



SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY





1.1 About this document

This document is the Sport and Recreation Strategy March 2021.

This document follows the preparation of the Demand and Consultation Findings and an Issues Paper.

A separate master plan for the George Town Sporting Complex has also been prepared.

Please note any views expressed in the consultation findings in this document are those provided by the community and clubs. They do not necessarily reflect the views held by @leisure or Council.

Unless otherwise specified George Town refers to the whole municipality, rather than the town of that name.

Acknowledgements

@leisure would like to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by:

- Staff and Councillors who contributed information, were interviewed, and promoted the project and assisted with the site inspections.
- Residents who completed a survey.
- Clubs and peak bodies who were interviewed.



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1 | The project

There is a need for the development of the municipality-wide Sport and Recreation Strategy to inform future capital works priorities and specific projects, including a master plan for the Sporting Complex and a business case for the development of a year-round swimming pool. This will be used to provide a strong platform for advocacy efforts for funding.

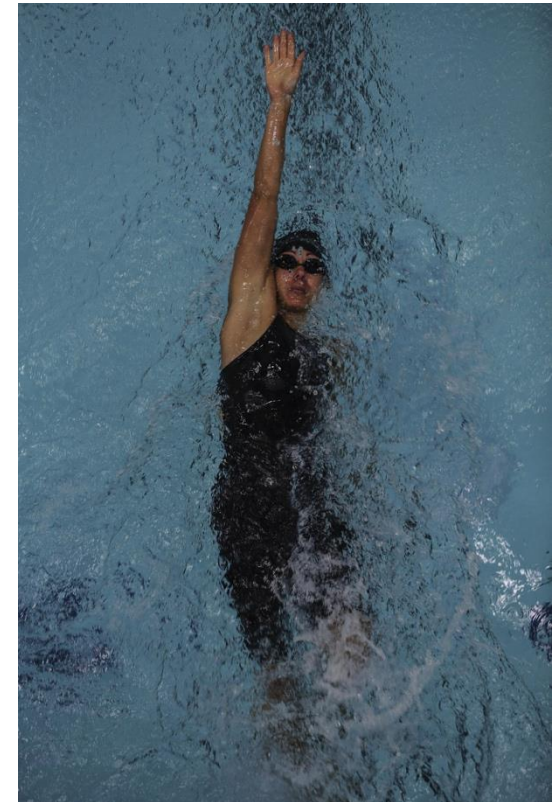
This plan will assist Council to:

- Guide future assessment
- Determine what infrastructure projects are the priority if funds become available
- How facilities can be designed so they meet the greatest need, are sustainable and cost effective to run
- Encourage more people to be active close to home, and
- Attract sports and events back to George Town.

1.1 Methods

The following methods were used to seek input from local residents and community organisations:

- Preparation of web and social media pages by Council to invite comments and submissions
- Telephone discussions with staff
- A world café round table consultation session with school children and residents
- An online community survey (183 responses)
- Facebook (5 comments)
- Club survey for sports clubs by phone (13 responses)
- Club survey for state sports associations by phone (7 clubs interviewed)
- Interviews with elected members (8 interviews), and
- Review of the draft by staff.





2 | Demographics and demand for recreation activities

2.1 Demographic influences on demand for sport and recreation

The population size and characteristics and the nature and distribution of settlement affect demand and patterns of recreation behaviour, and how community infrastructure can be provided cost-effectively.

Settlements

The Northern Tasmanian Rural Land Use Settlement Strategy provides a hierarchy of settlements that is:

- Regional City
- Satellite Settlements
- District Centres
- Rural Towns
- Rural Villages and Localities

District Centres are defined as:

- Significant regional settlement areas with an important sub-regional role in terms of access to a wide range of services, education and employment opportunities.
- Employment within District Centres is strongly related to surrounding productive resources.

Under this classification, the Town of George Town is classified as a District Centre.

Rural Villages:

- Are predominantly residential settlements with a small, often mixed-use centre that provides for basic services and daily needs.
- May have reticulated water, sewerage and electricity.
- At a minimum may have a local convenience shop, newsagent/post office and a community hall.

Hillwood, Bellbuoy and Beechford are classified as Rural Villages.

Other settlements are defined as Localities.

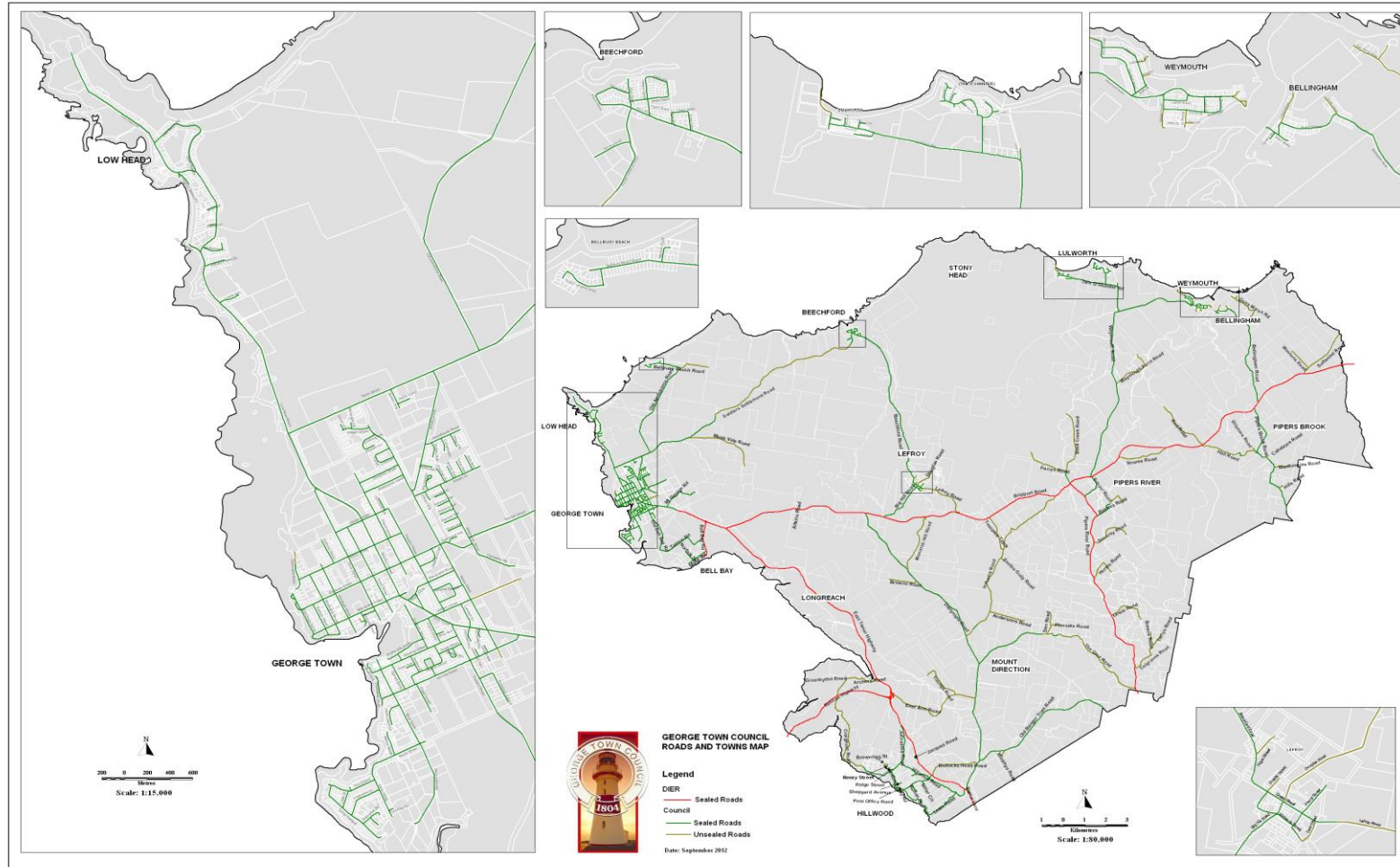
Council can use these hierarchies to determine the levels of investment in community recreation infrastructure.

A map of the local government area is provided on the following page.



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Figure 1 George Town Council Municipal Area. Source: George Town Council





Population

As of 2019, the estimated George Town municipality population was 6,968. Some 4,200 people live in the town of George Town, some 550 in the rural village of Hillwood and a number of coastal localities have under 100 people. Many of these localities double in size in the summer.

Between 2016 and 2019, this population grew by approximately 1.4%¹. It is a goal of Council's to increase the population.

The size of the population and the distance between settlements affect the ability to provide a diversity of facilities. Most residential settlements in George Town can be reached within approximately half an hour.

The implications of the nature of residential settlements and the size of the population are that there are challenges in maintaining a suite of infrastructure to support a range of social and physical recreation activities in all localities.

There will be few villages or localities where outdoor competition sports, for example, will be viable (other than broad acres sports such as golf, shooting sports, cycle sports or motor sports) and only one town (the district centre) where a public swimming pool is likely to be affordable.

Several other localities have and should retain community meeting places, so most residential communities have social recreation facilities within approximately 20 minutes. Some of these community gathering places may be able to facilitate physical activities for those who cannot travel or use the outdoors.

Growth opportunities

The Tasmanian Government has identified renewable energy as a key economic driver and Bell Bay's Advanced Manufacturing Zone as central to this growth, alongside the development of a renewable hydrogen industry. The zone is the state's largest heavy industrial estate, close to George Town.

The area's key strengths are extensive capacity, high voltage electricity, natural gas, raw and

treated water, access to a deep-water port, air, rail and road links. The development of this industry is likely to enable population growth in George Town if infrastructure and services like recreation, education and retail can become more competitive to attract employees and their families.

Retaining the range and diversity of recreation opportunities will be essential to attract new families. However, to maintain that diversity, it will be necessary to hold and increase a residential population to support those, especially around existing recreation assets.

The Northern Tasmanian Regional Land-Use Strategy identifies in G3.1 the strategy: "Promote regionally significant open space and outdoor recreational opportunities". The spectacular coastal and natural environment in George Town provides opportunities to further develop services for visitors that can grow small business and tourism and result in economic development.

¹ Id. Community profile and social atlas.



Demographic influences on recreation activities

Age, income, gender, Aboriginal and cultural heritage, education, disability and social disadvantage have major bearings on participation rates in sport and physical activity, as well as preferences for specific activities.

Cultural diversity

George Town's population has limited cultural diversity that may be a barrier to participation.

Only 3.2% of households spoke a language other than English, with top languages including German (0.2%), Italian (0.2%), Mandarin (0.1%), Dutch (0.1%) and Afrikaans (0.1%).

This can be contrasted with the state of Tasmania, which has seen the migrant population steadily grow. Some 35% of all migrants arrived in the state between 2001 and 2016, while 17.6% of these migrants arrived between 2011-2016.

Since 2006, George Town has not observed any increase in the number of overseas arrivals, with arrivals between 2011 and 2016 making up only 5.1% of George Town's migrant population.

The opportunities to attract new arrivals should be explored. However, 4.4% of the population identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, a larger proportion than the national proportion of 2.8%, who also have relatively low participation rates compared to the rest of the population.

Age structure

Participation in sport and physical activity tends to decline after 65 years of age and the nature and range of activities reduces.

The median age for residents in George Town is 46, a large increase from the state median (42) and the national median (38). In years to come a larger proportion of older adults will seek gentle exercise programs such as warm water swimming, walking and cycling than ever before.

George Town has a higher percentage of people aged 45-84 years than the Tasmanian and Australian averages, and a considerably lower percentage of residents aged 20-34 years than state and country averages. This indicates a swiftly aging population with a smaller contingent of young working residents.

The proportion of school-aged and preschool-aged children in George Town is on par with the national average, despite a decrease in numbers

between the last 2 population censuses. This age group is the most active of any other, and it is important that schools are supported to encourage partnerships with clubs and Council to introduce children to a range of recreation and sporting opportunities that they will rely on later in life.

It is also essential that facilities provided by the schools are well utilised after hours by the community and that school children are encouraged to join local clubs and use the George Town sporting complex.

Education

George Town residents are more likely to have no qualification than the rest of the state and possess lower rates of tertiary education, although George Town residents are proportionally more likely to hold vocational certificates.





Employment

The labour force in George Town municipality is comprised of 2,491 people, 87.6% of who are employed in a full-time or part-time capacity, with 12.4% unemployment.

This is in addition to 28.8% youth unemployment and 24.6% youth disengagement, the highest of any local government area (LGA) in Tasmania. The labour force decreased by 6% between 2011 and 2016, however this may be due to a rapidly aging population.

Social disadvantage

Social disadvantage is likely to have considerable impact on potential sport and physical activity participation rates.

George Town Council has a SEIFA index of 857, scoring in the 6th percentile, indicating a relatively high level of social disadvantage.

The median weekly incomes for those 15 years and older (2016) were \$457 for singles, \$1,087 for families and \$854 for households, well under the Tasmania and Australia medians, indicating a level of comparative socioeconomic disadvantage and lack of opportunity.

For those experiencing social disadvantage there will be additional barriers to participation that may include lack of education, transport and willingness or ability to pay.

In order to encourage more people to participate this group may need assistance with the costs of sport and activities and other interventions.

Disability

Of the residents in George Town, 8.1% expressed in the previous census that they needed assistance day-to-day due to a disability. This is a high proportion.

George Town had an above average proportion of people needing assistance with core activities at 5.1%. The differences were stark in the 20-59 age group (+2.9%), and the 65-69 age group (+4.1%). This group is likely to benefit significantly from opportunities for recreation and physical activity close to home.

Access to aging infrastructure may also be an issue if it is not physically accessible to those relying on mobility aids.

2.2 Expressed demand and community preferences

The community survey of residents across the George Town municipal area found that the main activities people do close to home are:

- Walking
- Football (Australian Rules)
- Exercising the dog
- Swimming
- Fishing
- Gym
- Bushwalking
- Cycling – road/track
- Group exercise/fitness classes (excl. water based)
- Golf
- Cricket (outdoor)
- Aquatics fitness classes
- Running/jogging
- Cycling off-road (Mountain Bike Riding)
- Dancing (all types)



The top facilities used by respondents in the municipality are listed below, in descending order.

- Walking tracks (incl. bushwalking, foreshore and riverside)
- Beaches
- George Town Sporting Complex (incl. football club, Blue Gum Park, netball)
- George Town Swimming Pool
- Golf Clubs

Some 80% of residents answering the survey would like to do additional recreational activities.

The key activities respondents identified as wanting to participate in included the gym (35%), aquatic fitness classes (18%), mountain biking (13%), swimming (12%), and yoga (9%).

Other responses included group fitness (8%), basketball (7%), weightlifting/body building (5%), boxing (5%), bushwalking (5%), and tennis.

School children surveyed identified the particular activities they would like to do, but do not do currently as:

- Gym
- Family activities
- Badminton
- T-Ball
- Indoor swimming
- Competition soccer
- Basketball/indoor and outdoor
- Netball competition

Better quality facilities and facilities close to home were the main encouragements that would enable respondents to participate in the activities they would like to. See table following.

Table 1. Main activities desired and what would encourage people to do them

Activity	What might encourage you to do this activity
Gym	Facilities close to home Better quality facilities
Aquatic Fitness Classes	Facilities close to home Better quality facilities
Cycling off road (Mountain Bike Riding)	Facilities close to home
Swimming	Better quality facilities
Yoga	Facilities close to home Better quality facilities
Group exercise/fitness classes (excl. water based)	Facilities close to home



3 | Existing facilities

George Town has a good number and range of recreation and outdoor sports facilities for its population, including those that are water-based, trail- and forest-based and outdoor sports facilities.

3.1 Inventory of facilities

The inventory of facilities provided in Appendix 2. was prepared from a number of secondary sources. This inventory may not reflect the full extent of opportunities present, especially in the small localities and natural areas. This inventory needs to be developed further in conjunction with community groups and Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife to list the range of available opportunities in the George Town municipality.

An inventory will assist with infrastructure planning and budgeting, as well as promoting opportunities to residents and visitors.



Key facilities

- Sporting reserves, including the George Town Sporting Complex with a soccer-football pitch, cricket pitch, AFL ground, velodrome, outdoor netball and tennis courts and a football ground at Hillwood
- A swimming pool complex that has a small toddler's pool, a large outdoor 25m pool and a waterslide (the site is large and central to the town)
- Two privately operated bowling clubs - George Town and Low Head (one synthetic, one grass green)
- Several halls in coastal localities, Bellingham, Weymouth, Hillwood, the George Town memorial hall, and an indoor community centre building (Graham Fairless Centre) used for physical and social activities
- A skate park, a number of town parks and open spaces (many with play equipment) and a dog park
- A large number of natural areas and coastal foreshore reserves
- Several golf courses (George Town, Low Head and Tam' O' Shanter)
- A sailing club building In George Town, boat ramps at York Cove, Low Head, Bellingham, Lulworth and Weymouth and beaches and river foreshore reserves.
- A large number of tracks and trails.



3.2 Facilities overview

Some of the smaller localities have sporting facilities. There is a single bowling green in Low Head, and there are several golf courses (the George Town Golf Course, Low Head and the Tam-O'-Shanter Golf Course). The George Town Golf Course has a squash court, which is not widely known. Beechford has a single oval (which appears to be used primarily for camping) and a tennis court. Weymouth and Hillwood also have ovals, with Hillwood's precinct also offering an indoor hall and previously a hard/tennis court. A number of these facilities no longer have regular or club use, such as the sailing club and the YMCA. The ovals at Weymouth or Beechford no longer have an active club operating.

Several facilities are under development, including a mountain bike trail network. This will create a significant opportunity to increase participation in cycling locally, as well as attract visitors to the area. Works have also been undertaken relatively recently at Regent Square where the skate park has been redeveloped and a new play facility has been installed.

The Graham Fairless Centre in central George Town is marked for ball sports but the ceiling

appears very low and the presence of windows precludes high ball sports being played.

Further work is proposed at the AFL ground addressing lighting and irrigation. Works are also proposed at the Hillwood AFL oval.

Much of the current public infrastructure is aging, may no longer be compliant for competitive activities (such as the Memorial Hall and the former YMCA building), is not physically accessible to people with a disability, or will need improvements to attract additional users.

Key opportunities

The Sporting Complex, swimming pool site and foreshore have the capability to be major competitive strengths for George Town and will be important in attracting further families to live in George Town. There are also considerable opportunities for water-based recreation and for trails to be expanded.

There are several large parks such as Regent Square that have capacity to meet present and future recreation needs with some further embellishment – especially paths, design to enhance play value and landscape amenity improvements. This doesn't mean major infrastructure developments.

There are several schools with sporting, aquatic and indoor recreation facilities that have opportunities to encourage younger people to play sport and be active locally, while co-ordinating the activation of available community facilities in addition to the programming Council is already doing will generate significant benefits.

There are also some private facilities, which the community survey highlighted as being used by residents and which can attract visitors. For example, the rock climbing facility in Hillwood.

Few better quality assets with shared use will attract more people and be more cost effective to maintain.

Residential areas and streetscapes can play a major role in residents' wellbeing by presentation and restorative values. Their design provides the ability and motivation to exercise. Currently few resources have been available for the design for planting of streetscape to improve amenity, shade, visual quality and walkability. Some residential areas have large native trees in open space – along drainage ways, for example, and much of the town has a grid-like street pattern, which is very permeable and conducive to walking.



3.3 Recreation or sporting facilities used regularly in George Town and in local areas

The top facilities used by survey-respondents in George Town included:

- Walking tracks (26% of all respondents)
- Beaches (25%)
- The George Town swimming pool (21%), and
- The George Town Sporting Complex (19%).

The community consultations raised multiple concerns about the upkeep and quality of the facilities within the Council area.

Residents highlighted activities that are participated in close to home - these included walking, Australian rules football, exercising the dog, swimming, gym, bushwalking and cycling, among others.

Without adequate facilities in which to participate in these activities, residents often look elsewhere for community sport and recreation.

Many residents described a need to travel to fulfil their sport and recreation needs, usually to Launceston, which offers a much larger range of facilities that can cater to sport and recreation activities. Launceston lies approximately 50 kilometres South of George Town, a significant distance to attend a facility as basic and necessary as a gym. Further, due to poor condition or degrading surfaces at many George Town-based facilities, residents are forced to play competition sport in Launceston, providing a barrier to participation for many people, especially youth.

One activity not easily found in George Town that was frequently identified by community was the gym (in addition to a wide range of group fitness/boot camp activities).

Community consultation found that many participants believed the playing surfaces at the George Town Sporting Complex (Blue Gum Park) were not up to standard, citing poor and uneven surfaces and ineffective drainage. Further, the tennis courts, cycling track and netball facilities were all cited as needing improvement, in addition to a lack of appropriate change rooms. A large contingent of respondents further cited issues with the facilities at the current swimming pool.

Improvements to existing facilities, in addition to the potential repurposing of others (such as the YMCA) will be crucial to the success of recreation and sport in George Town, in addition to contributing towards a healthier and more active society.





4 | Key Issues

4.1 Overview

Two main themes arose in this study:

- Upgrading existing facilities needed close to home, and
- Growing local activity to support what George Town already has.

4.1.1 Upgrading existing facilities needed close to home

For those people who are in greater need of recreation, who have a lower propensity to play sport or undertake physical activity on a regular basis, and those who are less able to travel to Launceston for opportunities, should have access to a range of free or affordable activities close to home.

Swimming, walking, cycling and fitness activities (in addition to children play) represent those with the greatest participation rate of any physical activities and typically people want these within a very convenient distance from home or work.

Apart from making parks more accessible and inviting to use and continuing to provide some free programmed activities, facilities to allow more people to swim, walk, walk and socialise a dog, cycle and conduct gym opportunities should be a priority.

Some existing facilities (such as tennis/hard courts) could also be opened up and improved to a basic playable standard to encourage free social use. A large number of people expressed an interest in playing tennis.

Under this first theme there are three sub-issues:

- Swimming, gym and fitness programs
- Tracks and trails, and
- Beaches and water-based activities.

4.1.2 Growing local activity to support what George Town has

George Town has a good range of facilities and a strong history in sport. Due to changing demographics, limited funds and the availability of high-quality facilities relatively close by in Launceston; George Town has sporting facilities that are no longer used to capacity, or for competition sport.

Schools also have a number of facilities that are being used by community groups and these provide opportunities to host different activities in line with the demographics. However, many existing facilities do not appear to be widely known and a lack of connection between peak bodies, clubs, schools, Council and residents mean that many facilities are not being utilized to the highest degree possible. Some facilities are not being used because they are not accessible to the community, are not well promoted or because they are no longer in a satisfactory condition.

Under this theme there are three sub-issues:

- Supporting clubs, providing programs and activities and promoting what is available,
- Getting better value out of the open space, and
- Upgrading the Sporting Complex.

The following chapters present the issues and opportunities under each theme with recommendations.



5 | Upgrading existing facilities needed close to home

5.1 Swimming, gym and fitness

What the community said

The key activities respondents identified as wanting to participate in included a gym (35%), aquatic/group fitness classes (18%), swimming (12%), yoga (9%).

Other responses included basketball (7%), weightlifting/body building (5%), boxing (5%) and mountain biking (3%).

The most popular recreation or sporting facilities used outside George Town were swimming facilities (25% of all respondents, with a majority identifying Launceston Aquatic as the centre of choice with 45% of swimming pool-based responses specified this centre), walking trails (17%), gyms (17%), cycling/mountain biking trails (9%) and netball facilities (10%).

Quotes from the community that sum up the need for warm water, year-round swimming, and accessible facilities for older individuals and people with a disability are as follows:

"Really just want a gym facility and access to weights/equipment without having to travel to Launceston".

"Wheelchair access needs to be improved at the pool so that people can access the pool".

"Upgrade the swimming pool so that's it heated and enclosed as well as open all year round. Build an integrated leisure centre with gym and pool".

"I think our aquatic facilities could do with more shade and maybe a BBQ area"

"Upgrading aquatic services to an indoor facility would in itself increase participation as many families with disabled children and family members currently travel so their children can use these facilities".

"Having access to a year-round facility would be amazing, as a family with mobility issues water-based exercises are the only low impact exercises suitable to us and are crucial to our family's fitness and wellbeing and inclusion."

"The Healthy George Town free program has been a great idea - maybe expand on that a little more to include older school children and adults who work."

"Healthy George Town has the potential to include additional programs out of school/work hours."

"I am not a strong swimmer, but I would use the pool to do exercises similar to those offered by our physio. I would like to see a set time, or a lane set aside for people like me."

"Having weights available for seniors would also be well received."

The existing pool is a "Fantastic facility in very central location - now at an age and form that cannot meet all the market needs."

"Considerable value of providing an all year, indoor component with warm water – gentle exercise, learn to swim and raft of other casual use."

If the pool was upgraded, respondents were enthusiastic about attending, with an average of 56% expressing interest in attending the centre for at least one activity 1-2 times per week.



The key activities identified by respondents, over all usage categories were:

- Swimming for fun/recreation (92 responses). Some 69% of respondents said they would use an indoor swimming pool 2-3 times per month or more).
- Gym/weightlifting (91 responses, or 84%).
- Aerobics/group exercise (83 responses, or 71%), and
- Aquatic fitness programs (81 responses, or 77%).

Overall, interest for activities at an upgraded swimming centre was high, with strong responses across all activity categories, indicating high demand. A number of respondents also identified their need for a spa, or simply just an indoor, heated facility offering group fitness.

Activities and facility components sought by residents in an upgraded pool are listed in the following table.

Table 2. Activities and facility components sought by residents in an upgraded pool

Activities or facilities	%
Swim for recreation/fun	79.3%
Use gym/weights	78.4%
Aerobics/group exercise	71.6%
Aquatic fitness program	69.8%
Swim laps	69.0%
Other health/fitness programs	63.8%
Take a child to pool	62.1%
Hydrotherapy/rehabilitation	60.3%
Swimming lessons	45.7%
Club competition/squad	31.0%
Other	9.5%

People with disabilities and older adults’ sport and recreation needs

Of all respondents surveyed, 24% had someone over 65 years or someone with a disability living in their household. The things that would encourage this person to engage in more sport or recreation activities were:

- Better swimming pool accessibility (19%)
- The provision of safe, low impact and accessible facilities (19%)
- An accessible gymnasium (15%) and
- The promotion of physical activity programs throughout the Council area (7%).

Of all 82 additional suggestions the respondents had, a large majority (32%) were dedicated to the redevelopment of the George Town Swimming Pool. In particular, making the centre into an enclosed pool, available all year round, offering hydrotherapy, spa, aquarobics and accessible spaces.



The George Town Swimming Pool

The George Town pool site is large and has the ability to introduce other elements to meet other community needs, including the demand for a warm water/indoor pool on the site.

The demand for a warm water indoor pool is considerable and is consistent with the demographics of an aging population seeking gentle exercise, and a young population who need swim, gym and fitness facilities close to home.

The existing facilities are on a generous site and it is very central to the town. Staff indicated that the assets are in a relatively good condition.

One school also has a very small indoor pool. It is booked regularly for community groups and physiotherapy.

South George Town Primary run swimming and water safety programs at the George Town Pool plus a swimming carnival. Regional competitions from across the Tamar also use the pool. Some Launceston schools come to the George Town pool also.

Programs

Council runs the “Healthy George Town” program. Healthy George Town is an evidence-based, community-wide, holistic, collaborative and sustainable health and wellbeing program that aims to create a safe, connected, vibrant, healthy and positive community.

In partnership with community organisations, local providers and health professionals, Healthy George Town facilitates the delivery of a broad suite of activities and sessions, events and initiatives. Healthy George Town mobilises the community to improve their wellbeing by; filling gaps in provision, creating pathways, reducing barriers and targeting those with the highest need.

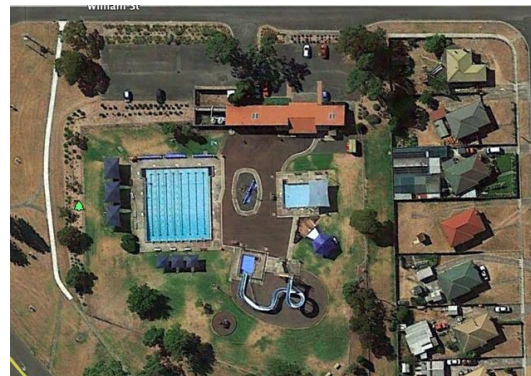


Figure 2 Aerial view of George Town Swimming Pool

A large number of suggestions were made about facilities outside of the main town of George Town. These comments are included in Appendix 1.

Opportunities for change

There are major benefits of providing a warm water/indoor pool in George Town, however further detailed investigation is required to determine how, and to what extent Council could fund the provision and operation of an indoor warm water pool and gym/fitness facility, and who potential partners might be in delivering services and opportunities at the centre.

This warm water pool needs to have a high level of accessibility such as a vertical lift, ramp, and accessible “changing places” style facility with a track hoist into the pool. The facility should include a generous group fitness room and gym.

A strong partnership should be developed with schools to ensure all facilities are well used in the community as local schools have a number of indoor spaces for sport.



The priority for a public sports and fitness facility is a purpose-built gym and group fitness area, in addition to the warm water pool identified previously. This warm water pool can be used for lessons and hydrotherapy connected to the pool.

School facilities could be better utilized by the community and programmed so as to create an introduction for children to a wide range of activities, so they may find life-long interest, a pathway competition and a club.

Recommended Actions:

Swimming, gym and fitness

1. Provide a group fitness, gym and warm water indoor pool attached to the existing swimming facilities that targets general exercise for older persons and people with a disability. This facility should deliver a wide range of lessons and programs, as well as use by allied health practitioners.
2. Prepare a business case and concept design to estimate the costs of providing and operating a year-round warm water pool with a gym and fitness centre at the George Town Swimming Pool and determine the most cost effective way to manage the centre.
3. Retain the existing outdoor 25m swimming pool and the water slide, and operate these seasonally.
4. Continue to provide subsidised recreation programs that target different age groups and activities. Consider extending these to include activities such as sailing and cycling and delivery in the smaller localities with halls and community recreation facilities.



5.2 Tracks and trails

Off-road trails are typically the type of recreation facilities used by more residents than any other. In any population there will be a demand for a wide range of activities that use off-road trails, for exercise and affordable transport.

Council has a number of trails. However, these are not often designed in circuits, nor are they all continuous, named, signed and designed for specific activities. The main trail is not continuous along the foreshore in George Town.

Council has a proposal to develop mountain bike (MTB) trails at Mt. George and Tippogoree Hills, which will include an 80-kilometre network of trails aimed at various skill levels.

There is a very strong cycling culture in George Town and a feeling that this should be built on through activation of the velodrome, new trail connections built to the proposed MTB park and roads made safer and more bike friendly. Some residents suggest other cycling disciplines should be attracted, such as BMX.

George Town is one of Australia's earliest settlements, has an important history.

Council has a self-guided tour of historical sites of George Town and Low Head. However, there is no map of this trail on Council's website.

This and other trails should be included in a recreation inventory on Councils' website.

What the community said

Walking tracks (bushland, foreshore and riverside) were the facilities used by most respondents to the survey.

The need for tracks and trails attracted the largest number of responses when the community survey asked: What improvement to facilities is required? Improvements required included the following:

- *Tracks and trails*
- *Walking and running tracks*
- *Most walking tracks are on crown land*
- *Pump track at tourist info centre*
- *Waterfront track more seating*
- *Connecting coastal paths*
- *Walking paths at Hillwood*
- *I live in Hillwood. There is currently nowhere I can safely walk with my dog or by myself. There are no nature strips to enable you to move off the road for traffic, no walking tracks closer than a 25-minute drive away.*
- *Wombat track. Fill in York Cove to Anne St and make huge park with bike and walking tracks*
- *Lighting around Kanamaluka trails*
- *Mt George bushwalking track*
- *Bike track on Mt George*
- *Cycling trails in York rivulet to mountains*
- *Along the North Esplanade*
- *Space adjacent to current Tourist Info Centre (old depot) should be converted into an MTB village and trailhead*
- *Extend flat areas in and around George Town and all outlying communities where possible. Develop bush walking tracks within the Mt George and other community areas where possible*
- *Plan the mountain bike trails well, cater for children and more advanced riders whilst interconnecting with George Town Otherwise people will just use the tracks and bypass the town (bike riders/tourist traffic). Low head walking track. Connecting the outlying communities with trails*
- *Trail needs to be completed with concrete Low Head to town. MTB tracks from East Beach to Bell Bay – shared trail not downhill*
- *Continuation of the shared trail Low Head to lighthouse*



- *Pump track should be at the Sporting Complex*
- *Mt George – trails that provide exercise – uphill or steep steps would be good*
- *Walking – come and try walking trails to Low Head*
- *Walking and cycling trails are not maintained as well as they could be.*
- *Signage for trails is not existing*
- *Trail from Hillwood to Batman Bridge*
- *Track through the north coast needs formalising, with linking trail to new trail network between Mt George and Curries River Dam.*

Key issues

Walking, exercising the dog, running, cycling, MTB, skateboarding, scootering, children with wheeled toys as well as horse riding and organised running (ie park run, sports training and school cross countries, for example) all rely on off-road trails.

Different activities and users, however, require different surfaces.

Providing trails in a circuit will increase the use of trails significantly.

The improvement of the road network to support road and commuter cycling is required.

A trail network is required that includes single tracks, double tracks and sealed and unsealed trails to cater for a range of activities including:

- Park perimeter trails around larger parks (i.e. Sporting Complex and Regent Square for running and walking. These are typically dual unsealed trails suitable for running.
- Circuits of shared trails around residential areas and each village providing exercise circuits around localities to encourage people to exercise more often and connect people to parks, schools and activity centres.
- District or regional trails that run through scenic open space corridors (e.g. along waterways or rail corridors that may be suitable for day rides to connect localities and provide a link between destinations.
- Fitness and Parkrun circuits
- At least one Parkrun circuit that is a 5km off-road circuit (rather than a trail where you have to run to the end and turn back). A Parkrun route has:
 - No steps (especially going down steps),

- No crossing roads, no running next to traffic unless there is a physical separation between traffic and runners, and
- No sharp downhill sections on the finish line.

Key sites may also lend themselves to being promoted as fitness trails, where they may be steep slopes for example.

Recommended actions: tracks and trails

The key actions to provide better trail experiences across Council include:

5. Build on and extend existing off-road trails.
 - Extend existing trails to provide at least half an hour walk and connect them to community facilities such as schools and sports facilities to increase their use.
 - Make trails into circuits and provide one in every locality.
 - Each key locality should have a trail circuit that encourages people to exercise more often and at their own pace, away from traffic.
 - Use available waterway corridors, rails routes, and other corridors to create the circuits, away from traffic.
 - Create links to the foreshore from rural villages such as Hillwood.



- Ensure the main trail circuit in every locality can be used for people with prams and mobility devices, to walk together.

Recommended actions (cont'd)

6. Create a perimeter trail around the Sporting Complex. This trail would encourage more use of the park for running and walking, provide more passive surveillance and provide another facility for clubs to use for training.
7. In addition to circuits accessible to people pushing prams and using a mobility device, in every locality, seek to create other trails that provide additional challenge or take people to vantage points for example, or on surfaces suitable for running.
8. Protect public land along the river and coastal foreshore for community access and future trails.
 - Use the subdivision process to acquire gaps in the public corridor along the foreshore, strategically. Alternatively, create rights of way or leases to create public access along the entire river and coastal foreshore.
9. Consider devising a canoe trail along the river foreshore.
10. Provide specific trails suitable for particular activities such as Parkrun, MTB and others where dogs may be allowed. Advertise these well.

11. Support the development of the proposed MTB trails and connections from these back into George Town.
12. Address the provision of shoulders on select roads and promote the presence of cyclists on routes used for training and commuting.
13. Develop the following off-road trails as a priority:
 - From George Town to Low Head, along the foreshore.
 - From the Mt George Trails to the George Town shopping centre and velodrome in the Sporting Complex.
 - Around the Sporting Complex.
 - Connections from the foreshore trail to the Sporting Complex, Regents Square, other existing trails and schools in George Town.
 - Provide some directional signage around George Town to the Sporting Complex and along trails.
14. Provide a map of trails and bike routes on Council's website, by locality.





5.3 Beaches and water-based opportunities

The coastal areas in the municipality have some of the best diving and surfing areas in world, highly significant estuary and maritime environments and seal colonies, for example. Boating and fishing are major pastimes of residents.

There are multiple boat ramps in the coastal rural villages and localities, along with beach and foreshore picnic areas. Beaches and water-based opportunities are very important to attract visitors to the municipality.

Summary of issues raised by the community

After walking tracks, the community survey found beaches were the most used recreation resource in George Town.

The community made a wide range of comments about beach, foreshore and water-based facility improvements and opportunities to encourage kayaking, and windsurfing.

The community survey found some of the most popular activities not available in close proximity to residents were water-based activities (including kayaking, sailing and windsurfing).

Opportunities for reactivating facilities on the waterfront listed by respondents included surf lifesaving, sailing and windsurfing.

Survey respondents said: “We would like to teach disenfranchised kids how to sail,” and “the current club is not focused on teaching and racing.” Others suggested they wished to “be able to take my dog to the beach for a swim but that is against Council rules nowadays.”

To the question “What sport you would bring back to George Town if you could?” – many respondents said sailing and beach-based sports (e.g. surf lifesaving).

“Windsurfing and other water-based sport could be promoted more. Perfect conditions for this sport.”

“There are plenty of aquatic activities that could happen in York Cove if someone started to use it - swimming, rowing, yachting, canoes, wind surfing type of things. Also, at Lagoon and Pilot Bay, East Beach - surfing, etc.”

Improvements concerning water-based activities included the following:

- Foreshore paths
 - “Waterfront track more seating, Connecting coastal paths. Footpath should be built on East Beach Road, linking paths on Low Head Road and Gunn Parade. The narrow path along the foreshore. Why is it fenced?”
 - “Waterfront track-more seating”
 - “Waterfront in GT should have cafes and shops near water”
- Lifesaving:
 - “Surf lifesaving club at Low Head. Our coastline is such an asset, and a clubhouse could be used as a major tourist attraction and revenue earner (Devonport SLSC as an example).”
 - “Nippers – no surf club. The Low Head Surf Life Saving Club operated at the beach between 1950 and 1984. Nippers now have to go Bridport. Lifesaving help the beaches be busy. Re-introduction of Nipper’s program would be great.”



- Sailing:
 - *“Sailing/water sports using our natural resources, the river and the beaches Maybe yachting regatta, Summer sailing calendar at yacht club”*
 - *“Water sports based around the yacht club”*
 - *“Better facilities and programs at the sailing club”*
 - *“We would like to teach disenfranchised kids how to sail - The current club is not focussed on teaching and racing.”*
- Beach swimming and other activities:
 - *“Beach swimming (Lagoon Beach and East Beach)”*
 - *“Beaches – BBQ areas should be upgraded. Also, at Lagoon and Pilot Bays, East Beach - surfing, etc.”*
 - *“East Beach needs improvements - surfing, etc.”*
 - *“East Beach surf club area, park, play equipment, observation deck, between the toilets and the beach, where cement is”*
 - *“Better and more clean toilets”*
- *“Construct designated beach car parking”*
- *“Improve beachfront entrances.”*
- *“A simple beach walk is wonderful.”*
- *“Lagoon Beach needs improvements”*
- Kayaking
 - *“Kayak – need people to start come and try.”*
 - *“Water sports – kayak and sailing. Council to facilitate an operator. Kayak tours around the river. More use of the Tamar River.”*
 - *“Kayak Lagoon Beach is popular. Also, at Lagoon and Pilot Bays”*
- Establishment of a marine park - sponge gardens.
- Waterfront/foreshore
 - *“Foreshore needs banks cleaned up and improved lighting in some areas”*
 - *“Waterfront-markets and events.”*

Regional strategy

The regional land-use strategy highlights the environmental, social and economic significance of the coast and its distinct landscapes to the broader region. Regional Strategy recommendations include:

- (CW-PO2) Limit the expansion of urban development within the coastal zone to avoid encroachment into areas of intact coastal environments
- (CW-PO3) Minimise or prevent use or development in areas subject to high coastal hazard, and
- (CW-PO4) Protect the visual integrity of coastal landscapes.

Site observations

The George Town municipal area offers both river and coastal foreshores for recreation. The river foreshore supports protected water-based recreation activities, and the open water on the coast provides fishing, boating, diving and surf activities. Much of the foreshore has significant conservation resources such as conservation reserves and seal colonies.

These attributes set it apart from Launceston and provide an attraction for visitors.



Not all of the foreshore is in public ownership, as noted in other issues. The regional land-use strategy depicts the entire foreshore in George Town as Parks and Open Space. However, this coastal strip is not all held in the public estate and may be vulnerable to inappropriate development, may exclude public access and constrain the development of a regional foreshore trail.

The Yacht Club building is underutilised, even though there is a high demand for sailing and windsurfing activities. There is no life-saving club in George Town district service centre. The closest is now at Bridport.

The scenic quality of the coastline is a major competitive strength of George Town. This is not reinforced in the planning and design of the public domain and residential areas. Key views to and over the water should be protected in planning controls, and viewpoints enhanced.

Recommended Actions: Beaches and water-based opportunities

15. Activate and improve beach and foreshore access and infrastructure, only at selected nodes along the coast. Support these nodes with car parking and basic picnic infrastructure and toilets.
16. Support either private providers or peak bodies/clubs to deliver opportunities for kayak and sailing, including tours.
17. Consider adding a kayak and sailing program to Healthy George Town (grant dependant) activities and seek to develop a club or ongoing program at the Yacht Club that provides junior development and social activities.
18. Work with the small coastal localities to promote what recreation opportunities are currently available and determine the priorities for infrastructure development and protection.
19. Negotiate a public right away around private land along the foreshore and waterline. Where possible, acquire a public foreshore corridor as opportunities arise through land development.
20. Assist peak bodies of water-based sports, and schools, to pursue development programs or social opportunities using available facilities such as the yacht club.
21. Build on the Nipper program currently operating with a view of providing more local activities.

5.4 Facilities in rural villages and localities

Community associations in Low Head and Tam 'O'Shanter have land holdings and recreation infrastructure available to their membership. These are not widely known.

Several communities have local trail networks, community meeting places, hardcourt and ovals that need upgrading. These facilities provide important local recreation opportunities. It is important that these communities are supported by Council and local infrastructure and land development is consistent with local and regional strategic planning objectives.

These communities are also likely to benefit from Healthy George Town programs.

Recommended Actions: Hillwood

22. Upgrade the local hardcourt with a multicourt for basketball, tennis and other recreational options
23. Develop a plan to provide a network of accessible and safe trails in Hillwood, especially adjacent to the Hillwood Jetty Rd.



- 24. Create trail connections to the foreshore and provide trail loops to access the various agricultural farm doors in the area.
- 25. Where possible, seek to encourage residential development that addresses the sports oval.
- 26. Focus any further development of recreation facilities at the sports ground and introduce Active George Town programs at the ground.

Low Head

- 27. Introduce Healthy George Town programs to Low Head
- 28. Assist the community with strategic land-use planning to enhance the Association's recreation opportunities, align these with local and regional plans, and continue to meet the needs of the community.
- 29. Encourage Low Head Progress Association to expand its membership to increase utilisation of privately owned golf course, tennis courts and cricket pitch.
- 30. Promote the benefits of being a member of the Association to gain access to local recreation opportunities.
- 31. Provide netting around the rear of the cricket pitch to allow casual cricket training and to add a basketball ring to the tennis court, to provide additional activities.

Beechford, Weymouth, Lulworth

- 32. Work with the community groups to develop a trails plan and a foreshore trail that would connect these communities and George Town in the long-term.
- 33. Develop a co-ordinated promotional plan for trails in the area.





6 | Growing local activity to support what George Town has

6.1 Supporting community organisations, programs and activities and promoting what is available

What the community said

George Town has a long and decorated history in sport and a large number of sports people who have represented their state and country.

A number of issues arose in the consultation for this plan about facilities that are no longer used and the number of residents missing out because facilities and sports club competitions are now only available in Launceston.

There appears to be demand for social and junior sports competitions in George Town, especially for basketball and soccer-football. Cycling, tennis and sailing have potential to reintroduce competition.

Basketball Tasmania has also identified the opportunity of establishing a basketball club in George Town, as a country affiliate.

The schools have indoor court spaces not fully utilised during the day, and these could be used more for development programs, social sports competition and other activities.

The community were very complementary and supportive of the work Council has been doing with free Healthy George Town activities.

George Town residents were vocal about the need for community support for local sporting clubs and perceived that there is a lack of promotion and support for these clubs by Council.

Sporting clubs and community groups (and participants as the end user) rely on Council greatly to assist with grant applications, infrastructure planning and promotion.

Multiple representatives from local sporting clubs and community organisations also noted that there was far too little collaboration between these organisations, in addition to a pronounced lack of communication between peak bodies and local organisations.

Poor communication between peak bodies and local organisations can have adverse effects on these local groups, due to a lack of local knowledge by larger, State or Nationally-sponsored peak bodies.

The potential for a joint initiative between Council, schools and local sporting clubs was raised by peak bodies and sporting clubs, in the interest of growing and developing sport and recreation within the Council area.

“Come and try” and development programs are effective for sporting clubs willing to grow participation, as they are a non-committal and an enjoyable way to try new sports or activities for school-aged or younger children. Many residents and members of the community spoke strongly about these programs, highlighting a distinct lack of opportunity for their children to participate in such activities.

Clubs need to grow junior participation in order to sustain their activities and connect with potential volunteers who are parents.



Representatives of local sporting clubs emphasised the importance of schools in sport and recreation, exposing children to a range of activities they may otherwise never experience, and creating pathways from school sports to clubs and recreation groups. Collaboration between schools, clubs and organisations is important.

If existing clubs do not have juniors coming though they are unlikely to be sustainable.

Due to the limited resources of clubs, a communication and sports development initiative would be best driven by a Council staff member in conjunction with the Healthy George Town programs and peak bodies.

Additional activities will drive additional use and prominence of existing facilities, particularly the Sporting Complex and facilities like the velodrome.

Cycling offers limited opportunities for juniors interested in road and track cycling in George Town and yet the velodrome is very suitable for junior development activities.

There may be an opportunity to create an umbrella sports club that can incorporate a number of different activities- for example at the yacht club – that offers paddle and surf sports, and sailing for example, or at the Sporting Complex. An umbrella club could reduce the need for as many resources and volunteers.

In some smaller localities there are community organisations that are owners of sporting facilities protecting and developing local natural resources, tracks and trails and organising community activities. There is an opportunity to work more co-operatively with these organisations on infrastructure development and promotion of available opportunities that may be accessible via a membership. Facilities managed by community groups may benefit from programming. These organisations may also need assistance with strategic plans and organisational development.

Key issues

The key issues facing clubs and community organisations, in particular the support for clubs, are listed below.

- The need for additional support to clubs and community organisations in regards to growing junior participation, promotion, infrastructure planning, strategic or business plans and grant applications
- It is very difficult for clubs to grow membership when they cannot provide local competition opportunities, while having to travel to Launceston is cost prohibitive
- Clubs have very little funding or volunteer support to organise promotional “come and try” days, junior development or competition opportunities despite significant demand
- There is little interaction between peak bodies and local sports groups
- Significant costs due to little funding, pricing low-socioeconomic groups out of the market for sport and recreation
- The need for more promotion about clubs and facilities and better information and communication between clubs, peak bodies, schools and Council



- Some community associations managing land or recreation facilities may need support and strategic guidance in facility development, consistent with state planning policy
- There is a desire to attract sports competitions and events back to George Town and acknowledge those who have contributed to the rich history of sport in George Town, and
- Clubs using Council facilities do not have consistent up to date user agreements.

Recommended actions: Supporting community organisations

34. Facilitate sport and recreation activities in schools and create a pipeline to clubs with Healthy George Town or “Come and Try” style programs.
35. Include in the role of a Council staff member, the facilitation of communication between schools, clubs, peak bodies and community groups to grow sport and recreation and program existing facilities.
36. Prepare a recreation inventory with all sport and recreation facilities available for community use – especially free facilities, halls and courts, and publish this on Council’s web site.

37. Advertise the availability of privately owned facilities including squash courts at the George Town Golf Club.
38. Consider developing a hall of fame for George Town sportspeople similar to that in Smithton, for example, at the Sporting Complex.
39. Regularly highlight suggestions for free activities and facilities available for use in each locality, including group walks, for example, that could be paired with cross promotion activities, such as a subsidised coffee.
40. Work with clubs and peak bodies to bring back viable elements of sport. For example, social competitions and foundation activities for sports where facilities exist, i.e., tennis, track cycling, basketball, cricket and soccer-football.
41. Continue to assist clubs in applying for grants such as the sporting schools grants etc.,
42. Upgrade existing outdoor sports courts across the municipality for “free-access” tennis and basketball and promote these.
43. Encourage providers to deliver opportunities for visitors in George Town, e.g. golf course, bowling, climbing etc., and bring events to George Town, e.g. cycling, MTB, triathlon, cyclocross and soccer-football at the Sporting Complex.

44. Seek to open up the caretaker’s cottage on the Sporting Complex as a space for programs and community activities, clubs to meet and groups such as ReLink to deliver services.
45. Create simple use agreements for all organisations using community facilities and sports clubs that are similar to a service agreement, outlining objectives, roles and responsibilities of each party and the cost of use. The agreements should provide incentives for increasing participation and encouraging shared use of assets.
46. Work with the community organisations managing sport and recreation and community facilities, to help them with infrastructure and strategic planning as well as the promotion of existing assets.



6.2 Getting better value out of the open space

Summary of issues raised by the community

Parks did not feature highly in the consultation of children when prompted at the World Café consultation. The only park raised was: “The best park is Pirate Ship Park in George Town. The park is great due to location and facilities”.

The main commentary provided in the community survey about what could be improved about parks included the following:

- Lack of all-ages parks
- Shade
 - “More shade for play equipment”
 - “Shade for seating areas”
 - “More shaded areas”
 - “Shade/wind protection”
- Regent Square
 - “BBQs in Regent Square near play equipment”
 - “Regent Square needs to be properly drained.”

- “The surface needs to be improved before anything else is done so that it's accessible during wetter months.”
- “Central Park needs an upgraded garden to make it user friendly.”
- Agnes Street
 - “The park in Agnes Street and Widdowson Street needs better facilities and playground equipment”
 - “Area between Agnes St and Marguerite St. Agnes St Park - no one uses. Full of junk and dogs from the neighbour.”
 - “Plastic Park”
 - “Elizabeth Park (plastic park), either remove or improve. It's a known drug user site”
 - “Plastic park/BBQ picnic area Needs an upgrade, badly!! Great location where people could have BBQs, close to a safe Beach with an upgraded playground.”

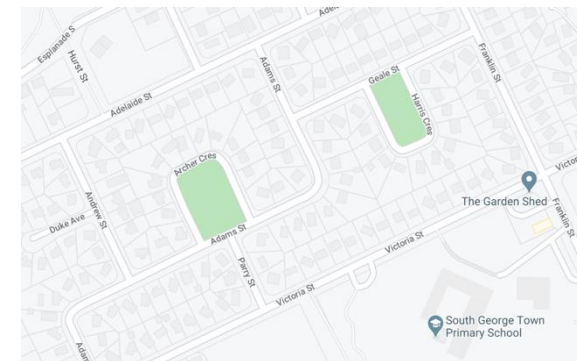
Site observations

Parks and residential subdivision design

George Town has a good distribution of open space in the central developed areas, especially if school land is counted.

As there are also large areas not fully developed within George Town District Service Centre, there is the perception that there is large quantity of open space. Many trees are also scattered throughout undeveloped land.

Where the street pattern is grid-like, most parks are a good size and they address the street well. Houses overlook some parks e.g. Regent Square, although the park now has buildings in it. Even in the modified grid street pattern in the south of the town, houses overlook parks. See images following.





This image shows pale green areas that are zoned recreation, darker green areas that signify open space zoning and the blue green of the environmental management zone in the west.

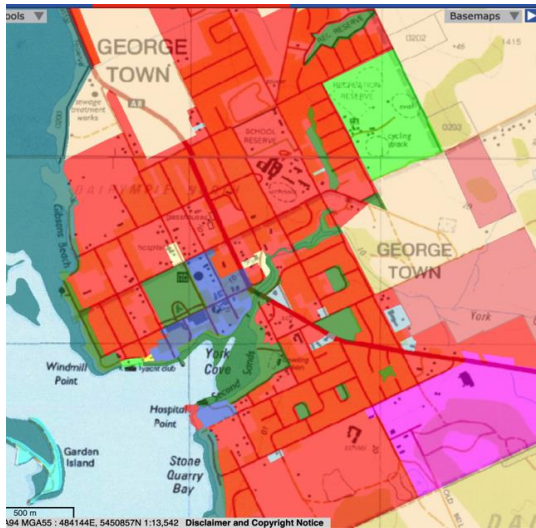


Figure 3 George Town Zoning. Tas Interim Planning Scheme 2013 The List

Interestingly the early grid streets seem to reflect the garden city style of development with an inner communal open space serving the surrounding houses. Some still remain. See following image.



The Sporting Complex is on the fringe of the main residential area in George Town. It has residential areas on three sides. In newer areas, for example adjacent to the Sporting Complex, the subdivisions are designed around drainage ways and houses overlook an internal drainage way corridor. This is not a good outcome in terms of subdivision or design as the areas are not legible and permeable to encourage walking and riding. There is still an absence of planted streetscapes.

The Sporting Complex does not enjoy the level of casual public use it deserves or public surveillance from the east, as there is no made road in this location.

The road entry is from the south and has to travel right through the reserve to the football ground, which is on the eastern side.

Wherever possible, encourage the development of residences on this side of the Sporting Complex to increase public surveillance and use and provide more direct vehicle access to facilities.

Quality of parks

Most parks in the established residential areas of George Town present as if they are low value and not cared for. Several had very small items of play equipment that appear to be dropped into the space - with no path access.

These do not have the design or range of elements (social, environmental and physical activities) or any sensory elements that can provide important play experiences children need. Shade is not provided; the equipment does not appear to be accessible to or inclusive to people with a disability. The parks do not have a path system, any structure of planting, shade, or evidence of a clear function.

The more recent parks appear to be drainage ways provided by a developer.



These have footpaths and provide some small items of play equipment. However, the paths are narrow footpaths and the open space is not embellished or trails designed for exercise. Some other subdivisions have open space joining the heads of cul-de-sacs. These are very inward-looking open spaces; they do not have the fronts of houses overlooking them and are awkwardly configured and not likely attract use because of the perceptions of safety. See example following.

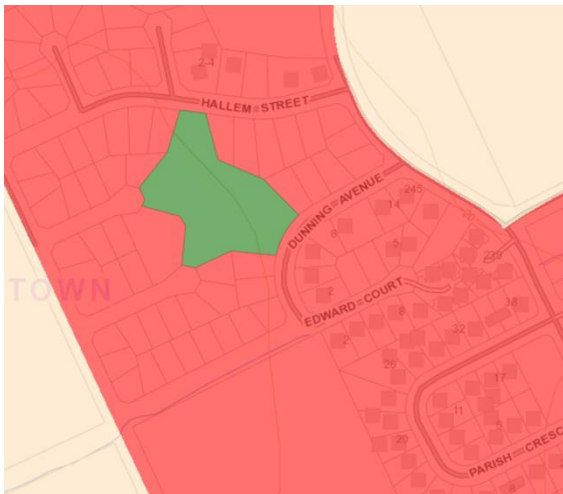


Figure 4 Parkland between Dunning Avenue and Hallem Street in new style of subdivision

Development of function of the coastal localities

There are some coastal localities that have developed into residential communities from shack locations. The provision of community infrastructure, trails and public open space to support these, in identified hubs that can enable sustainable development should be investigated. The regional land use strategy supports maintaining separation between these communities and protecting the highly sensitive and unique coastal environment. How the small coastal localities develop should be considered, to ensure their street patterns address the beach and existing community infrastructure (a hall and its associated open space, for example) is embellished in prominent central hubs.

Condition and development of parks

Overall, the majority of parks have similar landscape setting types and no clear identified function other than Regent Square, which has been partly developed for social/family recreation.

A diversity of landscape settings in parks is desirable, offering open sunny areas, well-treed areas, more ornamental/food garden areas, natural areas and a wider range of experiences and support for a wider range of activities.

Parks designated for social family recreation, conservation, memorial, sport and relaxation and access way/trails can provide focus for development and management. Care should be taken not to take open space in subdivisions required for storm water management or the protection of trees and assume that they can meet other recreation functions.

Most parks appear as mown grass with some trees left, and no plan for planting, paths or other infrastructure.

Apart from in the south there are few remaining densely treed areas in the town.

There is a community garden at the neighbourhood house. No ornamental gardens are present, and the community have expressed that the beach/river foreshore spaces are poorly designed and maintained.

Several parks have small play equipment areas that have limited play value, are not accessible to children with a disability and have limited or no other activities for carers or whole families.

Future provision of open space

In the northern areas of George Town the density of residential areas is lower, and if additional residential areas are planned, then access to



social/family recreation areas and a continuous trail will be important.

There may be school open spaces (zoned as residential) that could provide for community use that should be assessed if residential development occurs in the north, and if the Department of Education seeks to divest these.

The structure plan currently being prepared should identify where the focus of residential development is to be, and these areas should be planned to incorporate priority types of parkland for social/family recreation and trails.

Additional residential development around the existing parks:

- a) In the part of the town with a grid like street pattern
- b) Around the Sporting Complex, and
- c) In walking distance from the foreshore

are recommended to make better use of existing infrastructure, activate those parks and use open space contributions to embellish those, as well as create strong public surveillance of those spaces.

In further subdivisions or planned developments, the protection of one continuous corridor of public open space along the river and coastal foreshore should be a priority. As a number of foreshore areas are no longer in public ownership, future subdivision should seek to acquire this land. The existing foreshore site adjacent to the Esplanade in George Town, now developed, should retain a right of way. This will allow the community to benefit from coastal views and walks for all time.



Key issues and objectives for change

- Protection of one continuous corridor of public open space along the river and coastal foreshore
- Plan to provide a good distribution of public open space that provides access to social facility recreation, trails and sport, as well as a diversity in different types of landscape settings i.e. treed parkland, forest, gardens and natural areas
- Encourage residential development around existing parks to increase use and passive surveillance
- Assess each park to determine its function in the open space network and landscape setting type
- Rationalise the provision of play equipment to provide several equitably distributed play spaces with high play value that are accessible to people of all ages and abilities
- Increase amenity and restorative values of residential and shopping areas by providing consistent street trees and streetscape design, and

- Any updated master plans should ensure any further development is in line with a sustainable high-quality public setting that is suitable for people of all ages and abilities and enable a range of a different landscape setting types and different activities. Incremental development should be discouraged.

Recommended actions:

Getting better value out of the open space

47. Upgrade select play spaces, in strategic locations
48. Incrementally embellish each park in line with their function and landscape setting, as resources permit.
49. Selectively plant the perimeter of all parks and include other opportunities such as community gardens or plantings for an environmental benefit, and to diversify the opportunities in parks.
50. Update the master plan for Regent Square to respond to its historical significance, and competitive strengths addressing neighbouring land uses and any historical references. Provide a full exercise circuit around the outside, separate to the other internal pathways. Protect the reserve from additional incremental development.

51. Attract visitor use around the reserve to enhance activity and generate demand for cafes and shopping.

52. Encourage a higher standard of residential area design in the George Town district service centre and coastal areas.

- Encourage housing development that fronts onto and overlooks existing parks, including the George Town Sporting Complex and the reserves in the coastal communities.

- Create areas with more legible and permeable street patterns and higher quality streetscapes that encourage walking.

- Provide access to a range of public open space types within walking distance of all residents.

53. Protect a corridor of public open space along the foreshores.

54. Provide a range of different types of landscape settings in parks to encourage a diversity of opportunities, from treed areas to open sunny parks and gardens supporting community horticulture.

55. Ensure all future play areas accommodate people of all abilities.



56. Consider taking open space contributions in all zones and investigate the need to take land in the subdivision process before cash-in-lieu. Assess whether land is required to
- provide or extend existing trails, create a circuit trail or create a connection from a rural village such as Hillwood to the foreshore,
 - acquire a gap in public land along the foreshore
 - add to an existing park to make it more prominent or functional, or
 - add a type of open space or landscape setting type not currently available and in demand.
57. Assess the location and quality of play equipment, especially across the George Town district centre to enhance play value and accessibility and provide an equitable distribution of high-quality parks for play and social/family recreation, rather than collections of play equipment.





6.3 Upgrading the Sporting Complex

The facilities on the reserve include the following:

- Four tennis courts, two of which are asphalt and two are acrylic coated hard court. There is a tennis pavilion between the two sets of courts. The tennis courts are well positioned on the road frontage.
- All of the tennis and netball courts appear to be on one area of hard stand that has been resurfaced in different locations over a period of time and is in varying conditions.
- One of the netball courts has lights, just one single post on the east and west.
- The tennis courts do not have lights.

There are three ovals on the site. These include:

- A cricket ground with a turf wicket. The oval has 5 turf tables and a radius of approximately 57m. There are practice wickets in the southern area of the oval.
- A main football ground in the east of the reserve, which is irrigated and has training lights.
- The third oval ground is in the middle of the velodrome - it does not appear to be irrigated and it has a concrete wicket in it.

There is a long rectangular playing field approximately 200m long, which is used for soccer. This has been well constructed but not well maintained year-round as sports turf.

In the northeast corner there is a rectilinear area that also has a cricket wicket on it.

There is an old hockey ground at the southeast of the reserve that also has a cricket wicket in it, which is now been developed as a dog off leash exercise.

In the south-western corner, there is a rectangular ground which previously had archery on it, and which does not appear to be irrigated.

There is an asphalt velodrome. It has a very gentle camber and therefore is well suited to low-skilled riders. The surface is in fair condition.

Support facilities, fencing, general amenity value, maintenance, the design of entries and car parking are all issues that need attention.

Many of the facilities on the site need upgrading to promote sharing and ensure male and females can use the facilities.

A separate document (the George Town Sporting Complex Master Plan) sets out those issues in detail and the recommended plan for improvements and activation.





What the community said

Do you use the George Town Sporting complex – what for?

A majority of those surveyed did not use the George Town Sporting Complex (52%), however men (58% of men surveyed) were more likely to use the Sporting Complex than women (40%). Responses were evenly spread across age cohorts, while younger people surveyed (under 35 yrs.) were more likely to use the sporting complex than not.

Access to the Sporting Complex is important in this circumstance, as residents of George Town used the sporting complex at a higher frequency (55.8% of residents) than residents of other towns in the area (28%).

Couples with children represented the highest frequency of usage, while couples without children were much less likely to use the complex.

Most respondents use the Sporting Complex for Australian rules football (27%), 19% of whom use the facility 1-2 times a week.

The second most identified usage of the complex was in an informal recreational context (19%),

with all responses evenly distributed amongst all attendance categories.

This was followed by the accompaniment of a child to a sporting activity (17% of respondents), with the vast majority of those surveyed taking their child 1-2 times a week (15%). Some 8% of respondents participated in cricket 1-2 times a week.

However, the park seemed to be only utilised sparingly by George Town residents, with 30% only using the complex once or twice per year.

A number of people surveyed (8) use the reserve for dog walking.

What needs improvement

Improvements to the Sporting Complex suggested by the community include:

- *“Multipurpose rather than specific sports”*
- *“Disused area of Blue Gum Park should be converted into a Motocross club and skills area”*
- *“Provide a linking trail to new trail network between Mt George and Curries River Dam.”*
- *“Fencing around football ground”*
- *“Crothers oval (cricket)”*
- *“Soccer surfaces are poor, Soccer grounds are uneven”*

- *“AFL is the most popular sport in George Town, The AFL ground can be hard at times and wet in the pockets during winter. Have to cancel training sometimes. Just in the process of adding change rooms for women’s footy at the AFL ground, Female change rooms coming and really needed, New lights getting put up at AFL ground - some funded by the Commonwealth, Council, and the Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone.”*
- *“Better access, better facilities”*
- *“More sports”*
- *“Old velodrome - used to be popular and is in poor condition. Cycling track, only a couple of events per year.”*
- *Need to activate the centre of cycling track.*
- *“Archery range was good but is now closed down”*
- *“Communication could be better about what is available there, activities promoted”*
- *“Parking is not logical - lots of space but no real parking areas”*
- *“Tennis, netball facilities are poor, Tennis courts need addressing, Tennis renewal, Proper synthetic tennis courts”*
- *“Lack of Activation: Many grounds do not get used, too many gaps - do not need all that space”*



- “Multi use building needed - areas for different activities - multi-functional spaces that can be used for different activities”
- “Salvation Army (clients do not feel comfortable in the mainstream sporting and activities area)”
- “The big building in the centre of town does not work - big court, no storage. Not used enough”
- “Location: Too far out of town Barrier to get to the facility - Sporting Complex is on the edge of town and difficult to get to”
- “Need a sports centre (indoor)”
- “A trail head for MTB park - pump track - could be located at the Sporting Complex”
- “Need to share facilities”
- “Street appeal is poor”
- “Need to use other areas of the park”

Additional activities required at the Sporting Complex

When asked what additional activities should be provided at the Sporting Complex if funds are available in the future, respondents highlighted 3 key activities:

- Gym/indoor fitness (32%)
- Basketball (22%), and
- Tennis (17%).

A number of people also identified athletics (10%), indoor cricket, BMX (pump track), mountain biking and family friendly activities (all 7% respectively) as additional activities that they would like to see introduced at Blue Gum Park.

What clubs said need improvement

Respondents identified potential improvements to the George Town Sporting Complex.

The key improvements were:

- Road access/maintenance/car parking (30% of respondents),
- General maintenance and upkeep (including tidiness and aesthetics) (26%),
- Better public toilets (22%) and
- Better change room facilities for clubs (18%).

Other key responses included:

- Seating and field upgrades for the football club (16%)
- Fencing upgrades (14%)
- Field lighting and electricity upgrades (12%) and the addition of a gym (10%).
- There were 37 other responses ranging across 16 different categories.

Key improvements to the Sporting Complex that were identified by club representatives are listed below.

- Combining tennis and netball courts to combat distance from other facilities
- The provision of additional formal events at the cycling club for children and adults, perhaps even a regular, weekly track evening
- Additional facilities such as toilets and showers
- Mountain Bike hub to be placed at the cycling track
- Enclosed swimming centre pending public interest
- Improved road access (from Davey St) in addition to better road networks throughout the complex
- Better permanent staffing



- Centralisation at the athletics ground, coaching and travel to Launceston are major barriers to (already low) participation.

Recommended Actions

Detailed actions are provided in the separate master plan document.

Overall objectives for change

Overall objectives for change include:

58. Improve the welcoming and landscape character of the site by upgrading and removing unnecessary fences.
59. Provide a consistent pattern of street trees around the perimeter of the precinct.
60. Formalise and improve the entry to the site and in particular to the AFL oval.
61. Redesign access road entry and parking facilities to minimise the cost and impact on the reserve. Provide convenient direct access entry to each facility on the park, at the tennis club, the cricket ground and the football grounds.
62. Consolidate sports activities onto fewer shared (better quality) playing fields until usage grows.

63. Rebuild the netball/tennis courts side by side, with at least one court specific for each sport and two shared courts leaving space for four tennis in total. These should be served by a shared pavilion, shelter, lights and at least one made accessible to the community.
64. Provide a shared perimeter path around the outside of the reserve.
65. Facilitate the sports present at the reserve to work more closely together, and in conjunction with schools and Healthy George Town activities, grow each sport present.
66. Work with peak bodies and schools to facilitate development programs and devise at least one event/carnival for each sport on the reserve.
67. Create an area for small dogs inside the dog park, include seating and upgrade amenities.
68. Provide additional trees and shade in the park.
69. Utilise the caretakers cottage (where possible) for programs, physical activities, club meetings and event-related activities.
70. Facilitate residential land uses overlooking the reserve at the rear in the long term, and where possible, integrate the pipeline easement into the reserve.



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY



7 | Actions

Recommended Actions: Swimming, gym and fitness

- 1. Provide a group fitness, gym and warm water indoor pool attached to the existing swimming facilities that targets general exercise for older persons and people with a disability. This facility should deliver a wide range of lessons and programs, as well as use by allied health practitioners. 17
- 2. Prepare a business case and concept design to estimate the costs of providing and operating a year-round warm water pool with a gym and fitness centre at the George Town Swimming Pool and determine the most cost effective way to manage the centre. 17
- 3. Retain the existing outdoor 25m swimming pool and the water slide, and operate these seasonally. 17
- 4. Continue to provide subsidised recreation programs that target different age groups and activities. Consider extending these to include activities such as sailing and cycling and delivery in the smaller localities with halls and community recreation facilities. 17

Recommended actions: tracks and trails

- 5. Build on and extend existing off-road trails. 19
- 6. Create a perimeter trail around the Sporting Complex. This trail would encourage more use of the park for running and walking, provide more passive surveillance and provide another facility for clubs to use for training. 20
- 7. In addition to circuits accessible to people pushing prams and using a mobility device, in every locality, seek to create other trails that provide additional challenge or take people to vantage points for example, or on surfaces suitable for running. 20

- 8. Protect public land along the river and coastal foreshore for community access and future trails. 20
- 9. Consider devising a canoe trail along the river foreshore. 20
- 10. Provide specific trails suitable for particular activities such as Parkrun, MTB and others where dogs may be allowed. Advertise these well. 20
- 11. Support the development of the proposed MTB trails and connections from these back into George Town. 20
- 12. Address the provision of shoulders on select roads and promote the presence of cyclists on routes used for training and commuting. 20
- 13. Develop the following off-road trails as a priority: 20
- 14. Provide a map of trails and bike routes on Council's website, by locality. 20

Recommended Actions: Beaches and water-based opportunities

- 15. Activate and improve beach and foreshore access and infrastructure, only at selected nodes along the coast. Support these nodes with car parking and basic picnic infrastructure and toilets. 23
- 16. Support either private providers or peak bodies/clubs to deliver opportunities for kayak and sailing, including tours. 23
- 17. Consider adding a kayak and sailing program to Healthy George Town (grant dependant) activities and seek to develop a club or ongoing program at the Yacht Club that provides junior development and social activities. 23
- 18. Work with the small coastal localities to promote what recreation opportunities are currently available and determine the priorities for infrastructure development and protection. 23



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

- 19. Negotiate a public right away around private land along the foreshore and waterline. Where possible, acquire a public foreshore corridor as opportunities arise through land development..... 23
- 20. Assist peak bodies of water-based sports, and schools, to pursue development programs or social opportunities using available facilities such as the yacht club. 23
- 21. Build on the Nipper program currently operating with a view of providing more local activities. 23
- 22. Upgrade the local hardcourt with a multicourt for basketball, tennis and other recreational options..... 23
- 23. Develop a plan to provide a network of accessible and safe trails in Hillwood, especially adjacent to the Hillwood Jetty Rd. 23
- 24. Create trail connections to the foreshore and provide trail loops to access the various agricultural farm doors in the area. 24
- 25. Where possible, seek to encourage residential development that addresses the sports oval. 24
- 26. Focus any further development of recreation facilities at the sports ground and introduce Active George Town programs at the ground..... 24
- 27. Introduce Healthy George Town programs to Low Head..... 24
- 28. Assist the community with strategic land-use planning to enhance the Association’s recreation opportunities, align these with local and regional plans, and continue to meet the needs of the community..... 24
- 29. Encourage Low Head Progress Association to expand its membership to increase utilisation of privately owned golf course, tennis courts and cricket pitch..... 24
- 30. Promote the benefits of being a member of the Association to gain access to local recreation opportunities. 24

- 31. Provide netting around the rear of the cricket pitch to allow casual cricket training and to add a basketball ring to the tennis court, to provide additional activities..... 24
- 32. Work with the community groups to develop a trails plan and a foreshore trail that would connect these communities and George Town in the long-term. 24
- 33. Develop a co-ordinated promotional plan for trails in the area. 24

Recommended actions: Supporting community organisations

- 34. Facilitate sport and recreation activities in schools and create a pipeline to clubs with Healthy George Town or “Come and Try” style programs. 27
- 35. Include in the role of a Council staff member, the facilitation of communication between schools, clubs, peak bodies and community groups to grow sport and recreation and program existing facilities. 27
- 36. Prepare a recreation inventory with all sport and recreation facilities available for community use – especially free facilities, halls and courts, and publish this on Council’s web site. 27
- 37. Advertise the availability of privately owned facilities including squash courts at the George Town Golf Club. 27
- 38. Consider developing a hall of fame for George Town sportspeople similar to that in Smithton, for example, at the Sporting Complex. 27
- 39. Regularly highlight suggestions for free activities and facilities available for use in each locality, including group walks, for example, that could be paired with cross promotion activities, such as a subsidised coffee..... 27
- 40. Work with clubs and peak bodies to bring back viable elements of sport. For example, social competitions and foundation activities for sports where facilities exist, i.e., tennis, track cycling, basketball, cricket and soccer-football..... 27



41. Continue to assist clubs in applying for grants such as the sporting schools grants etc., 27

42. Upgrade existing outdoor sports courts across the municipality for “free-access” tennis and basketball and promote these..... 27

43. Encourage providers to deliver opportunities for visitors in George Town, e.g. golf course, bowling, climbing etc., and bring events to George Town, e.g. cycling, MTB, triathlon, cyclocross and soccer-football at the Sporting Complex..... 27

44. Seek to open up the caretaker’s cottage on the Sporting Complex as a space for programs and community activities, clubs to meet and groups such as Reclink to deliver services..... 27

45. Create simple use agreements for all organisations using community facilities and sports clubs that are similar to a service agreement, outlining objectives, roles and responsibilities of each party and the cost of use. The agreements should provide incentives for increasing participation and encouraging shared use of assets. 27

46. Work with the community organisations managing sport and recreation and community facilities, to help them with infrastructure and strategic planning as well as the promotion of existing assets..... 27

Recommended actions: Getting better value out of the open space

47. Upgrade select play spaces, in strategic locations..... 32

48. Incrementally embellish each park in line with their function and landscape setting, as resources permit. 32

49. Selectively plant the perimeter of all parks and include other opportunities such as community gardens or plantings for an environmental benefit, and to diversify the opportunities in parks. 32

50. Update the master plan for Regent Square to respond to its historical significance, and competitive strengths addressing neighbouring land uses and any historical references. Provide a full exercise circuit around the outside, separate to the other internal pathways. Protect the reserve from additional incremental development. 32

51. Attract visitor use around the reserve to enhance activity and generate demand for cafes and shopping..... 32

52. Encourage a higher standard of residential area design in the George Town district service centre and coastal areas. 32

53. Protect a corridor of public open space along the foreshores. 32

54. Provide a range of different types of landscape settings in parks to encourage a diversity of opportunities, from treed areas to open sunny parks and gardens supporting community horticulture. 32

55. Ensure all future play areas accommodate people of all abilities. 32

56. Consider taking open space contributions in all zones and investigate the need to take land in the subdivision process before cash-in-lieu. Assess whether land is required to a) provide or extend existing trails, create a circuit trail or create a connection from a rural village such as Hillwood to the foreshore, b) acquire a gap in public land along the foreshore c) add to an existing park to make it more prominent or functional, or d) add a type of open space or landscape setting type not currently available and in demand..... 33

57. Assess the location and quality of play equipment, especially across the George Town district centre to enhance play value and accessibility and provide an equitable distribution of high-quality parks for play and social/family recreation, rather than collections of play equipment. 33



George Town Sporting Complex

- 58. Improve the welcoming and landscape character of the site by upgrading and removing unnecessary fences..... 37
- 59. Provide a consistent pattern of street trees around the perimeter of the precinct. 37
- 60. Formalise and improve the entry to the site and in particular to the AFL oval. 37
- 61. Redesign access road entry and parking facilities to minimise the cost and impact on the reserve. Provide convenient direct access entry to each facility on the park, at the tennis club, the cricket ground and the football grounds. 37
- 62. Consolidate sports activities onto fewer shared (better quality) playing fields until usage grows. 37
- 63. Rebuild the netball/tennis courts side by side, with at least one court specific for each sport and two shared courts leaving space for four tennis in total. These should be served by a shared pavilion, shelter, lights and at least one made accessible to the community. 37
- 64. Provide a shared perimeter path around the outside of the reserve. 37
- 65. Facilitate the sports present at the reserve to work more closely together, and in conjunction with schools and Healthy George Town activities, grow each sport present..... 37
- 66. Work with peak bodies and schools to facilitate development programs and devise at least one event/carnival for each sport on the reserve. 37
- 67. Create an area for small dogs inside the dog park, include seating and upgrade amenities. 37
- 68. Provide additional trees and shade in the park..... 37
- 69. Utilise the caretakers cottage (where possible) for programs, physical activities, club meetings and event-related activities..... 37
- 70. Facilitate residential land uses overlooking the reserve at the rear in the long term, and where possible, integrate the pipeline easement into the reserve. 37



7.1 Implementation Plan

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
Swimming, gym and fitness								
1. Provide a group fitness, gym and warm water indoor pool attached to the existing swimming facilities that targets general exercise for older persons and people with a disability.			☑	\$6,500,000+ dependent on design		☑		
2. Prepare a business case and concept design to estimate the costs of providing and operating a year-round warm water pool with a gym and fitness centre at the George Town Swimming Pool and determine the most cost effective way to manage the centre. 17		☑				☑		
3. Retain the existing outdoor 25m swimming pool and the water slide and operate this seasonally.	☑							
4. Continue providing subsidised recreation programs that target different age groups and activities. Consider extending these to include activities such as sailing and cycling and expanding these to include the smaller localities with halls and community recreation facilities.	☑	☑		Refer to Active George Town	☑			
Tracks and trails								
5. Build on and extend existing off-road trails.			☑	\$2,400,000				
☐ Extend existing trails to provide at least half an hour walk and connect them to community facilities such as school and sports facilities to increase their use.	☑					☑	☑	☑
☐ Make trails into circuits and provide one in every locality.		☑	☑	\$0		☑	☑	☑



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
<input type="checkbox"/> Use available waterway corridors, rails routes, and other corridors to create the circuits, away from traffic.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/> Create links to the foreshore from rural villages such as Hillwood.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000,600			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure the main trail circuit in every locality can be used for people with prams and mobility devices, to walk together. 20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
6. Create a perimeter trail around the Sporting Complex.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$400,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7. In addition to circuits accessible to people pushing prams and using a mobility device, in every locality, seek to create other trails that provide additional challenge or take people to vantage points, for example, or in surfaces suitable for running.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part included in actions above. Subject to design.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8. Protect public land along the river and coastal foreshore for community access and future trails.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the subdivision process to strategically acquire parcels along the foreshore and alternatively create rights of way or leases to create public access along the entire river and coastal foreshore.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
9. Consider devising a canoe trail along the river foreshore.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Provide specific trails suitable for specific activities such as Parkrun and MTB, and others where dogs may be allowed. Advertise these well.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$450,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
11. Support the development of the proposed MTB trails and connections from these into George Town.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Excluded		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
12. Address the provision of shoulders on select road routes and promote the presence of cyclists on routes used by cyclists to train and commute.		☑	☑	Subject to design.				☑
13. Develop the following off-road trails as a priority:								
☐ From George Town to Low Head, along the foreshore.			☑	\$380,000			☑	
☐ From the Mt George Trails to the George Town shopping centre and velodrome in the Sporting Complex.			☑	\$450,000 (as above)		☑		
☐ Around the Sporting Complex.			☑	\$400,000 (as above)		☑		
☐ Connections from the foreshore trail to the Sporting Complex, Regents Square, other existing trails and schools in George Town.			☑	\$960,000			☑	
☐ Provide some directional signage around George Town to the Sporting Complex and along trails.		☑	☑	\$5,000			☑	
14. Provide a map of trails and bike routes on Council's website, by locality.		☑					☑	
Beaches and water-based opportunities								
15. Activate and improve beach and foreshore access and infrastructure, only at selected nodes along the coast. Support these nodes with car parking and basic picnic infrastructure and toilets. 23		☑		Subject to design	☑			
16. Support either private providers or peak bodies/clubs to deliver opportunities for kayak and sailing, including tours.		☑				☑		



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
17. Consider adding a kayak and sailing program to Heathy George Town		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
18. Work with the small coastal localities to promote what recreation opportunities are currently available and determine the priorities for infrastructure development and protection.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
19. Negotiate a public right away around private land along the foreshore and waterline. Where possible, acquire a public foreshore corridor as opportunities arise through land development. See also 53.					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
20. Assist peak bodies of water-based sports, and schools, to pursue development programs or social opportunities using available facilities such as the yacht club.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
21. Build on the Nipper program currently operating with a view of providing more local activities.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Facilities in rural villages and localities								
22. Upgrade the Hillwood hard court with a multicourt for basketball, tennis and other recreational options			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$180,000			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
23. Develop a plan to provide a network of accessible and safe trails in Hillwood, especially adjacent to the Hillwood Jetty Rd.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		See previous action			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
24. Create trail connections to the foreshore and provide trail loops to access the various agricultural farm doors in the area. 24		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		See previous action			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
25. Where possible seek to encourage residential development that addresses the Hillwood sports oval.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			See previous action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
26. Focus any further development of recreation facilities at the Hillwood sports ground and introduce Active George Town programs at the ground.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
27. Introduce Healthy George Town programs to Low Head		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
28. Assist the Low Head community with strategic landuse planning to enhance the Association's recreation opportunities, align these with local and regional plans, and continue to meet the needs of the community.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
29. Encourage Low Head Progress Association to expand its membership to increase utilisation of privately owned golf course, tennis courts and cricket pitch.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
30. Promote the benefits of being a member of the Low Head Progress Association to gain access to local recreation opportunities. ²⁴		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
31. Provide netting around the rear of the Low Head cricket pitch to allow casual cricket training and to add a basketball ring to the tennis court, to provide additional activities.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$25,000			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
32. Work with the community groups to develop a trails plan, and a foreshore trail that would connect the Beechford, Weymouth, Lulworth communities, and George Town in the long-term.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
33. Develop a co-ordinated promotional plan for trails in the Beechford, Weymouth, Lulworth area.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
Supporting community Organisations								
34. Facilitate sport and recreation activities in schools and create a pipeline to clubs with Healthy George Town or “Come and Try” style programs. 27		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
35. Include in the role of a Council staff member, the facilitation of communication between schools, clubs, peak bodies and community groups to grow sport and recreation and program existing facilities.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
36. Prepare a recreation inventory with all sport and recreation facilities available for community use – especially free facilities, halls and courts, and publish on Council’s web site.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
37. Advertise the availability of privately owned facilities including squash courts at the George Town Golf Club. 27		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
38. Consider developing a hall of fame for George Town sports people similar to that in Smithton, for example at the Sporting Complex.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
39. Regularly highlight suggestions for free activities and facilities available for use in each locality, including groups walks for example, that could be paired with cross promotion activities, such as a subsidised coffee.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
40. Work with clubs and peak bodies to bring back viable elements of sport – for example social competitions and foundation activities for sports where facilities exist ie., tennis, track cycling, basketball, cricket and soccer-football.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
41. Continue to assist clubs in applying for grants such as the sporting schools grants etc.,		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
42. Upgrade existing outdoor sports courts across the municipality for free access tennis and basketball and promote these.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$300,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
43. Encourage providers to deliver opportunities for visitors in George Town, e.g. golf course, bowling, climbing etc., and bring events to George Town, e.g. cycling, MTB, triathlon, cyclocross and soccer-football at the Sporting Complex.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
44. Seek to open up the caretaker's cottage on the Sporting Complex as a space for programs and community activities, clubs to meet and groups such as Reclink to deliver services through.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$20,000 for assessment / concept only			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
45. Create simple use agreements for all organisations using community facilities and sports clubs that are similar to a service agreement, outlining objectives, roles and responsibilities of each party and the cost of use. The agreements should provide incentives for increasing participation and encouraging shared use of assets. 27		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
46. Work with the community organisations managing sport and recreation and community facilities, to help them with infrastructure and strategic planning as well as the promotion of existing assets.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Getting better value out of the open space								
47. Upgrade select play spaces, in strategic locations. See also 55.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$300,000			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
48. Incrementally embellish each park in line with their function and landscape setting, as resources permit.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$100,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
49. Selectively plant the perimeter of all parks and include other opportunities such as community gardens or plantings for environmental benefit to diversify the opportunities in parks.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$75,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Date of Adoption 23rd March 2021

Council Resolution Number 035/21



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
50. Update the master plan for Regent Square to respond to its historic significance and competitive strengths addressing neighbouring land uses and any historical references.		☑				☑		
51. Attract visitor use around Regent Square, that enhances activity and generates demand for cafes and shopping.		☑			☑			
52. Encourage a higher standard of residential area design in the George Town district service centre and in coastal areas.		☑			☑			
☐ Encourage housing development that fronts onto and overlooks existing parks, including the George Town Sporting Complex and the reserves in the coastal communities. 32	☑	☑			☑			
☐ Create areas with more legible and permeable street patterns and higher quality street scapes that encourage walking.	☑	☑			☑			
☐ Provide access to a range of public open space types within walking distance of all residents.	☑	☑						
53. Protect a corridor of public open space along the foreshores. See also 19.	☑	☑			☑			
54. Provide a range of different types of landscape settings in parks to encourage a diversity of opportunities, from treed areas to open sunny parks and gardens supporting community horticulture.	☑	☑			☑			
55. Ensure all future play areas accommodate people of all abilities.		☑	☑	\$20,000	☑			
56. Consider taking open space contributions in all zones and investigate the need to take land in the subdivision process before cash in lieu. 33	☑	☑			☑			



Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
57. Assess the location and quality of play equipment especially across the George Town district centre to enhance play value and accessibility and provide an equitable distribution of high-quality parks for play and social/family recreation rather, than collections of play equipment. See also 47 and 55.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$30,000			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
George Town Sporting Complex								
58. Improve the welcoming and landscape character of the site by upgrading and removing unnecessary fences.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$50,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
59. Provide a consistent pattern of street trees around the perimeter of the precinct.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$100,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
60. Formalise and improve the entry to the site and in particular to the AFL oval.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
61. Redesign access road entry and parking facilities to minimise the cost and impact on the reserve. Provide convenient direct access entry to each facility on the park, at the tennis club the cricket ground and the football grounds.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
62. Consolidate sports activities onto fewer shared better quality playing fields until usage grows.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
63. Rebuild the netball/tennis courts side by side, with at least one court specific for each sport and two shared courts leaving space for 4 tennis in total. These should be served by a shared pavilion, shelter, lights and at least one made accessible to the community.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
64. Provide a perimeter shared path around the outside of the reserve.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See duplicate action		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Action summary	Type of project			Probable capital cost	Timing			
	Policy	Planning/ Programming /Promotion	Capital works		Ongoing	Year 1-3	Year 3-5	Year 5+
65. Facilitate the sports present at the reserve to work more closely together, and in conjunction with schools and Healthy George Town activities grow each sport present.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
66. Work with peak bodies and schools to facilitate development programs and devise at least one event/carnival for each sport on the reserve.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
67. Create an area for small dogs inside the dog park, include seating and upgrade amenities.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$41,200		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
68. Provide additional trees and shade in the park.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
69. Utilise the care takers cottage (where possible) for programs, physical activities, club meetings and event related activities.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
70. Facilitate residential land uses overlooking the reserve at the rear in the long term, and where possible integrate the pipeline easement into the reserve.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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8 | Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1. Comments and suggestions for improvements outside of George Town District Centre

Lauriston Park (privately owned)

- Make it more inviting and user friendly
- Lauriston Reserve needs toilets and BBQs.

Lagoon Beach

- Needs improvements

Hillwood

- Development of a Hillwood Recreation Master Plan
- Hillwood (3)
- Improved facilities at Hillwood in general
- Walking paths along the river *2 Walking path's Hillwood
- Space adjacent to current Tourist Info Centre (old depot) should be converted into an MTB village and trailhead.
- Tennis/netball court improvements- upgrade fencing, surface and surrounds to meet the needs of the Hillwood community in terms of hardcourt/multisport with basketball ring/tennis
- Trails along the edge of the river. The road around the foreshore is very narrow leaving not much room for two cars to pass on occasions let alone walking safely off road.

- Investigate where residents would like to see trails connect to and if there are any experiences or services that could help connect a disjointed community.
- Consider a trail circuit including Hillwood Rd, Craighburn Rd, Hillwood Jetty Rd back to Hillwood Rd. Numerous people were observed walking on the road.
- There are a number of horticultural properties with stalls and cellar door type arrangements that could be built into a trail network.

East Beach

- East Beach (5), East beach surf club area, East Beach, East Beach park, Play equipment at East Beach, Footpath should be built on East Beach Road, linking paths on Low Head Road and Gunn Parade.

York Cove

- York Cove (3) Park Area, York Cove
- Fill in York Cove to Anne St and make huge park with bike and walking tracks

Lulworth

- Tennis court in Lulworth

Low Head

- Low Head (5) Toilets and showers available at Low Head, Low Head beach area
- The park near bowls club
- Pilot Station, under-utilised
- Develop a trail all the way through to the Pilot station lighthouse.



- Drinking fountains available at Low Head and somewhere along walking trail between Low Head and George Town, Low Head-toilets, benches, tables etc. Low Head Lighthouse, under-utilised. I, restaurant, accommodation, park etc, Footpath up to lighthouse at Low Head
- Low Head (5) Toilets and showers available at Low Head, Low Head beach area, Park near bowls club
- Drinking fountains available at Low Head and somewhere along walking trail between Low Head and George Town, Low Head-toilets, benches, tables etc. Low Head Lighthouse, under-utilised. Restaurant, accommodation, park etc, Footpath up to lighthouse at Low Head
- Construct a trail all the way through to the Pilot station lighthouse.

East Beach

- East Beach (4) East Beach observation deck – Surf club, East Beach, between the toilets and the beach, where cement is, Footpath should be built on East Beach Road, linking paths on Low Head Road and Gunn Parade
- Tam O'Shanter area

Weymouth

- Weymouth (8) Old Caravan Park area Weymouth, Walking tracks at Weymouth, Footpaths a Weymouth, The accessible old camping ground at Weymouth with suitable exercise equipment installed. Weymouth and Bellingham. Remove pacific oysters from the area between Weymouth and Bellingham. Weymouth foreshore recreation area. Improved access and facilities.
- Improve safe walking spaces beside the streets in Weymouth especially in Campbell and Ralph Streets where boats are trailered past, frequently leaving no room to walk safely.
- Address the safety of walkers adjacent to roads as in summer the area gets quite busy.

Bellingham

- Formation of a walking track from end of Smith St to the mouth of the river.
- A safe walking place beside Howard St.
- Removal of Pacific Oysters from the river as they are becoming hazardous to swimmers, skiers, pedestrians, and animals.
- Continued improvements (as per 5-year plan) to foreshore areas between boat ramp and shelter shed.
- Continued maintenance of Recreation Ground and the many walking tracks in the area.

Pipers River

- Pipers River: (3) hall, Pipers River area, Pipers River
- Provide places to do things in Pipers River/Hillwood/Mount Direction area.



8.1.1.1 Mt George

- Mt George, (3) Mt George bushwalking track, Bike track on Mt George.

8.1.1.2 Windmill Point

- Windmill Point cover existing concrete eyesore on southern side of new playground.



8.2 Appendix 2. Preliminary Recreation Inventory

The following inventory has been prepared from a number of secondary sources. This inventory of facilities and activities needs to be developed further in conjunction with community groups to list the range of available opportunities in George Town.

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	Five Mile Bluff Conservation Area	Old Aerodrome Road	Beechford TAS 7252		Park and wildlife Service	Heritage Conservation		
	Cricket ground	Proctor Street	Beechford TAS 7252	Rough oval with concrete wicket	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Lease Ag ID 78682	Sport/community meeting place	(no longer used)	
Beechford Beach	Playground	Esplanade, Beechford,	Beechford TAS 7252	Playground (one swing) and slide and tennis court and public toilets/	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Lease Ag ID 97862	Playground		
	George Town Black Powder and Pistol Range	Bridport Road	Bell Bay TAS 7253	Facilities for several different shooting disciplines	RIO TINTO ALUMINIUM (BELL BAY)	Sport		
	Bellingham Hall	Howard Street	Bellingham TAS 7254	Hall, playground, tennis court small oval with old cricket pitch, public toilets	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Lease Ag ID 6463	Community meeting place		Bellingham Progress Association
	Bellingham Beach	Clifford Street	Bellingham TAS 7254	Public Toilets	DPIPWE(CLS)	Beach/foreshore		
	Bellingham Boat Ramp	Albert Street	Bellingham TAS 7254	Boat Ramp	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Licence	Water based recreation	Boating fishing	



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	Coastal Walk		East Beach - Bellbuoy Beach - Low Head, Bellbuoy Beach	Public Toilets- East Beach Rd	Park and wildlife Service (Beach and foreshore)	Off-Road Trail		
George Town Sporting Complex Blue Gum Park	AFL ground and club rooms	Marguerite St	George Town, TAS 7253	Bar Lighting Social rooms New changerooms currently being built behind existing rooms – part of levelling the playing field grant (State Government)	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Football (Australian rules)	George Town Football Club INC
George Town Sporting Complex Blue Gum Park	Main Cricket club facility- with white picket fence	Marguerite St	George Town, TAS 7253	Small cricket ground with turf wicket and white picket fence. Practice nets (3 synthetic and a turf block) Small additional ground at the back of the club with concrete wicket.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Cricket	George Town Cricket Club
George Town Sporting Complex, Blue Gum Park	Soccer ground	Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Large grass rectangular area (2 soccer pitches), old grandstand and clubroom building	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Soccer-football	George Town Jnr Soccer Club and Scouts (Scouts)



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
								potentially not operating)
George Town Sporting Complex Blue Gum Park,	Velodrome	Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Concrete velodrome - no support facilities.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Cycling	
George Town Sporting Complex	Netball courts and building	Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	x2 outdoor Plexipave netball courts plus small clubroom in the middle of courts.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Netball	George Town Saints Netball Association
George Town Sporting Complex Blue Gum Park	Dog park	Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Fenced dog park	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Social/Family Recreation facility		
George Town Sporting Complex-	Tennis courts	Blue Gum Park, Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	x4 Tennis courts - 2 painted surface, 2 asphalt	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Tennis	George Town Tennis Club
Elizabeth Park	George Town Community Bowls	11 Goulburn St, George Town TAS 7253	George Town, TAS 7253	Function space available x2 bowls greens- 1 natural and 1 synthetic grass plenty of parking Playground next to bowls (?) walking/cycling trail next to bowls (?)	DPIPWE(CLS), Bowls Club Lease Ag ID 113422	Sport	Bowls Functions	George Town Bowls Club

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GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
George Town Golf Club	George Town Golf Club	East Tamar Highway	George Town, TAS 7253	9 holes 1 tennis court- surface is asphalt, has also a squash court	RIO TINTO ALUMINIUM (BELL BAY)	Sport	Golf	George Town Golf Club
George Town Community Hub	Graham Fairless Centre	26-67 Macquarie St	George Town, TAS 7253	Supper room community gathering space, 20-30 guests, mostly for small functions (birthdays, meetings etc) and Hall with stage, ideal for mid-size events, bands, plays with basketball and badminton lines.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport/community meeting place		
	George Town Community Centre (YMCA)	Community Centre 39-43 Friend St	George Town, TAS 7253	Old indoor stadium- 1 court., entrance area, toilets and changerooms and some storage areas. 3 x badminton lines.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Judo	George Town Kodokan Judo, boxing, PT, Gym?
South George Town Primary School	Indoor court, oval, outdoor hard court	Franklin Street	George Town, TAS 7253	x1 outdoor natural grass oval. Indoor court- full sized. Basketball, netball posts. Outdoor hardcourt with tennis and netball lines.	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	Sport/education	Athletics	George Town Little Athletics



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	George Town Yacht Club	13 Esplanade North	George Town, TAS 7253	Club house, small pier to access boats. Good sized car park and within walking distance from the CBD and on the foreshore path network.	DPIPWE(CLS), Yacht Club Lease Ag ID 1304	Sport/Waterbased Recreation	Yachts, motorboats	George Town Yacht Club
	George Town Swimming Pool	William Street, near Lambert Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Waterslide Small kids pool plus very small waterslide with small pool Outdoor pool (maybe 25m long)	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Swimming pool	Swimming	George Town Swimming Club, and schools
Regent Square	George Town Skate Park	Weymouth Coastal Reserve	George Town, TAS 7253	Concrete street course steel fun box grind box grind poles	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Social/Family Recreation facility	Skate	
George Town Sporting Complex, Blue Gum Park	Cricket ground	Marguerite Street	George Town, TAS 7253	x1 Cricket ground - concrete pitch	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Cricket Cycling	No club or group-was a cycling club
Regent Square	Playground, Skate Park	26-67 Macquarie St	George Town, TAS 7253	Community Hall, Service Tas outlet, skate park, playground, toilets.	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Park		
			George Town, TAS 7253					

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GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
Gordon Square	Playground	Gordon Square	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Park/reserve		
?	Boongala Reserve	Lot 11 Green Court ?	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground and Track	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL ?	Park/reserve/playground		
Mandurama Reserve	Mandurama Reserve	Main Road	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Park		
Elizabeth Park	Elizabeth Park	Esplanade South	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground and Track	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Licence ID 74442	Social/Family Recreation facility		
	Currong Reserve	The Esplanade	George Town, TAS 7253		?	Beach/foreshore		
	Lauriston Park	Junction A8 East Tamar Highway and B83 Bridport Highway	George Town, TAS 7253	Trails	RIO TINTO ALUMINIUM (BELL BAY)	Off-Road Trail	Dog walking	
Port Dalrymple School	Indoor court, oval, outdoor hard court and swimming pool.	147-185 Agnes Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Indoor court, small multi-purpose hall, 15m indoor swimming pool. Oval with AFL goals, 2 multi-purpose courts synthetic surface basketball/netball court, long jump pit.	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	Sport/education		Schools for sports carnivals
	Tipogoree Hills Forest Reserve	East Tamar Road	George Town, TAS 7253			Off-Road Trail. MTB		



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	George Town Cemetery	Marguerite St and Cimitiere St	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Cemetery		
	York Cove (south) boat ramp	Adelaide Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Boat Ramp	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Licence ID 6362	Boating and fishing		
Hillwood Recreation Ground	Hillwood Hall	280 Jetty Road	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Community meeting place		
York Cove Centre	Senior Citizens	6 Sorrell Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Club rooms	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Community Meeting Place	indoor bowls, cards, snooker etc.,	Senior Citizens Club
Max Harris Reserve & Memorial Rose Garden		ANZAC Drive, Max Harris Reserve,	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Off-Road Trail/Ornamental garden		
Paterson Monument and Ship play park	Playground	The Esplanade North, Windmill Point	George Town, TAS 7253	Pirate Ship Play Space BBQ and tree sculpture	DPIPWE(CLS)	Social/Family Recreation facility/heritage conservation		
Mt George	Bushwalking track	Mount George Road	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Off-Road Trail	v	
Charles Robbins Reserve?	Playground	Elizabeth Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground (one swing) garden bed, toilets and seats	DPIPWE(CLS)	Playground		

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GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
Mt George	Mt George Scenic Look Out	Mount George Road	George Town, TAS 7253	Walking trail, Viewing platform	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Off-Road Trail	walking MTB	
Monomeeth Reserve	Playground	Anderson Avenue	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Playground		
Boongala Recreation Reserve	Playground	Cimitiere Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Playground and Track	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Off-Road Trail		
Wombalano Reserve		Petrie Street	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL			
Killara Reserve	Visitor Information centre Reserve	Victoria Street	George Town, TAS 7253		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL			
Dunning Avenue Reserve	Undeveloped Reserve	Dunning Avenue	George Town, TAS 7253	No facilities	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL			
Water Tower Park		Arnold and Agnes Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Old Water Tank Marul	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL			
Crown Land	Wombat Walk	South Street	George Town, TAS 7253	Forested area with a walk	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	Off-Road Trail		
Marine park	George Town Conservation Area	Esplanade North	George Town, TAS 7253		Park and wildlife Service (marine Crown land)	Heritage Conservation		
	Bee Bop Dance Studio	22 Victoria Street, -	George Town, TAS 7253		BK & MJ STREET	Gym/Fitness/Dance Facility		

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GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
Star of the Sea College	Small oval, indoor hall	2-6 William Street	George Town, TAS 7254	x2 basketball, cricket pitch, 2/3 sized indoor basketball court. Oval (not full sized) with afl goals. Community park for walking/running after hours. oval with no markings	ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUST CO	Sport/education	Basketball., cricket,	
	Playground	123 Agnes Street ?	George Town, TAS 7254			Playground ?		
	Kanamaluka Trail	George Towns York cove to Low Head's Light House	George Town, TAS 7255	Museums, historic buildings, nature reserves and the shopping precinct.	DPIPWE(CLS) and GTC Road Res	Off-Road Trail	Running, Cycling, Walking	
Archer Crescent Reserve	Playground	Archer Crescent	George Town, TAS 7255	Playground	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Playground		
Harris Crescent Reserve	Playground	Harris Crescent	George Town, TAS 7256	Playground	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Playground		
Hillwood Recreation Ground	Hillwood Football Ground	280 Jetty Road	Hillwood TAS 7252	x1Football oval with good sized modern clubhouse/rooms x1 tennis court (asphalt) X1 playground next to community hall	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Sport	Football, Play, Tennis/Netball	Hillwood Sharks Football Club



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
Egg Island Creek Point Reserve	Hillwood Boat Ramp-Egg Island	Off Craighurn Road	Hillwood TAS 7252	Single lane concrete boat ramp	DPIPWE (Crown Land Services)	Waterbased recreation		
	Climbing (rock escarpment)	310-678 Craighurn Road	Hillwood TAS 7252	Natural rock escarpment used for climbing (note private land)	GR ARCHER, LANDFALL	Sport	Sports Climbing	
Hillwood Recreation Ground	Hillwood Memorial Hall	280 Hillwood Jetty Rd,	Hillwood TAS 7252	Community hall, public toilets	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Community meeting place		
Batman Bridge Reserve	Batman Bridge Picnic Area	Batman Highway	Hillwood TAS 7252	Public Toilets	DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH	Viewing Point		
	Hillwood Jetty	Hillwood Jetty Rd	Hillwood TAS 7253	Pontoon and public toilets	DPIPWE(CLS), GTC Licence ID 82222	Waterbased recreation		
	Cycle road route to Lefroy	Lefroy Road	Lefroy TAS 7252		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL			
Lefroy Cemetery		Percy Street	Lefroy TAS 7252		GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Cemetery		
	Bass Flinders Community Bowls Club	165-225 Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	1 natural grass green, indoor bowls	AINSLIE HOUSE ASS INC & CLS Licence ID 81062	Sport	Bowls	Bass & Flinders Bowls & Community Club
Low Head Coastal Reserve		Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	Trail. Some support facilities toilets, etc along the way.	Park and Wildlife Service Penguin Lease ID 98382	Off-Road Trail	Low Head Penguin Tours	



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	Perrin Reserve	Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	Beach access walkway	Footway Casement GTC maintained	Off-Road Trail		
Lagoon Beach Reserve	Lagoon Beach	351 Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	BBQ's, picnic area, public toilets, children's play area, parking for motor homes	DPIPWE(CLS) & GTC or private title public land	Beach/foreshore/Social/family recreation area		
	Low Head Golf and Country Club	292 Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	Tennis court, and 9 hole golf course	LOW HEAD COMPANY LTD	Sport		
	Low Head Boat Ramp	411-437 Low Head Rd	Low Head TAS 7253	Boat Ramp	LOW HEAD PILOT STATION, GTC Licence ID 100863	Waterbased recreation		
East Beach	Beach	Low Head Road	Low Head TAS 7253	East Beach Public Toilets	GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL	Water based recreation	Water based recreation and beach	
Lulworth Coastal Reserve	Old Lulworth Boat Ramp	Bennett St extension	Lulworth TAS 7252	Boat Ramp	DPIPWE (Crown Land Services)	Waterbased recreation		
	Lulworth Beach	Henry Street	Lulworth TAS 7252	Boat ramp	DPIPWE (CLS), GTC Licence ID 6234	Water based recreation	Boating fishing	
	Tam Trail	Tam O Shanter Bay	Lulworth TAS 7252	Trail	DPIPWE (CLS) & KL MCLAUHLAN	Off-Road Trail		
	Lulworth Picnic Area	Esplanade, Beach Street	Lulworth TAS 7252	Playground and public toilets	DPIPWE (CLS), GTC Licence ID 90522	Social/Family Recreation facility		

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GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
	Tam O'Shanter Golf Course	19 Fairway Avenue, Tam O'Shanter	Lulworth TAS 7252	9 hole golf course	TAM O'SHANTER GOLF COURSE	Golf Course		Tam O'Shanter Golf Club
	Tam O'Shanter Creek Conservation Area	Henry Street	Lulworth TAS 7252		DPIPWE (Crown Land Services)	Open space/park		
East Beach - former surf club		East Beach Road	Lulworth TAS 7252		DPIPWE (CLS), GTC Lease ID 95822	Beach/foreshore		
Mount Direction Semaphore Station	Walking track	Dalrymple Rd (off East Tamar Highway)	Mt Direction TAS 7252		DPIWPE (Parks and Wildlife)	Off-Road Trail		
	Den Ranges Forest Reserve	Industry Road	Pipers River TAS 7252		DPIWPE (Parks and Wildlife)			
Weymouth Caravan Park space	Old Caravan Park	Ralph St and Major St	Weymouth	Day use area Public Toilets and shelter	DPIPWE (CLS), GTC Lease ID 78683	Caravan Park - open space area		
	Weymouth Hall	18 Major St.	Weymouth TAS 7252	Playground, public toilets, tennis court	DPIPWE (CLS), GTC Lease ID 71165	Community meeting place	Meetings, play tennis	Weymouth Progress Association, conservationist group
Weymouth Coastal Reserve	Weymouth Foreshore	Short Street	Weymouth TAS 7252		DPIPWE (Crown Land Services)	Beach/foreshore		



GEORGE TOWN SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

Reserve	Name of facility component	Street Address	Locality	Facilities	Land Ownership	Facility Category	Activities	User groups
Weymouth Coastal Reserve	Weymouth - Pipers River Boat Ramp	Major Street	Weymouth TAS 7252	Boat Ramp	DPIPWE (Crown Land Services)	Water based recreation	Boating fishing	