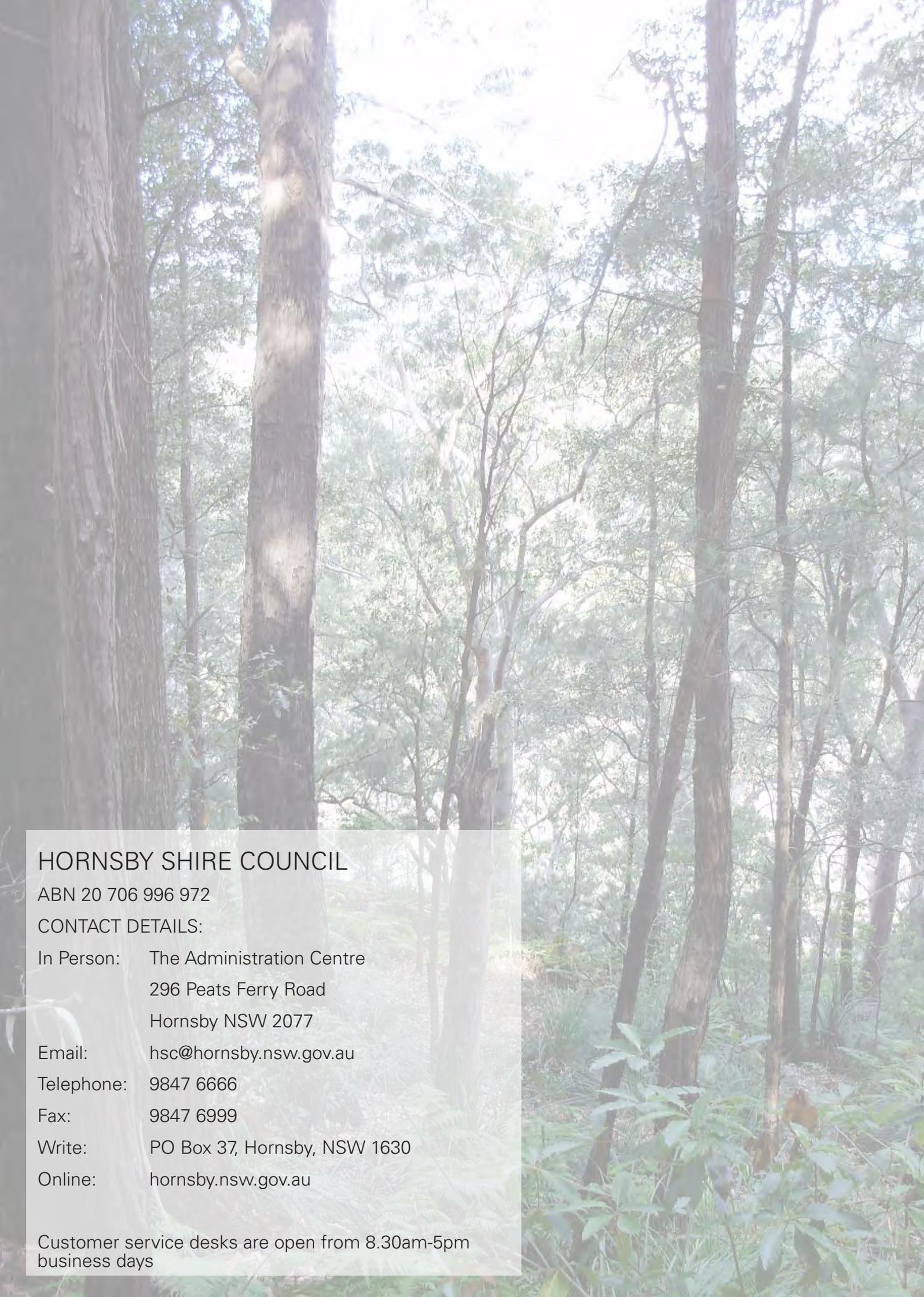


Hornsby Park  
Plan of Management  
(including Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley)

Pacific Highway, Hornsby

Adopted 11 November 2015



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# foreword

## Plan of Management

This Plan of Management (POM) will supersede the Old Mans Valley POM (Adopted 21 March 2012) and the Generic Plan of Management for Community Lands and Crown Reserves Planning District Three and Nine (Amended 18th December 2013) for Hornsby Park.

This Plan has been prepared to comply with the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Regulations and associated amendments to the Local Government Act 1993, section 42 (LGA), which commenced on 1st January 1999, and the Crown Lands Act.

## Community input into the Plan of Management

Section 38 of the LGA requires that all Plans of Management covering Community Land are placed on public display for a minimum period of 28 days. A minimum period of 42 days after the draft is placed on exhibition is allowed for written submissions to be made to Council.

Submissions allow the community (including residents, interest groups, sporting clubs and government agencies) to provide information, suggest alternatives and express opinions in relation to the proposed management of community open space within Hornsby Shire.

After consideration of all submissions received, Council may decide to amend the draft Plan of Management (POM), or adopt it without amendment. If Council decides to amend the draft plan, it must publicly exhibit the amendments in accordance with the requirements of section 40 of the LGA.

A Public Hearing is required to be held in respect of a draft POM only if the proposed Plan would have the effect of categorising or re-categorising the Community Land in accordance with section 40A of the LGA.



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# Part 1

## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 What is a Plan of Management ?

A Plan of Management (PoM) is a document that provides a means to control the future use, development and maintenance of Community and/or Crown Land under Council's care, control and management. This POM will identify issues relevant to the future management of Hornsby Park (including Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre). The POM will establish Council's goals, strategies and desired outcomes that will guide the timing, shape and nature of developments.

This POM is presented in the following two parts:

- Part 1 of the POM includes core objectives for the Community Land categories as determined by the Local Government Act, 1993 (LGA), and Council's management goals. This part looks at issues relevant to Hornsby Park, Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley to determine broad objectives for management.
- Part 2 titled Action Plan outline the strategies for how the objectives will be achieved and actions necessary to fulfil the strategies. This part of the POM also outlines the standards for Council's levels of service and identifies the manner in which Council will assess its performance in relation to achieving goals.

The Action Plan is the working section of the document and will require amendment as actions are completed. The Action Plan is proposed to be relevant for a period of five years. From time to time in response to changing community needs and aspirations, the Action Plan may be revised.

### 1.2 Why Prepare a Plan of Management for Hornsby Park?

Hornsby Shire Council has previously resolved that Hornsby Quarry and adjoining land be developed for recreation uses. In order to create suitable land and spaces for recreation the quarry void would need to be filled and the quarry walls stabilised.

The NSW and Federal Governments, Transurban and the M7 Westlink Shareholders (NorthConnex Team) have expressed interest in using Hornsby Quarry as a destination for fill material from a major infrastructure project in Sydney's north west, known as NorthConnex.

NorthConnex is a nine kilometre tunnel that will link the M1 Pacific Motorway at Wahroonga to the Hills M2 Motorway at West Pennant Hills.

The NorthConnex team is proposing to handle, manage and beneficially reuse spoil from NorthConnex at Hornsby Quarry. This will involve approximately 1 million cubic metres of spoil to be delivered and placed in Hornsby Quarry providing a rare opportunity for the relatively rapid delivery of the required volume of landfill.

The Hornsby Quarry Road Construction Spoil Management (HQRCSM) project is being assessed under Part 5.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and has been declared State Significant Infrastructure.

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) placed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the HQRCSM project on public exhibition until 4 September 2015.

In order for the HQRCSM Project Team to supply spoil to Hornsby Quarry a lease agreement needs to be established with Hornsby Council. It is a legal requirement for any Community Land under Council control to be managed under a POM where lease arrangements are applicable.

This POM is supported by a masterplan which has been developed for the site, accompanied by recommendations for the staged implementation of proposals for the various parkland developments. This POM has been prepared in accordance with and seeks adoption under the LGA.

The preparation of this POM is intended to represent the culmination of Council's investigations aimed at determining an appropriate character and scale for the development and management of Hornsby Park. The preparation of this POM also enables Council to strategically address recreation needs in a staged manner. It will enable commencement of the development of new open space facilities at Hornsby Park and will help identify a program of development and ongoing maintenance works.

### 1.3 What Development is Allowable under the Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management must define the existing and future uses of Community Land as required under the Local Government Act, 1993. Future uses and development proposed for Hornsby Park are outlined in Sections 5.0 and 6.0 of this plan. As Council considers necessary, development allowable under this POM may include:

- Asset maintenance such as renewal and/or replacement of assets including existing buildings.

- Landscaping and reclamation of surplus areas for storm water detention.
- Provision of sports fields, courts, and associated parking, access roads and amenities buildings.
- Provision of playgrounds and other recreation features such as adventure recreation and mountain bike trails.
- Provision of facilities ancillary to existing use including seating, picnic and barbecue facilities, shelters, lighting, drainage, irrigation, fencing, pathways, and new signage.
- Allowing NorthConnex spoil to be deposited in the quarry void.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure), 2007 enables the above development works be carried out by or on behalf of a Council without consent on a public reserve, except for the placement of the NorthConnex landfill, for which planning consent is required through an Environmental Impact Statement under Part V of the NSW Environmental Planning & Assessment Act.

Where minor works are undertaken, proposals may still require assessment under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, and may require exhibition of the proposal.

This POM also authorises the following uses on the park which will require development consent under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1974 or approval of development that does not require consent under Part 5 of the EP&A Act.

- Provision of Community Recreational Facilities including indoor courts, indoor recreational and exercise spaces, community meeting rooms and child crèche facilities.
- Provision of tennis and other outdoor courts.
- Provision of kiosk / cafe facilities supporting children's playground and outdoor courts.

If there is any further development of the Community Land other than that authorised by this POM, or if a change in the categorisation of Hornsby Park is proposed, amendment and re-exhibition of the POM is required.

## 1.4 Naming of the Park

The Plan of Management is an area of some 60 hectares, The POM is an area of some 60 hectares, made up of various lots, spread over sharply varying terrain, under various land tenures, but all either owned or vested in Hornsby Shire Council and all zoned for recreation in the Hornsby Shire Local Environment Plan 2013.

When recreation facilities are further developed and the whole park is opened, it will form a large parcel of open space with 21st century facilities right on the doorstep of Hornsby central business district, the civic area and medium density housing area, yet the thick bushland fringe will provide a feeling of remoteness.

It is therefore fitting for such a special place to be identified under one name. Since the park is right in the heart of Hornsby and a large component of it has long been known as Hornsby Park, Council decided that this historic name with its easy geographic reference point should be named Hornsby Park.

## 2.0 Local Government Act Requirements

### 2.1 Classification and Categorisation

Old Mans Valley and Hornsby Quarry comprise land classified as Community Land in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 2, Division 1 of the Local Government Act (LGA), 1993. Hornsby Park is Crown Land and is governed by the NSW Crown Lands Act.

The land that is part of this POM includes the following land parcels:

- Hornsby Quarry: Hornsby Shire Council owned Community Land that includes the large and deep quarry hole and adjacent crusher plant and other fill zones.
- Old Mans Valley Open Lands (OMV): Community Land to the east of the quarry that has been in Council ownership since the 1970s and is the subject of a recently adopted POM that identifies permissible recreation development.
- Hornsby Park: a Crown Reserve under the care and control of Hornsby Shire Council.
- Other parcels of land identified by a red outline (see Figure 1) that include undeveloped road reserve and other areas of Council owned bushland or Crown Reserve.

Table 1 (opposite) provides a summary of the basic open space characteristics, settings and existing uses for each land parcel. The table also include Council owned 'Operational Land'.

The total area of the site is approximate and includes land that would not provide open space or recreational opportunities such as areas of protected bushland, steep slopes, quarry walls etc.

Name	Ownership	Size (ha)	Zoning	POM Setting/ Categories	Hierarchy level	Existing facilities
Hornsby Quarry	HSC Community Land	28.2	RE1 Public Recreation	n/a	Potential Regional	No public access
Old Mans Valley Open Space Lands	HSC Community Land	12.1 (6 for use)		Natural Area, Park, Sportsground, Area of Cultural significance congregations	Regional	Mountain bike trails, Walking trails, Cemetery
Hornsby Park (Site includes Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre)	Crown Reserve under the care and control of Council	14.4		Natural Area, Sportsground, General Community Use, Park	District (Regional with Pool)	Playground, Barbecue, Amenities, Car park, Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre
Other parcels of land	Council owned bushland or Crown Reserve or operational land	4.2		(Undeveloped road reserve)	Local with potential for District/Regional in combination with development of study area	No facilities
Total size		58.9				

Table 1: Summary of POM land parcels



Figure 1: Plan of the combined study area indicated by the red outline, including the Hornsby Quarry Acquisition area (green outline), Old Mans Valley lands (yellow outline) and Hornsby Park and other land parcels (in red).

## 2.2 Core Objectives

The LGA establishes core objectives for all categories of Community Land. The significance of the prescribed core objectives is to ensure that any activities or uses of the land are consistent with the core objectives for the prescribed land categorisation.

Community Land within the Park is proposed to be categorised as Natural Area, Park, and Sportsground. Hornsby Park, as Crown Land, is not required to be categorised.

Categorisation has been determined in accordance with the LGA, Division 2, Section 36. The Categorisation Mapping (and the Hornsby Park Masterplan it relates to) reflects the optimum relationship of uses and facilities to the park's physical characteristics and for access to those facilities by the community. Section 6.0 of this POM provides further explanation of the Land Categorisation Mapping for Old Mans Valley and Hornsby Quarry (Hornsby Park will not be categorised).

### Sportsgrounds

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 such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

### Parks

The core objectives for management of Community Land categorised as a Park are:

- (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.

### Areas of cultural significance

The core objectives for management of Community Land categorised as an area of Cultural Significance are:

- (1) To retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area (namely its Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical or research or social significance) for

past, present or future generations by the active use of conservation methods.

(2) Those conservation methods may include any or all of the following methods:

(a) the continuous protective care and maintenance of the physical material of the land or of the context and setting of the area of cultural significance,

(b) the restoration of the land, that is, the returning of the existing physical material of the land to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material,

(c) the reconstruction of the land, that is, the returning of the land as nearly as possible to a known earlier state,

(d) the adaptive reuse of the land, that is, the enhancement or reinforcement of the cultural significance of the land by the introduction of sympathetic alterations or additions to allow compatible uses (that is, uses that involve no changes to the cultural significance of the physical material of the area, or uses that involve changes that are substantially reversible or changes that require a minimum impact),

(e) the preservation of the land, that is, the maintenance of the physical material of the land in its existing state and the retardation of deterioration of the land.

(3) A reference in subsection (2) to land includes a reference to any buildings erected on the land.

### Natural Areas

The core objectives for management of Community Land categorised as a natural area are:

(a) to 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, and

(b) to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and

(c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and

(d) to 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) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the

land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994.

Figure 9 on page 52, identifies the separate categories of Community Land within Hornsby Park, Old Mans Valley and Hornsby Quarry.

## 2.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The Hornsby Local Environment Plan, 2013 (LEP) was made under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (s.34A). Hornsby Park is zoned as Public Recreation (RE1) within the LEP. As a public reserve under Council ownership, following adoption of a POM, the most relevant planning instrument governing any proposed development and activities in the above mentioned reserves is the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (the Infrastructure SEPP).

## 2.4 Relevant Legislation

The following Commonwealth and NSW Government legislation is relevant to this POM and the ongoing development of the site.

### Commonwealth Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act) <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2014C00140>

### NSW Legislation

Local Government Act, 1993 <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/act+30+1993+cd+0+N>

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/act+203+1979+cd+0+N>

SEPP 19 – Bushland in Urban Areas <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/epi+014+1986+cd+0+N>

Rural Fires Act 1997 <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/act+65+1997+cd+0+N>

Noxious Weeds Act 1993 <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/act+11+1993+cd+0+N>

Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995 [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol\\_act/tsca1995323/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/tsca1995323/)

Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003 [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol\\_act/cmaa2003316/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/cmaa2003316/)

## 2.5 Relevant Council Policies

The following Hornsby Shire Council plans and strategies are relevant to this POM and the ongoing development of the site.

Community Plan	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/51729/FNL-YourCommunityPlan2013-2023.pdf">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/51729/FNL-YourCommunityPlan2013-2023.pdf</a>
Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan	Strategy adopted with the exception of kindergartens on 12 August 2015
Delivery Program and Operational Plan	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Council/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/delivery-program">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Council/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/delivery-program</a>
Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013	<a href="http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/epi+569+2013+cd+0+N">http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/main/top/view/inforce/epi+569+2013+cd+0+N</a>
Hornsby development Control Plan	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/property/development-applications/hornsby-development-control-plan">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/property/development-applications/hornsby-development-control-plan</a>
Active Living Hornsby Strategy	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Council/about-Council/Join-the-Conversation/active-living-hornsby-strategy-alhs">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Council/about-Council/Join-the-Conversation/active-living-hornsby-strategy-alhs</a>
Sports Facility Strategy	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/sports-facility-strategy/Sports-Facility-Strategy.pdf">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/sports-facility-strategy/Sports-Facility-Strategy.pdf</a>
Unstructured Recreation Strategy	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/unstructured-recreation-strategy/Unstructured-Recreation-">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/about-Council/corporate-documents-and-reports/unstructured-recreation-strategy/Unstructured-Recreation-</a>
Hornsby Shire Sports Plan	(currently under preparation)
Heritage Studies including the Heritage Register (Schedule 5 of the Hornsby LEP)	<a href="http://hscenquiry.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Pages/XC.Track.Heritage/Heritage.aspx">http://hscenquiry.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Pages/XC.Track.Heritage/Heritage.aspx</a>
Biodiversity Conservation Strategy	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-plants-and-bushland/bushland-and-biodiversity">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-plants-and-bushland/bushland-and-biodiversity</a>
Sustainable Total Water Cycle Management Strategy	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/environment-and-waste/water-catchments/sustainable-total-water-cycle/Sustainable-Total-Water-Cycle-Management-Strategy-Vol-2.pdf">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/media/documents/environment-and-waste/water-catchments/sustainable-total-water-cycle/Sustainable-Total-Water-Cycle-Management-Strategy-Vol-2.pdf</a>
Tree Protection	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-plants-and-bushland/trees/tree-preservation-order">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-plants-and-bushland/trees/tree-preservation-order</a>
Recreation Potential Study for Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley Lands	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/70979/Clouston-Hornsby-Quarry-and-OMV-Recreation-Potential-Study-2014-reduced_Part1.pdf">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/70979/Clouston-Hornsby-Quarry-and-OMV-Recreation-Potential-Study-2014-reduced_Part1.pdf</a>
Old Mans Valley Plan of Management (Adopted 2012)	<a href="http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/36527/Old-Mans-Valley-Plan-of-Management-Adopted-21-March-2012-Reduced-PDF.pdf">http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/36527/Old-Mans-Valley-Plan-of-Management-Adopted-21-March-2012-Reduced-PDF.pdf</a>

## 3.0 Crown Lands Act Requirements

### 3.2 Reservation or Dedication

Where Crown Land is set aside for a public purpose, it can be either 'reserved' or 'dedicated', which makes it available only for a use that will deliver some public benefit or good, and unavailable for private uses. Reservations and dedications are generally all grouped under the name 'Crown Reserves'.

Crown Land that has been dedicated as a Crown Reserve is a more enduring form of reserve. Dedication can only be revoked with the agreement of both Houses of the NSW Parliament. On the other hand, where Crown Land has been reserved, the Minister can decide to revoke that reservation without the matter being considered by Parliament. Parts of these reserves may be changed without affecting the remaining parts of the reserve.

### 3.2 Public Purpose

A Crown Lands Plan of Management will have close regard for the lands identified "public purpose". The government notification or dedication of a reserve sets out the purposes for which that reserve may be used.

Generally, a reserve's use can only be consistent with or supporting the purposes stated in the reservation or dedication. However, the Crown Lands Regulation 2006 lists various additional purposes for which reserves can be used under temporary licences. Where possible, multiple uses of reserves are encouraged, where those uses are consistent with the purpose of the reserve. Changes in circumstances or in a community's needs may require a change in the way in which a reserve is used.

Hornsby Park is Crown Reserve R52588 and its reserve purpose is Public Recreation.

Under the changes introduced by the 2005 amendments to the Crown Lands Act 1989, a reserve may be authorised to be used for a purpose which is additional to the purpose for which the land was reserved or dedicated, if the new purpose is generally compatible with the existing purpose, consistent with the principles of Crown Land management and in the public interest. Additional uses of Crown Reserves can be authorised by a POM. This POM proposes no such additional purposes.

### 3.3 Reserve Trusts

A Reserve Trust is set up under the Crown Lands Act 1989 (the Act) to have responsibility for the care, control and management of a Crown Reserve. While a Reserve Trust is a legal entity in its own right, it cannot operate without having someone appointed to manage its affairs. A Reserve Trust can be managed by an incorporated body, though this is usually a local Council. Hornsby Shire Council is the Reserve Trust for Hornsby Park.

When a Council or a corporation is appointed as manager, decisions regarding the operation of the reserve must be made in accordance with the rules which govern the Council's operations or the corporation's own constitution, as applicable, as well as the Crown Lands Act 1989. As Reserve Trust manager, a Council has all the functions of a Council under the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to public reserves. However the Council has no power to classify the Crown Reserve under the Local Government Act.

Local Councils as Reserve Trust managers can be authorised by the Minister for Lands to grant leases, licences and related easements over the Crown Reserves they manage in certain circumstances (as defined by the Minister for Lands) without the need to obtain the Minister for Lands' consent.

In making the decision to grant this power, the Minister for Lands can take into account the Council's performance in managing public land, and may request information on this performance from the Minister for Local Government. This authority does not apply to agreements longer than 21 years, which will still require the Minister for Lands' consent. The provision enables Councils, where it is warranted and appropriate, to have similar levels of autonomy and accountability over Crown Land as they have under the Community Land provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.

### 3.4 Management of Crown Land

Crown Land will be managed in accordance with the Principles of Crown Lands Management and the lands gazetted public purpose.

#### Principles of Crown Lands Management

- (a) that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown Land,

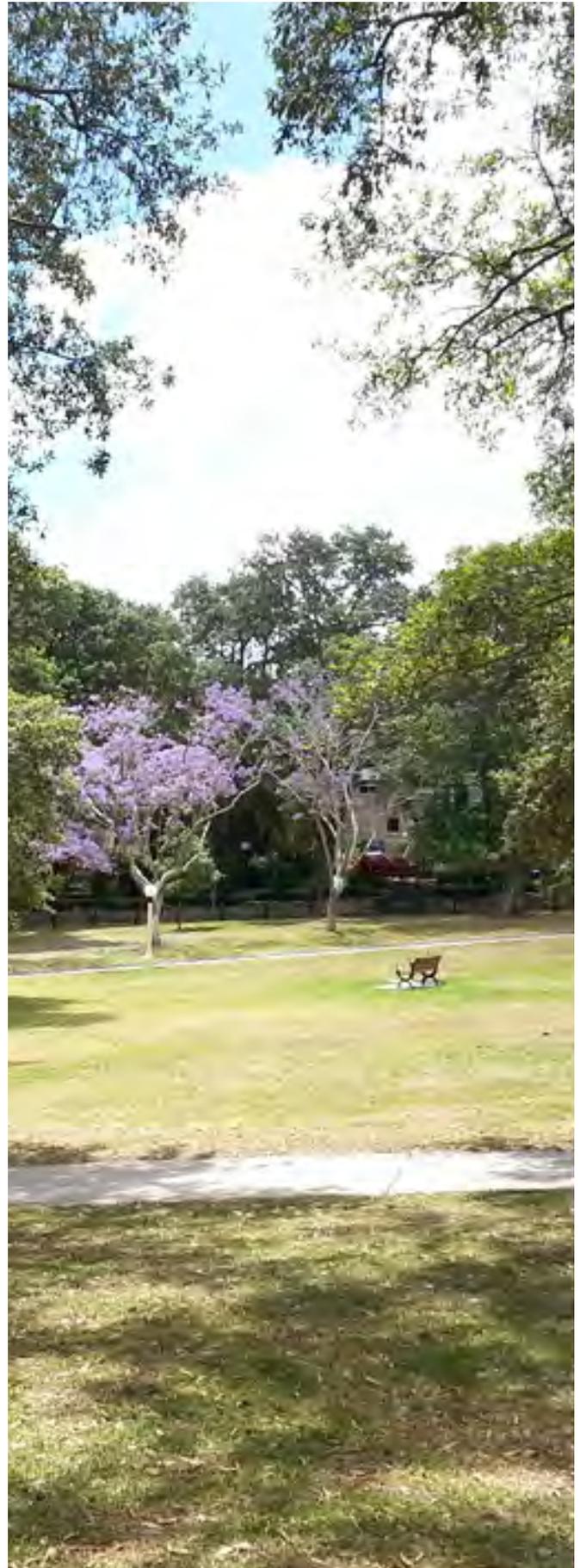
- (b) that the natural resources of Crown Land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible,
- (c) that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown Land be encouraged,
- (d) that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown Land be encouraged,
- (e) that, where appropriate, Crown Land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- (f) that Crown Land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

### 3.5 Crown Reserve at Hornsby Park

The existing Crown Reserve for this particular site is limited to Hornsby Park including Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre. The existing Crown Reserve for this particular site is as shown in Figure 1, HSC were made trustees in 1918. Details are as follows:

Reserve No	R52588
ID No	651, 806, 1211, 1216, 1226, 1227
Address	203X Pacific Highway , Hornsby
Lot and DP	Lot 7079 DP 1050579, Lot 7017 DP 1052646, Lot 7019 DP 1059310, Lot 7081 and 7082 DP 1059313, Lot 7018 DP 752053
Area	14.4 ha
Zoning	All Lots are zoned Open Space A (Public Recreation - Local), except part of Lot 7019 DP 1059310 which is zoned Special Uses B (Transport Corridor) at park's edge, parallel with the Pacific Highway.
Community Land Categories	Natural Area, Sportsground, General Community Use, Park
Subcategories	Bushland, Watercourse (Old Mans Creek and an unnamed watercourse that runs from the quarry).

Old Mans Valley and Hornsby Quarry are owned by Hornsby Shire Council.



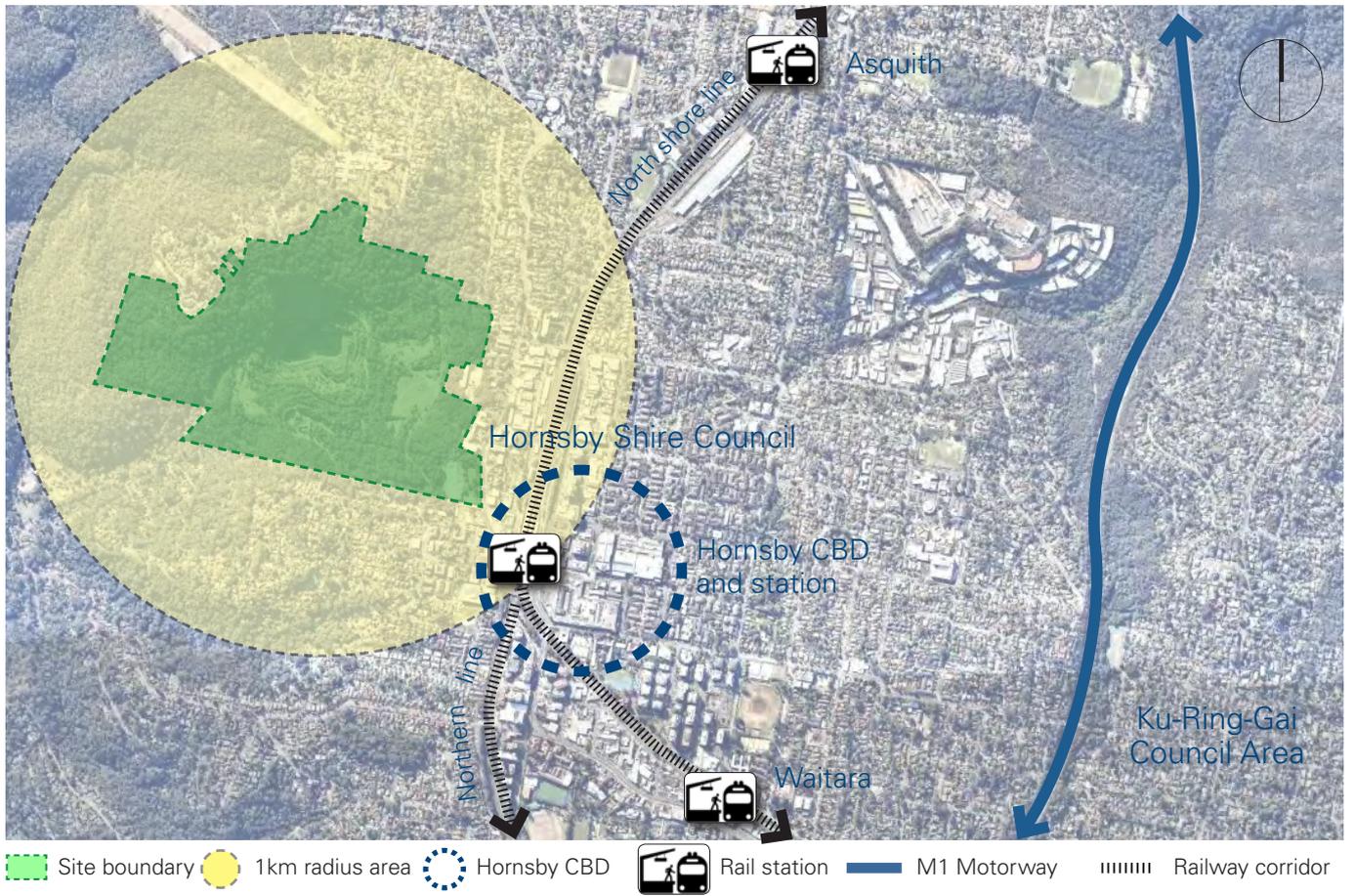


Figure 2: Context Plan (nearmap 2015, not to scale) showing proximity to Hornsby train station and CBD.



Figure 3: Local site plan (nearmap 2015, not to scale)

## 4.0 Site Description

### 4.1 Context

Hornsby Park is located less than 1km from the Hornsby Town Centre, the largest commercial centre in the Hornsby Shire.

Figures 2 and 3 show the location and surrounding context of the site (see also Figure 1 on page 9). It is bordered by:

- Peats Ferry Road and the Northern Sydney Institute of Technical and Further Education (TAFE) to the east
- Residential properties to the north and south (Manor Road, Fern Tree Close and Dural Street)
- Berowra Valley National Park to the west

The site is in close proximity to Hornsby's civic precinct that includes the Hornsby Shire Council Chambers, Police Station and Courthouse, Post Office and the light industrial and commercial precincts on the western side of the railway interchange at Hornsby.

Pedestrian and vehicular entry to the site is from Peats Ferry Road (Hornsby Park and Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre) and Quarry Road (remainder of the park). Access to Hornsby Quarry is from the end of Quarry Road or via Old Mans Valley. At time of writing, access is heavily restricted and limited to Council staff and contractors until public facilities are completed.

### 4.2 Environment

The remnant quarry walls, lake and exposed diatreme formation combine to create a dramatic landscape that is approximately five minutes walk from the centre of Hornsby. The surrounding bushland encloses the site creating a sense of remoteness from the city while the heritage items, such as the Depression Steps, tell the story of the landscape.

#### Geology

##### Quarry Diatreme

One of the most significant aspects of the site is the Quarry Diatreme, once formed by a long vertical pipe or plug created when gas-filled magma forced its way up through overlying strata.

Especially significant is the east face of the quarry that provides a cross-section of the diatreme, which is a rare demonstration of the volcanic strata layering. Structures like this exist at only a few sites in the Sydney region.

#### Soil type

The overall soil within the site is predominantly derived from Hawkesbury Sandstone, with some Volcanic Diatreme derived soils.

Sandstone outcrops are located within the bushland areas of OMV, Hornsby Park (southern portion along Quarry Road and rear of Dalton Road properties) and the Quarry.

#### Filling operations in OMV Lands

The site has been highly modified over time including filling of certain sections. There are three main zones of mixed fill profiles over underlying sandstone, breccia and alluvium consisting of low to medium plasticity clay.

- Zone 1 - located at the southern end of OMV, clean fill consisting of cobbles and boulders in clayey sandy gravel. This lies over predominantly sandstone rock.
- Zone 2 - located at the northern part of OMV, the fill is also clean and mainly consist of the breccia found on site and underlain by breccia of volcanic origin.
- Zone 3 - extending further north towards the line of the former gully, the fill consists of breccia over residual soil and weathered breccia rock, as well as some clay.

#### Topography

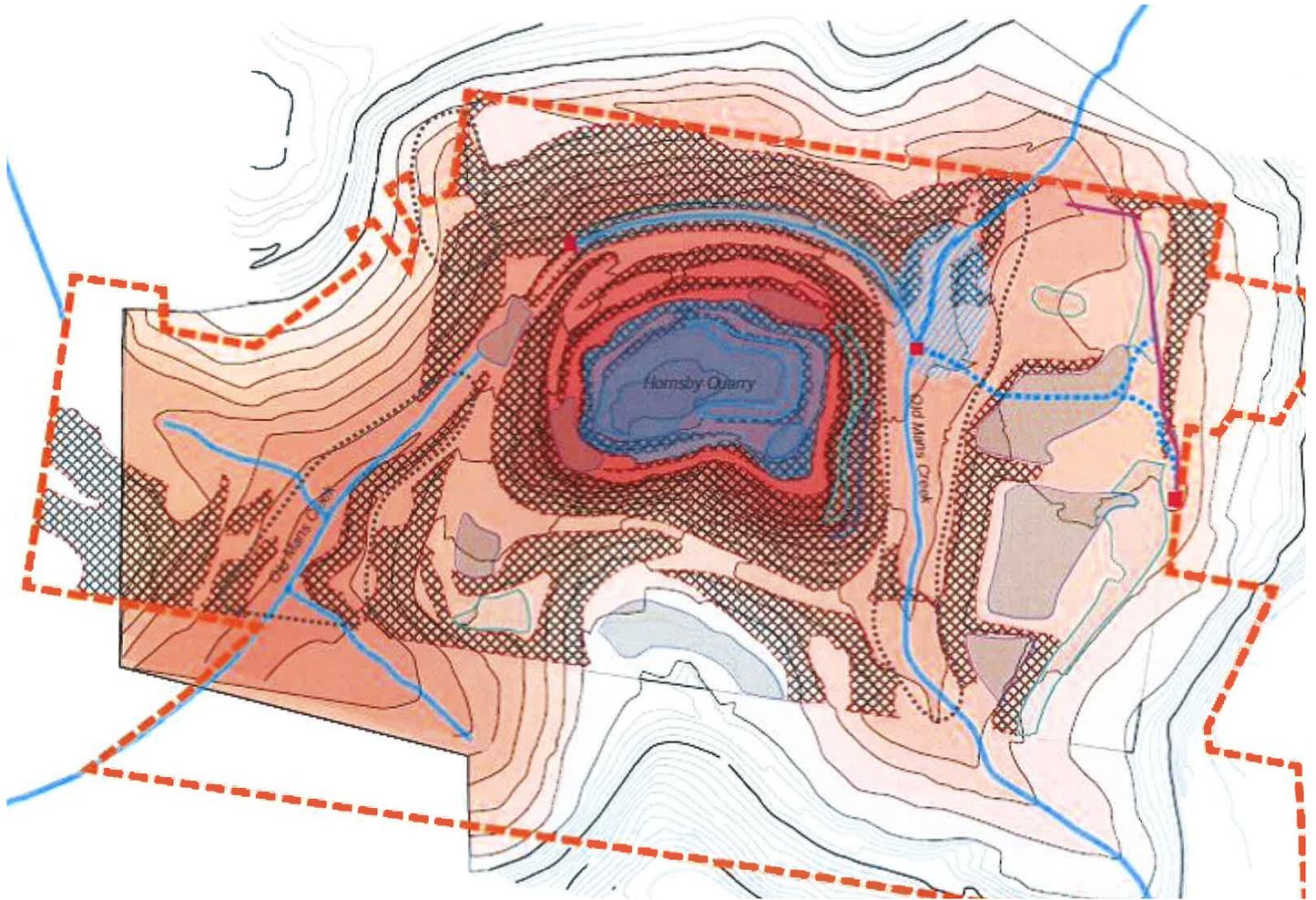
The topography of the site varies greatly. From the void and lake level of Hornsby Quarry to the formal gardens of Hornsby Park adjacent to the Peats Ferry Road there is a significant level difference:

- The base of the quarry hole is at Relative Level (RL) 8.
- The rim of the quarry is at RL90.
- The existing level area in Old Mans Valley is RL130.
- The Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre is at RL181.
- Peats Ferry Road at Hornsby Park varies between RL184 and RL187.

#### Hornsby Quarry

Within the Quarry site the level difference from the lake level to the top of the quarry wall is over 100 metres on the southern side. The level difference is lower on other sides of the lake.

The land surrounding the quarry void is steep and rises to the north towards residential properties along Manor Road and to the south towards Dural Street and Quarry Road.



- Site Boundary
- 140-150m AHD
- 130-140m AHD
- 120-130 AHD
- 110-120 AHD
- 100-110 AHD
- 90-100m AHD
- 80-90m AHD
- 70-80 AHD
- 60-70 AHD
- 50-60m AHD
- 40-50m AHD
- 30-40m AHD
- 20-30m AHD
- 10-20m AHD
- 0-10 AHD
- Very Steep Slopes
- Flat to Very Gently Slope
- Gently Slope
- Existing Creekline
- Original flowpath now diverted
- Diversion Channel
- Diversion Pipeline
- Existing Lake
- Gully
- Potential pond/ dam/ wetland at upper level

Figure 4: HSC topography and drainage plan and legend

### Old Mans Valley

A well-defined natural valley is formed by Old Mans Creek. There are steep slopes on valley sides, including natural embankments and embankments created by modification as a result of the quarrying and landfill operations of the past.

Surrounding slopes form an amphitheatre at the edges of constructed, filled and cleared areas.

There is a relatively flat area created within OMV, created with fill from Quarry overburden (see section 4.3).

### Hornsby Park and Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Hornsby Park slopes away from Peats Ferry Road to level areas associated with Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre. The steeply sloped bushland areas along Quarry Road and to the north of Dural Street rise to the level of the old quarry crushing plant and fall away to the level of the top of the quarry void.

The landscape setting in the heritage garden section of the park is dominated by a wide lawn set under mature trees and bordered by sweeping paths. A longitudinal path near the front path is flagstone-paved and offset by timber pergolas and a garden bed. The park was laid out in the early 20th century, and is said to follow the 'city beautiful' landscape fashion of the time. It forms a major part of the civic component of the Hornsby CBD West side.

In 2015, Hornsby Council approved a Review of Environmental Factors that proposes to replace or update some of the ageing park equipment such as the playground and 1970 fountain. At the rear of the park and north of HALC is the commencement of a walking track that connects Hornsby to the Great North Walk track. The steep terrain is accessed via heritage listed sandstone steps constructed by Great Depression era sandstone steps, recently expertly restored by Council.

Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre was opened in 2014 by the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott. It contains two indoor pools, and outdoor pool, a gymnasium, function rooms and a cafe that serves the park and the centre.

### Catchment Context

The site is located in an upper reach of the Hawkesbury River system catchment known as the Lower Fish Ponds Creek Catchment. The eastern upper reach of the catchment is formed by the ridge line to Peats Ferry Road (formerly Pacific Highway) within 150 metres of the eastern park boundary.

Old Mans Creek forms a sub-catchment with flows converging in Waitara Creek approximately 1 kilometre west of the Park. Old Mans Creek merges with Berowra Creek which meanders for more than 25 kilometres northerly before joining the Hawkesbury River.

Natural drainage lines have been significantly altered by filling operations in the past, including realignment of flows and installation of stormwater pipelines.

An open concrete stormwater channel is located on the northern edge of the quarry pit and collects stormwater from the residential areas to the north and east and redirects the runoff away from the quarry pit. These flows enter Old Mans Creek west of the quarry lands.

### Landscape Character

Using the character zones developed by HSC (see Figure 5 opposite) the site's character varies dramatically and is closely related to the site's topography. Overall the site provides a feeling of remoteness and quietness, despite its proximity to Peats Ferry Road and Hornsby CBD.

- Hornsby Park (zone1):
  - Adjacent to Peats Ferry Road is the formal parkland containing some mature trees and manicured gardens. The park allows for some long distance views of tree canopy within the Quarry and OMV.
  - Situated within the formal parkland is Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre. The elevated position of the centre allows for medium to long distance views of tree canopy within the Quarry and OMV
  - The western portion is a bushland area with tall, enclosed canopies. This area gives a sense of enclosure and is also the location of several heritage items.
- Old Mans Valley (zone 2) - ranging from steep bushland slopes and open fields this part of the site provides a series of open and enclosed spaces. There are some views to the quarry (but not of the quarry lake) from the bushland edges on the western side of OMV.
- Quarry Zone (zone 3) - the high walls of the quarry create a dramatic landscape when viewed from the bottom of the quarry and also along the quarry road. Whilst in the quarry there is a sense of being 'in the wilderness' or 'in the middle of nowhere.'
- Cultural Heritage Zone (zone 4) - the old crusher plant is situated on a flat area and provides views of the quarry. The abandoned buildings add to the feeling of remoteness but also contribute to the story of the site.

- South Western fill zone (zone 5) - this area is on the southern side of the quarry and provides views of the quarry and also to surrounding bushland. This area is dominated by bushland and some weed infestation.

Overall it is the Quarry Zone that provides a unique and interesting landscape setting in such close proximity to Hornsby CBD. This distinct 'quarriiness' is created by the dramatic level changes, exposed rock walls and water body. The bushland backdrop also extends the site experience.

### Conservation Status and Significance

Vegetation communities within the bushland areas of the park include:

- *Eucalyptus pilularis* - *Angophora costata* - *Syncarpia glomulifera* Blackbutt Gully Forest tall open forest (Vegetation Community L, as defined by the NSW Vegetation Information System), dominated by Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*), Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*) and Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) which is of local conservation significance (Smith and Smith 2008).
- *Eucalyptus saligna* tall open forest (Vegetation Community J, Blue Gum Diatreme Forest (Community BG2), dominated by Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*), Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*) and Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*); which is of State and Commonwealth conservation significance (Smith and Smith 2008) as defined by the NSW Vegetation Information System), significant in Sydney Region due to very restricted distribution.  
Remnant trees of Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest (Vegetation Community T1), open forest dominated by Sydney Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) and Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*); which is of State conservation significance.
- *Eucalyptus pilularis*, *Angophora costata* and *Syncarpia glomulifera*, the dominant species of Blackbutt Gully Forest on upland slopes and batters across the northern and in southwestern and southeastern corners of the OMV site as well as patches of regrowth fragments of what equates to a Glen Forest or Blue Gum Diatreme community along the western batter below the main cleared area.

While the Diatreme Forest is part of a Critically Endangered Ecological Blue Gum High Forest community, it is not in intact condition. Such forest is excluded from the Australian Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 but is protected under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and would

therefore be subject to a Seven Part Test under that Act for any development proposal likely to affect it.

### Threatened species

Threatened species recorded in the quarry include, but are not limited to the following species which were identified as vulnerable under the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995):

- *Darwinia biflora*, occurs in the adjacent Berowra Valley Regional Park.
- *Tyto novaehollandiae* (The Masked Owl), has been recorded in the bushland area of Hornsby Park (southern portion).
- The Spotted-tailed Quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus*), Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*) and Glossy Black Cockatoo (*Calytorhynchus lathamii*) have been recorded near the site.

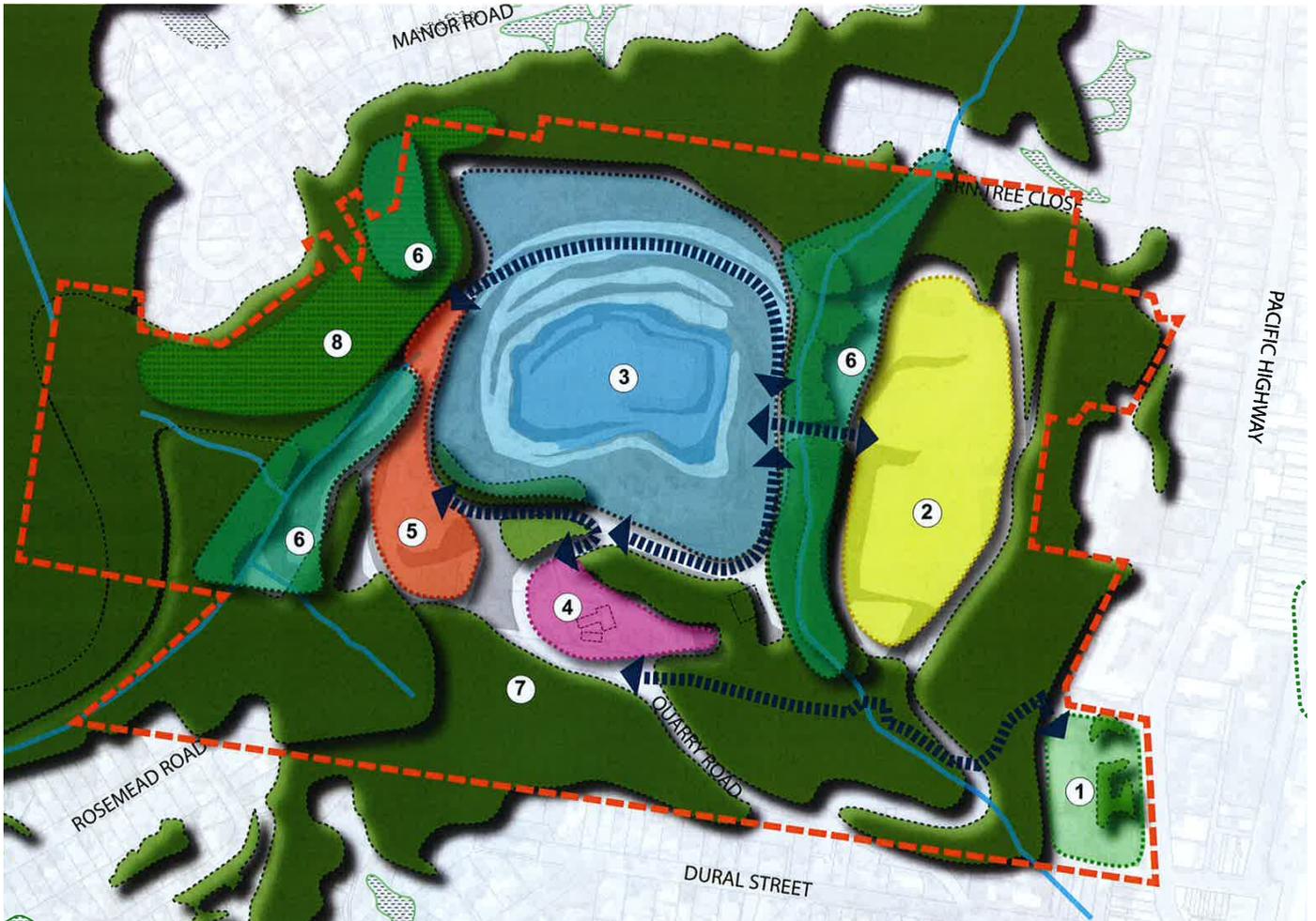
### Flora and fauna

The site provides habitat for a range of common flora and fauna including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates with a total of 39 species of animals recorded comprising over 90 indigenous flora species and over 40 indigenous fauna species (Parsons Brinckerhoff 2004).

### Weeds

The main weed species on site include:

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| ■ Asparagus Fern      | <i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>     |
| ■ African Love Grass  | <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> )      |
| ■ Bamboo              | <i>Bambusa spp</i>               |
| ■ Black Locust        | <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>      |
| ■ Bridal Creeper      | <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>    |
| ■ Camphor Laurel      | <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>       |
| ■ Cotoneaster         | <i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i> |
| ■ Crofton Weed        | <i>Ageratina adenophora</i>      |
| ■ Firethorn           | <i>Pyracantha spp</i>            |
| ■ Fishbone Fern       | <i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>    |
| ■ Kikuyu              | <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>   |
| ■ Large leaved privet | <i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>         |
| ■ Montpellier Broom   | <i>Genista monspessulana</i>     |
| ■ Paddy's Lucerne     | <i>Sida rhombifolia</i>          |
| ■ Parramatta Grass    | <i>Sporobolus africanus</i> )    |
| ■ Paspalum            | <i>Paspalum dilatatum</i> )      |
| ■ Purple Top          | <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>       |
| ■ Rhodes Grass        | <i>Chloris gayana</i>            |
| ■ Spider Plant        | <i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>      |
| ■ Small-Leaved Privet | <i>Ligustrum sinense</i>         |



-  Site Boundary
-  Existing Creekline
-  1 Hornsby Park - Heritage Parkland (high visual amenity)
-  2 Old Man's Valley Zone (low visual amenity)  
Cleared fill area including a mix of flat grass areas, mounds of fill and areas of weed and disturbed growth
-  3 Quarry Zone (high visual amenity)  
Dramatic vertical landscape with exposed rockfaces, significant geological formations, disturbed regrowth and a lake
-  4 Cultural Heritage Zone - Old Crusher Plant (high visual amenity)  
Visually Prominent cleared area with Industrial Buildings/ Relics and disturbed regrowth
-  5 South Western Fill Zone (high visual amenity)  
Elevated open areas with significant views
-  6 Gully Depressions/ Steep Vegetated Creeklines (low visual amenity)
-  7 Natural Bushland Zone- Attractive Natural Setting (med visual amenity)
-  8 Visually distinctive Gully Forest area (high visual amenity)
-  Opportunity for new and enhanced connections between activity zones



Figure 5: HSC character zones plan and legend

Open space areas in OMV and fringes to forest edges are populated by the common perennial yellow daisy, Tickweed (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), flowering over summer.

In various locations, garden escapees such as Wisteria Vines and other common garden species are evident. It is likely that these species seeded from the gardens of homes of the original settlers to the area.

### Overall condition

Overall, the site's bushland is in variable condition, ranging from very poor to good. An isolated good patch of Blue Gum Diatreme Forest occurs at the western end of Hornsby Park (southern portion).

Core areas of Community Land bushland are in good condition. However, areas surrounding road and structural developments associated with the quarry are in poor condition as they are frequently associated with fill slopes from roads. Poor conditions also exist along residential edges on the southern and northern boundaries.

The majority of the vegetation within the site has been subject to a long history of disturbance including clearing, agriculture, quarrying, spoil and fill deposition on site and other landscape modification. As a result, most of the forest in OMV has a weed-dominated understory.

However, in some instances the degraded areas are also being recolonised by native canopy species such as the endemic Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*). Existing forest, even in degraded condition, provides important habitat for fauna recorded on or near the site.

The resilience of these bushland areas varies and is impacted by weed invasion as well as by construction of unauthorised tracks, inappropriate fire regimes, and issues relating to urban stormwater runoff.

Hornsby Park is a well maintained, traditional style landscape with manicured lawns, garden beds and hedges and includes remnant trees of the Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest endangered ecological community.

The lawn areas within the Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre are well maintained.

Overall, the site bushland is in variable condition, ranging from very poor to good.

The bushland areas within Hornsby Park (western portion) surrounding road and structural developments associated with the quarry (frequently associated with fill slopes from roads), and along residential edges on the southern reserve boundary are in poorer condition.

## 4.3 Heritage

### Aboriginal heritage

The Garigal and Darug Aboriginal peoples are known to have inhabited this area. A number of sites have been recorded containing potential archaeological deposits in adjacent bushland along the Benowie Track in Berowra Valley Regional Park. The findings indicate that the area was used for shelter and hunting.

There are a few theories about the naming of 'Old Mans Valley'. This is suggested to be derived from an Aboriginal naming or otherwise is related to 'Old Man' Higgins, the early settler or the Grey Kangaroos that were said to inhabit the valley, but this remains for debate.

### Early European heritage

The Higgins Family is considered the first permanent European settlers in the Hornsby area, commencing when Thomas Edward Higgins (II) (1800-1865) took up the grant on 250 acres of land 'promised' by Governor Brisbane in 1823. The grant was formally recorded in 1836, by which time the Higgins family had commenced clearing on the site. The family commenced timber-getting (particularly Ironbark, Mountain Ash, Turpentine and Cedar) and sawmilling for export to the city, with cleared lands turned to orcharding and market gardening. These activities were continued by the Higgins extended family up until the 1960s.

The site is recognised as one of rich European heritage through its settlement, logging, agricultural and quarrying history. Several elements remain intact in association with the lands originally settled by the Higgins family in the early 19th century. The Higgins family cemetery exists on the adjoining Hornsby Quarry site just to the western side of the OMV site.

There are also tracks and staircases winding into the



Photo 1: Lizard basking on rocks near the quarry lake



Photo 2: Formal gardens and lawn of Hornsby Park, with Aquatic and Leisure Centre in background



Photo 3: Open meadow with scattered trees and bushland backdrop in Old Mans Valley



Photo 4: Dramatic topography of Hornsby Quarry

valley to the south and west of OMV built in the 1930s by unemployed relief workers. Known as the 'Depression Steps', the Higgins family were involved in their construction. Within OMV there is a cool room and a receptacle carved into sandstone and evidence of some of the eight Higgins family homes remain in OMV and on the adjoining Hornsby Quarry lands.

Thomas Higgins' only son, also named Thomas (1832-1885), had inherited his father's grant in 1868. Thomas (III) passed away in 1885 and in 1887 his wife, Ann Higgins, sold almost half the property to John Nobbs. John Nobbs called his land 'Hornsby Park' and subdivided it but the descendants of Thomas and Ann maintained a continuous presence of the Higgins family in OMV up until 1970 when Freda Jones, daughter of Percy Higgins, left the site allowing quarrying operations to expand further.

### Hornsby Park

Hornsby Park previously consisted of three crown reserves which were amalgamated in 1973. The first, the eastern park area, was set aside in 1896 as a Recreational Reserve (this was the eastern sector of the first land grant in the area to Mr Thomas Higgins, made in 1836). The two large bushland plots to the west were added in 1918 and dedicated for public recreation.

The sandstone steps running through the latter areas are thought to have been built during the Depression of the 1930s.

It took until 1933 for work on the creation of a formal park to commence. The actual designer of the park is not known and landscape plans do not exist, however, it seems likely that a group of local nurserymen, R. Hazelwood, C. H. Davis and J. G. Walters, had a strong influence on the design and layout of the park. The Park has been described as being in the 'City Beautiful' landscape character of the time. Effort has been made to retain this character in redevelopment of the aquatic centre and park playground furniture.

A fountain with a monolithic basalt stone piece and plaque was erected in the open space in 1970 to celebrate the Bicentenary of Captain Cook's arrival in Australia. An additional plaque was later installed, relating Aboriginal custodianship and connection to the land. It is proposed to replace the fountain with a modern water feature.

An Olympic size pool was built in 1962 and the Pine Tree incorporated within the enclosure, planted in 1937, was grown from seed of the tree at Lone Pine near Gallipoli. The park's fountain was installed in 1968 and designated

as a memorial to the landing of Captain Cook in 1770.

In 2013, development consent was granted for the demolition and replacement of the 1962 pool. The work also required the demolition of the Country Womens Association building and the Lone Pine tree.

In 2014 the new Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre (HALC) was opened. In 2015, a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) was approved, opening the way for an upgrade of the park area to the east of the HALC. As part of the proposed works, due for completion in early 2016 the fountain will be re-designed, potentially incorporating the capacity for it to be accessible for low-key water play. This will include re-establishing water connection, installation of a pump and filter assembly as well as surface finishes for a re-circulating feature which is accessible.

### Old Mans Valley

Old Mans Valley has a strong association with European settler history with the Higgins family taking an early land grant in the region, 'promised' in 1823 by Governor Brisbane but formally acknowledged in 1836. OMV contains two items of heritage significance, specifically identified in the Hornsby Shire Local Environment Plan as a State Archaeological site (HSLEP, Item number I 539).

The two items found on OMV sit in proximity to each other in the southeastern corner of OMV and include a receptacle carved into a sandstone outcrop (which may have been a bath or basin) and a cool room, which is also carved into sandstone beneath a ledge. These two listed items form part of a single entry in the HSLEP, which includes other features found on the adjoining Hornsby Quarry lands, including the site of the original homestead and the later-constructed Memorial located there, as well as the family cemetery. These elements are found in the southeastern corner of Hornsby Quarry (see photos on following pages).

Between 1947 and 1955 OMV was home to the Hornsby Radio Astronomy Field Station, where some 30 different experiments in radar astronomy were conducted. Australian Pioneer in radiophysics and radio astronomy and the first female radio astronomer, Ruby Payne-Scott (1912-1981), made a world-first discovery of types of solar bursts at the Field Station in 1948. The work of Payne-Scott and work by scientific teams conducted at the Field Station contributed greatly to pioneering studies in lunar, solar and galactic astronomy before the Field Station closed and relocated to Badgerys Creek in 1955, making way for a continuation of the expansion of quarrying on the site.



Photo 5: Open bushland area in Hornsby Park



Photo 6: Old Mans Valley meadow in flower

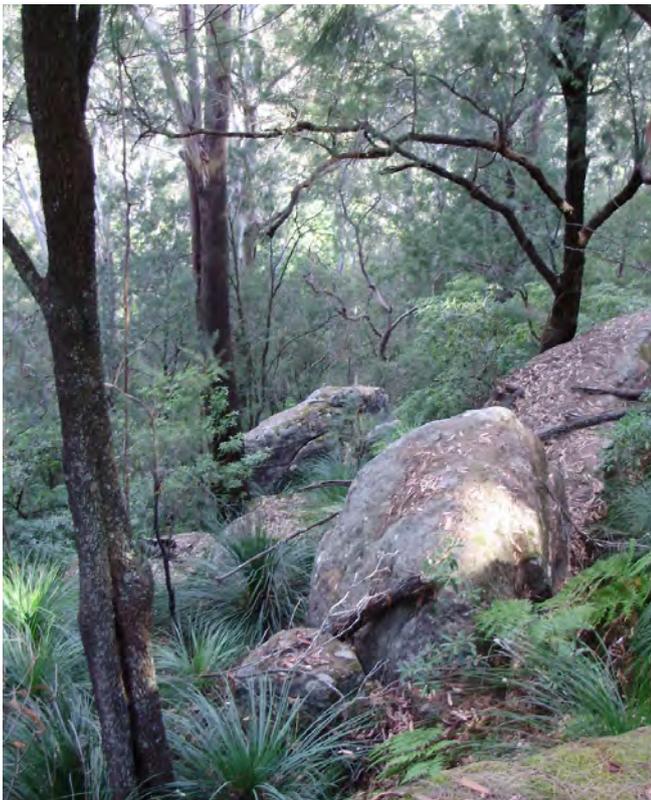


Photo 7: Sandstone outcrops and bushland in eastern section of Old Mans Valley



Photo 8: Hornsby Park bushland

The old Higgins home on the former quarry lands had been demolished in 1970 and a monument erected on the quarry site by Farley & Lewers / CSR the following year to commemorate the pioneering family. In 1988 the National Trust added the Higgins Family Cemetery to its register of significant cultural heritage sites. Descendants of the Higgins family were involved with the project of restoration that occurred at the time.

In 1982, Council as landowner, approved filling in OMV to establish playing fields using overburden from the quarry. Until 1987, quarry overburden was used to fill near the western edge of the site leading towards the near-completion of a sportsground at the site. In July 1988 Council approved a development application for additional landfill but the consent was overturned on appeal to the Land & Environment Court. As a result of the successful action taken by residents, filling ceased. No further land modification has since occurred at OMV.

#### Hornsby Quarry

Hornsby Quarry was worked as a hard rock quarry from the early 1900s for road base and gravel, operating until it became unfeasible to continue due to the poor quality of excavated material. The site is dominated by a large open excavation (approximately 90 metres deep) with steep, exposed slopes. Previous Quarry infrastructure also remains on the site such as the crushing facility.

The Quarry was zoned 'Greenbelt' under the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme in 1951. The site was later zoned 'Local Open Space' under the Hornsby Planning Scheme Ordinance in 1977. The State Government required that the Quarry be zoned 'Local Open Space' under the Hornsby Shire Local Environmental Plan (HSLEP) in 1994. The Open Space zoning at the time required Council to acquire the property upon receipt of a notice in writing from the owner to do so.

By the late 1990's CSR determined that it was no longer viable to continue mining operations and abandoned further quarrying. In 2001, CSR made application under the provisions of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act for Council to resume its quarry land adjoining OMV. The Act at the time contained a provision that made the acquisition compulsory. However, the parties could not reach agreement about the value of compensation. The matter went to the Land & Environment Court and Council took ownership of the quarry land in 2002.

Upon taking ownership of the property, Council requested the Valuer-General to determine the compensation payable to CSR Limited for Council's compulsory acquisition of the site. The Valuer-General determined that Council would pay \$25 million to CSR Limited for the market value of the land and \$99,500.00 for disturbances associated with the compulsory acquisition.

At its meeting on 12 August 2009, Hornsby Shire Council considered a report concerning actions to determine the future use and management of the Hornsby Quarry and adjoining lands in Old Mans Valley. Council resolved to progress actions to fill the Quarry pit with excavated natural material and virgin excavated natural material and that filling be limited to that necessary for safety, other operational reasons or where financially viable.

Council also resolved to prepare a Masterplan for Old Mans Valley that identifies a range of recreation facilities. As a result of the resolution portions of OMV to the east of the Quarry were partially developed for recreation use following adoption of a Plan of Management (POM) in 2012. In late 2012 Council constructed a popular mountain bike singles trail that extends across Hornsby Park and into OMV.

In 2012, Council adopted a POM for OMV. That POM is proposed to be superseded by this POM, and all the proposals within the OMV POM have been carried forward into it.

In October 2014, Council resolved to endorse a report from CLOUSTON Associates into future recreation uses of Hornsby Quarry. That report forms the basis of the masterplan and other proposals in this POM for the future use and management of Hornsby Quarry for recreation.

#### Statement of Significance Hornsby Quarry

The Quarry is listed on the Heritage Register of the National Estate describing it (in part) as the "largest volcanic neck in the Sydney area". The Hornsby Shire LEP also lists the volcanic diatreme within the quarry as a heritage item. (Items 538 and A54).

The Higgins family cemetery is listed as a heritage item of State Significance under the Heritage Act - State Heritage Register (01764) and the Hornsby Shire Local Environmental Plan 2013.



Photo 9: Two of the former Higgins family homes are seen here in OMV and in the adjoining Hornsby Quarry lands c. 1959, before being demolished by Farley & Lewers to make room for the expansion of quarrying operations.



Photo 10: Experiments conducted at the Hornsby Radio Astronomy Field Station (in OMV) from 1947 to 1955 contributed greatly to pioneering studies in lunar, solar and galactic astronomy.



Photo 11: The 'Depression Steps' were built in the 1930s by the Higgins family with the help of unemployed relief workers.



Photo 12: Part of the journey down through Hornsby Park, the 'Depression Steps' have been restored.



Photo 13: Fountain constructed in 1970 to celebrate the Bicentenary of Captain Cook's arrival, proposed to be replaced.

### Old Mans Valley

The two items found on OMV sit in proximity to each other in the southeastern corner of OMV and include a receptacle carved into a sandstone outcrop (which may have been a bath or basin) and a cool room, which is also carved into sandstone beneath a ledge.

These two listed items form part of a single entry in the Hornsby Shire LEP (which includes other features found on the adjoining Hornsby Quarry lands, including the site of the original homestead and the later-constructed Memorial located there, as well as the family cemetery). The Park (A55) is also on the site.

### Hornsby Park and Aquatic and Leisure Centre

- Hornsby Park is heritage listed and is regarded as being of local significance (Hornsby Shire LEP, 2013) (513)
- The Park falls within the Hornsby West Side Heritage Conservation Area (Hornsby Shire LEP, 2013) (C511)
- There are no recorded Aboriginal artefacts or relics on the site
- The sandstone steps, known as the 'Depression Steps' running through the bushland areas are thought to have been built during the Depression of the 1930s. The sandstone steps are listed in Hornsby Shire LEP as a heritage item (537).



Photo 14: Receptacle carved into rock, possibly used for washing at one of the Higgins family homes.



Photo 15: Small basin and the initials 'PH' and 'JT' are evident, the former possibly Percy Higgins.



Photo 16: The cool room served as a fridge for Percy Higgins' family.



Photo 17: 'Cool room' formed of steel and concrete lining.



Photo 18: The Higgins Family Cemetery

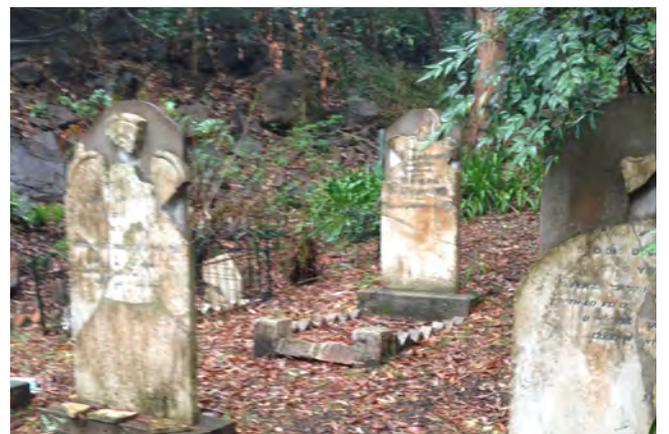


Photo 19: The Higgins Family Cemetery

### 4.4 Overview of Current Use

The current uses within the site are limited to specific areas. The uses are a mixture of active and passive recreation activities associated with specific facilities provided by HSC. Figure 6 below indicates their location; Table 2 opposite lists and describes the current uses and facilities (see section 4.2 also) and the following pages provide photographs of some of the facilities.

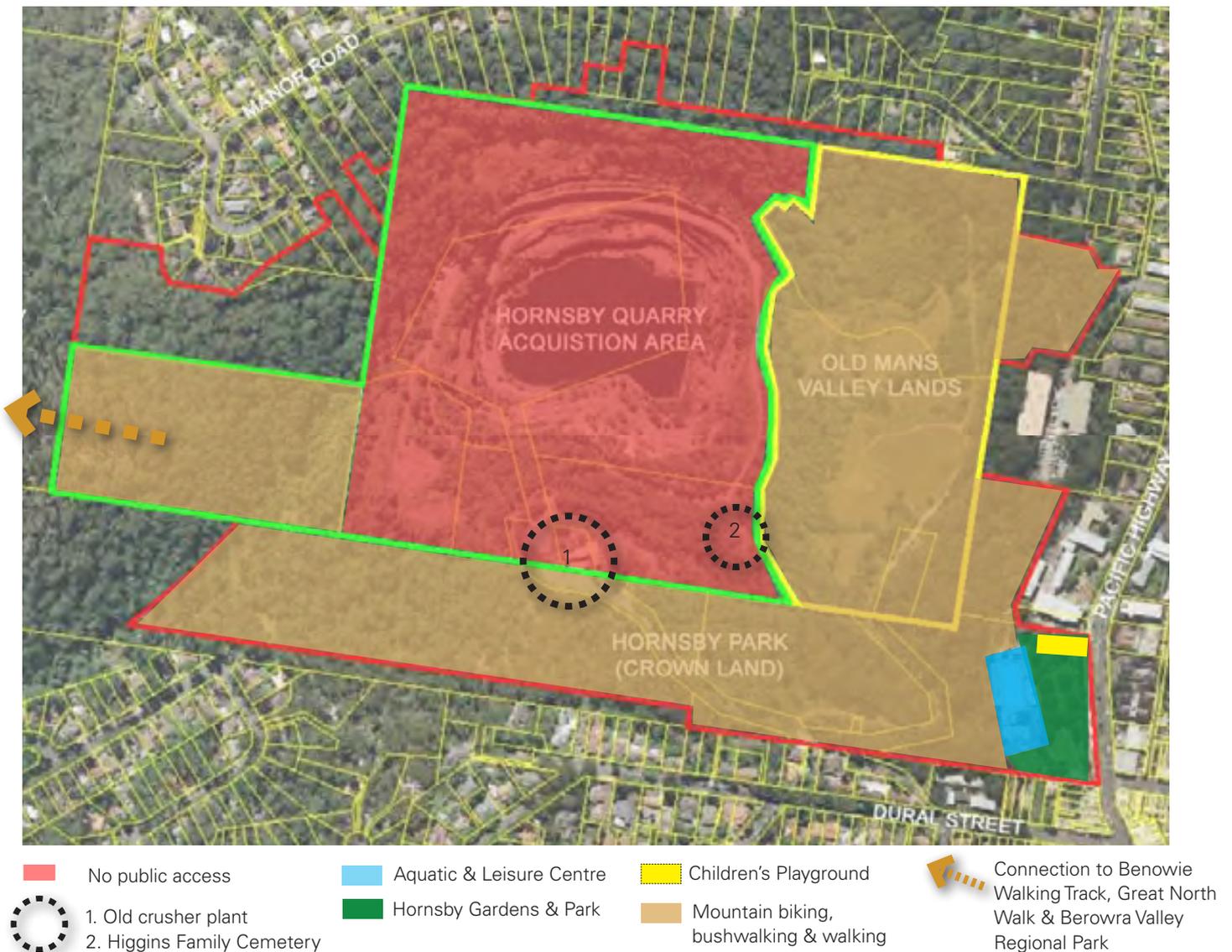


Figure 6: Current uses location



Current Use/facility	Description	Condition
Mountain bike trails	Six kilometres of single-track mountain bike trail consisting of a combination of narrow bushland trails and flowing one-metre-wide trails. At the bottom of the fire trail there is a green loop that can be safely ridden by beginners and young children. Local bike groups can apply for a permit to hold club events (such as races/competitions and bike camps for young people), with each event to be assessed before approval is granted	The tracks are in very good condition. Local mountain bike clubs are involved in trail maintenance.  In rainy weather the trail is closed to allow it to dry out in order for it to remain in good condition.
Bush walking trails: Rosemead Road track head, Benowie Walking Track and Great North Walk	A 25km track along the Great North Walk (that extends from Sydney Cove to Newcastle). Access is from Rosemead Road (track head into southern portion of Hornsby Park) and there is a connection with the Depression Steps. This walk also links with Blue Gum Walk (A 4.3km walk starting at Rosemead Road and ending at Ginger Meggs Park, Valley Road (to the south west of the site).	The bush walking trails range from satisfactory to good condition. Some sections suffer from weeds. They are well signposted.  The trail head at Rosemead Road is in very good condition and contains picnic shelters and signage.
Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre	Equipped with heated pools; leisure pool with water features and slide for children; multi purpose rooms for club activities and dry recreation activities; kiosk and cafe.  Activities include lap swimming, swimming lessons and squads, fitness classes.	The centre has recently been reconstructed and is in excellent condition and is well maintained.
Children's Playground (Near Peats Ferry Road)	Play equipment suitable for young children	The play equipment was recently upgraded and new soft fall including rubber surfacing and mulch have been provided.
Peats Ferry Road: heritage park and gardens (picnic/barbecue areas)	Picnic tables, barbecues and public toilets are provided on the northern side of the park	The park is in excellent condition. Some parts of the park are under re-design/ construction at the time of writing.  Overall the park is well maintained and remains a key feature of the Hornsby CBD.
<b>Other Infrastructure (not publicly accessible)</b>		
Old Crusher Plant	A disused crusher machine, indoor storage areas and staff office/amenities building is located on Quarry Road.  It is unsafe and there is no access to the buildings.	The buildings have been vandalised and have not been maintained in recent years. However the machinery and building structure are in the most part intact. There is potential to refurbish the building for community use.
Higgins Family Cemetery	A small cemetery located in the surrounds of the quarry. The cemetery is not open to the public. Some bench seats and signage are provided.	The cemetery is visited and maintained by Higgins family descendents. The grounds are in a satisfactory condition. Some of the headstones have been damaged.

Table 2: Current use and facility description and condition



Photos 20: Aquatic Centre with views to OMV



Photos 23: Mountain bike trail



Photos 21: Children's playground proposed for replacement



Photos 24: Mountain bike trail



Photos 22: Hornsby Park recent upgrades



Photos 25: Mountain bike trail



Photos 27: Old crusher plant building



Photos 29: Rosemead Road walking trail head with shelters



Photos 28: Old crusher plant buildings



Photos 30: Old crusher plant machinery

## 4.5 Key Issues

### 4.5.1 Land stability and spoil

Currently the Hornsby Quarry site is not publicly accessible. This is due to the instability of the quarry walls which were formed by excavating rock and leaving steep sides suitable for a mining operation but too steep for public access.

There are major concerns for public safety and therefore the site is completely closed off to the community.

The filling operation generated by the NorthConnex project will allow for fill to stabilise the lower section of the quarry void and allow Council to carry out additional stabilisation of the quarry walls to allow for safe public access into the Quarry in the future.

At this junction the proposed stabilisation methods have not been resolved.

The NorthConnex project would involve:

- Establishing the site.
- Hauling spoil by truck from NorthConnex to Hornsby Quarry.
- Stockpiling the spoil in Old Mans Valley.
- Placing spoil in the quarry void using a conveyor.
- Demobilising and rehabilitating the site.

The delivery of the spoil will see an increase in truck movements along the designated route.

Noise associated with trucks and machinery along the designated route and also within the quarry will have an impact on neighbouring residents.

### 4.5.2 Environmental sustainability

As previously discussed the condition of the vegetation across the site varies from good to poor. Generally the edges of the site are those most heavily vegetated and weed infested.

A balanced approach to the protection of some areas and opening up of other areas for community benefit needs to be achieved. In particular the Critically Endangered Ecological Communities (CEEC) comprising Blue Gum Diatreme Forest to the southwest of the quarry limits access to the rest of the site. Similarly the CEEC between the Quarry and the OMV parklands restricts opportunities to physically link these two significant land parcels.

The protection, enhancement and potential reinstatement of water courses on or near site will add to the overall environmental sustainability and aesthetics of the site.

### 4.5.3 Landscape character

The study site is unique. The remnant quarry walls, void, lake and exposed diatreme formation combine to create a dramatic landscape only minutes a few walk from the centre of Hornsby. The surrounding bushland encloses the site creating a sense of remoteness from the city.

The site provides Hornsby Shire Council with the opportunity to create a highly memorable place for its residents and the wider Sydney community. There is the potential to open up the site for public enjoyment and to take advantage of the quarry landscape for types of recreation that are suited to the topography and landscape setting.

### 4.5.4 Heritage

The history of the three sites forms the basis of an interesting story within the landscape. The existence of specific items such as the Depression Steps, volcanic diatreme, cool room and cemetery adds to the richness of the site experience.

Allowing the community to see and experience the heritage items that are not publicly accessible is a key consideration for the future planning of the site.

### 4.5.5 Recreation potential

A variety of open space and recreation facilities could be provided within the site. The Recreation Potential Study for Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley Lands identified a range of activities deemed to be suitable for particular areas within the site (see section 5.3.2 and 5.3.3).

Ultimately, due to the site's size, unique character and setting, CBD location, ease of access from major roads and public transport and neighbouring Aquatic and Leisure Centre, the study area could become a regional attraction and hub for open space and recreation.

The study also identified Adventure Recreation Tourism as a possibility for part of the site. The additional value of potential income for Council (generated through leases etc.) presents a regionally significant site.

### 4.5.6 Pedestrian connections and legibility

With the exception of access to Hornsby Park there is limited street frontage and few pedestrian entrances into the overall site. The creation of a hierarchy of pedestrian entrances and pathways will be an important contributor in lifting the profile of the site within Hornsby CBD and allowing community access.

Retention and expansion of the mountain bike trails will also provide improved pedestrian path networks.

#### 4.5.7 Access and transport

Despite the size and composition of the site, several land parcels have limited access points into the site:

- Quarry Road is the main point of vehicle access to the western part of Hornsby Park. A second vehicle access way is available to the east of the site from Bridge Road where a steep fire trail enters the site and provides access to OMV.
- The Benowie Walking Track follows Quarry Road through Hornsby Park and provides links to Berowra Valley National Park and the Great North Walk.
- To the north Dilkera Close, near Manor Road is indicated as an entry point to the Benowie Walking Track which links to Hornsby Park and Old Mans Valley.
- To the south west Rosemead Road off Dural Street is indicated as an entry point to the Benowie Walking Track.
- Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre is accessed from Peats Ferry Road. Heritage stairs near the pool connect into Hornsby Park bushland.

#### Public Transport

The study area is well located with respect to public transport links. It is approximately 350m from Hornsby train station to Hornsby Pool; and 350m from Hornsby Train Station to Quarry Road. The site is located near multiple bus stops along Peats Ferry Road.

The regional potential of the site would be supported by these important public transport links.

#### Other facilities

Hornsby CBD is home to Hornsby TAFE, Hornsby Court House and Police Station, Council offices and Chambers, and retail and commercial uses. The site has the potential to link with other facilities and services in the vicinity and provide Shire residents with a major regional facility.

#### 4.5.8 Urban context

The growing populations of the Hornsby, Waitara and Asquith suburbs will have an impact on the need for additional recreational space along and within the Pacific Highway/rail corridor.

A significant portion of new development in this area will be comprised of apartments. This will influence the nature of open space created with the site. It will need to function as a local park for residents within walking or cycling distance as well as respond to the regional catchment of the site described in section 4.5.5.

## 4.6 Key Features and Opportunities

### A special place

The combined land parcel of Hornsby Quarry, Hornsby Park and Old Mans Valley is a special place based on its environmental and heritage values.

The former quarry provides a unique and exciting landscape setting in close proximity to Hornsby CBD, enhanced by the dramatic level changes, exposed rock walls and water body.

A feeling of remoteness is experienced in the lower parts of the quarry where it is very quiet, and from where no built form can be seen. The quarry has its own microclimate and bushland backdrop that reinforces the sense of remoteness and the distinctive qualities of the overall site experience.

It is considered that as many of these landscape qualities should be retained as possible to create a unique landscape and recreation experience for future users of the site.

An exciting opportunity exists for the Hornsby Shire community. Retention and enhancement of the existing environment can be complimented by unique recreation experiences that build upon the site's natural and intrinsic qualities. Hornsby Shire Council has the chance to create a regional attraction that could have long term state, national and international appeal whilst also meeting the needs of the local community.

Table 3 (over the page) identifies key features/issues and specific opportunities for the site. The reference numbers are linked to the issues listed in section 4.5.

Ref no.	Key Feature/ Issue	Opportunity
<b>4.6.1</b>	<b>Land stability and spoil</b>	
a	Stabilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Utilise NorthConnex spoil and relocated existing site material to stabilise quarry walls.</li> <li>■ Allow public access to Hornsby Quarry (after stabilisation is complete).</li> </ul>
b	Landform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Utilise NorthConnex spoil and relocated existing site material to create desired park landform within quarry void.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.2</b>	<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	
a	Vulnerable species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Protect habitat where vulnerable species are known to occur.</li> </ul>
b	Endangered communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Improve biodiversity and connection with adjacent natural areas through bush regeneration works and management of overland water flows.</li> <li>■ Identify gaps in vegetation/wildlife corridors. Plant native, endemic species in gaps.</li> </ul>
c	Watercourses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Reinstate, where possible water courses that have been removed or modified.</li> <li>■ Create an urban wetland which helps collect and treat storm-water run-off and helps mitigate down stream flood/flow issues.</li> </ul>
d	Weed management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Implement maintenance regimes and weed removal programs as part of the creation of public parks within Hornsby Quarry.</li> <li>■ Improve maintenance regimes and weed removal programs in other bushland areas within the site.</li> <li>■ Improve the parks environmental capacity by retaining remnant vegetation and incorporating new native vegetation where appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.3</b>	<b>Landscape character</b>	
a	Special place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Create 'pockets' that are isolated from the noise and pace of the urban environment.</li> <li>■ Retain the sense of scale and depth of the Quarry void.</li> <li>■ Introduce uses and features that enhance the unique character of the site.</li> </ul>
b	Views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Enhance views across the site and to Berowra Valley.</li> <li>■ Create a mixture of views within the site including framed, open and filtered views.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.4</b>	<b>Heritage</b>	
a	Aboriginal Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide interpretative signage and public art to express the Aboriginal culture of the area.</li> <li>■ Involve local indigenous communities in the masterplan process.</li> <li>■ Provide links to other known Aboriginal relics and sites in the area.</li> </ul>
b	Early European heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide interpretative signage and public art to express the Early European heritage of the site.</li> <li>■ Protect heritage items.</li> <li>■ Allow access to heritage items such as the Higgins Family Cemetery (guided walks or full access).</li> <li>■ Create a heritage trail through the site.</li> <li>■ Re-use old quarry buildings if building condition is suitable and the new purpose fits with the uses and management of recreation facilities at the quarry.</li> </ul>

Table 3: Key features and opportunities

Ref no.	Key Feature/ Issue	Opportunity
<b>4.6.5</b>	<b>Recreation potential</b>	
a	Types of recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide for a range of different types of recreation types including passive, active, structured and unstructured.</li> <li>■ Provide for a range of age groups and abilities.</li> <li>■ Develop the site in a way that allows mountain biking to continue with little or minimised disruption in the short and long term.</li> </ul>
b	Unique opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide opportunity for adventure sports and recreation.</li> </ul>
c	Leases/licenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allow for community events and festivals.</li> <li>■ Consider re-use of existing buildings such as the Crushing Plant on Quarry Road.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.6</b>	<b>Pedestrian connections and legibility</b>	
a	Entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide multiple entries into the site at different scales including pedestrian and vehicle.</li> <li>■ Provide links between road frontages with site facilities.</li> </ul>
b	Path networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Create a network of paths, tracks, fully accessible routes and roads through the site.</li> <li>■ Utilise existing paths and steps as part of the path network.</li> <li>■ Connect the three land parcels to one another.</li> <li>■ Provide good pedestrian connection to Peats Ferry Road and Hornsby Park east.</li> <li>■ Explore improved pedestrian connections to Manor Road, Rosemenad Road and Summers Avenue.</li> </ul>
c	Wayfinding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Introduce a signage strategy including hierarchy of signs and maps.</li> <li>■ Use public art and landmarks to aid wayfinding.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.7</b>	<b>Access and transport</b>	
a	Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide improved pedestrian/cycle links between the site and Hornsby Station; bus stops and Hornsby CBD.</li> </ul>
b	Car parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Create a pedestrian dominated parkland with restricted vehicle access (in line with retaining sense of remoteness and quietness).</li> <li>■ Limit car parking to upper areas of site.</li> <li>■ Limit vehicle access to lower area of site.</li> </ul>
c	Other facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Explore opportunities for TAFE to utilise site parklands and bushland areas for education purposes.</li> </ul>
<b>4.6.8</b>	<b>Urban context</b>	
a	Growing population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide for a wide range of users to meet the needs of a growing local population.</li> <li>■ Provide for a range of cultural groups.</li> <li>■ Provide flexible open spaces that can evolve over time to suit the growing population.</li> </ul>

## 5.0 Indicative Masterplan

### 5.1 Introduction

Hornsby Shire Council is required to address a number of opportunities and pressures in its ongoing management of Hornsby Park. The filling of the quarry, the recreation potential of the site and the changing demographics and character of the local community, provide a backdrop to this decision making process. A masterplan is required to optimise the community benefit of the parkland.

### 5.2 Objectives and Performance Targets of the Masterplan

The objective of the POM and associated masterplan is to identify the scope and scale of permissible development in the site. Table 4, on the following pages provides a list of Core Objectives and their corresponding performance targets.

Part 2, The Action Plan identifies how Council proposes to achieve the objectives and performance targets required by development proposals. The Action Plan also identifies how Council proposes to assess its performance with respect to these.

### 5.3 Masterplan Development

#### Previous studies

Prior to the preparation of this overarching POM, a separate POM was prepared for Old Mans Valley. As part of the POM process HSC undertook an extensive community engagement process. This stage of consultation took place in 2010 and was led by community engagement consultants Twyfords and sought input on the most appropriate recreation uses for the OMV area. The process confirmed that the community overwhelmingly expected the development of OMV to accommodate a variety of recreation users in varied settings and identified a range of criteria that Masterplan proposals could be assessed against. The Twyfords Consultant Report on the Community Engagement Process for Old Mans Valley Masterplan can be found in Appendix 1 of the OMV POM report (see section 2.5).

In 2013 Clouston Associates, in association with Montemare Consulting prepared a Recreation Potential Study for Hornsby Quarry and OMV. The study recommended that Council pursue the adventure recreation tourism opportunity for the site as part of an overall masterplan for the site.

#### Design options

The Recreation Potential Study for Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley Lands identified three main design options for the filling of Hornsby Quarry:

- Option 1 - 1 million m<sup>3</sup> of external fill. OMV would be largely unchanged.
- Option 2 - 400,000 m<sup>3</sup> of external fill accompanied with 600,000m<sup>3</sup> from OMV.
- Option 3 - zero volume of external fill relying on 600,000m<sup>3</sup> from OMV (resulting in steeper landforms in the quarry parklands).

Each option was evaluated against a set of criteria including social, environment and heritage, quarry character and other technical issues.

Option 1 was the highest scoring Option. This was mostly due to the fact that no excavation works within OMV were required ie. usable open space was maximised. Access options, cultural events and opportunities for community events programming were more favourable and the 'site story' or 'quariness' was more intact.

The overall vision and masterplan are presented on the following pages.



Core Objectives	Performance targets
<b>Sportsground core objectives</b>	
(a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A balanced provision of recreational opportunities in the park that address Shire-wide sporting needs where possible, achieving the best use of subject lands for community benefit.</li> <li>2. Provision of enhanced informal use park areas that cater for day to day community recreational use.</li> </ol>
(b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Licence restriction of hours of operation, design incorporates noise management at necessary locations.</li> <li>2. Provision of on-site parking to limit parking impacts on adjoining streets.</li> <li>3. Provision of more efficient on-street parking where possible.</li> </ol>
<b>Park core objectives</b>	
(a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Leases, licenses and permitted uses authorised by this plan are in accordance with the plan's objectives.</li> </ol>
(b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. A balanced provision of recreational opportunities in the park that address identified recreation needs and opportunities for community benefit.</li> </ol>
(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.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Provision of enhanced informal use park areas that cater for day to day community recreational use.</li> <li>4. Ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.</li> </ol>
<b>Natural Area core objectives</b>	
(a) to 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, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protect and enhance critically endangered ecological communities.</li> <li>2. Protect and enhance areas of habitat known to support threatened species.</li> </ol>
(b) to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Identify any specific areas of bushland to have restricted access.</li> </ol>
(c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Allow community access to natural areas. Where this is not possible consider controlled access such as guided walks through formalised bushland tracks.</li> </ol>
(d) to 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Provide interpretive signage and information regarding natural areas.</li> </ol>
(e) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994.	

Table 4: Core objectives and associated performance targets

Core Objectives	Performance targets
<b>Areas of Cultural Significance core objectives</b>	
(1) The core objectives for management of Community Land categorised as an area of cultural significance are to retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area (namely its Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical or research or social significance) for past, present or future generations by the active use of conservation methods.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Retain items of cultural significance.</li> <li>2. Repair/refurbish items of cultural significance where appropriate.</li> <li>3. Where appropriate re-use disused buildings/facilities for the community benefit.</li> <li>4. Provide interpretative signage and information regarding the item(s) of significance possibly as part of a heritage trail.</li> </ol>
(2) Those conservation methods may include any or all of the following methods:	
(a) the continuous protective care and maintenance of the physical material of the land or of the context and setting of the area of cultural significance,	
(b) the restoration of the land, that is, the returning of the existing physical material of the land to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material,	
(c) the reconstruction of the land, that is, the returning of the land as nearly as possible to a known earlier state,	
(d) the adaptive reuse of the land, that is, the enhancement or reinforcement of the cultural significance of the land by the introduction of sympathetic alterations or additions to allow compatible uses (that is, uses that involve no changes to the cultural significance of the physical material of the area, or uses that involve changes that are substantially reversible or changes that require a minimum impact),	
(e) the preservation of the land, that is, the maintenance of the physical material of the land in its existing state and the retardation of deterioration of the land.	
(3) A reference in subsection (2) to land includes a reference to any buildings erected on the land.	

### The Vision

*“From quarry to park...the beginning of a new story”*

*Hewn from ancient rock right next to Hornsby’s urban heart the layered timeline of this former quarry reveals story and value in every stratum - more than a dramatic landscape, this sculpted landscape is the face of past industry and the shape of a new stage on which Hornsby Shire’s community can engage with their natural legacy and urban lifestyle.*

*A place for adventure, challenge and rejuvenation, this gateway landscape links ridge to river, city to bush and people to place.*

### Masterplan Principles

- Local living: Hornsby’s parkland hub, meeting the needs of the current and future local community for recreation and cultural experiences in a bushland setting.
- Tourism and economy: A centre for adventure tourism for the Northern Sydney region, driving local economic development and urban renewal.
- Environment and heritage: Renewing Hornsby’s natural systems and connecting community to Hornsby’s rich heritage and evolving story.
- Return on investment: Leveraging commercial opportunities that enhance the leisure experience and deliver a financially sustainable community asset.



Figure 7: ‘Vision’ artists impression

### 5.3.1 New parkland assets

By opening up Hornsby Quarry the community will have access to 45Ha of regional parkland. The new parkland in the heart of Hornsby will provide a variety of recreation opportunities.

A range of features will be provided as part of the filling of the quarry and the rehabilitation of the site (see Figure 8 over page for number locations):

#### 1 Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure centre

As an existing and recently opened facility the centre will continue to serve the local community. There is an opportunity to improve walking tracks and paths between the centre and the parklands.

#### 2 OMV Sportsground

As described in the OMV POM there is an opportunity to create a sportsground, catering for a variety of sports within the cleared area.

Associated infrastructure, such as car parking, club house and amenities would also be located here.

#### 3 Playground

Provision of a regional playground, catering for all ages and abilities will be a key feature of the parklands. Other play areas including the existing Hornsby Park play area will form part of a play network within the parklands.

The site also lends itself to opportunities for imaginative and nature based play.

#### 4 Picnic areas

Spaces for families, friends and community groups to gather for picnics, barbecues and informal games will be provided at strategic locations within the parklands. Typically these areas will include manicured lawns, picnic settings and shelters, barbecues, seating and tree planting.

#### 5 Mountain bike track

The mountain bike tracks in OMV will be retained and extended to other areas of the parklands, also extending into the quarry area. This will create the opportunity to construct different types of tracks and cater for a range of ages and abilities.

#### 6 Lookouts

By providing lookouts throughout the parklands the scale and character of the site can be experienced. Lookouts could also include interpretative signage explaining the cultural and natural heritage of the site.

#### 7 Ponds and wetlands

As part of the rehabilitation of the site's creeks an opportunity exists for the creation of a series of ponds and/or wetlands. These features could become the focus for interpretation, education, study and research.

#### 8 The Lake

The filling of the quarry will allow for the retention of the diatreme and a lake at the lowest level of the parklands. This will be a key feature of the site and offer visitors a series of water-based recreation activities.

#### 9 Old Crusher Plant

The refurbishment of this building could allow a variety of adaptive reuses such as:

- Indoor climbing centre.
- Interpretation centre/museum/gallery/cultural centre.
- Environment centre.
- Community nursery/garden/orchards (these types of facilities could also be located in other locations within the site).
- Café/restaurant.

#### 10 Natural amphitheatre

The new landform created through the filling process will create a natural amphitheatre with the quarry walls and diatreme as the backdrop. This would provide an ideal setting for community events and performances.

#### 11 Bush walking trails

The existing network of trails will be retained and expanded to create a series of walks throughout the parklands.

#### 12 Higgins Family Cemetery

The cemetery could be opened up as part of a heritage trail through the parklands.

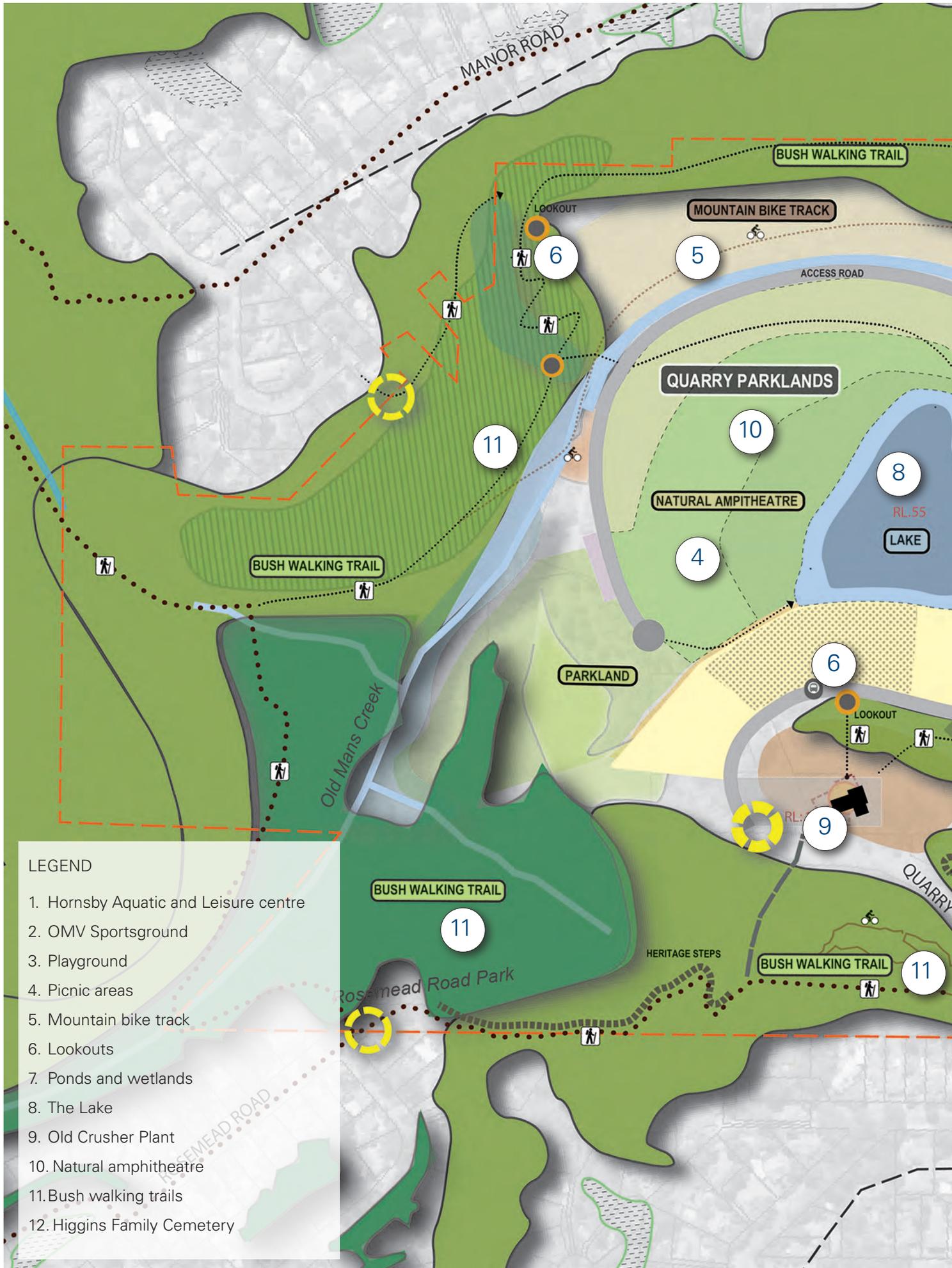


Figure 8: Indicative Masterplan



### 5.3.2 Range of recreation experiences

Within such a large parkland area a variety of recreation experience could be provided for. These could include:

- Picnics and barbecue
- Events/festivals
- Play (adventure, imaginative)
- Informal ball games
- Structured competitive sports (OMV):
  - Soccer
  - Australian Football League (AFL)
  - Rugby league
  - Rugby union
  - Cricket
  - Athletics
  - Touch football
- Outdoor fitness/exercise equipment
- Walking/jogging
- Dog walking (include Dog off leash)
- Mountain biking
- Bushwalking
- BMX pump track (or track with potential for competition)
- Guided walks (tourism/income potential)
- Water based activities:
  - Swimming/paddling in water body
  - Fishing
  - Bird watching

### 5.3.3 Adventure recreation opportunities

The landscape character of the site lends itself well to the provision of adventure style recreation activities. The bushland setting, changes in height, water body and rock walls could be utilised for a variety of activities that are not on offer elsewhere within the Shire.

This would provide a unique recreation experience for residents and also has the potential to provide an income to Council for the future maintenance and development of the site.

Types of adventure recreation activities that could occur within the parklands may include:

- Mountain biking
- Zip line
- High ropes
- Tree tops walk
- Kayak/canoe/rafting
- Scuba dive training
- Zorbing
- Summer sledding
- Triathlon
- Abseiling and rock climbing including natural and man made structures.

### 5.3.4 Access and circulation

A series of new entrances are identified on the indicative masterplan:

- Major vehicle entrance at the intersection of Pacific Highway and Dural Street.
- Major vehicle and pedestrian/cycle entrance at the intersection of Quarry Road and Dural Street.
- Key vehicle and pedestrian/cycle entrance off Quarry Road, near the old crusher plant.
- Vehicle and pedestrian/cycle entrances at:
  - Bridge Street
  - Fern Tree Close
- Pedestrian entrances, linking to existing walking trails:
  - Dilkera Close
  - Rosemead Road

A new internal road with bus services will provide visitors with direct access to the parklands.

Bridges are also proposed at key locations where existing levels are steep. This will improve accessibility to different parts of the site.

The existing walking trails will be extended to create a series of circuit paths and loops through the different landscape settings.

Car parking within the parklands will be limited to key areas associated with infrastructure such as OMV Sportsground.



Photos 31 to 34: A mixture of formal, structured sports that could be accommodated on site



Photos 35 to 37: A mixture of adventure recreation opportunities including high ropes courses, rock climbing and adventure play



Photos 38 to 39: Types of water based activities

### 5.3.5 Enhancement of natural and cultural heritage

There are several opportunities to enhance the natural heritage of the site:

- Bushland areas:
  - Bush regeneration works.
  - Weed removal.
  - Identify gaps in vegetation/wildlife corridors. Plant native, endemic species in gaps.
  - Consideration of some 'no go' areas where endangered ecological communities can re-establish.
- Watercourses:
  - Reinstate, where possible water courses that have been removed or modified.
  - Create an urban wetland/series of ponds which helps collect and treat storm-water run-off and helps mitigate down-stream flood/flow issues.
  - Utilise lake as a potential bioretention/filter system.
- Views:
  - Maintain long views from the eastern side of the site, especially the Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre to Berowra Valley.
  - Create a mixture of views within the site including framed, open and filtered views.
- New tree planting:
  - Plant trees and other vegetation for shade and amenity throughout the parklands.
  - Use endemic species.
  - Particular opportunities exist along the new internal road, car parking areas, on the edges of the OMV sportsground and within passive parklands.

The two main cultural heritage features of the masterplan are currently not publicly accessible:

- Crusher plant - ideally this building would be refurbished and have a community focus.
- Higgins Family Cemetery - ideally the cemetery would be open to the public, either as general access or by guided walks.

The Depression steps, cool room and receptacle are already accessible.



Photo 40: Bushwalking through natural heritage bushland areas



Photos 41 & 42: Types of creek crossing and boardwalk that could be incorporated into the lake edge or restored creeks/ponds



Photo 43: Guided bushwalk



Photos 44 to 47: Some passive parklands activities: walking, picnics and social gatherings, play areas and community events.

### 5.4 Staged Implementation of the Masterplan

The following table gives an indication of the proposed staging of the masterplan:

Stage	Scope	Timeframe
Stage 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ NorthConnex agreement finalised (late 2015)</li> <li>■ Quarry filling commences (early 2016)</li> <li>■ Community engagement for future uses (mid 2016)</li> <li>■ Preparation of Detailed Masterplan (2016-2018)</li> <li>■ Quarry filling is completed (mid 2018)</li> </ul>	1 - 3 Years
Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Quarry wall stabilisation commences (late 2018)</li> </ul>	2 - 3 Years
Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Parkland construction commences (2021)</li> <li>■ Parklands open (2022)</li> </ul>	5 + Years

Table 5: Staging Plan

## 5.4 Scale and Intensity of Use and/or Development

### 5.4.1 Mountain Bike Trail facilities

Development of facilities including a basic amenities building, bike trails and a 'Pocket Park' skills facility will proceed in OMV.

Proposed trails offer varying degrees of difficulty and utilise much of the Quarry and OMV site, also extending into the adjoining Hornsby Park. The Trails will utilise existing trails in bushland and open space areas where available. A large proportion of the trail network passes through degraded bushland areas and provides appropriate terrain for the intended purpose.

Some of the existing trail developments in OMV will be impacted by the proposed filling operation and future playground and sportsground facility development. Affected sections of trail will be relocated with connection to other areas retained via shared pedestrian and cycle pathways. While this arrangement remains in place, the surrounding environment will be managed as open space and unstructured recreational parkland. Trails in bushland and upland areas of OMV and trails which link to Hornsby Park are not impacted by short or long-term playground and sportsground development proposals. Trails into and through the quarry area will proceed after stabilisation works are completed.

A specifically designed skills development facility known as a Pocket Park may proceed towards the southern end of OMV, easily accessible from the existing fire trail and vehicular entrance. The Pocket Park will provide facilities for all ages and abilities to provide a platform for learning riding skills. The Pocket Park will contain the following elements:

- A 'Pump Track' that caters for beginner through to advanced riders ('Green Circle' to 'Black Diamond' levels).
- A progressive skills area of low-lying obstacles and challenges.
- Dirt jump lines constructed of compacted earth.

All mountain bike trails occurring on land in OMV have been designed to avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas and the bushland environment.

Anticipated levels of use could involve up to 400 bike riders on peak Saturdays and Sundays across OMV and the Hornsby Park trails for event use. This figure would be considerably less on non-event weekends and much lower use will occur on weekdays. The frequency of club events will be limited, for short-term events involving

weekend daytime use and by application to Council in accordance with relevant conditions. The entire proposed network including trails in OMV, the quarry and the adjoining Hornsby Park area is not considered substantial enough to hold large scale events. In the case of very wet conditions or on Total Fire Ban days, cross-country trails will be closed.

Cross-country trail 'single tracks' will be constructed in-situ on natural surfaces to a width of up to one metre in varying terrain through intact bushland, degraded bushland and non-bushland areas. Where intact bushland exists in good condition, trails will be restricted to narrow dimensions.

All trail developments will consider issues associated with road crossings and environmental flows, incorporating slowing devices and/or signage to trails and roadway areas. Motor bikes will not be permitted to use facilities. The restricted dimensions of trails will not be attractive other than for pedal-driven use, which also ensures that noise impacts will be low.

### 5.4.2 Park facilities

Park facilities are taken to include those occurring in land categorised as 'Park' including the section of Hornsby Park fronting Peats Ferry Road, the central area of the quarry and sections of OMV, but not including the sportsground. The park area may contain:

- Open space with lawns and gardens.
- A lake and other ponds and watercourses, a large picnic area.
- A natural amphitheatre for public gatherings and performances.
- Two large playgrounds, one in Hornsby Park and one in OMV.
- Public toilets.
- Barbecue picnic shelters and possibly a kiosk.
- A repurposed crusher plant that may be used as a visitor centre, environmental centre or for recreation such as indoor climbing.
- Walking tracks and mountain bike tracks.
- Community garden.

The park developments will complement other facilities including the mountain bike trails and sportsground. Times of use would generally be confined to daylight hours. On average weekdays visitor numbers to the park areas would be modest (probably fewer than 100). On average weekends, it may be expected that attendance may peak at several hundred visitors, especially for the larger events.

The parkland would be used casually with car parking for up to 40 cars estimated to be required at any given time. As the park grows in popularity overflow car parking may need to be considered.

### 5.4.3 Sportsground facilities

The sportsground is expected to be developed as a single large oval up to a size of approximately 165 by 135 metres, supported by an amenities building with toilets, changerooms and canteen. Spectator facilities such as grassed embankments and seating should be provided and complemented by vehicular parking areas. The field is expected to be used for soccer, rugby or hockey in winter and softball or cricket in summer. They will be used for weekend local club competitions, weekday school use and weekday evening training under lights.

The sportsground will be used for sports competitions that do not generate large numbers of spectators. The majority of visitors will be playing participants, match officials, coaches and volunteer supporting club members. The sportsground is expected to generate the following usage levels:

- Match days In winter season: an average of approximately 50 car movements an hour with a peak or up to 112 movements in a busy hour when games change over (based on the use of two senior sportsfields for soccer or football use). In summer: an average of 80 car movements an hour with a peak or up to 160 movements in a busy hour when games change over (based on four softball diamonds) or a peak of 40 car movements in a busy hour (based on cricket use).
- Training in winter season: only players and coaching staff of the home club only in attendance. About 30 car movements an hour. Most training finished before 9pm, lights out by 10pm.
- Match days in summer season: Cricket training may include up to four teams training during daylight hours.
- Should softball, baseball or athletics become the dominant summer sport instead of cricket, the number of visitors may increase up to fourfold.

Council received a Preliminary Noise Assessment prepared by Wilkinson Murray in 2009. This assessment considered the development potential of a number of sportsgrounds and an indoor recreation centre in OMV. Such scale of development is no longer proposed and no indoor centre forms any part of the current proposal.

As noted above, a large oval is proposed which may lead to a maximum concurrent usage of four softball diamonds. The study found that the site has some limitations, due to the potential impact of traffic movements, rather than noise generated by people using or spectating at the sportsground.

It also noted that, due to very low background noise levels adjoining OMV, activities on the site will be audible to nearby residences. The study found that the development of one playing field with two soccer pitches and up to four softball diamonds would be feasible however may require measures to ameliorate noise generated by vehicles, particularly at peak arrival and departure times.

Requirements for noise amelioration associated with the sportsground will be addressed at a later stage, when a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is prepared for the range of proposed developments, in accordance with the requirements of the EP&A Act 1979.

## 6.0 Categorisation

### 6.1 Explanation of Categorisation Mapping

For the purposes of this Plan of Management, it is necessary to identify a categorisation of land, as mapped (Figure 9, over the page), which reflects Councils' proposed use of the Community Land for Hornsby Park, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Division 2 - Use and Management of Community Land.

The Masterplan (Figure 8) provides an illustration of an intended arrangement of facilities in Hornsby Park which includes the development of new recreation facilities, new entries and pathways through the park, formalised road edge parking, and additional street tree planting. The Masterplan layout responds to and enhances existing site conditions, and the proposed recreation facilities are contained within appropriately categorised areas for future management.

The adoption of this POM will legislatively enable appropriate development works to be carried out within the various categorisation zones. Adoption would also require commitment to management of the lands in Hornsby Park in accordance with the objectives outlined in the Action Plan forming Part 2 of this POM.

It is noted that Crown Reserve 1036828 is not required to be categorised under the Crown Lands Act

### 6.2 Land categorised as 'Area of Cultural Heritage Significance'

In the south-eastern corner of OMV and in the centre of Hornsby Quarry there are a number of areas of land proposed for categorisation as an 'Area of Cultural Significance'. They contain elements within it that are remnants of early settler habitation on the land and the volcanic diatreme remnant on the quarry face. The receptacle carved into a rock outcrop and a cool room incorporated under a rock ledge are situated in the location of a former home of the settler Higgins family. There is also the Higgins family cemetery, containing the burial places of early settlers. The cemetery is listed in Hornsby Shire Councils' Local Environmental Plan as being of State heritage significance.

### 6.3 Land categorised as 'Sportsground'

The extent of the area devoted to the oval and ancillary facilities in OMV is contained by the area proposed to be categorised as 'Sportsground' on the Categorisation Map. This area will be impacted by construction requirements for the oval and development of a roadway on the northern end of the oval that is expected to serve as a construction access to the quarry lands for filling and preparation of that area for parkland. No part of the area categorised as 'Sportsground' impacts on bushland area that is in good condition. The categorisation of this land does not exclude the potential for development of habitat or bushland regeneration but would enable the development of a sportsground, roadway, mountain bike trails, carpark and ancillary sportsground facilities to be developed on that land.

### 6.4 Land categorised as 'Park'

The central park areas in the quarry and OMV which will be improved as informal recreation areas including lawns, a pond, pathways and play equipment will be categorised as "Park". These are areas not required for organised sport, not devoted to the protection of watercourses, vegetation and/or habitat and are heavily impacted by past quarrying and landfill operations. Such categorisation does not exclude regeneration of habitat or other environmental design outcomes on these lands but does enable development for recreation purposes, and which accord with the Masterplan in this POM. The 'Park' categorisation represented on Figure 9 also extends to the entry points to the site from the south and to the north-east, where it is anticipated that future access will be required for the use and enjoyment of all recreation facilities

### 6.5 Land categorised as 'Natural Area'

The lands categorised as 'Natural Area – Bushland' and 'Natural Area – Watercourse' occur in OMV and the quarry fringes. The Community Land parcels to the west of the quarry enclose bushland areas, including some Critically Endangered Ecological Communities. These bushland areas have been assessed as having high resilience to further weed infestation. Such areas have been assessed and mapped on site by Council's Environmental Scientists and generally do not include heavily weed-infested areas or developed park areas.

On-site assessments have concluded that there are substantial weed-dominated areas in the quarry and OMV that are economically unsustainable for rehabilitated as bushland.

Such impacted areas are not categorised as 'Natural Area – Bushland' with the exception of the retention of some weedy but vegetated buffer zones surrounding drainage lines and watercourses entering OMV from the northern residential area and running along the watercourse and along the western boundary of the quarry.

The categorisation of these areas as 'Park' or 'Sportsground' does not preclude rehabilitation as bushland as landscaped areas to support and enhance recreation facilities.



**PROPOSED COMMUNITY LAND CATEGORISATION**

**Legend: Community land categorisations**

- Natural Area (bushland, watercourse)
- Park
- Sportsground
- Area of Cultural Significance (ACS)

- Park Boundary
- Crown Land
- Cadastre 2015
- Creekline
- Great North W...
- Fire Trail



Figure 9: Land categorisation map



**IN OLD MANS VALLEY, HORNSBY QUARRY & HORNSBY PARK**

**Heritage Features**

- Cool Room
- ▲ Sandstone Receptacle
- Heritage Steps



Scale @ A4 1:5,000

Walk/Walking Trails

## 7.0 Operational Proposals

### 7.1 Maintenance

Council is responsible for maintenance of Hornsby Park to a standard that responds to the requirements outlined in this Plan of Management. Part 2 - Action Plan identifies a specific maintenance approach that will be adopted for the upkeep of the asset. Council utilises Council staff, contractors and voluntary resources to assist in meeting the targets identified.

### 7.2 Leases and Licenses

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 46 Parts (1)(b), (2), (4)(a) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council may lease or license Community Land in a Plan of Management for purposes that are also consistent with the land categorisation and with this POM.

The Local Government Act requires that all grants of all estates and any lease or licence of Community Land is expressly authorised by a Plan of Management. In accordance with the Act, this Plan of Management expressly authorises leasing and licensing which formalises the use of Community Land by groups, commercial organisations and/or individuals providing facilities or services for public use that is also in accordance with the core objectives for the category of Community Land and objectives of this Plan of Management.

Activities must be compatible with the zoning of the reserve and provide benefits, services or facilities for users of the land. The terms and conditions of a lease should ensure property management and maintenance, and that the interests of Council and the public are protected.

A lease is generally required where exclusive control of all or part of an area by a party is proposed or desirable in the interest of management of the area. A licence is generally required where intermittent or short-term occupation or control of all or part of an area is proposed. A number of licences can apply at the same time provided there is no conflict of interest.

The maximum allowable period for leases/licences on Community Land under the Local Government Act 1993 is currently a maximum of 30 years for purposes consistent with the categorisation and core objectives of the particular area of Community Land. Community Land may only be leased or licensed if public notice is given, unless exempted under the Local Government Act 1993.

Activities exempted are listed in Appendix 4 – Leasing and Licensing of Community Land.

A lease, licence or other estate may be granted for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities, or may be granted, in accordance with an express authorisation in a POM.

#### Future Uses

When current leases expire, Council should reassess the lease and licensing arrangements. Issues to be considered when reassessing leases or entering into new agreements include:

- Ensuring all leases and licences are based on a sound asset management basis with rents and charges having regard to market values and other social and economic factors.
- Ensuring all leases and licences meet the requirements of relevant State and Local Government Acts and Council town planning controls.
- Ensuring proposed activities are compatible with the core objectives established in the Local Government Act.
- Negotiating greater financial returns which will contribute to management and maintenance of Community Land.
- Requiring the lessee to carry out improvement works to the leased facility.

All future lease / licence arrangements entered into shall be in accordance with Council's Policies CSISAS 12 – Delegation of Authority to Grant Lease / Licence Agreements, CSISAS 13-Use of Council Buildings by Kindergartens and CSISAS 14 - Lease/Licence of Council Land and in accordance with requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council Policy CSISAS 14 states that the maximum length of lease/licence of Council land will generally be five (5) years. Council may however give consideration to granting an additional period of tenure where special circumstances warrant this occurring.

Where a lease arrangement has been entered into with Council for Community Land, subleasing of the land must be in accordance with the requirements of section 47C of the Local Government Act 1993.

This Plan of Management authorises the following types of leases and licences for Community Land within Hornsby Park, Hornsby Quarry and Old Mans Valley:

### 7.2.1 Leasing and Licensing of Sports Facilities

The granting of leases/licences are expressly authorised for use of sportsgrounds for activities permissible under this Plan of Management, the Hornsby Shire Local Environment Plan 1994, the Local Government Act 1993 and pursuant to Development Consent if required. The following types of sports facility licences will be granted for the exclusive use of sportsgrounds (including playing fields, change rooms, and canteen) or courts (including netball, basketball and/or tennis courts) at nominated times.

#### Licences and Leases for Sportsgrounds

The granting of leases or licences is expressly authorised by this Plan of Management as required for sports that run on either a summer (September to March) or a winter (March to September) competition basis, or competitions/sports programs that continue through the year, and possibly from year to year for a period of up to 21 years.

The range of sports possible include but is not restricted to, clubs and associations engaged in Australian Rules football, rugby league or rugby union football, soccer, baseball, softball, T ball, cricket, athletics, touch football, hockey, netball, basketball and tennis, cycling, orienteering, horse riding and dog agility competition, and training in all these sports.

Leasing or licensing for the operation of restaurants, cafes, canteens, kiosks or other food outlets are also expressly authorised for a period of up to 21 years.

Licences may cover competition/program events on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays (after 8am) and Friday and Saturday evenings (twilight events in summer).

Licences may also cover training Monday to Friday including some during daylight hours, but predominantly for training from 5pm to 10pm. During these times of use the club or association will have exclusive use of the sportsground.

Licences will generally be granted for periods of a single sports season or a year, renewable annually or as deemed appropriate by Council. In some circumstances leases or licences may be granted for periods of more than a year and up to 21 years (with the consent of the relevant Minister and where stipulated in legislation), particularly where a hirer has invested in capital improvements at a park. Such a lease or licence may cover an entire building or identified facilities and buildings within a park.

To manage ground wear and maintain the use of grounds use within carrying capacity and to meet the needs of Hornsby Shire residents, limits of use will be placed on

the allocation of sportsgrounds. In such cases preference in the allocation of sportsgrounds will be given to hirers based in Hornsby Shire.

#### Licences for School Use of Sportsgrounds

The granting of licences are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management for Schools for the exclusive use of sports facilities at times during weekdays. The range of sports permissible may include but will not be limited to Australian Rules Football, Rugby League or Rugby Union Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, T Ball, Cricket, Athletics, Touch Football, Hockey, Netball, Basketball and Tennis.

#### Licences for Casual Hire of Sportsgrounds

The granting of licences is expressly authorised by this Plan of Management for casual events including, but not limited to, the playing of Australian Rules Football, Rugby League or Rugby Union Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, T Ball, Cricket, Athletics, Touch Football, Hockey, Netball, Basketball and Tennis; for community events including organised fetes, festivals, parades and performances that may include stall holders engaging in a trade or business; and small-scale private sector events including markets, promotional events, parties, weddings, filming, photography and personal training.

These events may generally be held between the hours of 8am and 10pm. Specific approval will be required to licence events proposed outside these hours.

Leasing or licensing for the operation of restaurants, cafes, canteens, kiosks or other food outlets are also expressly authorised for a period of up to 21 years.

#### Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Leasing or licensing of the Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure (HALC) Centre or components of its operations and facilities do not need to be expressly authorised by this POM as the HALC is on Crown Land governed by the Crown Lands Act (not the Local Government Act).

Temporary licences may from time to time be issued to schools or other organisations for the use of HALC. At time of preparation of this POM, only the café at the HALC is subject to a long term lease, however Council may decide in the future to extend long term leasing or licensing at HALC. Any such lease or licence must be publicly exhibited before the consent of the relevant NSW Government minister is sought for the lease or licence.

## 7.2.2 Licences for Special Events

Licences are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management for the staging of special events such as fetes, festivals, fairs, circuses, markets, musicals, theatre, movies, fun runs, art exhibitions, charity or community fundraising performances or events, gala sports carnivals, community carol singing, large picnics, family reunions, private ceremonies, cultural or religious ceremonies, weddings, community education events, pet and animal events, miscellaneous community events, and small scale private sector events such as promotional events, musical or drama performances, art exhibitions, parties, filming and photography.

## 7.2.3 Leasing and Licensing of sportsground or park Facilities for varied uses

The granting of licences is expressly authorised by this Plan of Management for use of certain parks or a portion of those parks for occasional hire. Activities subject to lease or licence may include but will not be limited to community groups using designated parks or a portion of those parks for regular market days, model boat / plane activities, community fund-raising events that may include stall-holders engaging in a trade or business, private sector events including markets, recreation events such as cross country runs or mountain bike events, promotional events, parties, filming and photography permissible under the Hornsby Shire Local Environment Plan 2013, and other uses permitted under this Plan of Management. These events may generally be held between the hours of 8am and 10pm, with consideration given by Council to the frequency, scale and intensity of events on each occasion.. Specific approval will be required to licence events proposed outside these hours, and in consideration of limits to neighbourhood disturbance.

The proposed community garden may be leased or licensed to a community group for a period of up to 5 years. Alternatively, community members involved with the garden may be appointed by Council to a committee to manage the garden under section 377 of the Local Government Act.

This POM expressly authorises leases and licences for the operation of restaurants, cafes, canteens, kiosks or other food outlets, for periods up to 21 years, or 30 years with State Government ministerial support.

## 4.2.4 Leasing and Licensing in Natural Areas

Buildings in bushland are used by community groups such as scouts, girl guides and sporting clubs associated with natural area values. The leasing of buildings in

bushland in community open space are to be considered on individual merits and may be granted by Council for a period not exceeding 21 years, or 30 years with State Government ministerial support. Public notice will be given if the Council proposes to grant a lease or licence for a period exceeding five years or for five years or less for a use not exempted by the regulations.

With respect to Natural Areas, a lease or licence may be granted for the erection or use of the following buildings and structures pursuant to Development Consent:

- Walkways, pathways, bridges;
- Causeways;
- Observation platforms; and
- Signs.

A lease or licence may also be granted for the purposes of:

- Information kiosks, refreshment kiosks (but not restaurants);
- Work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land; and
- Toilets or restrooms.

## 7.2.5 Other Leases and Licences Crossing of Reserves

Section 46 of the Local Government Act prevents Councils from granting leases, licences or other estates over Community Land for private purposes except in the uses described in Section 116 (3 - 5) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Short term, casual use will only be granted for a purpose consistent with the core objectives for the category of land and for a purpose referred to in section 46 (4) (a) (i) (ii) of the Local Government Act for:

“(a) The provision of goods, services and facilities, and the carrying out of activities, appropriate to current and future needs within the local community and of the wider public in relation to any of the following:

- i. public recreation;
- ii. the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of persons.”

Such licences are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management.

## Easements

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, this plan expressly authorises Council to grant easements for authorities, organisations

or individuals in favour of private lands over lands identified in this POM, providing Council is satisfied there is no reasonable alternative and that appropriate benefits are obtained for the Community Land. Any adverse impacts on playing surface or drainage is to be remediated at the cost of the holder of the easement. Council will not be responsible for any loss or damage caused through any act or omission of Council to any structures or facilities within the easement.

#### Liquor Licences

Although granting of liquor licences are subject to other approvals and are not at the sole discretion of Council, this Plan of Management allows for Council to give permission as the landowner for liquor licences on Community Land subject to other necessary approvals. Applications for liquor licences will be considered on individual merits and will only be considered when Council is satisfied that the licensee can meet legislative requirements for responsible service of alcohol. Such licences are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management.

#### Casual Liquor Licences

The consumption of alcohol in reserves under the care, control and management of Hornsby Shire Council are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management but only with written Council consent under the following conditions:

- People will not be allowed to enter or remain in reserves in an intoxicated state;
- People will not be permitted to consume alcohol in reserves while junior games are in progress; and
- People will not be permitted to consume alcohol within 10 metres of children's play areas.
- The 'Park Rules' Notice contained in Appendix 3 allows for this.

#### Granting of Estates

This Plan of Management allows 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 Local Government Act 1993. 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 the Community Land. Estates will be granted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

An estate in respect of Community Land is authorised by this Plan of Management for the purpose of a 'public road' are expressly authorised by this Plan of Management under the following conditions (S.47F):

- Where the provision of that road is consistent with the core objectives.
- Where that road is necessary to facilitate enjoyment of the land or any facility on that land.
- Where other means of access other than public road access have been considered.

#### Public Utilities

This Plan of Management expressly authorises Council to enter into leases, licenses or other forms of agreement with relevant authorities, organisations or individuals in relation to the provision of services or utilities for a public purpose .

#### Community Gardens on Community Land

The aim of developing community gardens is to provide accessible, strategically located gardens that also contribute to community waste management and education.

This Plan of Management expressly authorises leases to be established for the development of community gardens where they comply with the core objectives of the Local Government Act and where considered appropriate by Council.

#### Filling of Hornsby Quarry for the purpose of creating a landform suitable for a park

This POM foreshadows the filling of Hornsby Quarry to create a park landform. The POM authorises the granting of a lease, license or other estate over the necessary portions of Community Land covered by this POM to the NSW Roads and Maritime Services or its contractors for the purpose of importing excavated natural material and virgin excavated natural material to stockpile, transfer, place, spread and compact in the quarry void.

Planning approvals for this work will be by way of approval of the Environmental Impact Statement – Hornsby Quarry – Road Construction Spoil Management project (August 2015). The lease, licence or other estate will be pursuant to Section 46(1)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1993. The lease, license or other estate will be for purposes prescribed by sections 36F and 36G of the Local Government Act 1993 for Community Land categorised as a Sportsground and Park. The lease, license or other estate will be for a period of less than five years.



# Part 2

## 8.0 Action Plan

The Action Plan has been developed to support management goals for proposed developments in Hornsby Park. It provides statements on how objectives and performance targets will be implemented and outcomes managed into the future. Following are definitions of the terms used in the Action Plan:

Management Statement indicates how the objectives of the POM will be addressed and implemented and what users and the general public may expect in the provision of the service in Hornsby Park.

Actions are the specific statements that elaborate on the strategy contained in the Management Statement.

Management Team (Mgt Team) identifies which team within Council will have primary responsibility for the Action.

These are abbreviated as below:

HSC:	Various Hornsby Council
MC:	Management Committees
MCC:	Manager Corporate Services
MCS:	Manager Community Services
MAM:	Manager Asset Management and Maintenance
MF:	Manager Financial Services
MPC:	Manager People and Culture
MPR:	Manager Parks and Recreation
MRI:	Manager Risk and Insurance
MSP:	Manager Strategic Planning
MTRS:	Manager Traffic and Road Safety
MNR:	Manager Natural Resources
MWM:	Manager Waste Management
NL:	Neighbouring Landholders
P:	Proponent
PAT:	Parks Asset Team
PSU:	Parks Service Unit
RFS:	Rural Fire Service
SU:	Sportsground Users

### 8.1 Time Frame

Definitions of timing for actions are as follows:

ST	(Short Term)	Action completed within 2 years
MT	(Medium Term)	Action completed within 3 - 5 years
LT	(Long Term)	Action commenced after 5 years
O	(Ongoing)	Action carried out on a regular basis for the term of this Plan of Management

### 8.2 Performance Measures

Performance Measure are how Council identifies what progress is being made relative to the time frame established for the actions, or whether the final achievement is realised. This section of the Plan will require review to ensure it is an effective working document. It will provide a framework for management consistent with anticipated availability of resources and anticipated community needs.

### 8.3 Environmental Factors

The Action Plan contains elements that address the need to assess the environmental impacts of an activity. Measures to minimise such impacts are contained in the Action Plan. The timing determined for improvements will be subject to the availability of funds and will require revision if circumstances alter.

### 8.4 Assessment

Assessment of targets will take place in reviews of the Action Plan at intervals no greater than five years. Monitoring of actions within this Plan of Management will occur on an annual basis. Assessment will include qualitative and quantitative reviews of targets.

## 9.0 Action Plan for all Categories of Community Land

### 9.1 Operating Standards

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
9.1A Environmental Sustainability				
Ensure the adjoining land uses minimise impacts on the natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide a rear setback to developments on private properties that adjoin bushland.</li> <li>■ Ensure that active uses of Council or Crown Land have a minimum impact on bushland.</li> </ul>	MNR  MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The improved condition of bushland edges, core and creeks.</li> </ul>
9.1B Maintenance Personnel				
Skilled and experienced labour is used to implement specialist works as specified in the Service Level Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Works including traffic control, pesticide applications, pruning of trees and shrubs, hedges and arboricultural work is to be carried out by suitably qualified and/or trained staff.</li> <li>■ Appropriate training is provided for staff involved in the above tasks.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Staff carrying out specialist maintenance works specified in the Service Level Agreement, are appropriately skilled and trained.</li> </ul>
9.1C Council Staff Health and Safety Standards				
At all times Council employees and contractors will comply with Occupational Health and Safety Standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Train Council staff in Occupational Health and Safety Standards.</li> <li>■ Maintain work practices to comply with Occupational Health and Safety standards.</li> <li>■ Encourage staff to report breaches of Occupational Health and Safety standards to the designated OH&amp;S officers</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Safe Work Method Statements are regularly prepared, reviewed and communicated to staff.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
9.1D Legislative Standards				
<p>Services are provided to agreed national and industry standards, SEPP Infrastructure, the HSLEP and policies and standards resultant from public consultation</p> <p>Developments are undertaken with regard to the relevant legislation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Staff are up to date and familiar with the relevant legislation impacting upon the level and standard of Council services.</li> <li>■ Awareness of SEPP (Infrastructure), HSLEP, Crown Lands Act and other important legislation is promoted with staff</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Activities of Council uphold legislative requirements.</li> <li>■ Business processes incorporate legislative requirements.</li> <li>■ Staff are trained in legislative requirements.</li> </ul>
9.1E Technical Standards				
<p>The design of any new structures on Community Land must comply with the relevant Australian standards.</p> <p>Monitoring requirements will comply with those specified in Service Level Agreements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ New buildings and structures comply with the relevant standards.</li> <li>■ Work will be monitored to assess compliance with requirements specified in the Service Level Agreement.</li> </ul>	HSC MPR PAT / (PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ All new buildings and structures on Community Land comply with the relevant building standards.</li> <li>■ Service Level Agreement work is monitored and reports generated to reflect monitoring outcomes.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
9.1F Facility development at sportsgrounds				
<p>The Sportsground will be developed to a standard consistent with Council's economic and budget sustainability objectives</p> <p>Sports facilities will be developed only on suitable reserves and to meet identified needs.</p> <p>Sportsground development will be funded from a variety of sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Sportsground construction will commence as soon as possible after the quarry filling is completed, and concurrently with the work if funding and logistics permit.</li> <li>■ Sportsgrounds are intended to provide primarily for suburban amateur competition level sport</li> <li>■ Development of elite-standard facilities will not necessarily be funded by Council however Council may allow hirers to do so</li> <li>■ Standards for supporting infrastructure eg canteens, change-rooms and storage areas will be basic (where they exist)</li> <li>■ Improved or enlarged canteens, club equipment storage areas, club meeting rooms, covered spectator areas, gymnasiums and the like are outside the responsibility of Council to provide, but may be provided where a level of co-funding is present.</li> </ul>	MPR		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A sportsground suitable for district sports competition will be developed</li> <li>■ Council funds are not diverted for the provision of elite-standard sports facilities and supporting infrastructure</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
9.2 Equity and Access				
9.2A Disabled / Stroller Access				
<p>Provide access for disabled users and strollers onto Community Land where possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address unsuitable access, providing access paths where appropriate and as finances allow.</li> <li>■ Satisfy the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.</li> <li>■ Where parking areas are provided for the community on Community Land, provide appropriate number of parking spaces in accordance with the requirements of the Access and Mobility DCP, to allow access for users with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>HSC</p>	<p>M  O  S</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Disabled / stroller access is provided into appropriate areas of Community Land.</li> <li>■ Requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act and Anti-Discrimination Act are met as resources and conditions allow.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
9.2B Equity of Access to Council Reserves and Facilities				
<p>Strive to provide equal opportunity of access to Community Land for all sectors of the community.</p> <p>Recognise the role of community sports clubs in using Council facilities to operate sport.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The allocation of the Sportsground will have regard to the objectives of the Active Living Hornsby Strategy (2015) and the Hornsby Shire Sports Plan (under preparation 2015).</li> <li>■ When opportunities arise to review allocation of facilities, weighting is to be given to groups with female, disabled, non-English speaking background and other membership bases.</li> <li>■ Organisations based in Hornsby Shire and with a high proportion of residents of the Shire shall be favoured.</li> <li>■ Provide access to reserves and buildings within reserves for the disabled where practical and affordable</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Equity of access is considered when an opportunity arises to review allocation of use of Council facilities.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>9.2C Unauthorised Camping</b>				
<p>Camping will not be allowed in most parks except in support of a special event and with a licence or other express consent of Council.</p> <p>Council recognises that all people should have access to private or public housing which meets their individual needs, and equally that all people have a right to enjoy public reserves for activities that do not impact on other users' enjoyment.</p> <p>People will be encouraged not to camp in public reserves unless in designated camping areas or otherwise use public reserves in ways that impact on access by other users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Parks will be patrolled in order to curtail unauthorised camping.</li> <li>■ Council will enlist appropriate support services to assist in providing alternative accommodation for homeless people in public reserves when complaints arise.</li> <li>■ Rangers and Parks maintenance staff will patrol parks to discourage or prevent people from unauthorised camping in public reserves.</li> </ul>	<p>MPR</p> <p>HSC</p> <p>PAT/ PSU</p>	<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Low number of reported cases of unauthorised camping.</li> <li>■ The support of agencies able to assist the homeless where conflicts between park users and unauthorised campers occur.</li> <li>■ Parks are patrolled as resources allow, discouraging unauthorised camping in reserves.</li> </ul>
<b>9.3 Anti-social behaviour</b>				
<b>9.3A Vandalism</b>				
<p>Develop and implement programs to minimise incidents of anti-social behaviour on Community Land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Design future facilities to allow easy surveillance where possible.</li> <li>■ Maintain surveillance patrols as required.</li> <li>■ Provide security lighting as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p>MPR</p> <p>PSU</p> <p>MPR</p>	<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Facilities within parks and sportsgrounds are designed to reduce opportunities for vandalism.</li> <li>■ Surveillance patrols are carried out at known problem times.</li> <li>■ Lighting is provided where required.</li> </ul>



Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>9.6 Conservation of Resources</b>				
<b>9.6A Reduction of Resource Use and Energy Efficiency</b>				
Use of recycled materials and energy reduction programs are implemented in capital works projects and maintenance programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Increase use of recycled materials in capital works projects and maintenance programs.</li> <li>■ Recycling of green waste.</li> <li>■ Reduction of electricity and water use</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Higher percentage of recycled material is used in capital works and maintenance programs.</li> <li>■ Green waste is recycled.</li> <li>■ Measures for reducing the use of water derived from dam storages and energy derived from non-renewable fuels are investigated.</li> </ul>
<b>9.7 Impacts of Developments and Activities</b>				
<b>9.7A Impacts of Developments and Activities</b>				
Identify and address impacts of developments and activities on neighbouring properties where development approval is not required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address parking requirements and impacts of additional traffic from proposed developments.</li> <li>■ Address impacts of noise and lighting from proposed developments and activities on neighbouring properties.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Potential impacts of proposed developments and activities such as parking, traffic; noise and lighting on neighbouring properties are addressed.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>9.8 Leases and Licences</b>				
<b>9.8A Leases and Licences</b>				
Leases and licences are granted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Regulation and Act and the Crown Lands Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conditions apply to ensure proposed activities on Community Land comply with core objectives of the LGA.</li> <li>■ Leases and licences are granted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act and Local Government Regulation 1999 and in accordance with Council's policies for development, use, leasing and licensing of Community Land as stated in Part 1 of this Plan of Management.</li> </ul>	HSC	O  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ All activities on Community Land comply with the core objectives of the Local Government Act and Regulations.</li> <li>■ Leases and licences comply with the requirements of the LGA and with Council's policies.</li> </ul>
<b>9.8B Use/Sale of Alcohol in Reserves</b>				
Applications to Council for use/sale of alcohol in public reserves are considered individually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 'Park Rules Notice' permits use / sale of alcohol in public reserves subject to Council approval and approval of other relevant bodies.</li> <li>■ Council approves/ rejects applications for such licences on individual merits.</li> </ul>	MPR  MPR	S  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Park Rules notice is posted.</li> <li>■ Applications for use/sale of alcohol in public reserves are considered on individual merits subject to approval of other relevant bodies.</li> </ul>
<b>9.8C Reserve Crossings</b>				
Reserve crossings are only granted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulation, and Crown Lands Act (where relevant).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ No reserve crossings for private purposes are approved, except in accordance with the stated legislation and as outlined in this POM.</li> </ul>	MPR/MNR	O	No licences for crossing of reserves for private purposes are granted except in accordance with the stated legislation and as outlined in this POM.

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>9.9 Communications Towers</b>				
9.9A Communications Towers on Community Land				
Allow the lodgement and assessment of Development Applications for communications towers on merit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If approved, communications towers generate income for the management of Community Land.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Council derives income from any approved communications towers and applies it to management of Community Land.</li> </ul>
<b>9.10 Volunteer Insurance</b>				
9.10A Volunteer Insurance				
Volunteer groups working on Community Land are covered by appropriate insurance as required by Council's Risk and Insurance Manager.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Register volunteer workers with the Risk and Insurance Manager prior to work being undertaken, as required.</li> <li>■ Provide instruction in safe work methods to volunteer groups.</li> </ul>	HSC/MRI	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Volunteer workers are registered prior to working on Community Land.</li> </ul>
<b>9.11 Funding</b>				
9.11A Funds Received from User Fees				
Funds derived from use of Community Land are allocated in accordance with the Local Government Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Money derived from use of Community Land is expended on Community Land acquisition and Community Land management requirements in accordance with S.409 of the Local Government Act 1993.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Funds derived from Community Land use are allocated to future Community Land management and acquisition.</li> </ul>
9.11B Through Life Costs				
Adopt an appropriate level of funding for maintenance of facilities within a financial year and over the whole life of an asset.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Determine level of funding required to maintain Community Land facilities in accordance with the Plan of Management.</li> <li>■ Annually adopt an appropriate budget to allow for maintenance of reserves</li> </ul>	HSC HSC	O O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Facilities are maintained within budget and in accordance with the Plan of Management</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<p>9.11C Fees</p> <p>Set and maintain an appropriate level of hire fees for use of facilities on reserves.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fees are set according to community service and cost recovery principles contained in the Fees and Charges volume of Council's annual Management Plan.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Level of fees is determined and adopted by Council annually.</li> </ul>

## 10.0 Action Plan for Parks and Sportsgrounds

### 10.1 Notifications

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.1A Park and Sportsground Availability				
Council will determine the status of ground closures due to weather for weekend sport by 2pm on Fridays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>User groups will be notified at the earliest possible convenience of changes to sportsground and park availability due to wet weather in accordance with Hornsby Shire Sports Council Adopted Written Procedures.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% satisfaction as measured by the 'to be implemented' end of season user survey.</li> <li>Wet Weather Line 100% accurate at all times.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>User groups make a determination as to whether a ground is suitable for weekend play where rain occurs after close of business on Fridays and will be responsible for any resulting ground damage</li> </ul>	MPR	O	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a 'Wet Weather Line' to allow users 24 hours a day, 7 days a week access to information on ground availability affected by weather.</li> </ul>		O	

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<p>10.1B Notification of Works</p> <p>User groups will be notified of the need to cancel events due to major maintenance or capital works.</p> <p>Residences/businesses/park users will be notified of any proposed works which may impact on them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Notify user groups at the earliest possible convenience of changes to sportsground and park availability due to major maintenance or capital works.</li> <li>■ Give residents/ businesses/park users 48 hours notice in writing of any proposed work that will affect them detailing location, date and time of work, unless otherwise directed.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Major user groups are always notified of major maintenance or works that will impact upon the use of the park or oval.</li> <li>■ Residents / businesses are notified in accordance with the Service Level Agreement.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<p>10.2 Protecting the Natural Environment</p>				
<p>10.2A Use of Pesticides</p>				
<p>The use of pesticides in parks and sportsgrounds will be kept to a minimum to comply with the relevant codes of practice and legislation to minimise any health effects and/or impacts on the environment.</p> <p>Broad leaf, grass weeds and grass like weeds are effectively kept under control and/or eliminated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Use of pesticides will comply with the relevant legislation and a safe work method statement</li> <li>■ Undertake notification of pesticide applications through a pesticide notification plan</li> <li>■ Use minimum toxicity sprays for treating weeds in parks and sportsgrounds and spray when desirable grasses are dormant.</li> <li>■ Selection of appropriate grass species</li> <li>■ Staff utilising herbicides are to be suitably qualified and/or trained.</li> <li>■ Utilise quality integrated turf management practices on sportsgrounds to develop vigorous dense turf to minimise weed infestation and turf pests and diseases.</li> <li>■ Weed control to be implemented as funding allows.</li> <li>■ Selection of low toxicity linemarking products.</li> </ul>	<p>MPR (PAT / PSU)</p>	<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>S</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Pesticide use is minimised and complies with the relevant codes of practice.</li> <li>■ Programme for treating weeds is improved through application timing and methods.</li> <li>■ Appropriate grass species are selected.</li> <li>■ Staff utilising herbicides are suitably qualified and/or trained.</li> <li>■ Integrated turf management practices are implemented on sportsgrounds.</li> <li>■ Linemarking materials do not damage turf.</li> <li>■ Legislation, plans and safe work method statements are followed.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>10.2B Use of Fertilisers</b>				
Fertilisers are applied to maintain a safe, wear resistant playing surface.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sportsgrounds and gardens are fertilised with appropriate fertiliser at best possible application times.</li> <li>■ Annual soil analysis tests are carried out for selected sportsgrounds to determine nutrient requirements.</li> <li>■ Fertilising program is implemented each year for each sportsground.</li> <li>■ Plant species are chosen for low fertiliser requirement where appropriate.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sportsgrounds and gardens are fertilised in an environmentally sustainable manner.</li> </ul>
<b>10.2C Erosion Control</b>				
Erosion control measures are implemented for works where there is potential for erosion of exposed soil.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ All activities resulting in exposed soil are to be assessed for potential erosion of exposed soil into a watercourse.</li> <li>■ Where potential for erosion is identified, erosion control measures are to be implemented.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Activities resulting in exposed soil are assessed.</li> </ul>
<b>10.2D Gardens – Species Selection</b>				
Plant species used in parks and sportsgrounds adjoining bushland are to be compatible with the natural areas and habitat requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Use indigenous plants or other non-invasive species in garden areas of parks and sportsgrounds adjoining bushland.</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Indigenous plants or other non-invasive species are used in garden areas where adjoining bushland</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>10.3 Availability of Facilities and Grounds</b>				
<b>10.3A Parks Booking Service</b>				
During normal business hours a responsive booking service will be available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure a booking officer or other Council staff member will be available between 8.30am and 5.00pm to take booking details and answer enquiries.</li> </ul>	MPL	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Booking service is always available during Council's business hours.</li> </ul>
<b>10.4 Maintenance of Facilities and Grounds</b>				
<b>10.4A General Maintenance of Parks and Sportsgrounds</b>				
Sportsgrounds and parks will be maintained in a safe and aesthetically pleasing condition consistent with the type of recreational use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake routine safety and suitability inspections and maintenance.</li> <li>Sports grounds are marked before the day's play to the sporting codes specifications and standards.</li> <li>Maintenance passes include checks of recreational facilities within parks.</li> <li>Randomly survey users once per annum to gauge satisfaction with provided services</li> </ul>	<p>MPR</p> <p>MPR</p> <p>MPR</p> <p>MPR</p>	<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out maintenance operations in accordance with external contract or internal Service Level Agreements.</li> <li>Grounds are always correctly marked and ready for the identified sporting code before the day of play.</li> <li>Requests for maintenance are responded to or actioned within 12 working days.</li> <li>Turf on sportsgrounds is maintained at a height of 75mm or less, bare areas repaired following the winter season and weeds controlled where budget allows.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>10.4B Level of Service</b>				
Parks and sportsgrounds will be provided with a level of service treatment consistent with the level of community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level of service grading will be allocated on a reserve by reserve basis as high, medium or low, which is generally daily for high, monthly or fortnightly for medium and quarterly or as requested for low. This frequency may be changed according to weather or budget constraints.</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance is implemented in accordance with Service Level Agreements.</li> </ul>
<b>10.4C Upkeep of Amenities</b>				
Amenities, including toilets, showers and change rooms, will be made available at all sportsgrounds in a safe and aesthetically pleasing condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor amenities to ensure they are available in an acceptable condition.</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilities are available at all identified major grounds in a safe and acceptable condition at all times.</li> </ul>
Amenities will be provided in major Parks where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the need for amenities in sportsgrounds and parks that do not provide these services.</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amenities constructed as required.</li> </ul>
<b>10.4D Barbecues</b>				
Barbecues in parks and sportsgrounds will be clean and operable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barbecues will be cleaned once a week</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barbecues are operable 95% of the time.</li> <li>Requests for maintenance are responded to or actioned within 12 working days.</li> <li>Maintenance is implemented in accordance with Service Level Agreements.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.4E Fences				
Park and sportsground fencing will be maintained in a safe condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Replace damaged fencing as required.</li> <li>■ Council is not required to build, maintain or contribute towards dividing fences between parks or sportsgrounds and adjoining private properties.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Requests for maintenance are responded to or actioned within 12 working days.</li> <li>■ Maintenance is implemented in accordance with Service Level Agreements.</li> <li>■ Council will not contribute towards dividing fences on park boundaries unless Council deems that there is a community interest reason to do so</li> </ul>
10.4F Taps and Bubblers				
Taps and bubblers in parks and sportsgrounds will be operational.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Reports of leaking taps or bubblers will be responded to promptly.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Requests for maintenance are responded to or actioned within 3 working days. Maintenance is implemented in accordance with Service Level Agreements</li> </ul>
10.4G Signs				
Signs are legible and are erected in highly visible locations within parks and sportsgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Install signs in highly visible locations.</li> <li>■ Replace damaged / vandalised signs where they have been rendered illegible.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Signs are visible.</li> <li>■ Damaged signs are replaced as required.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.4H Playgrounds				
Council will comply with the Australian Standards for playgrounds and play equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Design and maintain playgrounds and play equipment to relevant safety standards where possible.</li> <li>■ Undertake safety inspections and regular maintenance in accordance with Service Level Agreements.</li> <li>■ Manage playgrounds according to asset management principles.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	<p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Safety in playgrounds and for playground equipment is upheld to Australian Standards (AS 1924, AS 4422 and AS 4486).</li> <li>■ Maintenance is implemented in accordance with internal Service Level Agreements.</li> <li>■ Comprehensive inspections are undertaken on a quarterly basis.</li> <li>■ Ensure that playgrounds are managed through their life cycle and replaced at the end of it only if the replacement best meets community needs and Council's economic viability.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.4I Tree Maintenance Standards				
<p>Trees in all categories of Community Land and Crown Reserves are maintained by suitably qualified and/or trained personnel in accordance with the Service Level Agreement and Australian Standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tree works are carried out in accordance with Work Cover Code of Practice: Amenity Tree Industry 1998 and conform to AS 4373 – 1996.</li> <li>■ All work is to be undertaken in accordance with the specifications in the internal Service Level Agreements or external contracts.</li> <li>■ Staff are to appropriately trained for the tasks they perform.</li> <li>■ Trees are underpruned to remove obstruction to footpaths, roadways, traffic visibility, electric power lines, lighting, private and public driveways or crossings (to minimum 3 m).</li> <li>■ Trees are pruned to provide minimum 1m/ optimum 3m clearance from property roof, guttering and walls without affecting the natural form of the tree.</li> <li>■ Trees in reserves are removed of deadwood with a diameter above 15 - 20mm.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tree work is carried out in accordance with relevant standards and codes.</li> <li>■ Staff training programs implemented as required.</li> <li>■ Work is implemented in accordance with specifications in the Service Level Agreement.</li> <li>■ Obstructions from trees on Community Land are minimised.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.4J Floodlight Standards				
<p>Sportsground floodlights will be upgraded according to Australian Standards and to the most energy efficient means of operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Floodlights not meeting Australian Standards will be progressively upgraded as funding permits</li> <li>■ Floodlight luminaires will be the most energy efficient fittings capable of meeting standards</li> <li>■ Control systems will be manual switch-on, timer switch-off, or remotely controlled, and adjusted seasonally according to ground allocations</li> <li>■ Lights will be checked, cleaned and aimed annually</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Floodlights are 90% operational and progress is made within any five-year capital funding period towards upgrading lights not meeting standards</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.4K Irrigation system standards				
Irrigation systems will be maintained to maximise water efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Irrigation systems will be checked and repaired regularly for leaks and malfunctioning fittings</li> <li>■ Control systems will be adjusted for prevailing weather patterns</li> <li>■ Remote controls will be extended where funding permits</li> <li>■ Stormwater harvesting systems and other independent water supply systems will be provided as funding permits</li> <li>■ Subsurface irrigation systems will be considered where new systems are installed</li> <li>■ Park and oval construction methods aimed at reducing water reliance will be used in designs</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Irrigation systems will be upgraded to a minimum 75% efficiency standard as funding permits</li> <li>■ Progress will be made towards reducing reliance upon potable water supplies for irrigation</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>10.5 Risk Management</b>				
<b>10.5A Sportsgrounds</b>				
Parks and Recreation Team and sportsground users are responsible for checking the risk management aspects of sportsgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Parks and Recreation to check sportsgrounds on a regular basis in accordance with the internal Service Level Agreement.</li> <li>■ Users are required to check grounds immediately prior to use to determine if appropriate for play as part of their licence conditions.</li> </ul>	MPR (PAT / PSU)  SU	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sportsgrounds are checked regularly by Parks and Recreation Team in accordance with the Service Level Agreement.</li> <li>■ Users are aware of their responsibility to check sportsgrounds for safety prior to play.</li> </ul>
<b>10.5B User Groups Public Liability</b>				
Sports clubs, school and other organised groups using parks and sportsgrounds have appropriate public liability cover as required by Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Appropriate levels of cover are determined through consultation with the Risk and Insurance Manager.</li> <li>■ Ensure user groups have appropriate insurance cover as required, before grounds allocation.</li> </ul>	MPR / MRI	O  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Risk and Insurance Manager is consulted.</li> <li>■ Organised user groups have appropriate insurance cover prior to using facilities in parks and sportsgrounds.</li> </ul>
<b>10.6 General Use: Dogs, Fireworks, Fairs</b>				
<b>10.6A Dogs</b>				
Encourage responsible exercising of dogs within parks and sportsgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Notices are erected in parks and sportsgrounds regarding responsibility of dog owners.</li> </ul>	MPR  MPR  MPR	S  M  M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Reserves notices are erected in parks and sportsgrounds.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
10.6B Use of Fireworks in Reserves				
Use of fireworks within parks and sportsgrounds comply with Council and Work Cover requirements for such activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposals for fireworks displays have Council's development consent where necessary and Work Cover Authority consent.</li> </ul>	P / HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposals have approved Development Applications and approval from Work Cover Authority as required.</li> </ul>
10.6C Circuses, Fetes and Fairs				
Circuses, fetes and festivals within parks and sportsgrounds comply with Council's requirements for certification and insurance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure any circus, fete or festival has the appropriate certification for amusement equipment and insurance as required by Council's Risk and Insurance Manager.</li> </ul>	MPR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licences for circuses, fetes and fairs are only granted to applicants with appropriate certification and insurance.</li> </ul>
		MPR / MRI	O	





## 11.0 Action Plan for Natural Areas and Areas of Cultural Significance

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.1 Bushland and Biodiversity Protection</b>				
<b>11.1A Maintenance of Biodiversity</b>				
Bushland Management programs aim to conserve, restore and enhance the Shire's biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Continued funding of bush regeneration and restoration</li> <li>■ Seek grant funding for environmental restoration works that conserve biodiversity</li> <li>■ Coordinate all bush regeneration and noxious weed control programs for the best strategic outcome.</li> <li>■ Implement Council's Biodiversity Strategy for the Shire to direct operational programs.</li> <li>■ Effectiveness of bushland management programs is monitored through time.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Healthy diverse natural areas.</li> <li>■ Participation in biodiversity monitoring programs.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1B Restoration and Regeneration of Bushland, Escarpments, Foreshores and Watercourses</b>				
Bushland, escarpments, foreshores and watercourses affected by weed invasion are to be regenerated and restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A restoration and regeneration program is to be implemented in areas affected by weed invasion using appropriate bush regeneration techniques.</li> <li>■ Bushland regeneration programs initiated ensure that resources are allocated for continued maintenance and conservation of natural areas through time.</li> </ul>	MNR	As funding permits  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bushland health is improved through restoration.</li> <li>■ Bushland health is maintained through time.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.1C Total Catchment Management</b>				
Natural areas are restored using total catchment management principles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Council's bush regeneration strategy and on-going works programs are in line with Total Catchment Management and integrated management principles.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Total catchment management principles are used in restoration projects.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1D Conservation of Native Fauna Habitat</b>				
Native fauna is protected and habitat conserved in natural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Restoration work is to consider impacts on native fauna and enhance fauna habitat.</li> <li>■ Dead trees are not removed from natural areas unless they pose a risk to life or property. Hollows from dangerous trees are relocated within the bushland areas where possible.</li> <li>■ Removal of firewood and the removal of bushrock are not permitted in natural areas.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Native fauna is diverse in natural areas.</li> <li>■ Fauna habitat is enhanced and conserved.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1E Priority Given to Restoration of Threatened Biota Habitat</b>				
Threatened species, endangered populations and endangered ecological communities are a high priority for restoration and protection works.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Threatened Biota Management Plan is implemented and continually updated.</li> <li>■ Databases for threatened species are continually updated.</li> <li>■ High conservation bushland is identified and prioritised for restoration.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Stable and protected threatened species populations.</li> <li>■ Endangered ecological communities identified and conserved.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.1F Fauna Corridors Maintained and Enhanced</b>				
Fauna corridors and urban links are maintained and enhanced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Implement the recommendations of the Development and Management of Fauna Corridors report.</li> <li>■ Continue to promote public education on fauna corridors and native fauna conservation.</li> </ul>	MNR	<p>O</p> <p>As funding permits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fauna Corridors and links are maintained and enhanced.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1G Minimise Impacts of Activities on Bushland</b>				
<p>Activities in community land bushland will be undertaken only with compliance of all relevant legislation with the overall aim of protection and conservation of bushland.</p> <p>Landscaped and park areas adjacent to natural areas should be well maintained to prevent weed propagules entering bushland areas where resources allow.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ensure that all activities in bushland are assessed for potential environmental impacts.</li> <li>■ Ensure that all activities are carried out with consideration of bushland protection and include regeneration and mitigation works.</li> <li>■ Maintain landscaped areas of community land to assist in protecting bushland from additional weed invasion.</li> <li>■ Create buffer zones and borders between landscaped areas and natural areas.</li> </ul>	HSC / P	<p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Protection of natural areas</li> <li>■ Landscaped areas do not impact on bushland and genetic integrity is maintained.</li> <li>■ Protection of natural areas from weed invasion.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1H Revegetation and Landscaping Adjoining Bushland</b>				
Revegetation and landscaping work adjoining natural areas should be composed of locally occurring indigenous plants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Revegetation and landscaping works on community land are designed sourcing indigenous plant species.</li> </ul>	HSC	<p>O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Genetic integrity of natural areas is maintained.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.1I Rehabilitation of Adjoining Community Land – Species Selection</b>				
Indigenous species should be used to rehabilitate degraded areas of community land adjoining natural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revegetation and landscaping works on community land adjoining natural areas should be composed of locally occurring indigenous plants.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locally indigenous plant material is utilised in all rehabilitation and landscaping works on community land adjoining natural areas.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1J Restoration of Grass or Degraded Areas</b>				
Surplus grassed or degraded areas on community land adjacent to natural areas may be reclaimed for planting of indigenous vegetation to increase buffer zones and promote ecological sustainability and bio-diversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify grassed or degraded areas of community land surplus to the needs of active and passive recreation.</li> <li>Plant areas with indigenous vegetation or hold community planting days where appropriate.</li> <li>Ensure on-going funding for maintenance of planted areas is available within the restoration project.</li> </ul>	MPL / MNR HSC	O As funding permits  O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased biodiversity of bushland remnants.</li> </ul>
<b>11.1K Works and Parks Staff Training In Bushland Management Best Practice</b>				
Integrated bushland management is achieved across Council divisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursue in-house training of staff in native vegetation best management practices and protection measures.</li> <li>Effective communication is in place for any projects adjacent or near natural areas.</li> </ul>	MNR	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good environmental management throughout Council divisions.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
11.1L Bushland Staff Training in Current Bushland Management Best Practice				
Bushland Management Programs are based on current research and techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ensure all bushland staff are trained in current techniques.</li> <li>■ Pursue research opportunities with educational institutions and other agencies.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Participation in bushland management research programs.</li> </ul>
11.2 Community Involvement and Awareness				
11.2A Bushcare Program				
Bushcare activities are encouraged and well managed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hornsby Bushcare is well resourced and staffed to encourage and support community Bushcare activities.</li> <li>■ Volunteer Bushcare work is done according to the Bushcare Code.</li> <li>■ Bushcare groups are serviced with tools, materials and professional training.</li> <li>■ Encourage sustainable practices and on site composting of weeds on Bushcare sites.</li> <li>■ Promote and give recognition to community groups for Bushcare activities</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bushcare Groups are well managed and caring for an increased amount of the Shire’s bushland.</li> </ul>
Community involvement and participation is fostered within bushland management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Community planting days are supported and resourced.</li> <li>■ Community education and awareness programs are undertaken to promote biodiversity and natural area management.</li> <li>■ Weed busters week and National Biodiversity month activities are undertaken.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Natural areas managed with an informed and involved community.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.2B Scientific and Educational Projects</b>				
Scientific and educational projects within community land natural areas are allowable with permission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval in writing may be given by the land manager to students, research facilities, or learning institutions where it is considered that the project has a low impact on the environment and is consistent with the aims and objectives of this Plan of Management to conserve natural areas.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational research and learning about the environment is fostered.</li> </ul>
<b>11.3 Boundary Management</b>				
<b>11.3A Demarcation of Boundaries</b>				
The boundary of natural areas should be well defined to minimise the impact of any negative external influences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate methods for clearly defining the natural area such as signage, log barriers or fencing.</li> </ul>	MNR / MPL / NL	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural area is well-defined.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.3B Encroachments</b>				
Encroachments such as garden extensions, structures or any private use of public, community or crown land is prohibited.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work co-operatively with Council's rangers and property owners to remove existing encroachments.</li> </ul>	HSC / MPL (PSU)	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intact natural areas with no encroachments.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that no new encroachments on public land occur, through an increased Council compliance role.</li> <li>Encourage neighbours to create and maintain buffer zones on private land bordering bushland.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	
<b>11.3C Dumping of Garden and Other Waste</b>				
Dumping of garden clippings and rubbish is prohibited in natural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase public awareness through an education program.</li> <li>Investigate dumping events and seek prosecutions.</li> <li>Issue on the spot fines when possible.</li> </ul>	MPL / MWM	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No dumped rubbish or garden clippings in bushland.</li> </ul>
<b>11.4 Domestic and Feral Animal Control</b>				
<b>11.4A Domestic Animals</b>				
Domestic animals are controlled on public land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage responsible pet ownership through a public education campaign.</li> <li>Impoundment of free roaming dogs under the Companion Animals Act.</li> </ul>	MEHP	M / O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible pet ownership results in very low impact on native fauna populations.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
11.4B Feral Animals				
The impact of feral animals on native fauna is minimised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Develop and implement a humane feral animal control program for target species as appropriate.</li> <li>■ Continue to implement the fox control program in co operation with regional land managers.</li> </ul>	MNR MEHP	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Feral animal control is undertaken in Council managed natural areas.</li> </ul>
11.5 Bushfire Management				
11.5A Fuel Loading				
Bushland fuel loads are managed on the urban interface at acceptable levels with the Rural Fire Service (RFS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bushfire management activities are in line with the approved District Fire Risk Management Plan.</li> <li>■ Fuel loadings will be monitored in bushland areas.</li> <li>■ Hazard reduction programs will be undertaken in bushland reserves as required and in conjunction with bush regeneration where appropriate.</li> <li>■ REFs or Environmental Impact Assessment Code will be prepared for all hazard reduction activities.</li> </ul>	RFS  MNR & RFS	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bushland fuel loads are managed to reduce bushfire risk.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
11.5B Asset Protection Zones				
Asset protection zones in new land releases, subdivisions and developments are provided on the private property in areas adjoining bushland reserves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ For new developments adjoining bushland reserves, asset protection zones and perimeter roads and trails will be provided on private property.</li> <li>■ In developed areas Inner Protection Zones will generally occur on the private property.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Developments provide asset protection and fire fighting access within the private property.</li> </ul>
11.5C Fire Trails				
<p>Fire Trails within natural areas are maintained and upgraded to best management standards.</p> <p>Fire Trail maintenance activities are undertaken in an environmentally sensitive way to ensure minimal impact on natural areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fire trails are maintained according to Council's code for Fire Trails and RFS standards.</li> <li>■ REFs are undertaken for any fire trail construction and upgrade works.</li> <li>■ Best environmental practice and mitigation measures are undertaken within works to reduce erosion and sediment and vegetation damage.</li> <li>■ Mountain Bike Riding is allowable on fire trails managed by Council.</li> </ul>	<p>RFS</p> <p>RFS MNR</p>	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fire trails are maintained using best environmental practice to a high standard.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.6 Walking, Off-Road Cycling and Recreation</b>				
<b>11.6A Mountain Bike Tracks</b>				
<p>Formalised mountain bike tracks are provided in natural areas for daytime sustainable mountain bike riding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mountain bike tracks are constructed by authorised personnel to industry standards in accordance with recognised community needs.</li> <li>■ New tracks or major upgrades to MTB tracks proposed are to have an REF prepared.</li> <li>■ Cumulative environmental impacts of the mountain bike tracks are monitored on a regular basis.</li> <li>■ A maintenance program is developed and implemented.</li> <li>■ A volunteer program to maintain and rehabilitate trails is developed and implemented.</li> <li>■ Signage is installed including trail standards and safety, and potential sections that may require relocation due to park and sportsground development.</li> <li>■ Track closures occur in wet weather if required.</li> <li>■ The shared use of mountain bike tracks for walking is permissible where specifically authorised and signposted.</li> </ul>	MNR	<p>O</p> <p>S</p> <p>L</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ High quality, low impact mountain bike tracks are provided for daytime sustainable mountain bike riding.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
11.6B Formal Bushwalking Tracks				
<p>Formalised bushland tracks are provided in natural areas for passive recreation such as bushwalking and bushland education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Formalised bushland tracks are constructed and maintained to recognised standards in accordance with recognised community needs.</li> <li>■ REFs are undertaken for the construction or major upgrade of any walking tracks through bushland.</li> <li>■ Develop and implement a risk assessment and track upgrade program.</li> <li>■ Cumulative environmental impacts of the recreational and educational use of tracks are monitored.</li> <li>■ The use of walking tracks for mountain and other bike riding and horse riding is prohibited, unless specifically authorised and signposted.</li> </ul>	MNR	<p>O</p> <p>S</p> <p>L</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ High quality, low impact bushland walking tracks are provided for passive recreation.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.6C Informal Trails and Recreation</b>				
The introduction and use of informal trails and bike tracks through natural areas is discouraged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Unnecessary informal trails to be closed, stabilised and regenerated.</li> <li>■ The use of informal trails for mountain and other bike riding is prohibited.</li> <li>■ Actively discourage public passage through to privately owned property.</li> </ul>	MNR	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fragmentation and erosion is minimised in natural areas.</li> </ul>
The use of neighbourhood parks, track-heads and facilities adjoining natural areas are utilised for passive recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promote bushland values and passive recreational facilities such as picnicking in park areas and track-heads adjoining natural areas.</li> </ul>	MNR / MPL	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provision of compatible passive recreational facilities.</li> </ul>
<b>11.7 Interpretive Signage</b>				
<b>11.7A Interpretive Signs</b>				
Interpretive signage and environmental education is encouraged where appropriate on walking tracks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Interpretive signage is installed in strategic sites when it provides and promotes community awareness and environmental and heritage education.</li> <li>■ Visual and environmental impact is considered prior to approval of interpretive signage.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Greater public awareness and understanding of the natural area environment.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.8 Watercourses</b>				
<b>11.8A Minimise Impacts of Developments and Activities on Watercourses</b>				
Developments and activities are undertaken using best management practices for water sensitive design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ DAs and REFs are continued to be assessed to include best practice in accordance with Total Catchment Management (TCM) principles and stormwater management plans to ensure minimal impacts to bushland.</li> </ul>	MWC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sustainable development.</li> </ul>
<b>11.8B Remediation and Restoration of Watercourses</b>				
Pursue remediation and enhancement of water courses through natural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Continue to utilise the Catchment Remediation Rate (CRR) program to address urban runoff in natural areas.</li> </ul>	MWC	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Water quality pollutants are reduced in natural areas.</li> <li>■ Bushland remnants not compromised by CRR devices.</li> <li>■ Natural riparian corridors are restored.</li> </ul>
Minimise pollutant impacts on bushland and riparian vegetation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ CRR devices and adjacent landscaping will use locally occurring indigenous native plants and will be maintained.</li> <li>■ Sites for CRR devices should be placed adjacent to bushland in preference to sites within bushland.</li> </ul>			
Riparian restoration includes restoration of natural creek processes and riparian vegetation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Riparian restoration considers both vegetation corridors and creek processes.</li> <li>■ Grant funding is pursued for riparian restoration projects.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.9 Strategic Planning and Assessment of Developments</b>				
<b>11.9A Strategic Planning</b>				
<p>Natural Areas are conserved through appropriate planning instruments.</p> <p>High conservation bushland is conserved through the planning process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Develop planning instruments to assist in biodiversity conservation.</li> <li>■ Bushland reserves created through the planning process are viable, have high conservation value and included within Councils Asset Management system.</li> <li>■ Fragmentation of bushland areas should be minimised and discouraged within the planning process.</li> </ul>	<p>MTPS</p> <p>MPA</p>	<p>S and O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ecologically Sustainable Development.</li> </ul>
<b>11.9B Development Assessment</b>				
<p>DA assessment is undertaken for impacts to bushland as well as conservation of bushland reserves.</p> <p>High conservation bushland is conserved through the planning process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Continue development application assessment for developments impacting on or adjoining natural areas.</li> <li>■ Fragmentation of bushland areas should be minimised and discouraged within the planning process.</li> </ul>	<p>MTPS</p> <p>MNR</p>	<p>S and O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ecologically Sustainable Development.</li> </ul>

Management Statement	Action	Mgt. Team	Timeframe	Performance Measure
<b>11.10 Funding</b>				
<b>11.10A Adequate Funding Resources for Bushland Regeneration and Restoration</b>				
Funding is sought to ensure appropriate resources are available prior to undertaking regeneration and restoration programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Continued funding of programs by Council.</li> <li>■ Grant funding is sought for restoration projects from all possible sources.</li> <li>■ Professional bush regenerators are employed to undertake restoration programs wherever possible.</li> </ul>	MNR	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Restoration and regeneration projects are viable and appropriately funded.</li> </ul>
<b>11.11 Heritage</b>				
<b>11.11A Heritage Listed Sites and Areas</b>				
To preserve heritage listed areas within Hornsby Shire for future generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Manage heritage-listed areas in accordance with this Plan of Management and the Hornsby Shire LEP.</li> </ul>	HSC	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Areas are managed and preserved in accordance with this Plan of Management and the Hornsby Shire LEP.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide interpretive signage to allow access to the heritage items and to the history of the Park as resources allow.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Prepare a Heritage Management Plan for the Park.</li> </ul>	HSC	O	

# Appendix

