



Clarence... a brighter place



Recreation Needs Analysis

March 2019





recreation
open space
and sport
specialists

Version control

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Introduction

The Recreation Needs Analysis is a strategic review of current and projected demand for sport and recreation across the City of Clarence. It examines supply and demand to identify gaps in provision of sport and recreation facilities.

This Analysis is a point in time capture of the demand for sport and recreation across the municipality, for the purpose of informing Council's future planning and investment in sport and recreation over the next ten (10) years. The strategic context of this Analysis is summarised in Appendix 4.

This project has identified previous reactive and ad hoc planning practices for sport and recreation, coupled with limited opportunities for the development of new 'greenfield' sites across the Local Government Area (LGA) due to the topography of Clarence.

This lack of forward planning for sport and recreation has resulted in increasing pressure on Council facilities to meet demand and community expectations, including their ability to cater for increased female participation in sport.

Process

The methodology undertaken to develop this Analysis included:

Background research and analysis

This stage involved undertaking a document and management arrangements review; and a demographic, recreation and sporting trends analysis.

Sport and recreation facility audit

Inspections of all relevant sport and recreation facilities were undertaken, including the development of a spatial inventory (mapping).

Consultation

Consultation was extensive and included:

- ☐ targeted interviews with clubs, associations and peak sporting bodies that operate across the LGA
- ☐ online club and community surveys
- ☐ interviews and workshops with Council staff.

Analysis of current and future demand

Data collected was analysed to identify gaps in provision, now and projected for future needs.

Draft Analysis

This Analysis draft report was developed following the above steps and the development of recommendations for the future.

Finalisation

Following a review of this draft by Council and the community, any relevant amendments will be made to produce the final Recreation Needs Analysis for Clarence City Council.

Limitations

The following limitations of the Recreation Needs Analysis are noted:

- ☐ accuracy of club membership/participation data and peak body data
- ☐ response rate to online surveys and interviews – not all sports participated in the project
- ☐ condition audit – only visual inspections were undertaken, with some facilities requiring further assessment to capture actual remaining asset life
- ☐ the changing nature of participation data - data needs to be considered over at least a three to five year period to fully understand the relevant trends
- ☐ for the purpose of this project, the document will provide broad strategic direction for each of the sports which are currently available in Clarence
- ☐ Council undertook consultation regarding the community's use of Council's parks and reserves. However, as Council has existing strategies relating to the use and development of open space (eg. Track and Track Strategy, Bicycle Strategy and Action Plan, and Tangara Trail Management Plan), these documents will provide over-arching direction to Council separate to the Recreation Needs Analysis.



Executive summary

As mentioned in the introduction, the Clarence Recreation Needs Analysis has been developed to inform Council's future planning and investment in sport and recreation over the next ten (10) years.

Community needs

The City of Clarence currently has a population of 55,659, of which Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 3.5%.

The city's population is projected to reach over 60,000 people by 2031. In this time, the proportion of people aged 65 and over will increase to 25.5%, up from 18.9% in 2016.

A community profile analysis is provided in Appendix 1.

Council received 436 responses to the community survey, with the top five recreation activities in Clarence City shown in the table below.

Activity	%
walking	73
bushwalking	45
sport	36
gardening	35
playing in the park	35
swimming (pool)	28
swimming (open water)	27
running	27

The top five community priorities focus on both improving existing facilities and developing new facilities. There is particular focus on improving the walking and cycling network.

Council received 50 responses to the club survey. Formal interviews have also taken place with upwards of 12 clubs in addition to informal discussions that took place during facility inspections.

Most clubs in Clarence have facilities that are suitable for their needs. However, the most commonly unsuitable elements include canteen/kiosk facilities, public toilets and seating/shade/water. A small number of clubs also identified that facilities currently exceed their needs.

A more detailed summary of both the community and sporting club survey is provided in Appendix 2.

Guiding principles

The Guiding Principles that are to be applied for the future provision of sport and recreation opportunities are:

- ☐ Prioritise projects that maximise use of existing assets through efficient use of sports surfaces and buildings.

- ☐ Prioritise projects that will have an immediate impact on participation growth, promote year round access and/or increase the existing capacity of sporting facilities (eg. playing surface and ancillary amenities).
- ☐ Promote projects that maximise value for money and support the needs of the Clarence community, peak sporting bodies and broader government objectives.
- ☐ Continue to identify plan for new modern sporting facilities, where the need is demonstrated.
- ☐ Future sporting facilities will be fit for purpose and promote universal design to provide inclusive opportunities for all ages, genders, cultures and abilities.
- ☐ Ensure facility development contributes to the viability and sustainability of Clarence sporting clubs.
- ☐ Identify shared facility provision and investment through strategic partnerships with local clubs, peak bodies, state agencies and all levels of government.

Facilities

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn bowls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Model aircraft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking (MTB) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket | <input type="checkbox"/> Netball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Orienteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational boating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog obedience/agility | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby Union |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> Surf Life Saving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football (soccer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Touch football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Triathlon. |

Below are observations from inspection of Council sport and recreation facilities.

Overview of facility inspections

- ☐ Playing surfaces generally in good condition
- ☐ Multiple sporting precincts require master planning
- ☐ Swimming pool and golf course require planning and investment
- ☐ Limited opportunities to develop sport at greenfield sites
- ☐ A mix of modern facilities which are contemporary and older facilities which require development

Trends

Recreation

Participation patterns in recreation are changing at a community level, toward non-organised/informal recreation activities such as walking, cycling and other outdoor recreation pursuits.

Sport

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, and the trend toward year-round sport with a number of codes, the shared use of fields is becoming difficult. Upgrades such as lighting and playing surface improvements, can allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of turf playing fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear. Increased shared use of ancillary facilities (e.g. clubhouses, carparks) is another way to address current issues and to make better use of under-utilised facilities.

A more detail analysis of the relevant sport and recreation trends is provided in Appendix 3.

Gap analysis

Clarence City Council provides an appropriate number and range of sport and recreation opportunities. The vast majority of any gaps in provision can be addressed by better utilisation of existing facilities (guided by reviewed hire conditions and master plans) and increased use of Department of Education facilities.

Given the changing participation rates of some sports, there are some instances where the primary use of current facilities should be reviewed to maximise use for summer and winter codes.

Summary of recommended actions and future directions

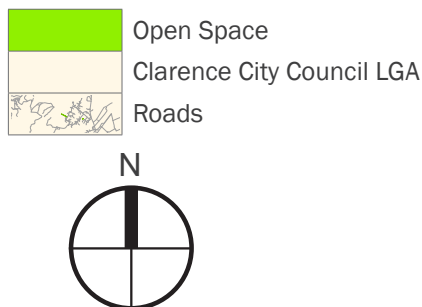
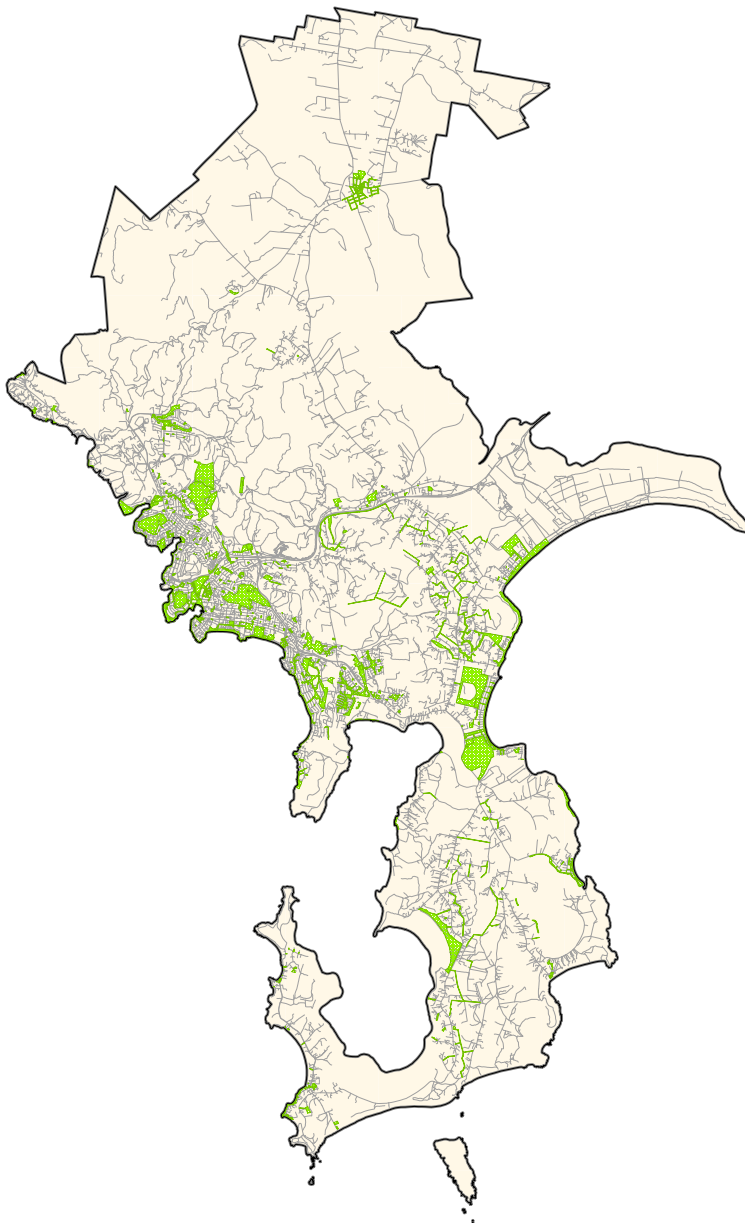
A ten year priority list of recommendations has been developed, summarised as follows:

- ☐ Prior to developing new sport and recreation facilities, review the allocation and hire of Council sporting facilities to ensure existing facilities are utilised in an efficient and appropriate manner.
- ☐ Undertake master/precinct plans for several key sites
- ☐ Develop city-wide strategies for the future provision and distribution of:
 - Indoor/aquatic facilities
 - High participation sports (AFL, Soccer and Cricket)
 - Lawn bowls and tennis
 - Skate/scooter and BMX facilities.



Recreation and sport in Clarence

Map 1. Open space in Clarence City Council LGA



Open space in Clarence

Providing open space and recreation facilities and services for the health and wellbeing of locals and visitors is an important part of what Council does.

Open space includes land and water bodies that are broadly available for public recreation, pedestrian and cycle movement, sport or for nature conservation purposes. Open space is the over-arching term for sports parks and parks.

For the purpose of this Analysis, open space has been divided into Recreation Parks and Sports Parks.

As noted in the limitations of this project (page 1), while Council's park & reserves (Recreation Parks) were considered within this Analysis, other existing strategies relating to the planning, use and development of open space will provide over-arching direction to Council separate to the Recreation Needs Analysis.

Recreation parks

Settings for passive recreation and social activities. Parks provide a range of embellishments such as play equipment, kickabout areas, skate parks, picnic facilities, formalised walks, gardens, landscaped areas, access to water bodies and car parking.

Sports parks

Designed to primarily support a range of active recreation activities for training and competition. These sports parks are designed to accommodate the playing surface and infrastructure requirements of specific sports. Free, unrestricted access to the community is provided at times when formal active recreation activities are not being conducted. Examples of sports parks include ovals and tennis courts.

The sports/activities covered by this Analysis include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn bowls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Rules Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Model aircraft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking (MTB) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket | <input type="checkbox"/> Netball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Orienteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational boating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog obedience/agility | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby Union |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> Surf Life Saving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football (soccer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Touch football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Triathlon. |

Recreation

As noted previously, while Council's recreation parks were considered within this Analysis, other existing strategies provide more detailed direction to Council, separate to this Analysis.

Parks and playgrounds

The network of parks and playgrounds offer a range of opportunities for residents in Clarence. The quality and amenity of these opportunities vary between the hierarchy of provision, from local to district and regional. Site visits conducted in the development of this Analysis revealed that Council has had some great success in executing quality parks and playgrounds.

Quality outcomes

Council has recently invested significantly in the construction of high-level regional parks including:

- ☐ Simmons Park
- ☐ Kangaroo Bay Park
- ☐ Bellerive Beach Park.



Simmons Park



Kangaroo Bay Park



Bellerive Beach Park

Pocket parks/ Single use play

Council has acquired a number of less functional parks via subdivision and/or reactive planning in recent decades. These parks don't offer high play value; aren't accessible for people of all ages and abilities; and are often encumbered by services. In future small single use play spaces (ie. pocket parks) are not recommended as they offer little value to the community and require ongoing maintenance. Some examples of this are:

- ☐ Glebe Hill
- ☐ Various sites in Risdon Vale.



Asset replacement

Site visits conducted in the development of this Analysis also revealed that Council has replaced some playground assets at the end-of-life rather than conducting quality planning to determine if the asset is still appropriate, in regard to meeting demand/ community expectations, or in regard to preferred location. An example of where this process may have benefited from improved planning (review of demand) is the recently replaced playground in the Geilston Bay Recreation area.



Geilston Bay Recreation Area



Geilston Bay Recreation Area

Walking and pathway network

The walking and pathway network provides significant recreation opportunities for the community to walk, jog, run and cycle. The existing network is extensive, however there are opportunities to build on it and improve connectivity. Council has worked hard to secure the Clarence Foreshore Trail (Geilston Bay to Howrah) which is 14.5km long and represents a significant achievement. There are currently 26 short walks under 2.5 hours and six long trails listed on Council's website.



Kangaroo Bay Park



Clarence Foreshore Trail - Kangaroo Bay

Skate, scooter, BMX facilities

Skate, scooter and BMX facilities offer significant recreation opportunities to residents and young people in Clarence. While many facilities are labelled skate parks, in reality they also provide for people on scooters and BMX bikes. There are currently seven skate parks in the Clarence LGA:

- ☐ Kangaroo Bay Skate Park (regional)
- ☐ Lauderdale Skate Park (local)
- ☐ Clarendon Vale Skate Park (local)
- ☐ Geilston Bay Skate Park (local)
- ☐ Richmond Skate Park and BMX track (local)
- ☐ Risdon Vale Skate Park (local)
- ☐ Rokeby Skate Park (local)
- ☐ Clarence Mountain Bike Park (regional).

These facilities can be classified into a hierarchy from local to district and regional. The Kangaroo Bay Skate Park has been identified as the best in the Tasmania by Southern Tasmania Skateboarding Association. It is a regional-level facility that draws visitors from a larger catchment than smaller parks.

Smaller skate parks such as Risdon Vale and Geilston Bay offer local-level experiences. These parks still need to offer a mix of elements that are different to other local facilities in the area.

Moving forward, a number of district parks may be developed to replace local facilities at Lauderdale, Rokeby and Clarendon Vale. Modern skate park designs incorporate an element of flow and offer variety in slopes, height and features, with extensive consultation with users underpinning the design process.

To ensure a strategic approach to the provision of these popular facilities, it is recommended that Council undertake a dedicated Skate, Scooter and BMX Strategy, to guide future planning and development.



Kangaroo Bay Skate Park



Kangaroo Bay Skate Park



Clarendon Vale Skate Park



Lauderdale Skate Park

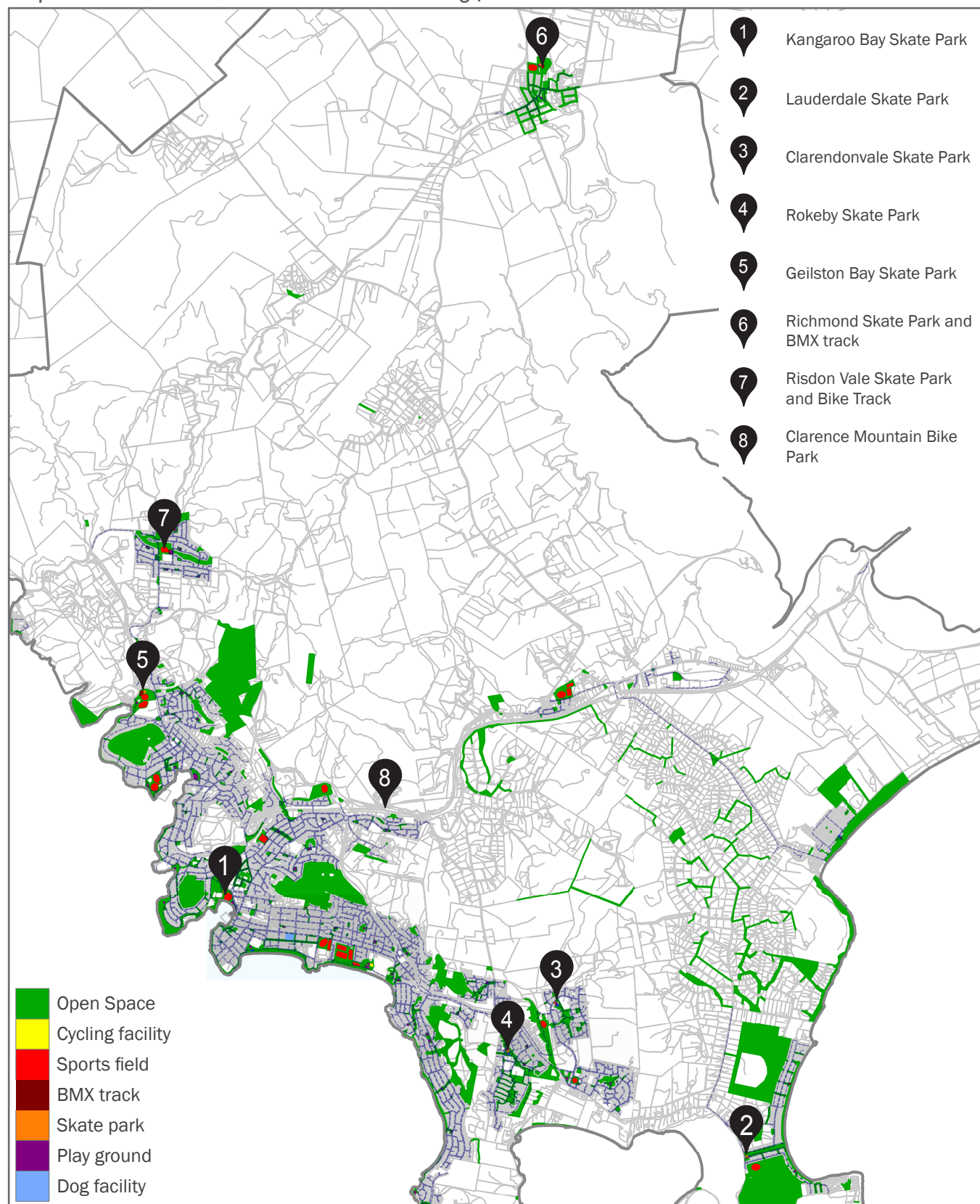


Richmond BMX



Richmond Skate Park

Map 2: Skate, scooter, BMX and mountain biking facilities in Clarence



Sports

A detailed analysis of sports participation data and facility needs has highlighted trends and themes relevant to Clarence:

- ☐ Clarence is home to a suitable range and variety of sporting opportunities
- ☐ Participation in sport is changing with some sports declining in popularity as opposed to growth in other codes, while overall, participation in organised, formal sport is not as popular as unorganised, informal active recreation
- ☐ The quality and condition of sporting surfaces and facilities is adequate to service the basic needs of community sport
- ☐ There is growth in female participation in non-traditional sports (AFL, Cricket and Soccer)
- ☐ A number of existing facilities are under-utilised
- ☐ There is an under-supply of indoor sports courts across the City of Clarence
- ☐ Local clubs have noted hardship attracting /retaining volunteers
- ☐ Membership/subscription fees and the cost of running a club are increasing, with an influx of organisations contacting Council noting financial hardship.

The sports below have been reviewed to inform the Recreation Needs Analysis:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn bowls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Rules Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Model aircraft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking (MTB) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket | <input type="checkbox"/> Netball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Orienteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational boating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog obedience/agility | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby Union |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> Surf Life Saving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football (soccer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Touch football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Triathlon. |

The following section provides a detailed overview for each of the codes to inform future planning and development.



Archery

Membership considerations

There is one archery club operating within the Clarence LGA, the Hobart Archers Inc (HA), located at Roscommon Reserve, Lauderdale.

Current membership includes 29 junior and 60 senior archers, with the Club looking at increasing membership through continuing the provision of regular beginner sessions on Saturdays. HA currently cater for people with a disability and is also looking at increasing participation for these members. It also caters for school and community use.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
89	Stable	0.16%

Provision

The facility is licensed by the Club and is considered the best venue in Tasmania for archery.

The facility caters for target, clout and field archery and HA have future plans to undertake facilities development to improve opportunities for Para Archery.

With the sport being highly weather dependent, HA have proposed an indoor facility to allow activities in adverse conditions. The Hobart Archers have long term aspirations to develop the facility to a standard to enable national events. Such a development would service the current and future needs of the sport in Clarence.

Current facilities

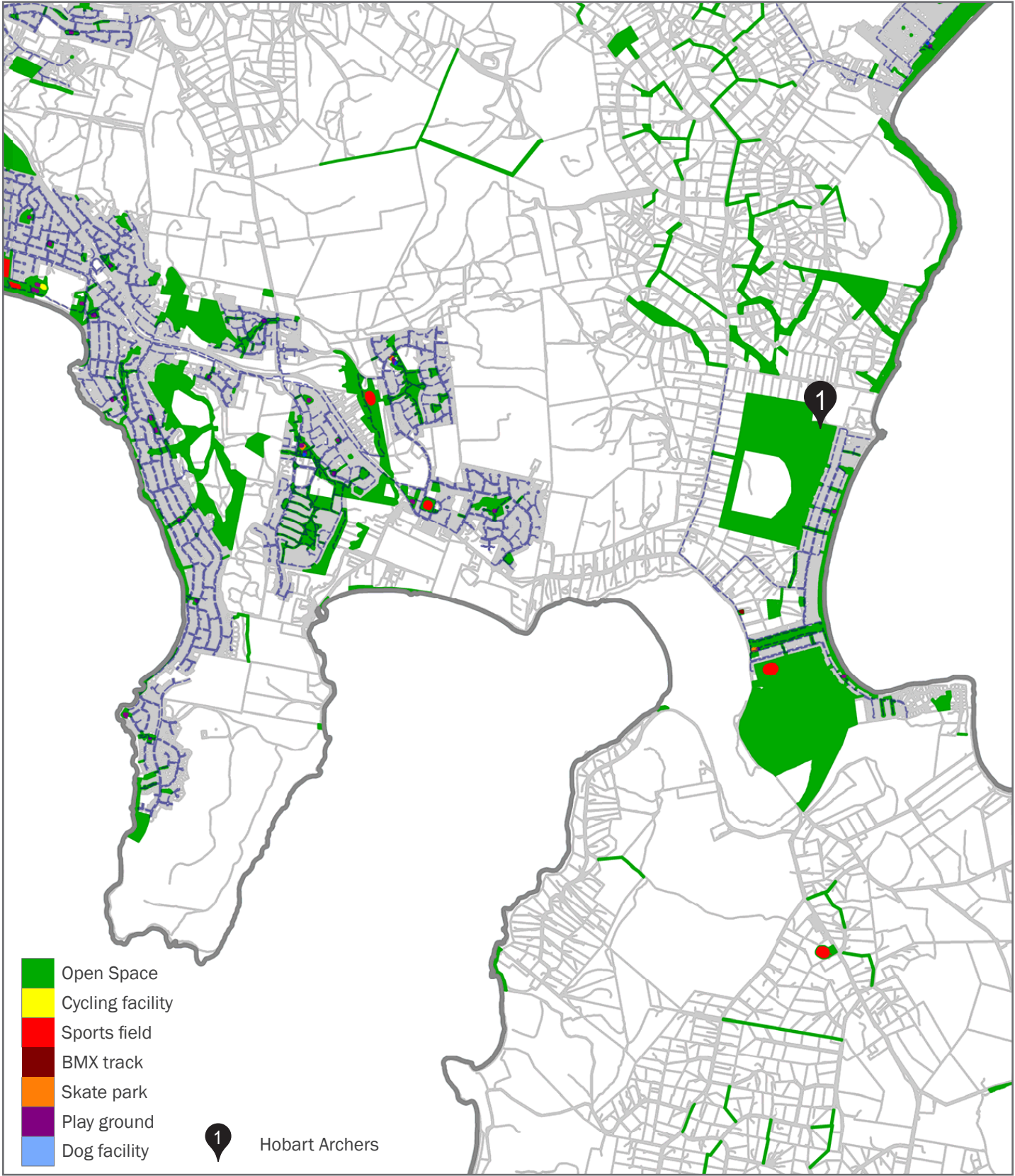
The archery facility is located at Roscommon Reserve, with the overall site (120ha) shared with the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre. However, for obvious reasons, the two activity areas are distinctly separate.

Facilities utilised by the Club include:

- ☐ Small but functional clubhouse
- ☐ Target (various range distances), clout and field archery areas
- ☐ Storage containers.



Map 3: Archery facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- Undertake a Facility Develop Plan to guide future development of Roscommon, with key areas for consideration to include, but not be limited to:
 - existing Equestrian Centre infrastructure
 - future needs of the Hobart Archers
 - other possible uses/users.

Recommended actions

- Ensure that any developments at the Roscommon site reflect the state/national level of both archery and equestrian facilities and be planned accordingly.

Athletics

Membership considerations

Clarence is home to two athletics clubs, Clarence Little Athletics Club (CLAC) based at Clarence High School, and Eastern Suburbs Athletic Club, which operate from the Domain Athletic Centre (Hobart).

The CLAC is the second largest of its type in the state. As with most athletics clubs, the CLAC experiences spikes in participation at types of international events (such as the Olympics), but overall membership is steady with typical fluctuations of +/- 10%. Unfortunately for the sport, it suffers more than most sports with drop-off rates after the junior ranks

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
239	Stable	0.43%

Provision

The current facility is of a high standard and has capacity for future growth in club membership.

It should be noted that participants in Little Athletics traditionally travel to venues/clubs due to their specific nature and to access highly regarded coaches and training facilities, as is the case with the CLAC.

CLAC share the facility with cricket during the summer period, and with AFL during the winter season. CHS have exclusive access to ovals during school hours.

Given the regional nature of the facility, and its ability to cater for future growth, no further athletics facilities are required within the LGA.

Peak body input

Athletics Tasmania were contacted as part of the Analysis, however, no comment was provided regarding the current and future provision of Athletics in Clarence.

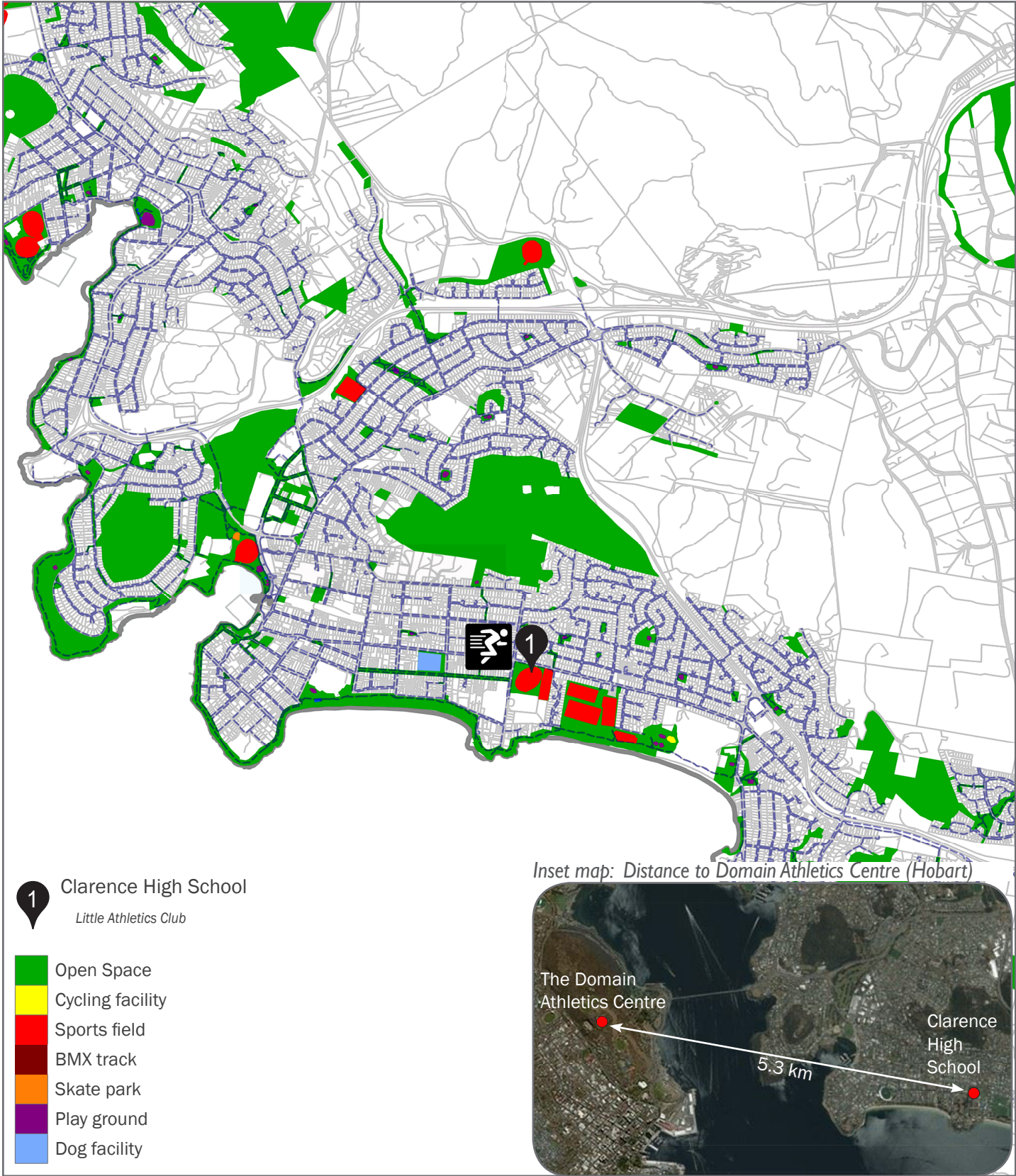
Current facilities

The athletics facility is located at Clarence High School. It is a modern athletics facility including:

- ☐ modern two-storey pavilion
- ☐ 400 metre grass track (only of its kind in Southern Tasmania)
- ☐ 100 metre straight
- ☐ long jump pit
- ☐ field infrastructure
- ☐ field lights.



Map 4: Athletics facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Support the club to continue to operate from Clarence High School and maintain as the City's preferred athletics facility
- ☐ Continue to monitor the club's membership and facility needs.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Mend the gate of the long jump pit
- ☐ Enable use of field lighting for early season events.

Australian Rules Football

Membership considerations

There are 8 AFL clubs within the Clarence LGA including:

- ☐ Clarence Junior Football Club (358)
- ☐ Clarence District Football Club (128)
- ☐ Lauderdale Football and Sports Club (517)
- ☐ Lindisfarne Junior Football Club (311)
- ☐ Lindisfarne Football Club (153)
- ☐ Lindisfarne Masters Football Club (69)
- ☐ Richmond Football Club (128)
- ☐ OHA Football Club (80)

The Clarence municipality has one of the highest AFL participation rates in the state. In recent years, the LGA has experienced growth in junior and female football, while senior men's participation has remained stable.

Clubs competing in higher level competition (ie. state wide league) noted the additional financial obligations to complete in this league.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
1,744	Growth	3.13%

Provision

Council facilities have varying levels of use with some ovals nearing capacity (eg. ANZAC Park and Lauderdale Oval); other ovals are under-utilised (Richmond Oval and Geilston Bay Ovals); or are not currently used for AFL (Risdon Vale and Cambridge Memorial Ovals).

Clubs generally expressed a need for access to ovals for pre-season training. This is challenging for Council as the majority of facilities are in use for cricket over the summer period. Council is encouraged to review current hire practices relating to pre season training requirements for summer and winter codes.

Risdon Vale Oval has the capacity to be developed for female and junior football, while North Warrane Oval would be suitable for senior level use but is not currently used for AFL.

Council has undertaken planning to develop a regional sporting precinct at Seven Mile Beach, South Eastern Regional Sport Centre to support summer and winter use, including AFL. Council was unsuccessful with a Commonwealth funding application. Council is encouraged review the priority of this proposal in conjunction with key stakeholders and co-investors (eg. State Government, AFL Tasmania and Cricket Tasmania).

Peak body input

AFL Tasmania:

- ☐ A statewide review of junior/youth football was recently released by AFL Tasmania
- ☐ Overall male participation in the sport has decreased in the past decade (junior and senior). In contrast, there has been a recent spike in female participation due to the popularity of AFLW.
- ☐ Clarence is one of the largest LGA's for AFL participation, and this is likely to continue through the coming decade.

Current facilities

Ovals

There are 9 facilities in Clarence including:

- ☐ Anzac Park (two ovals)
- ☐ Blundstone Arena
- ☐ Geilston Bay (two ovals)
- ☐ Lauderdale oval
- ☐ Richmond oval
- ☐ Clarence High School
- ☐ Cambridge oval (not used for AFL)
- ☐ Risdon Vale oval (not used for AFL)

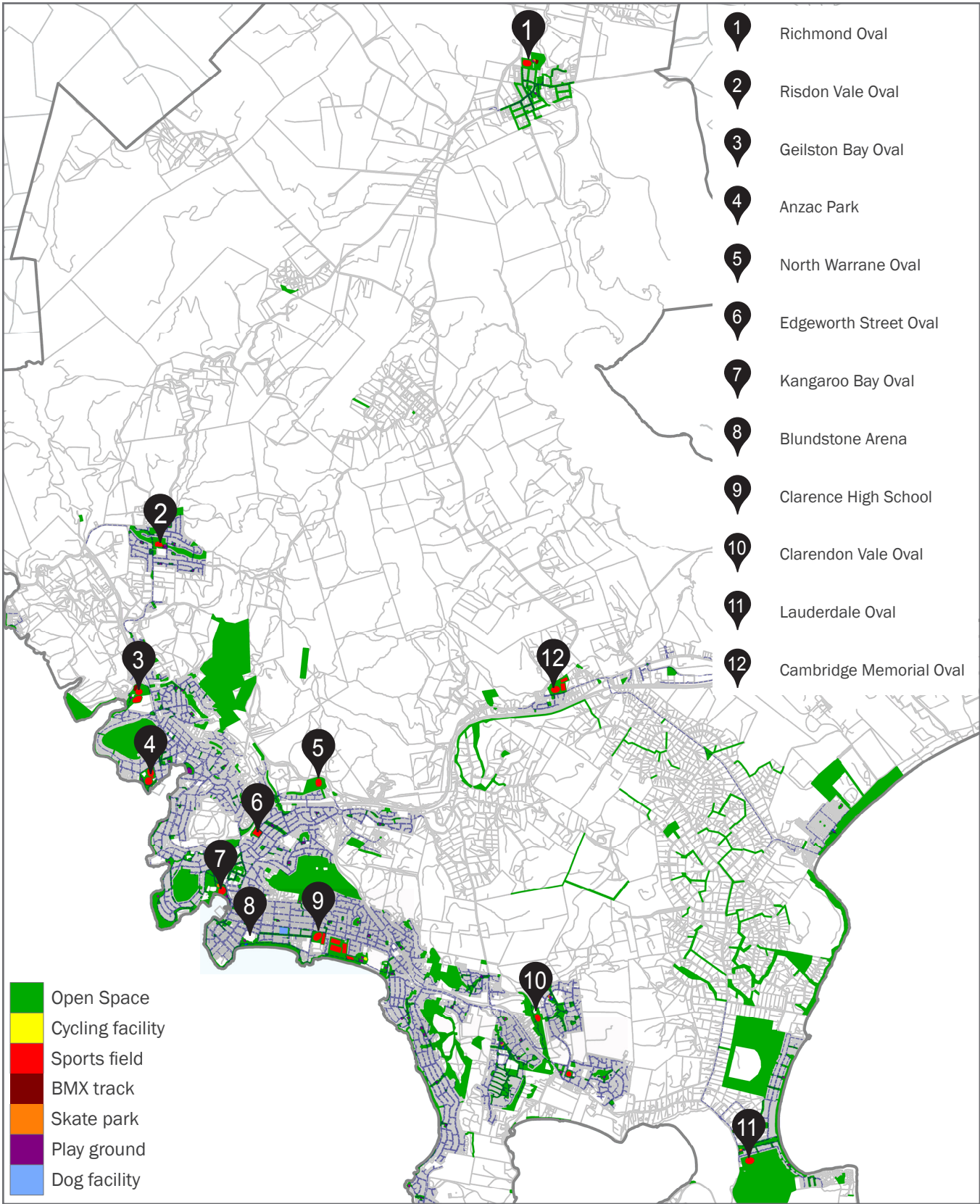
Overall, playing fields for the sport are in good condition, with some surfaces suffering wear and tear issues towards the end of the winter season.

Schools with ovals

- ☐ Bayview Secondary College
- ☐ Clarence High School
- ☐ Howrah Primary School
- ☐ Lindisfarne North Primary School
- ☐ Montague Bay Primary School

Bayview Secondary College has the potential to be developed for community level sport including AFL. Council is encouraged to undertake planning to test the demand for a regional sporting precinct in the Clarence Plains catchment.

Map 5: Australian Rules Football facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Continue to monitor membership trends and facility requirements of all clubs
- ☐ Review Council hire and allocation practices relating to AFL
- ☐ Maximise use of existing facilities such as Geilston Bay Ovals, Richmond Oval and Clarence High School
- ☐ Facility development to be consistent with AFL Community Facilities Guidelines and seek co-investment in facility development
- ☐ Work with AFL Tasmania to understand the new strategic framework for the delivery of community football
- ☐ For future sporting precincts, seek to provide at least two AFL ovals as a minimum footprint

Recommended actions

- ☐ Undertake planning to develop Bayview Secondary College, as a regional sporting precinct including AFL.
- ☐ Develop Risdon Vale Oval for junior and senior women's use
- ☐ Resolve pre season training access through greater use of Council facilities and/or additional use of Department of Education facilities
- ☐ Undertake a master plan of Geilston Bay sporting precinct to cater for community sport
- ☐ Finalise Anzac Park Master Plan, including the upgrade of the football pavilion
- ☐ Review Council's position regarding the proposed regional sporting precinct at Seven Mile Beach

Basketball

Membership considerations

Clarence United Basketball Association (CUBA) is the peak body for administering the sport on the eastern shore.

CUBA has experienced continual growth in participation in recent seasons with this trend expected to continue.

The Association expects to have approximately 900 players in 2018, with Basketball Tasmania reporting 578 participants for 2017.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
900	Growth	1.62%

Provision

Current facilities do not cater sufficiently for current or future demand for basketball.

The Warrane Sports Centre is a one court facility that has undergone cosmetic improvements over recent years. Although the venue itself well presented and maintained (considering its age), the single court facility can not cater for current, let alone future, demand and is at capacity.

The Clarence Sports Centre is a non-Council facility, managed by the National Fitness Southern Recreation Association (NFSRA). The venue has two court and is also at capacity during peak periods. Council understands the facility is approaching end of life. With its location adjacent to the aquatic centre, there is potential to develop an integrated leisure precinct that could provide a range of indoor sport and recreation and aquatic opportunities.

It is noted that both facilities are non-compliant due to court run offs and not being of a modern standard for basketball and/or other indoor sports.

A new, multi-court development is proposed for the Western Shore (Glenorchy) and it's also understood that an indoor sporting facility is being considered within the Sorell municipality (Pembroke Park). Even with consideration of these possible developments, the City of Clarence may still need a multi-court facility to replace the current facilities, and provide for the growth of basketball (and other indoor sports and recreation activities).

Peak body input

Basketball Tasmania:

- ☐ Clarence has 10% of state's participation, but is under-supplied in regard to courts
- ☐ Growth in participation in Clarence is likely to continue
- ☐ Basketball Tasmania's main infrastructure priority is the development of a multi-court indoor facility adjacent to the Derwent Entertainment Centre.

Current facilities

Warrane Sports Centre

The Centre is leased from Council by the South Tasmanian Basketball League. Facilities include:

- ☐ 1 court (non-compliant)
- ☐ Court-side spectator seating
- ☐ Mezzanine multi-purpose area
- ☐ Meeting room
- ☐ Administration offices
- ☐ Toilets and change.

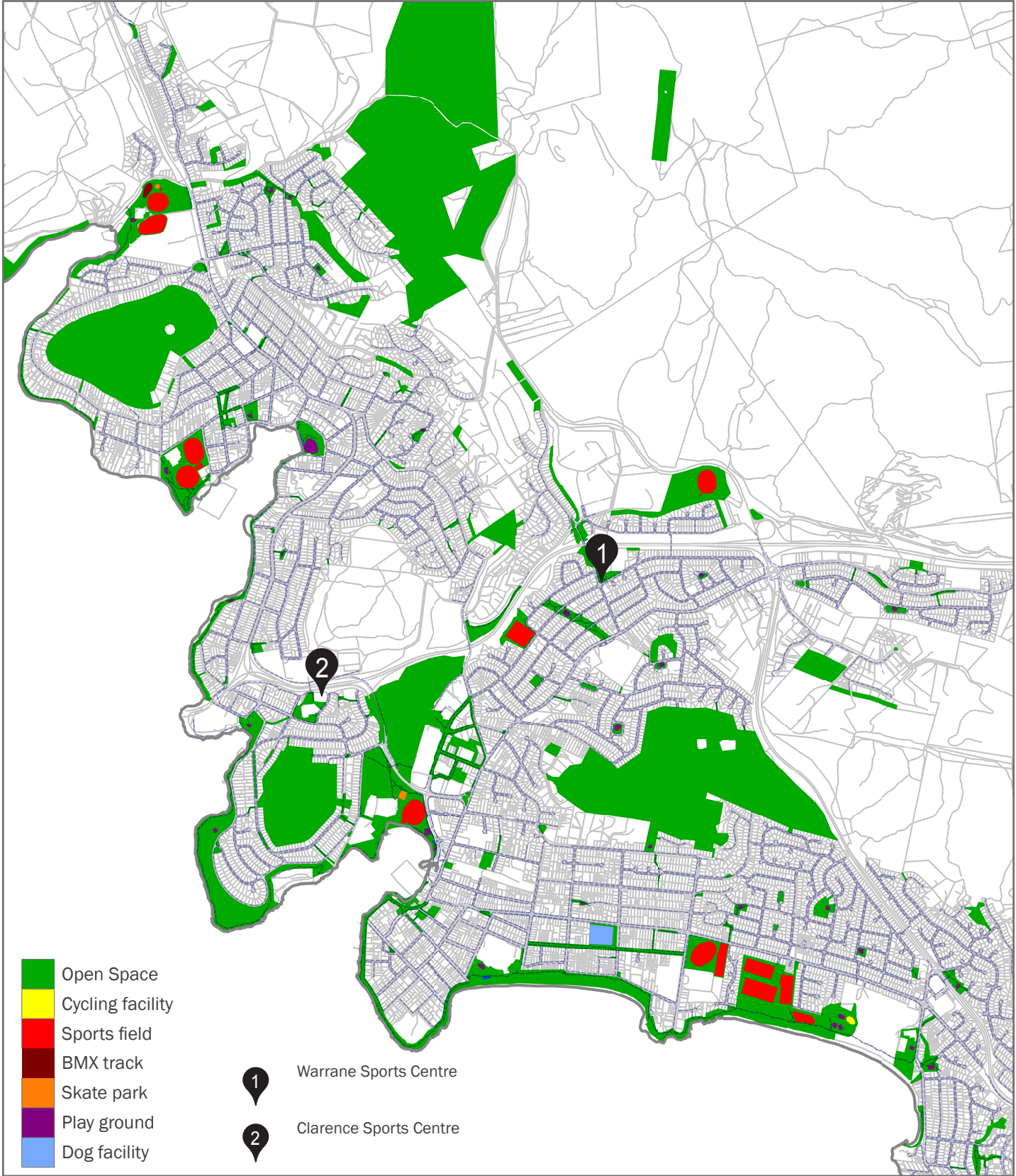
Clarence Sports Centre

This is a non-Council managed by the National Fitness Southern Recreation Association. Facilities include:

- ☐ 2 multi-purpose courts
- ☐ Mezzanine multi-purpose area
- ☐ Spectator seating
- ☐ Table Tennis Hall (converted from previous squash courts)
- ☐ Small kitchenette/ kiosk
- ☐ Meeting room
- ☐ Toilets and change.



Map 6: Basketball facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ❑ Undertake a feasibility study regarding the provision of indoor sporting across the LGA and Eastern Shore. Considerations should include, but not be limited to:
 - existing facilities and proposed developments in neighbouring areas (such as Derwent Entertainment Centre and Pembroke Park)
 - the integration of aquatic and indoor sports facilities where possible
 - determination of demonstrated demand
 - population projections (i.e. identified growth areas)
 - review of Council's aquatic facilities could be included in the scope of this study.

Recommended actions

- ❑ Continue to support the operations of the Warrane Sports Centre
- ❑ Investigate options to utilise Department of Education indoor sporting facilities
- ❑ Maintain current levels of asset management practices in regard to the Warrane Sports Centre.

Cricket

Membership considerations

Within the Clarence LGA, there are 2 premier league clubs:

- ☐ Clarence District Cricket Club (381)
- ☐ Lindisfarne Cricket Club (363)

There are also 8 clubs participating in the Southern Cricket Association competition:

- ☐ Derwent CC (60)
- ☐ Hobart CC (33)
- ☐ MacKillop Belts CC (56)
- ☐ Montagu Bay CC (63)
- ☐ Richmond/Cambridge CC (70)
- ☐ Rokeby CC (35)
- ☐ Sandford CC (33)
- ☐ St Aidans CC (100).

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
1,194	Growth	2.15%

Provision

Although Cricket Tasmania has identified an under-supply of turf wickets across Southern Tasmania, there are opportunities to ensure that provision across the Clarence LGA is well positioned to cater for current use and future growth.

Especially in regard to junior cricket, local schools could be better utilised to provide appropriate facilities, without the need to acquire further land. Council is encouraged to liaise with the Department of Education to identify suitable sites.

Existing facilities such as ANZAC Park, Clarence High School and Geilston Bay Oval, have the capacity to cater for future use with further development at each site.

With participation growth expected to continue in the short term, Council should review the current practice of making facilities available to clubs based outside of the Clarence LGA, sometimes to the detriment of local clubs. This could be addressed by reviewing allocation practices for the hire of Council facilities.

Council currently maintains two turf pitches within the LGA, and does so to a high standard. The full financial and operational implications of this practice should be reviewed, and if it is to continue (or indeed expand), the appropriate budgets should be made available.

Peak body input

Cricket Tasmania:

- ☐ has advised of an under-supply of turf wickets across southern Tasmania, with their preferred provision rate being 2 turf wickets/Premier League Club
- ☐ there is a need to identify a new site to develop synthetic pitches and training facilities
- ☐ the proposed Seven Mile Beach Precinct could provide an overflow oval on the Eastern Shore
- ☐ the current growth in participation is expected to continue, primarily in youth/junior and female cricket
- ☐ there is a need for universal design principles to be applied for new and existing facilities.

Current facilities

Fields

- ☐ Bellerive Oval (leased to Cricket Tasmania)
- ☐ Cambridge Memorial Oval
- ☐ Clarendon Vale Oval
- ☐ Gielston Bay Oval
- ☐ Kangaroo Bay Sports Ground
- ☐ Anzac Park
- ☐ North Warrane Oval
- ☐ Richmond Oval
- ☐ Risdon Vale Oval
- ☐ Sandford Oval

The existing cricket fields across the LGA are generally in good condition, with Anzac Park and Kangaroo Bay Oval, Council's premier cricket facilities.

It was noted that playing surfaces at Kangaroo Bay Oval and ANZAC Park only meet the minimum standard (65m boundary) and can't be increased to the recommended distance (75m boundary).

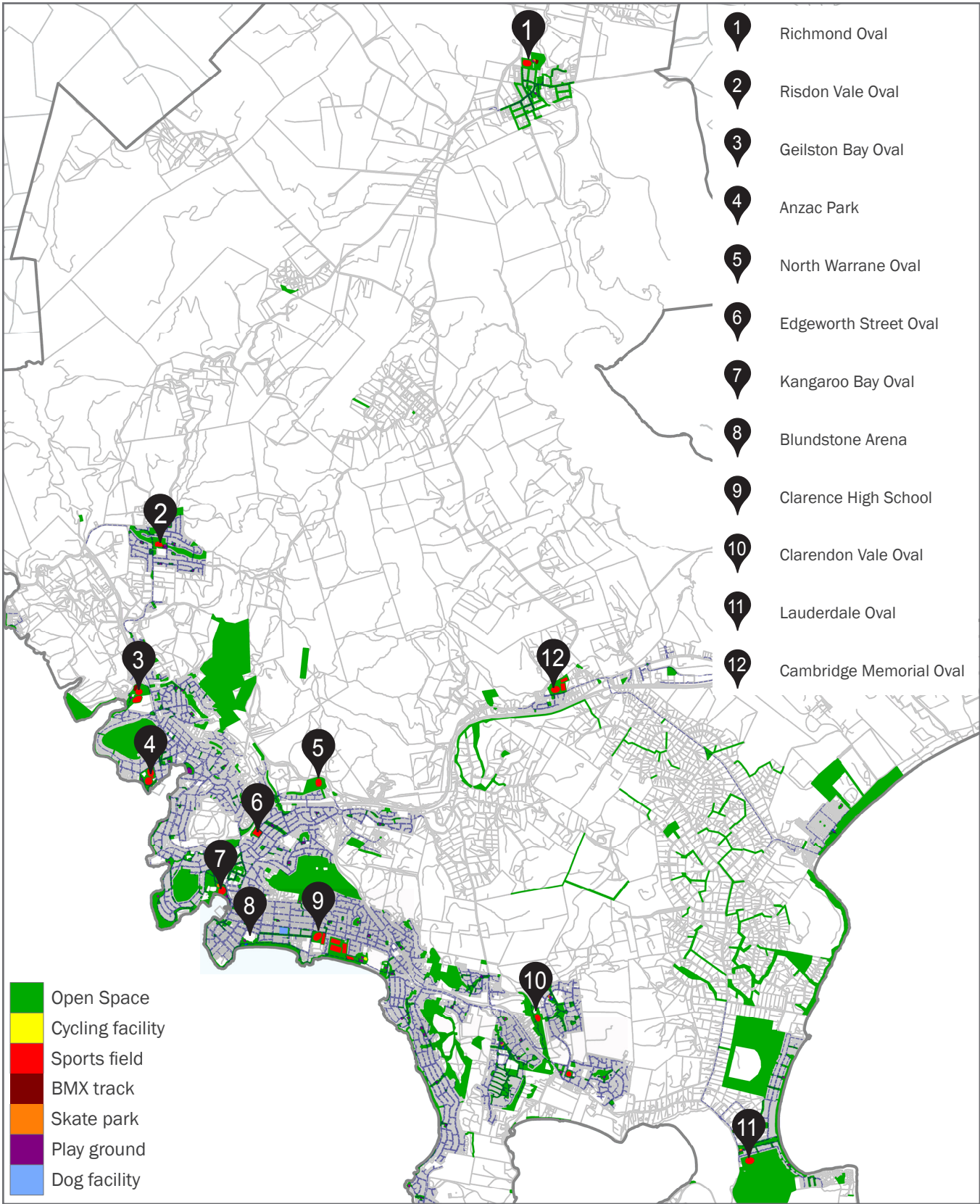
Ancillary facilities

The vast majority of cricket fields are accompanied by more than adequate ancillary facilities such as pavilions, practice nets, canteens and car parking.

It should be noted that training facilities at ANZAC Park are less than functional due to the number of nets available (turf & synthetic), the orientation of the facilities, and the lack of separation from the tennis facility.

In addition, training facilities at Kangaroo Bay Oval (turf and synthetics) are at capacity, with no opportunity for further development at the site.

Map 7: Cricket facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Future upgrades/new facilities to be undertaken in accordance with Cricket Australia facility guidelines, especially in regard to the development of female friendly facilities
- ☐ Seek opportunities to identify new locations to develop synthetic and turf cricket facilities
- ☐ Review hiring agreements to give priority to locally based clubs
- ☐ Review Council's role in regard to the maintenance of turf wickets
- ☐ Liaise with the Department of Education (DoE) in regard to utilising DoE land for the development of future facilities

Recommended actions

- ☐ Finalise the ANZAC Park Master Plan and ensure future development is functional and code compliant (eg. orientation of cricket nets).
- ☐ Undertake planning to develop Bayview Secondary College, as a regional sporting precinct including Cricket.
- ☐ In conjunction with the Department of Education, Investigate opportunities to:
 - develop junior/synthetic training facilities at Clarence High School
 - develop a junior sports precinct at Rokeby Primary School

Croquet

Membership considerations

The Eastern Shore Croquet Club is the only croquet club within Clarence. The Club is located at 61 South Street, Bellerive, and has been operating from the site since 1974.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
68	Stable	0.12%

Provision

There is one croquet facility located within Clarence which is sufficient for current and future participation levels of the sport.

The club has aspirations to relocate to an alternate site with four courts and a new pavilion proposed. Four courts will allow the club to host state and national level events. There is limited land available within the Clarence LGA to develop such a proposal.

The club are currently engaged in discussion with State Government regarding an unembellished parcel of land close to the existing facility.

Peak body input

Croquet Tasmania:

- ☐ there are 400 players statewide, serviced by 10 clubs
- ☐ in general, there is an under supply of lawns in southern Tasmania.

Current facilities

- ☐ 2 lawns
- ☐ club house facility
- ☐ small number of off-street car parks

The two lawns are in good condition, located on different levels within the site and with attractive gardens and landscaping.

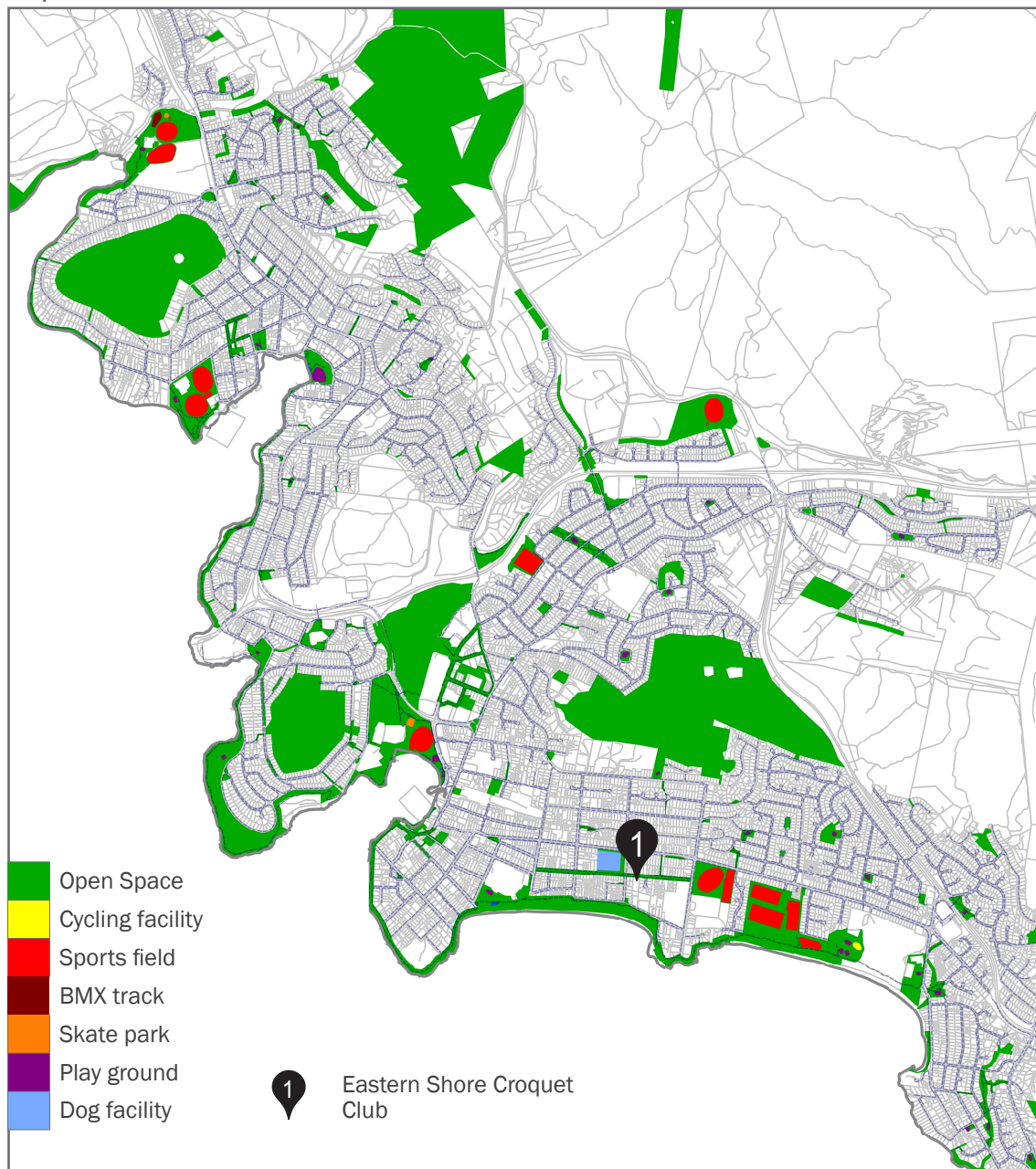
The clubhouse is neat and functional, although the club has identified the need for a larger facility to accommodate the club's social activities (cards, club meetings, and social events).

The addition of lighting would allow evening/night events.

The club has been able to keep their operational costs manageable but there would be concerns if these costs, which can be significant given the nature of the playing surface, increase in the future.



Map 8: Croquet facilities in Clarence



Strategic direction

- ☐ Continue to be engaged in the Club's feasibility for possible relocation.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Work in partnership with the Club to understand planning requirements for the existing site and/or a new facility.

Dog obedience and agility

Membership considerations

The Eastern Shore Dog Club is the only dog club in Clarence, operating from the South Street Reserve, Bellerive.

Overall, membership is steady, with a rise in social membership negated by a decline in competition membership. It should be noted that the club membership does not include the high level of use of the facility by the general community.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
300	Stable	0.54%

Provision

Although the Club is the only of its type across the LGA, there is no demonstrated demand for additional dog club facilities.

Given the trend of increasing community use of dog off-leash areas nationally, Clarence is well positioned to cater for this use through the current provision of 11 off-lead exercise areas and a further 13 nominated on-lead exercise areas. These areas are in addition to the dog park at South Street Reserve.

The facility is used as an overflow car parking for major events at Blundstone Arena and booked for community events (up to 6 times annually). This type of use impacts on the condition of the park surface.



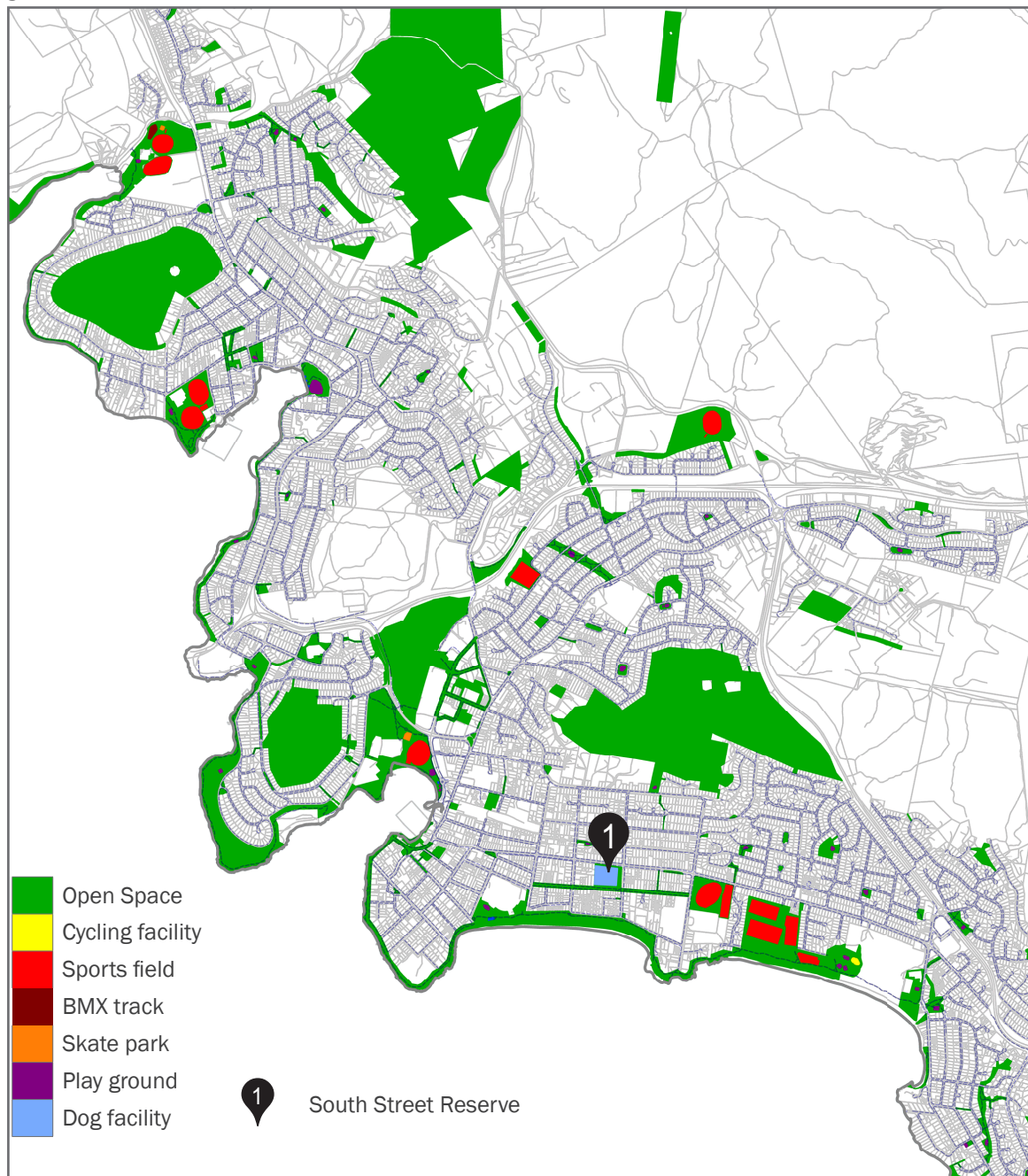
Current facilities

- ❑ club facility that has been recently expanded to provide additional meeting space and storage
- ❑ the significantly uneven sparsely grassed surface condition of the dog park area within the Reserve is an ongoing issue, resulting in the Club not being able to host competitive events.

Council has allocated funds to improve the condition of the surface (fencing to restrict use and an irrigation upgrade).



Map 9: Dog obedience facilities in Clarence



Strategic direction

- ☐ Support the Club to continue its operations from the South Street Reserve.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Work closely with the club to understand future facility requirements
- ☐ Monitor the effectiveness of the surface renovation post-works, to ensure the ground is suitable for dog activities.

Equestrian

Membership considerations

Clarence has a high percentage of horse ownership across the municipality, with Roscommon being the primary location for equestrian in the LGA. The site is leased to Equestrian Tasmania, with a management committee (Tasmania Equestrian Centre - TEC) established to manage operations of the site.

The TEC comprises representatives from the users groups being:

- ☐ Tasmanian Show Jumping Association
- ☐ Southern Tasmanian Eventing Association
- ☐ Dressage Association Tasmania
- ☐ Hobart and District Pony Club.

TEC membership varies from 450 - 500 members annually.

TEC have noted an increase in casual use of the facility, approximately 70 members for 2018.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
700	Stable	1.26%

Provision

Given the expansive nature of the site, it has the ability to continue to provide the required equestrian opportunities for Clarence for the future.

The northern aspect of the site is home to the Hobart Archers (archery club), with the site developed by the current tenants with minimal support or financial assistance from Council.

It is recommended that future development of Roscommon is supported by Council and involves a thorough planning process to negate ad-hoc planning and ensure modern facility development.

Peak Body input

Equestrian Tasmania:

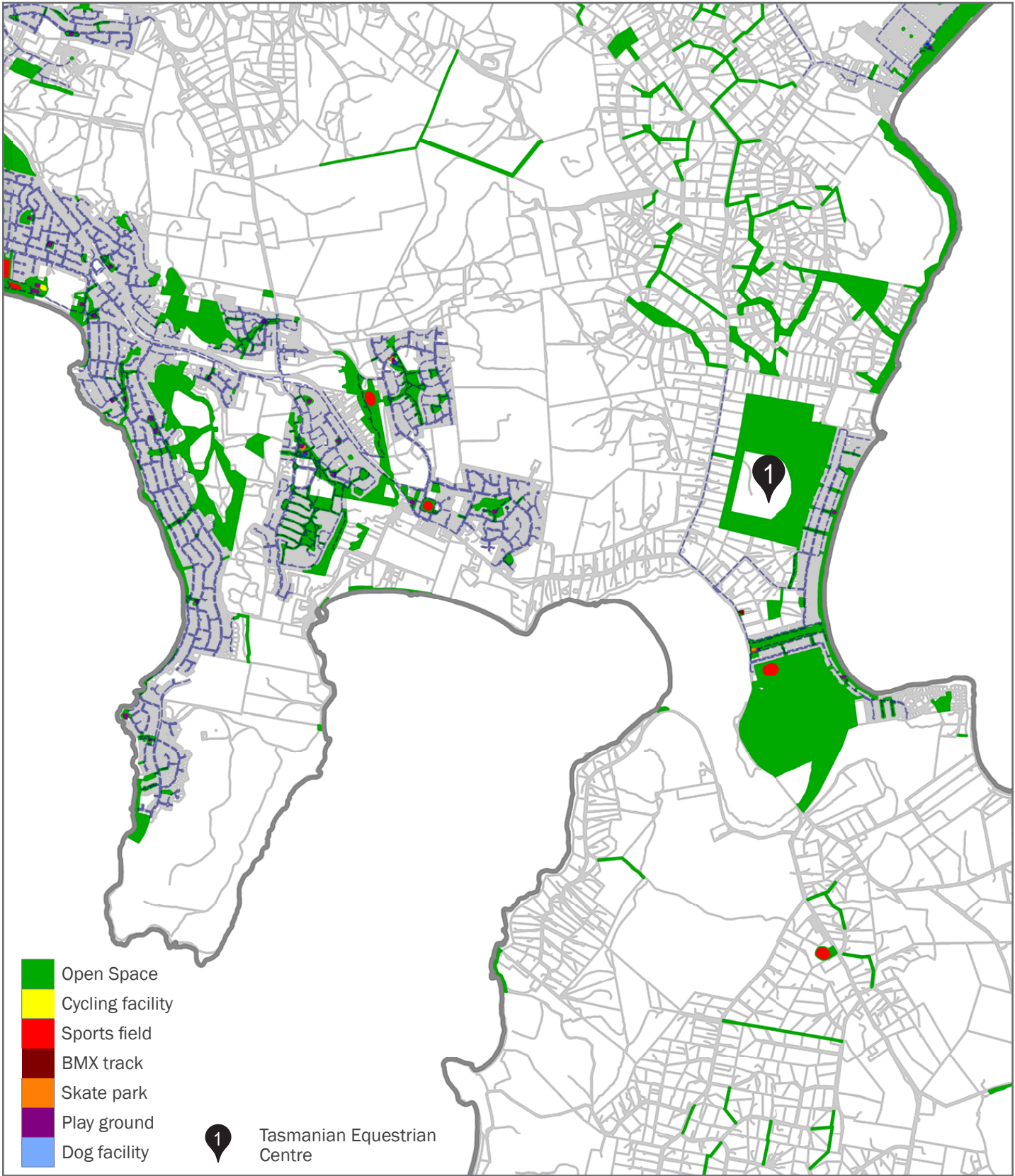
- ☐ 1680 members in Tasmania with growth experience in past three years.
- ☐ Committed to providing support to TEC with regard to future development of the site
- ☐ Roscommon is the preferred location as the state level facility and subsequently, the site need to be developed to this standard

Current facilities

- ☐ The existing club rooms are old and not functional
- ☐ Roscommon is one of Council's largest parcels of open space. The site is expansive and contains a variety of equestrian-specific infrastructure:
 - four open sand arenas (three arenas require renewal)
 - show jumping park
 - cross country course
 - fenced grass arena
- ☐ Wetlands are located in the south east corner of the site. Generally Roscommon is low lying with sections of the site prone to localised flooding
- ☐ The precinct is accessible to the local community with an existing trail network connecting to the site
- ☐ There is evidence of previous facility development being undertaken in an ad-hoc manner.



Map 10: Equestrian facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- Undertake a Facility Development Plan to inform future infrastructure priorities for Roscommon including, but not limited to:
 - existing TEC and Hobart Archers infrastructure
 - the possibility of joint use development for equestrian and archery
 - additional uses/user groups
 - management of the site.

Recommended actions

- Ensure that any developments at the Roscommon site reflect the state/national level requirements of both equestrian and archery facilities and be planned accordingly.

Football (Soccer)

Membership considerations

Clarence is home to two premier league clubs, being Clarence United FC and Olympia Warriors FC, with participation pathways from junior to senior level.

Youth soccer is administered by the Eastern Region Junior Soccer Association (ERJSA) within Clarence, with age groups ranging from 6 to 12.

In addition, there are smaller clubs which play in lower level competitions (e.g. Nelson Eastern Suburbs FC and Barnesworth FC).

Over a four year period, youth participation has varied from 1,200-1,300 members (ERSJA), with total club membership remaining constant at 600 members.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
1,854	Stable	3.33%

Provision

The current level of provision of soccer facilities across the LGA is adequate for current demand.

Better utilisation of existing facilities will allow Council to service pre season training requirements and future demand, especially if sites such as Cambridge Oval is developed to accommodate rectangular sports.

In addition, Wentworth Park has the capacity to cater for additional demand and Department of Education sites such as Howrah, Lindisfarne North and Rokeby Primary Schools also present future opportunities for community level use.

Olympia FC have been established at Dampier Street Sportsgrounds, a facility that was previously used for hockey. The Club has experienced membership growth in recent season, with the existing layout of the site not to a modern standard, constrained and problematic to develop.

Given the relatively close proximity of Edgeworth Street and Dampier Street Sportsgrounds, consideration could also be given to improved programming to cater for greater use (ie. youth, junior and senior), without infrastructure (such as junior goals) limiting the use of the sites.

Similar to AFL, clubs that compete in higher levels competitions (ie NPL) have noted the additional financial obligations to compete at this level.

Current facilities

Fields

- ☐ Edgeworth Street Sportsground
- ☐ Dampier Street Sportsground
- ☐ Kangaroo Bay Oval
- ☐ Wentworth Park
- ☐ Richmond Oval
- ☐ Cambridge Oval
- ☐ North Warrane Oval
- ☐ ANZAC Park (training only)
- ☐ Risdon Vale Oval.

Access to club rooms across the LGA for soccer varies from the clubs being secondary users of other's facilities to dedicated clubhouses such as that at Dampier Street Sportsground.

Peak body input

Football Federation Tasmania (FFT) have identified that senior male participation in the sport has been stable in recent years and that while junior numbers are typically male dominated (3:1), female participation has long been established, resulting in an increased need for universal design of change rooms and amenities.

The key facilities identified by FFT within the Clarence LGA include:

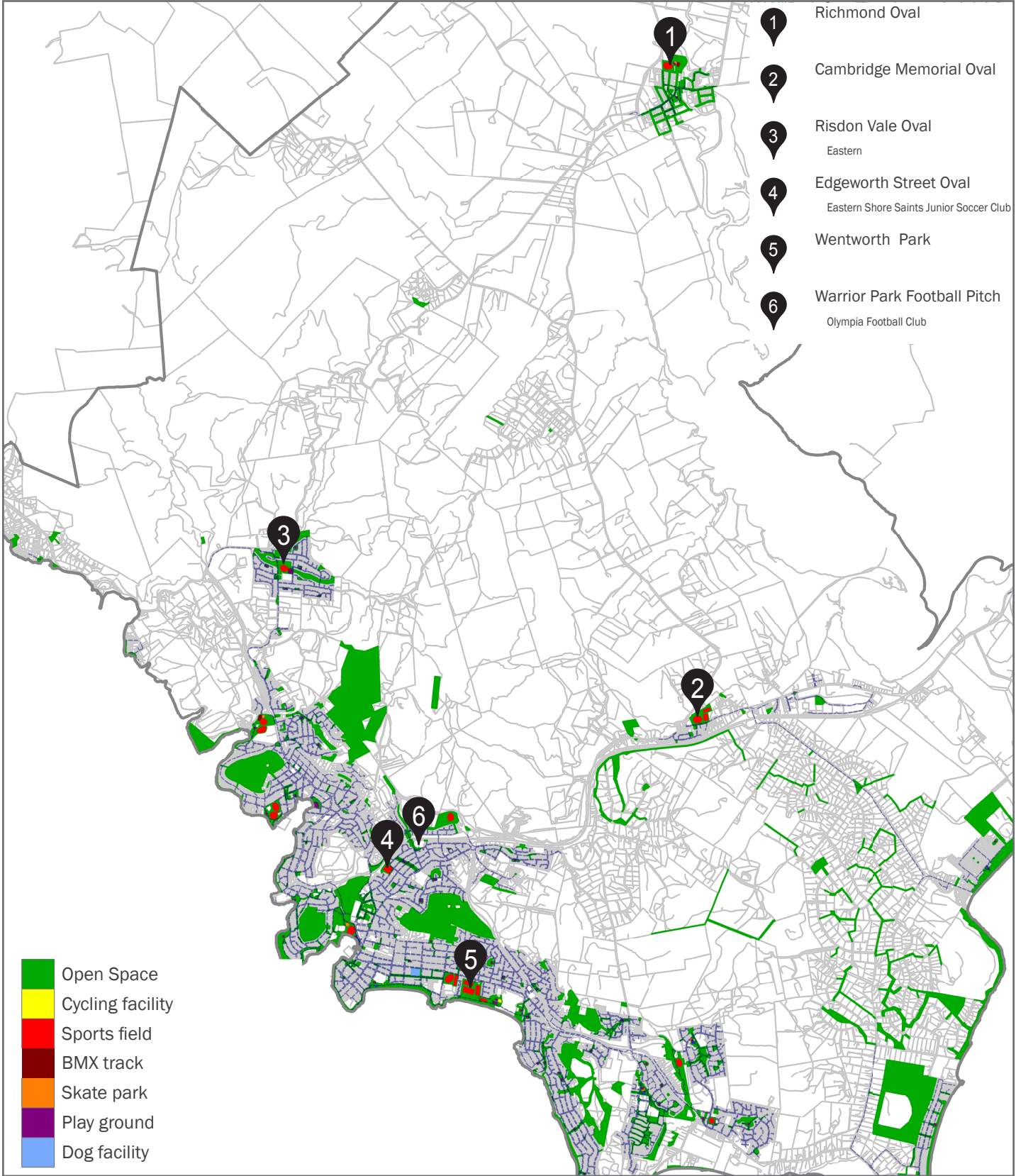
- ☐ Wentworth Park
- ☐ Cambridge Oval (new pitch)
- ☐ Dampier Street Sportsground
- ☐ Edgeworth Street Sportsground.

FFT identified strategic priorities for Clarence and more broadly throughout Tasmania being:

- ☐ Additional playing surfaces
- ☐ Synthetic surfaces
- ☐ Universal design
- ☐ Pre season training.



Map 11: Football facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Continue to monitor participation trends and City-wide infrastructure needs for soccer
- ☐ Liaise with Department of Education to identify opportunities to develop additional sites for community level football.
- ☐ Develop/upgrade facilities to FFA/FFT guidelines especially in regard to universal design.

Recommended actions

- ☐ In partnership with FFT, develop a Clarence-wide Football Facilities Strategy to guide future planning and development
- ☐ Master plan the Wentworth Park precinct to maximise use for rectangular codes.
- ☐ Review hire and allocation practices to maximise use of existing facilities including Cambridge Oval, Edgeworth Street and Wentworth Park.

Golf

Membership considerations

There are five golf clubs and two public golf courses within the Clarence LGA. The five clubs are private organisations operating on freehold land while the Rosny Park Golf Course, is on Council land (and managed by the YMCA under a lease arrangement).

Club managed facilities:

- ☐ Llanherne Golf Club Inc.
- ☐ Richmond Golf Club Inc.
- ☐ Royal Hobart Golf Club Inc.
- ☐ Tasmania Golf Club Inc.
- ☐ South Arm RSL Golf Club
- ☐ Coal Valley Golf Links (public course).

Council course:

- ☐ Rosny Park Golf Course.

Proposed Development:

- ☐ Arm End Reserve (Public links course and recreation reserve at Opossum Bay)

Of the club managed facilities, combined membership is in excess of 1900 members annually, which has remained stable during the past four years. In addition, Rosny Park Golf Course has approximately 120 members, with annual visitations nearing 20,000.

Rosny Park Golf Course is managed by the YMCA with a lease in place since 2010.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
2000	Stable	N/A

Provision

Upon review of the provision of golf facilities in Clarence, an over supply of golf is noted and the development of additional golf facilities by Council is not recommended.

From consultation with YMCA, it was highlighted that patrons use the course predominantly due to the lower green fees than club managed courses within Clarence and southern Tasmania.

Furthermore, with rising operational costs and limited financial resources available, the YMCA have sought assistance from Council by means of lease fee reduction.

Peak body input

Golf Tasmania

- ☐ In excess of 10,200 club members in Tasmania operating from 67 course based clubs.
- ☐ Similar to other sports, existing clubs need to review management practices to remain viable in the longer term
- ☐ In the early stages of developing a state wide facilities strategy.
- ☐ New initiatives to grow participation (My Golf - 5 to 12 years; Swing Fit - female introductory program; and Play (- shorter format of golf).

Current facilities

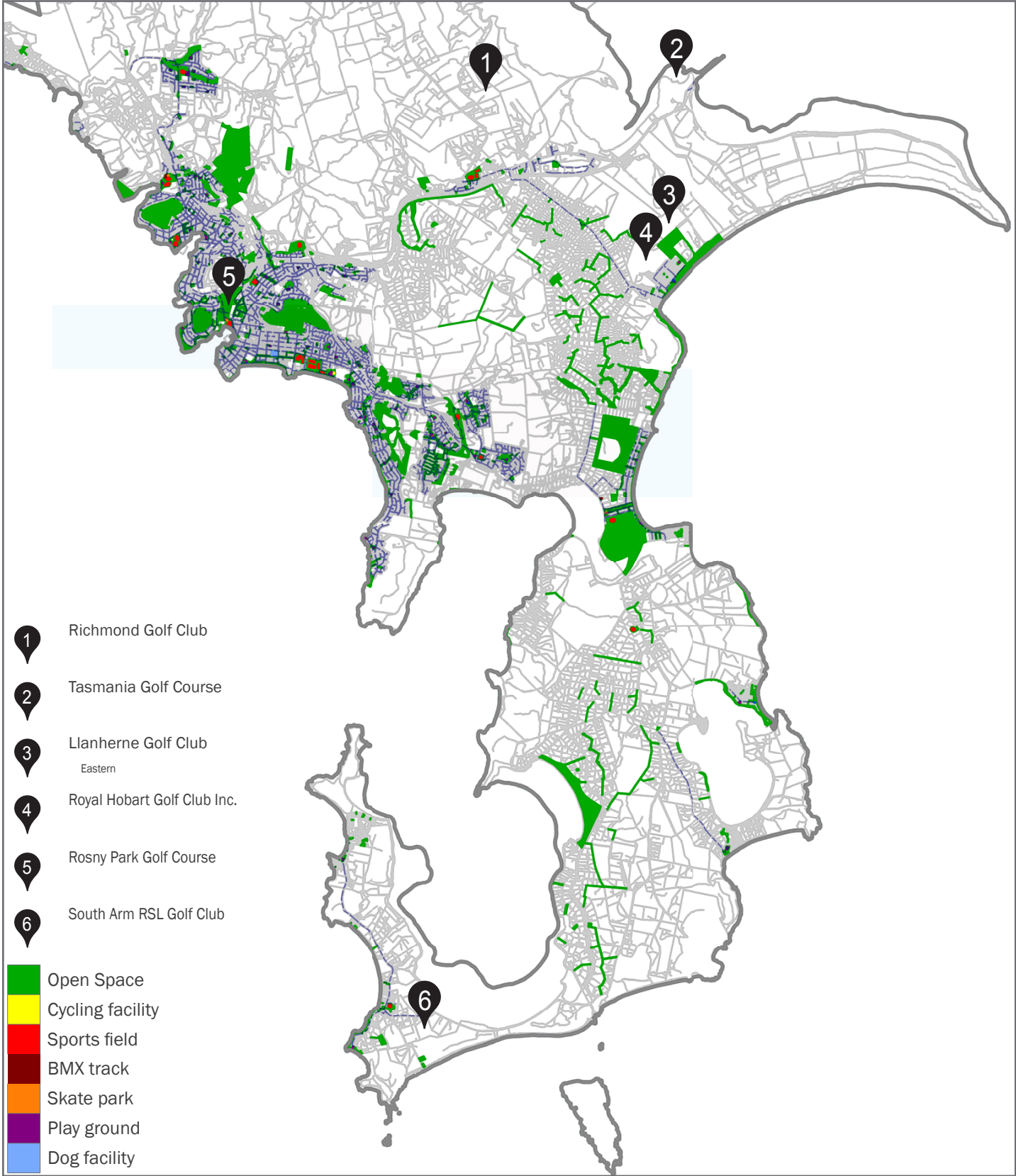
Rosny Park Golf Course is generally in fair condition but is not considered to be at a high standard for golf. The club building and amenities are outdated and not considered contemporary.

In addition, the existing irrigation system is failing and may require upgrade.

It should be noted that the club house is not a traditional golf club house used for the social benefits of members and other events, but purely an administrative and maintenance facility, with sales of minor items.



Map 12: Golf facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Undertake master planning for the Rosny Park green belt to guide future development
 - it is preferred to include Charles Hand Park and Rosny Park Tennis and Bowls Clubs in the scope of the planning project.

Recommended actions

- ☐ In the short term, liaise with the YMCA to review the operation of the golf course.

Lawn bowls

Membership considerations

There are four lawn bowls clubs operating in Clarence:

- ☐ Beltana Bowls Club
- ☐ Cremorne Bowls and Community Club (freehold)
- ☐ Howrah Bowls Club
- ☐ Rosny Park Bowls Club

Council understands there are in excess of 500 registered members across Clarence. This figure doesn't include casual/social bowls participation.

Clubs noted a change in participation with a preference for social membership (pay to play) as opposed to club membership (full fee paying).

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
516	Decline	0.93%

Provision

The Clarence LGA currently has an over supply of bowls facilities.

With the general decline of the sport, the current provision level needs to be reviewed, with consideration given to the increasing maintenance and operational costs balanced against the relatively low participation rates. Exacerbating this issue is the close proximity of some clubs, resulting in these clubs competing for the same members/participants to remain viable.

Current club management practices are often based on outdated concepts (ie. bar takings as the primary revenue stream) and needs to be reviewed to ensure viable facilities into the future. The low level of use during the winter months is evidence of this, with limited use of club facilities during this period.

Peak body input

Bowls Tasmania were contacted but no comment was provided.

Current facilities

Beltana BC:

- ☐ 3 outdoor greens, 1 of which is synthetic
- ☐ Large, ageing club house with views over greens.

Howrah BC:

- ☐ 1 natural grass green
- ☐ 1 indoor green
- ☐ Large, functional club house with the ability to host functions.

Rosny Park BC:

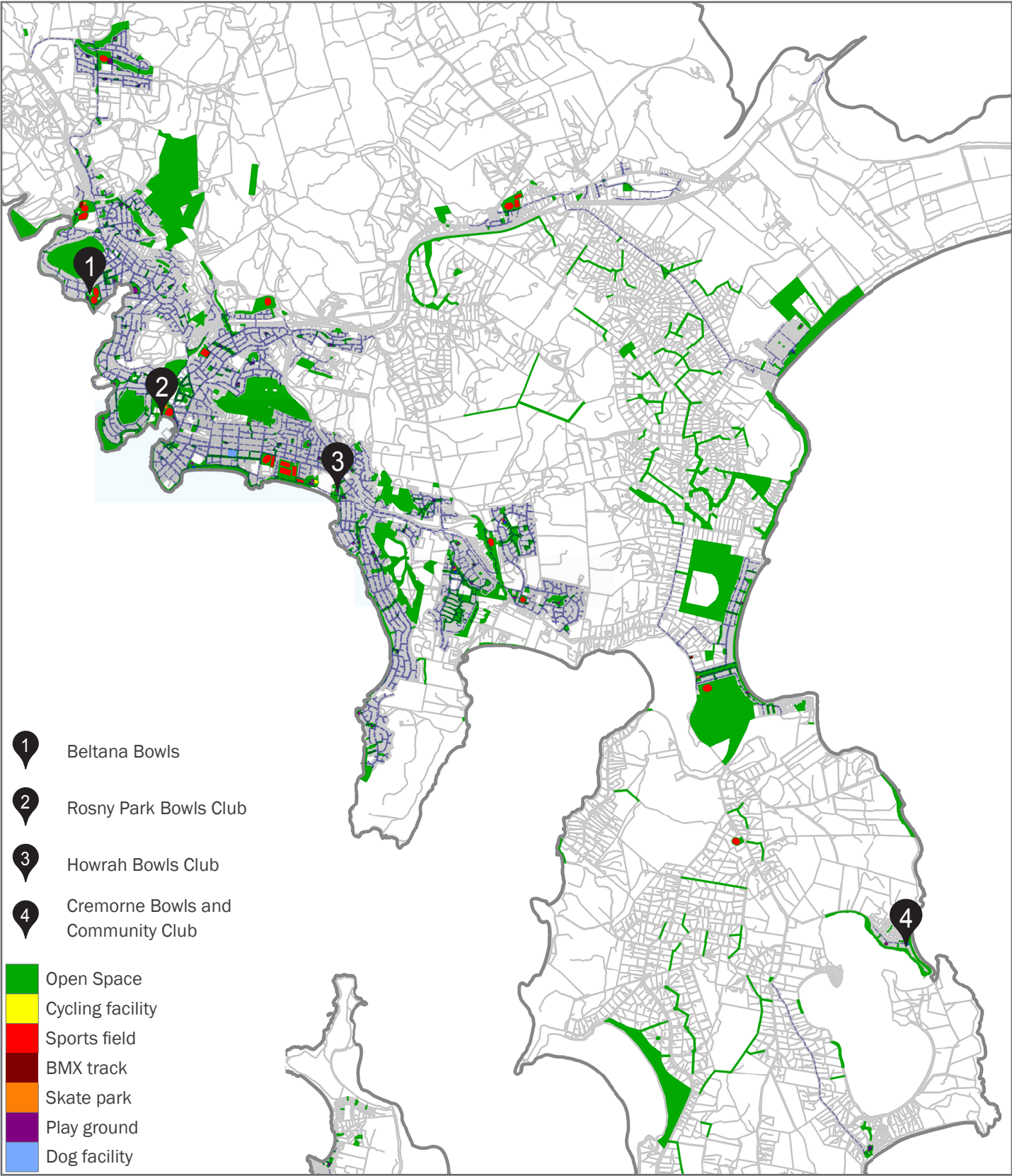
- ☐ 3 outdoor, natural grass greens
- ☐ Shared large club building with Clarence RSL - attractive and functional
- ☐ Panoramic water views from both club house and greens
- ☐ Large, sealed car parking areas.

Cremorne Bowls Club:

- ☐ 1 synthetic green (recently upgraded)
- ☐ Large club house that is heavily used by the local community as a social hub.



Map 13: Lawn bowls facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Review the provision of facilities across the Clarence LGA including considerations such as:
 - viability of clubs, including their ability to maintain sites and facilities
 - the locations of existing clubs
 - opportunities for assistance from Bowls Tasmania/Australia.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Continue discussions with Rosny Park Bowls Club to review their financial position and forward planning for the club.

Rugby union

Membership considerations

There is one rugby club that is based in Clarence, the Eastern Shore Rugby Union Club.

Typically the Club has fielded three teams (Men's, Women's and Colts) in a state wide competition. For 2018, the Club were unable to field a team in the Men's competition.

The Club's membership has varied over the years, but has never shown significant growth.

Nation-wide, even in the traditional rugby States of Queensland and New South Wales, participation in rugby union is declining.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
43	Decline	0.08%

Provision

There is no indication that further rugby union facilities are required in the Clarence LGA, now, or into the future.

Given the trend of declining participation in the sport nationally, consideration for further facilities in the future should only be based if this trend changes and a demonstrated demand becomes evident.

Peak body input

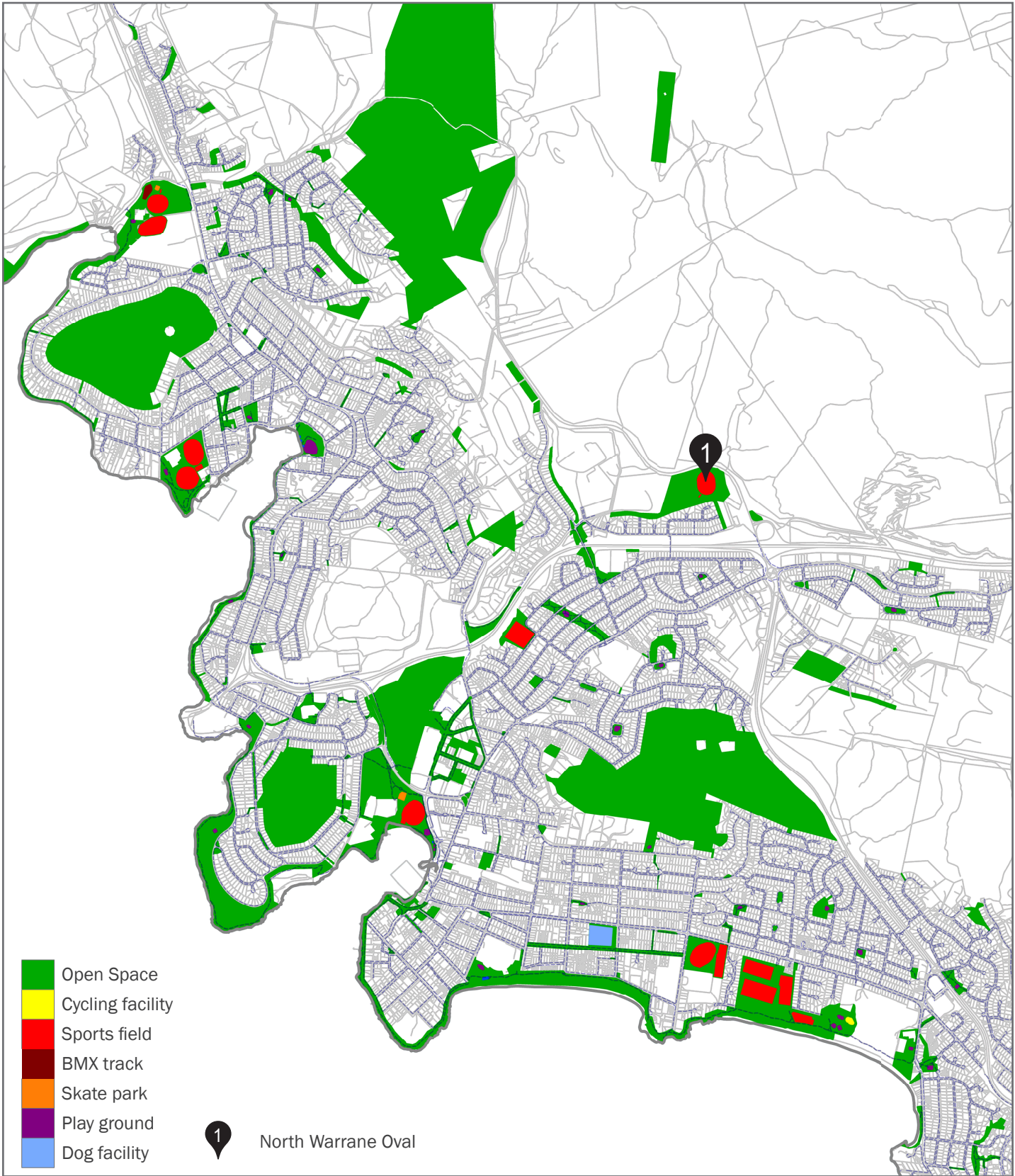
No comment was provided by Rugby Tasmania.

Current facilities

- ☐ Facilities at North Warrane Oval are shared in the winter season with the Nelson Eastern Suburbs Football (soccer) Club
- ☐ The playing surface is of a very high quality and lit to a high standard
- ☐ The rugby clubhouse is ageing but functional, however, while it is licensed, it is not freely accessible to other users of the site (or least perceived not to be)
- ☐ Modern change/toilet facilities are on site, utilised by the soccer and cricket users.



Map 14: Rugby union facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Monitor membership trends of the Club; and the sport in both the Clarence LGA and the State.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Support the Club's operations from the site.
- ☐ If Club becomes unviable, investigate alternative uses of the site.

Tennis

Membership considerations

There are 5 tennis clubs operating within the Clarence LGA:

- Geilston Bay (150)
- Lindisfarne Memorial (176)
- Richmond (43)
- Rosny Park (201)
- Sunshine. (420).

Although there is significant participation in the sport across the LGA, there has been a small decline in participation in recent years, consistent with state and national participation trends. It is noted that Clarence is one of the larger LGAs for club membership with approximately 25% of Tasmania's total participants.

Similar to other sports, Tennis nationally has experienced a change in participation with a preference for social participation (eg. pay to play) as opposed to club membership (eg. full fee paying). With the introduction of modern initiatives, such as Book a Court, clubs now have the ability to capture and understand participation trends for club and social members.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
990	Decline	1.78%

Provision

Clarence is well place for the future provision of the sport, with all of the existing facilities not operating at capacity.

There is no demonstrated need for additional tennis facilities in Clarence. It is recommended that Council review the location of existing tennis facilities that operate from within the same catchment area, thus creating a duplication of facilities and clubs competing for members to remain viable.

Peak body input

Tennis Tasmania:

- There are varying participation trends across the clubs within Clarence (growth, stable and decline).
- There is capacity for greater community use of existing courts through undertaking initiatives such as 'Book A Court'
- Some of the existing facilities do not have the capacity to expand in their current location due to site constraints.

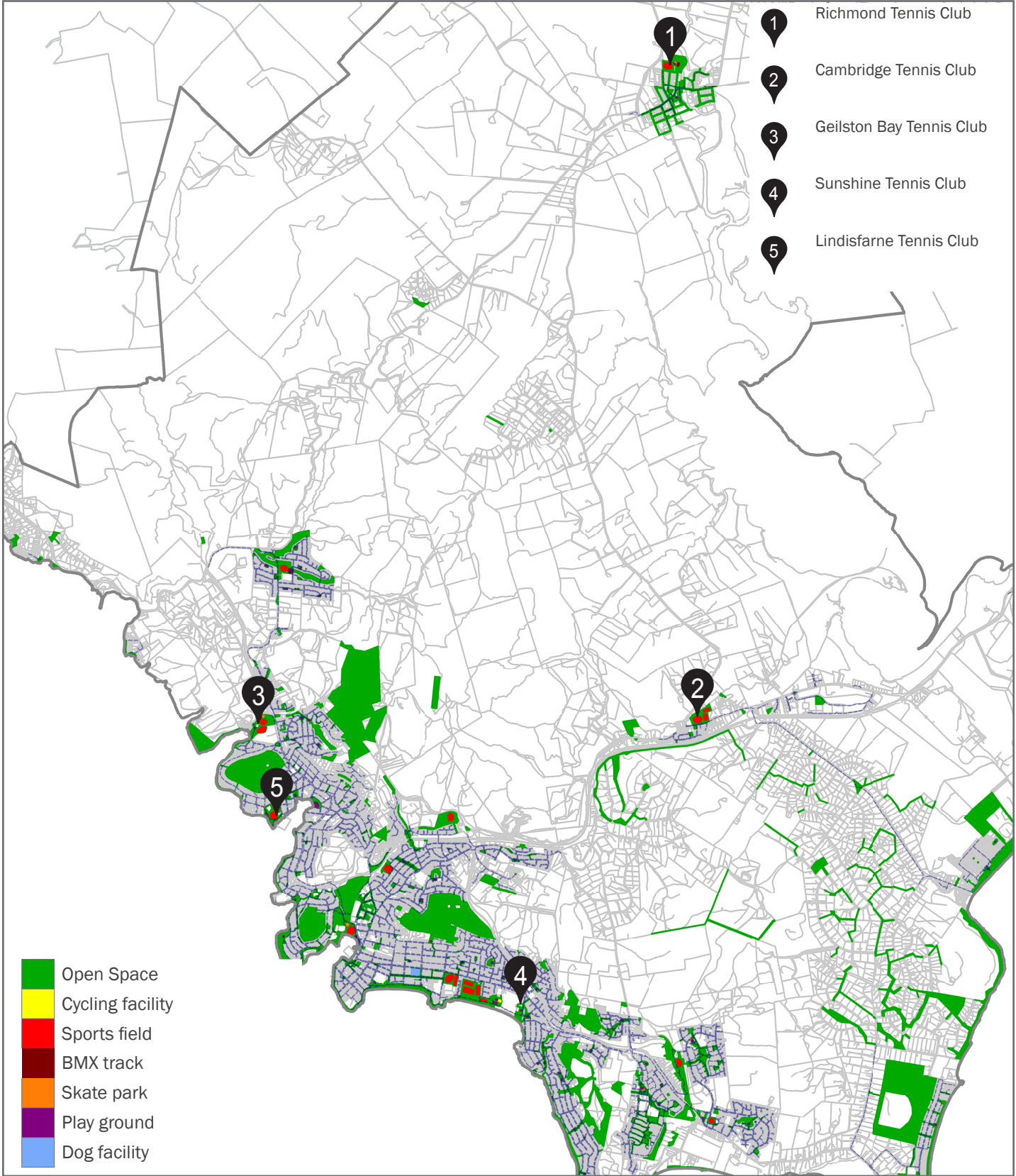
Current facilities

In general, tennis facilities are ageing, with 5-6 court provision and without the ability to expand due to site constraints.

Ancillary facilities such as club rooms are also ageing and not of an appropriate size to cater for club growth. Club volunteers are burdened with the dual roles of managing club operations and maintaining ageing facility infrastructure.



Map 15: Tennis facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- ☐ Monitor ongoing viability of clubs and where appropriate, review the distribution of facilities to avoid duplication
- ☐ Maximise use of existing facilities through greater use of underutilised courts.
- ☐ Liaise with Tennis Tasmania to investigate the future need for a district tennis facility (8 courts proposed).

Recommended actions

- ☐ Continue to monitor membership trends and infrastructure needs
- ☐ Work with clubs to implement initiatives such as 'Book A Court' that may assist to increase participation and also more accurately record the use of tennis facilities.

Touch football

Membership considerations

Southern Touch is the peak body for touch football in southern Tasmania and exclusively operate from Wentworth Park.

Participation rates for the sport at a national and state level are generally stable, yet this trend hasn't played out locally.

Southern Touch noted a continual decline in membership since a peak in 2008/2009. Current membership is in excess of 1600 with the majority of the members participating in the summer season (typically 75% of the membership base).

Members can choose to join one of four anchor clubs or enter a team separately. The anchor clubs provide the bulk of the volunteers, who assist with the operation of the sport.

Registered participants	3 year participation trend	% of Clarence population
1,660	Decline	2.98%

Provision

Southern Touch offer two seasonal competitions (eg. summer and winter) with summer the preferred competition for participants. The facility is shared with soccer during winter and cricket during summer.

The current level of provision is adequate, now and into the future. No further dedicated touch facilities will need to be considered, especially considering the nature of the sport, where it can effectively utilise almost any outdoor sports field to operate.

Peak body input

Southern Touch Inc have provided the following information regarding the provision of their sport:

- ❑ Increasing junior participation (14-18 years) is the current focus, which will hopefully increase the transition from junior to senior participation
- ❑ Variations to the traditional game are being considered, such as a 'kick' version of touch
- ❑ One major role is the provision of volunteers to assist with running the association
- ❑ Due to the decline in participation, there is no identified need for new grounds
- ❑ Supportive of master planning the Wentworth Park precinct to guide future use and development
- ❑ Wentworth Park:
 - considered a great venue, used to host state and national tournaments
 - playing surface is in good condition, the lights are adequate in general but there are poorer lighting levels on outlying surfaces
 - modern change facilities but older club rooms.

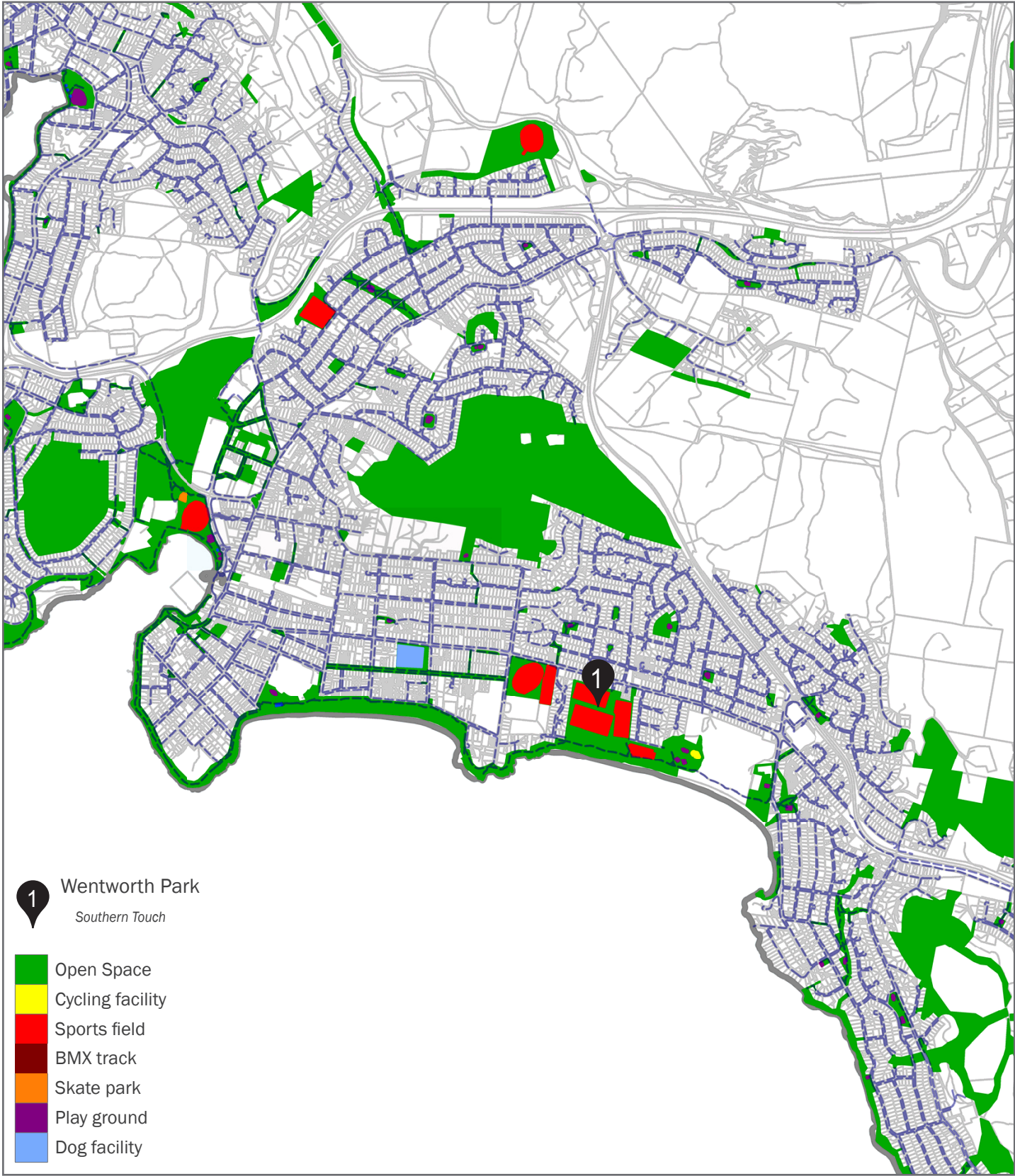
Current facilities

- ❑ Field space able to provide up to 8 full size touch fields (depending on use by other sports)
- ❑ Large, shared and functional clubhouse with dedicated touch office within
- ❑ Additional new, large change room facilities in separate building to club rooms.

Consideration should be given to the impact that touch football's use of Wentworth Park has on other users, with other field use heavily restricted, especially during summer.



Map 16: Touch football facilities in Clarence





Strategic direction

- Undertake master planning to guide future development of Wentworth Park.
 - it is recommended to include Clarence High School, Wentworth Play Park, and Howrah Primary School in the scope of project.

Recommended actions

- Review current hire fees for the facility, including consideration of:
 - fees being reflective of the level of use of sporting fields
 - responsibilities for internal and external cleaning and maintenance of buildings.

Clarence Aquatic Centre

The Clarence Aquatic Centre is the only Council-owned pool within the LGA. The Clarence Aquatic Centre (the Centre) has been managed by the YMCA since 2004, with the current lease agreement due to expire in 2028. The Centre is used by a variety of groups and/or organisations, which has increased steadily in recent calendar years.

Membership/usage:

Visitations totalled in excess of 70,000 for 2017/18 (including 9,000 visit passes; 24,000 casual uses; and 38,000 member passes). There is an extensive School Program that offered almost 29,000 learn to swim classes over the 2017/18 season. This is in addition to the over 42,000 participants of the public learn to swim programs offered. The location of the Centre within the Clarence is provided on the following map.

Programs/activities:

- ☐ Casual/lap swimming
- ☐ School carnivals and classes
- ☐ Learn to swim classes
- ☐ School holiday programs
- ☐ Exercise programs (aqua aerobics, Zumba, etc)
- ☐ Parties.

Facilities:

Facilities at the venue include:

- ☐ 8 Lane, 50m heated indoor pool
- ☐ 10m x 12m heated indoor program pool
- ☐ Heated indoor beach entry toddlers pool
- ☐ Swim Shop (swimming apparel/equipment)
- ☐ Café
- ☐ Inflatables
- ☐ Barbecue and picnic area
- ☐ Disabled access.

While the Centre offers a range of facilities and programs, there are some issues regarding the existing facilities that will need to be addressed:

- ☐ The change facilities are outdated and not sufficient to meet current demand. Additional, modern amenities will need to be developed in coming years
- ☐ The plant room, built in the 1960s, is also ageing, resulting in increasing maintenance costs
- ☐ There is a lack of adequate parking for peak use periods which is exacerbated by commuters parking in the aquatic centre car park.
- ☐ There is also a lack of meeting/program room space to offer dry exercise programs, meetings and classroom opportunities.

A photovoltaic (solar) heating system was installed in 2017 to defray day energy consumption, with further panels to be installed in the 2018/19 Capital Works Program.

Given the proximity of the site to other centres (such as the Hobart Aquatic Centre at The Domain) and the current population of the Clarence LGA (well within the generally accepted provision rate for aquatic centres 1:100,000 people), it is not expected that further Council aquatic facilities will be required into the future.

However, this Recreation Needs Analysis has identified the need to undertake a combined review of aquatic (and indoor sporting facilities) to guide future planning and investment for the City of Clarence.



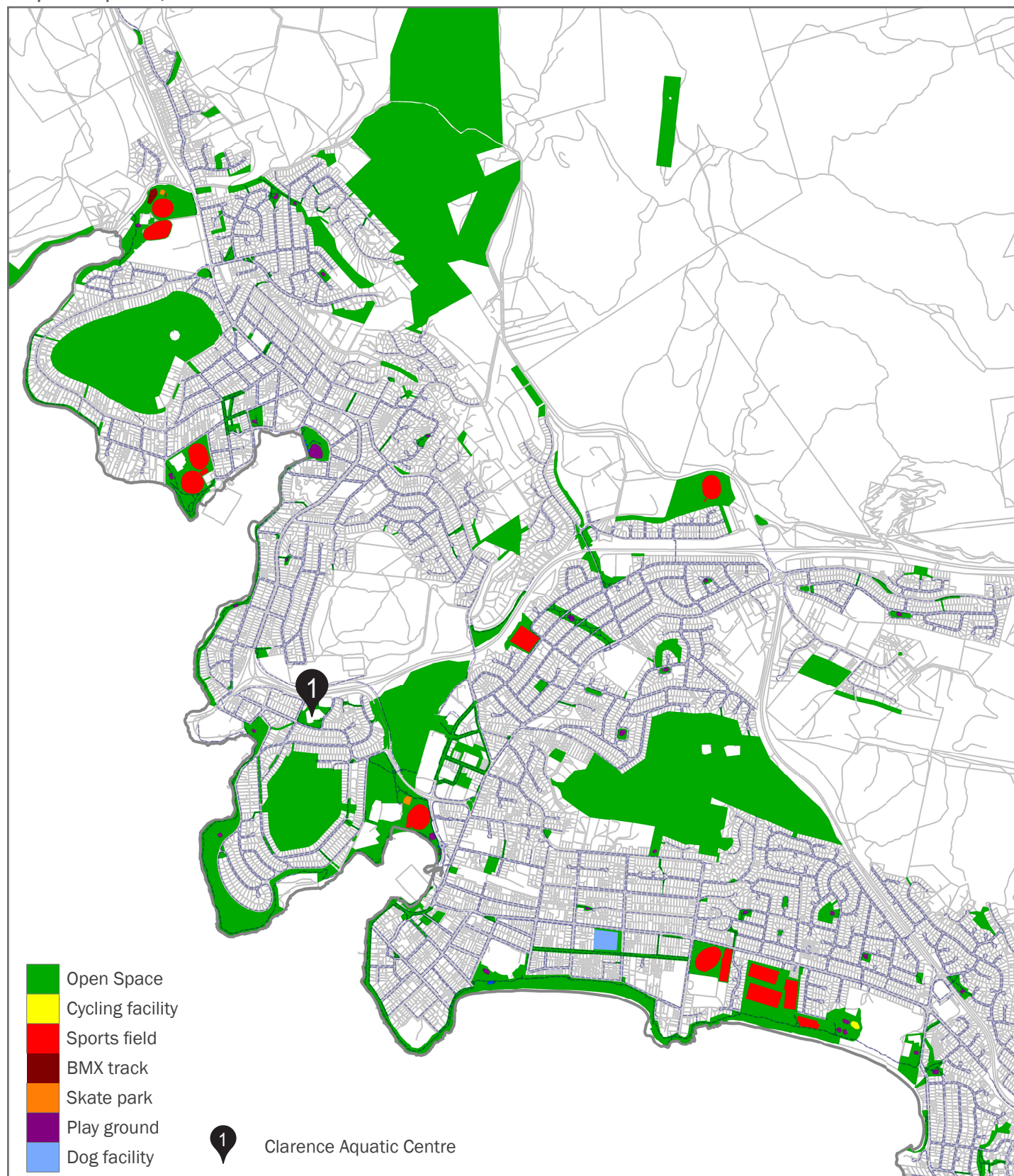
Strategic direction

- ☐ Continue to work cooperatively with the YMCA to develop/improve appropriate facilities at the Clarence Aquatic Centre
- ☐ Include aquatic facilities in the proposed indoor sporting facilities feasibility study for Clarence LGA and the Eastern Shore.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Expand the existing PV system as per the 2018/19 Capital Works Program
- ☐ Undertake preliminary investigations into:
 - the development and extension of change rooms
 - upgrading the plant room and associated equipment.

Map 17: Aquatic facilities in Clarence



Recreational boating

Membership considerations

There are 8 clubs operating within the Clarence LGA that provide a range of recreational boating opportunities:

- ☐ Bellerive Yacht Club
- ☐ Geilston Bay Boat Club
- ☐ Lauderdale Yacht Club Inc
- ☐ Motor Yacht Club Inc
- ☐ Derwent Storms Dragon Boat Club Inc
- ☐ Lindisfarne Rowing Club Inc
- ☐ Dragons Abreast Tasmania Hobart Inc
- ☐ Lindisfarne Sailing Club

It should be noted that the Lauderdale Club is the only club operating from Council land.

Participation numbers for the organisations are not known.

Provision

The LGA is well serviced with a range of recreational boating opportunities, as demonstrated by the map on the following page.

Various forms of sailing and motor boating opportunities are available, as well as rowing and dragon boating.

Recreation boating clubs primarily operate from Crown Land, with Lauderdale Yacht Club the exception. Subsequently, there is minimal support provided and limited contact with Council due to their respective tenure agreements.



Current facilities

Council

The Lauderdale Yacht Club is the only recreational boating facility located on Council land.

Built facilities are tired and unattractive, especially in comparison to other such facilities within the LGA. The main club room is an ageing timber building with an informal, unsealed car parking area and boat storage (small catamarans) as its surrounds.

Water access at the beach is via an informal access road/ramp.

Other facilities

Other recreational boating facilities located on Crown land generally include significant function venues, overlooking the water with modern, attractive facilities. Marinas are also located at The Motor Yacht Club and Bellerive Yacht Club.



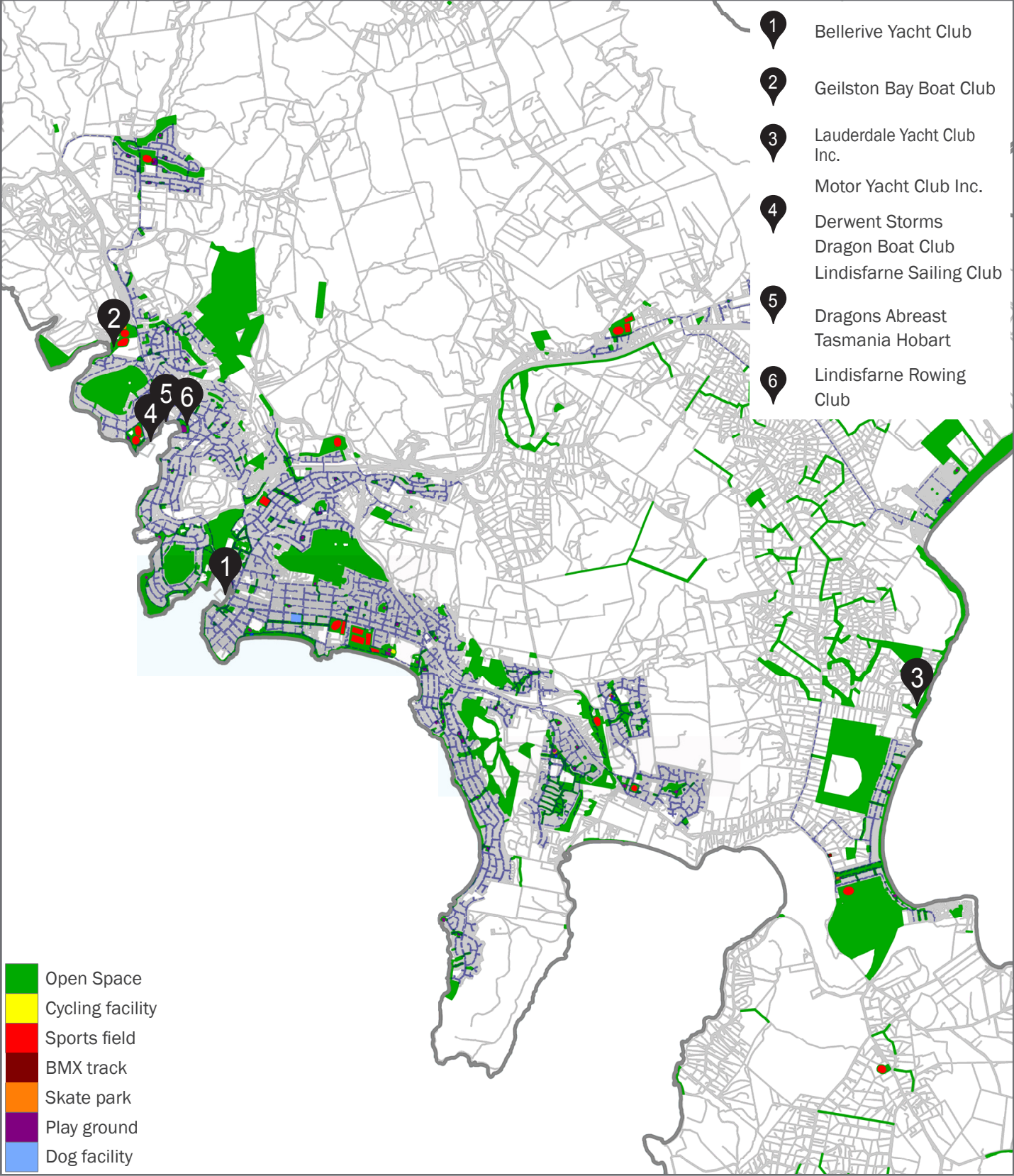
Strategic direction

- ☐ Continue to support the provision of appropriate recreational boating opportunities across the LGA.

Recommended actions

- ☐ Support the Lauderdale Yacht Club to plan and develop appropriate facility improvements at its current site.

Map 18: Recreational boating facilities in Clarence



Other sports/activities

Cycling

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> Hobart Wheelers are the only known local organisation, providing different cycling disciplines, with an on-road focus <input type="checkbox"/> The Club currently has approximately 125 members, steady over recent years, but growth is currently constrained by a lack of facilities
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Bellerive Bluff was identified as a possible future site for a criterium track <input type="checkbox"/> Richmond is currently the most popular site for on-road cycling events, but these are becoming problematic due to increased traffic in the area.
Provision	There are currently no dedicated cycling facilities within the LGA.
Strategic Action	During the development of any existing large sites, or the planning of new sites, the inclusion of a 3-4km cycling track, incorporating a criterium track, that meets all appropriate competition standards and the ability to provide community use, should be considered.

Gymnastics

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> Late in 2014, Clarence Gymnastics Association merged with Kingborough Gymnastics and Huon Valley Gymnastics to form Kingborough Gymsports (currently with over 600 members, with future increases expected) <input type="checkbox"/> The Association is currently based at a church in Mornington.
Facilities	Currently operating from a church, the Clarence Gymnastics Association is actively searching for a new facility on the Eastern Shore that is more appropriate for its growing membership base. The Association was successful in securing state government funding in 2014, for the purpose of developing a new facility. The Association has yet to locate a suitable site for the proposed development.
Provision	<p>Gymnasts in the LGA have access to Clarence Gymnastics Association at Mornington and the Eastside Activity Centre at Rokeby. Outside of Clarence, participants can access gymnastic opportunities at the Kingborough Sports Centre, which is considered to be the best facility in Tasmania.</p> <p>Current facilities are limited, largely due to the specific needs of the sport and the constraints associated with sharing space with other indoor sport and recreation user groups. Considering these exclusive needs, the sport is often seen as similar to a commercial provider and a not multi-use, community club.</p>
Strategic Action	As part of the proposed feasibility study to investigate indoor sport and aquatic facility provision across the LGA, consideration of the requirements for an appropriate gymnastic facility should be included. Given that the sport's preferred option is for an exclusive-use facility, this must be considered as part of the feasibility study's investigations.

Hockey

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> The OHA Hockey Club has Eastern Shore ties, but operate from the Tasmanian Hockey Centre in New Town, Hobart <input type="checkbox"/> Due to no hockey clubs being based in the Clarence LGA, participation numbers are unknown.
Facilities	There are no hockey facilities within the Clarence LGA.
Provision	No existing provision.
Strategic Action	To ensure Clarence residents have the ability to access hockey opportunities, Council to continue to support the Tasmanian Hockey Centre as the regional hockey facility.

Model aircraft

Membership/ Participation	The Hobart Model Aero Club has 60 active members, with membership stable in recent years.
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> The Club leases Kellyfield (near Richmond) for the purpose of flying model aircraft, instruction and socialisation <input type="checkbox"/> The facility has been continuously developed by the club in preceding decades and adequately meets their needs. Facilities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2 grass landing strips and control-line facility – club house and barbecue facilities <input type="checkbox"/> The club has shown a willingness to share the site with compatible activities.
Provision	The current level of provision for the activity within the Clarence LGA is adequate with no further facilities required now, or into the future.
Strategic Action	Continue to support the club to operate from Kellyfield, including future opportunities for a co-tenant at the site to maximise its use.

MTB

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> The Dirt Devils, part of the Hobart Wheelers/Dirt Devils Cycling Club, provide mountain bike (MTB) opportunities (including racing) for Clarence residents <input type="checkbox"/> Events over various disciplines (ranging from introductory beginners events to competitive racing) are held at the Meehan Range MTB Park <input type="checkbox"/> 245 registered members (aged 4-60) with significant growth over recent years that is expected to continue.
Facilities	High quality facilities have been developed at the Meehan Range MTB Park and are continuing to be undertaken, to be guided by a strategic plan for the facility (currently under development).
Provision	The Meehan Range facility is being developed as a Regional MTB park with consideration being given to offering different riding experiences to other facilities located on the Western Shore.
Strategic Action	Support further development/direction from the Meehan Range Strategic Plan.



Netball

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> Southern Tasmania Netball Association currently has 1,734 members with growth being experienced over recent years <input type="checkbox"/> There are no netball clubs on the Eastern Shore, although a new club/association has been established at Sorell.
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> The closest netball facility is the regional facility in Hobart (Creek Road) <input type="checkbox"/> Netball usually identified as a likely tenant in most new multi-court facilities.
Provision	No existing provision at Council facilities.
Strategic Action	Include netball as a potential user as part of the proposed feasibility study to investigate indoor sport and aquatic facility provision across the LGA. The feasibility study will also consider the implications of the proposed developments adjacent to the Derwent Entertainment Centre and at Sorell (Pembroke Park). It should be noted that these developments will be heavily reliant on significant funding from the State and Federal governments.

Orienteering

Membership/ Participation	Southern Tasmanian membership estimated at 500 (including 300 casual participants).
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilise Council managed land and/or other areas within the Clarence LGA <input type="checkbox"/> No infrastructure requirements – only require a level staging area for event trailer (usually a car park).
Provision	N/A.
Strategic Action	Continue to support Orienteering Tasmania to run events on Council managed land.

Surf Life Saving

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> The Clifton Beach SLSC is the only surf life saving club in the Clarence LGA with in excess of 250 club members, including 90 patrolling members. <input type="checkbox"/> The growth in nippers program has resulted in the need for additional equipment.
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Club pavilion with change amenities, storage area and social area. The Club has aspirations for further development of the pavilion <input type="checkbox"/> The change amenities are communal and not contemporary <input type="checkbox"/> The pavilion is well utilised by the community (social hub) and has experienced localised flooding in recent years.
Provision	Adequate, with no additional facilities required.
Strategic Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop a master plan for the broader coastal reserve (including car park, pavilion surrounds, local park etc) <input type="checkbox"/> Support Club to develop detailed design for development of the pavilion.

Triathlon

Membership/ Participation	<input type="checkbox"/> Consistent with National and State trends, the sport is growing locally <input type="checkbox"/> The Triathlon South Club usually host 2-4 events each year (adult only events) <input type="checkbox"/> Events attract interstate participants in addition to local participants <input type="checkbox"/> The economic benefit of the national qualifier event (attracting 250 participants) was noted.
Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Currently, no dedicated facilities, but Day Use Area 1 at Seven Mile Beach is currently used for bike racks as a transition area <input type="checkbox"/> The Club is seeking a transition/athlete area at Seven Mile Beach
Provision	No existing provision.
Strategic Action	Support Triathlon South with preliminary investigations regarding a proposed transition/staging area at Seven Mile Beach.

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Implementation

The development of the Recreation Needs Analysis has identified a number of recommendations and strategic actions that will require further investigation and planning, for successful implementation. The majority of Clarence based sporting clubs and associations have participated in the project and provided their collective needs to inform future sport and recreation provision.

To assist with the implementation of the strategic actions listed below, Council is encouraged to adopt the following guiding principles relating to future provision:

Guiding Principles

- ☐ Prioritise projects that maximise use of existing assets through efficient use of sports surfaces and buildings.
- ☐ Prioritise projects that have an immediate impact on participation growth, promote year round access and/or increase the existing capacity of sporting facilities (eg. playing surfaces and ancillary amenities).
- ☐ Promote projects that maximise value for money and support the needs of the Clarence community, peak sporting bodies and broader government objectives.
- ☐ Continue to identify and plan for new modern sporting facilities, where the need is demonstrated.
- ☐ Future sporting facilities will be fit for purpose and promote universal design to provide inclusive opportunities for all ages, genders, cultures and abilities.
- ☐ Ensure facility development contributes to the viability and sustainability of Clarence sporting clubs.
- ☐ Identify shared facility provision and investment through strategic partnership with local clubs, peak bodies, state agencies and all levels of government.

10 Year Priority List

The following 10 year priority list assigns priorities to recommended actions:

- ☐ Immediate - within 12 months
- ☐ Ongoing
- ☐ Short term - within 1-3 years
- ☐ Medium term - within 3-5 years
- ☐ Long term - in excess of 5 years.

It is important to note that it is unlikely that all of the below recommendations will be actioned during the life of this document. Council is encouraged to monitor emerging trends to ensure critical and urgent matters are prioritised and actioned accordingly.

Immediate (within 12 Months)

- ☐ Maximise the use of existing sporting facilities through efficient programming of community sporting facilities
- ☐ Develop Risdon Vale Oval to cater for female and junior football
- ☐ Undertake planning for the development of Bayview Secondary College as a future regional junior community sports hub
- ☐ Finalise ANZAC Park Master Plan to enhance the reserve for regional level sport (ie AFL & Cricket). Key infrastructure priorities include the upgrade of the existing AFL pavilion and re-orientation of cricket training facilities
- ☐ Undertake master planning to develop Geilston Bay Sporting precinct for community sport
- ☐ Provide support to the Eastern Shore Croquet Club for possible relocation to a new site.

Ongoing

- ☐ Provide administrative support to Rosny Park Bowls Club to review club operations and forward planning
- ☐ Continue to monitor participation trends and infrastructure requirements for community sport
- ☐ Liaise with State Sporting Organisations and Peak Bodies, to maximise opportunities for shared investment in community sporting infrastructure
- ☐ Undertake an extensive review of the hire of Council's sporting facilities. Council is encouraged to develop a policy relating to the allocation of Council sports ground and facilities. In addition, Council should review the terms and conditions of hire including:
 - Council's pricing structure
 - pre/out of season access to sporting facilities
 - levels of services – sporting surfaces and buildings
 - eligibility for use of Council facilities
- ☐ Liaise with DoE to identify further opportunities for access to under-utilised school grounds for community sport
- ☐ Monitor the condition of the surface at the South Street Reserve to ensure the surface is suitable dog activities
- ☐ South Eastern Regional Sports Centre at Seven Mile Beach – Council is encouraged to review priority and position, of the proposed development.

Short Term (1 to 3 Years)

- ☐ In conjunction with Department of Education, investigate the development of a synthetic cricket training facility at Clarence High School
- ☐ Commence planning projects for:
 - Rosny Park Green Belt - to identify preferred use and future development of the green belt. Council is encouraged to include Charles Hand Park and Rosny Tennis & Bowls Clubs within the scope of the project
 - Cambridge Memorial precinct – develop for community/school use and sporting activities
- ☐ Develop a city-wide Football (Soccer) Facilities Strategy to guide future planning and investment, considering participation trends, infrastructure requirements, and club/development pathway
- ☐ Undertake investigations for the development of a purpose-built staging area at South Mile Beach for Triathlon
- ☐ Undertake a combined review of aquatic and indoor facilities to guide future planning and investment. The review should include facilities within the greater Hobart region
- ☐ Support Clifton Beach Surf Life Saving Club to undertake facility planning for the upgrade of change and social amenities.

Medium Term (3 to 5 Years)

- ☐ Commence the following planning projects:
 - Wentworth Park Sporting precinct – master planning to maximise use of the site and guide future investment
 - Undertake facility development planning to guide the future development of Roscommon to service Archery & Equestrian
- ☐ Undertake a detailed review of the provision, distribution and provision of Tennis & Bowls, to guide future planning and development. The review should consider participations trends, the condition of existing facilities, and financial viability
- ☐ Develop a Skate, Scooter & BMX Strategy to ensure a strategic approach to the development of new and existing facilities.

Long Term (In excess of 5 Years)

- ☐ Consider opportunities to develop a cycling/criterium track as part of planning for future sporting precincts
- ☐ Undertake master planning for the entire Clifton Beach coastal reserve including the surf club facility, the local park and parking provisions.



Appendices

- Appendix 1: Community profile
- Appendix 2: Community and club survey summaries
- Appendix 3: Recreation and sporting trends
- Appendix 4: Strategic context



Appendix 1: Community profile

The City of Clarence currently has a population of 55,659, of which Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 3.5%.

The City of Clarence is projected to reach over 60,000 people by 2031. In this time, the proportion of people aged 65 and over will increase to 25.5%, up from 18.9% in 2016.



Population (2016)	54,819
Median age	43
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	3.5%
Families	14,987

Household snapshot

Median household income \$1,306 Tasmania - \$1,100

Family households 70.2%

Single households 27.4%

Group households 2.4%

Family composition

Families with children 39.8%

Families without children 41.4%

One parent families 17.5%

Other 1.2%

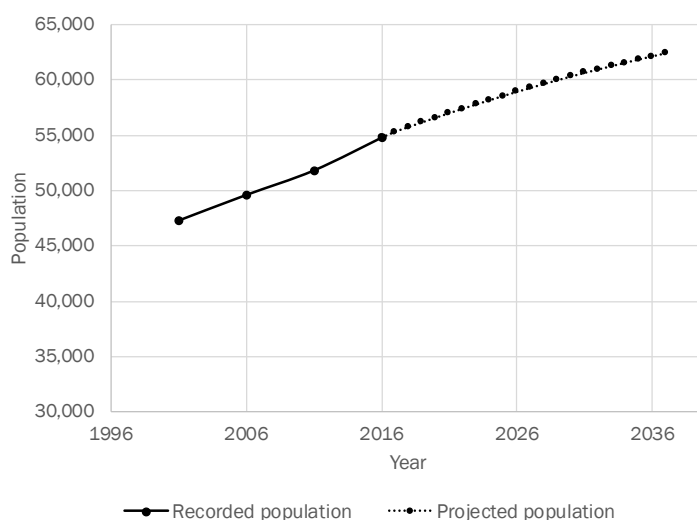
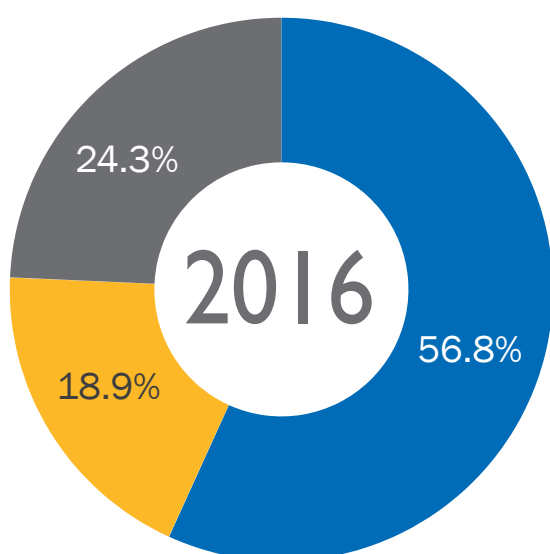
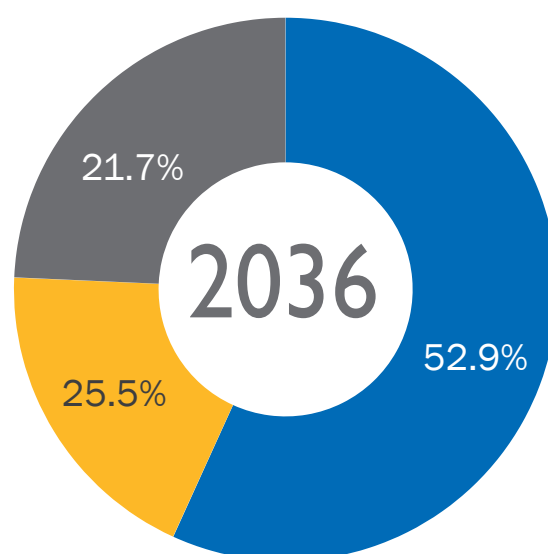


Figure 1. Clarence population projected to 2037



● 0-19 ● 20-64 ● 65+



● 0-19 ● 20-64 ● 65+

Appendix 2: Community and club survey summaries

Community consultation

Council received 436 responses to the community survey.

Participation in recreation activities

The most popular recreation activity among community survey respondents was walking (75%) followed by bushwalking (45%) and sport (36%). Following this the top eight represented in figure X, other activities include off road cycling (26%) and gym/group exercise/bootcamp (26%).

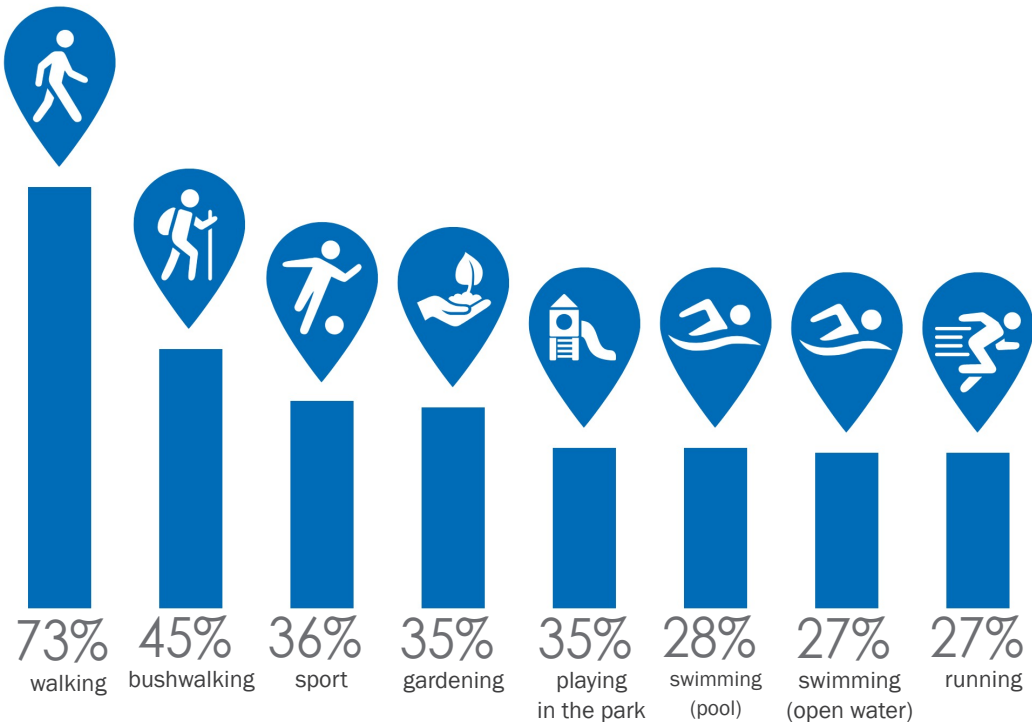


Figure X: Top 8 recreation activities in Clarence City

Table 1: Participation by activity

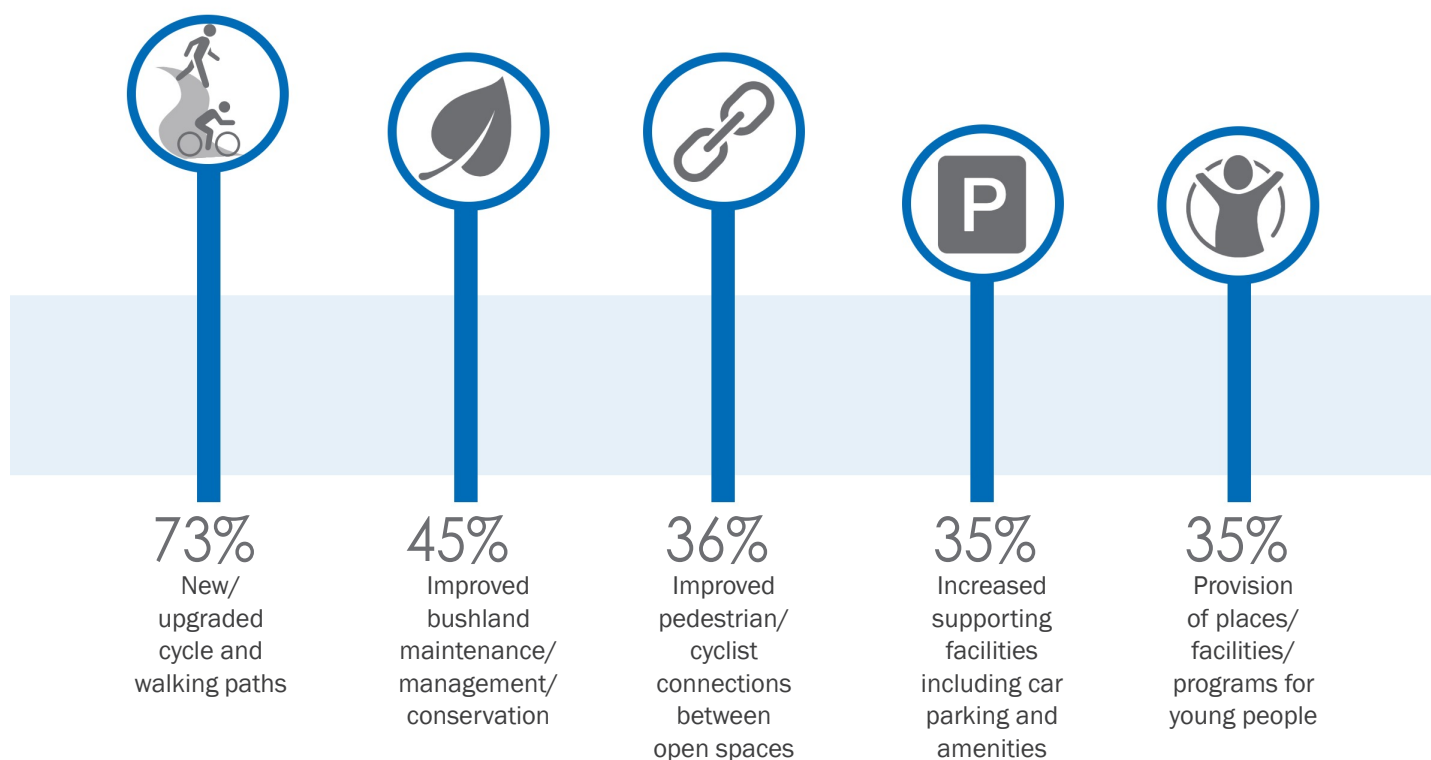
Activity	%
walking	73
bushwalking	45
sport	36
gardening	35
playing in the park	35
swimming (pool)	28
swimming (open water)	27
running	27
cycling (off road)	26
gym/group exercise/ bootcamp	26
fishing	21
water sports	21
cycling (road)	21
yoga/pilates	18
mountain biking/BMX	15
golf	13
surfing	12
physical activity as transport	12
horse riding (not with a club)	11
skateboarding/ scootering	9
dancing	4
martial arts	4
motor sports	4
lawn bowls/croquet	3

The most popular locations for recreation

1. Beach/foreshore
2. Walk and cycle paths, tracks and trails
3. Local footpaths
4. Park
5. Bushland
6. At home
7. Sports ground or court
8. On the street
9. Playground
10. Gym or fitness centre

Community priorities

The top five community priorities focus on both improving existing facilities and developing new facilities. There is particular focus on improving the walking and cycling network.

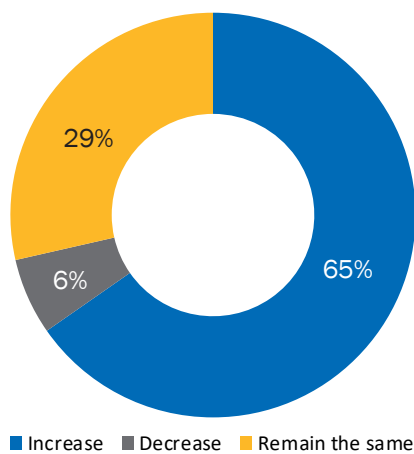


Club consultation

Council received 50 responses to the club survey. Formal interviews have also taken place with upwards of 12 clubs in addition to informal discussions that took place during facility inspections.

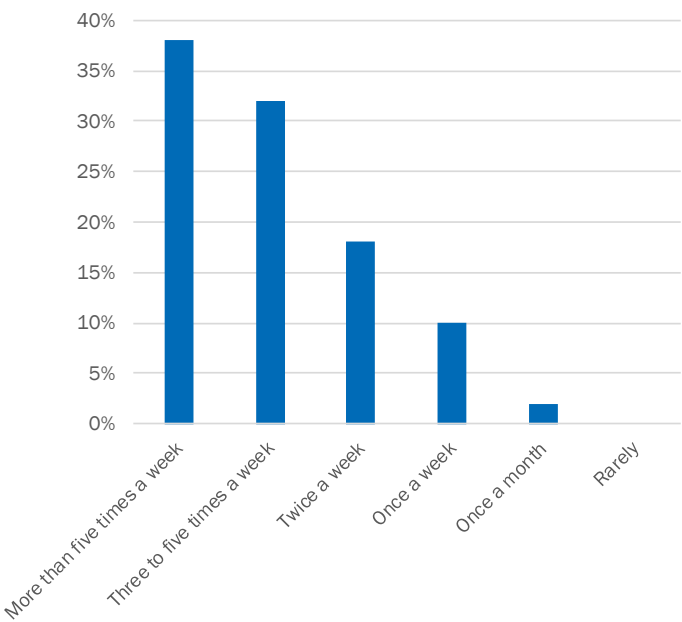
Projected growth

65% of clubs expect their membership to increase in the next three years, while 29% expect it to remain the same and 6% expect it to decrease.



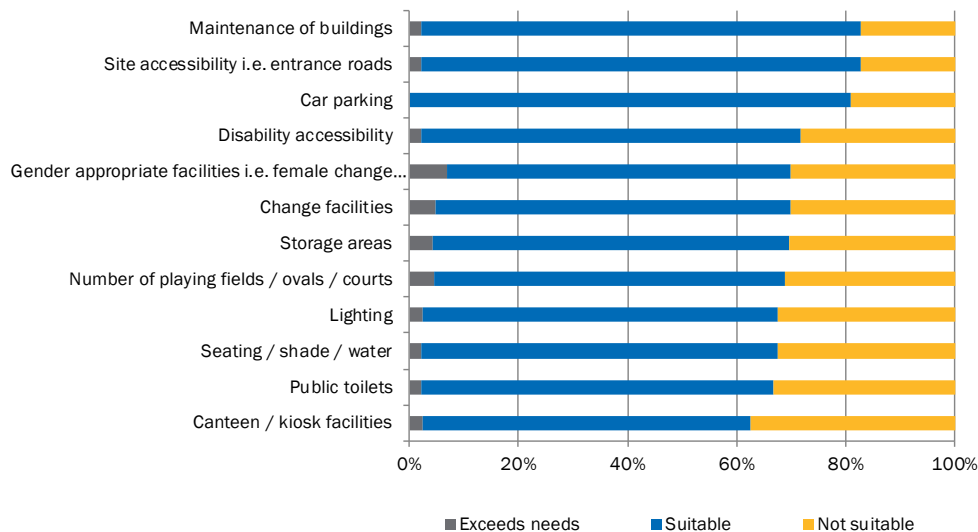
Frequency of use

Most clubs use their facility three or more times a week, while only 6 clubs use their facility once a week or less.



Facility suitability

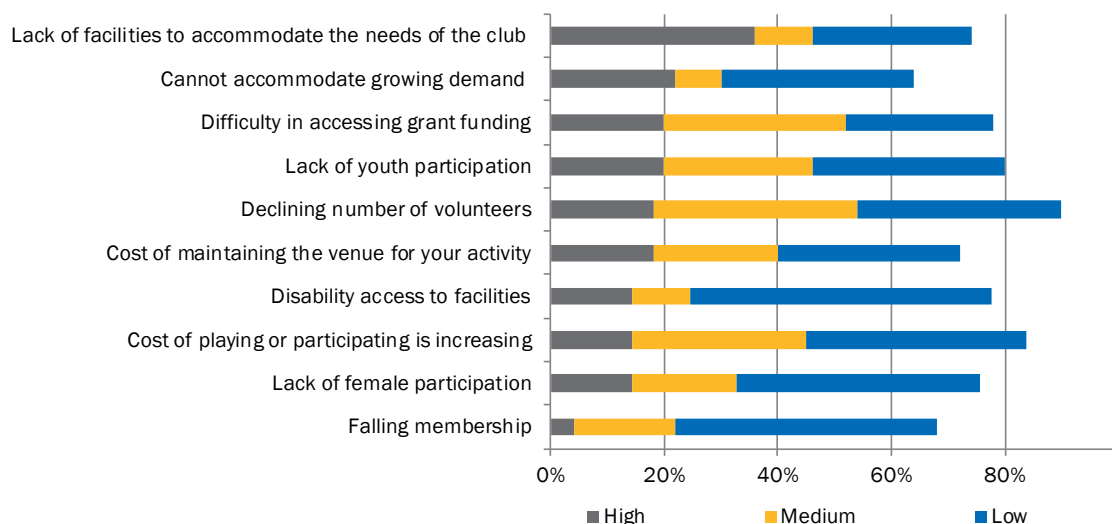
Most clubs in Clarence have facilities that are suitable for their needs. However, the most commonly unsuitable elements include canteen/kiosk facilities, public toilets and seating/shade/water. A small number of clubs also identified that facilities currently exceed their needs.



Issues

Over 20% of clubs in Clarence identified that they experience issues including a lack of facilities to accommodate need and not being able to accommodate growing demand, to a high extent.

To a lesser extent, between 15 and 20% of clubs are facing issues of difficulty accessing grant funding, a lack of youth participation, declining volunteers and maintenance costs to a high extent.



Planning and management

Over 40% of clubs have a number of planning and management practices in place including an updated constitution, internal policies, succession planning, annual budgets, strategic plans and business plans.

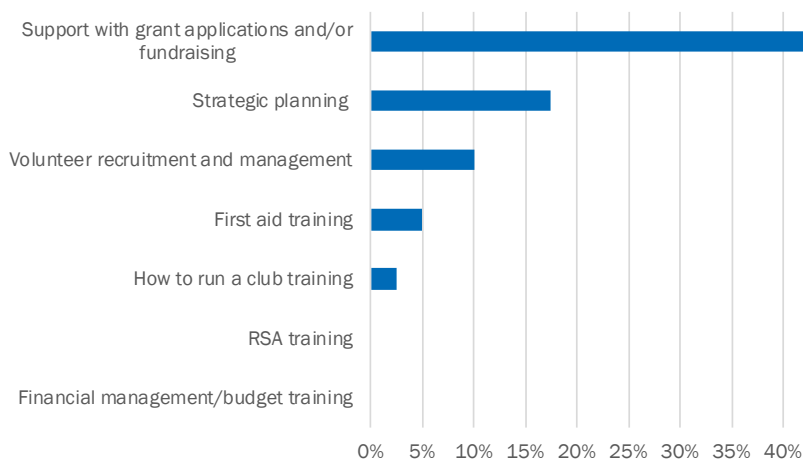
Clubs that do not currently have these in place acknowledge the need to develop them and the difficulty around attracting volunteers.



Education and training

Clubs are most commonly seeking support with grant applications, as over 40% of clubs said this education and training would be beneficial to their members.

Comments received in response to this question say that while many of these would be beneficial, they are already time-poor. Other clubs already receive this type of education and training from their state sporting association or conduct it in-house.



Appendix 3: Recreation and sporting trends

High level trends

Participation patterns in recreation are changing at a community level. Factors such as a move toward non-organised/non-structured sport, increased use of technology, and increased time pressures have all had a significant impact on how people recreate. Understanding these trends (and their impacts) is important as Council looks to develop strategies, programs and facilities to encourage people to engage in recreation activities.

Move towards informal/active recreation

National participation rates in organised sport have been declining for a number of years as participants move toward more social (drop-in drop-out) sport and informal recreation.

With outstanding natural areas for informal recreation (beaches, waterways, the Meehan Ranges and natural bushland), the Clarence LGA is well-placed to take advantage of this emerging trend.

Two relevant planning documents that reinforce this trend (as well as others), are summarised following.

Megatrends

In 2013, CSIRO and the Australian Sports Commission published “The Future of Australian Sport - Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades”.

The six identified Megatrends are summarised below:

A perfect fit:

The trend where people are increasingly participating in individual sport and fitness activities (running, aerobics, gym, etc) that more easily fit their personal lives and time constraints than the traditional organised sporting activities.

From extreme to mainstream:

Sports that offer adventure and risk elements are also on the rise, especially with younger generations. These sports are also closely linked to social media, greatly raising awareness. Sports/activities such BMX, skateboarding and rock climbing are relevant examples.

More than sport:

The broader benefits of sport are increasingly being recognised by governments, business and communities. These benefits include achieving mental and physical health, crime prevention, and social development.

Everybody's game:

Given the country's, State and LGA's ageing population, sports of the future will need to cater for older participants. Further, the ever-increasing multi-cultural nature of our communities will also result in the need to provide activities that are attractive to a diverse range of cultures.

New wealth, new talent:

Relating to international sports markets, this trend is not relevant to this Analysis.

Tracksuits to business suits:

Given the enormous amounts of money involved in some sports at the elite level, many community clubs are likely to be replaced in the future by more formally structured, corporate organisations. The rising cost of participating in organised sport is also a growing barrier to participation.

Open space/play trends

Open space planning is beginning to take a new direction. While 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. There is a growing trend towards more challenging and imaginative play for all age groups at the one location.

“Challenge parks”

Challenge parks are an emerging type of park. They generally feature multiple play nodes to cater for different ages, gardens, water play areas and lagoons, large open grassy spaces, shady picnic spots with quality facilities, ponds and water features, areas of natural woodland and vegetation and kilometres of shared paths and boardwalks to explore. High tree house structures, sky walks and natural elements are introducing risk back into play, enabling children to develop an awareness of limits and boundaries.

Clarence City Council has developed several regional parks in past 5 years and consideration to including such nodes should be given when developing future sites or extending existing sites. This also applies to addressing the older skate and scooter facilities across the LGA, providing a greater focus on activities for youth.

Seniors playgrounds

Designed to aid exercise and mobility, senior playgrounds are already popular in several countries including the United States, Germany, Spain, England and India. While many contain exercise equipment, they are also known for their social benefits, often having open spaces for exercise classes and where possible, co-located with cafes and social activities so seniors feel part of the community

Nature play

In just one generation, there has been a dramatic shift in childhood activity from outdoors to indoors. This has been driven by factors such as computer technology, a significant reduction in the size of backyards and an increasingly risk-averse culture.

Nature play is an emerging trend particularly in urban environments, where access to nature is not as readily available as it is in the Clarence LGA. Residents and visitors should be encouraged to engage with their natural environment. Awareness of the benefits of children's contact with nature is also growing, and many councils are embracing the concept of developing nature play spaces within their parks and bushland reserves. More natural play elements should be developed in conjunction with traditional play spaces across the LGA.

Rationalisations

Where open space parcels are undeveloped, are poorly located, are attracting regular anti-social behaviour and/or are not providing recreation opportunities desired by the nearby catchment (and are thus sitting idle), opportunities may exist to rationalise the land. Depending on the land tenure, this may include re-purposing as an alternate use, sale of the land or returning the land to the State.

Councils are becoming more cognisant of not retaining (and maintaining) open space that does not serve a community recreation function.

Sporting trends

Field sharing

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, sharing of field space is becoming more difficult. Additionally, there is a trend toward year-round sport with a number of codes also providing alternate opportunities in the off-season (e.g. small-sided football conducted in the summer sporting season). While providers strive to maximise the use of community resources (and State Governments espouse field sharing), the reality is that shared use of ancillary facilities (e.g. clubhouses, carparks) rather than fields may be a more appropriate goal.

This Analysis outlines the importance of Council considering the development of preferred 'homes' for some sports across the LGA.

Field and court quality

Facility providers face an increasing trend to develop and re-develop sporting fields and courts to a higher level in order to increase carrying capacity. Upgrades, such as lighting and field irrigation, allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of turf playing fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear. Further, to achieve ongoing field quality, fields need 'rest periods' (of up to four weeks) where necessary maintenance can be undertaken.

The site audits undertaken as part of this Analysis confirmed that playing fields are generally in good condition across the LGA. Further, it is believed that some facilities are under-utilised and a review of the hiring process may be able to utilise 'dead' times more effectively. It is noted however, that increased use of playing fields must also consider the need to incorporate adequate recovery times for playing surfaces and possibly the need for infrastructure to support this increased use such as lighting and irrigation.

However, the condition of ancillary facilities varied across the LGA. Due to increasing membership numbers and participation trends in particular sporting codes, a number of upgrades are proposed for ancillary facilities such as club houses, spectator facilities and change rooms.

Volunteer sport organisations

The rate of volunteering in sport and recreation clubs has been declining for many years. Often, the responsibility for running clubs falls to one or two key personnel. To address this issue, there is a move toward amalgamations, with multi-sport clubs becoming more common. In other cases, organisations may become aligned to larger licensed clubs that take over some or all of the volunteers' roles as well as asset management responsibilities.

Female participation

Over recent years there has been a marked growth in sports that traditionally did not attract high levels of female participation, particularly football (both soccer and Australian Rules), cricket, rugby league and rugby union.

Subsequently, all levels of government have been providing increased funding and planning to the development of facilities that make them more female-friendly. These improvements include those to playing surfaces to cope with the increased use and to ancillary facilities such as change rooms.

Given the support being provided by government and increased media exposure, there is no reason to believe that this trend will not continue.

Appendix 4: Strategic context

Strategic Plan 2016-2026

Council's vision for Clarence is:

Clarence - a vibrant, prosperous, sustainable city.

The overarching goals of Council's Strategic Plan, and strategies relating to the Recreation Needs Analysis include:

- ☐ A people city
 - 1.3 Develop and implement a public open space network including quality public spaces, parks, reserves, and tracks and trails.
 - 1.7 Promote active and healthy lifestyles through provision and support for active and passive recreation programs and activities.
- ☐ A well planned livable city
 - 2.13 Develop and implement a sport and active recreation strategy to monitor trends and changing needs, and provide sport and recreation infrastructure through a planned approach which encourages partnerships with local clubs, state or regional sporting organisations, and other levels of government.
 - 2.14 Work with government agencies, community organisations, and private providers with a view to sharing existing and planned assets for sport and recreation.
 - 2.15 Planning for and providing new sporting and recreation facilities to meet community demand.
 - 2.16 Create safe, well connected and high quality public open spaces that meet the needs of the community and visitors, with a focus on accessibility and safe design principles.
- ☐ A prosperous city
- ☐ An environmentally responsible city
- ☐ A creative and innovative city.

Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2015

Council provides for a number of sporting and recreational facilities for the community. The Strategy provides a robust guide to the current and future provision of sporting facilities and services in Clarence. The Strategy reviewed:

- ☐ Demographics and other leisure related statistics
- ☐ Key trends in sport and recreation
- ☐ Sustainability
- ☐ Comparison of Australian and Tasmanian sport and recreation participation trends
- ☐ Current Council facilities and management practices and stakeholder consultation.

Clarence Bicycle Strategy and Action Plan 2013-2017

The Bicycle Strategy and Plan recognises the popularity of bicycle riding and the associated barriers and deficiencies in the infrastructure currently provided. The plan aims to address these issues for a number of reasons:

- ☐ Lots of people want to ride bicycles
- ☐ A lack of infrastructure can make bicycle riding difficult
- ☐ Equitable access to transport is needed for non-car drivers: This includes the elderly, children and teenagers and those riding to school.

Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2018

The 5 key domains for activity identified throughout the research and consultation process are:

- ☐ Enhancing Liveability: Environmental and social quality of Clarence as experienced by residents, employees and visitors is a major contributor to their quality of life
- ☐ Promoting Health: Important that members have the opportunity to maintain or improve their state of health
- ☐ Enhancing Connectivity, community participation and lifelong learning: Essential that people feel connected and have opportunities to participate in community activities, employment and lifelong learning
- ☐ Care for our place: Council has an important role to protect, manage, and enhance the natural environment
- ☐ Promoting and enhancing safety: All people have the right to feel safe in their community.

Positive Aging Plan 2012-2016

The key themes and strategies identified in the Positive Ageing actions include:

- ☐ Keeping involved: Encourage and promote opportunities for older people to get involved locally and across the City, provide opportunities for older people to feel valued, make contributions and continue to learn
- ☐ A lifestyle with choices: Ensure real choices for older people to remain at home or move to alternative accommodation as people age. This includes offering housing type and location choice
- ☐ Staying connected: Support older people to maintain existing social and community contacts and to help them develop new connections and resources.

Access Plan 2014-2018

The key areas for action in the Access Plan are:

- ☐ Inclusive and accessible communities: Physical environment including public transport; parks, buildings and housing; digital information and communications technologies; civic life including social, sporting, recreational and cultural life.
- ☐ Health and wellbeing
- ☐ Rights protection, justice and legislation
- ☐ Economic Security
- ☐ Personal and community support
- ☐ Learning and skills.

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recreation
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