

COMMUNITY LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR CROWN RESERVES

OBERON COUNCIL PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR 24 CROWN RESERVES

17 DECEMBER 2024

Revisions

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Plan of Management for Crown Reserves

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL INFORMATION

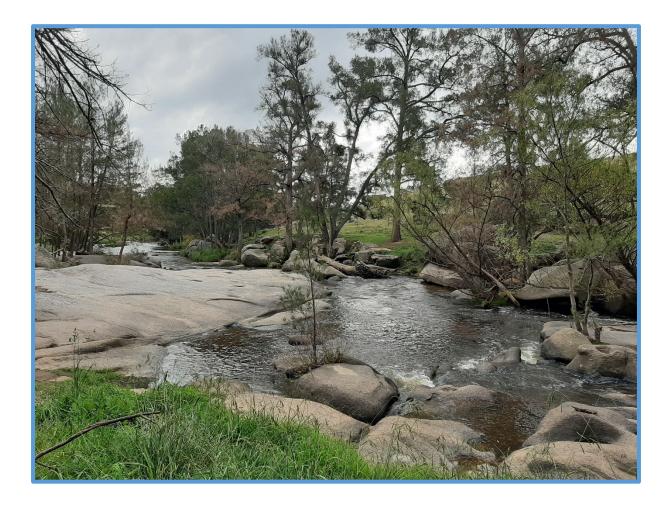
1.0 Key information

This Plan of Management (PoM) has been prepared for 24 Crown Reserves across Oberon Council's Local Government Area (LGA). These 24 Crown Reserves are under Council's care and control. Reserves retained under the Crown's care and control are not covered under this plan. Reserves covered by this Plan of Management are identified in Appendix A.

It was referred to the landowner, the Minister for Crown Lands, on 2 August 2021 to enable public exhibition.

Following public exhibition and consideration of submissions, the PoM will be adopted by Council. Minister's Consent is needed prior to adoption of the Plan of Management under the *Crown Land Management Act (CLM Act) 2016.* **17 December 2024**

Oberon Council acknowledges that within its local government area boundaries are the Traditional Lands of the Wiradjuri, Dharug and Gundungurra people. Oberon Council respects elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal peoples.



2.0 Introduction

This Community Land Generic Plan of Management (PoM) for Oberon Council is the first PoM prepared for 24 Crown reserves in the Local Government Area (LGA). These 24 reserves were previously managed by the Council as reserve trust manager under the repealed *Crown Land Act 1989*.

The 24 Crown reserves across Oberon LGA are widely dispersed and range from sports grounds, a community hall, roadside rest areas, leased paddocks, primitive campgrounds, bushland, to parks, swimming pools and commons. These are important open space, recreation, cultural and social resources catering to a wide range of local and regional activities.

2.1 About Oberon Council

Oberon Council is a Local Government Area in the Central West region of New South Wales, 196 km west (two-hour drive) of Sydney. It is uniquely located on the escarpment of the Great Dividing Range with rich natural and environmental resources. Much of the area is considered to be sub-alpine with the Oberon township 1113 metres above sea level.

Oberon LGA includes the town of Oberon and villages of Black Springs, Burraga, Edith, Mount David, O'Connell and Shooters Hill.

Oberon was proclaimed a village in 1863 and the LGA has grown to a population of 5,301 at 30 June 2016. Of these around 2700 live in the Oberon township itself. Residents & businesses have strong connections with nearby regional centres of Goulburn, Lithgow and Bathurst.

The LGA is anticipated to grow by 23% by 2038 adding an additional 1,242 people based on current trajectories¹. This will bring wider employment opportunities, tourism and a focus on community assets.

The total land area of the LGA is 3,660 square kilometres. This area comprises pine forests, agricultural land and significant natural resources such as the Kanangra-Boyd National Park, part of the Blue Mountains National Park, parts of the Abercrombie National Park, Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve, Jenolan Caves and Lake Oberon/Oberon Dam. These are environmental assets that have a regional, state and national significance and are a major attraction for visitors to the area.

2.2. Corporate objectives

Council's Community Strategic Plan 2019 – 2040 (CSP) was developed by the community 'to create an enduring, independent, strong and vibrant community'. ²

"Oberon – more than you imagine!" is the vision of Council's community strategic plan with the mission being "A prosperous town, village and rural communities set amongst the rolling hills, rivers, forests, mountains and caves of the great divide. Breathe fresh air in a landscape of light, colour and seasonal beauty. Life as it should be."

The CSP sets out the aspirations of the community and the strategic actions to get there. Five key themes underpin the CSP: community wellbeing, a growing economy, caring for environment, quality infrastructure and services, and leadership and engagement.

¹ Oberon Council Local Strategic Planning Statement 2040

² Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2019-2040

This PoM for Crown reserves categorised as parks, sportsground, general community use and natural areas will support and contribute towards achieving the following CSP actions set out in **Table 1**.

| Community Strategic Plan Actions | Crown Reserve | How can it be achieved? |
|---|--|--|
| Meet the social, cultural and physical activity needs of the community | Oberon Common Oberon Golf Club Small parks Oberon Park | Maintain our buildings and parks, open spaces, bushland and waterways for walking, cycling, skating, golfing, children's play, cricket, swimming and tennis. |
| Reduce the impact of Council's carbon footprint through energy saving innovations | Oberon Park Oberon Common Oberon Golf Club | Employ innovative ways to heat and cool indoor facilities and invest in energy efficient lighting and water reuse. |
| Provide accessible, safe and well maintained community spaces and facilities | Oberon Park Oberon Common Small parks Black Springs Community Hall & Sports ground Oberon Golf Club | Ensure facilities comply with accessibility legislation to enable all members of the community to participate in activities and events. |
| Provide infrastructure which encourages the use of sustainable transport such as cycleways and walking tracks | Edith Street Walk and cycle path Oberon Common Oberon Park Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve | Connect open spaces and reserves with shops, schools and other facilities. Introduce wayfinding to promote visits to open spaces. |
| Encourage sustainable tourism initiatives which create employment and boost the local economy | Reef Reserve & Flat Rock primitive camping grounds. Fish River Reserves. | Maintain the natural/wilderness and promote activities to complement camping such as fishing, canoeing, swimming, walking, and sightseeing. Promote the natural environment, accessibility and consider new activities such as foraging, endurance/high altitude training or mountain bike opportunities. |

 Table 1 Oberon Community Strategic Plan actions and Crown reserve opportunities

| Community Strategic Plan Actions | Crown Reserve | How can it be achieved? |
|---|---|--|
| Plan for infrastructure and land use needs ready for future growth | Sports grounds, Swimming pool, tennis, amenities, Black Springs community hall and parks. | Infrastructure is maintained and upgraded to attract and retain people. Promote flexibility in uses and lease/licenses to support multifunctional/multi use areas. |
| Protect and manage local air quality, waterways, rivers and streams | Golf course & Fish River Reserve + Fish River Reserve Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve Flat Rock Reserve Reef Reserve Campbells River Reserve Edith Rest Area (on Edith River) | Care of natural waterways, rivers and streams. Promote sustainable use of the natural environment. Clear Willows and other weeds. Community programs and waterway care. |
| Work with other agencies to protect local fauna and biodiversity | Golf course & Fish River Reserve + Fish River Reserve Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve Sanchos Hole (fenced) | Waste and weed management. Natural fauna and flora – educational walks. Conserve high conservation assets/attributes. Retain and manage land & vegetation as an important natural buffer to the Fish River and Oberon Dam/Lake. |

In June 2020 Oberon Council adopted its *Local Strategic Planning Statement 2040* (LSPS) setting out a 20 year vision for land use planning for Oberon Council's economic, social and environmental needs.

The LSPS addresses the planning and development issues of strategic significance to the Council and identifies planning priorities and actions, spatial land use direction and guidance.

The LSPS implements the *Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036* at a local level and is informed by other State-wide and Regional Policies including *Future Transport Plan 2056* and the *NSW State Infrastructure Strategy 2018 – 2038*.

The planning priorities and actions contained in the LSPS provide the strategic framework about how land is used to achieve the community's broader goals.

Council has committed to upgrading public pools, toilets, recreation grounds, skate parks and playground facilities across the LGA and will actively pursue funding opportunities so that as development occurs, community facilities will also be improved.

The following LSPS actions will support open space planning and the use of the Crown reserves in this PoM.

- Undertake access masterplans for our commercial core areas to provide accessible public and commercial spaces that attract and retain visitors to the area.
- Undertake analysis of sporting facilities and community facilities to ensure planned upgrades have capacity to service demands of a changing population.
- Wherever possible provide or encourage the provision of infrastructure that is different to adjacent towns and villages so that variety is maintained and to encourage people from nearby townships to visit.
- Review and investigate the opportunity to fund the upgrade of community facilities.
- Continually review and amend *the Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013* as required, seeking to maximise opportunities and protect sensitive areas.
- On review of the *Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013* investigate the suitability of existing biodiversity layers and associated controls and consider whether less coarse biodiversity mapping should be provided.
- To better identify land with high conservation attributes and undertake a review of road and public space biodiversity mapping.

Council is also committed to supporting and growing its tourism industry through events and provision of infrastructure and resources e.g running the Visitors Information centre and supporting the position of Tourism and Economic Development Manager.

Several reserves, for example the Common/s, provide valuable open space for community events and activities such as cross country, school leadership and BBQ days, social gathering place, community/public meetings, skate park as well as attracting visitors. A desire to provide for mountain biking facilities will be investigated for local and district events.

The economic benefits of tourism to the town and region have been recognised with a core strategy to develop and diversify local offerings under the *Abercrombie Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022* covering Oberon & Bathurst LGA's.

On a State level, the *Crown Land 2031 – State Strategic Plan for Crown Land* considers environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations for the management of Crown land was exhibited.

The vision embodied in this plan is for:

Crown land to support resilient, sustainable and prosperous communities across NSW.

The proposed priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years are to:

- enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW;
- expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience;
- strengthen and support evolving community connections; and
- work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights.

These priorities are supported by a set of outcomes to be achieved over the early, middle and full decade of the plan.

2.3 What is a Plan of Management (PoM)?

The *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) requires a plan of management to be prepared for all public land that is classified as 'community' land under that LG Act.

A PoM is an important management tool, which is written by the council in consultation with the community. A PoM outlines the land's features, and clarifies how the council will manage, use or develop the land in the future. A PoM provides a transparent and coordinated approach to public land management.

A PoM can be prepared for more than one parcel of land (generic or geographic) or for a single property (significant or specific). This is a generic plan for community land which covers multiple reserves.

2.4 What is community land?

Community land is land owned or controlled by the council and recognised as an important component of the environment, providing opportunities for recreation, leisure and contact with the natural environment. It may include a wide variety of properties, ranging from small recreation reserves to iconic parks, and even buildings.

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

2.5 Categories of community land

Section 36(4) of the LG Act 1993 defines five categories of community land:

- (a) **Natural area**—for all areas that play an important role in the area's ecology. This category is further categorised (s36(5) of the LG Act) into bushland, wetland escarpment, watercourse foreshore, and a category prescribed by the regulations.
- (b) **Sportsground**—for areas where the primary use is for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.
- (c) Park—for areas primarily used for passive recreation.
- (d) **Cultural significance**—for areas with Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research or social significance.
- (e) **General community use**—for all areas where the primary purpose relates to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social, and intellectual welfare or development of members of the public. This includes venues such as community halls, scout and guide halls, and libraries.

2.6 Classification of public land

The LG Act (Section 26) requires classification of public land into either 'community' or 'operational' land. The classification is generally made for council-owned public land by the council's Local Environmental Plan (LEP) or in some circumstances by a resolution of the council (Section 27).

If land is not classified by resolution within a three-month period from acquisition it automatically becomes community land, regardless of whether it satisfies the objectives for community land as outlined in the LG Act.

Crown reserves managed by council as Crown land manager have been classified as community land with the start of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (the CLM Act). Councils may manage these Crown reserves as operational land if written consent is obtained from the Minister administering the CLM Act.

3.0 Land to which this plan applies.

3.1 What land is covered by this PoM?

The Crown land covered by this Generic Plan of Management is identified in the schedule in **Appendix A**.

These Crown reserves are managed as community land by Council as Crown land manager.

The land covered by this plan of management is defined by real property identifiers (lots and deposited plans), as well as shown by maps in **Appendix B**.

The land on these reserves has been categorised as one of more of the following:

- Park.
- Sportsground.
- General Community Use; and
- Natural Area Bushland, and Natural Area Watercourse.

Each of these categories have specific objectives which dictate what can happen on the land and these are detailed under each specific section/chapter of this PoM.

3.2 What land is not covered by this PoM?

This generic PoM does not include:

- Council owned public land.
- Community land covered by specific PoM's.
- Crown reserves that Council manages as 'devolved land' and that is managed under Section 48 of the LG Act (Council is not a Crown land manager for these reserves), the reserves are not community land, and these do not require a PoM.
- public open space and recreation facilities which are owned and managed by other entities.
- privately owned land, which is made available for public use; and
- Land declared as critical habitat, or directly affected by a threat abatement plan or a recovery plan under threatened species laws (sections 36A(2) and 36B(3)) or by council to contain significant natural features (section 36C(2)) or to be of cultural significance (section 36D(2)). See this PoM section 4.5.1 NSW state legislation: Biodiversity Conservation Act for latest advice on recovery and threat abatement plans.

3.3 About this plan of management

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act) authorises councils that are appointed Crown land manager for dedicated or reserved Crown land (council managers) to manage Crown land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

The LG Act requires that all public land must be categorised as community or operational land. All community land then must be managed and used in accordance with an adopted PoM.

This generic PoM applies to Crown reserves where Oberon Council was appointed Crown Land manager in 2018 on the commencement of the CLM Act.

This land is managed by Council on behalf of the Crown as community land categorised as park, sportsground, general community use and natural area. Natural area community land is further categorised into bushland and watercourse.

A single cohesive plan enables consistent management of the open space network and enhanced appreciation by the wider community of its benefits, variety and distribution.

3.4 Purpose of the plan of management

The purpose of this generic PoM is to:

- contribute to the council's broader strategic goals and vision as set out in the Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2019 – 2040.
- ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 1993.
- provide clarity in the future development, use and management of the community land; and
- ensure consistent management that supports a unified approach to meeting the varied needs of the community.

4.0 Legislative framework

The primary legislation that affects how community land is managed or used is briefly described below. You can find more information about these Acts at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

4.1 Crown Land Management Act 2016

Crown reserves are land set aside on behalf of the community for a wide range of purposes, including environmental and heritage protection, recreation and sport, open space, community halls, special events and government services.

Crown land is governed by the CLM Act, which provides a framework for the State government, local councils and members of the community to work together to provide care, control and management of Crown reserves.

Under the CLM Act, councils manage Crown land as if it were public land under the LG Act. However, it must still be managed in accordance with the purpose of the land and cannot be used for an activity incompatible with its purpose—for example, Crown land assigned the purpose of 'environmental protection' cannot be used in a way that compromises its environmental integrity.

Councils must also manage Crown land in accordance with the principles of Crown land management outlined in the CLM Act. The principles are the key values that guide Crown land management to benefit the community and to ensure that Crown land is managed for sustainable, multiple uses.

Principles of Crown land management

- Environmental protection principles are to be observed in the management and administration of Crown land.
- The natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) will be conserved wherever possible.
- Public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land are to be encouraged.
- Where appropriate, multiple uses of Crown land should be encouraged.
- Where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained.
- Crown land is to be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the state of NSW, consistent with the above principles.

Crown land management compliance

In addition to management and use of Crown reserves that is aligned with the reserve purpose(s), there are other influences over council management of Crown reserves. For example, Crown land managers may have conditions attached to any appointment instruments, or councils may have to comply with specific or general Crown land

management rules that may be published in the NSW Government Gazette. Councils must also comply with any Crown land regulations that may be made.

The *Crown Land Management (Plan of Management) Regulation 2021* updated the CLM Regulation 2018 to require Council's Crown Land Managers to obtain the Ministers consent to adopt their PoM's.

There are no conditions attached to any Crown land manager appointment notices, and only one Crown land management rule applies to Oberon Council:

This rule has been made under s.3.15 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and can be viewed in full at: Granting leases and licences for communication infrastructure-related purposes on Crown land

The rule

Crown land managers cannot, under any act (including the *Local Government Act 1993*), grant any lease or licence authorising:

- the installation or construction of communication infrastructure on Crown land.
- the placement of communication infrastructure on Crown land.
- the use of communication infrastructure that is located on Crown land.
- access to communication infrastructure that is located on Crown land.

However, the rule does not prevent the holder of a holding granted by the Minister administering the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* subletting of communication infrastructure located on Crown land in accordance with the conditions of a holding granted by the minister.

4.2 Local Government Act 1993

Section 35 of the LG Act provides that community land can only be used in accordance with:

- the plan of management applying to that area of community land;
- any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land; and
- the provisions of Division 2 of Chapter 6 of the Act.

Section 36 of the Act provides that a plan of management for community land must identify the following:

- a) the category of the land.
- b) the objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land.
- c) the means by which the council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets; and
- d) the manner in which the council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets, and may require the prior approval of the council to the carrying out of any specified activity on the land.

Land is to be categorised as one or more of the following:

- a) a natural area.
- b) a sportsground.
- c) a park.
- d) an area of cultural significance; or
- e) general community use.

Land that is categorised as a natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following: bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse, foreshore and a category prescribed by the regulations.

4.3 Native Title Act 1993

The Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act) recognises and protects native title rights and interests. The objects of the NT Act are to:

- provide for the recognition and protection of native title.
- establish ways in which future dealings affecting native title may proceed and to set standards for those dealings.
- establish a mechanism for determining claims to native title; and
- provide for, or permit, the validation of past acts invalidated because of the existence of native title.

The NT Act may affect use of Crown land, particularly development and granting of tenure.

In particular, the CLM Act makes it mandatory for council to engage or employ a native title manager. This role provides advice to council as to how the council's dealings and activities on Crown land may be valid or not valid under the NT Act.

The council must obtain the written advice from an accredited native title manager that council complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation when:

- a) granting leases, licences, permits, forestry rights, easements or rights of way over the land.
- b) mortgaging the land or allowing it to be mortgaged.
- c) imposing, requiring or agreeing to covenants, conditions or other restrictions on use (or removing or releasing, or agreeing to remove or release, covenants, conditions or other restrictions on use) in connection with dealings involving the land; and
- d) approving (or submitting for approval) a plan of management for the land that authorises or permits any of the kinds of dealings referred to in (a), (b) or (c).

Accordingly, Council has considered Native Title manager advice for this plan of management.

4.4 Council plans and policies relating to this plan of management.

Council has developed plans and policies that are concerned to some extent with the management of community land. These documents have been considered when preparing this PoM.

The following is a list of documents that have a direct association with this PoM:

- Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013.
- Oberon Development Control Plan 2001.
- Oberon Community Strategic Plan 2019 2040; and
- Oberon Local Strategic Planning Statement June 2020.

The Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013 (LEP) applies to the entire LGA and sets out the land use zones and controls for development under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The LEP identifies the Crown reserves managed by Council as one of, or a combination of the following land use zones.

| RURAL | RESIDENTIAL | RECREATION |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| RU1 Primary Production | R1 General Residential | RE1 Public Recreation |
| RU5 Village | R5 Large Lot Residential | RE2 Private Recreation |

The LEP zones are listed by Reserve in **Appendix A**.

Development or uses within the reserves requiring a Development Application will be assessed under Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979.

In this regard, the LEP has a control for a designated industrial buffer area in the township of Oberon. This buffer affects one reserve, Oberon Park, pool, tennis courts and Caravan Park. Any development within the reserve must consider clause 6.6 Development within a designated buffer area of the LEP.

Four reserves adjoin rivers and are mapped under clause 6.3 Riparian land and watercourses of the Oberon LEP 2013. Development or works within these reserves - Golf Club & Fish River Reserve, Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve, Rest Area Edith Reserve (R87462) on the Duckmaloi River and Campbell's River Reserve (R83038) must consider clause 6.3 Riparian land and watercourses of the LEP.

Several of the reserves are assigned Land Use Zones under the *Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013* that are inconsistent with the purpose and category assigned to them under the *CLM Act 1993*. These will require an amendment to the Oberon LEP 2013 from their existing zone e.g. RE2 Private Recreation or R1 General Residential to RE1 Public Recreation.

Oberon DCP 2001 is a supporting guiding document which development must also consider.

In summary, the possible impacts of any future proposal on reserve land will be considered in the light of all relevant planning controls and Council policies.

4.5 Other state and federal legislation

4.5.1 NSW state legislation

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) provides the framework for planning and development across NSW and guides environmental planning instruments that provide a basis for development control.

The EP&A Act ensures that effects on the natural environment, along with social and economic factors, are considered by the council when granting approval for or undertaking works, developments or activities.

This Act is also the enabling legislation for planning policies that may have a direct influence on open space management. On a state-wide level there are State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs). On a regional level there are Regional Environmental Plans (REPs). On a local level there are Local Environmental Plans (LEPs), as well as Development Control Plans (DCPs).

Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983

The Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALR Act) is important legislation that recognises the rights of Aboriginal people in NSW. It recognises the need of Aboriginal people for land and acknowledges that land for Aboriginal people in the past was progressively reduced without compensation. Crown land meeting certain criteria may be granted to an Aboriginal Land Council. This Act may affect dealings with Crown land that is potentially claimable.

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

Statutory responsibilities on the council arising from this Act specifically relate to the protection of sites of pre- and post-European contact archaeological significance and the protection of native flora and fauna. This Act may affect community land categorised as of cultural significance, as a natural area or park.

Note: This Act repealed several pieces of legislation including the *Native Vegetation Act* 2003, *Threatened Species Conservation Act* 1995, the *Nature Conservation Trust Act* 2001, and the animal and plant provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974.

This Act covers conservation of threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and the protection of native flora and fauna. This Act primarily relates to community land categorised as natural area. However, other categories may also be affected.

The *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* has been repealed and superseded by the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. However, references to the former legislation remain in the LG Act and are therefore retained in this guideline.

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure - Energy, Environment and Science Division advises that recovery plans and threat abatement plans made under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* were repealed on the commencement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* in 2017. These plans have not been preserved by any savings and transitional arrangement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act or LG Act, meaning pre-existing plans have no legal effect.

For this reason, requirements relating to recovery plans and threat abatement plans for local councils preparing plans of management under section 36B of the LG Act are now redundant. Councils will be advised if future amendments are made to the LG Act to enable these mechanisms.

Certain weeds are also declared noxious under this Act, which prescribes categories to which the weeds are assigned, and these control categories identify the course of action which needs to be carried out on the weeds. A weed may be declared noxious in part or all the State.

Fisheries Management Act 1994

The *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act) includes provisions for the management of state fisheries, including the conservation of fish habitats, threatened species, populations and ecological communities of fish and marine vegetation and management of the riparian zone, waterways and threatened marine/freshwater aquatic species. This relates to community land categorised as natural area (foreshore, watercourse or wetland).

Where an area of community land is declared to be critical habitat, or if that area is affected by a threat abatement plan under Part 7A of the FM Act, a site-specific plan of management will need to be undertaken.

Rural Fires Act 1997

This Act contains provisions for bushfire risk management and the establishment of a Bushfire Management Committee. It also includes direction on development in bushfire-prone lands.

Water Management Act 2000

This Act is based on the concept of ecologically sustainable development, and its objective is to provide for the sustainable and integrated management of the water sources of the state for the benefit of both present and future generations. The Act recognises:

- the fundamental health of our rivers and groundwater systems and associated wetlands, floodplains, estuaries have to be protected.
- the management of water must be integrated with other natural resources such as vegetation, native fauna, soils and land.

- to be properly effective, water management must be a shared responsibility between the government and the community.
- water management decisions must involve consideration of environmental, social, economic, cultural and heritage aspects.
- social and economic benefits to the state will result from the sustainable and efficient use of water.

Heritage Act 1977

This Act contains provisions for the conservation of items of heritage and may relate to community land categorised as cultural significance or natural area.

4.5.2 Commonwealth legislation

Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

This Act enables the Australian Government to join with the states and territories in providing a national scheme of environment and heritage protection and biodiversity conservation. It incorporates threatened species on a national level and with relevance to Matters of National Environmental Significance.

Telecommunications Act 1997

This Act provides for telecommunication facilities being permitted on community land without authorisation in a PoM.

4.5.3 State Environmental Planning Policies

State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

This planning policy lists development allowed with consent or without consent on community land.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2020

This Policy aims to encourage the proper conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for koalas to ensure a permanent free-living population over their present range and reverse the current trend of koala population decline by:

- requiring the preparation of plans of management before development consent can be granted in relation to areas of core koala habitat, and
- encouraging the identification of areas of core koala habitat, and
- encouraging the inclusion of areas of core koala habitat in environment protection zones

This policy applies within the Oberon Shire in the following zones: Zone RU1 Primary Production, and Zone RU3 Forestry.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2021

This Policy aims to encourage the conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for koalas to support a permanent free-living population over their present range and reverse the current trend of koala population decline.

This policy applies within the Oberon Shire except for the following zones: Zone RU1 Primary Production, and Zone RU3 Forestry.

Editorial note—

Guidelines are being made by the Planning Secretary with the agreement of the Secretary of Regional NSW for the purposes of Parts 2 and 3 of this Policy. When the Guidelines are made this Policy is to be amended by Council to incorporate references to the Guidelines.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

Chapter 6 aims to protect quality of surface water and the ecosystems that depend on it and requires that any development would have a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality. This policy applies to parts of the Oberon LGA.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

This policy deals with clearing of native vegetation in urban areas and land zoned for environmental protection.

This policy applies to land within the following zones in Oberon LEP 2013 -

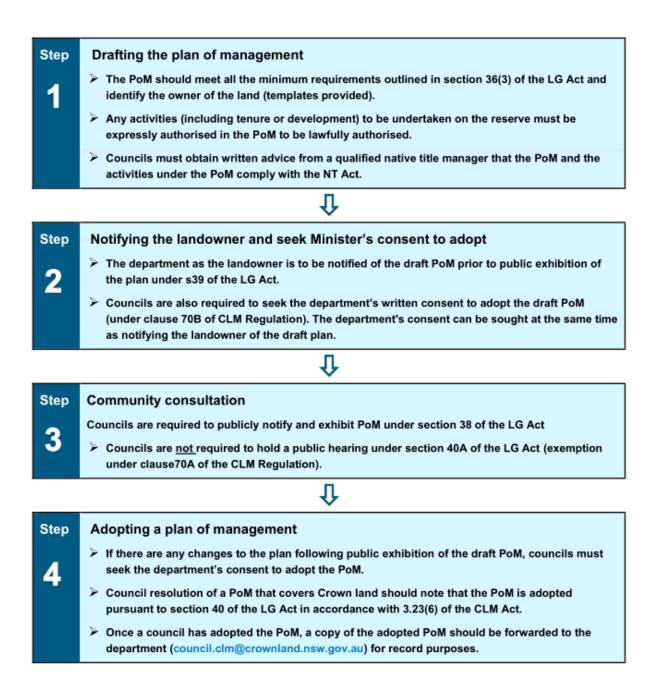
Zone RU5 Village, Zone R1 General Residential, Zone R5 Large Lot Residential, Zone B2 Local Centre, Zone B6 Enterprise Corridor, Zone IN1 General Industrial, Zone IN2 Light Industrial, Zone SP3 Tourist, Zone RE1 Public Recreation, Zone RE2 Private Recreation.

4.5.4 Other relevant legislation, policies and plans

Biosecurity Act 2015 Companion Animals Act 1998 Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cwlth) Disability Inclusion Act 2014 Local Land Services Act 2013 Pesticides Act 1999 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 Retail Leases Act 1994 Soil Conservation Act 1938 NSW Invasive Species Plan 2008–2015 National Local Government Biodiversity Strategy NSW Biodiversity Strategy Australian Natural Heritage Charter

5.0 Process of preparing this plan of management

The following Sections provide information about how to prepare a Draft Plan of Management. There are four (4) key steps to follow when preparing and adopting the first PoM for Crown Reserves



5.1 Community Consultation

Community consultation is important to ensure a PoM meets the needs of the local community. It also enables the comprehensive management of public land and encourages appreciation of its social, environmental and health benefits.

On 3 and 4 August 2020, stakeholder engagement was held with key users, representatives and lessees of key reserves, to inform the preparation of the draft PoM. These focus group sessions were limited in number and duration to comply with (then) COVID 19 restrictions.

Each session explored the importance and value of the reserve, what improvements (big picture) could be made, what issues exist and potential solutions, to confirm existing and future uses and document desired future outcomes. The outcomes of this early engagement have been incorporated into this draft PoM.

A list of the stakeholder consultation attendees is at Appendix C.

A draft PoM must also be referred to any landowner, other than council, prior to public exhibition. In this case, the owner is the State of NSW, which is represented by the Minister administering the CLM Act. The Council must include in the draft plan any provisions that may properly be required by the minister's portfolio department in accordance with existing guidelines and requirements.

Before a PoM can be adopted by the council, it must be placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days. The period in which written submissions can be received must be at least 42 days from the first day of public exhibition.

Council is exempt from holding a public hearing where a Plan of Management proposes to categorise or re-categorise Council managed land by Section 70A of the CLM Act.

PoMs are generally updated every five years, with a more comprehensive re-write after ten years. The performance of this PoM will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that community land is well maintained and provides a safe environment for public enjoyment.



6.0 Development and maintenance of the reserves

Council is responsible for the management of the 24 reserves and resources this management through:

- Administration and bookings staff.
- Dedicated maintenance and operations staff including parks and reserves operational teams.
- licensee maintenance responsibilities set out in licence user agreements; and
- Advice to Council on management, operations, and maintenance through a LG Act Section 355 Committee of Management.

Council provides funding for the upkeep and development of the Crown reserves through consolidated revenue allocations in Council's Operational Plan and associated budgets, use of open space revenues from fees and charges, grant funding and capital developments using sponsorship and partner funding.

Local Councils play a major role in maintaining and improving local communities and Oberon Council is no different as a small Rural Council providing the same amount and level of services as its nearby neighbouring rural counterparts.

The Technical Services Department at Oberon Council is responsible for the care and control, maintenance and upgrading of the parks and reserves in Oberon LGA. Council maintains a dedicated Work's staff who undertake a range of maintenance and use management activities on the parks and reserves including mowing, rubbish management and removal, repairs and minor improvements to infrastructure and facilities. Oberon Council is a member of the Joint Organisation of Central NSW Councils which, as a group participates in bulk procurement contracts.

Licensees and user groups allocate volunteer and organisational resources and funds to develop and maintenance their lease/license areas, buildings and structures.

Council undertakes capital investment and works through its dedicated team, or through engagement of contractors.

The Corporate Services Department assist community use of the reserves through social activities and events including Seniors Festival, Youth Week, Pink up Oberon, Bike Week, Movember, Christmas Grotto, Welcome to Oberon, drought weed assistance program and many more. Staff also assists with Australia Day and International Women's Day activities and constantly look for grant funding to assist with providing the community with more activities. The Oberon Youth Council is involved in support to local youth throughout our LGA.

In addition to evaluation of planning and development proposals that affect or use Council's parks and reserves, Council's Planning and Development Department is responsible for the development of Plans of Management of land owned by the Crown within the Oberon local government area which will assist in the long-term management and potential future development of these reserves.

6.1 Express authorisation of leases and licences and other estates

The LG Act requires that any lease, licence or other estates over community land must be expressly authorised by a PoM. The term 'other estates', includes other interests, charges, rights or titles in relation to the land (an example is easements).

The CLM Act therefore requires that where a council is performing ongoing works on Crown land it must ask the minister responsible for the CLM Act to create an easement for access.

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

The council may grant a lease, licence or other estate over community land to organisations and persons, community groups, sports clubs and associations, non-government organisations, charities, community welfare services, non-profit organisations and government authorities.

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

6.1.1 Leases

A lease is a contract between a landowner, and another entity, granting that entity a right to occupy an area for a specified period of time. For example, a childcare operator may need exclusive occupation and control of a childcare centre.

Subleases are only allowable for the same purpose as the original lease, except for a handful of exceptions listed in cl.119, *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

6.1.2 Licences

A licence provides a clear way of identifying a permitted activity on community land.

Licences may be granted to formally recognise and endorse shared use—for example, an outdoor seating area adjoining a café may be used by the café at some periods, but not all the time. Licences are commonly used for sports facilities such as club houses.

6.1.3 What is the difference between a lease and a licence?

The main difference between a lease and licence is that a licence does not permit the sole, or exclusive, use of the area.

Leases and licences also vary widely in scope and duration. For example, a sporting club may have a licence over a clubhouse for a season (a few months), while a lease over a showground may be for 21 years. However, under section 47(5) of the LG Act, a council may make an application for consent from the Minister for Local Government for a lease up to a maximum period of 30 years.

6.1.4 Short-term licences

There are specific limitations on short-term licensing, which can be issued under both the CLM Act and the LG Act, detailed by each Act's Regulation:

- Clause 116 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021; and
- Clause 31 of the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018.

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

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

6.1.5 Leases and licences authorised by this plan of management.

The LG Act requires that any lease, licence or other estates over community land must be expressly authorised by a PoM. **Appendix D** contains a Schedule of Leases and Licences authorised by this Plan. This plan of management **expressly authorises** the issue of leases, licences and other estates over the land covered by the plan of management, in accordance with section 46(1)(b) and section 36(3A) of the LG Act, provided that:

- the purpose is consistent with the purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved.
- the purpose is consistent with the core objectives for the category of the land.
- the lease, licence or other estate is for a permitted purpose listed in the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* or the *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018*
- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate and the provisions of the lease, licence or other estate can be validated by the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwth)
- where the land is subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* the issue of any lease, licence or other estate will not prevent the land from being transferred in the event the claim is granted.
- the lease, licence or other estate is granted and notified in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate will not materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it was dedicated or reserved.

Table 2 below identifies the purposes for which leases and licences may be issued over the reserves identified in this plan of management categorised as a Natural Area - Bushland.

Table 2 Leases, licences and other estates and purposes for which they may be granted for community land categorised as Natural Area - Bushland

| Type of tenure arrangement | Purpose for which tenure may be granted for land Categorised as Natural Area - Bushland | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Lease | walkways, pathways, bridges, causeways observation platforms, signs information kiosk kiosk selling light refreshments (but not restaurants) bicycle/boat hire or similar work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land toilets temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out | |
| Licence | walkways, pathways, bridges, causeways observation platforms, signs Information kiosk kiosk selling light refreshments (but not restaurants) bicycle/boat hire or similar work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land toilets temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out | |

| Type of tenure arrangement | Purpose for which tenure may be granted for land Categorised as Natural Area - Bushland | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| | walking or guided tours environmental and scientific study approved bush care and regeneration projects requiring ecological restoration activities associated with protection of flora and fauna. fire hazard reduction soil erosion and stormwater management. | |
| Short-term licence | scientific studies and surveys or similar bicycle/boat hire or similar temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out walking or guided tours environmental and scientific study approved bush care and regeneration projects requiring ecological restoration activities associated with protection of flora and fauna. fire hazard reduction soil erosion and stormwater management | |
| Other estates | Other estates This PoM allows the council to grant 'an estate' over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities in accordance with the LG Act. Estates may also be granted across community land for the provision of pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of th council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land. | |

6.2 Native Title and Aboriginal land rights

When planning **to grant a lease or licence** on Crown land including reserves or dedications, the council must comply with the requirements of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act) and have regard for any existing claims made on the land under the NSW *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

It is the role of council's engaged or employed native title manager to provide written advice in certain circumstances to advise if the proposed activities and dealings are valid under the NT Act. Oberon Council has received Native Title Manager advice and considered the advice prior to referral of the [then] draft plan of management to the landowner: the Minister administering the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

6.3 Future acts

Dealings in land or water that affect (impair or extinguish) native title are referred to as 'future acts' and these acts must be done in compliance with the NT Act. Granting a lease or licence over Crown land may be a future act.

Certain types of future acts can be validated under the NT Act. Where future acts are undertaken, native title claimants and holders are entitled to specific procedural and substantive rights. As such, the written advice of a native title manager is required. The

advice must state that the act complies with the NT Act, and any necessary procedural requirements must be fulfilled prior to the act taking place.

6.4 Changes and review of PoM

This PoM will require regular review in order to align with community values and changing community needs, and to reflect changes in council priorities. Typically, PoMs are updated every five years, with a more comprehensive re-write after ten years.

Council's four-year operational plans, and delivery plans may impact on the priorities of PoM actions being implemented but this PoM will be a major support to the capital and operation funds expenditure, as well as regular operational maintenance expenditure.

The performance of this PoM will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that community land is well maintained and provides a safe environment for public enjoyment.

Council should regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of the implementation and review the performance targets, means of achievement and method of assessment annually. The appendices to this PoM may be updated from time to time, reflecting significant changes to the condition of the land, uses or facility provision.

Any change to the categories assigned in this PoM will require the preparation of a new draft, which may be a simple alteration to the existing schedules and text or change of category from park to general community use or sportsgrounds.

The community will have an opportunity to participate in reviews of this PoM as any review and amendments must be as if a new PoM is drafted with public exhibition and comment period prior to adoption.



PART 2: MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS BY CATEGORY

7.0 Natural areas

7.1 Introduction and core objectives

Natural area reserves will be managed as an integral component of the overall community open space system in Oberon LGA.

The guiding management principle will be to preserve remnant bushland and watercourses and manage them in keeping with natural ecological processes while facilitating public enjoyment and use by all age groups, subject to available resources.

Natural areas are defined in Section 102 of the LG Regulation 21:

'...if the land, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore under section 36(5) of the (LG) Act.'

Core objectives

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

The core objectives for natural areas, as outlined in Section 36E of the LG Act 1993, are to:

- (a) conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area.
- (b) maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting.
- (c) provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land.
- (d) provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion; and
- (e) assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994.

These higher order core objectives are given specific expression within each of the subcategories in this PoM for Natural Area - Bushland and Natural Area - Watercourse.

There are seven Crown reserves with a natural area category in part or whole. These are set out in the relevant category below and listed in Appendix 1A.

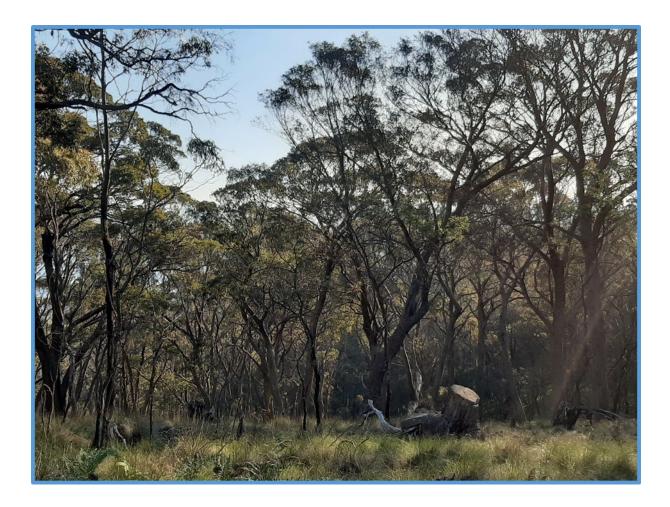
While there are several threatened and endangered species throughout the LGA, the land covered by this PoM has not been identified as the habitat of any threatened or endangered species nor does it contain critical habitat (as defined under the repeal *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*). There is however remnant vegetation, fauna and natural features on the land which serve an important ecological and environmental role.

Council proposes to continue the sustainable management of these natural features and supporting habitats. Future ecological studies will inform the ongoing management and development of any of the Crown Land managed by Council where such proposals have an ability to disturb natural features and habitats.

Councils guiding management principle will be to conserve remnant bushland and rehabilitate degraded areas while facilitating public enjoyment and use by all, subject to available resources.

In respect of Section 36C of the Local Government Act 1993, 'Community land containing significant natural features' it is confirmed that no land contained within this PoM contains any community land that is the subject of a resolution by the council that declares that the land, being the site of a known natural, geological, geomorphological, scenic or other feature that is:

- considered by the council to warrant protection or special management considerations, or
- a wildlife corridor, is land to which this section applies.



7.2 Natural Area - Bushland

7.2.1 Introduction and core objectives

Natural Area - Bushland is defined in s107 of the LG Regulation 2021 as:

Land containing primarily native vegetation and that vegetation:

(a) is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or (b)although not the natural vegetation, is still representative of the structure or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality.

Core objectives

These are given specific meaning in the core objectives for bushland, as outlined in Section 36J of the LG Act, which are to:

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

7.2.2 Bushland in Oberon LGA

The Regional State of the Environment Report 2016 – 2017 prepared for 17 participating councils of the Greater Central West Region of NSW including Oberon identified that:

There are numerous threatened species and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) across the region. Box-Gum Woodland, (also known as Box Gum Grassy Woodland) is one of the most threatened communities in the State with 7% of original extent remaining. It is listed on both State and National registers. Box Gum Woodland was widely found across the region, however the high level of clearing linked to agricultural land use has caused a significant decline.

Council's more recent 2019 Oberon Roadside Vegetation Management Plan identified the value and conservation significance of native vegetation communities within the roadside reserve.

This study found a significant amount of the roadside reserve network throughout Oberon was of high conservation significance with extensive tracts of native vegetation. These areas provide potential habitat for many native plants and animals, including 25 threatened species such as Koalas, Spotted Tail Quolls and Yellow-Bellied Gliders. Given these findings it is likely that the natural area reserves will also provide habitat for native plants and animals.

While the LGA contains Kanangra-Boyd National Park and portions of Blue Mountains National Park (both part of the Greater Blue Mountains Area on the UNESCO World Heritage List, along with the Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve) these smaller crown reserves and in particular the largest within the town of Oberon (near to the Golf course) provides habitat for many native plants and animals.

For Oberon LGA, the clearing of native vegetation is regulated in four scales of two streams by the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) and Land Management Framework. The first two scales are under the Development Application stream under Part 4 or 5 of the EP&A Act. In this stream an Environmental Assessment will need to consider if the area is mapped on the Biodiversity Values Map, exceed the Threshold or significantly affect Threatened Species. If it meets any of these criteria the BOS applies and a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) must be prepared.

The second stream is for non-DA clearing in a rural area. This may call in the Local Land Services (LLS) Act.

Where clearing is recommended by a PoM, or as a Part 5 (EP&A Act) Activity an environmental assessment may still be required dependent on the extent of clearing.

State and federal environmental laws require that certain types of development that impact on the environment must procure 'environmental offset credits' to achieve overall balance. Some Crown land with high environmental values can be used to generate offset credits. There are also state programs that encourage land being used to maximise biodiversity and conservation. Opportunities include creating new dedications for conservation purposes, changing the way the land is managed to make it eligible for offset credits, and entering conservation agreements.³ Oberon Council could explore this avenue which ultimately could provide funds to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the reserves.

7.2.3 Reserves in Oberon LGA categorised as Natural Area – Bushland

Six reserves are categorised as Natural Area – Bushland (in whole or part) and have the following characteristics.

- Golf Club & Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) No. R79502 is located adjacent to Oberon Dam with an area of 770,657m2. The bushland component sits between the golf course and residential areas of the township of Oberon. The land is steep to undulating with limited vehicle access/ entry points and rough internal roads. This steepness and lack of access limits vehicular use which has contributed to its largely untouched natural state. It has an open woodland structure and no public recreation infrastructure. The site also comprises electricity and water supply infrastructure. The vegetation forms an important natural barrier to Oberon Dam/Lake.
- 2. Fish River Reserve No. R82748 (along Jenolan Street) adjoins Oberon Dam Reserve and comprises 26,304m2 of bushland. It is contiguous with Oberon Dam Reserve and is in a primarily natural state. It is located on the lower flank of the hill side and on flatter ground. It is a component of the larger reserve floristically and in terms of management.
- 3. Fish River Trout Farm No. R89216 is also an extension of the Oberon Dam Reserve bushland. It is undulating to steep in part and is easily accessible. It has a modified open woodland structure and a wide bike/walking track connecting it from Buckley Cres to Jenolan Street near the Oberon Dam wall. A portion (being Lot 7 DP 868216) of the Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No 89216 is Natural Area – Watercourse where it adjoins the Fish River
- 4. Sanchos Hole Karst Reserve No. R590118. Sanchos Hole is a small geomorphological site, south of Black Springs that is not readily accessible by the general public. Access to the site must be obtained through a private property and it is fenced off to prevent livestock and people falling in.

³ Crown Land 2031 – State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

- a. The Blue Mountains Speleological club visited the site in 1987 and more recently to map this small Karst. The Sydney Speleology club have assisted with recent fencing, weed removal and tree planting within the reserve. This small Karst is one of three in New South Wales.
- b. The Bathurst Times (8 January 1924) reported that Councillor Richards of Oberon Shire Council suggested that application be made to the Lands Department for a reservation of four acres at Sancho's Hole on the Campbell's River.
- c. In 2016 funding was provided to resurvey the boundaries and fence Sanchos Hole. The perimeter (150m) of the hole is stable with about 3m of water at the bottom. The geological formation however does not enter into a series of caves but water flows through rock factures to meet up with other key water sources in the wider region.

The reserve is infested with blackberry however funding from the Macquarie Catchment will enable the clearing and planting of 2000 plants to revegetate the area.

It is one of only 3 holes in Australia and has no legal public right of way to get to the site.

- 5. Rest Area (Abercrombie Rd near Hanrahan's Ln) Reserve No. R84199. This small 6,410m2 site is located along Abercrombie Road south of Black Springs. It is a flat roadside reserve with stands of native trees and some disturbance. It is a small portion of a larger area of bushland.
- 6. Campbell's River Reserve No. R83038 is located south of Black Springs and comprises 18,086m2 of flat open disturbed bushland bounded to the south west by Campbell's River. It is an unfenced roadside reserve with no signage nor ease of vehicular access with telecommunications poles and wires traversing it. This site is one of 35 sites across the LGA providing access for the Central Acclimatisation Society to restock the river with fish. Clear access to the river needs to be maintained.



7.2.4 Key issues

Bushland in general is under increasing pressure from climate change, bushfire, weeds, pests and diseases, utility infrastructure, domestic animals, motorbikes, vehicles, vandalism and edge effects.

The 2017 State of Environment Report for the region identified several threats to biodiversity including land clearing, invasive plants species and feral and pest animals.

The habitat and native wildlife in each of the Natural Area – Bushland reserves have the potential to be affected by rabbits, European red foxes and feral cats.

National threat abatement plans exist for these species and identify the research, management and other actions needed to ensure the long-term survival of native species and ecological communities affected by predation and/or habitat disturbance.

Control or eradication of these species, weed control and appropriate management of the reserves will support its ecological health and clean air, water and soil.

These bushland reserves are also fire prone and appropriate management of the reserves, particularly those close to residential areas, is needed.

While *White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* is listed as a critically endangered ecological community under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and occurs in the region, along with other threatened plants and animals, the composition of reserve fauna and flora is unknown.

Where bushland reserves adjoin waterways, they play an important role in providing unimpeded access for fish restocking or recreational activities. Farm fencing however is making this difficult in some areas. Through stakeholder engagement the following site-specific matters were identified.

- Need for identification and access signage at Fish River Reserve and Fish River Trout Farm Reserve as it appears as State Water land and access is restricted by a large, locked gate while being the only exit point for bikes and walkers in the reserve.
- Good walking track exists through Fish River Trout Farm Reserve leading from Buckley Crescent, pass the amphitheatre to the locked gate but it is not well known.
- Bird life Australia bird watchers are a growing interest group in the area.
- Some amazing wildflowers exist in the 3 'Fish River' reserves.
- Important to keep the reserves for future use and benefit.
- Seek funding through relevant government Departments for habitat rehabilitation and promote the area as a natural area.
- Both reserves are actively managed for blackberry and other weeds. No dumping occurs in Fish River Reserve but evidence of past dumping in Trout Farm Reserve.
- Fish River reserves used for horse riding, access for fishing, running, walking, wildlife and wildflower photography.
- Extend the trails in the reserve and maintain them.
- Reserves are important in providing access for fishing in the dam.
- The reserves have tourism, events and orienteering potential.
- Build mountain bike tracks some works underway on the Golf course & Fish River Reserve but approval for the work is unclear.
- Reserves need better identification signage, wayfinding and promotion.
- Need Council's website to identify where the crown reserves are, what access is available and what type of activity is suitable.

7.2.5 Development and use

The use and development of community land should be compatible with the legislated purpose of the land and the wider community context.

Oberon encourages a wide range of uses of its community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of its land.

The general types of uses which may occur on community land categorised Natural Area -Bushland, and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in **Table 3** below.

The anticipated uses and associated development identified in the table are intended to provide a general guide.

The facilities on community land may change over time, reflecting community needs.

Table 3 Permissible use and development of community land categorised as Natural Area - Bushland

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses | |
|---|---|--|
| Preservation of the council's natural heritage including any identified endangered ecological communities Preservation of biological diversity and habitat | Visitor facilities: toilets, picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas, lighting, low impact carparks, refreshment kiosks (but not restaurants) Low-impact walking and bicycle trails Interpretive signage, information kiosks | |

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses | |
|--|---|--|
| Providing a location for relaxation and passive informal recreation Walking/hiking Guided bushwalks. Environmental and scientific study Bush regeneration works. Carbon sequestration Bio-banking Approved bush care projects requiring ecological restoration activities associated with protection of flora and fauna. Fire hazard reduction Soil erosion and water quality Pushbikes on designated tracks | Water-saving initiatives such as rain gardens, swales and sediment traps Bridges, observation platforms, boardwalks, fencing Work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land. Temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out or for specific one-off events. Locational, directional and regulatory signage | |

7.2.6 Management framework for Natural Areas - Bushland Category

These reserves have a rural landscape quality, are principally unmanaged with natural regeneration occurring and limited activities occurring within them. This has enabled the vegetation to remain in a more natural state and serve as infrastructure corridors (water and electricity), rest places for cattle/livestock or vehicles and as a geological point of interest (Sanchos Hole). Past disturbance from road works is evident in some of them.

Opportunity exists to incorporate well located reserves into the wider open space and recreational network for the enjoyment of the community and visitors. The conservation of ecological habitats; restoration and rehabilitation of accessible bushland areas and the preservation of natural geological features can contribute to a better appreciation of bushland, its values, open space and environmental and social benefits.

Section 36 of the LG Act requires that a PoM for community land details:

- objectives and performance targets for the land;
- the means by which the council proposes to achieve these objectives and performance targets; and
- the manner in which the council proposes to assess its performance in achieving the objectives and performance targets.

Table 4 below sets out the management framework for community land categorised asNatural Area - Bushland.

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|--|---|--|
| Species composition (both fauna and flora) within the reserves is unknown. | Protect the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land by understanding its flora and fauna. Promote and preserve our natural environment and wildlife habitat. | Land with high conservation attributes are identified. When resources are available investigate the species composition of the large natural portion of the Golf Club Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) No. R79502 that adjoins the Golf Course as well as the adjoining Fish River Reserve No. R82748 and the Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No R89216 | Ecological survey of the bushland reserves are undertaken, and appropriate land management options prepared, with a focus on Reserve No.79502 (Golf Club & Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) and No. R82748 (Fish River Reserve). Survey of mammals, birds and lizards within Reserve No. R79502 & No. R82748 are recorded. This maybe through interest groups such as bird watchers, schools or Universities. Number of sightings of wildlife eg kangaroos, wallabies, wombats etc by bushwalkers and others using the reserves. Funding sourced to undertake environmental management studies in consultation with government and community to update and inform new biodiversity mapping for the Oberon Local Environmental Plan 2013. |

| | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|---|---|--|
| Management Issues | Objectives and Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| Ecological habitats being preserved and managed. | No loss of existing habitat and regeneration of the natural bushland encouraged. | Undertake bushland restoration projects that foster natural seeding and regeneration. Where native seed banks remain in the soil, it is preferable to use fire, ripping of the soil or other techniques to encourage natural regeneration. Locally occurring indigenous plants that have been recorded within the reserve/s are used in restoration works. Retain hollow logs and living hollow bearing trees. Investigate opportunities to use Crown reserves to generate off set credits. | Number and type of bushland restoration projects carried out with a focus on Reserve No. R79502, No R82748 and No R89216 (Fish River Trout Farm Reserve) Amount of natural regeneration occurring. Number of native endemic species planted. Hollow logs and hollow bearing trees remain untouched in the reserves. Liaison with NSW Government agencies to further develop and provide opportunity for the natural areas of the local government area. Eligibility of key reserves is assessed for their potential to provide off set credits & ongoing funding. |
| Manage noxious weeds, feral and pest animals. | • Protect the habitat values of the land by encouraging responsible pet management and limiting the effects of invasive animals on native wildlife and vegetation. | Council and the community undertake a program of community environment days to eradicate the reserves of weeds and pests. | Number of volunteers attending community events on the reserves to help protect its biodiversity. Regular treatment and reduction in weeds, removal of blackberry, pests and feral cats and dogs. Maintenance works are required to consolidate regenerated areas. Off leash dogs are not permitted in Natural Areas. Healthy floristic community. |

| | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|--|--|--|---|
| Management Issues | Objectives and Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| Bushfire management. | Review bush fire management and determine the most appropriate fire regime for vegetation on these reserves near to assets (e.g homes & infrastructure) | • Area is inspected and assessed by Council in conjunction with the rural fire services. | Policy for bushfire management of the reserve is developed. Volunteers assist with the removal of ground fuel. |
| Enhancing the values and quality of the land and facilitate public enjoyment. | Promote community awareness about the benefits of natural areas. Implement measures to minimise or mitigate disturbance caused by human intrusion. Minimise soil erosion. Protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface. Identify and protect Aboriginal sites. Access to rivers and Oberon Dam is maintained and appropriately managed. | Introduce a community access and education program. Interpretive, educational and directional signs provided. Identify and construct walking tracks to minimise impacts on vegetation. Seats and other furniture provided, where appropriate. Limit motorbike and vehicular access through the reserves. Close and rehabilitate vehicle access tracks where no longer required. Retain ground cover and vegetation on slopes and drainage lines to minimise soil erosion. Consult with the Aboriginal community to determine the presence of any aboriginal sites, places or objects. | Increased community access to reserve land Feedback from community awareness/education program. Reserve identification signage installed to confirm public land and use. Wayfinding signs and pathway system upgraded to priority areas such as Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) No. R79502 and Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No. R89216. Number of vehicular access points and road network minimised. Off road motor bikes and other illegal activities banned from the reserves. On Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) No. R79502 and adjoining Fish River Reserve No. R82748 access options for tracks through the area are carefully considered and the users become custodians of the environment participating in Bushcare (both fauna and flora). |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|--|--|---|
| Absence of legitimate access to Sanchos Hole. | Provide safe legal public access to Sanchos Hole to enable its care and maintenance. | Investigate access options to the reserve. | Report on access and funding. |



7.3 Natural area - Watercourse

7.3.1 Introduction and core objectives

Natural Area - Watercourses are defined in s110 of the LG Regulation as:

Any stream of water, perennial or intermittent, in a natural or artificial channel, and associated riparian land or vegetation.

Core objectives

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

The core objectives for natural areas - watercourses, as outlined in Section 36M of the LG Act, are to:

- manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows.
- manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability.
- restore degraded watercourses; and
- promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.

7.3.2 Natural Area - Watercourses in Oberon LGA

Oberon Council is a member of the Central West Councils Environment & Waterways Alliance. This partnership of 18 Councils across Central West NSW encompasses both the Central Tablelands and Central West Local Land Services (LLS) regions. The Alliance exists to improve environmental outcomes across these regions with a focus on waterways and rivers. While funding from the Central Tablelands and Central West Local Land Services ceased in 2018 the Alliance continues to improve local environmental outcomes and could be harnessed to undertake necessary rehabilitation works in key reserves in Oberon LGA.

Oberon Council and Bathurst Regional Council in 2017 undertook the Fish River Habitat Restoration project to restore the riparian zone along a section of the river to increase biodiversity, habitat and improve resilience of these systems to disturbances. The key outcomes of the project included the control of willows, a weed of national significance, along approximately 800m of the Fish River. Follow up work was undertaken by the Oberon Green Army who also planted 170 long stem tube stock along the eastern and western riverbanks.⁴

The Central Acclimatisation Society (CAS) is a volunteer run organisation that works with NSW Fisheries to stock waterways of Central West NSW with trout and native fish for anglers. The CAS require year-round access to the water to release fish within 35 identified sites in the LGA. In spots landowners are fencing to the river and preventing access from the road. When transporting 25 kilo bags it is very difficult to get to the river. This is occurring in bushland sites near to or adjoining watercourses in the LGA.

The hatchery for the fish is located under Oberon dam wall and has been there since 1972 on State Water land.

Important fish release sites include the following Reserves: The Reef Reserve, Golf Course and Fish River Reserve, Fish River Trout Farm Reserve, Flat Rock Reserve and Campbell's River Reserve.

⁴ Regional State of Environment Report 2016 - 2017

7.3.3 Reserves in Oberon LGA categorised as Natural Area - Watercourse

There is one reserve and one part reserve where it is proposed to categorise the land as Natural Area – Watercourse under this PoM.

These are:

- Rest Area Edith Reserve No. 87462 on the Duckmaloi River; and
- Part Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No R89216 (Lot 7 DP 868216) on the Fish River.

Rest Area Edith Reserve No. R87462

It is proposed to categorise Reserve No R87462 on the Duckmaloi River from General Community Use to Natural Area – Watercourse.

| Name | Land Area | Location | Purpose CLM Act | Category LG Act | Oberon LEP 2013 Land Use Zone |
|---|-------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Rest Area Edith Reserve No. R87462 | 6,677.41sqm | Edith Whole: Lot 343 DP 757067 | Resting Place | Natural Area - Watercourse | RU1 Primary Production |

This reserve sits between 2 paddocks on privately owned farmland. The reserve is predominately fenced and used for farming when not inundated. The land can be accessed in part by foot from Edith Road however there is no safe stopping points for vehicles. In addition, there is no signage to identify it and it is absorbed into the rural/riverine landscape.



Figure 2 Rest Area Edith Reserve No. R87462

Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No R89216

Lot 7 DP 868216 (Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No R89216) commences downstream of Oberon Dam wall and follows the Fish River for most of its length.

| Name | Land Area | Location | Purpose Crown Lands Act | Category LG Act | Oberon LEP 2013 Land Use Zone |
|--|------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve No R89216 | 198,863sqm | Oberon Whole: Lots 4-5, 7 DP 868216 | Public Recreation | Part Park, also with Natural Area - Watercourse (Lot 7), and Natural Area - Bushland | R1 General Residential |

The lot comprises land within the riverine corridor with swampy meadows, open native vegetation, willows and other weed species. The land is habitat for native birds, wombats, kangaroos and other native wildlife.

Water supply infrastructure (pumping station and pipes) is accessed through Lot 7 and former dumping of playground equipment and amenities is evident. Electricity (poles and wires) also run through part of the land. The land can be accessed via car (restricted access) and by foot or bike. The landforms part of the wider Fish River Trout Farm reserve which topographically varies from steep to undulating and provides for biking, walking and environmental/nature-based enjoyment.



7.3.4 Key Issues

Typical management issues in these riverine areas are identified and addressed in **Table 6** and comprise the following.

Biodiversity conservation and protection of watercourses

- Maintaining instream and adjoining wetland area/s health.
- Potential for soil erosion and sedimentation; soil contamination (from farming or adjoining land uses).
- Water: altered hydrology and unknown water quality.
- Vegetation: willow and weed invasion; riverine management; wildlife corridors.
- Fauna: limited understanding of animals in and adjoining the watercourse; protection of vulnerable fauna species; presence of feral animals; companion animals.
- Unauthorised dumping of park facility waste and changes to the landform near the watercourse.

Facilities and infrastructure

- Safety of Reserve users: bushfire safety or water risks.
- Lack of structures and identification signage or wayfinding.

Access and accessibility to waterfront/rivers

- Access is difficult or not sign posted.
- Inappropriate fencing restricting access to allow for fish restocking of waterways or recreational activities (in general)
- Use of land at Rest Area Edith Reserve No. R87462

Culture and heritage

- Interpretation of heritage and environmental values of bushland including water management role can be explained for park users.
- Consideration of an interpretive program for upgraded or new nature trail to watercourses

7.3.5 Development and use

The general types of uses that may occur on community land categorised as Natural Area - watercourse, and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in **Table 5** below.

The anticipated uses and associated development identified in the table are intended to provide a general guide. All development should seek to address and support rejuvenating remnant bushland and riparian vegetation, minimising creek line/riverbank erosion and improving water quality.

Table 5 Permissible use and development of community land categorised as Natural Areas-Watercourse.

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|--|---|
| Preservation of the council's natural heritage including any identified endangered ecological communities Preservation of biological diversity and habitat Providing a location for relaxation and passive, informal, water-based recreation, unless prohibited. | Visitor facilities: toilets, picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas, lighting, low-impact carparks, refreshment kiosks (but not restaurants) Low-impact walking trails Interpretive signage, information kiosks Water-saving initiatives such as rain gardens, swales and sediment traps |

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses | |
|--|---|--|
| Approved bush care projects requiring ecological restoration activities associated with the protection and conservation of flora and fauna. Restoration works associated with the protection of the biodiversity and ecological values of the in-stream environment. Stabilisation of banks and water quality management. Maintenance of access to the watercourse for fish restocking and recreational use | Work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land. Bicycle/boat hire or similar Temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out. Locational, directional and regulatory signage Flood mitigation works, such as detention basins, realignment of water flows and banks, installation of pipes, culverts and other structures to assist in control of flood waters. | |

7.3.6 Management framework for natural areas categorised as Natural Areas - Watercourse

Section 36 of the LG Act requires that a PoM for community land details:

- objectives and performance targets for the land;
- the means by which the council proposes to achieve these objectives and performance targets; and
- the manner in which the council proposes to assess its performance in achieving the objectives and performance targets.

Table 6 below sets out these requirements for community land categorised as Natural Area

 Watercourse.

Table 6 Objectives and performance targets, means of achieving them and how the actions for community land categorised as Natural Areas - Watercourse may be achieved

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|--|--|--|
| Biodiversity conservation | Conserve and properly maintain ecological habitats by understanding the hydrology, fauna and flora. Better understand the role of the rivers and adjoining crown land as wildlife corridors and refuges | Undertake research or surveys to determine whether the riverine habitat is suited to the Endangered Booroolong Frog and to record other native animals. | Work is undertaken by volunteers or universities/research organisations to record plant and animal species within the riverine corridor. An ecological survey is undertaken of the land in Lot 7 (Fish River Trout Farm Reserve) to determine whether it may be suited to the Endangered Booroolong Frog. Fish species count. Water quality testing. Presence of frog species. |
| Protection of Natural Areas- watercourse values | • Protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment | Continued development and implementation of programs such as water quality monitoring, the wastewater strategy, stormwater plans and stream watch to inform management responses | Fish species count Water quality testing Presence of frog species |
| | | Clean up dumped park and household white goods within the Fish River Trout Farm Reserve | Dumped rubbish removed |

| | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|--|--|---|--|
| Management Issues | Objectives and Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| Management of Natural Area - watercourses | Manage watercourses to protect the riparian environment, vegetation and habitats and bank stability Investigate the use of the land at Rest Area Edith Reserve No. R87462 | Minimising creek line erosion and improve water quality Confirm use of the land at Edith Reserve No. R87462 and put in place sustainable use agreement Work with our partners in the Central West Councils Environment & Waterways Alliance to seek State government funding for ongoing works to create healthier riparian corridors and minimise erosion. Remove Willow and other weeds Identify adjoining land owners at Edith Reserve No. R87462. | Water quality testing. Amount of funding received, or support provided Length of river cleared of Willow & weeds and number of native stock planted. |
| Restoration and rehabilitation | To protect the riparian environment To support restocking of rivers with appropriate native fish species | Riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability protected Actively support good access to fish stocking points for bona fide programs | Work with our partners in the Central West Councils Environment & Waterways Alliance to seek State government funding for ongoing works to create healthier riparian corridors and minimise erosion. Length of river cleared of Willow & weeds and number of native stock planted. Number of access points identified and improved to support native fish restocking |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Community access and education | Promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse | The watercourse and riparian vegetation is defined, and access managed to reduce impacts | Action plan prepared to provide access at specific spots for education, relaxation etc Pedestrian & bicycle access and pathways are rationalised and signposted Interpretive, educational and directional signs are erected. Seats and other furniture provided Aboriginal sites or historical sites identified and protected. |

8.0 Sportsground, Park and General Community Use (CGU)

8.1 Introduction and core objectives

Core objectives

The management of community land is governed by the categorisation of the land, its purpose, and the core objectives of the category. Council may then apply more specific management objectives to community land, though these must be compatible with the core objectives for the land.

Table 7 are the categories used in this plan with the legislated descriptions, definitions and objectives for Sportsground, Park and General Community Use (CGU)

| Category | Definition under LG Regulation | Objectives of the LG Act |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Sportsground | Land used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or playing outdoor games. | Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games |
| | | Ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences. |
| Park | Land which is improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly | Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities |
| | passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of | Provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games |
| | the land by others | Improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management. |
| General Community Use | Land which may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public and is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or | Promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: for public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual |

| Category | Definition under LG Regulation | Objectives of the LG Act |
|----------|--|--|
| | 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102–105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance. | welfare or development of individual members of the public, and for purposes where a lease, licence or other estate may be granted over the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities). |



8.2 Description of the reserves categorised as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use

Sportsgrounds

Council's sportsgrounds, facilities and parks make a positive contribution to the Oberon and Black Springs landscape providing landscaped visual amenity and open space that are attractive to users, spectators, residents and visitors to the area.

There are four (4) reserves where a sportsground category has been assigned:

- Oberon Park Reserve R590077; and
- Black Springs Recreation Reserve R80358;
- Oberon Golf Course Reserve R79502.
- Hazelgrove Public Recreation Reserve R88412

These above four reserves have more than one category assigned. See **Appendix A** for the complete list of reserves with their categories and **Appendix B** for these four and the mapped areas where more than one category applies.

Oberon Park Reserve (R590077)

Oberon Park provides for organised and competitive team sports that are not readily available in other sportsgrounds in Oberon, such as the Oberon Rugby Leagues Club grounds. The Oberon Park area is categorised as sportsground covers the large area of Cunynghame Oval, associated play equipment, cricket nets, short court (basketball) and includes the Oberon Aquatic Centre and surrounding facility land and the Tennis Centre.

Oberon Park is a multi-purpose sporting ground, located next to the Oberon Aquatic Centre on Cunynghame Street. The ground facilities include a large oval, shelters, car parking, a canteen, lights, toilets, picnic tables, children's playground, short court (basketball) and cricket nets.



The field is primarily used for cricket, soccer and athletics, with other sports such as rugby league using the grounds for occasional uses when the nearby ground is busy, e.g. tournaments. The Ground is an important resource for the nearby primary and high schools and provides a range of mixed sports and health opportunities.

The indoor aquatic centre is managed and operated on behalf of Council and comprises an indoor 25 metre heated pool with disabled access, a wading pool with sloping entry, a 12-metre heated pool, an indoor gymnasium and fitness centre, kiosk, BBQ facilities and

outdoor area, and recreation room. The centre provides classes for swimming, water aerobics and therapy sessions and a range of fitness programs using the gymnasium.

The Oberon tennis centre is on an approximate 0.45 Ha land adjacent to Oberon Park and comprises an indoor and outdoor tennis courts, amenities rooms, and community use space in addition to surrounding small car parking and gardens.

Black Springs Recreation Reserve (R80358)

Black Springs Recreation Reserve sportsground category applies to the large field within the reserve and comprises the tennis courts and associated buildings (shade structures, toilets and canteen). While the Black Springs has seen a drop in families with children and reduced use of the sportsgrounds for organised sport it is valued open space used by the small local school and the community for exercise, walking, events, tennis etc. Areas categorised as Park extend from and include the playground at the southern part of the Recreation Ground to the land around the War Memorial and flagpole at the corner of Abercrombie Road and Reserve Avenue. The Rural Fire Service Shed (Part Lot 160) is categorised as General Community Use.

Oberon Golf Course Reserve (R79502)

The Golf Course is categorised Sportsground. The Clubhouse is categorised as General Community Use with the balance of the reserve being categorised as Natural Area – Bushland.

The Oberon Golf Course is an important facility for the community being the only golf course in the LGA. Oberon Golf course and club is a 18 hole par 70 course with licensed clubhouse situated between the town and the foreshores of Lake Oberon.

The golf course and club provide economic and social value to the community through active competition events, annual Open Days, district Pennants Golf, affordable fees, use of the club facility for meetings (often without charge) and for celebrations, such as birthdays, farewell dinners, etc. The grounds are also used for walking, cycling and organised running and mountain biking events.

Oberon Council holds an Annual Local Government Golf Day, which attracts around 200 Golfers, and contributes financially to many local groups in the Community.

The Golf Clubhouse has a seating capacity or around 60 (30 during COVID-19 restrictions) and the adjacent "Scout Hall" (owned by the Golf Club) has a similar capacity. The Oberon Sailing Club is situated adjacent to the 5th Fairway with several Regatta Events held throughout the year. Access to the lake is through the golf course.

Hazelgrove Public Recreation Reserve (R88412)

Hazelgrove Public Recreation (and Rural Fire Service) Reserve R88412;

The Hazelgrove Public Recreation Reserve (R88412) is used as the site for local Rural Fire Services truck and equipment shed, with nearby wooden shelters and small (old) school buildings used for ancillary use such as meetings. A disused tennis court and open grounds with dominant pine trees comprises the balance of the reserve.

Parks

There are eleven (11) reserves assigned a Park category listed below. These are predominately in and around the township of Oberon and vary from being open space areas with trees and/or children's playgrounds to the larger Oberon Common with significant infrastructure to Falls/Rotary Lookout. Both Flat Rock and Reef Reserve are primitive camping areas that provide access to Oberon Dam for fishing, fish restocking and natural environment.

See Appendix A for detail on each reserve with a Park category:

- Black Springs Recreation Reserve (part R80358);
- Edith Reserve (R91259);
- Falls Hill or Rotary Lookout (R90674);
- Oberon Public Recreation Reserve ('Common' west side) (R89392);
- Oberon Resting Place Reserve ('Common' east side) (R68268);
- Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Reef Reserve) (R88925);
- Flat Rock Camping Ground (R87079);
- Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Bligh St Park) (R84322);
- Jenolan St Parks (R82735);
- Buckley Cres Park (R89217);
- Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve (part R89216).

All of Council's reserves categorised as Park have the purpose of public recreation, except for the eastern part of 'the common' which is reserved for resting place and the two small parks at Jenolan Street that are reserved for children's playground.

These reserves without the public recreation purpose may be assumed to have similar requirements that is, that the land should be available for use by the general public as of a right, and that these may not be used for personal profit.

General Community Use

There are nine (9) reserves or part reserves that are categorised as General Community Use:

- Oberon Park (R590077) Caravan Park Jenolan Holiday Park;
- Black Springs Community Hall (R86679);
- Black Springs Recreation Reserve and Rural Fire Service Shed (R80358)
- Hazelgrove Public Recreation Building and Old School Building/Meeting Place (R88412);
- Oberon Public Buildings Reserve (Oberon Visitors Information Centre (VIC) & Park) (R77629);
- Reef Road Rest Area (R64027);
- Oberon (near to) Reef Reserve (R64025);
- Oberon Water Supply Reserve (R9501).
- Oberon Golf Course Club House (R79502)

The caravan park at Oberon Park (R590077), the Black Springs Community Hall (R86679), the Hazelgrove Public recreation Building and old school building/meeting place (R88412), the Oberon Tourist and Visitor Information Centre & Park (R77629) are four (4) General Community Use areas with buildings and facilities, or community use infrastructure.

The Jenolan Holiday Park (R590077) is approximately 1.58 Ha and includes a manager's quarters. The park provides 25 cabins and studio accommodation buildings, 21 powered sites and 6 unpowered sites. A camp kitchen, amenities block with disabled facilities, and a laundry are provided for use. No sites at the caravan park are used for residential accommodation with the exception of the manager's quarters. All sites are for short-term tourist accommodation.

The Black Springs Community Hall (R86679) is a large public and community facility able to host community events, dances, remembrance and historical events and displays and shows. It is used by the Black Springs community and public school and is managed by Council with the assistance of a LG Act S355 management committee comprised of members of the Black Springs Progress Association. The hall provides a staged area, amenities, a kitchen, and associated fittings such as chairs, table, lighting and heating.

The Black Springs Rural Fire Service Shed (R80358) occupies part of the Black Springs Recreation Reserve (Lot 160 DP 757072) and is classified as General Community Use.

The three (3) reserves (R64027, R64025 & R9501) with General Community Use category applied are grassed open landscapes with limited tree cover, fenced and, with the exception of the land near Reef Reserve (R64025), under rural or agricultural grazing or horse management occupancy agreements.

The Oberon Golf Course Club House (R79502) only is classified as General Community Use. The reserve is classified as above.



8.3 Key issues

Public access and multiple use

All the land categorised as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use are Crown reserves, generally with a gazetted purpose of public recreation.

Two parks have an alternate purpose being for a Children's playground and Resting Place.

The General Community Use areas of Black Springs Community Hall and the Oberon Visitors Information Centre and associated park have purposes of Public Hall and Public Buildings, respectively.

This primary purpose of the reserves coupled with the multi-use and equitable access objectives of the CLM Act set the framework for open and accessible use of the land and facilities.

Parks not only play an important role for the local community but also for visitors and tourists to the Oberon LGA. Parks offer an opportunity for temporary rest or respite when travelling, opportunities for play with children and animals, as well as contribute to an aesthetic and attractive townscape, and provide variation to the townscape for longer term visitation and stays.

The Oberon Visitors centre is an important facility in the town's economic and tourism development, as well as providing spaces for community use and hire.

Equity of access is fundamental to sportsgrounds, park and general community use facilities for all age groups and levels of ability and in particular to promote independence and social and economic inclusion of people with disability.

Aged, less mobile and disabled, parents with young children or prams, people in wheelchairs or needing ambulatory support all have a right to access and enjoy parks. Accessible car parking, paving and level changes, suitable facilities, sightlines, equal access furniture and equipment help to make a park an equally accessible environment for people who may feel constrained in use of a park when these accessible and designed facilities are not available.

Barriers to access such as lack of car parking or high steps, guttering, soft or unsteady surfaces should be limited, and park design and improvements/developments should incorporate equitable access as a priority.

Event Management

The sportsgrounds, larger parks such as the Oberon Common and the community facilities provide opportunities for a range of events and community activities that enrich the community and provide for celebration and festivities. Council is responsible to ensure that events and organised activities are safe for the public and providers/organisers, as well as avoiding damage to the reserve and its facilities by the uses.

Safety and Risk Management

Council is responsible for the safety of users and general public for sportsgrounds, parks and community facility use in the absence of any clear booking, hire or user agreement conditions that transfer some or any of the safety and risk management responsibilities.

Council preparation of a risk management and harm minimisation strategy for its sports grounds, parks and community facilities, supplemented by an annual audit of sports grounds, parks and facilities for development of a repairs and maintenance schedule will assist in the management and reduction of risk along with benefits for public and user safety.

Landscape Character and Amenity

The character of a park landscape and the associated amenity available in the grounds of sportsgrounds, parks and community facilities, whether from urban or rural landscapes,

neighbourhood or regional uses, is an important feature in the community appreciation of the reserves. The supply and availability of a range of facilities including seating and table, shade, play equipment, paths, signage and amenities buildings such as toilets, provide support and opportunity to further enhance and make safe the park landscape.

• Landscape amenity and aesthetics

Park landscape needs to be varied, usable and accessible to a range of community members and groups. View lines and scenic design can vary, from long range and open views to the close and carefully designed and managed smaller areas that create a sense of safety as well as variation.

• Park Furniture and Other Structures

The supply of park furniture and structures assist safe enjoyment of parks and enable a range of activities and opportunities for recreation. Seating, tables, BBQs, shade structures, pathways and bridges, rubbish containers and signage are typically provided to provide the basis for a range of human age group activity, social family and group interaction.

- Playgrounds, fitness equipment and skate parks
 Park provides an excellent location for many types of play and fitness infrastructure associated with casual and informal recreation, as well as health and fitness, and the development of motor skills at all ages and stages of human development.
- Trees and Vegetation and Landscape Protection Tress, shrub and flower planting as well as grass or turf in parks provide a respite from the built environment and a chance for the community to relax in more natural surroundings, whilst experiencing open-air recreation and leisure.

Trees provide shade, landscape variation as well as a range of aesthetic benefits in the changing seasons. Planting of shrubs and flower beds can define space or add colour and texture to the landscape reducing landscape monotony and also providing seasonal variation.

Dogs in neighbourhood parks and sports grounds

Walking and playing with dogs is a popular recreational activity with physical and mental health benefits. The use of Council footpaths, parks and reserves for casual dog walking and play is generally accepted by the community.

Sportsgrounds have particular use characteristics that warrant restrictions on use of playing fields by dogs, particularly if the sports people come into contact with the surface of the field, e.g. football codes or where the field is used in concentrated fashion such as athletics tracks.

The sportsgrounds also provide large spaces which are available for a variety of casual recreational uses when not booked by a sporting group. Recreational dog use is not generally acceptable on sportsgrounds however the surrounding land may provide for walking a dog on a leash.

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* provides the framework for management of dogs in NSW. The aim of this Act is to provide for effective and responsible care and management of companion animals, and responsible and co-operative management of dogs in public spaces.

Under the Companion Animals Act, and subject to any Council signage, dogs may be walked anywhere on a lead, except within 10 metres of:

- a children's playground; or
- a food preparation area.

Councils must provide at least one Dog Off-Leash facility in its LGA.

Dogs in public places must be kept under effective control at all times. This includes in public recreation areas. A person in charge of a dog must remove and dispose of any faeces which their dog makes whilst in a public space.

A dog must not inflict physical harm to other people, animals or property.

Signage and clear notices about any restrictions Council must or chooses to introduce will assist the community understand and comply with safe and responsible dog and park use.

Community Involvement/Neighbour Relations

Sports grounds can often generate significant noise, traffic, waste management and visitor number issues for local and nearby residents. Night lighting can also cause problems for adjacent residential properties due to glare or lighting spill.

Most environmental impacts on adjacent land uses, such as residential properties can be considered and mitigated as part of development application and approval conditions, and/or implementation of mitigating conditions in user agreements, such as leases or licenses.

Signage and Advertising including town way finder and site based directional

Wayfinder or town directional signage provides for general visitors and district or regional users, as well as playing an important role in providing tourists with information about the availability and location of facilities.

As part of wayfinder signage, place name signs provide the visiting users with destination and place name clarity. Site-specific circulation signage and guidance can enhance visitor and user experience but also make the activity an easier experience for the less abled person.

Site-based signage provides clear regulatory, as well as user conditions of use, including alcohol free zones, permissible and non-permissible activities, dog leash or leash-free zones, times of specific uses, and internal site or facility directions.

It is important to make the reserve environment enjoyable for all users and excessively noisy, dangerous or anti-social activities can be regulated and minimised through use of signage and ranger or ordinance officer monitoring.

Interpretive and explanatory signage, whether simple tree genus or species name plates, or heritage or environmental information or education can enhance park use experiences as well as help to provide education or awareness for the community.

Advertising signage at Crown reserves should be ancillary or supportive of the reserve purposes and activities and is not generally acceptable for solely external advertising purposes.

Contribution to tourism and local economy

Tourism and sporting events and activities, either formal or informal and recreation-oriented have the capacity to make a strong contribution to community and local economies. The Visitor Centre and facilities available at the community hall, as well as promotion of sporting facilities and availability of formal and informal sporting opportunities can provide an additional reason for tourists and visitors to use not only the facilities but also contribute to the local economy through increased accommodation, food and beverage, goods and services expenditure.

Maintenance and upgrade of facilities

Systemic and formally planned and implemented upgrade and maintenance of active recreation and community facility infrastructure including fields, buildings, aquatic facilities, storage spaces, outdoor playing surfaces, associated amenities, viewing areas and access is important to ensure that the reserve facilities and opportunities continue to meet necessary user standards for current use patterns and to meet future use needs.

Sports ground passive recreation infrastructure maintenance can facilitate increased use of associated and connected public spaces by the local community and visitors to the area, including shared use path linkages, open space furniture, landscape, public art and signage.

Black Springs Community Hall has potential for further upgrades to the kitchen, toilets and the addition of an outside deck and café/kiosk catering to locals and visitors to the region.

Cost efficiency

Establishing improved levels of base level infrastructure (such as water and electricity) to enable effective use of open space areas and community facilities for events, both occasional and regular, will reduce management costs and assist in the allocation of expenditure savings to other areas within the sports grounds or availability for expenditure elsewhere across Council's open space and community land network.

Connectivity with other open space reserves and parks

Improved integration of the network of parks with sports grounds and nearby land uses of residential and retail, schools, caravan and camping ground, as well as the Oberon Dam foreshores will aid visitor use and assist in service delivery.

Community Gardens

Community gardens provide the local community with an opportunity to use the land in a cooperative way to produce vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers while fostering community engagement and interaction.

Gardens can be operated and managed in a number of ways including LG Act S.355 committees, licences or simply availability supported by council, schools or community groups.

Gardens also provide an opportunity for the community to engage in and learn about environmental sustainability and recycling initiatives that benefit the community, including school groups or environmentally interested members of the public.

Personal Trainers, and small event bookings

Personal trainers, fitness groups and small event bookings can be accommodated in parks under licence or hiring arrangements and should be subject to time and area limited with use conditions to enable use to limit conflicts of use with the general public.

Building Amenities and Infrastructure

Buildings and amenities may be provided where consistent with the need to facilitate the recreational use of the land. Buildings and amenities are to be maintained to the highest possible standard. Where appropriate, public toilets and amenities should be provided and maintained at sites where there is a significant number of users or there is a lack of immediate facilities and/or distance from other amenities.

Buildings and amenities will be regularly cleaned and maintained in a tidy condition in accordance with any adopted Council procedures manual.

Maintenance

Any areas held under lease, licence or regular occupancy shall be maintained by the regular occupant. Existing assets on the land should be identified and measures taken to maintain them in a satisfactory manner. Council may make arrangements for community groups to undertake maintenance for specific facilities on the Council's behalf.

Lighting

Adequate lighting shall be provided on park land to ensure public safety and security for buildings and amenities. Night lighting should provide for safe passage through parks and for interconnection with the surrounding area without being intrusive on surrounding residents.

Fences

Fences may be constructed and shall be in accordance with any standards or guidelines adopted by the Council. Normally, as provided for in the Dividing Fences Act, boundary fences are the responsibilities of adjoining owners to construct and maintain and Council does not contribute to fencing boundaries to private land where adjoining open space, recreational park land.

Encroachment on Public Land

Encroachments on public land, once identified, should be resolved as quickly as possible to minimise the impact of unlawful use or unauthorised developments on the reserves.

Booking systems

Council's administrative arrangements to call for expressions of interest, allocate seasonal hiring and casual bookings should be clearly advertised and underpinned by use policies, hiring agreements that set out rights and responsibilities, and matching fees and charges for use, if applicable.

Roads and Parking

Roads and parking areas may be constructed or reconstructed to a safe and all-weather standard.

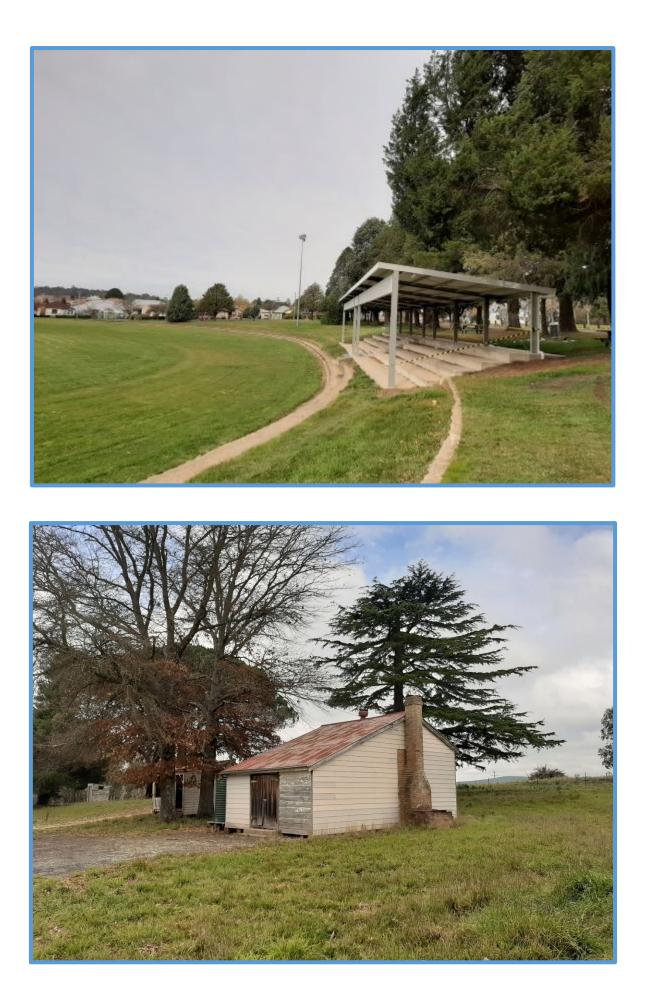
Contract and Volunteer Labour

Council may use contract and volunteer labour to help manage the land but shall ensure that supervisors have appropriate qualifications and/or experience and are made aware of the requirements of this plan.

Play Equipment and Recreation Equipment

Play equipment may be installed or removed. Equipment shall be regularly maintained and kept in a safe condition in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard and Council's Playground and Equipment Upgrade Plan Policy.





8.4 Development and use

The use and development of community land should be compatible with the legislated purpose of the land and the wider community context.

The use of community land is often supported by appropriate ancillary development such as playground equipment, BBQs, amenity blocks or kiosks. The general types of uses that may occur on community land and are <u>common</u> to land categorised as sportsground, park and general community use are set out in **Table 8** below.

Separate tables that identify specific uses and developments only permissible to each category are also provided at:

- Sportsground Table 9;
- Park Table 10; and
- General community use **Table 11**

The facilities on community land may change over time, reflecting the needs of the community.

The anticipated uses and associated development identified in the table are intended to provide a general guide. The terminology used is not intended to impose an exact meaning. For example, a reference to 'football' includes any variations of that game.

It is anticipated that new sports may develop, and others increase or decrease in popularity. If this occurs, then some community land may be modified to facilitate the changing forms of 'active recreation' enjoyed by the community. References such as 'field', or 'court', are not intended to exclude other sporting surfaces.

Table 8 Consolidated permissible use and development of community land that is common to land categorised as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use.

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses | |
|---|---|--|
| Organised and unstructured recreation activities Community events and gatherings Active and passive recreation including children's play and cycling Group recreational use, such as picnics and private celebrations Eating and drinking in a relaxed setting Publicly accessible ancillary areas, such as toilets Festivals, parades, markets, fairs and similar Exhibitions Events and gatherings Filming and photographic projects Busking Public address (speeches) | Development for the purposes of improving access, amenity and the visual character of the reserve and its uses, for example paths, public art, pergolas Development for the purposes of active recreation such as play equipment, exercise equipment, bike racks, half-court basketball courts, bocce courts Amenities to facilitate the safe use and enjoyment of the reserve, for example picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas Landscaping and finishes, improving access, amenity and the visual character of the reserve Café or refreshment areas (kiosks) including external seating Lighting, seating, toilet facilities, courts, paved areas Storage sheds Car parking and loading areas | |

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|-------------|--|
| | Commercial development that is sympathetic to and supports use in the area, for example hire of recreation equipment Ancillary areas (staff rooms, meeting rooms, recording rooms, equipment storage areas) Toilet/shower facilities Shade structures Storage ancillary to recreational uses, community events or gatherings, and public meetings Café/kiosk facilities Locational, directional and regulatory signage Heritage and cultural interpretation, e.g. signs Equipment sales/hire areas ancillary to the reserve purposes and the approved uses Advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that: relate to approved uses/activities are discreet and temporary are approved by the council Water-saving initiatives such as stormwater harvesting, rain gardens and swales Energy-saving initiatives such as solar lights and solar panels Bio-banking and carbon sequestration initiatives |

Table 9 Permissible use and development of community land that is specific to land categorised asSportsground. Also refer to Table 8 for other permitted development.

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|---|---|
| Active and passive recreational and sporting activities compatible with the nature of the particular land and any relevant facilities Commercial uses associated with sports facilities. | Development for the purpose of conducting and facilitating organised sport (both amateur and professional), for example: Sports field (cricket, football, track and field athletics, baseball, softball) Golf course and club house Marked court (basketball, volleyball, badminton, tennis, hockey, netball etc.) Aquatic facility (learn to swim classes, squad training, fitness and health classes including aqua aerobics, recreational and competitive swimming |

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|-------------|--|
| | and diving, organised water sports including water polo, diving, hydrotherapy facilities) Professional rooms for hire Change room/locker areas Facilities for sports training, e.g. batting cages, tennis walls Provision of amenities to facilitate use and enjoyment of the community land including shade/shelter, seating, change rooms, toilets, storage, first aid areas Meeting rooms/staff areas Compatible, small scale commercial uses, e.g. sports tuition Water infrastructure required to manage the grounds |

Table 10. Permissible use and development of community land that is <u>specific</u> to land categorised as park. Also refer to **Table 8** for other permitted development.

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|--|---|
| Low-intensity commercial activities (for example recreational equipment hire) Community gardening Camping at Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Reef Reserve) R88925; and Flat Rock Camping Ground R87079 | Community gardens Camping at Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Reef Reserve) R88925; and Flat Rock Camping Ground R87079 |

Table 11 Permissible use and development of community land that is specific to land categorised asgeneral community use. Also refer to Table 8 for other permitted development.

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses | |
|---|--|--|
| General Community Use | General Community Use | |
| Providing a location for, and supporting, the gathering of groups for a range of social, cultural or recreational purposes. | Development for the purposes of social, community, cultural and recreational activities, such as libraries, childcare | |
| Providing multi-purpose buildings (for example, community halls and centres) with specialised community uses such as: | centres, youth services, aged services, men's sheds, health services, Development includes: | |
| casual or informal recreation meetings (including for social, recreational, educational or cultural purposes) functions concerts, including all musical genres. performances (including film and stage) | provision of buildings or other amenity areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community. development (particularly within buildings) for the purposes of addressing the needs of a particular group (for example, a stage) | |

| Purpose/Use | Development to facilitate uses |
|--|--------------------------------|
| exhibitions | |
| fairs and parades | |
| workshops | |
| leisure or training classes | |
| • child care (for example, before and after | |
| school care, vacation care) | |
| designated group use (e.g. scout and girl guide use) | |
| • educational centres, including libraries, | |
| information and resource centres | |
| entertainment facilities | |
| active cemeteries | |
| • caravan parks and camping grounds. | |



8.5 Express authorisation of leases, licences and other estates

The LG Act requires that any lease, licence or other estates over community land must be expressly authorised by a PoM.

| Type of | Purpose for which tenure may be granted | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|
| tenure arrangement | Sportsground | Park | General Community Use |
| Lease | use and management of field, course, court facilities and buildings and fixtures that provide for sports uses food and beverage outlets, such as cafés or kiosk areas, including seating and tables hire or sale of sports or recreational equipment childcare facilities (ancillary) that are provided for sports ground users health and fitness goods and services for sports grounds users and visitors | café/kiosk areas, including seating and tables management of park areas and facilities hire or sale of recreational equipment | vacation care or child care (ancillary) health or medical practitioners associated with the relevant facility (for example, nutrition, physiotherapy) educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops cultural purposes, including concerts, dramatic productions and galleries recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes and games sporting uses developed/operated by a private operator kiosk, café and refreshment purposes commercial retail uses associated with the facility (e.g. sale or hire of sports goods) caravan parks and camping grounds |
| Licence | use and management of field, course, court facilities and buildings and fixtures that provide for sports uses outdoor café/kiosk seating and tables hire or sale of sports or | outdoor café/kiosk seating and tables management of court or similar facilities hire or sale of recreational equipment | social purposes (childcare – must be ancillary, vacation care,) educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops. recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes. |

Table 12 Leases, licences and other estates and purposes for which they may be granted forcommunity land categorised as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use

| Type of | Purpose for which tenure may be granted | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| tenure arrangement | Sportsground | Park | General Community Use |
| | recreational equipment. • health and fitness goods and services for sports grounds users and visitors | | café/kiosk areas sale of goods or services that are ancillary to community land use and reserve purpose, for example flower sales at cemetery |
| Short-term licence | sporting fixtures and events sports and fitness training and classes ancillary ceremonies (for example, rehearsal of opening and closing ceremonies, cheer squads, etc.) access through a reserve, advertising, broadcasting or filming of sporting fixtures commercial photographic sessions and filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993), delivery of a public address, emergency occupation, entertainment, equestrian events, exhibitions, hiring of equipment, markets, picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings, catering | community events and festivals playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings filming, including for cinema/television. conducting a commercial photography session public performances engaging in an appropriate trade or business delivering a public address community events fairs, markets, auctions and similar activities hiring of equipment, markets, picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings, catering | public forums, meetings, seminars and presentations, including educational programs. functions (including commemorative functions, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades and shows. events (including weddings, corporate functions, and community gatherings) concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV) broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech. engaging in an appropriate trade or business delivering a public address, community events; auctions, markets and similar activities |

| Type of | Purpose for which tenure may be granted | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| tenure arrangement | Sportsground | Park | General Community Use |
| | playing of a musical instrument, or singing, for fee or reward, playing of a lawful game or sport, sales, shows, site investigations, stock agistment or grazing storage associated with sporting events or use agreements. sporting fixtures and events sports and fitness training and classes limited area function uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events e.g: "guest' events for juniors; gala days; club meetings) | playing of a lawful game or sport, sales, shows, site investigations, stock agistment or grazing | |
| Other estates | This PoM allows the council to grant 'an estate' over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities in accordance with the LG Act. | | |
| | Estates may also be granted across community land for the provision of pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land. | | |

8.6 Management framework for reserves categorised as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use

Operating committees/incorporated bodies

Council is empowered by Section 355 of the LG Act to delegate Council functions, including management responsibilities for sports grounds, parks and community facilities to Council committees. This management committee arrangement is governed by Council operation provisions in Chapter 12 of the LG Act.

S.355 management committees provide a means for Council to devolve a range of maintenance, booking and facility operations to members of the public, user group representatives and interested community members with potential savings to Council in operational costs. This should, along with leases and licenses, make clear the lines of responsibility for maintenance and renewal of assets.

This system may operate in tandem or instead of management conditions in facility user lease and licence conditions.

Allocation of playing fields, courts or areas of parkland

Sports ground fields and facilities booking and allocation of use for temporary, seasonal or annual periods of time is undertaken by Council through its Technical and Corporate Services Departments when these arrangements are not subject to existing leases or licences.

Council policies on use and facility allocation, accompanied by formal advertising of expressions of interest and clear allocation guidelines and criteria will be beneficial for general community and user groups in the reduction of user conflicts and transparency in allocation of community resources and expenditure.

Fees and charges/conditions of hire

Council publishes an annual schedule of fees and charges for a range of goods and services provided by Council and its organisation sections. Inclusion of fees and charges in Council's annually published schedule for sports ground, park or community facilities, including halls or community use spaces, will provide the general community and user groups with clarity and budgetary assurance for short-term, causal hiring as well as seasonal bookings.

Clear and published conditions of hire and use, including permissible uses, times and user or hirer responsibilities, will provide clarity for users and the community of access and use, user responsibilities and availability of sports ground areas, park facilities or hire of buildings.

Safety and Risk Management

Council is responsible for the safety of users and general public for sports ground, park and community facilities use in the absence of any clear booking, hire or user agreement conditions that transfer some or any of the safety and risk management responsibilities to the hiring users.

Council preparation of a risk management and harm minimisation strategy for its sports ground, parks and community facilities, supplemented by an annual audit of sports grounds, parks and facilities for development of a repairs and maintenance schedule will assist in the management and reduction of risk along with benefits for public and user safety

Vehicle Access and Parking

Vehicle access and movement, including car parking for regular use and event management is fundamental to safe and effective sports ground use in particular.

Provision of dedicated access routes and parking arrangements for user and organiser vehicles will assist in the reduction of accidents and provide clear directions for users and community at sports ground, park and community facilities.

Events using sports ground, park and community facilities should have traffic management and vehicle parking plans that require Council officer approval and liaison with local area police to ensure basic and adequate traffic management issues are implemented and reduce the potential for user / vehicle conflict.

Dedicated paring and thoroughfares or internal access routes will concentrate use impacts and reduce or limit facility or site landscape or asset degradation such as soil compaction, vegetation or asset damage.

Environmental Management – energy, water use and run-off management, pesticides

Operational costs for energy and water use may be reduced through a range of environmental means that warrant Council investigation. Environmental sustainability options and infrastructure, including alternate energy sources, energy and water use efficiency practices and systems, including timing systems or regulated watering practices can be implemented to reduce costs and wastage.

Surface water run-off loss reduction and collection practices not only optimise water application and reduce stormwater loss but can also provide for alternate sources of town or reticulated water supplies during periods of limited availability.

Council and user organisations with occupancy and use agreements, e.g. lessees should have agreed and sustainable fertiliser and pesticide application and management plans and practices to limit dispersal into less robust environmental systems such as watercourse and water bodies, and limit human contact from aerial or surface exposure.

Landscape Character and Design - vegetation management

Sports ground and park vegetation provides a range of benefits from environmental benefits such as wind reduction, water conservation and increased habitat and biodiversity to community health benefits such as shade and aesthetic landscape benefits.

Outdoor furniture should be provided as required and maintained to a safe standard in accordance with any adopted landscape design. Play equipment shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard and may be replaced or removed as required.

Action plan

Section 36 of the LG Act requires that a PoM for community land details:

- objectives and performance targets for the land.
- the means by which the council proposes to achieve these objectives and performance targets; and
- the manner in which the council proposes to assess its performance in achieving the objectives and performance targets.

Table 13 sets out these requirements for community land categorised as Sportsground, Park or General Community Use.

Table 13 Objectives and targets, means of achieving them and method of assessment for community land categorised as Sportsground, Park or General Community Use

| Monogomont | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|--|---|---|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| Ensure public access and multiple use | Compliance of toilets, change rooms and associated amenities infrastructure at sports grounds for disabled and equitable access uses Ensure public accessibility and multiple uses of land in any user occupancy agreements Provide for disabled and equitable access at all reserves Delineate on-street parking for more efficient use of the street, enable parking close to the facilities Undertake analysis of parks, sporting facilities and community facilities to ensure planned upgrades have capacity to service demands of a changing population Provide a formalised, centralised booking system for reserves and facilities to facilitate multiple uses and public benefit | Annual audit of all public use and visitor facilities to evaluate equitable access and maintenance or upgrade needs for compliance with State legislation and guidelines Include conditions in user agreements/licences that provide for multiple uses and public accessibility where safe to permit Identify disability parking spots at each field, park and facility Identify high use sportsgrounds and facilities to clearly mark on-street parking limits and times User and visitor conditions of use and activity clearly published and notified to improve safety awareness New centralised booking system installed for grounds, function centres, halls, meeting rooms etc to facilitate use and enjoyment Maintain register and use statistics to ensure capacity of fields, parks and facilities service community needs Undertake annual user satisfaction surveys | Completion of access audit and report and response actions reported to Council Publication and use of licence agreements that meet objectives Installation of disability parking spots at reserves where most needed On-street car parking times, places and conditions sign-posted and/or marked at high use facilities and reserves e.g Oberon Park Relevant Council Director to manage program of use and capacity statistics and report on any response actions Decision made on merits of new multipurpose booking system for parks, reserves, sports grounds and community facilities and areas. Conduct of annual user surveys |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives & Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|---|---|--|
| Connectivity with other open space reserves and parks | Improved access movement between reserves and community facilities | Provide pathways and signage between sports grounds, parks and community facilities and town centre, nearby schools and council facilities Formalise links between golf course and adjacent bushland and Oberon Dam for walkers, cyclists and Dam users, e.g: anglers, sailing, canoeing and kayaking | Pathway development and maintenance program approved and implemented by Council Development of suitable surface links and paths between golf course, adjacent bushland and Oberon Dam foreshores Provision of pathways and all weather covers |
| Safe maintenance and upgrade of buildings, structures and facilities | Maintain buildings, field and grounds, parks and community facilities to required standards for users and public safety Building and structures compliance with Australian Standards and NSW Building Codes Regular repairs, painting & maintenance Safe electrical systems Safe gas supply Sustainable water supply Fire systems compliance with NSW Standards Safe and operational kitchens Safe chemical storage and use | Implement asset maintenance plans for all major sports ground, park and community facilities buildings structures and landscape assets Annual audit and review of buildings and structures to comply with Australian and NSW Building Codes standards System to receive reports/requests for maintenance needs is clearly published and acted upon Annual program of (Test & Tag) electrical equipment inspection and testing by a competent person to identify and repair/replace damaged, worn and faulty electrical equipment Annual electrical, gas and water supply (utilities) systems check and review for maintenance and upgrade needs | Asset management plans in place and implemented with annual reports to Council Funding sought under the Smart Cities Program for upgrades to the facilities. Relevant Council Director responsible for program to review/audit sports ground, parks and community facilities compliance with codes and standards Audit and review conducted and reported to Council Relevant Council Director approves maintenance system and is accountable for reporting Annual Test & Tag inspection, utilities systems, and bi-annual fire safety systems results and |

| Issues Objectives & Performance Targets Means of achievement of objectives Manner of assessment or performance Issues Bi-annual fire safety systems check for maintenance or upgrade to meet standards and codes by local Fire brigade or registered authority response actions reported relevant Council Director Biannual inspection of all kitchens by health and safety officers to ensure clean, healthy and safe kitchens for users and visitors Biannual inspection of all kitchens for users and visitors Chemical storage, use and handling to be certified by current NSW authority, e.g: WorkSafe NSW Council considers investig whole-site concept/master high use areas such as Ot Park to improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promote the new gym and facilities through cohesive branding and promotion Subject to Council resource allocation: Provide a BBQ outside the tennis area at Oberon Park area would add value to existing Installation of fencing at Park along with other improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promotion Installation of fencing at Park along with other improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promotion Installation of fencing at Park along with other improvements (refer ne master plan for this spo hub) | Managamant | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| for maintenance or upgrade to meet standards and codes by local Fire brigade or registered authority Biannual inspection of all kitchens by health and safety officers to ensure clean, healthy and safe kitchens for users and visitors All chemical storage, use and handling to be certified by current NSW authority, e.g: WorkSafe NSW Whole of site concept plans investigated for high use areas New fencing at Oberon Park to improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promotion New fencing at Oberon Park to improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promote the new gym and facilities through cohesive branding and promotion Provide a BBQ outside the tennis area at Oberon Park A children's' play area near the tennis area would add value to existing Provision of a BBQ outside | | Objectives & Performance Targets | | Manner of assessment of performance |
| Investigate potential and investment Investigate potential and investment in upgraded buildings at sports grounds, including golf course former upgrade of buildings at | Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | objectives Bi-annual fire safety systems check for maintenance or upgrade to meet standards and codes by local Fire brigade or registered authority Biannual inspection of all kitchens by health and safety officers to ensure clean, healthy and safe kitchens for users and visitors All chemical storage, use and handling to be certified by current NSW authority, e.g: WorkSafe NSW Whole of site concept plans investigated for high use areas New fencing at Oberon Park to improve safety, the look and feel of the precinct and promote the new gym and facilities through cohesive branding and promotion Provide a BBQ outside the tennis area at Oberon Park A children's' play area near the tennis area would add value to existing capital investment and user visits Investigate potential and investment in upgraded buildings at sports grounds, including golf course former | performance response actions reported to relevant Council Director Biannual inspection of all kitchens by health and safety officers and response actions reported to Council Chemical storage, use and handling certification and response actions reported to Council Council considers investigation of whole-site concept/master plans for high use areas such as Oberon Park to improve connections between facilities that are direct, safe and weather proof Subject to Council resource allocation: Installation of fencing at Oberon Park along with other improvements (refer need for a master plan for this sport/activity hub) Provision of a BBQ outside the tennis area Installation of a children's' play area near the tennis facility and |

| Monogoment | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | | Investigate partnership between Council, golf club and WaterNSW to develop suitable toilets block at southern end of golf course for use by sailing club, regatta day users, lake edge walker and cyclists and course users | Investigation of partnership between Council, golf club and WaterNSW to develop suitable toilets block at southern end of golf course for use by sailing club, regatta day users, lake edge walker and cyclists and course users |
| Sports ground | • Maintain a high level of sporting fields | Mowing | Conduct of annual or seasonal (as |
| maintenance | and playing surface and associated equipment | Playing fields and ovals will be mowed in accordance with approvals, manuals or schedules as required | appropriate) user and sports ground hirer or tenure holder's satisfaction surveys for: o quality of field surfaces or |
| | | Line Marking | pitches |
| | | Line marking may be undertaken but will normally be the responsibility of users | mowing line marking erection of posts watering |
| | | Erection of Posts | wet weather use and availability |
| | | • The erection of posts on playing fields is allowed by this plan and is the responsibility of Council. Users, in certain circumstances, may erect posts | hours of operation Progressive reduction in water supply and/or management costs as sustainable innovative solutions introduced |
| | | Watering | |
| | | • Watering of playing fields and ovals shall be undertaken as required and according to specific water restrictions that may be in place | |
| | | Sustainable water supply and management options investigated to minimise long term costs | |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|----------------------|--|---|---|
| | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| _ | Provide landscape amenity and environmental benefits at sports grounds, parks and community facilities Trees and shrubs health maintained, and public risk managed Grass and turf maintained to user requirements and standards Shade provided at all facilities including playgrounds Outdoor fixtures – seats, tables, bins, provided at all sites where outdoors space is associated with facilities Play equipment provided at sites where children are substantial | | |
| | numbers of visitors or users | Agreed user and community standards for grass and turf maintenance, including limitation of small fire and reduction of danger on | increased use of shade trees to meet shade and sun protection needs |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|---|--|--|
| | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | | sites, e.g: noxious plants, feral or dangerous animals. | Fire risk vegetation management in regular maintenance program |
| | | Review of outdoor spaces associated with facilities and building to evaluate shade needs and provision. | Feral animal, noxious weeds and pest, and dangerous animal reduction programs implemented |
| | | • Review of outdoor spaces associated with facility buildings and structures to evaluate and implement outdoor fixture provision. | Installation of park and outdoor fixtures, including play, leisure and health equipment is subject to landscape master planning for sites, |
| | | • Review of facilities and sites with substantial numbers of children and teenagers to ensure adequate provision of play equipment and suitable health and leisure fixtures | or provided consistent with any specific Council policies |
| | | | User group and community consultation for provisions of play, leisure and health equipment |
| Amenity Provision | Amenity blocks are available at sites of high or frequent use or site where results are available. | Identify high user and visitor facilities and sites to evaluate amenities provision and supply to meet needs of community and visitor experience. Regular inspection and maintenance regime that is clearly published and provides contact details for community and visitor maintenance requests | Analysis of user and visitor satisfaction surveys |
| | no other amenities are nearby.Amenities provided are kept clean and | | Relevant Council Director approves maintenance program and is |
| | Amenites provided are kept clean and accessible to users and visitors during daylight hours and at high or frequent visitation sites during facility or site opening hours. | | accountable for reporting on outcomes and monitoring of contact queries and complaints |
| | Amenities are maintained for safety, usability and modern standard | | |
| Dogs on sports grounds, parks and community facility open space | • Ensure dog use on parks, reserves, and sports grounds complies with | Install signage including restricted areas, particularly on playing fields, | Signage installed. |
| | State legislation. | but with an emphasis on no dogs within 10 metres of: | One leash-free dog play area in LGA created and managed |
| | Manage dog walking and play on and around sports ground playgrounds, | a children's playground; or a food preparation area. | Dog faeces bins provided at high use areas – sports grounds, parks, |

| Management | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|--|---|--|---|
| Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | food preparation areas, footpaths, parks and reserves. Reduce impacts of dog use on fields and parks | Provide at least one leash-free dog area in the LGA. Install dog faeces litter bins. Publish animal and dog handling guidelines on Council website | community facilities and any identified or promoted walking tracks and trails. Council website publication of companion animal and dog handling rules and regulations |
| Event Management | Ensure all events have event management licenses or permits through bookings or hiring. Include event management plans, traffic management plans, waste, and public safety plans in licence conditions. Establish clear and published booking and hire system for events | Prepare and use event licences or permits with inclusion of event management plans, traffic management plans, waste and public safety plans. Publish booking and hire system arrangements on Council website with clear dates, times and contact details for users and sports/community groups | Publication and use of licences with conditions that address objectives. Council website publication of booking and hire systems including seasonal dates and conditions of application. All hire or booking agreements have Council officer contact details to facilitate user benefits |
| Traffic and vehicle access and parking management | Provide a safe, effective and efficient vehicle and pedestrian environment for sports ground, parks and community facility users and visitors. Events using sports grounds, parks and community facilities have safe traffic management and reduce the potential for user / vehicle conflict. Dedicated parking and thoroughfares or internal access routes to minimise use conflict or site landscape or asset degradation. Parking areas, speed and vehicle limits clearly signed and marked | Review of vehicle and traffic infrastructure for entry, internal movement, car parking and vehicle- pedestrian conflict minimisation Clear marking of designated access routes and parking arrangements for user and organiser vehicles Lessees and licensees have event and traffic management plans incorporated into user agreement conditions as part of agreement. Special events have traffic, user and organisation vehicle management | Vehicle and traffic infrastructure review conducted. Designated traffic, parking and pedestrian lanes marked for areas where events are held and at high attendance facilities. Event licences and permits have conditions included for event and traffic, user and organisation vehicle management plans prepared in liaison with Local Area police. Presence of Council resource regulatory officers for traffic and |

| Monogoment | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|--|--|--|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | | plans prepared in liaison with Local Area police. Regulation of user parking and vehicle access on sports grounds and at events At Oberon Park, examine and make safer the area around the park canteen, access and parking area. Sightlines for public safety at vehicular access off North Street into the sports ground improved Placement of speed limit signs at prominent locations Vehicle type and use restrictions, and parking times clearly signposted | vehicle management at high- attendance special events Dedicated access routes and parking arrangements for organiser vehicles provided in event agreements. Review of vehicle and pedestrian movement around Oberon Park canteen, access and parking area, and vehicular access off North Street into the sports ground is undertaken and actioned. Speed limits signage installed at sites and facilities where required after review. |
| Signage and Advertising including town wayfinder and site based directional | Improved town signage and wayfinding for general visitors and district or regional users Clear guidance to sports ground, park and community facility users on reserves conditions of use, including alcohol free zones, permissible and non-permissible activities, dog leash or leash-free zones, times of specific uses, and internal site or facility directions. | Prepare and implement a strategic Town and LGA wayfinder signage program including: Town information maps and signage Sports grounds, parks and community facilities information, use, permissible activity and regulation signage Precinct activation (such as Oberon Park and the Common) through signage and branding | Vehicle use and parking time signage installed Strategy prepared, adopted by Council and implemented as per resources and priorities, including site-based facility, building/structure, field and open space signage, and permissible/non-permissible activity signage. Identification signage at Oberon Park and Oberon golf course is implemented and wayfinding improved from the town centre/main roads. |

| Management | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | Improved promotion of caravan park, halls, and tourist centre and golf course Improved access to, and advice of facilities and service locations on sites Clear guidance and awareness of rules and regulations at caravan park, halls, tourist centre and prominent site and facility locations Crown reserves advertising signage is ancillary or supportive of the reserve purposes and | Site-based facility, structure, field and open space regulatory signage that address activity, including: alcohol free zones, permissible and non-permissible activities, dog leash or leash-free zones, times of specific uses Evaluate any signage proposals for Crown reserves to ensure advertising is ancillary to reserve use and management | Installation of regulatory signage at high use or visitation sports grounds, parks and community facilities Caravan parks, camping grounds, public halls and tourist centre site- based user rules signage installed as resources and priorities allow |
| Lighting | Lighting is provided for visitor and user safety at all buildings and on structures where night/dark use is present. Lighting impact on neighbours and other users not requiring lighting is minimised. Lighting is supplied at all car parks where night/dark use is present. Lighting is provided for user and visitor throughfare travel at sites of frequent use. Reduction of night lighting impact on adjacent residential properties due to glare or lighting spill. Ensure lighting spill impacts are limited on adjacent properties and | Review of facilities and structures to evaluate lighting needs and gaps for safety and to meet users and visitor needs. Ensure lighting spill and brightness complies with current and acceptable industry standards. Review provision of safe lighting at night/dark use carparks and user or visitor throughfares and install lighting to meet needs or gaps in provision. Lighting for evening and night grounds uses conform to Australian and industry/sports standards. Include lighting in development approval conditions and event or user agreements. | Lighting needs review and implementation program prepared and adopted by Council. All lighting approved by development application to meet identified standards. Night/dark safe lighting needs review conducted, incorporating CEPTED principles and provision priorities reported to Council. Relevant Council Director management of review with report to Council on any response outcomes Council Planning Directorate integration of public lighting into |

| Managanant | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | businesses from sports ground, park and community facility lighting | Implement development application and approval conditions to limit environmental impacts on adjacent land uses, such as residential properties | development application approval conditions |
| Booking systems, fees and charges and conditions of hire | Formalisation of integrated booking systems for casual and seasonal use agreements, including users of Reef Reserve Improved public awareness notices or policies of booking and hiring systems. Fees and charges for sporting ground and facilities use and hire are clear and accountable. Conditions of use and hire are clearly published and supplied with booking and hire details. Standard user agreement documents, e.g: leases, licences and short-term use permits | Council development and implementation of policies on use and facility allocation, accompanied by formal advertising of expressions of interest and clear allocation guidelines and criteria. Formal EOI and user agreement allocations to be conducted at annual or seasonal, as well as event -based periods. All bookings or hiring receive e-copy or paper copy of confirmation including any conditions of use and hire with contact details to assist hirer or user. Publication of booking and hiring notices and polices, fees and charges on Council website, local media as required and at sites where warranted. Council develops lease, licence and casual hiring, short-term and temporary licence agreements based on Crown Lands templates. | Council adoption and publication of grounds and facility allocation policy & procedures Seasonal and annual EOI processes conducted to inform allocation procedures and hire or use agreements. Council website publication Production and use of conditions of use and hire with contact details to assist hirer or user with all bookings or hiring Standardised user agreements in use. Council publication of conditions of hire and use, including permissible uses, times and user or hirer responsibilities on use agreements, and casual hire permits New centralised, integrated booking system installed subject to available Council resources. |

| Management | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance | |
| | | Clear and published conditions of hire and use, including permissible uses, times and user or hirer responsibilities | | |
| Operating committees and incorporated bodies | Increase user and community involvement in sportsground, park and community facility management and maintenance | Consideration of s355 committee establishment and management of Oberon sportsground (Cunynghame Oval) to incorporate adjacent stakeholders, user groups and residents. | Prepare and consider Council discussion paper on use of LG Act S355 committees to manage Oberon sportsgrounds | |
| Safety and Risk Management | Minimise public safety and user risk at sports grounds, parks and community facilities. | Risk management and harm minimisation strategy prepared for sports grounds, parks and community facilities. Annual safety audit of all facilities on sports grounds conducted by Council in conjunction with formal occupants (lessees, licensees and contracted management) Improved lighting for security along pedestrian walkway/lanes Council to review needs for security, CCTV at Oberon Park and surrounds due to investment at Centre | Annual reporting on implementation and risk minimisation Annual Council and formal occupant audit of facilities conducted, and response actions reported to Council. Installation of additional lighting to increase safety along main pedestrian pathways and throughfares. Council review of CCTV needs conducted | |
| Environmental Management and sustainability | Improved environmental sustainability and infrastructure, at sports grounds, parks and community facilities. Reduction in operational costs for energy and water use through a range of environmental and sustainable means to reduce costs and wastage. | Investigate implementation of alternate energy sources such as solar electricity and heating systems at facilities on sites Energy and water use efficiency practices and systems, including | Council investigation and consideration of options for cost- efficiency and sustainability of: sources such as solar electricity and heating systems at facilities on sites energy and water use efficiency practices and systems, including | |

| Managanant | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance | |
| | Reduction in surface water run-off loss reduction and collection practices to optimise water use. Reduction of stormwater loss to minimise use of town or reticulated water supplies during periods of limited availability. To limit environmental and human exposure to the dispersal of fertiliser and/or pesticide | timing systems or regulated watering practices. Council investigation of investment into water efficiency actions Safe re-use of effluent and grey waters Water harvesting from storm and ground water through collection for use at sports grounds. On site dams where suitable, e.g: golf course | timing systems or regulated watering practices. investment into water efficiency actions safe re-use of effluent and grey waters water harvesting from storm and ground water through collection for use at sports grounds. on site dams where suitable, e.g: golf course | |
| | Development and maintenance are undertaken with environmentally sustainable practices and within Australian or NSW standards To ensure that all hazardous materials and chemicals are handled, stored and used in accordance with NSW legislation | Continue existing Council Annual Contribution to Water Usage for golf course with integration into future use and occupancy agreements. Council and user organisations with occupancy and use agreements for sustainable fertiliser and pesticide application and management plans and practices. All chemical storage, use and handling to be certified by current NSW authority, e.g: WorkSafe NSW and initiatives to replace or reduce use investigated | Continuance of existing Council Annual Contribution to Water Usage for golf course with integration into future use and occupancy agreements. Council publication and use of user agreements that include conditions for sustainable fertiliser and pesticide application and management plans and practices. Chemical storage, use and handling certification and response actions reported to Council. | |
| Cost efficiency in utilities and infrastructure | Reduce costs to Council, users and hirers/tenants at sports grounds, parks and community facilities | Review of water and energy use at facilities Investigation of alternate and cost-effective energy and water systems Investigate timed or smart lighting | Review and investigations conducted, and response actions reported to Council | |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives & Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|---|---|---|
| Community Involvement/ Neighbour Relations Contribution to | Manage event and activity noise, traffic, waste management and visitor number issues for local and nearby residents Council coordination of sports grounds | Prepare and implement user agreements (licences or permit) system. User agreements include conditions to limit impacts from noise, rubbish, traffic Development of sports & recreation | Licences published and used with conditions to limit or reduce impacts from noise, rubbish, traffic Sports and recreation tourism |
| tourism and local economy | Council coordination of sports grounds and event management with tourism and economic development officers in Council and community Promote sporting facilities and availability of formal and informal sporting opportunities for tourists and visitors. Council proactively supports the financial sustainability of its reserves which contribute to the local economy, and social and community well-being. | Development of sports a recreation economic tourism plan or strategy Undertake concept or masterplans to link and connect commercial core areas with parks and reserves to provide improved relationship between public and commercial spaces. Develop Oberon LGA-wide promotional strategies that focus on the leisure and tourism industry with use of Oberon sports fields, parks, golf course and community facilities, e.g: camping and caravan grounds to use not only the facilities but also contribute to the local economy through increased accommodation, food and beverage, goods and services expenditure. Reduction in running costs and ability to recoup investment through lease, license and user agreements. Investigate ways to generate revenue to enable the Reef Reserve & Flat | Sports and recreation fourism strategy considered by Council and developed and adopted by Council Council consideration of concept plan or masterplan for public space integration with commercial and retail areas Preparation of master plan to activate the Oberon Park precinct as a sports hub with links to facilities, new signage and branding Oberon LGA-wide promotional strategies for leisure and tourism considered, developed and adopted by Council. An income stream is identified for Reef Reserve and Flat Rock camping areas. Council considers and implements longer term lease or license agreements to facilitate long term planning and investment e.g Oberon Golf Club & Oberon Park |

| Managamant | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|--|---|--|---|
| Management Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | | Rock camping grounds to be self-sustaining. Electric vehicle charger/s installed in a centrally accessible position at the Commons or near the Visitors Centre Investigate the viability of providing public WIFI in high use areas and to | Options identified to install electric vehicle charger/s in key location/s Options for provision of public WIFI considered and actioned by Council |
| | | retain visitors and workers to the area Improved integration of parks, sports grounds and community facilities with town and village commercial and retail areas to attract and retain visitors to the area | |
| Hazelgrove RFSfacilitiesFacilities accessat all timesAdequate spacefor storage,training andservice deliveryFacility andservice deliveryhas secure tenure | Developments or improvements to reserve do not hinder use and access to RFS facilities Repair and upgrade of buildings on reserve to provide safe and adequate meeting and training spaces Lease or licence is granted to RFS for use as service and facility storage, training and delivery purposes | All site developments to require consultation with RFS RFS and Council to upgrade and repair buildings and structures on site for community and RFS use Negotiate and execute licence for RFS facilities and use | RFS consultations conducted with developments or improvements Resources allocated in Council's operational budget or funding sources investigated to enable building upgrades (eg Crown Reserves Improvement Fund Program) Licence executed |
| Tourist/Visitors Centre Services and facilities are | Increase visitor numbers and experience at the Visitor Centre Maintain a seven-day per week service during reasonable business hours | Consider co-location of the Visitor Centre with the activities and facilities on the Common to provide a one-stop experience | Business case and funding sought to improve function and operation of the Visitor Centre Funding allocated in Council Operational Plan |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives & Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance |
|--|--|---|---|
| available seven days per week Visitor information is up to date and reliable Bookings systems are available for visitors focussing on local and regional attractions, accommodation, food and beverage and local recreation and sports facilities Community use spaces and rooms are made available for hire and booking Amenities and refreshment is available to visitors and users | Ensure information, details and data are current and accurate Staff are trained and equipped with resources to conduct services Community use rooms are promoted and available during business hours Clean, modern and well-maintained amenities with equitable access or disabled facilities, including young child/parent amenities facilities or equipment. Refreshments are available during business hours for visitors and community space users | Council operational plan to ensure adequate resources for employed staff Implement program of volunteer staffing Review and evaluate information services and products on monthly basis and establish system to ensure local and district tourist and visitor goods and services are provided regularly to ensure currency. Visitor and commercial providers satisfaction surveys conducted at regular intervals as determined. Conduct training needs analysis for paid and volunteer staff to establish role requirements and any training needs. Publication of booking and hiring notices and polices, fees and charges on Council website, local media as required and at sites where warranted. All bookings or hiring receive e-copy or paper copy of confirmation including any conditions of use and hire with contact details to assist hirer or user. Regular inspection and maintenance regime that is clearly published and | Volunteer staffing program implemented Relevant Council Director approves and is accountable for reporting on outcomes for: monthly information currency review and collation systems and monitoring of visitor satisfaction surveys. training provision. publication of booking and hiring notices and polices, fees and charges on Council website. provision of e-copy or paper copy of booking/hire confirmation including conditions of use and hire with contact details; and inspection and maintenance regime that is clearly published and provides contact details for community and visitor maintenance requests. Visitor refreshment and amenities provision |

| Management | s.36(3)(b) | s.36(3)(c) | s.36(3)(d) |
|---|--|--|---|
| Issues | Objectives & Performance Targets | Means of achievement of objectives | Manner of assessment of performance |
| | | provides contact details for community and visitor maintenance requests. | |
| | | Establish visitor refreshments needs or market for food and beverages and sustainably supply according to needs or market. | |
| C C | | with General Community Use category assig | ned and listed below. |
| Reef Rd Rest A Oberon (near to | b) Reef Reserve (R64025) | | |
| · · | Supply Reserve (R9501) | | |
| Environmental sustainability | Use of chemicals and fertilisers is limited and sustainable. | User/occupants to provide annual report on chemical and fertiliser use | Annual reports provided to relevant Council Director |
| | Groundwater run-off is contained and recycled where possible or directed to storage. Conditions of use and development clearly outlined in occupancy | Occupancy agreements detail environmentally sustainable conditions including groundwater management plan | Occupancy agreements contained required conditions |
| Feral animals, pests and noxious weeds | agreements Removal of pests and noxious weeds is undertaken, and feral animals captured, removed or reduced in compliance with legislation and council policies | User/occupants to provide annual report on pests, noxious weeds and feral animal management. Conditions for management and reduction of Feral animals, pests and noxious weeds included in occupancy agreements | Annual reports provided to relevant Council Director Occupancy agreements detail pests, noxious weeds and feral animal management conditions |

| Management Issues | s.36(3)(b) Objectives & Performance Targets | s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives | s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance | |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Interim Uses | Occupancy agreements are implemented at each location only for agistment or low-impact agricultural uses and without any permanent structures. Enclosure/fencing is the responsibility of occupants. Interim uses and purposes are used as conditions in occupancy agreements | Occupancy agreements include condition that only provide for: agistment or low-impact agricultural uses and limits on permanent structures; and Occupant responsibility for adequate and suitable fencing of properties | Occupancy agreements contained required conditions | |
| Development and uses | Limited to low impact uses with no fixtures or structures unless approved through adopted plan of management and Council approval | Council approval and adopted plan of management permission for developments and uses other than low impact and without permanent structures | Permission provided by adopted plan of management and Council approval | |

Appendix A - List of reserves covered by this plan of management and reserve maps

| Reserve Number | Name | Location | Purpose | Category (assigned or directed) | Category under PoM | RP ID | Area (m²) | Oberon LEP 2013 Land use zone |
|---|---|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---------------|----------------------------------|
| R80358 Gazettal Date 7 Feb 1958 | Black Springs Recreation Reserve | Black Springs | Public Recreation | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground General Community Use – RFS Shed | Lot 160 DP 757072 Part Lot 160 DP 757072 | 77,870 800 | RE1 Public Recreation |
| R91259 Gazettal 26 Feb 1982 | Edith Reserve | Edith | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 125 DP 757050 | 2,384 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R906742 Gazettal 4 Dec 1976 | Falls Hill or Rotary Lookout | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park Communications and Access | Whole: Lot 277 DP 705307 | 63,711 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R89392 Gazettal 7 Mar 1975 | Oberon Public Recreation Reserve ('Common' west side) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 701 DP 1032524 | 12,418 | RE1 Public Recreation |
| R68268 Gazettal 14 Apr 1939 | Oberon Resting Place Reserve ('Common' east side) | Oberon | Resting Place | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 7305 DP 1138538 | 21,601 | RE1 Public Recreation |
| R88925 Gazettal 1 Jun 1973 | Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Reef Reserve) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 7006 DP 1032531 | 105,299 | RE1 Public Recreation |

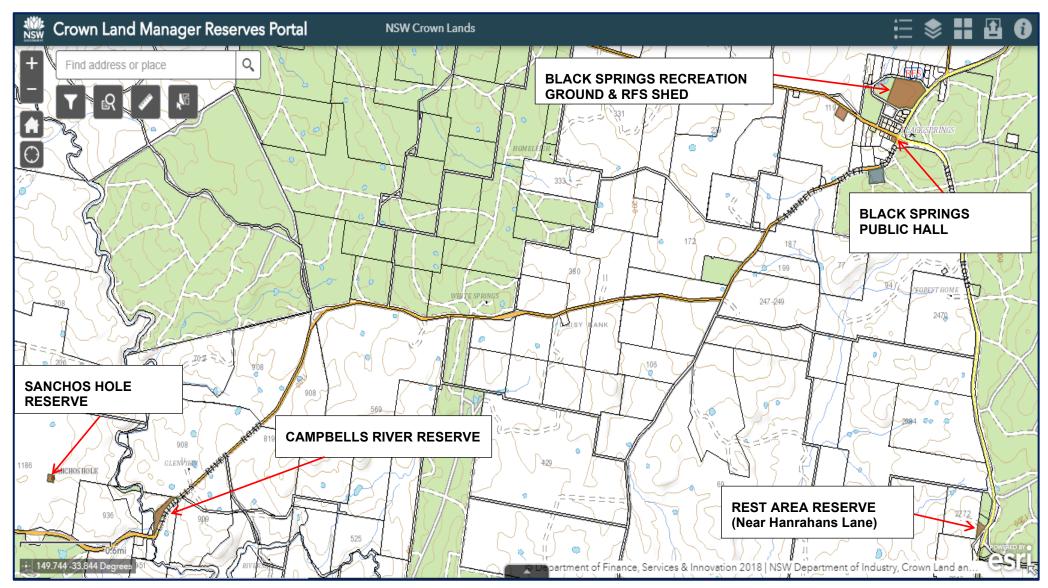
| Reserve Number | Name | Location | Purpose | Category (assigned or directed) | Category under PoM | RP ID | Area (m²) | Oberon LEP 2013 Land use zone |
|--|---|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--------------|----------------------------------|
| R87079 Gazettal 14 Feb 1969 | Flat Rock Camping Ground | O'Connell | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 7001 DP 1126913 | 8,933 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R83038 Gazettal 3 Feb 1961 | Campbells River Reserve | Black Springs | Public Recreation | Park | Natural Area – Bushland | Whole: Lot 7005 DP 1024625 | 18,086 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R84322 Gazettal Date 9 Aug 1963 | Oberon Public Recreation Reserve (Bligh St Park) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lots 1-3 Section 63 DP 758805, Lot 7306 DP 1141921 | 9,717 | RE1 Public Recreation |
| R82735 12 Aug 1960 | Jenolan St Parks | Oberon | Children's Playground | Park | Park | Whole: Lots 1, 16 DP 204198 | 4,068 | R1 General Residential |
| R89217 Gazettal Date 28 Jun 1974 | Buckley Cres Park | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park | Whole: Lot 262 DP 757068 | 15,039 | R1 General Residential |
| R89216 Gazettal Date 28 Jun 1974 | Oberon Fish River Trout Farm Reserve | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park on top NE end to link with R89217 Buckley Cres, Natural Area - Bushland and Natural Area – Watercourse (Lot 7) | Whole: Lots 4-5, 7 DP 868216 | 198,863 | R1 General Residential |
| R82748 Gazettal | Fish River Reserve (Part: Jenolan St) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Natural Area - Bushland | Whole: Lot 7013 DP 1032526, Lot 7013 DP 1032530 | 26,304 | R1 General Residential |

| Reserve Number | Name | Location | Purpose | Category (assigned or directed) | Category under PoM | RP ID | Area (m²) | Oberon LEP 2013 Land use zone |
|---|--|------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|
| 12 Aug 1960 | | | | | | | | |
| R79502 Gazettal Date 5 Apr 1957 | Golf Club & Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Natural Area - Bushland Sportsground | Natural Area - Bushland Sportsground General Community Use | Lot 1 DP 1242756 Part Lot 2 DP 1242756 Part Lot 2 DP1242756 | 770,657 49,860 2,700 | RE2 Private Recreation [Note: Part Lot 1 DP 1242756 is also the Oberon Reservoir Reserve No 79496 and is not part of this PoM. The land is operational land and is zoned R1 |
| R590118 Gazettal Date 11 Oct 1895 | Sanchos Hole | Mount David | Public Recreation | Natural Area | Natural Area - Bushland | Whole: Lot 62 DP 753059 | 4,160 | General Residential.] RU1 Primary Production |
| R84199 Gazettal 15 Feb 1963 | Rest Area (Near Hanrahans Ln) | Black Springs | Resting Place | Natural Area | Natural Area - Bushland | Whole: Lot 7004 DP 1032520 | 6,410 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R590077 Gazettal Date 18 Jan 1884 | Oberon Park | Oberon | Public Recreation | Sportsground, General Community Use | Sportsground, General Community Use Note : Park category originally assigned when Crown Lands Policy allowed only one category. | Whole: Lot 228 DP 757068, Lot 1 DP 904155, Lot 7015 DP 1051799, Lots 21-24 DP 1220101 | 21,474 | RE1 Public Recreation Lot 228 in DP 757068, Lot 1 in DP 904155, Lot 7015 in DP 1051799, Lot 23 in DP 1220101 R1 General Residential Lot 21, 22 & 24 in DP 1220101 |

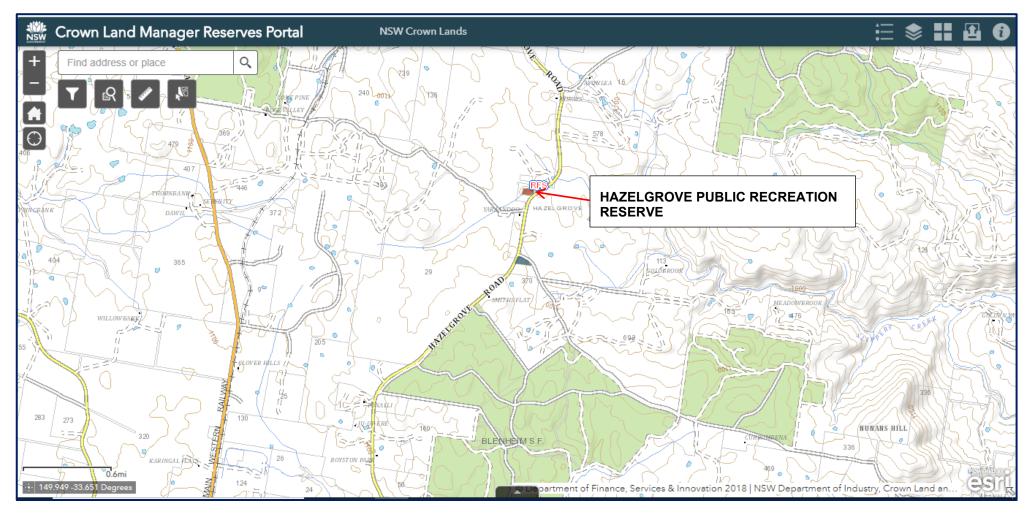
| Reserve Number | Name | Location | Purpose | Category (assigned or directed) | Category under PoM | RP ID | Area (m²) | Oberon LEP 2013 Land use zone |
|--|---|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | Park areas (playground and skate park) are small and the activities can occur under Sportsground category | | | |
| R87462 Gazettal 24 Oct 1967 | Rest Area (Edith) | Edith | Resting Place | General Community Use | Natural Area – Watercourse | Whole: Lot 343 DP 757067 | 6,677 | RU1 Primary Production |
| R86679 Gazettal 5 Apr 1968 | Black Springs Public Hall | Black Springs | Public Hall | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 4 Sect 3 DP 250080 | 2,231 | RU5 Village |
| R77629 Gazettal 27 May 1955 | Oberon Public Buildings Reserve (Oberon Visitors Centre & Park) | Oberon | Public Buildings | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 702 DP 1032524 | 3,522 | R1 General Residential |
| R64027 Gazettal Date 30 Jun 1933 | Reef Rd Rest Area | Cnr of The Reef Road and Abercrombie Road Oberon | Resting Place | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 7010 DP 1030717 | 32,949 | R5 Large Lot Residential |
| R88412 Gazettal 26 Nov 1971 | Hazelgrove Public Recreation Reserve | Hazelgrove Rd Hazelgrove | Public Recreation | Park General Community Use | Park General Community Use | Whole: Lot 65 DP 757042 | 4,160 | RU1 Primary Production |

| Reserve Number | Name | Location | Purpose | Category (assigned or directed) | Category under PoM | RP ID | Area (m²) | Oberon LEP 2013 Land use zone |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| R64025 Gazettal 30 Jun 1933 | The Reef Road Reserve (near to) Reef Reserve | Shooters Hill | Public Recreation | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 7008 DP 1030717 | 42,984 | R5 Large Lot Residential |
| R9501 Gazettal 10 Aug 1889 | Oberon Water Supply Reserve | Oberon | Public Recreation Water Supply | General Community Use | General Community Use | Part: Lot 217 DP 757068 | 770,657 | R1 General Residential |

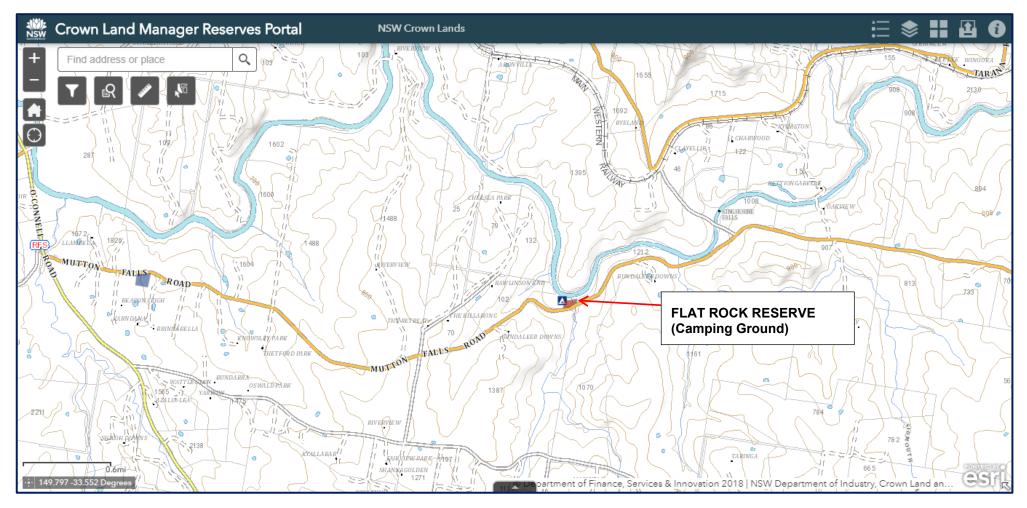
BLACK SPRINGS LOCALITY MAP



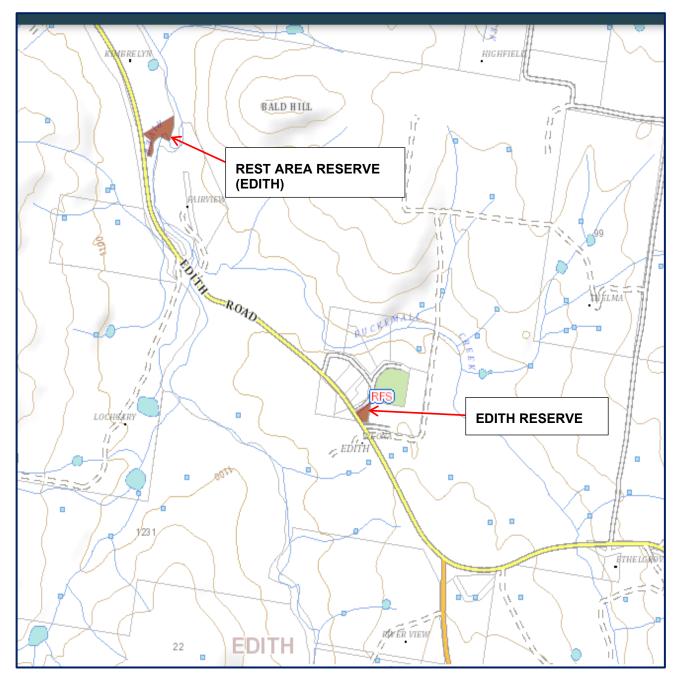
HAZELGROVE LOCALITY MAP



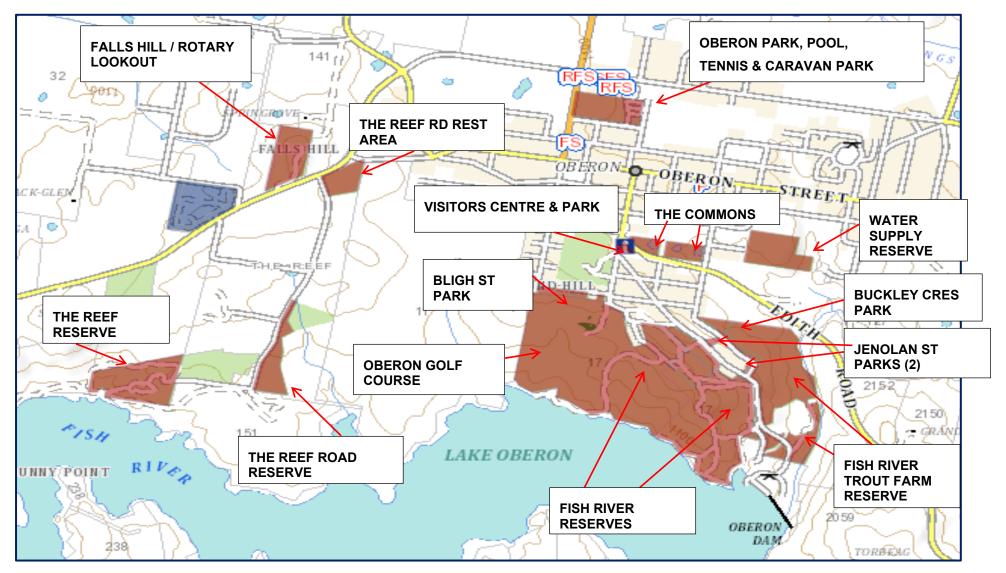
O'CONNELL LOCALITY MAP



EDITH LOCALITY MAP

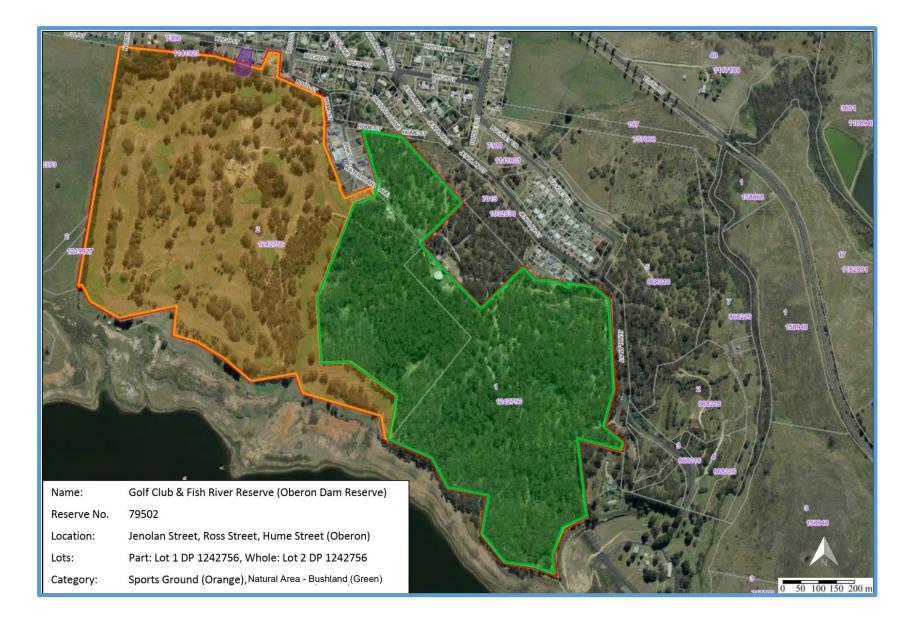


OBERON TOWN LOCALITY MAP



Appendix B — Category maps

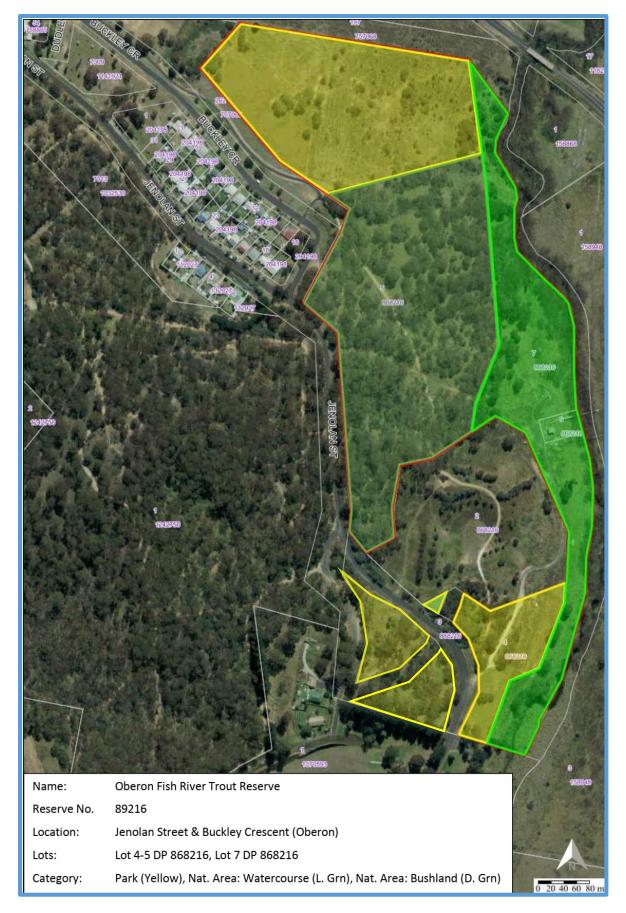








CATEGORY MAPS



Appendix C – Focus Group Meetings

Attendee groups at focus group meetings held in August 2020 and follow up email and telephone contact.

1. 3 AUGUST 2020

- Black Springs Public School
- Sydney Speleological Society
- Black Springs Community Association

2. 4 AUGUST 2020

- * Oberon High School
- * Oberon Public School
- * St Joseph's Catholic School
- * YMCA
- * Oberon Fishing Club
- * University of the 3rd Age
- * 2 Lessees of 2 different reserves
- * Central Acclimatisation Society
- * Mountain Bike
- * Section 355 Committee for Hazelgrove Reserve & RSF
- 3. Email and telephone consultation with Oberon Golf Club, August/September 2020
- 4. Email and telephone consultation with Council's Tourism & Economic Development Manager, 27 August 2020
- 5. Email and telephone consultation with Council's Technical Services Director, 24 August 2020

Appendix D – Schedule of Leases and Licences

| Reserve Number | Reserve Name | Location | PoM Purpose | Category | PoM Category | Lot Identifiers | Lease Holder | Lease Purpose | Expiry Date |
|-------------------|---|----------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| R90674 | Falls Hill or Rotary Lookout | Oberon | Public Recreation | Park | Park | 705307 | Amplitel RBA Holdings Council Telstra SBS Radio | Access TV Repeater Station Telecommuni cations Access Repeater | 1 st Aug 2026 22 May 2022 1 st July 2027 License 618858 1 st May 2025 License 618858 4 May 2014 |
| R79502 | Golf Club & Fish River Reserve (Oberon Dam Reserve) | Oberon | Public Recreation | Natural Area - Bushland Sportsgrou nd | Natural Area - Bushland General Community Use | Part: Lot 1 DP 1242756 Whole: Lot 2 DP 1242756 | Oberon Golf Club | Golf Course and Clubhouse | 23 December 2030 |
| R590077 | Oberon Park | Oberon | Public Recreation | Sportsgrou nd, General Community Use | Sportsground, General Community Use Note : Park category originally assigned when Crown Lands Policy allowed | Lot 23 Whole: Lot 228 DP 757068, Lot 1 DP 904155, Lot 7015 DP 1051799, | Council Jenolan Caravan Park & LDL | Gym & Pool Caravan Park, | Ongoing Caravan Park- EXP:28 Feb 2026 |

| | | | | | only one category. | Lots 21-24 DP 1220101 | Tourist Park Ltd | | |
|--------|---|--|---|-----------------------------|--|--|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | Park areas (playground and skate park) are small and the activities can occur under Sportsground category | | | Tennis Court | Tennis Court- EXP:19 Dec 2026 |
| R64027 | Reef Rd Rest Area | Cnr of The Reef Road and Abercrom bie Road Oberon | Roadside Vehicle Rest Area | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 7010 DP 1030717 | Pethybridge | Grazing and agistment | EXP:31 August 2025 * |
| R64025 | The Reef Road Reserve (near to) Reef Reserve | Shooters Hill | Public Recreation | General Community Use | General Community Use | Whole: Lot 7008 DP 1030717 | Crown Lease | | Council is Manager |
| R9501 | Oberon Water Supply Reserve | Oberon | Public Recreation Water Supply | General Community Use | General Community Use | Part: Lot 217 DP 757068 Lot 1 DP 880593 | Crown Lease | Grazing | Commencement 17 March 2021 |

* The current lease arrangement will not be renewed. Any future grazing licenses will be issued under s2.20 of the CLM Act 2016.