenance and incorporate sustainability principles. Within individual parks, facilities that require high maintenance should be grouped in accessible locations to reduce the maintenance effort.

### Adequately resourced

Council will identify and allocate resources for the provision of recreation and open space opportunities in a strategic, efficient, effective, transparent and equitable manner in line with Council's capacity to fund.



# Catchment analysis

## Gatton Town

As the Region’s business and administration centre, the Gatton Town Planning District has the second largest population, with 8,035 people in 2016. It is expected to reach 17,991 by 2041, an increase of more than 50%. The planning district includes the localities of Gatton, Placid Hills, Adare (part), Woodlands and Lower Tenthill.

Key areas of growth in the planning district include Woodlands to the south of Gatton and urban infill within Gatton.

The planning district contains a broad range of open spaces, including the regionally significant Lake Apex and Cahill Park. Other highlights of the open space network include Centenary Gardens and Fred Gillam Park.

## Population projections

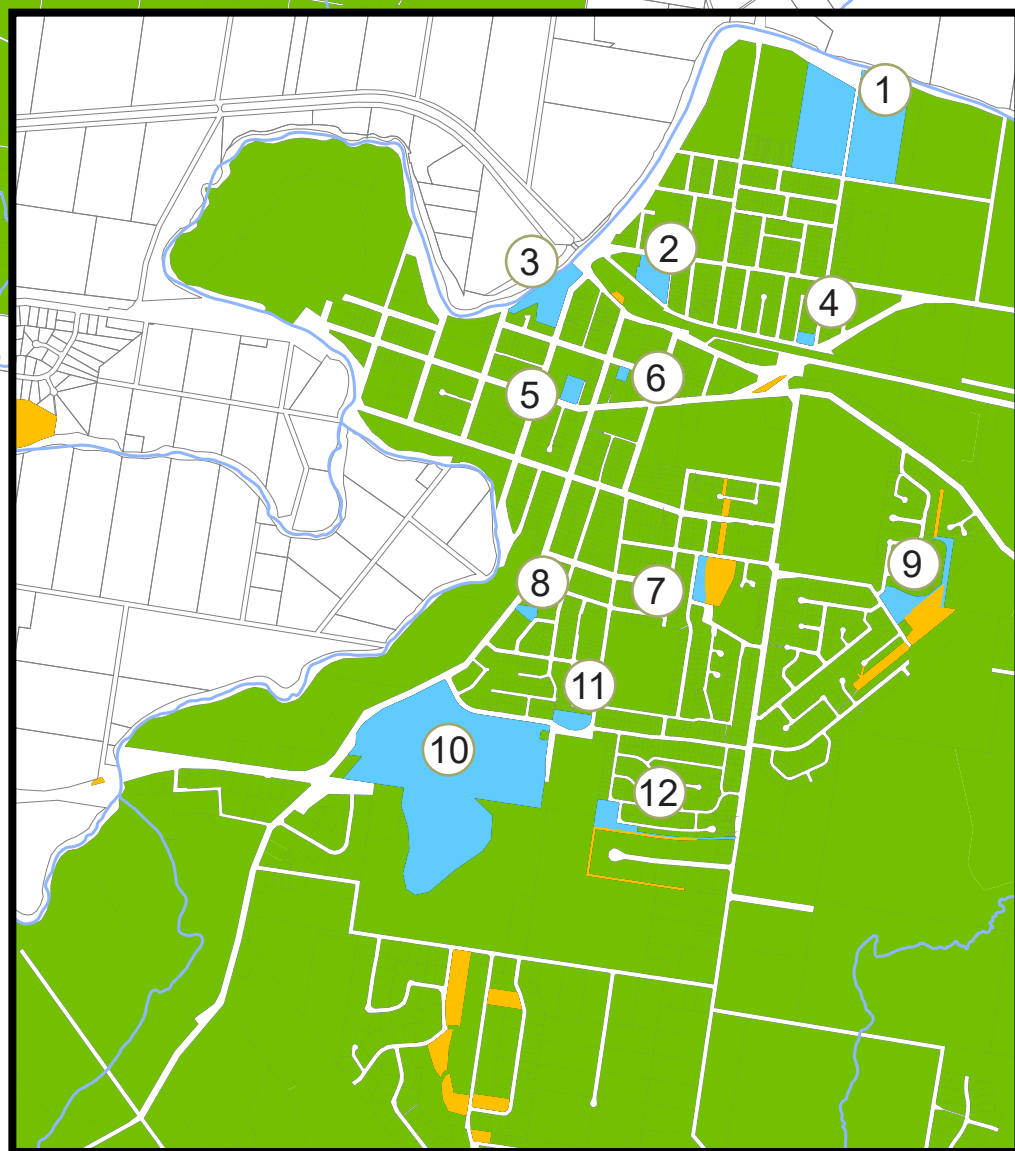
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 07: Gatton Town population projections

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	8,035	9,781	11,704	13,911	15,974	17,991	29,640



# Gatton Town Planning District - Existing Public Parks



- 1 Cahill Park
  - 2 Littleton Park
  - 3 William Kemp Park
  - 4 Wilks Park
  - 5 Rotary Park
  - 6 Centenary Park
  - 7 Dawson Phipps Park
  - 8 Cleary Park
  - 9 Fred Gillam Park
  - 10 Lake Apex Park
  - 11 Bill Tew Place
  - 12 Davey Park
  - 13 Placid Drive Park
- 
- Core open space
  - Other open space
  - Planning District



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has access to a wide range of recreation parks yet a limited range of sports parks. Although the provision of sports parks is limited, the one sports park provided is a regional level facility, catering for a range of sports.

Table 08: Current supply trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Davey Park	1.47
		Fred Gillam Park	2.09
		Rotary Park	0.70
		Rowney Park	0.08
		William Kemp Park	2.84
		Cleary Park	0.33
		Wilks Park	0.30
		Dawson Phipps Park (Part)	0.69
		Bill Tew Place	0.89
	District	Littleton Park	1.85
	Regional	Lake Apex Park	38.31
	Civic and memorial	Centenary Park	0.20
		Boer War Memorial (not core public park)	0.12
Undeveloped	Placid Drive Park	1.37	
Sport	District	N/a	-
	Regional	Cahill Park (Part)	16.50

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk parks, there are a number of other open spaces that service the planning district.

Table 09: Current supply of other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	Gatton Showgrounds
	Indoor and aquatic	Lockyer Valley Sports and Aquatic Centre
	Private	Gatton Bowls Club
		Gatton Racecourse
		Gatton Golf Course
		Cahill Park (Part)
Gatton Soccer Club (Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District)		
Other	Rest Stop	N/a

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

Table 10: Gatton Town demand and gap assessment

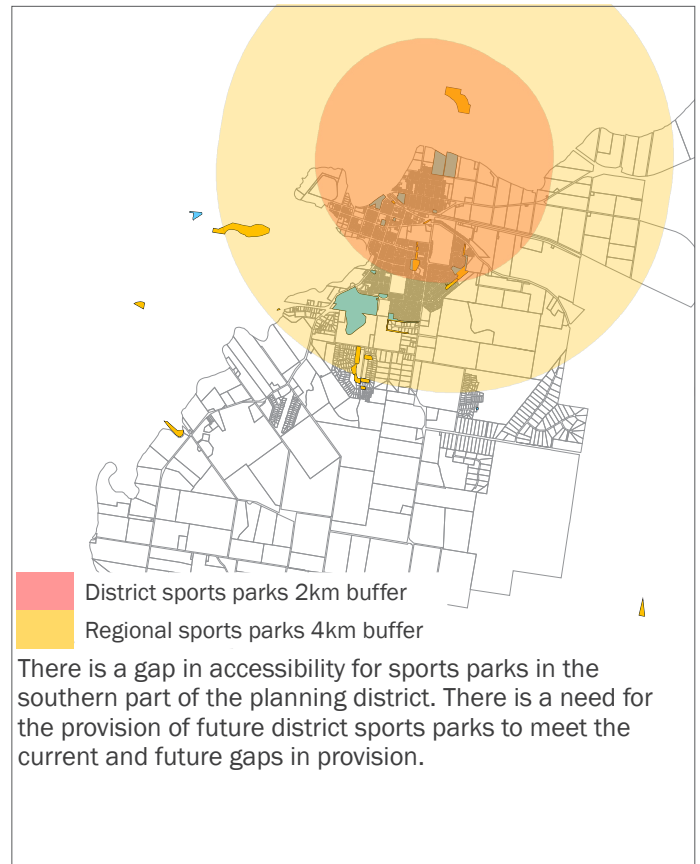
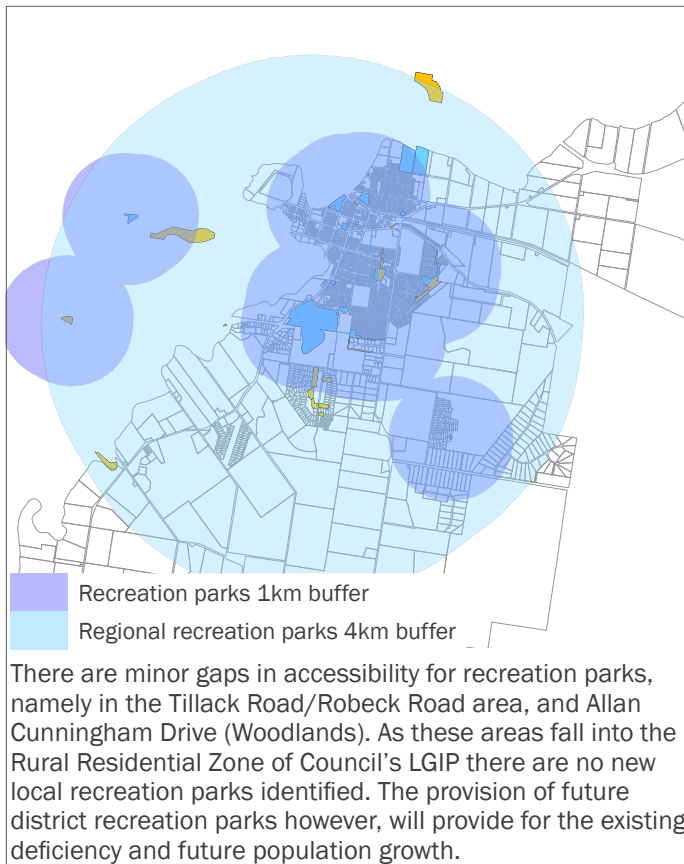
Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	49.76	10.45	39.00	12.72	37.04	15.22	34.54	18.08	31.68	20.77	28.99	23.39	26.37
Sports park	16.50	13.66	2.84	16.63	-0.13	19.90	-3.4	23.65	-7.15	27.16	-10.66	30.58	-14.08
Total core open space	66.26	24.11	42.15	29.34	36.91	35.11	31.14	41.73	18.33	47.92	18.33	53.97	12.29

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.



## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The demand and gap analysis has shown an over-supply of recreation parks both currently and into the future given it is home to one of the Region's largest recreation parks (Lake Apex Park). However, as outlined above, there are minor accessibility gaps for recreation parks which will require the provision of additional public parks into the future.

In contrast, the planning district is under-supplied in sports parks using the DSS for land supply, as well as the acceptable accessibility distances.

Looking ahead, there is a need for additional trunk open spaces within the Gatton Town Planning District, for both recreation parks and sports parks. The extension of the existing regional sports facility as well as the provision of a new district sports park to the south of Gatton town will meet the population's needs within the planning horizon. Additionally, the provision of future district recreation parks also to the south of Gatton town will cater for the accessibility shortfalls and future populations.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Gatton Town Planning District.

Table 11: Gatton Town Planning District

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	An accessibility deficiency exists for district recreation parks in the catchment	Upgrade Littleton Park from local recreation park to district recreation park	Recreation District	1.85ha	Embellishment upgrade	TBD	R1G
2021	An accessibility deficiency exists for a district recreation park in the south of the catchment	New district recreation park	Recreation District	3ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	R2G
2026	A deficiency exists for district sports parks in the catchment	New district sports park to adjoin Cahill Park	Sport District	5ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	S1G
2031	An accessibility deficiency exists for a district sport park in the south of the catchment	New district sport park	Sport District	8ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	S2G
2036	A deficiency exists for district recreation parks in the catchment	Upgrade Fred Gillam Park from local recreation to district recreation park	Recreation District	2.10ha	Embellishment upgrade	TBD	R3G
2041	An accessibility deficiency exists for a district recreation park in the south of the catchment	New district recreation park	Recreation District	3ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	R4G

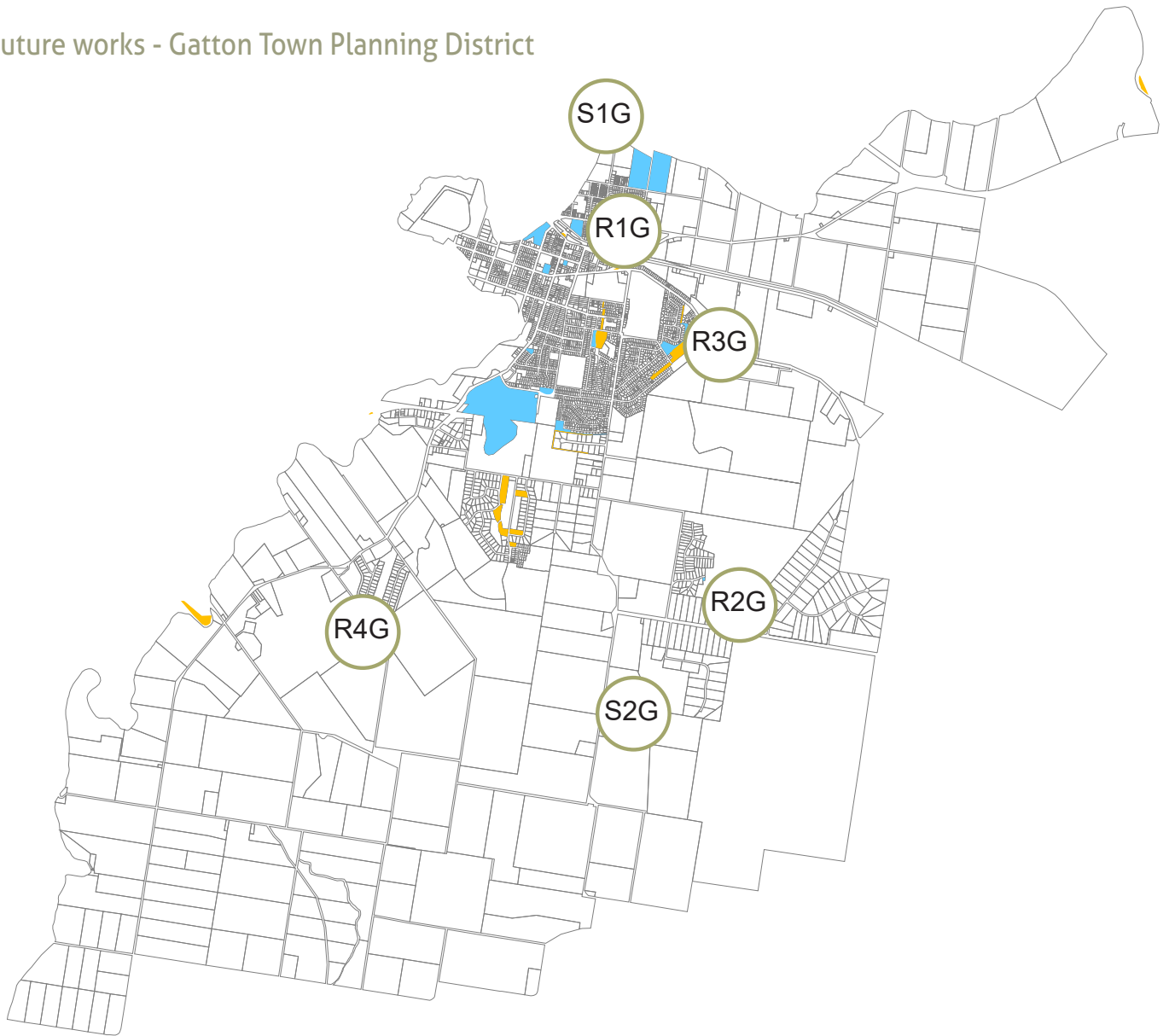
## Additional opportunities



In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 12: Gatton Town additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise infrastructure at Cleary Park	Remove the playground infrastructure at Cleary Park as it provides little experience. Reinstate the park with native vegetation and landscaping and create an amenity park
2	Rationalise Wilks Park	This park provides little recreation opportunity or appeal. The site is subject to medium and high flood hazard overlays under Council's Planning Scheme. It also falls within close proximity to the rail overpass. These constraints would prohibit the sale of this land parcel for residential uses. Discussions with the State Government or other relevant parties may raise interest in future use of this site. Any funds raised could assist in funding the upgrade of Littleton Park from local recreation to district recreation park. An upgraded Littleton Park will cater for the accessibility needs of the immediate area. Should the sale of the site not be feasible, the recreation elements should be removed from the site, and replaced with planting.
3	Beautify Dawson Phipps Park (drainage corridor component)	This corridor detracts from the appeal of Dawson Phipps Park and the local area
4	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Dawson Phipps Park, Lions Park, Fred Gillam Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours

## Future works - Gatton Town Planning District



-  Core open space (existing)
-  Other open space (existing)



## Helidon Hills and Grantham

The planning district of Helidon Hills and Grantham has a population of 4,060 and is expected to increase by 69% by 2041. The planning district includes the locality of Grantham.

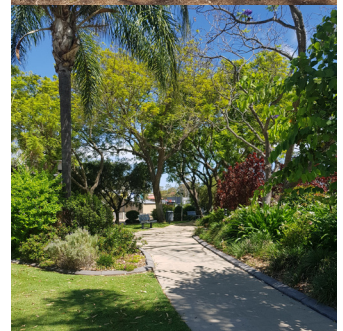
The planning district contains a number of high quality open spaces, including Grantham Estate Park, Anzac Park and Bugler Park.

## Population projections

The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 13: Helidon Hills and Grantham proposed population

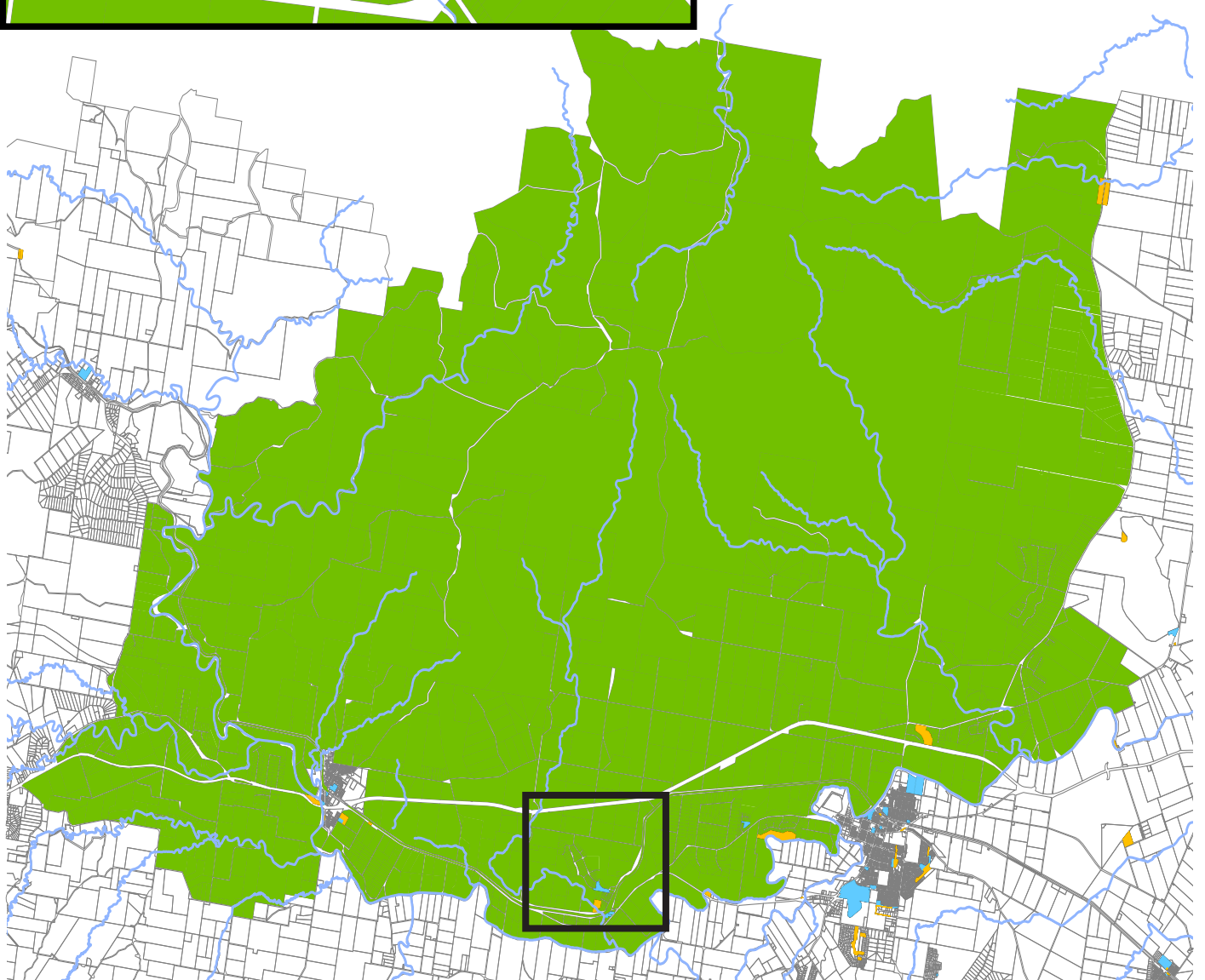
Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	4,060	4,462	4,842	5,157	5,573	5,886	7,665



# Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District - Existing Public Parks



- 1 Grantham Estate Park
- 2 Anzac Park
- 3 Bugler Park
- Core open space
- Other open space
- Planning District



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has access to a range of recreation parks yet no provision of sports parks.

Table 14: Helidon Hills and Grantham current supply of trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Grantham Estate Park	3.54
		Anzac Park	0.50
		Bugler Park	0.66
	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-
	Civic and memorial	McGarva Park (not core)	0.18
Sport	Undeveloped	-	-
	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk parks, the other open space that services the planning district is as follows.

Table 15: Helidon Hills and Grantham current supply of other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	Grantham Sports Reserve (Equestrian)
	Indoor and aquatic	-
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

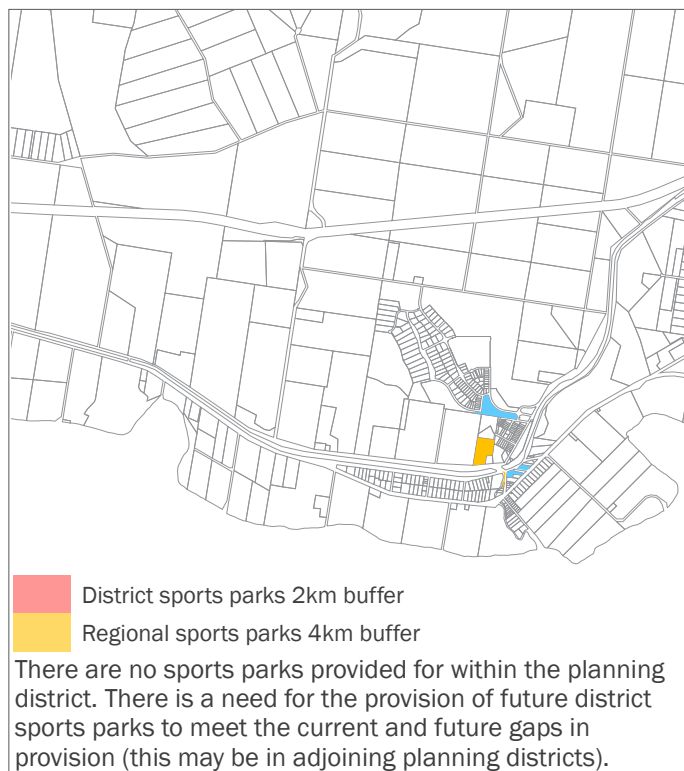
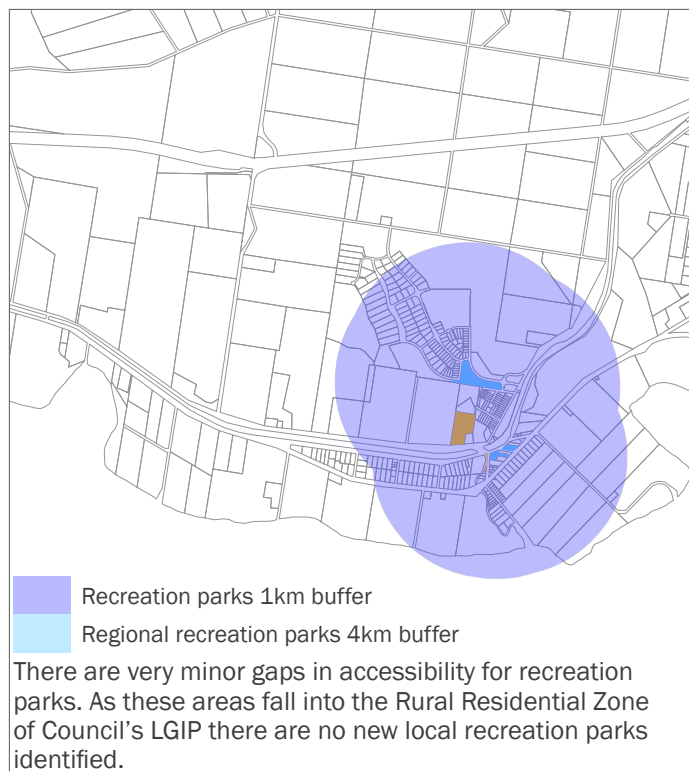
Table 16: Helidon Hills and Grantham demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	4.70	5.28	-0.58	5.80	-1.1	6.29	-1.59	6.70	-2.0	7.24	-2.54	7.65	-2.95
Sports park	0.00	6.90	-6.90	7.59	-7.59	8.23	-8.23	8.77	-8.77	9.47	-9.47	10.01	-10.01
Total core open space	4.70	12.18	-7.48	13.39	-8.69	14.53	-9.82	15.47	-10.77	16.72	-12.01	17.66	-12.96

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate the level of accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The demand and gap analysis has shown an under-supply of recreation and sports parks both currently and into the future.

Looking ahead, there is a need for additional core open spaces within the Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District, for both recreation parks and sports parks.

The combination of the existing recreation parks within the planning district are over-embellished and offer little variety in experience (between the three parks).



## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District.

Table 17: Helidon Hills and Grantham future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	N/a						
2026	There is a deficiency for district recreation parks within the planning district	Develop the currently undeveloped Placid Drive Estate Park to a district recreation park standard	District Recreation	1.37ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1HH
2031	N/a						
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

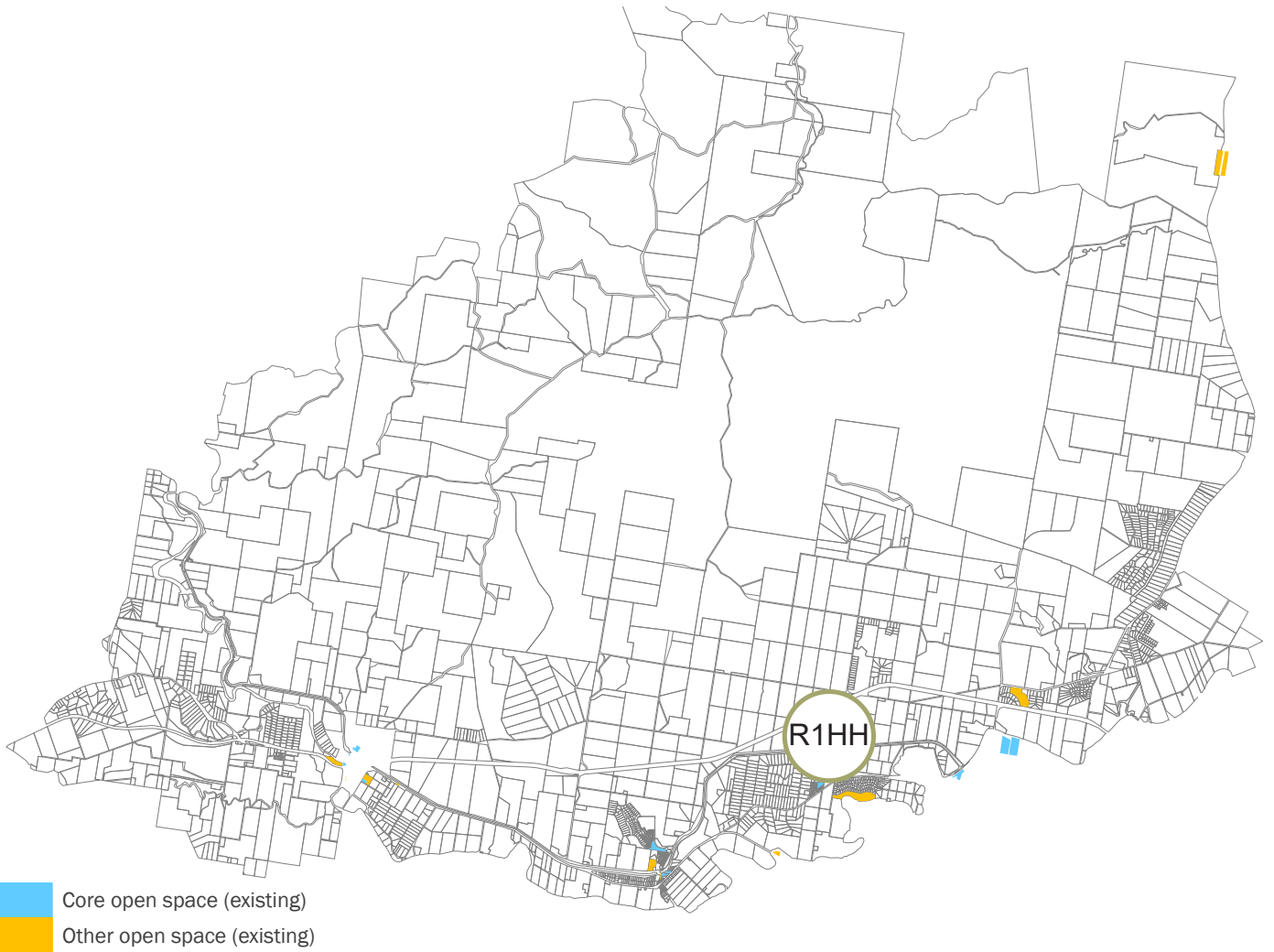
## Additional opportunities

In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 18: Helidon Hills and Grantham additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise infrastructure at Anzac Park	Remove the playground infrastructure at Anzac Park as it dilutes the experience of Bugler Park. Reinstatement of the infrastructure between Bugler Park and Grantham Estate Park if it can be accommodated. Anzac Park is a duplication and provides little additional experience to Bugler Park and Grantham Estate Park. Reinstatement of the park with native vegetation and landscaping and create an amenity park.
2	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Anzac Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours
3	Access to sports parks	Whilst the planning district has an under-supply of sports parks, residents have close access to sports parks within the Helidon Village and Gatton Town Planning Districts that falls within the proposed accessibility buffers. Additionally, the Grantham State School provides some opportunity for low-key informal sports should the demand arise in the future (subject to support from the School Principal).

## Future works - Helidon Hills and Grantham Planning District



## Helidon Village

The planning district of Helidon Village has a population of 963, with a predicted increase of 220 people by 2041.

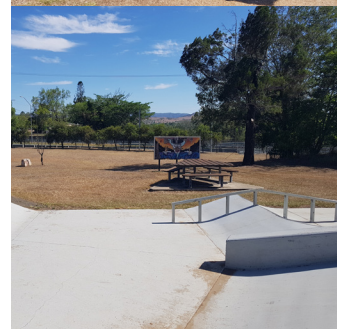
The planning district contains a limited range of open spaces including Progress Park, Helidon Cricket Club and Soliders Memorial Park.

## Population projections

The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 19: Helidon Village population projections

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	963	1,028	1,076	1,118	1,154	1,183	1,353



# Helidon Village Planning District - Existing Public Parks





## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has access to a range of both recreation and sports parks.

Table 20: Helidon Village current supply of public parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Progress Park	0.08
		Tyson Park	0.50
		McGovern Park	0.75
	District	N/a	-
	Regional	N/a	-
	Civic and memorial	Soliders Memorial Park	0.13
Sport	Undeveloped	N/a	-
	District	Helidon Cricket Club	1.42
		Helidon Tennis Courts	0.23
	Regional	N/a	-

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk parks listed above, the planning district provides the following other open spaces.

Table 21: Helidon Village current supply of other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	McGovern Park
	Indoor and aquatic	-
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	James Norman Hedges

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

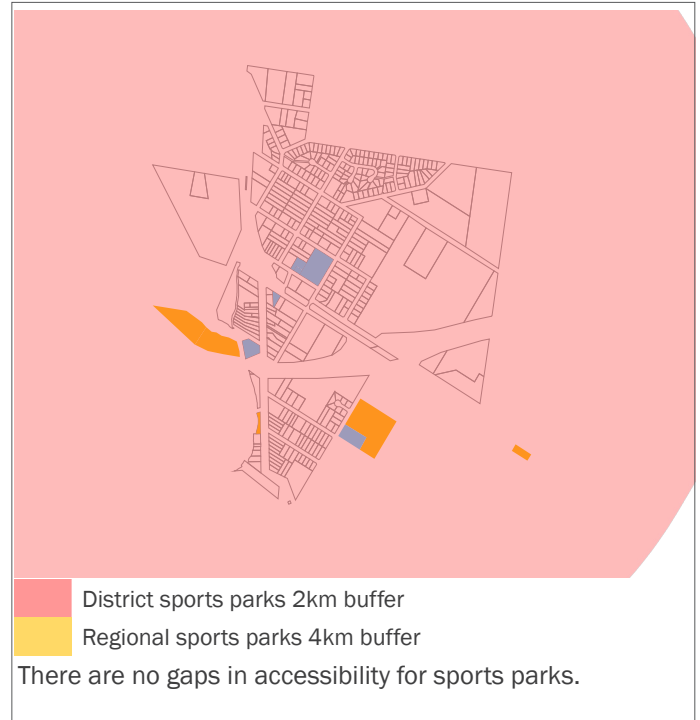
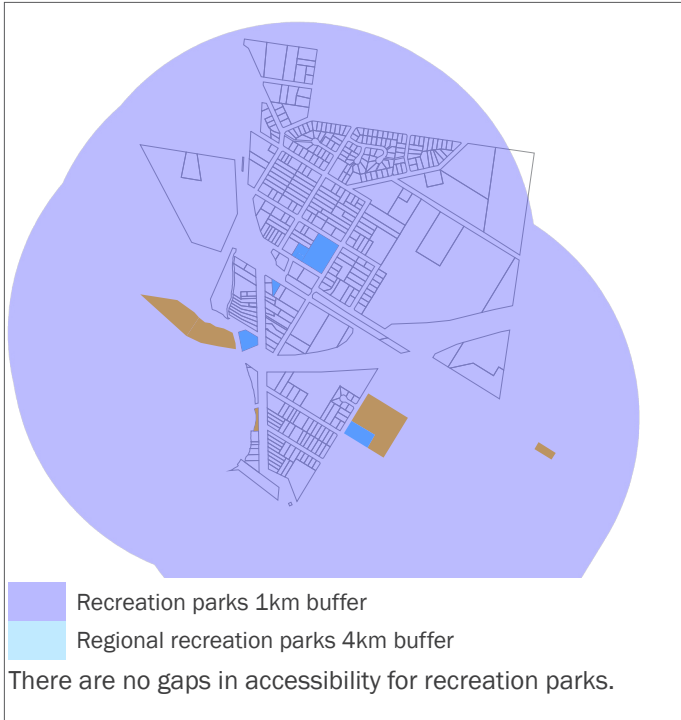
Table 22: Helidon Village demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)
Recreation park	1.46	1.25	0.21	1.34	0.12	1.40	0.06	1.45	0.01	1.50	-0.04	1.54	-0.08
Sports park	1.65	1.64	0.01	1.75	0.10	1.83	-0.18	1.90	-0.25	1.96	-0.31	2.01	-0.36
Total core open space	3.11	2.89	0.22	3.09	0.22	3.23	-0.12	3.35	-0.24	3.46	-0.35	3.55	-0.44

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

There are minor deficiencies in both recreation and sports parks within the planning district. There are no new public parks (recreation or sport) proposed for this planning district for the planning horizon.

Should future demand for sports parks arise (i.e. from sports clubs) there is an opportunity to develop McGovern Park for formal sports (trunk public park) in conjunction with the equestrian use. Additionally, discussions with the Helidon State School may allow the use of school fields in the future.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Helidon Village Planning District.

Table 23: Helidon Village future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	A shortfall of recreation embellishments exists	Tyson Park requires shade	Local Recreation	0.50ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1HV
2021	The focus will be on upgrading the existing recreation park	Upgrade Helidon Tennis Courts for community use. Refurbish one and develop the second as an open multi-court	District Sport	0.23ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1HV
2026	A shortfall of recreation embellishments exists	Upgrade McGovern Park	Local Recreation	0.75ha	Embellishment	TBD	R2HV
2031	N/a						
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

## Additional opportunities



In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 24: Helidon Village additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at McGovern Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours
2	Access to sports parks	Whilst the planning district has an under-supply of sports parks, residents have close access to sports parks within the Gatton Town Planning District that falls within the proposed accessibility buffers. Additionally, the Helidon State School provides some opportunity for low-key informal sports should the demand arise in the future (subject to support from the School Principal).
3	Investigate recreational linkages	Investigate the opportunity to develop linear recreation corridors utilising existing public land including creek lines to provide an alternate recreation opportunity for the community and increase walkability of Helidon Village as well as the community's physical activity

## Future works - Helidon Village Planning District



-  Core open space (existing)
-  Other open space (existing)



## Murphys Creek and Surrounds

The planning district of Murphy's Creek and Surrounds has a population of 1,601 and includes the Murphys Creek Recreation Ground as its sole trunk public park.

In addition to the existing public park within the planning district, Murphys Creek and Surrounds enjoys close proximity to Toowoomba Regional Council and the significant public parks it provides.

## Population projections

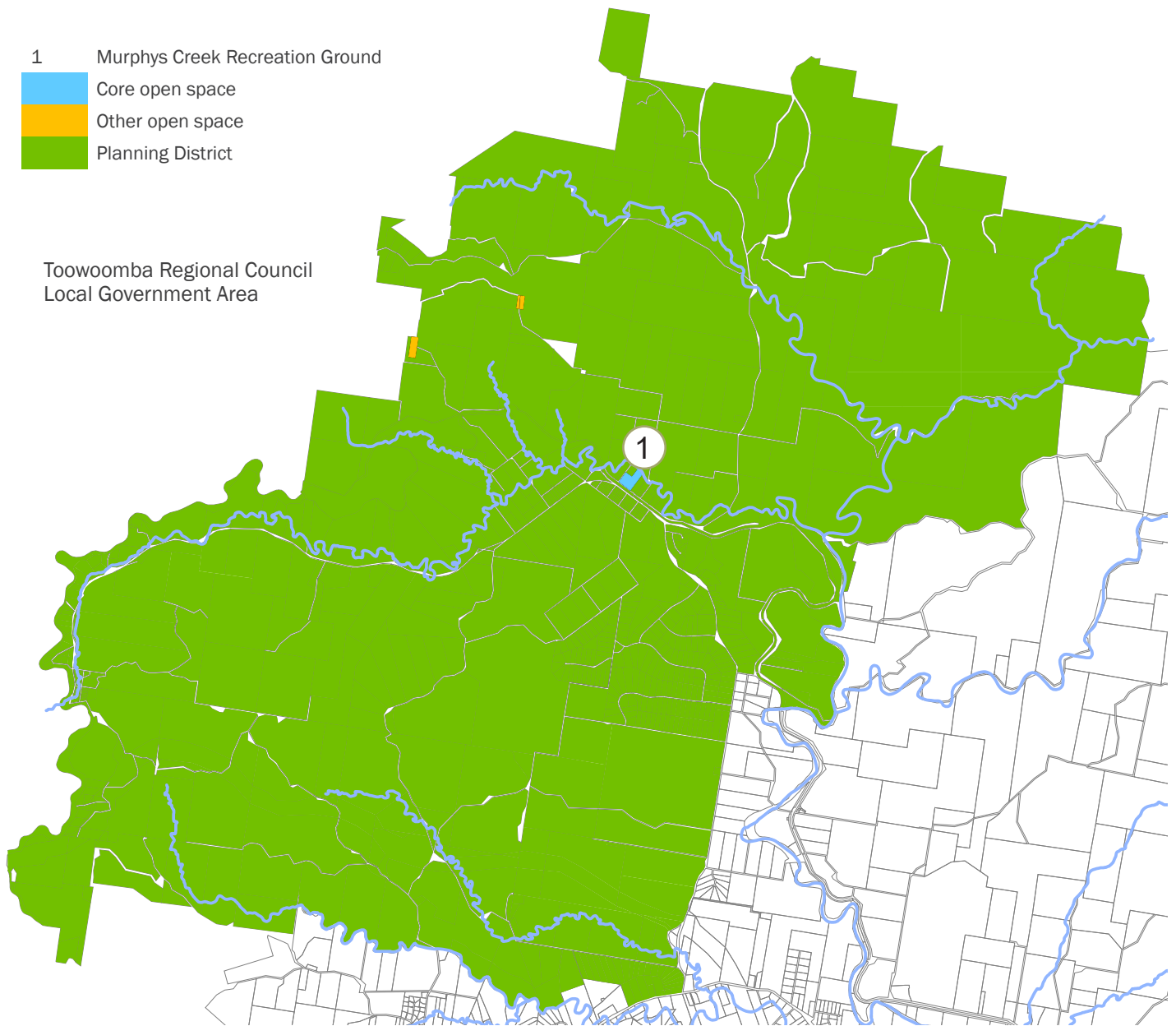
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 25: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds population projections*

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	1,601	1,638	1,678	1,715	1,758	1,794	2,003



# Murphys Creek and Surrounds Planning District - Existing Public Parks



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has one core public park, the Murphys Creek Recreation Ground.

Table 26: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds current supply - trunk parks*

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	-	-
	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-
	Civic and memorial	-	-
	Undeveloped	-	-
Sport	District	Murphys Creek Recreation Ground	5.58
	Regional	N/a	-

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk public park above, the planning district has access to the following 'other open space'.

Table 27: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds current supply - other open space*

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	-
	Indoor and aquatic	Community Hall
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

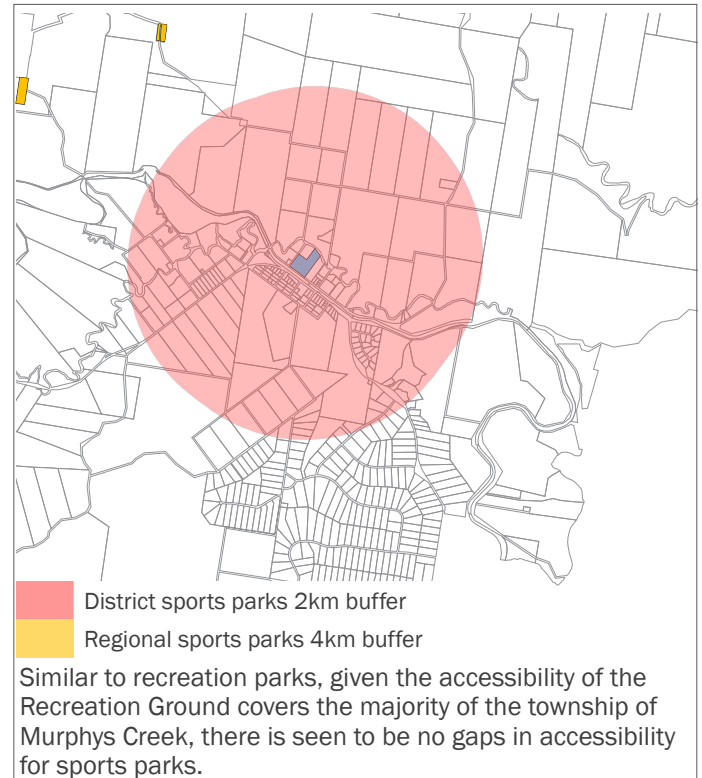
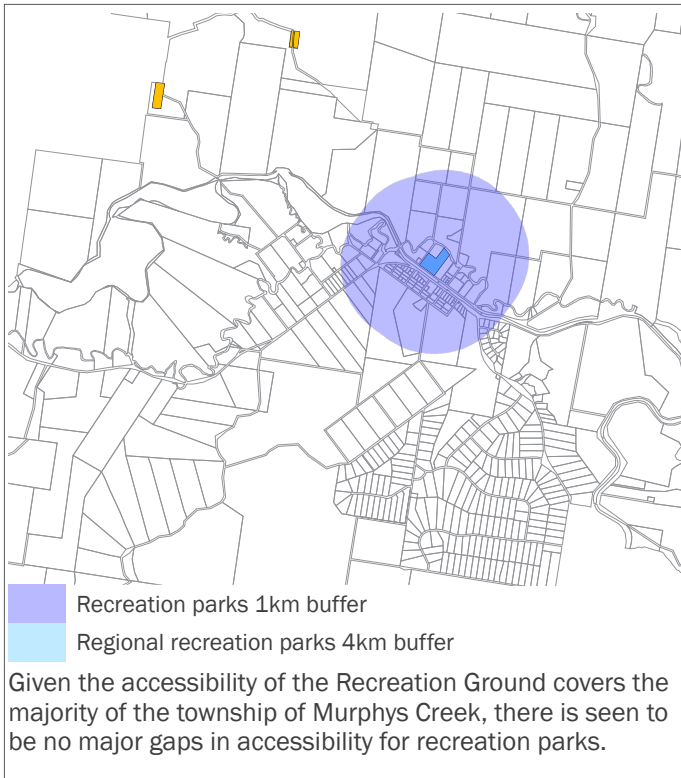
Table 28: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds demand and gap assessment*

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	0.00	2.08	-2.08	2.13	-2.13	2.18	-2.18	2.23	-2.23	2.29	-2.29	2.33	-2.33
Sports park	5.58	2.72	2.86	2.78	2.8	2.85	2.73	2.92	2.66	2.99	2.59	3.05	2.53
Total core open space	5.58	4.80	0.78	4.91	0.67	5.03	0.55	5.15	0.43	5.27	0.30	5.38	0.2

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The demand and gap analysis has shown a minor under-supply in recreation parks as the planning district has no official recreation parks. The Murphys Creek Recreation Ground however does provide a secondary function as a recreation park, and has some low-key recreational infrastructure including the playground at the Community Hall.

Looking ahead, the focus for the planning area will be on upgrading the existing public park rather than developing new open spaces. The Murphys Creek Planning District also has the advantage of being close to Toowoomba and the public park facilities that it provides for its residents. This is a significant asset to the Murphys Creek community, and should be considered when planning future public park improvements within the planning district.

In line with the recommendations of Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy, enhance the recreation function of the Murphys Creek Recreation Ground including development of a district recreation node, a learn to cycle facility and informal nature-based recreation elements along the creek.



## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Murphys Creek Planning District.

Table 29: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds future works*

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	A deficiency exists for district recreation parks within the catchment	Upgrade Murphys Creek Recreation Ground to include a district recreation node	Recreation District	0.5ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1MC
2026	N/a						
2031	N/a						
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

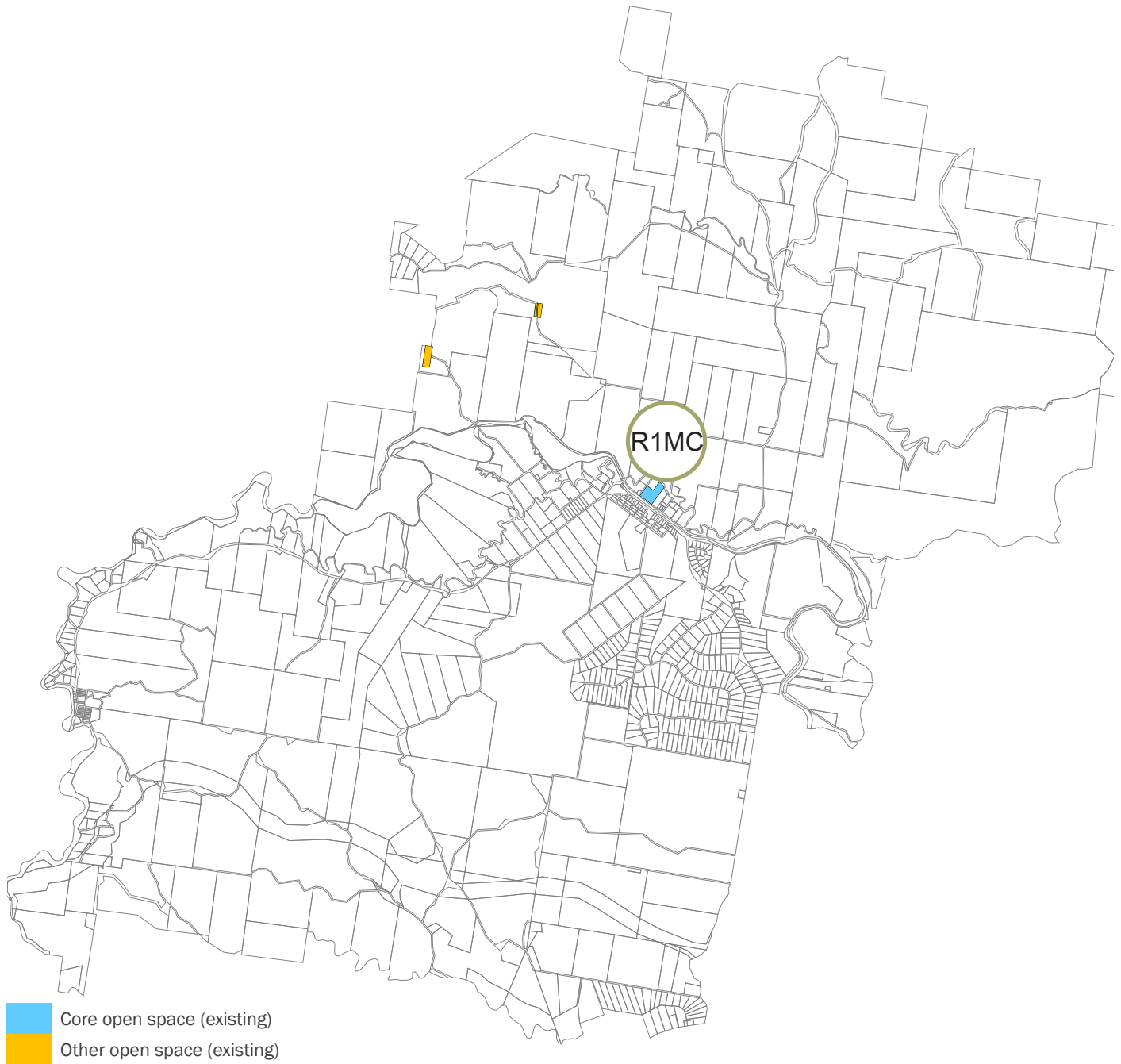
## Additional opportunities

In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 30: *Murphys Creek and Surrounds additional opportunities*

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Investigate recreational linkages	Investigate the opportunity to develop linear recreation corridors in the vicinity of the Recreation Ground utilising existing public land including creek lines to provide an alternate recreation opportunity for the community

## Future works - Murphys Creek and Surrounds Planning District



## Withcott

The planning district of Withcott has a population of 2,055 and includes a range of open spaces. The highlights of the planning district's public parks network include Jean Biggs Park, Springbrook Park, Burrambin Park and Merryfields Park.

In addition to the wide range of existing public parks within the planning district, it enjoys close proximity to Toowoomba Regional Council and the significant public parks it provides.

## Population projections

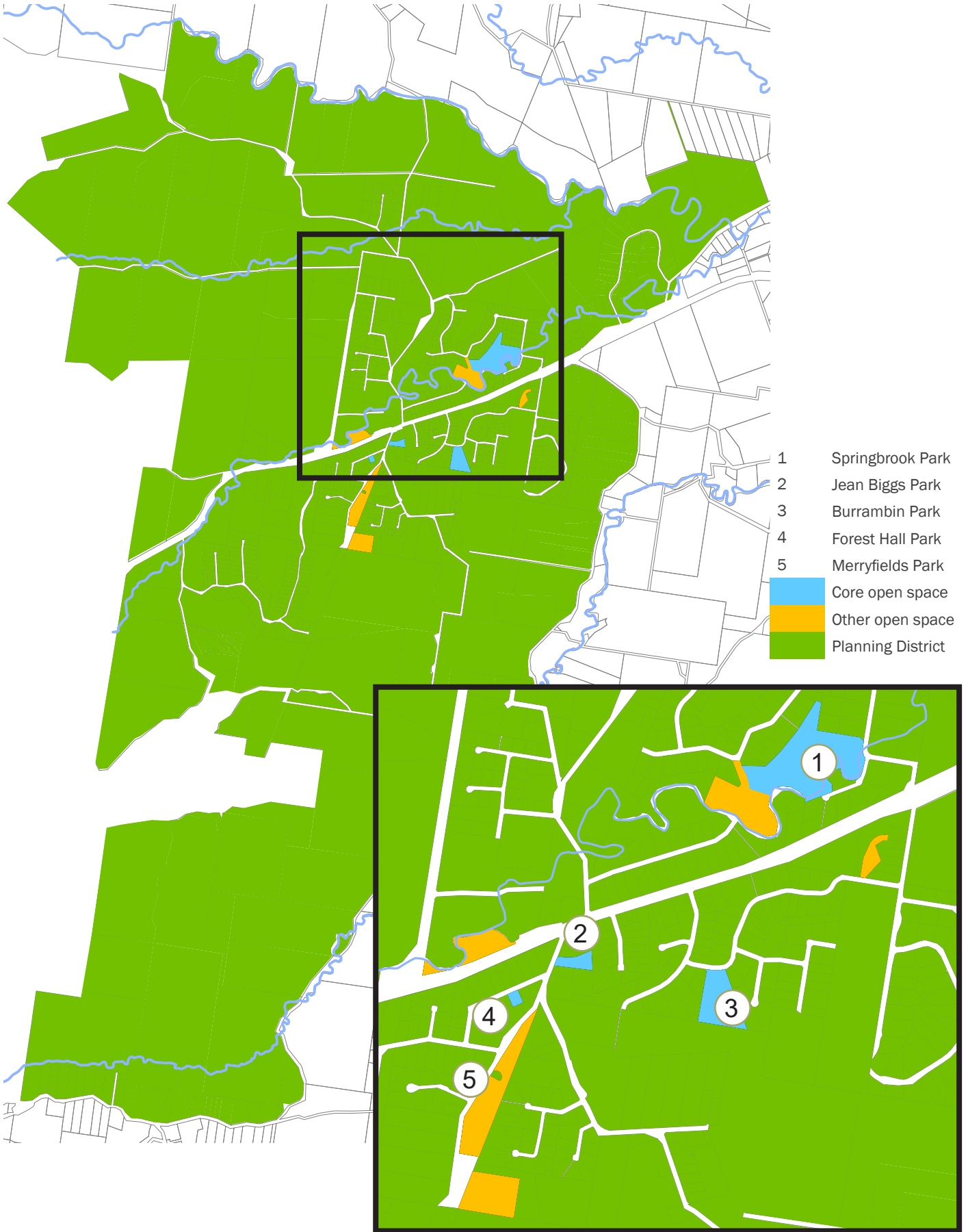
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 31: Withcott planning projections

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	2,055	2,221	2,379	2,502	2,634	2,751	3,377



# Withcott Planning District - Existing Public Parks





## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has access to a wide range of both recreation parks and sports parks.

Table 32: Withcott current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Burrumbin Park (part)	0.27
		Forest Hall Park	0.20
	District	Jean Biggs Park	0.60
	Regional	-	
	Civic and memorial	Merryfields Park (part)	3.90
	Undeveloped	Burrumbin Park (part)	2.34
Sport	District	Springbrook Park	7.85
	Regional	N/a	-

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk parks outlined above, the planning district has a number of other open spaces.

Table 33: Withcott current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	-
	Indoor and aquatic	Withcott Sports Centre (Springbrook Park)
	Private	Toowoomba Kart Club (Greer Park)
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

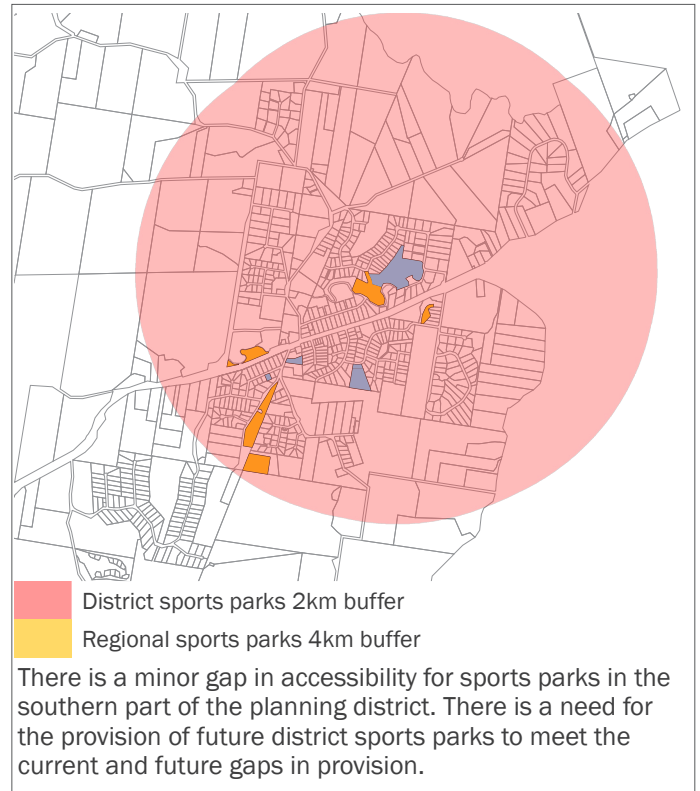
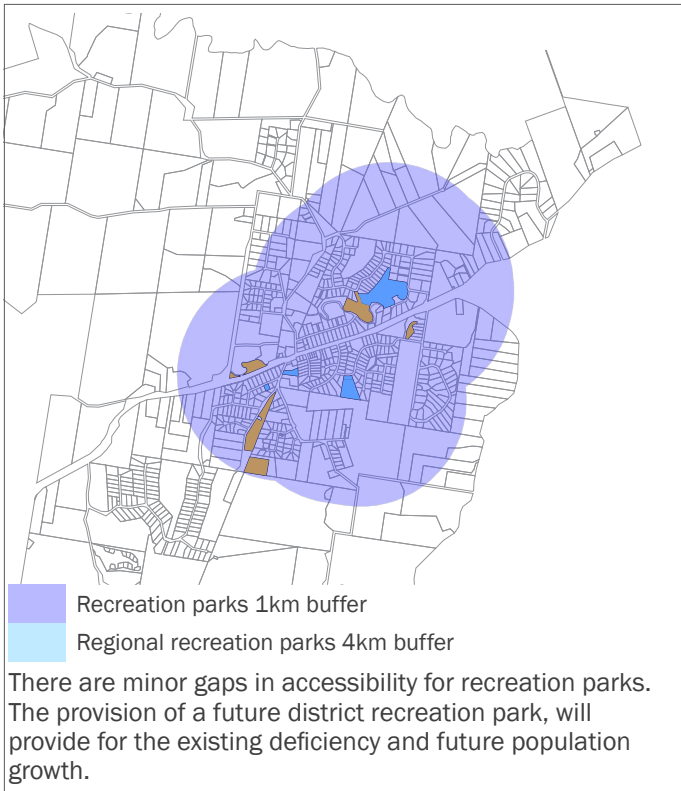
Table 34: Withcott demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
	supply (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)
Recreation park	4.97	2.67	2.3	2.89	2.08	3.09	1.88	3.25	1.72	3.42	1.55	3.58	1.39
Sports park	7.85	3.49	4.36	3.78	4.07	4.04	3.81	4.25	3.6	4.48	3.37	4.68	3.17
Total core open space	12.82	6.16	6.66	6.67	6.15	7.14	5.69	7.51	5.32	7.90	4.92	8.25	4.56

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The planning district has very minor accessibility shortfalls for both recreation and sports parks however there is a shortfall in recreation embellishment within the catchment.

Forest Hall Park offers little recreational opportunity and provides an opportunity for rationalisation. Jean Biggs and Burrabin Parks are in close proximity and will cater to the needs of the local community in its place.

The planning district is in close proximity to Toowoomba and the public parks it offers the community. This is a significant asset to the Withcott community, and should be considered when planning future public park improvements within the planning district.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Withcott Planning District.

Table 35: Withcott future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	An upgrade of sports infrastructure is required	Continue to develop Springbrook Park in line with the Master Plan	District Sport	7.85ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1W
	By 2021 an upgrade of recreation infrastructure is required	Upgrade Jean Biggs Park	District Recreation	0.60ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1W
2026	An upgrade of recreation infrastructure is required	Further embellish Merryfields Park as a district recreation park	District Recreation	3.90ha	Embellishment	TBD	R2W
2031	An upgrade of recreation infrastructure is required	Upgrade Burrambin Park	District Recreation	2.34ha	Embellishment	TBD	R3W
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

## Additional opportunities

In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 36: Withcott additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise Forest Hall Park (2019)	This park provides little recreation opportunity or appeal. The Park is a Reserve under State Government ownership, as such Council will need to enter into discussions regarding its sale. An upgrade of Burrambin and Jean Biggs Parks will cater for the accessibility needs of the immediate area
2	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Remove barbecues at Springbrook Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours
3	Investigate recreational linkages	Investigate the opportunity to develop linear recreation corridors in the vicinity of Merryfields Park utilising existing public land to provide an alternate recreation opportunity for the community

## Future works - Withcott Planning District





## Forest Hill

The planning district of Forest Hill has a current population of 523 people and includes the public parks of Forest Hill Recreation Ground, Furley Park and Forest Hill Place.

## Population projections

The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 37: Forest Hill population projections

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	523	531	537	543	548	553	577



# Forest Hill Planning District - Existing Public Parks



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district has access to a wide range of recreation and sports parks.

Table 38: Forest Hill current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)	
Recreation	Local	Furley Park	0.42	
	District	N/a	-	
	Regional	N/a	-	
	Civic and memorial		Forest Hill Place	0.11
			Anzac Park (non-trunk)	0.09
Undeveloped	N/a	-		
Sport	District	Forest Hill Recreation Ground	5.51	
	Regional	N/a	-	

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk public parks outlined above, the planning district has the following other open spaces.

Table 39: Forest Hill current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	N/a
	Indoor and aquatic	N/a
	Private	N/a
Other open space	Rest Stop	Jeannine Park

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

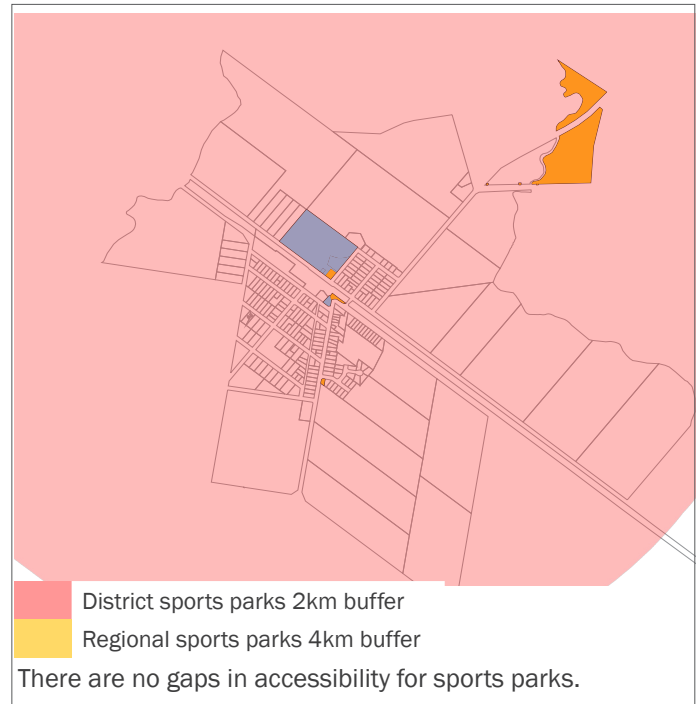
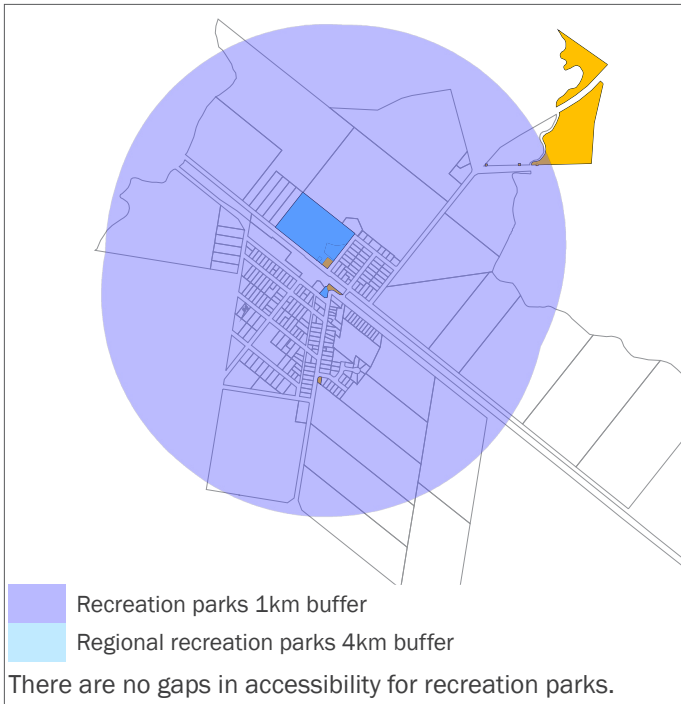
Table 40: Forest Hill demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	0.53	0.68	-0.15	0.69	-0.16	0.70	-0.17	0.71	-0.18	0.71	-0.18	0.72	-0.19
Sports park	5.51	0.09	5.42	0.90	4.61	0.91	4.60	0.92	4.59	0.93	4.58	0.94	4.57
Total core open space	6.04	0.77	5.27	1.59	4.45	1.61	4.43	1.63	4.41	1.64	4.40	1.66	4.38

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The Forest Hill Planning District has a good range of public parks to meet the needs of its current population. There is a minor deficiency in recreation parks, however no new land is proposed for the planning horizon.

The upgrade of Furley Park in line with asset renewals will cater for the future populations.

The rationalisation of Jeannine Park is proposed as it offers no recreation experience and little opportunity for future improvement.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Forest Hill Planning District.

Table 41: Forest Hill future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	A deficiency exists in local recreation infrastructure	Upgrade Furley Park in line with asset renewal requirements	Local Recreation	0.42ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1F
2026	N/a						
2031	N/a						
2036	A deficiency in sports park infrastructure will exist	Upgrade Forest Hill Recreation Ground	District Sport	5.51ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1F
2041	N/a						

## Additional opportunities

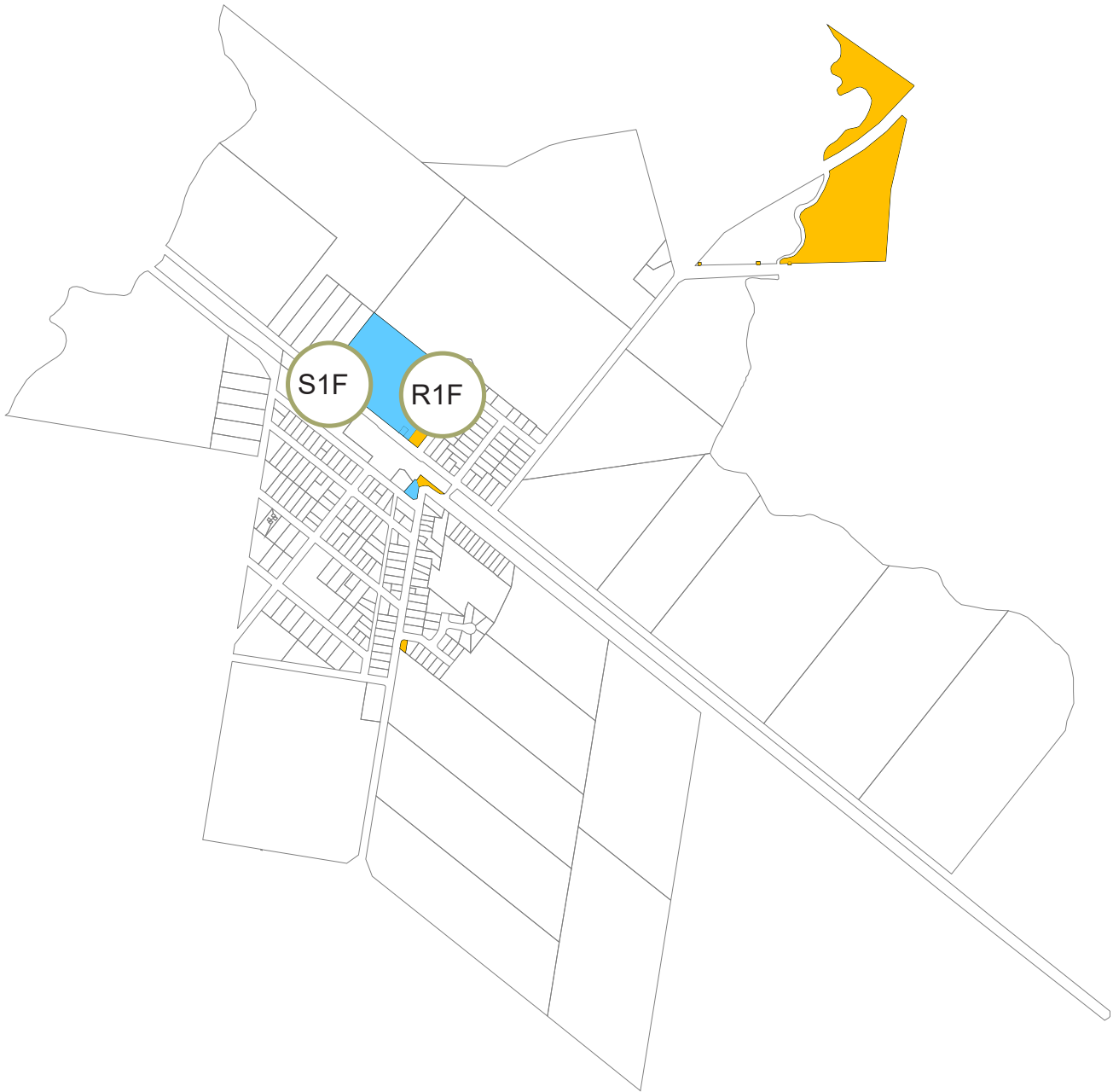
In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 42: Forest Hill additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Furley Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours
2	Rationalise Jeannine Park	This park offers little recreation experience and limited opportunity for improvement.



## Future works - Forest Hill Planning District



- Core open space (existing)
- Other open space (existing)

## Laidley North and Plainland

The planning district of Laidley North and Plainland includes the localities of Plainland, Hatton Vale, Glenore Grove, Kensington Grove, and Brightview.

The planning district provides a range of public parks including Koffal Park, Bertrand Avenue Park and Glenore Grove Cricket Oval.

## Population projections

The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.




Table 43: Laidley North and Plainland projected population

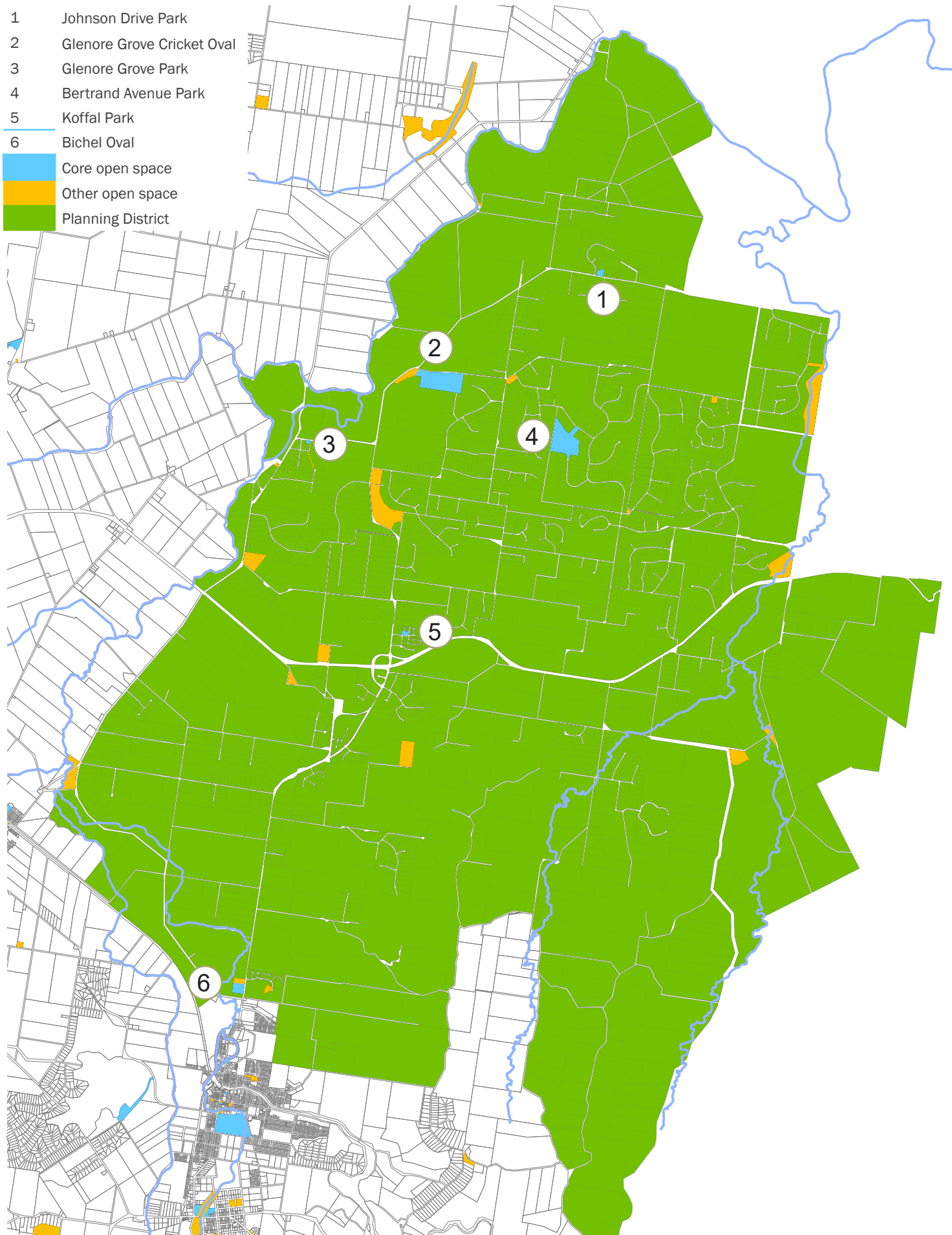
Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	10,925	11,947	13,041	14,116	15,102	15,882	20,618



# Laidley North and Plainland Planning District - Existing Public Parks

- 1 Johnson Drive Park
- 2 Glenore Grove Cricket Oval
- 3 Glenore Grove Park
- 4 Bertrand Avenue Park
- 5 Koffal Park
- 6 Bichel Oval

-  Core open space
-  Other open space
-  Planning District



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district provides a limited provision of recreation and sports parks.

Table 44: Laidley North and Plainland current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Johnson Drive Park	1.00
		Koffal Park	0.63
		Bertrand Avenue Park (Part)	1.13
		Glenore Grove Park	0.25
	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-
	Civic and memorial	Hatton Vale Memorial Park (not core open space)	0.22
Sport	Undeveloped	Bertrand Avenue Park (Part)	17.78
	District	Glenore Grove Cricket Oval	21.87
	Regional	-	-

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk public parks listed above, the planning district has access to the following other open spaces.

Table 45: Laidley North and Plainland current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	Hatton Vale Pony Club
	Indoor and aquatic	
	Private	Hatton Vale Golf Course
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

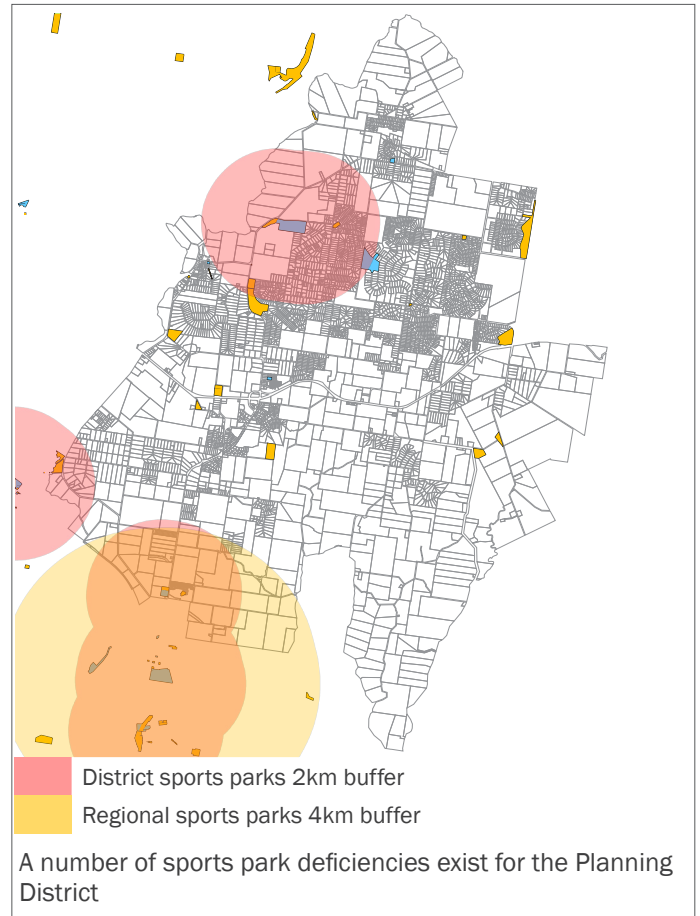
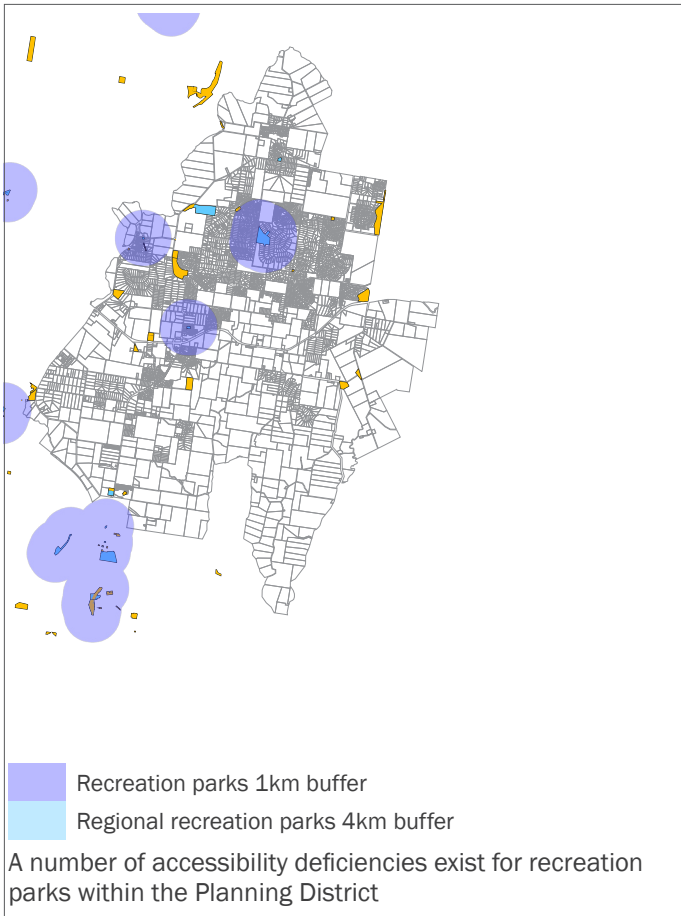
Table 46: Laidley North and Plainland demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	3.01	14.20	-11.19	15.53	-12.52	16.95	-13.94	18.35	-15.34	19.63	-16.62	26.80	-23.79
Sports park	21.87	18.57	3.30	20.31	1.56	22.17	0.30	24.00	-2.13	25.67	-3.8	27.00	-5.13
Total core open space	24.88	32.78	-7.90	35.84	-10.96	39.12	-13.64	42.35	-17.47	45.31	-20.42	53.80	-28.92

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The planning district is the biggest growth area within the Region with a future population that will be the second largest within the Region, second to Gatton and larger than Laidley. The Planning District is made up of a number of emerging communities, and as such has little existing public parks. Additionally, there is no true 'centre' of the Planning District, with Plainland and Hatton Vale both seeking the title.

There is a significant deficiency in both recreation and sports parks, both for the current and predicted populations, as well as accessibility shortfalls as shown above.

The existing public parks are lacking in quality embellishments, with a dispersal of elements across the network.



## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Laidley North and Plainland Planning District.

Table 47: Laidley North and Plainland future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	There is an under supply of recreation infrastructure	Koffal Park requires shade	Local Recreation	0.63ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1LN
	A deficiency exists for district recreation parks in the catchment	New district recreation park (Hatton Vale Regional Park). Co-located with S1LN	District Recreation	4ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	R2LN
	A deficiency exists for district sports parks in the catchment	New district sports park (Hatton Vale Regional Park). Co-located with R2LN	District Sport	8ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	S1LN
2021	A deficiency in recreation embellishment exists	Upgrade Bertrand Avenue Park	District Recreation	1.13ha	Embellishment	TBD	R5LN
	A deficiency in recreation embellishment exists	Upgrade Bertrand Avenue Park (undeveloped portion)	District Recreation	17.78ha	Embellishment	TBD	R6LN
2026	A deficiency exist for district recreation in the catchment	New district recreation park	District Recreation	4ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	R3LN
2031	An accessibility deficiency exists for district sport in the north-east of the catchment	New district sports park co-locate with R4LN	District sport	8ha	Land and embellishment	TDB	S2LN
	A deficiency exist for district recreation in the catchment	New district recreation park to be co-located with S2LN	District Recreation	2ha	Land and embellishment	TBD	R4LN
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

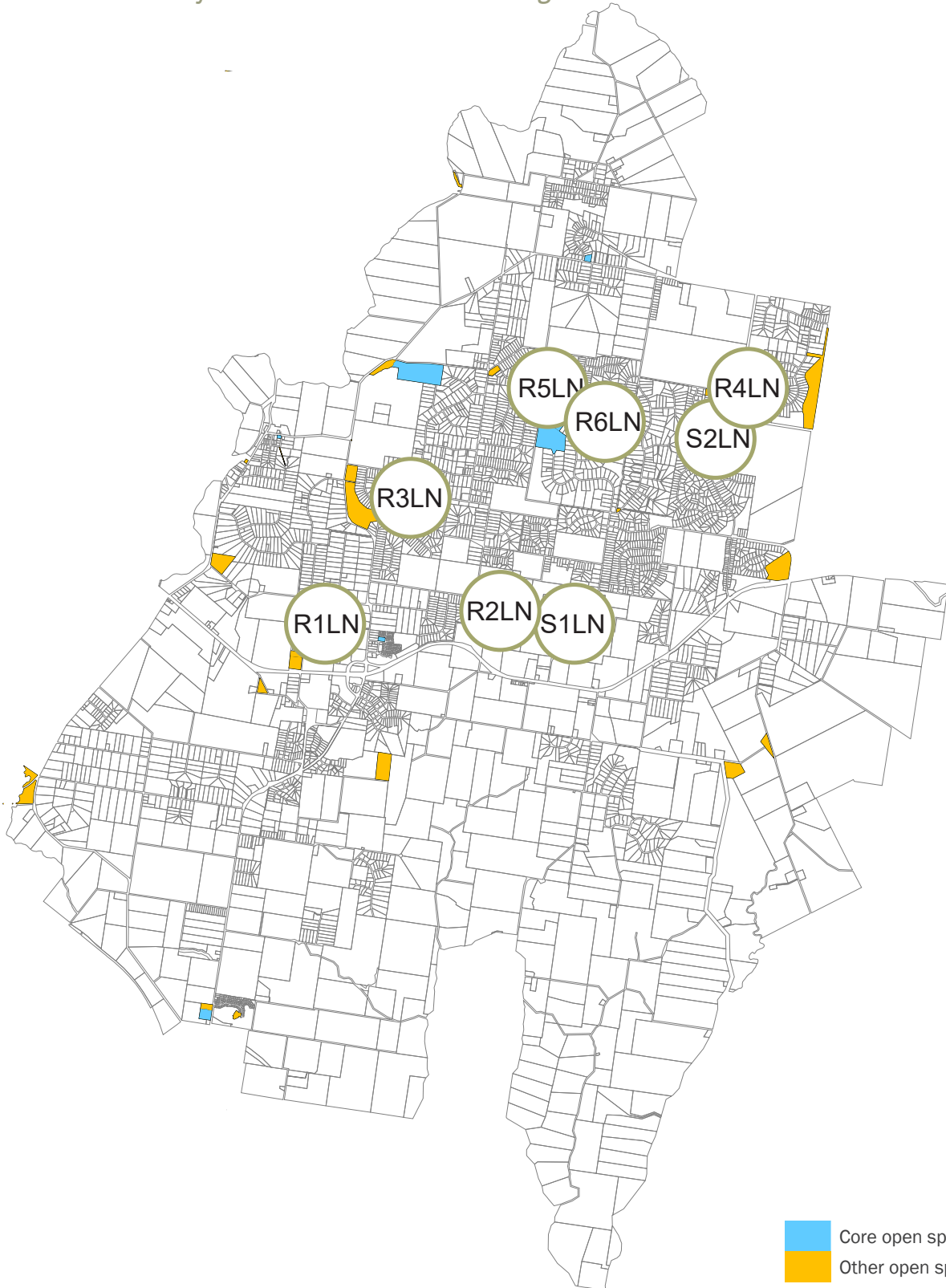
## Additional opportunities

In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 48: Laidley North and Plainland additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Investigate recreational linkages	Investigate the opportunity to develop linear recreation corridors in the Planning District utilising existing public land to provide an alternate recreation opportunity for the community
2	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Johnson Drive Park and one at Bertrand Avenue Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours

## Future works - Laidley North and Plainland Planning District



## Laidley Town

The Laidley Town Planning District contains a wide range of public parks including Anzac Park, Lake Dyer, McNulty Park, Laidley Recreation Reserve, Lions Park, and Narda Lagoon.

## Population projections

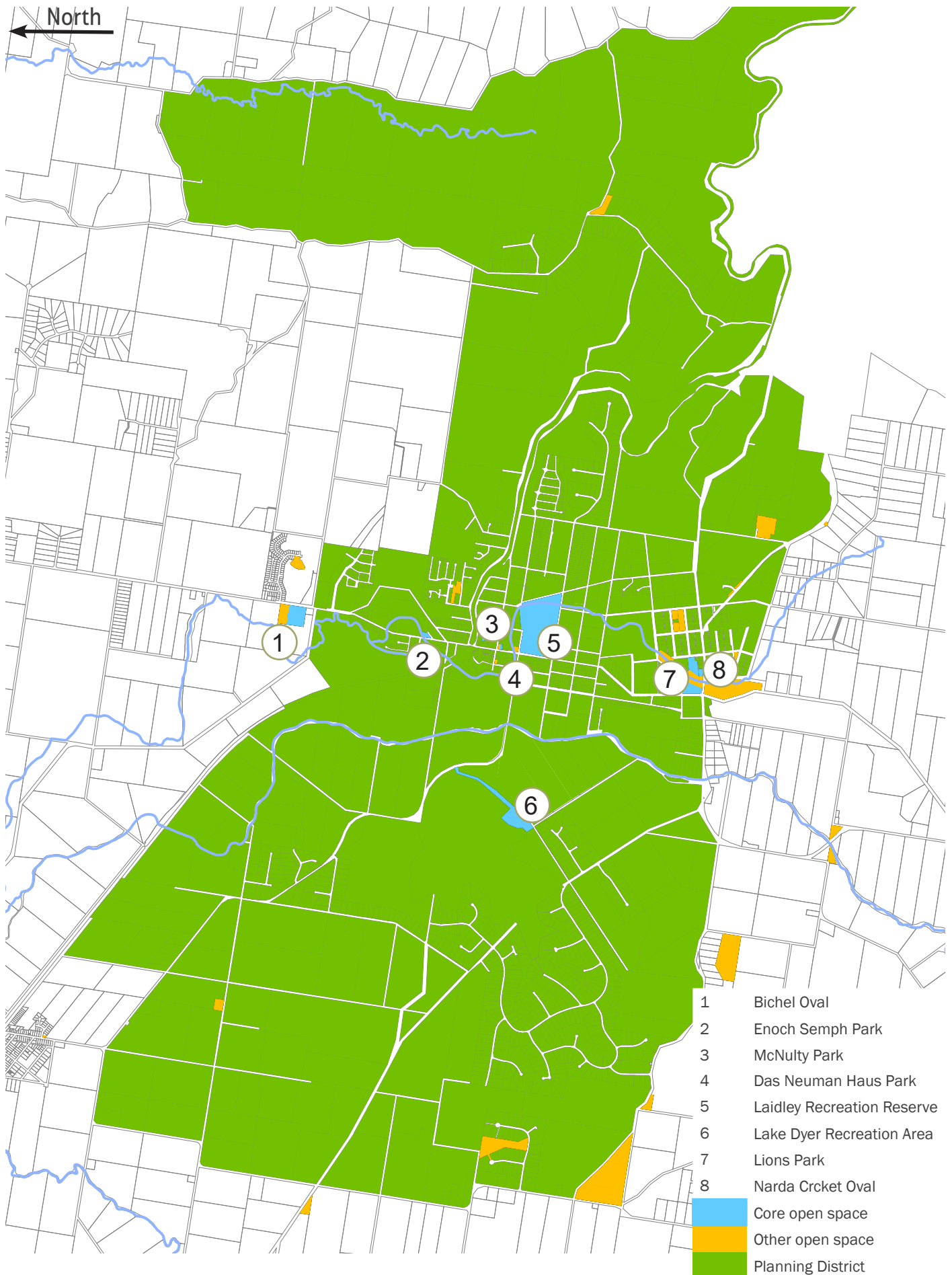
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 49: Laidley Town planning projections

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	6,138	6,583	7,173	7,751	8,460	9,984	12,685



# Laidley Town Planning District - Existing Public Parks



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district provides a wide range provision of recreation and sports parks.

Table 50: Laidley Town current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	McNulty Park	0.09
		Das Neumann Haus Park (Part)	0.07
		Enoch Sempf Park	0.23
	District	Lions Park	1.56
		Narda Lagoon (Part)	6.96
		Lake Dyer Recreation Area	5.16
	Regional	-	-
Civic and memorial	Anzac Park	0.24	
Sport	District	Bichel Oval	2.87
	Regional	Laidley Recreation Reserve	17.87
Other open space	Undeveloped	Narda Cricket Oval	1.46

## Current supply - other open space

In addition to the trunk public parks listed above, the planning district has access to the following other open spaces.

Table 51: Laidley Town current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	-
	Indoor and aquatic	Dal Ryan War Memorial Pool
	Private	Laidley Golf Club
		Laidley Showgrounds
Laidley Bowls Club		
Other open space	Rest Stop	Cunningham's Crest Lookout

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

Table 52: Laidley Town current supply demand and gap assessment

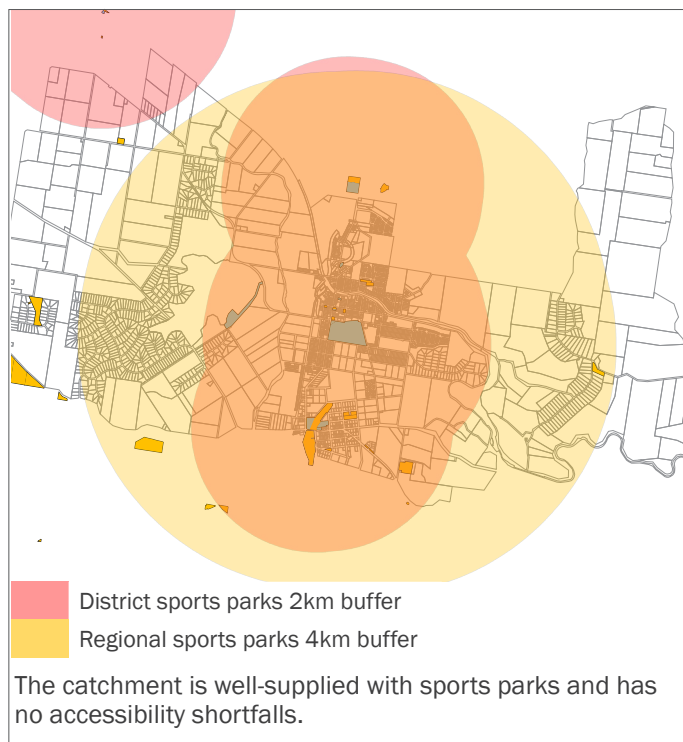
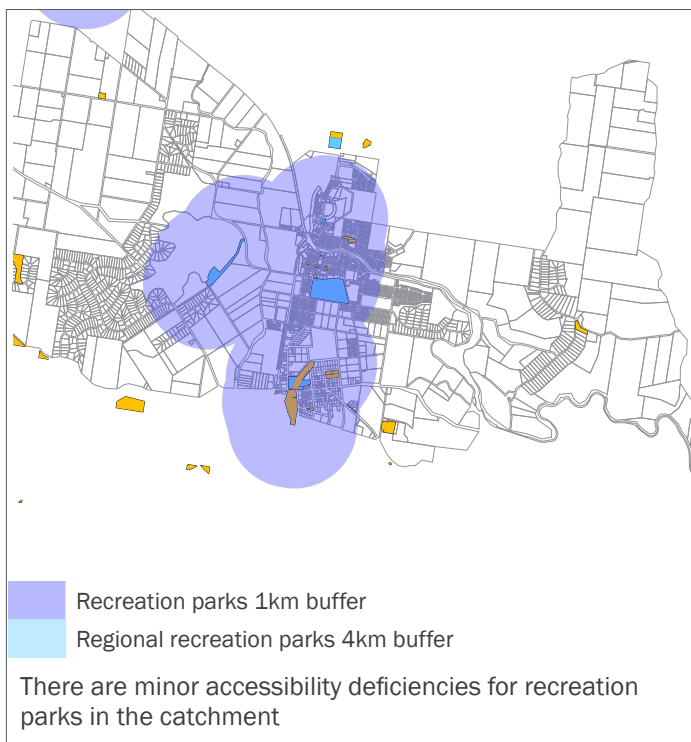
Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	14.31	7.98	6.33	8.56	5.75	9.32	4.99	10.08	4.23	11.00	3.31	12.98	1.33
Sports park	20.74	10.43	10.31	11.19	9.55	12.19	8.55	13.18	7.56	14.38	6.36	16.97	3.77
Total core open space	35.05	18.41	16.64	19.75	15.30	21.52	13.54	23.25	11.79	25.38	9.67	29.95	5.10

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.



## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The demand and gap analysis shows sufficient recreation and sport land to meet the needs of the existing and future populations within the planning horizon.

There are minor recreation park accessibility shortfalls within the planning district.

The existing public parks are lacking in quality embellishments, with a dispersal of elements across the network, and ageing infrastructure.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Laidley Town Planning District.

Table 53: Laidley Town future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	There is a deficiency in recreation park embellishment	Upgrade Enoch Sempf Park	Recreation District	0.23ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1LT
	There is a deficiency in recreation park embellishment	Develop a recreation node at the Laidley Recreation Reserve in line with the Master Plan	Recreation District	0.2ha	Embellishment	TBD	R2LT
2026	There is a deficiency in recreation park embellishment	Upgrade Lions Park	Recreation District	1.56ha	Embellishment	TBD	R3LT
2031	There is a deficiency in recreation park embellishment	Upgrade Narda Lagoon	Recreation District	6.96ha	Embellishment	TBD	R4LT
2036	N/a						
2041	There is a deficiency in sports parks	Upgrade Narda Cricket Oval	District Sport	1.46ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1LT

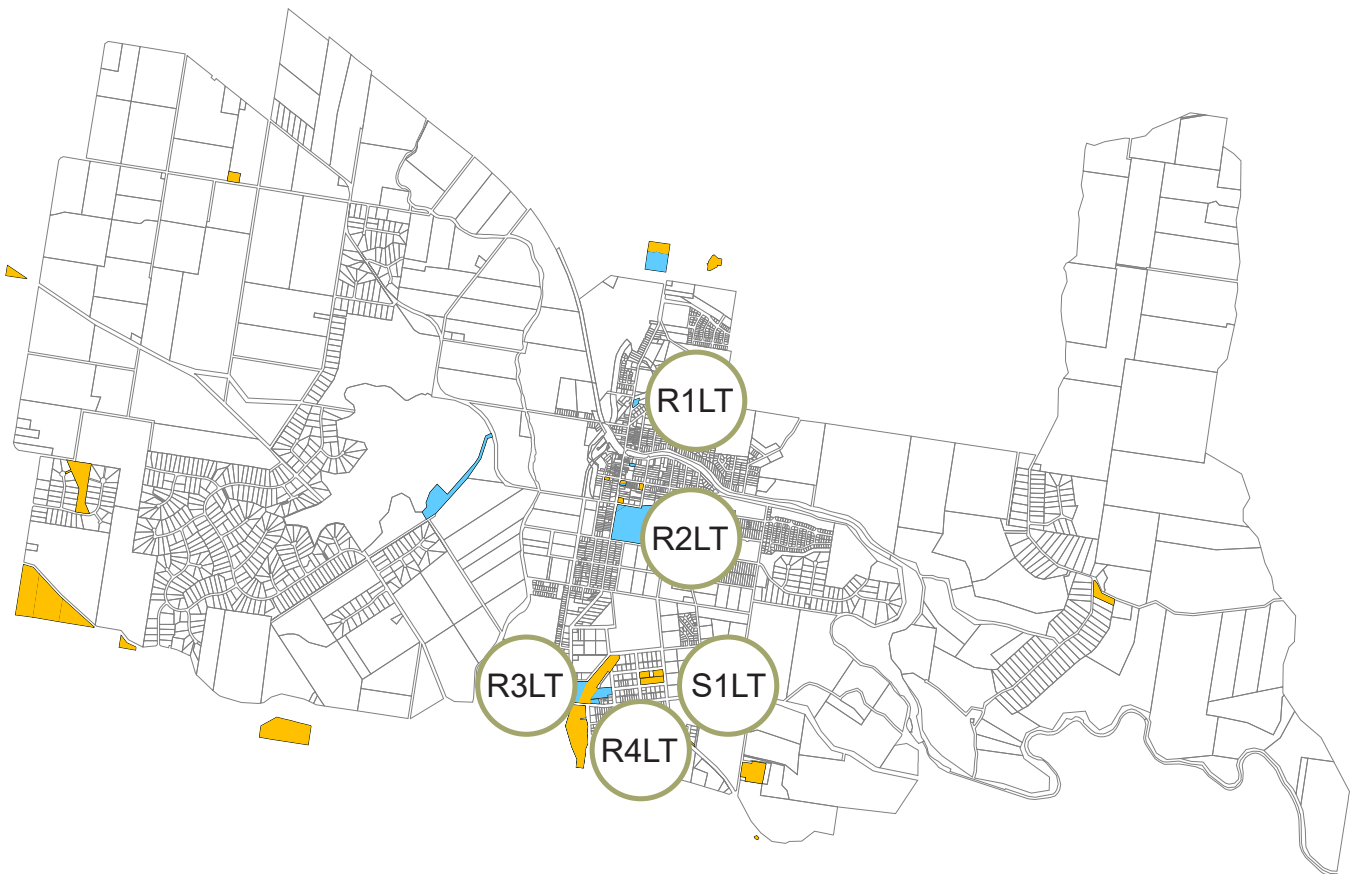
## Additional opportunities



In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 54: Laidley Town additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Remove the play equipment from Michael O'Keefe Park	At the end of its useful life, remove the recreation element from the Park. Nearby McNulty Park provides a good range of recreation infrastructure
2	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Enoch Sempf Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours

## Future works - Laidley Town Planning District



-  Core open space (existing)
-  Other open space (existing)

## Morton Vale

The Morton Vale Planning District include the localities of Kentville, Morton Vale, Lockyer Waters, Lynford, Churchable, Spring Creek, Crowley Vale and Lake Clarendon.

The planning district contains limited public parks and open space, with Lake Clarendon Recreation Area and Lockyer Waters Park.

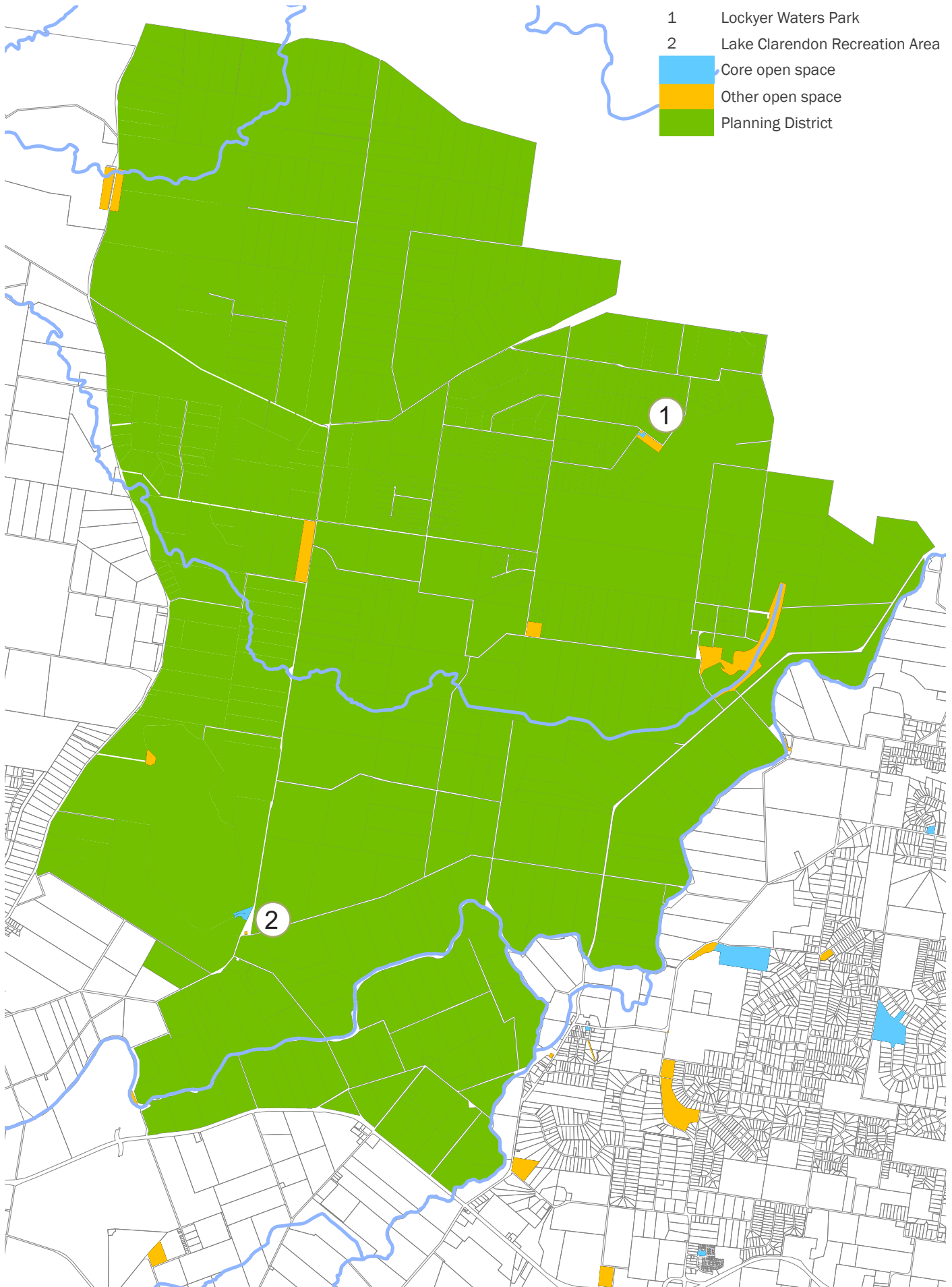
## Projected population

The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 55: Morton Vale projected population

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	1,276	1,288	1,301	1,313	1,332	1,349	1,449

# Morton Vale Planning District - Existing Public Parks





## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district provides the following provision of recreation and sports parks.

Table 56: Morton Vale current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Lake Clarendon Recreation Area	2.00
		Lockyer Waters Park (Part)	0.39
	District	-	
	Regional	-	
	Civic and memorial	-	
Sport	District	-	
	Regional	-	
Other open space	Undeveloped	Lockyer Waters Park (Part)	3.69

## Current supply - other open space

The planning district has no access to other open spaces.

Table 57: Morton Vale current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	-
	Indoor and aquatic	-
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

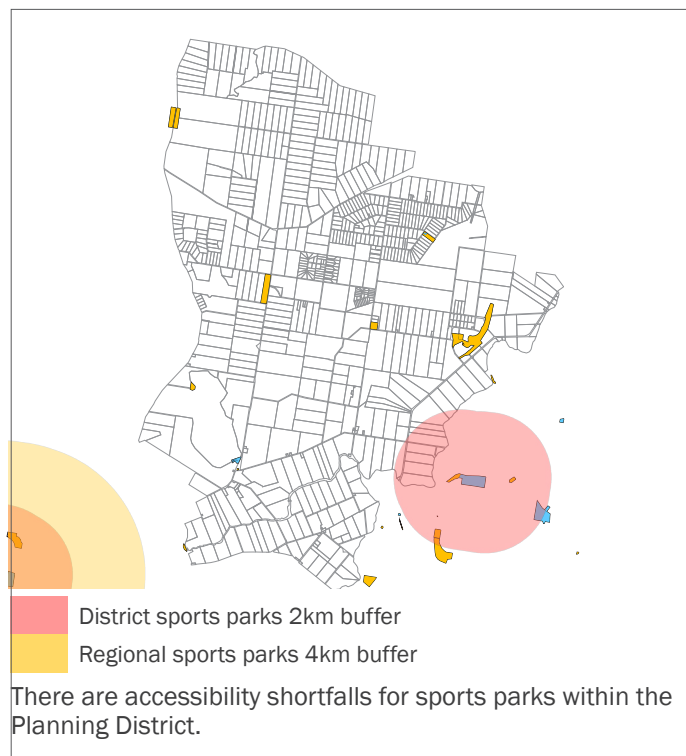
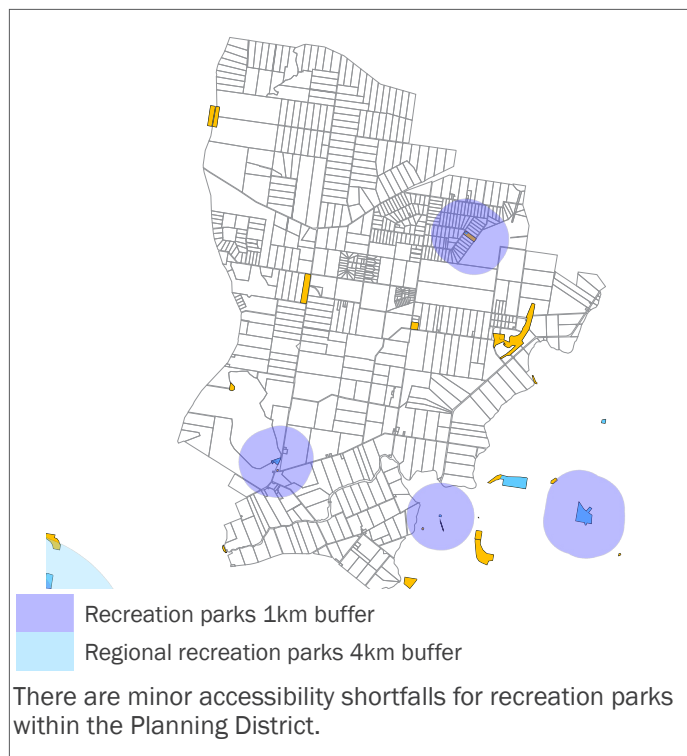
Table 58: Morton Vale demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)
Recreation park	2.39	1.66	0.73	1.67	0.72	1.69	0.70	1.71	0.68	1.73	0.66	1.75	0.64
Sports park	0.00	2.17	-2.17	2.19	-2.19	2.21	-2.21	2.23	-2.23	2.26	-2.26	2.29	-2.29
Total core open space	2.39	3.83	-1.44	3.86	-1.47	3.90	-1.51	3.94	-1.55	4.00	-1.60	4.04	-1.65

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

There are minor demand and gap analysis shortfalls in sport parks.

There are also accessibility shortfalls for both sport and recreation parks within the planning district.

There are no new public parks proposed for the planning district, capacity exists within the existing Lockyer Waters Park to cater for the demand for public parks into the future.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Morton Vale Planning District.

Table 59: Morton Vale future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	N/a						
2026	N/a						
2031	A deficiency exists for both recreation and sports parks in the planning district	Upgrade Lockyer Waters Park	Recreation District	0.39ha	Embellishment	TBD	R1MV
		Upgrade Lockyer Waters Park to provide sporting opportunities based on community preference i.e Equestrian	Sport District	3.69ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1MV
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

## Additional opportunities



In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 60: Morton Vale additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	N/a	

## Future works - Morton Vale Planning District



-  Core open space (existing)
-  Other open space (existing)

## Rural South

The planning district of Rural South includes the localities of:

Junction View	Mulgowie	Blenheim
Mount Berryman	Thornton	Townson
Lawes	College View	Crowley Vale
Glen Cairn	Laidley Creek West	Laidley South
Black Duck Creek	East Haldon	Ingoldsby
Left Hand Branch	Rockside	Ropeley
West Haldon	Woodbine	

The planning district contains the Mulgowie Cricket Grounds, Centenary Park (Thornton), and Crosby Park (Townson). Additionally, residents have access to the Glen Rock State Forest.

## Population projections

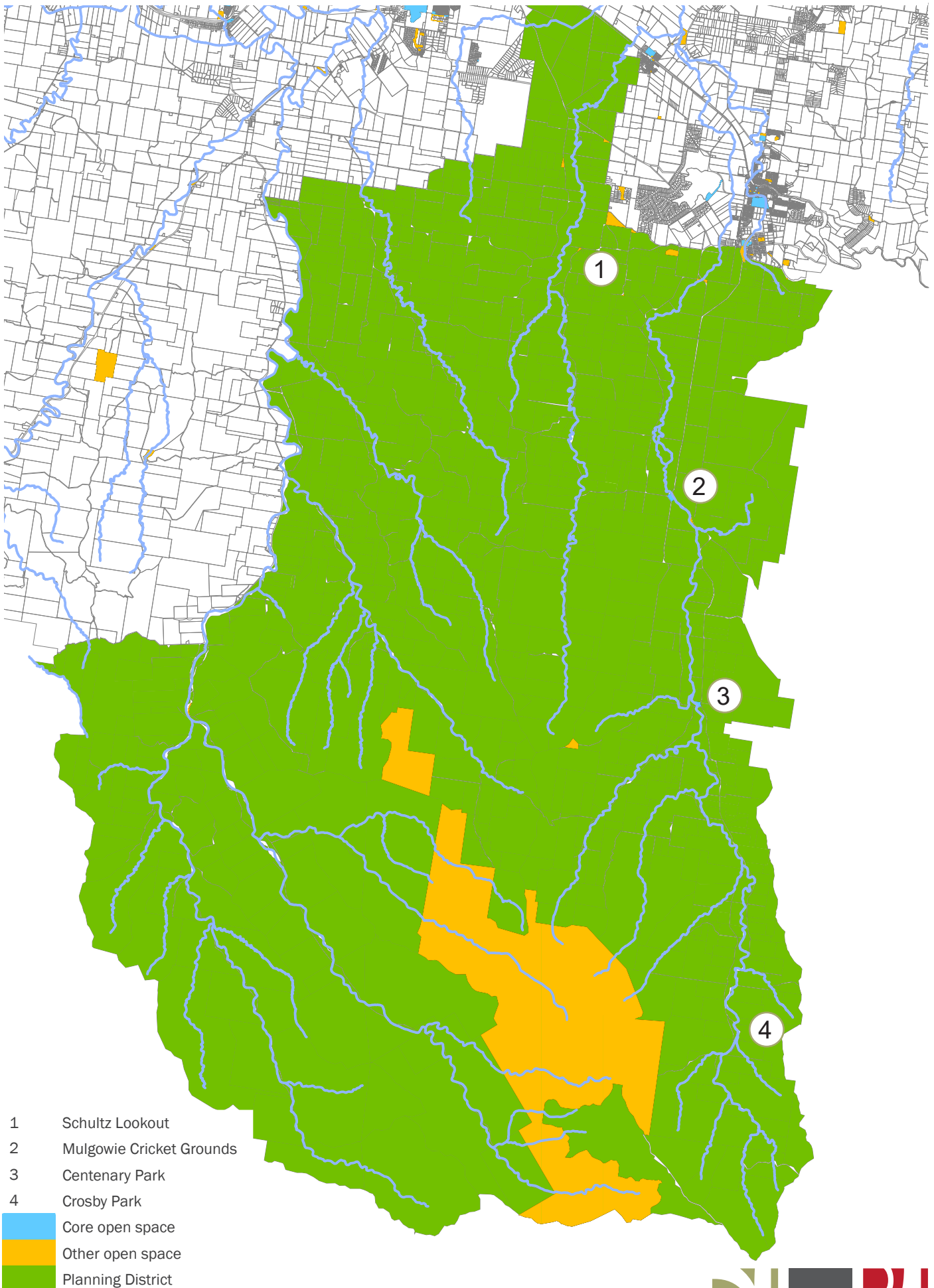
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 61: Rural South projected population

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	1,986	2,046	2,110	2,168	2,205	2,238	2,430



# Rural South Planning District - Existing Public Parks



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district provides the following provision of recreation and sports parks.

Table 62: Rural South current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name		Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Centenary Park	Camping	2.30
		Crosby Park	Camping	0.55
	District	-	-	-
	Regional	-	-	-
Sport	Civic and memorial	Schultz Lookout	-	0.07
	District	Mulgowie Cricket Grounds	-	3.31
	Regional	-	-	-
Other open space	Undeveloped	-	-	-

## Current supply - other open space

The planning district has no access to other open spaces.

Table 63: Rural South current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	-
	Indoor and aquatic	-
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	-

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

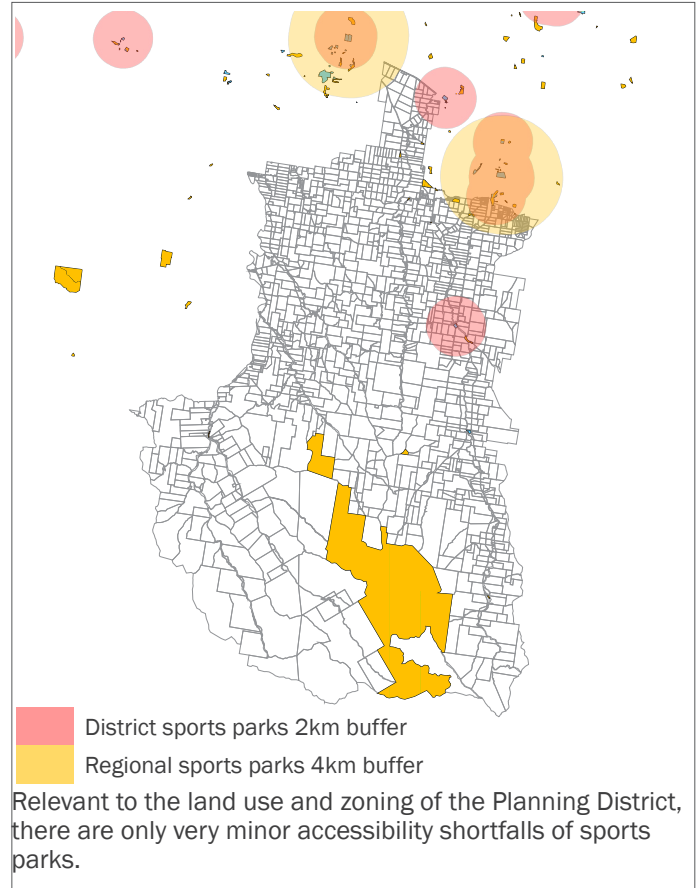
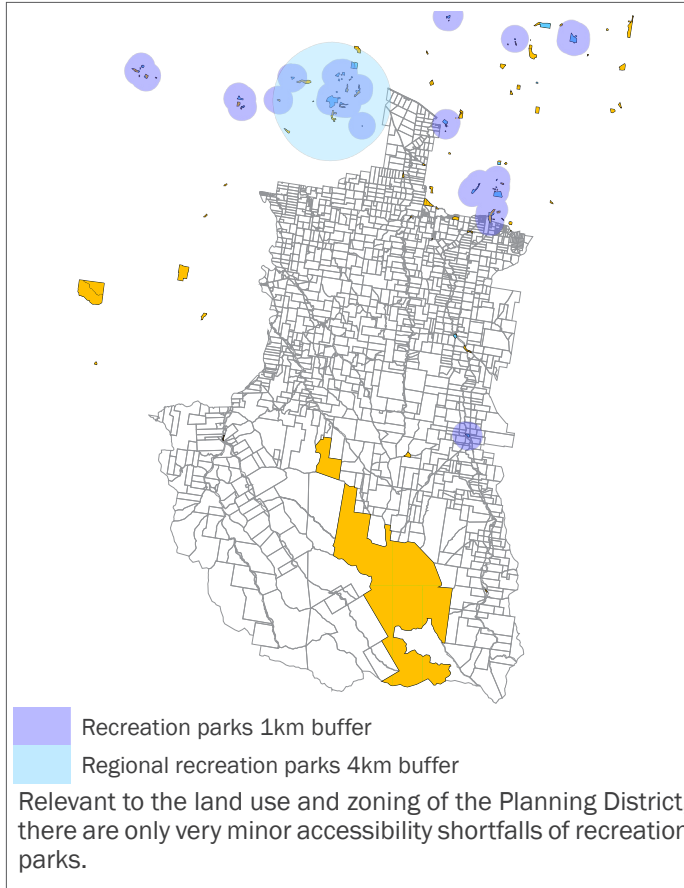
Table 64: Rural South demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)		
Recreation park	2.85	2.58	0.27	2.66	0.19	2.74	0.11	2.82	0.03	2.87	-0.02	2.91	-0.06
Sports park	3.31	3.38	-0.07	3.48	-0.17	3.59	-0.28	3.69	-0.38	3.75	-0.44	3.80	-0.49
Total core open space	6.16	5.96	0.20	6.14	0.02	6.33	-0.17	6.50	-0.35	6.62	-0.46	6.71	-0.55

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The planning district has limited population growth projected for the planning horizon. Due to the existing and proposed land uses and zoning, there are no new public parks proposed for the planning district.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Rural South Planning District.

Table 65: Rural South future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	N/a						
2026	A deficiency exists for district sports parks	Upgrade the Mulgowie Cricket Grounds	District Sport	3.31ha	Embellishment	TBD	S1RS
2031	N/a						
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

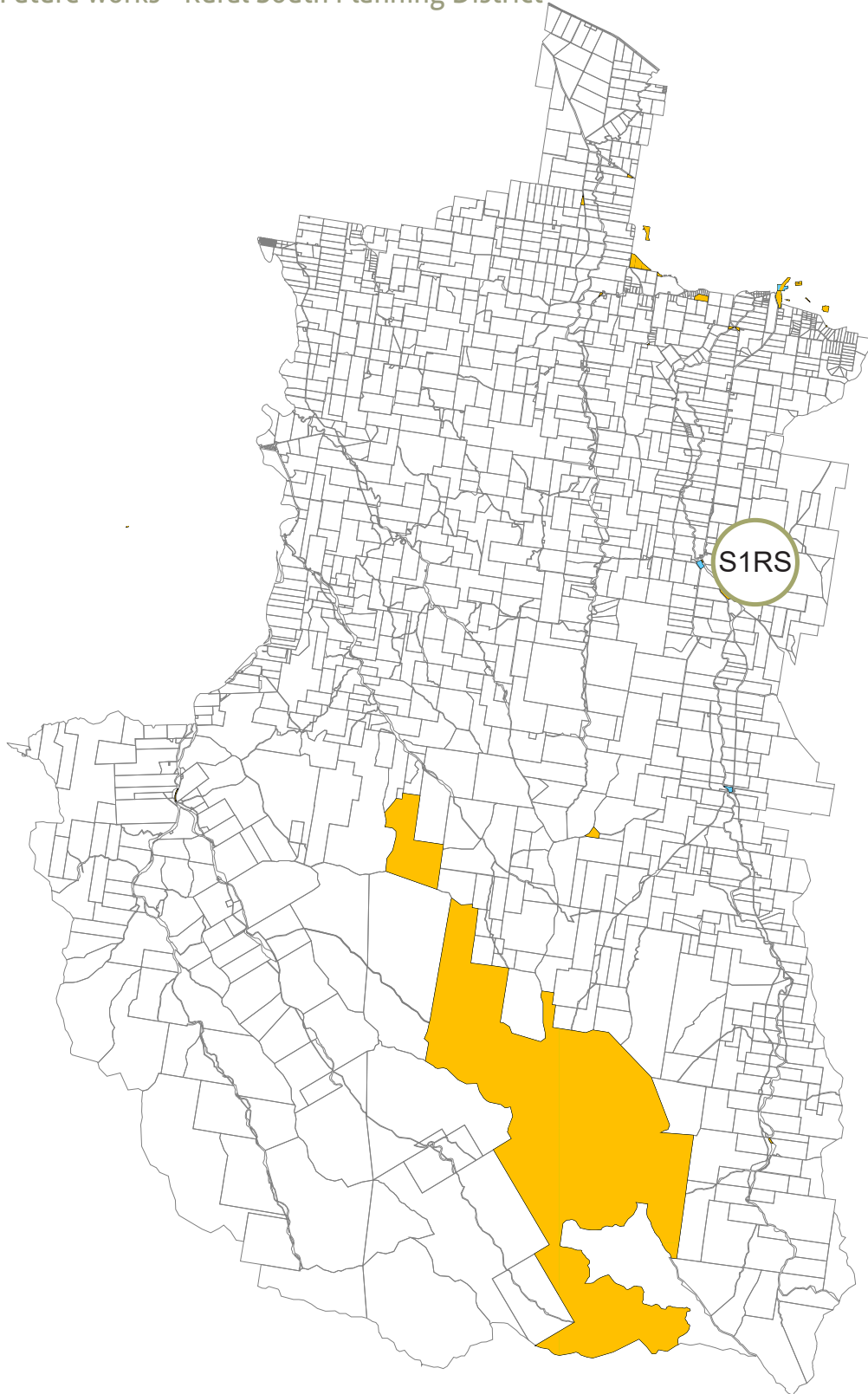
## Additional opportunities

In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 66: Rural South additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	N/a	

## Future works - Rural South Planning District





## Rural West

The planning district of Rural West includes the localities of:

Mount Sylvia	Blanchview	Carpendale
Caffey	Derrymore	Eqypt
Flagstone Creek	Fordsdale	Iredale (part)
Lilydale	Mount Whitestone	Ma Ma Creek
Preston	Rockmount	Silver Ridge
Upper Tenthill	Upper Flagstone	Veradilla
West Haldon	Stockyard	

The planning district contains two trunk public parks, Ma Ma Creek Tennis Courts and Walter Brunner Park at Preston Peak. Residents also have access to a playground at the Stockyard Creek Hall.

## Population projections

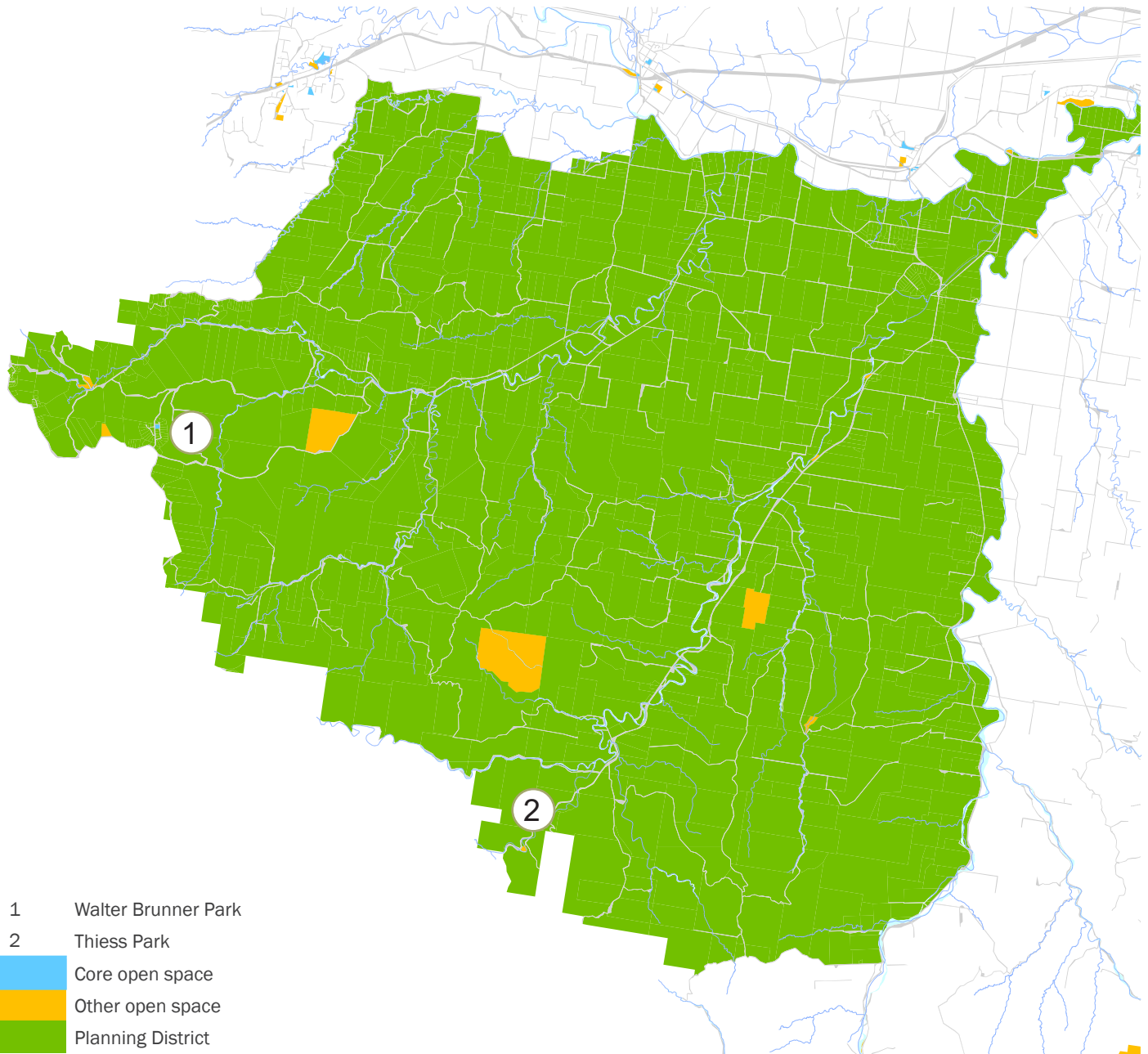
The proposed future population for the planning district to 2041 is as follows.

Table 67: Rural West projected population

Year cohort	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Ultimate
Population	1,952	1,953	1,982	2,009	2,019	2,032	2,106



# Rural West Planning District - Existing Public Parks



## Current supply - trunk parks

The planning district provides the following provision of recreation and sports parks.

Table 68: Rural West current supply - trunk parks

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name	Area (ha)
Recreation	Local	Walter Brunner Park	1.32
		Thiess Park	2.01
	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-
	Civic and memorial	-	-
Sport	District	-	-
	Regional	-	-
Other open space	Undeveloped	-	-

## Current supply - other open space

The planning district provides the following other open spaces.

Table 69: Rural West current supply - other open space

Classification	Hierarchy	Park name
Other Sport	Specialised	Ma Ma Creek Tennis Courts
	Indoor and aquatic	-
	Private	-
Other open space	Rest Stop	Near Preston Peak Wines

## Demand and gap assessment

Using the desired standard of service for land supply of 3ha/1,000 (being 1.3ha for recreation parks and 1.7ha for sports parks), the likely demand for open space and any gaps in the current and future provision are detailed in the table below. This demand assessment is based on the land standard and population projections only.

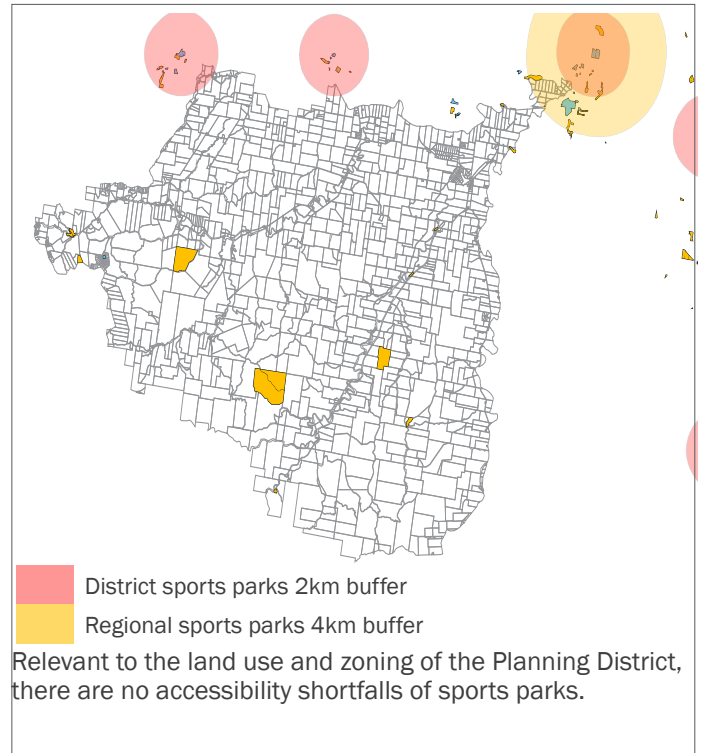
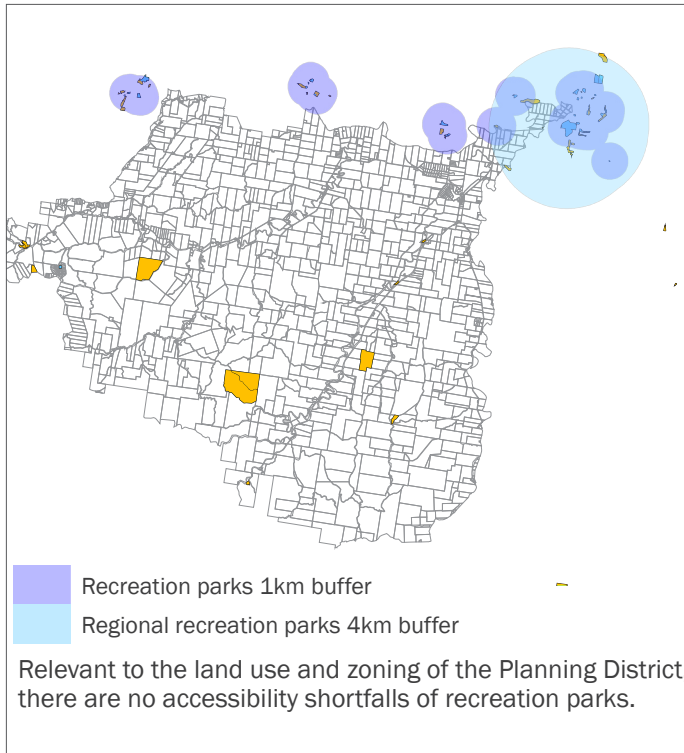
Table 70: Rural West demand and gap assessment

Classification	Current supply (ha)	Current (2016)		Future (2021)		Future (2026)		Future (2031)		Future (2036)		Future (2041)	
		Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)	Demand (ha)	Gap (ha)
Recreation park	3.33	2.50	0.83	2.54	0.79	2.58	0.75	2.61	0.72	2.62	0.71	2.64	0.69
Sports park	0.00	3.27	-3.27	3.32	-3.32	3.37	-3.37	3.42	-3.42	3.43	-3.43	3.45	-3.45
Total core open space	3.33	5.77	-2.44	5.86	-2.53	5.95	-2.62	6.03	-2.70	6.05	-2.72	6.09	-2.76

Note: Positive numbers reflect an over-supply, while negative numbers indicate an under-supply.

## Open space accessibility

The maps below indicate accessibility to the current public parks network based on the desired accessibility distances prescribed in the Desired Standards of Service.



## Analysis

The planning district has limited population growth projected for the planning horizon. Due to the existing and proposed land uses and zoning, there are no new public parks proposed for the planning district.

## Future works

The table below summarises the proposed works for trunk public parks within the Rural West Planning District.

Table 71: Rural West future works

Year	Assessment	Description	Classification and hierarchy	Functional area (ha)	Work type	Indicative embellishment cost	Map Ref
2019	N/a						
2021	N/a						
2026	N/a						
2031	N/a						
2036	N/a						
2041	N/a						

## Additional opportunities

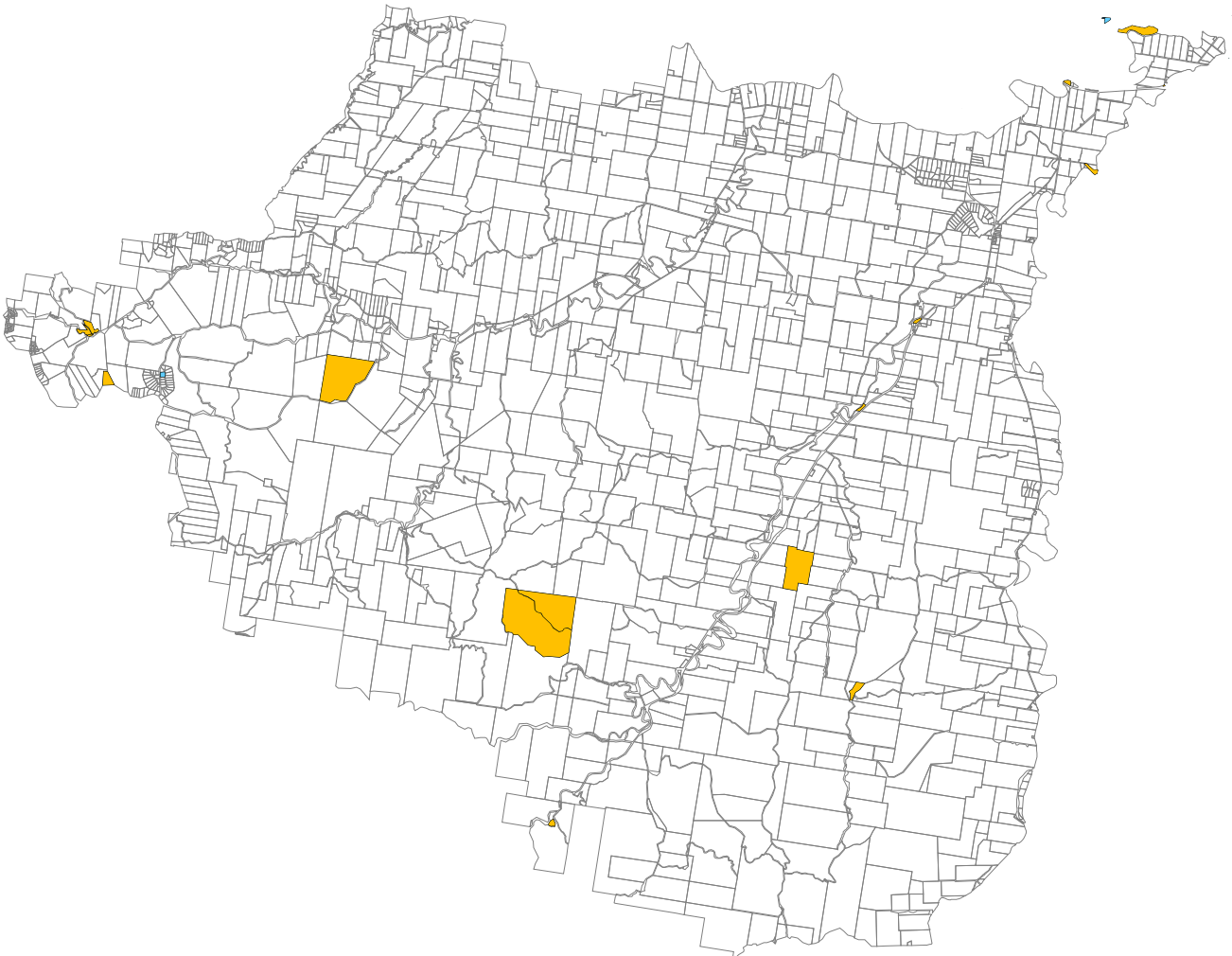
In addition to the trunk public park opportunities listed in the table above, the following opportunities exist to improve the public parks network within the planning district.

Table 72: Rural West additional opportunities

Ref	Recommendation	Detail
1	Rationalise barbecues	Some recreation parks have an over-supply of unnecessary infrastructure. Removal of barbecues at Walter Brunner Park. This infrastructure item should only be provided in district and regional level 'destination' parks that provide an appealing setting to spend a couple of hours
2	Access to sports parks	Whilst the planning district has an under-supply of sports parks, residents have close access to sports parks within the Toowoomba Regional Council Area, well within the proposed accessibility buffers



## Future works - Rural West Planning District





# Future directions

This section does not attempt to tease out all of the directions highlighted within the Strategy and carried through into the key recommendations. Rather, it discusses a small number of the key fundamental issues and future directions that have surfaced throughout the consultation and community needs analysis undertaken in the Strategy.

## Council resources

Council's Parks and Open Spaces Service Management Plan (SMP) 2018 outlines the parks and open space assets provided to the community, as well as how the provision of these assets can be achieved in a sustainable and equitable manner. As outlined in this SMP the current financial year has no funding allocated for renewal of park assets. However, there is approximately \$194,000 allocated for 2020. Additionally, Council's Long Term Financial Plan provides an allowance of \$1,300,000 towards the new/upgrade capital works program.

Council's resource allocation toward public parks (both renewal and capital) is somewhat limited. While it is acknowledged that Council has achieved quality on-ground outcomes with these limited budgets, it is still considered that the community's needs are not being met. Additionally, achieving key proposed developments will also be difficult with such a limited capital budget allocation.

Given the high regard the community hold for open space, a target of 10% of total renewal and 8% for total capital budgets would be preferred (including an individual allocation for precinct planning). However, it is recognised that with budget resources stretched, additional funds may be difficult to allocate. As an alternative, an allocation may be set aside for attracting funding (matching open space and recreation grants). Many state and federal grants require council to also contribute or to match funds. If a separate budget allocation was available that could only be used as Council contribution toward attracting funding for open space development, Council may achieve more significant projects. An indicative annual allocation for this purpose would allow Council officers to seek suitable grant opportunities and to target key projects. Where grants are not successful, these funds could be absorbed into Council's wider budget or be rolled over to top-up the budget item in the following year.

## Key partnerships

While this Strategy focuses on Council-managed open space, there are opportunities for Council to work closely with other key land managers such as the Education Queensland and local schools to ensure opportunities are maximised for use of school fields, ovals and courts for club-based sport and recreation.

The use of existing local schools in key areas will assist in reducing the deficiency in public open space where minor deficiencies exist, and future population growth is limited (thus not warranting the development of a new public park).







## Appropriate embellishments

Council has had an historical focus on the provision of local recreation parks as well as an over-provision of some infrastructure types including barbecues.

There is a need to utilise Council's desired standards of service and the recommended park furniture types when developing or upgrading a public park to limit unnecessary items that are costly for Council to maintain and replace. It needs to be noted that barbecues should only be located in higher order parks that allow the community to spend a few hours of their time.

## Developer contributions

Council has a history of accepting drainage land in lieu of quality open space that can be used for recreation and sporting purposes.

Council's Planning Scheme allows for open space to be comprised of drainage reserves, drainage problem areas and wilderness areas.

There needs to be a strong commitment by Council regarding a shift in how Council negotiates and receives developer contributions. The LGIP document should act as a good guide in which to best direct future open space contributions.

## Provision of shade

Evident in the site inspections and highlighted in the community consultation outcomes is the lack of shade across the public parks network.

Although it is a costly embellishment within the public parks network, there are significant benefits to the investment, including increased usability of the network.

Research into sustainable and cost efficient types of shade need to be further investigated, however a strong commitment by Council to look at increasing shade across the public parks network is required.

## Diversification of opportunities

The public parks network should provide a diverse range of settings and opportunities that cater for the varied recreational needs of residents of all ages and abilities.

Diversity should be addressed at all levels of planning and design. At the broad network level, park settings should range across the spectrum from natural and semi-natural places to highly modified areas for organised sports. Parks should be located and designed to highlight significant local features such as waterways, hills and ridgelines.

Parks should provide a variety of settings and opportunities for formal sports and active and passive recreational opportunities. Parks that are primarily for sports activities should also include informal recreation opportunities to cater for diverse user groups.

## Key recommendations

In addition to the development of new or upgraded public parks, a number of other key recommendations have been identified for the Strategy. These are outlined in the table below.

Table 73: Public Parks Strategy key recommendations

Key recommendations	Details
Resource allocation	Ensure resource allocations reflect the maintenance and upgrade requirements necessary to sustain a quality public parks network
	Establish a dedicated CAPEX and new initiatives budget for open space
Reduction in local provision	Cease to provide local recreation parks within the Region in order to provide a higher quality of provision as well as a potential reduction in ongoing maintenance
Appropriate embellishments	Commence a program of removing identified barbecues from local recreation parks and focus on their provision in higher order destination parks
Developer contributions	Amend Council's Planning Scheme provisions to provide a stronger case against receiving developer contributions for drainage land as open space
Appropriate developments	Ensure Council doesn't seek to provide sub-regional recreation infrastructure that is already provided within an accessible distance (outside of the Lockyer Valley Region) and unaffordable for Council and the community (such as Robelle Domaine and Orion Lagoon). Similarly, Council needs to recognise the proximity of the Toowoomba Regional Council area to a large proportion of the Lockyer Valley Region's residents, and the recreation and sporting facilities provided
Shade	Seek to install appropriate shade in key recreation parks to improve the usability of the existing recreation infrastructure
Diversity of opportunities	Recognise the diversity of activities sought by the community and investigate additional recreation opportunities such as outdoor recreation and utilisation of linear corridors for informal activities. This includes encouraging the community to engage more with the creeks and waterways within the Region for passive recreation and outdoor recreation activities
Nature Play	Investigate the feasibility of nature play in Council managed open space to enhance the opportunities within the public parks network

## Implementation notes

In regards to the implementation of the Public Parks Strategy, the following notes are suggested:

- ▶ In addition to the implementation of the desired standards of service, there is a need to ensure that localised solutions are provided to meet the needs of individual communities. For example, the provision of traditional sports fields and courts in some communities will not be required, rather the provision of facilities that meets their individual preferences such as for equestrian facilities within the Morton Vale, Rural West and Rural South Planning Districts
- ▶ Prior to the implementation of long-term recommendations, there is a need to confirm local demand for facilities for example the proposed upgrade of the Lockyer Waters Park in 2031

## Future works summary

The following table provides a summary of the future works proposed within each Planning District.

Table 74: Public Parks Strategy future works summary

Planning District	2019		2021		2026		2031		2036		2041		Total
	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	
<b>Gatton Town</b>													
New park	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	4
Upgrade	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
<b>Helidon Hills and Grantham</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Helidon Village</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<b>Murphys Creek and Surrounds</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Withcott</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
<b>Forest Hill</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Laidley North and Plainland</b>													
New park	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	5
Upgrade	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<b>Laidley Town</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	5
<b>Morton Vale</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upgrade	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Rural South</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Rural West</b>													
New park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Upgrade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2019</b>		<b>2021</b>		<b>2026</b>		<b>2031</b>		<b>2036</b>		<b>2041</b>		<b>Total</b>
	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	Sport	Rec	
New park	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	9
Upgrade	0	3	1	8	0	4	1	4	0	1	1	0	23



## Investment plan

Based on the future works proposed within each Planning District and the costed embellishments for each park type within the Desired Standard of Service, the following table provides a summary of the investment plan required for the proposed schedule of works.

Table 75: Investment plan

Planning District	Works type	2019	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	Total
Gatton Town	Embellishment	-	200,000	-	-	300,000	-	\$500,000
	Land & Embellishment	-	1,437,655	2,500,000	3,320,635	-	2,820,635	\$10,078,925
Helidon Hills and Grantham	Embellishment	-	-	837,655	-	-	-	\$837,655
Helidon Village	Embellishment	-	380,000	80,000	-	-	-	\$460,000
Murphys Creek and Surrounds	Embellishment	-	420,000	-	-	-	-	\$420,000
Withcott	Embellishment	-	700,000	200,000	80,000	-	-	\$980,000
Forest Hill	Embellishment	-	40,000	-	-	350,000	-	\$390,000
Laidley North and Plainland	Embellishment	underway	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Land & Embellishment	500,000	3,088,290	1,637,655	4,600,000	-	-	\$9,825,945
Laidley Town	Embellishment	-	187,580	300,000	150,000	-	800,000	\$1,437,580
Morton Vale	Embellishment	-	-	-	180,000	-	-	\$180,000
Rural South	Embellishment	-	-	320,000	-	-	-	\$320,000
Rural West	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$6,453,525</b>	<b>\$5,875,310</b>	<b>\$8,330,635</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$3,620,635</b>	<b>\$25,430,105</b>

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# Appendix one

## Desired standards of service

### Recreation parks - district

District recreation parks are larger sized parks providing a range of facilities and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a wide range of users. District passive recreation parks can service several suburbs depending on population density, and are well known destinations for those people living within their catchment. Ideally, district passive recreation parks are located near social infrastructure such as schools, community centres and halls.

Table 76: DSS for recreation parks - district

DSS	Description	Standard
Quantity	Based on a hectare/1,000 people measurement	0.7ha/1,000 population
Accessibility	Distance between urban residents and open space (metres)	1,000m-2,000m Aligned to planning precincts
Land characteristics	Size	1.5ha-4ha. Minimum width 50m
	Shape	Broadly square to rectangular (or round) with the sides no greater than 2:1
	Road frontage	50% of the park perimeter to have direct road frontage
	Gradient	Maximum grade of 1:10 for 80% of the area of the park (i.e. a maximum of 20% of the land may have a greater grade than 1:10)
	Flood immunity	100 year ARI for play node infrastructure 20 year ARI for remainder
Improvements	Recreation activity area	Mix of 6-10 activity options
	Fencing	Bollard (or post and rail) fencing to perimeter
	Vehicular and pedestrian movement	Internal path loops that link to wider network Off-street car parking
	Buildings	Amenity block
	Landscaping	Park trees, irrigated garden beds
	Park furniture	Park lighting, bike rack, large park sign, water bubblers, bench seats, shaded picnic tables and shelter, rubbish bins, barbecues

## Recreation parks - regional

Like district level recreation parks, regional recreation parks are large and significant land parcels. These venues will be attractive to large groups, will be considered destination parks and may attract visitation from across the Council area. Users may be expected to stay in the park for several hours.

Table 77: DSS for recreation parks - regional

DSS	Description	Standard
Quantity	Based on a hectare/1,000 people measurement	0.6ha/1,000 people
Accessibility	Distance between urban residents and open space (metres)	4,000m+ Aligned to Council boundaries
Land characteristics	Size	ha-10ha. Minimum width 100m
	Shape	Broadly square to rectangular (or round) with the sides no greater than 3:1
	Road frontage	30-50% of the park perimeter to have direct road frontage
	Gradient	Average grade of 1:20 for main use areas, 1:50 for kick-about area, variable topography for remainder
	Flood immunity	100 year ARI for play node infrastructure and main use areas 20 year ARI for kick-about 5 year ARI for remainder
Improvements	Recreation activity area	Mix of 10-12 activity options dispersed across well defined nodes of activity. Activity options to attract a range of age cohorts
	Fencing	Bollard (or post and rail) fencing to perimeter
	Vehicular and pedestrian movement	Internal road Internal path loops that link to wider network Off-street car parking
	Buildings	Amenity block
	Landscaping	Park trees, irrigated garden beds, potential for irrigated kick-about space
	Park furniture	Park lighting, bike rack, large park sign, small park sign, directional sign, water bubblers, bench seats, shaded picnic tables and shelters, rubbish bins, large picnic nodes with barbecues and additional shelters

## Sports parks - district

District sports parks provide the vast majority of the venues for the community's formal training and club fixtures. A range of sports are catered for in these multi-use facilities including both field and court sports. Supporting facilities provided at district sports parks allow clubs to effectively operate and include amenities, clubhouse, storage, lighting and car parking.

Table 78: DSS for sports parks - district

DSS	Description	Standard
Quantity	Based on a hectare/1,000 people measurement	0.7ha/1,000 people
Accessibility	Distance between urban residents and open space (metres)	2000m
Land characteristics	Size	1.5ha-4ha
	Shape	Broadly square to rectangular. Fields and courts to be aligned north-south
	Road frontage	Minimum 25% of the park perimeter to have direct road frontage
	Gradient	Minimum 1:80 for all playing surfaces
	Flood immunity	100 year ARI for infrastructure (pavilions, lighting) 50 year ARI for playing fields
Improvements	Recreation activity area	Passive recreation node located in clear sight of key gathering areas for sport spectators
	Fencing	Bollard (or post and rail) fencing to perimeter
	Vehicular and pedestrian movement	Internal path loops that link to wider network Internal road system Car parking
	Buildings	Pavilion Amenities and storage (ideally included within the pavilion)
	Landscaping	Shade trees
	Park furniture	Park lighting, bike rack, large park sign, water bubblers, bench seats, rubbish bins



## Sports parks - regional

Regional sports parks are large facilities providing a range of quality active recreation experiences across a range of sports. Additionally, these open space types may include specialised sporting facilities such as those required for shooting sports and motor sports.

Table 79: DSS for sports parks - regional

DSS	Description	Standard
Quantity	Based on a hectare/1,000 people measurement	1ha/1,000 people
Accessibility	Distance between urban residents and open space (metres)	4,000m+
Land characteristics	Size	10ha+ (although may include smaller parcels providing specialised sporting infrastructure)
	Shape	Broadly square to rectangular. Fields and courts to be aligned north-south. Specialised facilities may require alternate shaped land (e.g. long thin ranges and overshoot areas required for some shooting disciplines)
	Road frontage	Minimum 25% of the park perimeter to have direct road frontage (specialised facilities may be an exception)
	Gradient	Minimum 1:80 for all playing surfaces
	Flood immunity	100 year ARI for infrastructure (pavilions, lighting) 50 year ARI for playing fields
Improvements	Recreation activity area	Passive recreation node located in clear sight of key gathering areas for sport spectators
	Fencing	Bollard (or post and rail) fencing to perimeter
	Vehicular and pedestrian movement	Internal path loops that link to wider network Internal road system Car parking
	Buildings	Pavilion Amenities and storage (ideally included within the pavilion)
	Landscaping	Shade trees
	Park furniture	Park lighting, bike rack, large park sign, water bubblers, bench seats, rubbish bins



# Appendix two

## Tiered approach to access and provision

A tiered hierarchy of public parks within the Lockyer Valley Region has been proposed, in order to appropriately plan for the future open space, sport and recreation needs of each community. The tiers provide detail on the level of facilities and embellishments that the community can expect, as well as indicative travel distances for the community to access additional facilities.

The sustainability of public parks must be considered in the future provision of the network, with an important component being Council's ability to fund, operate and maintain the network and assets.

Tier	Recreation Parks		Sports Parks		
	District	Regional	District	Regional	Specialised
<b>ONE</b>					
Gatton Laidley Plainland* Hatton Vale*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>TWO</b>					
Withcott Helidon Forest Hill	✓		✓		✓
<b>THREE</b>					
Glenore Grove Junction View Kensington Grove	Morton Vale Mulgowie Murphys Creek Preston	✓**		✓**	
<b>FOUR</b>					
Adare Blenheim Brightview College View Fordsdale Glen Cairn Kentville Lake Clarendon Lockrose	Lockyer Waters Lower Tenthill Ma Ma Creek Mount Whitestone Placid Hills Regency Downs Thornton Townson Upper Flagstone				✓#

\* only if the recreation park is part of a community hub (e.g. Murphys Creek Recreation Ground is part of a 'hub' made up of the sports grounds, tennis courts and community hall)

^ preferably shared use of the playground/oval at the local school (where they exist)

# only tennis courts, preferably shared use of the tennis courts at the local school (where they exist)



# Appendix three

## Access to experiences

For each planning district, the Strategy considers the location, activities (or experiences) and embellishment of existing open space facilities and preferred outcomes for that planning district (town or village) to address any demand.

The range of activities and experiences considered as key elements in the Region's public parks network include:

- ▶ play
- ▶ access to nature
- ▶ escape, break out and recreation areas
- ▶ exercise
- ▶ socialisation
- ▶ activity and hobby
- ▶ events, program and community building
- ▶ connectivity
- ▶ amenity and views
- ▶ comfort

It is recognised that not every locality will provide access to each of these experiences (especially given how small a number of the villages are). However, ensuring that each of these opportunities is, at least, available at a Region-wide level is a key component of the Strategy.



## Future public parks network - experiences

In order to determine the future public parks requirements for the Region, it is essential to determine what experiences people are looking to gain from access to public parks. The following experiences can be used to assess each planning district and local communities in order to establish the proposed network of future open space and public realms to meet the community's needs.

Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	Local community	Planning District
Play	Traditional playgrounds and play elements		
	Nature-play elements		
	Kick-about space		
Nature	Undeveloped green space		
	Natural areas		
	Waterways		
	Edible gardens		
Escape, break-out and relaxation	Lookouts		
	Shaded seating areas		
	Formal/structured gardens		
Exercise	Fields/ovals/courts (Council)		
	Fields/ovals/courts (Schools)		
	Exercise stations		
	Track, pathway and trail		
	Indoor facilities		
	Aquatic facilities		
Socialisation, activity and hobby	Skate park		
	BMX track		
	Dog off-leash area		
	Men's Shed		
	Community Garden		
	Plaza		
Events, programs and community building	Urban plaza		
	Amphitheatre		
	Gazebo/shelter		
	Lawn space		
Connectivity	Tracks and trails		
	Pathways		
	Urban plazas		
	Laneways		

Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	Local community	Planning District
Amenity and views	Public art		
	Street trees		
	Lookouts		
	Urban break		
	Greenspace		
Comfort	Public toilets		
	Outdoor showers		
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire		
	Cafes		
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails		
	Mountain biking		
	Fishing facilities		
	Boat ramps		
	Floating pontoon (canoe/kayak launching facility)		
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups		
	Table, seats and shade		
	Barbecue facilities		