

Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park

Plan of Management



Ku-ring-gai Council 2011

Adopted Date: 20 September 2011

VISION:

Bicentennial Park will continue to be a multi-purpose sport, recreation conservation and leisure facility providing a wide range of activities for local and regional visitors in a designed parkland setting incorporating significant remnant forest vegetation.

Contents

Contents.....	3
Introduction	5
Background	5
About this plan	5
Site description	5
History	6
Community land planning.....	9
Planning framework	9
Categorisation	9
Values	10
Quadruple bottom line assessment	10
Issues and objectives	12
Leases and licences	12
Future development of the land	12
Current and permitted uses	13
Management objectives.....	15
Infrastructure & capital improvements	15
Usage impacts	16
Service standards and maintenance	18
Sustainability	19
Finance	20
Action Plan	21
Monitoring program.....	26

Introduction

Background

Ku-ring-gai Council's Open Space System comprises some 1,400 hectares, of which approximately 1,100 hectares are bushland. The remaining 300 hectares of developed open space contain a wide spectrum of sport, recreation and leisure facilities including 46 sports fields 97 playgrounds, two public golf courses, 29 sealed netball courts, 71 tennis courts, West Pymble Swimming Pool, designated bushland walking tracks and 3km of bitumen recreation cycle paths.

This Plan of Management (PoM) covers the Land known as Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park, West Pymble, shown in Figure 1, 2 and 3. The site is bounded by Yanko Road to the west and Lofberg road to the north and east. Bicentennial Park covers approximately 15.9 hectares of which 48% is bushland. Bicentennial Park is Council owned land, classified as Community Land and incorporates all of the land contained in DP320332, DP265319, DP214246, DP218537, DP564939, DP1086376, DP521870 and DP554781.

This Plan of Management is based on a revision of the Plan of Management for Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park adopted by Council in August 2002. Since the adoption of the 2002 Plan, significant changes have been proposed for the site including:

- Increasing the areas of Natural Area Bushland Categorisation at the north east corner of the site
- Playground in north east corner of the site relocating adjacent to the Community Hall
- Relocation of war memorial from behind pool area to consolidate with memorial at the Community hall frontage.
- extending parking areas within and around the site
- managing bushland areas in accordance with asset management zone requirements adjacent to buildings as required by RFS.
- Upgraded facilities in the West Pymble Pool
- Stormwater harvesting / management measures for water recycling purposes
- Retaining the designed character of the site using consistent materials and finishes across the site.
- Updating relevant leases and licenses

This plan aims to retain the existing natural, social and cultural values of Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park and enable enhancement of its unique open space qualities and character for community use.

About this plan

This Plan of Management has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and is based on the existing Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park Plan of Management 2002. It provides a strategic framework for future management of Bicentennial Park. Operational details in regards to the implementation of this plan are not included. This approach allows for

innovation and flexibility in the implementation of the plan. This plan has been developed to:

- meet Council's obligations in respect to public land management under the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended);
- enable Council to renegotiate or enter into contracts, leases, licences and hire agreements for facilities, associated functions and for the provision and service of utilities;
- minimise the impacts upon residents and the natural and cultural environment from activities associated with Bicentennial Park;
- maximise the active and passive recreational opportunities provided by Bicentennial Park;
- provide a framework for the sustainable management of Bicentennial Park; and
- meet the objectives of Council's Community Strategic Plan 2030.

This Plan of Management will guide the management of Bicentennial Park for the next ten years. The plan incorporates the core values of the community and regular users which are reflected in the vision and role for the land.

Site description

Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park is a regional park with a range of sport and recreation facilities and valuable areas of remnant bushland comprising a vegetation community of high conservation status.

The park is located in Lane Cove River Catchment and is immediately upstream of bushland areas managed by Council and the Lane Cove National Park.

The site covers 15.9 hectares and includes the following facilities:

- 2 Sports fields with lighting - Lofberg Oval and Norman Griffiths Oval
- 4 Netball courts
- Picnic areas with electric BBQs and shelters
- Playgrounds
- Amphitheatre and stage
- A network of pathways
- War Memorial Community Hall
- Leased Pre-school
- Leased Bowling club and greens
- Leased Scout Halls
- Leased Guide Hall
- Car park areas
- Various amenities buildings including clubhouses
- Swimming pool complex
- Off-leash dog exercise area
- Bushland and designed landscape areas
- Stormwater harvesting and recycling system
- Stormwater detention basin (Norman Griffiths Oval)
- Public art and war memorials

History

In the 1870's a Swede, Jonas Lofberg, acquired 30 acres of property in the area and whilst not becoming himself a quarryman, leased part of his land to commercial operators for this purpose. A volcanic dyke passed through the property following a line from St Ives to the Lane Cove River. Associated with the igneous material was hardened sandstone of interest to quarrymen.

However, inadequate equipment ensured that only a modest quarrying operation was possible until, in 1926, with appropriate investment, Ku-ring-gai Council established the quarry as a source of stone for the Municipality's roads and structures and a means of income through sales of stone to other parties.

The quarry is said to have been 18 metres (60 feet) deep, employed 80 men and produced 80,000 tons of stone material per year.

The next stage of the site's history saw the construction of an incinerator for the Municipality's garbage, which, in 1930, represented an innovative enterprise by Council. The designer was Walter Burley Griffin. The incinerator was demolished in 1954.

In 1969 Council, in response to a minute by the Mayor, Alderman R S Turner, resolved that filling of the quarry, would be controlled so that the interests of preservation of the geological features, would be met. The importance of the quarry site's geological history and the conservation of its more distinctive features as a resource for educational purposes was recognised.

Large areas of the site had been cleared or badly denuded as the result of the quarry operation and Council undertook to construct sports fields, car parks, and the swimming pool and halls at the site.

In 1987 and 1988 work on establishing the site as Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park was undertaken by Council and with a Bicentennial Grant at a total cost of \$2.2m. The park was designed by Bruce Mackenzie Landscape Architect and the design task was to bring the unrelated site activities together into an integrated passive and active recreational area set amongst remnant parcels of forest and creeks.

The park development involved substantial land forming, drainage works and watercourse development around preserved of rock outcrops, quarry faces, geological features and remnant vegetation.

The new park was constructed to provide lighting and irrigation, public art, a network of linked pathways including bridges and boardwalks, co-ordinated finishes, colours and park furniture, picnic facilities, community events space and significant planting of approximately 25,000 native plants to re-establish canopy and promote regeneration.

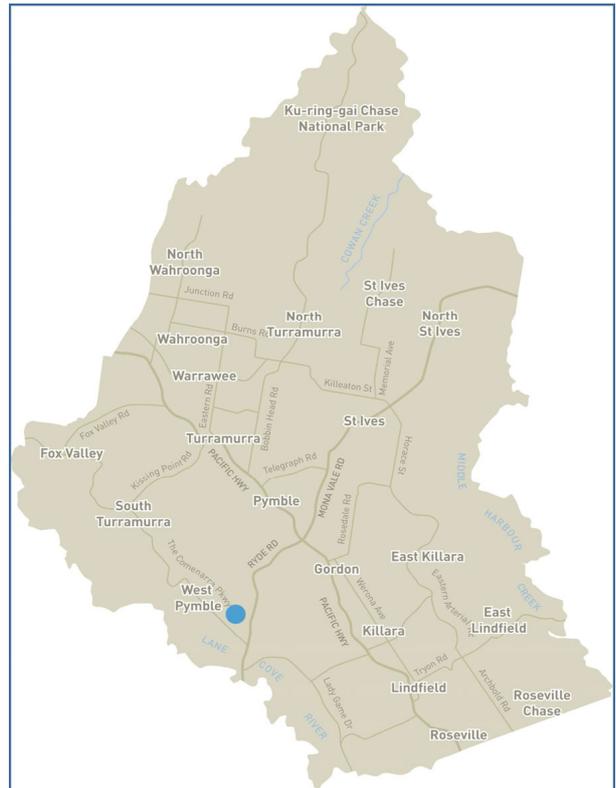
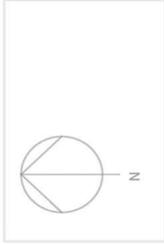


Figure 1: Site location



	Site boundary
	West Pymble District
	Bicentennial Park Area
Legend	



Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park
Plan of Management

FIGURE 1.1: STUDY AREA



Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park
Plan of Management

FIGURE 1.3 : SITE DESCRIPTION

Community land planning

Planning framework

This Plan of Management is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It provides a strategic framework for future management of Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park. Specific details about how works or actions are to be performed or achieved are not included. This approach allows innovation and flexibility in the implementation of the Plan of Management.

Public land is defined as any land vested in or under control of Council. All public land must be classified as either community or operational land. Classification as community land reflects the importance of the land to the community because of its use or special features.

Under the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Bicentennial Park is classified as Community Land.

Community Land must be managed in accordance with an adopted Plan of Management and until such a plan is prepared and adopted, the nature of the land and use cannot be altered.

Although this Plan must be consistent with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the strategic direction of the Council must also be taken into consideration. Therefore, this Plan has also been prepared in accordance with Council's Community Strategic Plan 2030 and related Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Actions listed within this Plan of Management will be transferred to Council's annual Delivery Program and operational plan and then to work plans of staff.

Other policy documents which have relevance to this Plan include:

- Bushland Reserves Plan of Management (2009)
- Generic Parks Plan of Management (2005)
- Sports Facilities Plan Of Management (2010)
- Management of Community and Recreation Land and Facilities Policy (2010)
- Sportsground Wet Weather Policy (2003)
- Community Halls and Meeting Rooms Plan of Management (2000)

Categorisation

Under Division 3, Section 36, Clause 4 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Plans of Management for Community Land must categorise the land covered by the plan. The Act provides the following options for categorisation:

- park
- sportsground
- area of cultural significance
- general community use
- Area of Cultural Significance

- Natural area as:
 - Bushland
 - Wetland
 - Escarpment
 - Water course
 - Foreshore

For the purpose of Section 36F, Clause 4, land identified within this Plan of Management is categorised as a park, bushland, sportsground or general community use.

This revised plan of management does not propose any additional categories from the existing 2002 plan of management. Figure 4 defines the categorisation breakdown of the site. The *Local Government Act 1993* specifies the following core objectives for community land categorised as:

Park:

- (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and
- (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and
- (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

General community use

To promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:

- (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and
- (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Sportsground

- (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and
- (b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

Bushland

- (a) to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and

- (b) to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and
- (c) to promote the management of 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 directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and
- (d) to restore degraded bushland, and
- (e) to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, water courses and foreshores, and
- (f) to 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
- (g) to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.
- (h) to manage asset protection zones having regard to bushfire risk to persons and facilities in accordance with Rural Fire Service requirements.

These core objectives have been integrated into the objectives throughout this Plan.

Values

Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park has social, recreational, visual, natural and future generational values, which are all significant at a local, district and regional level. The primary value of Bicentennial Park is the intrinsic worth of its open parkland environment. Other important values of Bicentennial Park are discussed below:

Social values

Bicentennial Park has value as an informal meeting place which enhances social interaction within our community and provides significant recreation and leisure opportunities to all ages in the community. With the bowling club, swimming complex and sports fields, the site provides numerous opportunities to promote community health and fitness.

The site also accommodates large community events including Carols by Candlelight and Australia Day Events.

Environmental values

The site contributes significant environmental value to the area. As a significant area of Council's open space reserve system, the site provides habitat and bio-linkage opportunities for flora and fauna. The site contains large stands of Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, an endangered ecological community, and riparian zones..

The site provides attractive visual amenity with native vegetation and designed landscape areas which break up the urban landscape. In addition, the vegetation and canopy trees provide micro-climate effects to the local area

through mitigating wind velocity and the heat island effect created within urbanised areas.

Economic values

The economic value of Bicentennial Park is two fold. Where appropriate user fees are set, sport and recreation facilities can be more financially self sustaining. This may include repaying the initial investment, operational costs and depreciation.

The site also provides visual amenity to surrounding residential properties which may positively impact property value.

Governance values

In 2007 Council developed the Ku-ring-gai Sustainability Vision Report (2007) where the community shared their issues regarding demands for our open space facilities. Council gains value from a governance perspective through acting on the needs of our community through the provision and management of outdoor recreational facilities to our community.

Quadruple bottom line assessment

Transparency about economic, environmental, social and governance issues are fundamental to local government. This approach allows Council to determine the effectiveness of this Plan in addressing Quadruple Bottom Line and will provide consistency with Council's Community Strategic Plan 2030. Each action listed within this plan of management will be assessed on each issue using the following indicators:

Positive effect	No effect	Negative effect
		

Where possible, actions which reduce adverse impacts on sustainability have been encouraged. However, an action may provide an overall positive effect, but can still cause an adverse effect within one or more of the categories. In this instance, it may be considered that the positive effects outweigh the negative effects, and all efforts are made to mitigate any unavoidable adverse impacts.

Overall the quadruple bottom line assessment shows a balanced approach to the sustainable management of Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park through the implementation of this Plan of Management.



Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park
Plan of Management

FIGURE 1.2 : CATEGORISATION

Issues and objectives

The majority of issues regarding the Bicentennial Park site can be structured into five key areas:

Infrastructure and capital improvements

Provide a facility that addresses the existing and changing demographics and demands of our community

An increase in development and population within Ku-ring-gai has created an increase in demand for the services provided by Bicentennial Park. To accommodate this increase in demand, Council seeks to redevelop the existing pool complex to provide an improved aquatic and leisure facility. An ongoing program of prioritised capital improvements to and refurbishment of existing assets is also managed by Council.

Usage impacts

Increase positive impacts and minimise adverse impacts from the existence and use of Bicentennial Park.

Use of Bicentennial Park may impact on the facilities within the park and/or on surrounding public and private land uses. This may include traffic and parking, site access and circulation, catchment impacts, noise, dogs, alcohol consumption, smoking, litter, lighting, antisocial behaviour, temporary structures, and emergency use.

Service standards and maintenance

Provide a quality service standard for the maintenance of Bicentennial Park.

Bicentennial Park requires an agreed level of maintenance standards to ensure facilities can be safely and appropriately used by the community. Issues which need to be addressed as part of maintenance of facilities include drainage, irrigation, waste management, cleaning, drought and water restrictions, security and vandalism, and risk and safety management.

Environmental Sustainability

Manage Bicentennial Park through sustainable principles

Council will sustainably manage and use the site, with particular attention to biodiversity, water and energy consumption, and climate change adaptation. By applying sustainable management principles, Council can ensure the longevity and quality of the site for future users..

Finance

Maintain and improve Bicentennial Park through sustainable financial practices.

Managing and maintaining Council's recreational facilities can be a costly exercise. A balance needs to be achieved between the cost and quality of service standards, user fees, and the overall impact to Council's operational and capital works budgets. Sponsorship, donations, grants and

other sources of capital funding can provide alternative income opportunities to achieve the maintenance of recreational facilities to identified or desired standards.

Leases and licences

This Plan of Management authorises Council, by resolution, to enter into contracts and lease/licence agreements with relevant authorities, organisations, individuals, or companies in relation to the provision of services or utilities in accordance with the objectives of this Plan and legislative requirements. The grant of a lease, licence or other estate in respect to land covered by this Plan is expressly authorised:

- for any purpose for which the land was being used at the date this Plan was adopted; or
- for any other purpose prescribed by Section 46 of the Local Government Act 1993, or Regulation made thereunder.

The granting of leases, licences and other estates must be consistent with the core objectives of the land's categorisation, namely park, general community use, sportsground or bushland.

There are four current leases relevant to the reserve.

- A lease between Council and the West Pymble Bowling Club Ltd for Lot 12 and 13 in DP 1086376.
- A lease between Council and KU Kindergarten for Lot 1 DP 521870
- A lease between Council and each Boy Scouts Association of NSW and Girl Guide Association of NSW for Lots 9 – 11 DP230332 and Lot 4 DP218537
- A caretaker arrangement is in place for the management of West Pymble Pool complex pending redevelopment of the site.

This Plan of Management prohibits leases, licences and other estates being granted for the following:

- activities prohibited by the zoning of the land unless otherwise enabled through Council's Comprehensive Local Environment Plan.
- activities which are not in accordance with the aims and/or objectives of this Plan.

Future development of the land

This Plan of Management authorises, within the requirements of relevant legislation and Council policy, the future development of Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park as listed within this Plan for the following purposes and uses:

- alterations and additions to the existing land and infrastructure to provide improved facilities for the uses permitted by this Plan of Management;
- construction of new facilities; and
- improvements to the landscape and aesthetic elements of the land.

Any future development of the land will need to comply with relevant laws governing use and development of the land and will be subject to land zoning, development approval, community consultation and relevant legislation.

Current and permitted uses

<i>Use</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Intensity</i>
Access roads	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Advertising and sponsorship signage	Limited by requirements of Council policies and planning controls	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Alternate energy technology	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Art and cultural classes and events	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	7 days a week, 8.00am to 12.00pm
Biodiversity enhancement	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Canteens, cafes and kiosks	Limited to the hours the facility is booked. Agreement via lease, license or approval from Council. Limited to Council buildings.	Monday-Friday 8.00am-10.00pm Saturday 8.00am – 8.30pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Casual playing of games or informal activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	7 days a week 7.00am – sunset Subject to any facility specific operating hours
Car parking	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Childcare and Child minding	Limited to the physical constraints of facilities	6.00am – 10.00pm 7 days a week
Clubhouse and amenities	Limited to the hours the facility is booked. Agreement via lease, license or approval from Council	Monday - Friday 8.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 11.00pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Commercial activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	7 days a week, 5.00am-10.00pm
Community events	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	7 days a week, 8.00am – 10.00pm Subject to any facility specific operating hours or hours approved in a specific event Development Application conditions.
Community notice signs and temporary signs	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Dining and restaurants	Limited to the Bowling Club precinct and Aquatic and Leisure Centre.	8am to midnight 7 days a week or as stipulated in any lease agreement
Dog training and exercise	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity. Dogs must be on leash at all times unless within the designated off leash area.	7 days a week, Sunrise - Sunset
Drainage and irrigation	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Emergency use	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Filming and photography (commercial and amateur)	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Subject to Council's approval
Outdoor fitness and wellbeing programs	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or limited to the number of places available for each class	Monday - Friday 6.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 6.00pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Indoor fitness and wellbeing programs	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or limited to the number of places available for each class	5.00am – 10.00pm 7 days a week
Gaming (poker machines)	Limited to establishments with a gaming license (i.e. Bowling Clubs)	Available as per the operating hours of the establishment in accordance with lease Monday - Friday 8.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 11.00pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Guide and scout activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	Monday - Friday 8.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 11.00pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Landscaping	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Licensed bars and bistros	Limited to establishments with a liquor license (i.e. Bowling Clubs)	Available as per the operating hours of the establishment in accordance with the lease
Maintenance buildings	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Mobile food vendors	Can be utilised with approval from Council as per the <i>Ku-ring-gai Council Mobile Food Van Code</i>	Can be used with approval from Council as per the <i>Ku-ring-gai Council Mobile Food Van Code</i>
Multi-use path networks	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Natural areas (bushland) and parks	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Organised sports competitions	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity.	As permitted in generic Sports Facilities Plan of Management 2010.
Organised sport training	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity.	As permitted in generic Sports Facilities Plan of Management 2010.
Outdoor film screening	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	Subject to Council's approval
Informal/unorganised sport	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or	Mon – Sat 8.00am – sunset

	to the requirements of the activity	Sun 9.00am – sunset
Personal training	Non exclusive use of a sportsground/park for up to 15 people Exclusive hire for groups 15 and over. Bookings prior to 8.00am daily need to be conducted a minimum of 100 metres from the nearest residential property Number of personal trainers limited to a maximum of two per area of the park at any one time.	Monday – Sunday 6.00am – 10.00pm Any Seasonal Hirer has priority. Subject to any facility specific operating hours
Playing of amplified musical instrument, amplified singing or any amplified or electronic sound	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	Subject to Council’s approval or as stipulated in any lease agreement
Private events (ie. weddings, birthdays)	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	7 days a week, 8.00am – sunset Or subject to hours approved in a specific development consent or lease or licence
Public performance or education	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	7 days a week, 8.00am – 10.00pm Or subject to hours approved in a specific development consent
Public utility infrastructure	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
School vacation activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or limited to the number of places available for each class	Public school holidays
Scout and Guide activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	Monday - Friday 8.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 11.00pm Sunday 9.00am - 6.00pm
Shade structures	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Sportsground maintenance	Subject to noise and occupation health and safety and relevant legislation.	24 hours a day, 7 days a week subject to Council approval
Storage facilities	Agreement via lease, license or approval from Council	Allocated on a seasonal basis
Stormwater management	Limited to the physical constraints of the area	24 hours a day 7 days a week
Swimming and associated water based recreation activities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility	5.00am – 10.00pm 7 days a week
Telecommunication facilities	Subject to relevant Legislation	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Temporary structures (ie: marquees, tents, stages)	Can be used at the discretion of Council Available for commercial/corporate use or community groups, family events, registered charities per day or part thereof	Temporary structures can be categorised as; Temporary structure – jumping castle (no pegs, weighted only) Temporary structure – small marquee (up to 5 metres x 5 metres), medium marquee (up to 10 metres x 10 metres) and large marquee (over 10 metres x 10 metres) – no pegs, weighted only
Visitor facilities	Limited to the physical constraints of the facility and/or to the requirements of the activity	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Water reuse and recycling	Available at those sporting facilities that have had water reuse/recycling systems set up on site	Water reuse and recycling permitted to operate at any time.

Management objectives

Infrastructure and capital improvements

Provide a facility that addresses the existing and changing demographics and demands of our community

An increase in development and population within Ku-ring-gai will create an increase in demand for the services provided by Bicentennial Park. To help accommodate this increase in demand, Council is seeking to redevelop the existing pool complex to provide an improved aquatic and leisure centre., to manage asset decline with embellishment and to improve access and parking at the site.

Capital improvements

TARGET Maximised capacity and potential of the site through a prioritised program of capital improvements

The existing on-site buildings and facilities in some cases, no longer meet the needs of today's community. Planned improvements include:

1. Refurbishment of West Pymble Community Hall including replacement of the existing roof and guttering, insulation improvements, kitchen and bathroom upgrade.
2. Redevelopment of the existing pool complex to include a new indoor pool facility with fitness and recreation facilities including gym, café, child minding.
3. Refurbish and embellish existing assets to a routine prioritised program.

Bushland character

TARGET Protected and enhanced bushland qualities of Bicentennial Park

The bushland areas in Bicentennial Park are valuable remnants of Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, a vegetation community which is listed in the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* as an Endangered Ecological Community.

The area of bushland running through the park from Lofberg Road (and to the north of Norman Griffith Oval) to the swimming pool car park and the Amphitheatre area is Tall Open Forest with dominant canopy trees of Grey Ironbark (*Eucalyptus paniculata*), Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*), Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) and Red Mahogany (*Eucalyptus reinifera*).

The other areas of bushland, to the south of the Norman Griffith Oval and surrounding the scout halls are Open Forest with dominant canopy trees of Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*), Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*), Turpentine

(*Syncarpia glomulifera*) and Red Bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*).

The bushland contributes on a regional level for its values as a wildlife refuge and as part of a corridor network assisting the movement of wildlife between small and large bushland reserves and National Parks. The Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest (STIF) is of regional significance as a remnant of an Endangered Ecological Community of which there is less than 0.5% left. (The STIF at this location is classified T3B which is the rarest type of this Endangered Ecological Community.) Bushland areas will be managed to control weeds and to keep fuel loads appropriate to manage bushfire risk.

Public art and memorials

TARGET Opportunities for the display of memorials and public art are provided at Bicentennial Park

The use and experience of the park can be enriched by a functional and stimulating approach to information provision, and to incorporation of elements such as community art and appropriate memorials and interpretive elements. in approved locations.

Current interpretation elements are minimal and could be expanded to address multiple themes. Way-finding and identity signage could also be improved to assist park circulation, usage and control. Public art requires Development Consent in accordance with Council Public Art Policy..

In 1998 Council adopted a Public Art Policy aimed at *"guiding and encouraging the exhibition and inclusion of art within public places, ensuring the valued characteristics of Ku-ring-gai are enhanced."*

The *Public Art Policy* has the following objectives:

- encourage art in the Ku-ring-gai Council area
- contribute to raising the profile and recognition of art and arts development
- ensure public art complements and enhances the valued characteristics of the Council area
- ensure a coordinated and planned approach to the development and management of public art
- provide clear guidelines for Council and the community regarding public art development and responsibility and
- where relevant ensure the *Public Arts Policy* is reflected within Council's strategic directions, policies and planning controls and vice versa.

Council has opportunities throughout the park to profile a range of art however access and vandalism need to be considered when assessing locations and types of art to be displayed together with existing design layouts, views and vistas.

Usage impacts

Increase positive impacts and minimise adverse impacts from the existence and use of Bicentennial Park.

Use of Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park may impact on the facilities within the park and/or on the surrounding public and private land uses.

Parking

TARGET Improved overall availability and access to parking.

Bicentennial Park has a variety of parking options for users however parking spaces are limited.

Car parking for the bowling club is provided by a small car park located to the east of the club. The main car park used by visitors to the swimming complex and amphitheatre areas is located within the centre of the park off Prince of Wales Drive. Both sports fields have 90 degree street parking and the kindergarten and community hall have a small car park adjacent to the buildings. The scout and guide hall have restricted and limited adjacent parking.

Additional parking is approved and parking utilisation throughout the park will be managed.

Bicycles are being encouraged as an alternative and low impact form of transport, particularly for trips under 5km with provision of bicycle parking rails located in areas of high visibility.

Site access and circulation

***TARGET Site traffic responsibly managed
Accessible pathways suitable for all levels of mobility are provided
Appropriate non motorised access opportunities for users of the park are provided***

Site access and circulation at Bicentennial Park is generally adequate. The majority of visitors to the site require vehicular access. Each discrete area of the park generally has its own designated parking area improving direct access to facilities.

Pedestrian access within the park is provided by a linked network of pathways between facilities and through bushland areas.

Disabled access to the site is provided including an accessible playground, toilets and picnic areas at the Golden Grove Amphitheatre. The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Anti Discrimination Act 1977* makes it law for public places, such as parks, to be accessible to persons with disabilities. In response, Council has developed an Access Policy which provides relevant performance targets and strategies.

Generally, vehicle access is restricted to designated entry points and parking areas. Public vehicle access is prohibited to other areas subject to emergency use or approved special events such as the annual Australia Day celebrations. This is to mitigate risk to users of the site and limit damage to the site and playing surfaces.

Major events

TARGET Major events are provided and managed to improve user enjoyment.

Bicentennial Park is used on a number of occasions each year for major events, such as the Australia Day Concert, Carols by Candlelight and Ku-ring-gai Community Fair, which can attract crowds of up to 11,000 persons.

During such events, increased on-site parking need means that Norman Griffith Oval and Lofberg Oval can be used for car parking. The use of these ovals for parking causes some damage to the playing surface in the short term and also causes compaction in the long term, leading to increased remediation costs and increased maintenance resourcing.

It is considered that any more than four major events annually should be individually considered by Council to contain the impact on the ovals and other pressures on the park's facilities and infrastructure.

Notification of proposed major events to those residents who adjoin the park is desirable as is appropriate measures to mitigate negative impacts on these residents' amenity.

Alcohol consumption

TARGET Alcohol is served and consumed responsibly

To preserve urban amenity, a liquor licence is required for serving alcohol to ensure no undue detriment to the amenity of the area is caused during or immediately after the trading hours arising out of or in connection with the use of licensed premises at the site.

There must be no sale of liquor or alcohol unless a club or premises has a proper liquor licence and prior approval has been obtained from Council in writing. All facilities must provide evidence that the requirements of the State Liquor Licensing Board has been met.

Smoking

TARGET Users and visitors have a decreased exposure to cigarette smoke

Council's policy in respect of Smoking in Public Places bans smoking in the following areas:

- i. Within 10 metres of all children's play areas under Council's care.
- ii. At all Council playing fields, sporting grounds, and West Pymble Pool
- iii. At all events run or sponsored by Council.

- iv. In all Council owned buildings and within 10 metres of Council owned or managed buildings and gardens including balconies or covered areas of those balconies or gardens.
 - v. In all alfresco dining areas on public land.
 - vi. In all covered bus shelters and taxi ranks.
- All future leases and hiring of Council assets will reflect this revised policy

Council's policy will increase community protection against smoking related illnesses. It will also significantly improve the local environment by reducing the amount of cigarette butt litter generated at outdoor recreational areas.

Impacts on adjoining land uses

TARGET Impacts on adjoining land uses are mitigated and prevented where possible

The majority of adjacent land use is in the form of private residential property. Residents living adjacent to or nearby Bicentennial Park can be adversely impacted by use of the site. Potential impacts on local residents include traffic congestion, loss of on-street parking during events, increased noise, and effects from floodlighting, loss of privacy or antisocial behaviour. Event organisers will be required to address these issues.

There is a need to minimise adverse impacts where possible, and to consider local residents and land owners when planning, developing or upgrading the site.

Council's policy is to minimise these impacts over time while recognising that living in proximity to community land may bring both positive and negative effects. Council will engage adjoining land users in consultation processes when proposals are being considered at Bicentennial Park which may impact upon those residents.

Balancing Use

TARGET An overall balance of active and passive recreation facilities within the park is maintained.

The park combines a diverse range of attributes from its physical environment and setting to high level sports and recreation facilities. As such a wide scope of community use occurs and is desired by the community.

With very discrete areas of active and passive recreation, from park-like areas to sports fields, swimming pools and bowling greens, it is easy to balance both active and passive use without significant conflict for users.

However, Council expects an increase in patronage of the site with increased pressures for facilities, such as the pool complex and sports fields. With this expected increase in demand for services, upgraded pool facilities are required to provide for the growing needs of the community.

The existing balance of active and passive recreation facilities will be maintained by retaining the current patterns of use for the site which will also continue to be the venue for annual community events such as the Australia Day celebrations.

Temporary structures

TARGET Activities requiring temporary structures are accommodated where site damage can be avoided

Bicentennial Park is a venue for regular sporting activities and annual community events. A permit from Council is required should any club or user group wish to erect any advertising sign or banner. Written approval must be obtained prior to the erection of any temporary fencing, Jumping castles and marquees. These may be weighted structures only, with no tent pegs permitted, to reduce damage to turf and underground services on the sports fields.

Emergency use

TARGET Bicentennial Park is made available for emergency uses

Access is to be provided at the site for emergency services, for example NSW Ambulance and Care Flight to assist with injured facility users, and NSW Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire Brigade and State Emergency Services in the event of local and regional emergencies where the facility can provide staging areas or evacuation points. Emergency services and organisations will have priority over other uses in the event of an emergency.

Ku-ring-gai Council has prepared a Disaster Plan (DISPLAN) in partnership with Hornsby Council and emergency services in accordance with the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* which identifies evacuation and assembly areas which can be used for:

- managing the provision of emergency accommodation, essential material needs, and the delivery of welfare services to victims of incidents and emergencies;
- providing welfare information, advisory services, medical and mental health (counselling) services to victims;
- providing companion animal care;
- co-ordinating catering facilities and services to provide feeding of victims and evacuees.

Dogs

TARGET Dogs are appropriately managed at Bicentennial Park

Many dog owners walk their dogs within and around the Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park. Where most owners responsibly exercise their dogs, there have been some instances of dogs being let off their leads within the park (currently prohibited except in the designated off-leash area) or owners not picking up their dog's faeces. This reduces the amenity and safety for other users of the park. Council currently provides 21 off-leash areas for dogs in Ku-ring-gai. A dog off-leash area is located at the Scarborough Field within Bicentennial Park to allow local dog owners the opportunity to exercise their dogs.

Service standards and maintenance

Provide a quality service standard for the maintenance of Bicentennial Park.

Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park requires an agreed level of maintenance standards to ensure facilities can be safely and appropriately used by the community.

The maintenance of parks facilities is a core business of Council and will aim to protect the natural environment from urban impacts such as rubbish, weeds, nutrient deposition, dumping and encroaching. Maintenance is carried out to a standard that reflects the nature and use of the facility, budgets and the safety of users. Standards are set by the Operational Department of Council in co-operation with the Strategic and Community departments. These are referred to as service level agreements within which maintenance arrangements may be developed with key users or groups.

Maintenance

TARGET Facilities are clean and consistently well maintained

At present maintenance is carried out on a cyclical basis which currently represents a base level of service which may fall short of user expectations. However, the maintenance cost is not covered by income from these facilities and therefore is heavily subsidised by Council's general revenue and other funding sources.

Council will endeavour to maintain Council owned facilities to agreed standards which provide quality venues for community use and or revenue generation. Buildings which are leased or privately owned are also to be maintained to standards consistent with the overall objectives of Bicentennial Park.

Vandalism

TARGET Vandalism and inappropriate use identified and responded to in a timely manner

Vandalism is a widespread issue which affects all Council facilities including Bicentennial Park. Acts of vandalism include graffiti, and malicious damage to buildings; playgrounds and equipment, shelters and furniture; trees and other vegetation; signage and public art, and break and enter buildings and the pool and theft.

The annual cost for Council to repair damage caused by acts of vandalism is significant and growing for buildings and facilities. Apart from the resultant financial cost, there is a reduction or loss in the use of facilities for recreation and the general amenity until repairs are completed. While the threat of being caught and prompt repairs to vandalised facilities have been identified as good deterrents, they do not solve the problem. While vandalism cannot be eliminated, the following strategies can help to reduce vandalism:

- good design of facilities using accepted principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

- prompt response to repair damage when vandalism occurs
- where necessary, target enforcement to known problem areas
- appropriate education and interpretation and
- increased community involvement in facility development and management.

Risk and safety

TARGET A safe environment is provided for users of, and visitors to Bicentennial Park

The issues of safety and risk management relate to providing a safe environment for players, spectators, casual and other users of Bicentennial Park, and to the safety of residents whose properties adjoin them. Sports fields such as Norman Griffiths and Lofberg Ovals, the pool complex and playgrounds, due to the degree and nature of use they receive, are of increasing management concern in regards to risk and safety. Regular inspections of these facilities are undertaken to address risk management concerns and other matters depending on circumstances. Playgrounds are regularly inspected and maintained to be compliant with relevant Australian Playground Safety Standards.

Risk minimisation opportunities at Bicentennial Park are regularly and routinely assessed and managed.

In addition to Council undertaking its own efforts to reduce safety risks, responsibility is also with individual users and the organised users of facilities, with specific requirements listed within hire agreements of sites. It is the responsibility of all user groups to procure their own insurance. Insurance obligations are stated in all agreements, from a casual hire arrangement to a 21 year lease or licence.

Disruption of use

TARGET Disruption of use will be minimised

There may be occasions where Council will need to close sections of Bicentennial Park, which can impact regular users of a site. Generally facilities will be temporarily closed to general use if:

- continued use of the park will render the site dangerous or unusable,
- continued use will result in damage creating significant repair costs and further prolonged site closure
- the park is required for a community event
- existing damage (ie vandalism) renders the site unsafe for use
- capital works upgrades
- emergency repairs
- rest and renovation periods
- emergency incidents requiring the park for emergency administration and services, refuge, and helicopter landings.

Where possible, disruptions will be minimised.

Waste management

TARGET Appropriate waste and recycling facilities provided at Bicentennial Park

Rubbish, littering and recycling has been identified as an issue at Bicentennial Park. The issue of littering is one which can be dealt with through provision of appropriate containers, routine inspection and liaison where problems arise. Drug and alcohol specific littering can create costly occupational health and safety concerns for the community, park users and council staff alike.

Users of Bicentennial Park have an obligation to leave the site in a clean, tidy and undamaged condition. Removal of rubbish is included in hiring fee, provided it is left in the bins provided. No bagged rubbish must be left behind. If the bins provided are not able to cope with the volume generated additional services can be arranged through Council's Waste Services at the hirer's expense.

Sustainability

Manage Bicentennial Park through sustainable principles

Council needs to ensure the site is sustainably managed and used. By applying sustainable management principles to the site, Council can ensure the longevity and quality of the site.

Biodiversity

TARGET Biodiversity is protected and enhanced at Bicentennial Park.

Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park is one of very few parks of substantial area containing Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest (STIF).

The conservation of remnant vegetation in bushland is the primary source of providing for wildlife in Ku-ring-gai. However, research has clearly shown that many species of fauna require movement corridors to meet their feeding and breeding habitat requirements. Council has identified important wildlife corridors which link remnants of urban bushland.

Bicentennial Park has the potential to play an important role in helping to ensure long term sustainability of species as part of a conservation corridor in Ku-ring-gai. Significant areas of locally occurring canopy trees running diagonally from north east to south west create considerable opportunities for the conservation and enhancement of indigenous canopy trees for wildlife corridors

Water management

TARGET Water is used and managed sustainably

Bicentennial Park is Council's highest consumer of water with the majority of water on site used to operate the pool complex.

Since the commencement of the drought in 2000, Council has begun a program to harvest significant volumes of stormwater to irrigate playing fields. These measures allow Council to irrigate beyond the water restrictions; and assist

Council in maintaining the resilience of the play surfaces and the functioning of Council's pool complex throughout extended periods of drought. Council has already installed a stormwater harvesting system at Lofberg Oval to assist in irrigating the playing field. A further harvesting system is planned for the irrigation of Norman Griffiths Oval.

During heavy rain events, Norman Griffith oval is designed to act as a detention basin, reducing the impact of downstream flooding. However, this feature does impact on the play surface and can create unsuitable grounds for sports during extreme rain events.

The stormwater harvesting program supports automatic irrigation systems that allow Council to irrigate grounds effectively with minimal staff resources. The ongoing use of warm-season grasses further reduce the demand for water (by up to 40%) compared to cool season grasses, further optimising Council's water allocation. The treatment that forms part of the harvesting system is known as a bio-filtration system. It assists in removing impurities and negative impacts of stormwater and also reduces the negative impacts of stormwater on downstream environments.

Runoff from use of irrigation and fertilisers on playing surfaces will be minimised to reduce impacts for weed infestations downstream.

Gross pollutants are also an issue for Council's waterways. To reduce this, Council has installed and maintains a gross pollutant trap to prevent pollutants entering Quarry Creek. Removal of accumulated debris that blocks water flow and causes water to stagnate will go some way to alleviating detrimental water borne problems such as mosquitoes.

Climate change

TARGET Management of Bicentennial Park adapts to changes in climate Minimise greenhouse emissions through the efficient use and management of Bicentennial Park

Council's facilities can both be affected by climate change and can effect climate change. In response, Council must respond to both the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and the adaptation to atmospheric and weather changes. Council's Climate Change Policy (2009), sets a corporate emission reduction target of 20% by 2020 based on year 2000 emissions and 90% by 2050.

For the purposes of Bicentennial Park, the main sources of greenhouse emissions are through electricity consumption and fuel consumption. This includes electricity consumption for amenities blocks, pool operation and flood lighting, and through fuel consumption of maintenance and waste removal vehicles.

Regardless of Council's efforts to mitigate climate change, it is likely that the climate change as predicted by the CSIRO, will see Ku-ring-gai experience longer inter-rain periods, extreme wind and rain events and an increase in frequency of extreme temperature days. Notable secondary impacts may include more extreme and frequent bush fire events, electricity, water, gas and sewer disruption, extremes in heat, more intense and frequent storms, local flooding and prolonged droughts.

These could affect Council's facilities. Council's network of community facilities can be used during fire events by providing a marshalling area for emergency services and the large static water supplies can provide a significant water supply in the event of a bushfire hazard.

Climate change is also impacting on rainfall and air temperature and is projected to continue. Sydney received below average rainfall for eleven consecutive years to 2009. The drought and water restrictions created unprecedented operational facility management challenges. The implications of climate change, including water restrictions likely to be long-term or permanent, on the traditional provision of quality play surfaces are significant.

The long-term impact of the drought is informing changing practices and attitudes in sportsground and sports service provision and challenging traditional thinking in the provision of sport. In Ku-ring-gai, this has included a focus on sourcing independent supplies of water through sewer and stormwater harvesting projects. These projects will assist Council in adapting to the predicted increases in drought conditions affecting our sports facilities.

Finance

Maintain and improve Bicentennial Park through sustainable financial practices.

Managing and maintaining Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park can be a costly exercise. A balance needs to be met to ameliorate this financial impact on Council, without reducing community access through the impact of higher fees and charges. Sponsorship, donations, grants and other sources of capital can provide alternative funding opportunities for the maintenance or upgrade of recreational facilities to an agreed standard.

Council levies, Section 94 Contributions on developers, and revenue from rentals provide funding for facility development. Local sporting clubs and organisations are involved in fundraising for contributions toward capital improvement of facilities and contributions towards maintenance.

Apart from management of the West Pymble Bowling and Sports Club and pool complex, the on-going maintenance and development of the park and its facilities is heavily reliant on funding from Council. The level of funding available for these facilities is less than what is required to meet the expectations of the community and therefore Council must continue to investigate alternative funding and improved maintenance practices.

Action Plan

Performance target	Action	Responsibility	Priority	QBL
Capital improvements				
Maximised capacity and potential of the site through a prioritised program of capital improvements	Refurbish West Pymble War Memorial Community Hall	Manager Engineering Services	High	
	Redevelop existing pool complex	Manager Strategic Projects	High	
Bushland Character				
Protected and enhanced visual qualities of Bicentennial Park	Develop and implement provenance propagation program for locally occurring shale species for planting of tree canopy species	Manager Open Space Services	Medium	
	Retain selected exotic canopy trees which do not conflict with objectives for wildlife corridors and are non invasive into bushland.	Manager Open Space Services	High	
	Retain existing Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest (STIF) EEC and manage asset protection zones in accordance with Rural Fire Service requirements	Manager Open Space Services	High	
Public art and memorials				
Opportunities for the display of memorials and public art are provided at Bicentennial Park	Maintain existing memorials throughout the site. Relocate the Lone Pine Memorial to a more prominent position to enhance the War Memorial Hall and existing memorial stone.	Manager Open Space Services Principal Landscape Architect	High	
	Manage and maintain existing Public Art and consider opportunities for public art in accordance with relevant Council policy and existing site design plan.	Manager Leisure and Cultural Development	Low	
Parking				
Improved overall availability and access to parking for park users	Maintain or increase the current level of publicly available car parking as a minimum requirement for any redevelopment of Bicentennial Park	Sport and Recreation Planner Strategic Traffic Engineer	High	
	Enforce restrictions in car parks in accordance with relevant signage and introduce a parking management plan to improve use throughout the site.	Compliance officers	Medium	
	Install bicycle facilities where appropriate	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
Site access and circulation				
Site traffic responsibly managed	Ensure traffic guides and signage are clearly identifiable	Traffic and Transport Planner	High	
	Monitor traffic flow and adjust signage and layout as required	Traffic and Transport Planner	Medium	
Accessible pathways suitable for all levels of mobility are provided	Improved disabled access to and from major facilities	Sport and Recreation Planner	High	

Appropriate non motorised access opportunities for users of the park are provided	Improve existing formal park entry points and delineate pedestrian circulation	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
	Provide graded paths to discourage inundated/muddy access	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
	Continue to improve supporting park-wide infrastructure to pathway circuit including seating, drinking fountains, lighting, rubbish disposal facilities	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
	Allow service vehicle access only through allocated entry points. Prohibit access by general public except for special events	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
	Identify opportunities and provide improved access for all pedestrians and cyclists	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
	Continue to apply design standards for access related infrastructure	Sport and Recreation Planner	Medium	
Major events				
Major events are provided and managed to improve user enjoyment	Manage major events in accordance with Council's Draft Sustainable Event Management Policy	Cultural Events Officer	High	
Alcohol consumption				
Alcohol is served and consumed responsibly	All clubs and user groups to be made aware of Council's policy on alcohol sale and consumption at sports facilities in accordance with the Bookings Policy	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Medium	
Smoking				
Users and visitors have a decreased exposure to cigarette smoke	A Smoke Free Information Pack to be developed to explain what users must do to comply with Council's Smoking in Public Places Policy	Sports and Recreation Planner	Low	
	Distribute Information Pack to all hirers and users of facilities	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Medium	
Impacts on adjoining land uses				
Impacts on adjoining land uses are mitigated and prevented where possible	Encourage sporting clubs/user groups to consider nearby residents when undertaking any activities. Enforce compliance with all lease and licence conditions	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	High	
	Investigate potential impacts and prepare mitigating plans in conjunction with local residents and user groups as required	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Medium	
	Respond expediently to complaints from adjoining land users in relation to unlawful impacts (ie. noise, parking) caused by park users	Community and Recreation Property Manager	Ongoing	
Balancing utilisation				
An overall balance of active and passive recreation facilities within the park is maintained.	Retain current use of the West Pymble Bowling and Sports Club leased area	Community and Recreation Property Manager	High	
	Retain current use of Lofberg and Norman Griffiths Ovals as formal sports fields	Community and Recreation Property Manager	High	

	Retain open grass areas for passive recreation and community events	Sports and Recreation Planner	High	
Temporary structures				
Activities requiring temporary structures are accommodated where site damage can be avoided	The use of temporary structures managed in accordance with Council's Bookings Policy	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Ongoing	
Emergency use				
Bicentennial Park is made available for emergency uses	Emergency services notified of appropriate sports facilities for marshalling sites and staging areas	Community and Recreation Property Manager	Medium	
	Users affected by emergency use provided with alternative arrangements where practicable	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Low	
Dogs				
Dogs are appropriately managed at Bicentennial Park	Existing dog off-leash area is maintained to appropriate service standard	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
	Maintain regular monitoring to ensure dog owner compliance	Manager Regulations & Compliance	Low	
Maintenance				
Facilities are clean and consistently well maintained	All facilities are maintained according to the specifications detailed in Council's Service Level or relevant Australian Standards	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
	Inspections of Bicentennial Park undertaken on a regular basis	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
	Review/prepare routine and cyclic maintenance plans for Bicentennial Park	Manager Open Space Services	Medium	
	Review and if necessary revise financial contributions of community and sporting organisations towards maintenance of facilities.	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Medium	
	All rubbish bins on areas of the park to be managed in accordance with Council policies	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
	Continue existing buildings maintenance programs	Building Assets Coordinator	Ongoing	
	Review and control invasive species throughout Ku-ring-gai Bicentennial Park to limit the spread to Ecologically Endangered Communities and downstream vegetation communities	Manager Open Space Services	High, Ongoing	
	Remove accumulated debris from the trash rack as per existing program with external contractors	Manager Waste, Drainage & Cleansing	Ongoing	

Vandalism				
Vandalism and inappropriate use identified and responded to in a timely manner	Ensure facilities are of appropriate design and construction and are well maintained to reduce motivation factors for vandalism	Sports and Recreation Planner	High	
	Apply accepted principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED] to all proposed new site layouts and facilities	Sports and Recreation Planner	High	
	Establish and implement procedure where graffiti and vandalism to buildings, playgrounds and amenities are cleaned and repaired as soon as possible	Building Trades Coordinator	High	
Risk and safety				
A safe environment is provided for users of, and visitors to Bicentennial Park	Regular monitoring and review of risk management strategies	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
	Ensure that Sportsground Facilities are safe by complying with all Statutory requirements	Building Assets Coordinator	Ongoing	
	Undertake regular inspections of sportsgrounds to determine potential risks	Manager Open Space Services	Ongoing	
Disruption of use				
Disruption of use will be minimised	Provide alternative facilities as required.	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Ongoing	
Waste management				
Appropriate waste and recycling facilities provided at Bicentennial Park.	All leases, licences and hire agreements contain requirements for user responsibility for waste management	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	High	
	Waste facilities provided throughout the site	Manager Waste, Drainage & Cleansing	Medium	
	Waste is removed from the site in accordance with Council's Waste Policy	Manager Waste, Drainage & Cleansing	High	
Biodiversity				
Biodiversity is protected and enhanced at Bicentennial Park.	Strategic management of STIF (Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest) species to encourage understory whilst maintaining open areas for safety and security.	Manager Open Space Services	Medium	
	Develop and implement planting schemes to protect and enhance the visual and spatial amenity of the park and contribute toward effective wildlife corridors in the district.	Manager Open Space Services	Medium	
	Expand existing maintenance programs to more effectively cover tree maintenance	Manager Open Space Services	Medium	
Water management				

Water is used and managed sustainably	Adopt water sensitive urban design [WSUD] principles as part of all new works;	Sport and Recreation Planner	Ongoing	
	Potable water use for irrigation to be reduced by 6% per annum at Council sports facilities	Manager Open Space Services	High	
	Non potable water use increased by 6% per annum at Council's sports facilities.	Manager Open Space Services	High	
	Alternate water source projects incorporated into long term capital works plan	Manager Corporate Planning & Sustainability	High	
Climate change				
Management of Bicentennial Park adapts to changes in climate	Reduce electricity consumption at sports facilities by 20%	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Low	
Greenhouse emissions through the use and management of Bicentennial Park reduced by 20% by 2020	Facility hirers will be charged cost recovery rates for excessive energy and water consumption in accordance with Council policy	Community & Recreation Properties Manager	Medium	
	Investigate alternate energy sources for all facilities	Manager Corporate Planning & Sustainability	Medium	
	Educate facility users on their role in reducing consumption	Manager Corporate Planning & Sustainability	Medium	
Finance				
Ensure that adequate levels of funding and cost recovery enable Council to meet its objectives for Bicentennial Park	Review maintenance budget annually and adjust commensurate with any additional maintenance requirements of new or upgraded capital infrastructure	Manager Open Space Services	High	
	Apply Council's pricing policy for seasonal and casual hirers of fields or facilities.	Community and Recreation Properties Manager	High	
	Negotiate leases/licences in accordance with Council's adopted Policy for Leasing of Community Facilities	Community and Recreation Properties Manager	High	
	Prepare grant applications for suitable projects as opportunities arise in accordance with project prioritisations.	Sport and Recreation Planner	High	
	Assist clubs and user groups in applying for grants to improve facilities	Sport and Recreation Planner	High	
	Capital works programs undertaken in accordance with project prioritisation	Sport and Recreation Planner	High	

Monitoring Program

This Plan identifies a series of recommendations that will result in changed facility provision and management practices. Implementing recommendations aims to deliver best practice outcomes in supporting equitable access to Bicentennial Park. Implementation will require ongoing consultation and planning between all relevant stakeholders to ensure the recommended actions continue to meet the community's changing needs.

Council is committed to a consultative implementation process that ensures a smooth transition between current and future provision models. The actions listed within this Plan will be recorded within Council's management planning tracking and reporting system – an electronic database listing all Council-wide actions which are directly attributable to a staff position within the organisation. This is reported on quarterly to Council with a summary of activities included in the Annual Report. Through using Council's management planning tracking system to record and monitor the actions within this Plan, full transparency and accountability can be assigned for each and every action.

The Plan will be reviewed every five years to ensure that priorities remain in line with community needs and Council objectives.