



Greater Hume Shire

simply greater

PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

SPORTSGROUNDS

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management provides a framework for the management and development of public land. There are two main types of public land, Crown Land and Community Land. Crown Land is owned by the State for the benefit of all persons and Community Land is owned by the Council for the benefit of local residents and visitors. These two types of land are managed by separate legislative requirements; the Crown Lands Act 1989 and the Local Government Act 1993. All land included in this Generic Plan of Management is Community Land.

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that all public land owned by Council be classified as either community land or operational land. Council must have a plan of management for all community land. This is to ensure that an endorsed framework guides the operation and development of these community resources.

Plans of Management are public documents, and as such require stakeholders to be involved in their formation. Liaison with relevant Council officers and community feedback on the draft Plan of Management provides opportunities for community participation and involvement, establishing a sense of ownership in stakeholders and contributing to the ongoing success of the plans.

Plans of Management assist Council and landowners to budget and source funds for the future maintenance, improvement and development of community land.

It should be noted that some Sportsgrounds are located in Crown Land and do not require a Land Management Plan under the Local Government Act.

1.2 Structure of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management is in four main sections:

1. The Legislative context.
2. Current status.
3. The Basis for Management.
4. Strategies and Actions for implementation.

1.3 Land covered by this Plan

This Plan of Management covers the parcels of land categorised as Community Land – Sportsground, and are listed in Appendix 1.

This land is Community Land owned and managed by Greater Hume Shire Council.

2 HOW LEGISLATION APPLIES TO THIS PLAN

2.1 Local Government Act 1993

Under legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and further amendments, Councils must prepare and adopt Plans of Management for all community land. A plan may apply to one or more areas of community land, providing all the Act's requirements are fulfilled.

The Act states that the Plan must identify the following:

- The category of land;
- The objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land;
- The means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets;
- The manner in which Council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets.

2.2 Community Land Categories

As detailed above, it is required under Section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993, that Council categorise community land as one or more of the following:

- Natural area, further categorised as
 - (a) bushland,
 - (b) wetland,
 - (c) escarpment,
 - (d) watercourse,
 - (e) foreshore,
 - (f) a category prescribed by the regulations, eg habitat of an endangered species
- Sportsground
- Park
- Area of Cultural Significance
- General Community Use

These categories determine the appropriate use and development of the land, with core objectives given to each category. Once Council has applied a category to a parcel of community land, it must manage the land in accordance with the relevant core objectives.

All parcels of land included in this Plan of Management have a primary category of Sportsground.

Guidelines for Categorisation

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 provides guidelines for each of the above categories. Guidelines from this Regulation for categorising community land as a sportsground are set out below:

Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36(4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

2.3 What dealings can Council have in Community Land?

- Council has no power to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of community land, except for the purpose of enabling that land to become, or be added to, a Crown Reserve or land reserved or dedicated under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974;
- Council may grant a lease or licence on community land, but only in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993; and
- A Council may grant any other estate in community land to the extent permitted by the Local Government Act 1993.

2.4 Granting a lease or licence on Community Land

Leases and licences are a method of formalising the use of community land and facilities. Leases and licences can be held by groups such as sporting clubs and schools, by commercial organisations or individuals providing facilities and/or services for public use.

The Local Government Act 1993 allows Council to grant leases or licences over all or part of community land. The use of land under a lease or licence must be compatible with the Local Environmental Plan or Council requirements and provide benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land. Terms and conditions of a lease should reflect the interests of Council and the public and ensure proper management and maintenance.

The following conditions must be met when granting a lease or licence over community land:

- The lease or licence must not be granted for a period exceeding 21 years;
- A lease or licence for a period of greater than five years may only be granted by tender, unless it is granted to a non-profit organisation;
- The Plan of Management must expressly authorise a lease or licence.

Council must:

- Give public notice of the proposal;
- Exhibit notice of the proposal on the land to which the proposal relates;
- Give notice of the proposal to such persons who appear to own or occupy land adjoining community land; and
- Give notice of the proposal to any other person (owner or occupier of land in the vicinity of the community land), if in the opinion of the Council the subject to the proposal is likely to form the primary focus of the person's enjoyment of community land.

2.5 Other Statutory Provisions

Other relevant legislation, plans and policies that guide the management of Community Land identified in this Generic Plan of Management include, but is not limited to:

- Hume Local Environmental Plan 2001 (or any successor).

3 CURRENT STATUS

3.1 Uses & Facilities

Community Land categorised as sportsgrounds in Greater Hume Shire have a mix of formal sporting fields and courts such as football fields, tennis courts and netball courts, some type of community buildings, informal open space, paths and playground equipment. The use of sportsgrounds is primarily for organised sports and outdoor games, but they are also widely used for informal sporting and recreational activities by Shire residents and visitors.

3.2 Maintenance and Management

Sportsgrounds covered by this Plan of Management are maintained and managed by Greater Hume Shire as landowners. Resident sporting clubs participate in varying levels of maintenance for the areas they use. This is encouraged and supported to continue.

4 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

This Plan of Management is values based, with the values attributed to the Community Land determining its appropriate use, management and development. This Plan of Management aims to protect and enhance these values and further develop the roles of the land identified in this Plan of Management.

4.1 Values

Sportsgrounds in Greater Hume Shire are valued for the contribution they make to the recreation and social life of the people of Greater Hume Shire, especially in regards to sporting activities or outdoor games.

4.2 Roles

The role of sportsgrounds in the Shire is to provide local and regional sporting venues for competitive sport and informal recreation venues for use by Greater Hume Shire residents and visitors.

4.3 Objectives

Core Objectives for Community Land

The core objectives for community land categories outlined in the Local Government Act 1993 assist in determining the way that the land may be used and managed.

Section 36F of the Act states that the core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are:

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

4.4 Community Consultation

As set down in Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993, a council must give public notice of a draft plan of management, and place the draft plan on public exhibition for no less than 28 days. Any submissions made to council in respect of the draft plan will be considered by council prior to the final adoption of the Plan of Management. Therefore, the Shire community will be able to have input into this draft plan of management through the public exhibition and submission stage.

Further to this, Council intends to, where applicable, provide opportunity for input and participation in decision making for all interested community groups, sporting groups, local land owners and local residents in relation to any potential development, use and management of community land arising from this draft generic plan of management.

This generic Plan of Management refers to several parcels of Community Land. It is not feasible to conduct targeted consultations for each parcel of land considering the large number of parcels of land and the generic nature of this plan. Also, any major or sensitive developments or embellishments to Community Land would be subject to further community consultation. Significant parcels of Community Land may also be subject to specific plans of management or be recommended that these be developed in the future.

5 POLICY

A number of key issues were identified through the preparation of this Plan of Management for sportsgrounds. These include:

Maintenance

The relevant Management Committee is responsible for the overall cleanliness and maintenance of the facilities under their control.

Grounds Allocation and Use

The main purpose of the Management Committee is to manage the hiring of community facilities. This ensures that the facility is accessible to the community and local residents do not need to contact Council directly to gain access to the facility.

Funds raised from hiring the facilities assist in the provision of maintenance and meet operating costs as well as provide for improvements to the facility.

Fees & Charges

The schedule of fees and charges is set by Council, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Management Committee and the operating requirements of the facility

Leasing Of Surplus Land

Council is able to grant a lease over community land provided it complies with the requirements of the Local Government Act and in particular Sections 45, 46, 46A and 47A.

Income received from any lease shall be held by Council in the General Fund for the purpose of future development of sporting facilities within that complex or as otherwise resolved by Council.

Access

Encourage the use of sportsgrounds and surrounding areas by all members of the Greater Hume Shire community. Suitable access should be provided for people who are restricted due to age, limited mobility and other physical or social barriers, through the provision of parking and suitable amenities at all sportsgrounds. Access must also be made available for emergency, maintenance and security vehicles.

Parking

Access to sportsgrounds may be by motor vehicle, bicycle or foot. Sufficient car parking needs to be provided at or near sportsgrounds to reduce traffic congestion on local roadways. Sufficient facilities for bicycle parking should also be provided.

Safety and Security

Public safety should be promoted by good visibility and sight lines within the sportsgrounds, the reduction of potential hiding places, exposure of sportsgrounds to public roads, adequate security lighting and community input into management and maintenance to reduce vandalism.

Multi-use

With an increasing population and increasing demand on limited financial resources, there should be a strong focus and priority on the multi-use potential of sportsgrounds.

Residential amenity impact

The proximity of sportsgrounds to nearby residences may impact the amenity of the residences. Impacts may be in the form of traffic congestion, limited parking, effects from lighting, noise or physical damage to property as a direct result of activities on the sportsground. Impact mitigation needs to be considered prior to any development of sportsgrounds and with the ongoing management arrangements.

6 STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLAN

6.1 Actions Table

The Actions Table provided within this Section outlines the direction for the management and development of the parcels of land included in this draft generic Plan of Management and has the following aims:

- To formulate objectives;
- To ensure consistency with the core objectives of the sportsground category of the land;
- To develop performance targets that will define the way that Council will achieve its objectives;
- To provide actions (or means of achievement), which is the way that Council will achieve its targets; and
- To provide performance measures for each action.

Any developments included in this Action Table require authorisation within this Plan of Management. Section 6 includes authorisation for future developments for the land included in this Plan of Management.

PRIORITIES AND PERFORMANCE

Issue	Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achievement (Actions)	Priority	Performance Measure
Maintenance	To maintain all aspects of the sportsgrounds to ensure they are clean, safe and appropriate for their use.	Regular Risk Assessments undertaken at the Grounds.	Strategies developed to address risks identified in assessment.	High	Risk Assessments conducted on a regular basis, safety improved
	Encourage community groups and residents to become involved in the sportsgrounds management.	Encourage community groups to seek funding for the embellishment of the sportsgrounds.	Identify funding sources available to community groups for embellishment of the sportsgrounds.	Med	Additional funding identified and applied for.
Ground Allocation and Use	To ensure that all sportsgrounds are accessible to members of the community.	Management Committees are responsible for overseeing the use and maintenance of the facilities. Details for hiring of facilities displayed on Councils Website.	Raise community awareness in regards to the requirements for hiring sportsgrounds and provision of contact information.	Med	Sportsgrounds are utilised to full potential. Council website provides updated contact details for hiring facilities.
Fees & Charges	To ensure a fair and equitable charge for access to sporting facilities within the shire.	Fees charged to organisations and groups using the sportsgrounds. Fees assist with maintenance of sportsgrounds.	Fees & Charges to be set by Council as recommended by the Management Committee.	Med	Inclusion of Fees & Charges in Management Plan for each Financial Year. Revenue raised from use of the sportsgrounds.
Leasing of Surplus Land	To ensure that leases and licences are only granted if they are consistent with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and other relevant legislation and policy.	Granting of any lease or licence is consistent with the requirements of the Local Government Act and other relevant legislation and policy.	Identify land surplus to the requirements of the sportsground. Ensure all applications to lease land comply with Legislation	Low	All applications to lease community land comply with legislation.

Issue	Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achievement (Actions)	Priority	Performance Measure
Access	Encourage the use of sportsgrounds by all member so the community, and improve access and use of them for those members who are restricted due to age, limited mobility and other physical or social barriers.	Aim to achieve the objectives of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 when constructing new facilities.	All new facilities to be accessible to all members of the community.	High	Improved access by all members of the community.
Parking	To provide adequate parking for users of the sportsgrounds.	Provide adequate parking for the users of the sportsgrounds, including disabled parking and bicycle parking, in accordance with RTA and Council guidelines.	Construct or identify parking bays and parking areas at sportsgrounds.	High	Adequate parking areas provided for users.
Safety & Security	To provide sportsgrounds which are safe and secure for use by all members of the community.	Provide measures to enhance the safety and security of users and visitors.	Provide adequate security lighting, signage, access and surveillance/public sight line measures.	High	Safety measures implemented.
Multi-use	To provide sportsgrounds which are adaptable to change, can be used for multiple sports and are able to be used on a year round basis.	To provide sportsgrounds for a number of sporting pursuits which have different peak seasons and which allow for occasional community events and other activities.	Provide sportsgrounds for identified community needs and occasional community events, together with areas catering for informal leisure opportunities such as BBQ/picnic areas, open areas for informal ball games so as to alleviate the pressure on formal sporting areas, play equipment and seating etc.	Med	Adaptable and multi-use areas developed and provided.

Issue	Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achievement (Actions)	Priority	Performance Measure
Residential amenity impact	To minimise adverse impacts on amenity for adjacent residential dwellings from the use of sportsgrounds.	To protect adjacent dwellings from undue noise, lighting and visual impact from sportsground uses.	Where appropriate, provide landscaping, reasonable use curfews and ensure all lighting complies with the relevant Australian Standard.	Med	Actions taken to minimise impacts.

APPENDIX 1 – COMMUNITY LAND – SPORTSGROUNDS

Lot/DP	Street Address	Town	Common Name	Category
1/305280 2/392477	William Street	Walla Walla	Walla Walla Sportsground	Sportsground
581/606508	William Street	Walla Walla	Vacant Land Walla Walla Sportsground	Sportsground
211,212,216-256/753724	Recreation Street	Brocklesby	Brocklesby Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
300/823289	Dight Street	Jindera	Jindera Sportsground – Football Grounds	Sportsground
1/1152200	Ivy Street	Gerogery	Gerogery Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
	Ortlipp Road	Glenellen	Glenellen Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
Pt1/753358	Ferry Road	Wagra	Flood Easement Wymah Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
2/850462	Chambers Road	Bungowannah	Bungowannah Reserve	Sportsground
105, 186, 204, 207/753340		Holbrook	Holbrook Sportsground Complex	Sportsground
200/753344		Cookardinia	Cookardinia Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
127/721063 & 130/721096 & 36,82,84,24/DP753757, 7003/1060909 & 7005/1060915	Federal Street	Culcairn	Culcairn Sportsground & Golf Course	Sportsground
Pt25/13/753763 & 10-11/23/759034	Billabong Street	Walbundrie	Walbundrie Sportsground	Sportsground
134/753764	Morgans Road	Walla Walla	North Walla Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
7006/753726	Triggs Road	Bulgandry	Bulgandry Tennis Club	Sportsground
7002/1023685 & 7005/1122001	Bowna/Wymah Road	Wymah	Wymah Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
172/753730 & 7003/1023623	40 Howlong Road	Burrumbuttock	Burrumbuttock Recreation Reserve	Sportsground
198, 200/753339	Glenellen Road	Gerogery	Gerogery West Tennis Club	Sportsground
192,205/753342	Glenellen Road	Jindera	Jindera Tennis Club	Sportsground
		Henty	Henty Sportsground	Sportsground