

ST IVES SHOWGROUND AND PRECINCT LANDS

DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT



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Prepared by Otium Planning Group Pty Ltd
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CGM Planning, Parkland Planners and EConPlan.



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Otium Planning Group acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation and their enduring connection to country.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land within the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging.

Otium Planning Group is committed to national reconciliation and honours Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.

Prepared in collaboration with CGM Planning, Parkland Planners and EconPlan.



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Abbreviations

Abbreviations used throughout this document include:

- Plan of Management (PoM)
- St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands (SISPL)
- St Ives Showground (SIS)
- Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery (KCCN)
- Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden (KWG)
- former Green Waste Tip site (GWT)
- Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART)
- Community and Road Education Scheme (CARES)
- Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE)
- Garigal National Park (GNP)
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park (KCNP)

1. Introduction

1.1 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management provides a framework and guides the management of public land owned or managed by a Council. It identifies issues affecting public land and sets out how that land is to be used, managed, maintained and enhanced in the future.

Plans of Management typically set parameters for long-term management and development of a site. They can permit a wide range of different site activities, subject to the land zoning for the site and other legislative requirements. They do not include detailed designs for specific enhancement, and identified improvement works are subject to obtaining appropriate funding and relevant approvals.

A Plan of Management must be prepared for public land owned by a Council and classified as community land under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. Plans of Management are also prepared for Crown land under the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*, with Section 3.23(6) of the Act stating that Plans of Management for Crown land are to be prepared and adopted in accordance with the provisions of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

1.2 Background to this Plan of Management

The Plan of Management and Landscape Masterplan for St Ives Showground (Mather and Associates and Parkland Environmental Planners, 1999) was approved by the Minister for Agriculture and Land and Water Conservation on 9 September 1999, after adoption by Ku-ring-gai Council on 29 June 1999.

In 2010, Ku-ring-gai Council adopted preferred options for the site in the St Ives Showground and Precinct Options Paper. This included opportunities to re-use existing sites and facilities for other recreational purposes.

In 2015, Environmental Partnership prepared a draft Plan of Management for the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands, however, this plan was not referred to or endorsed by the Crown on the basis of the advice of the Crown at the time. This new Plan of Management uses content from the draft Plan developed by Environmental Partnership. The new plan addresses the requirements of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*, revises the categorisation of various lands, and addresses the unallocated areas of Crown land in the Plan of Management precincts.

1.3 Land covered by this Plan

The 192 hectare St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands (SISPL) site includes five key precincts including two where council is not the Crown Land Manager, but are considered important for development of an integrated management plan for the overall precinct.

Council is Crown Land Manager for:

- St Ives Showground (SIS)
- The former Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery (KCCN)
- Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden (KWG)

Council is not Crown Land Manager for:

- Former Green Waste Tip site (GWT)
- St Ives Road Safety Centre, leased to Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART) and licensed to NSW Police for the Community and Road Education Scheme (CARES).

Council is not currently the Crown land manager for the land parcels south of Mona Vale Road including the GWT, HART and CARES sites. These are a combination of reserved and un-reserved Crown land with differing reserve purposes and occupation agreements with the Crown. These lands are included in this Plan of Management to ensure strategic outcomes and synergies are identified.

This Plan, therefore, does not provide statutory weight over the parcels south of Mona Vale Road. The planning, use and management of the land south of Mona Vale Road will be bound by the user agreements and a need to obtain Minister's consents and approvals for development applications and other use agreements Council may seek to have on the land.

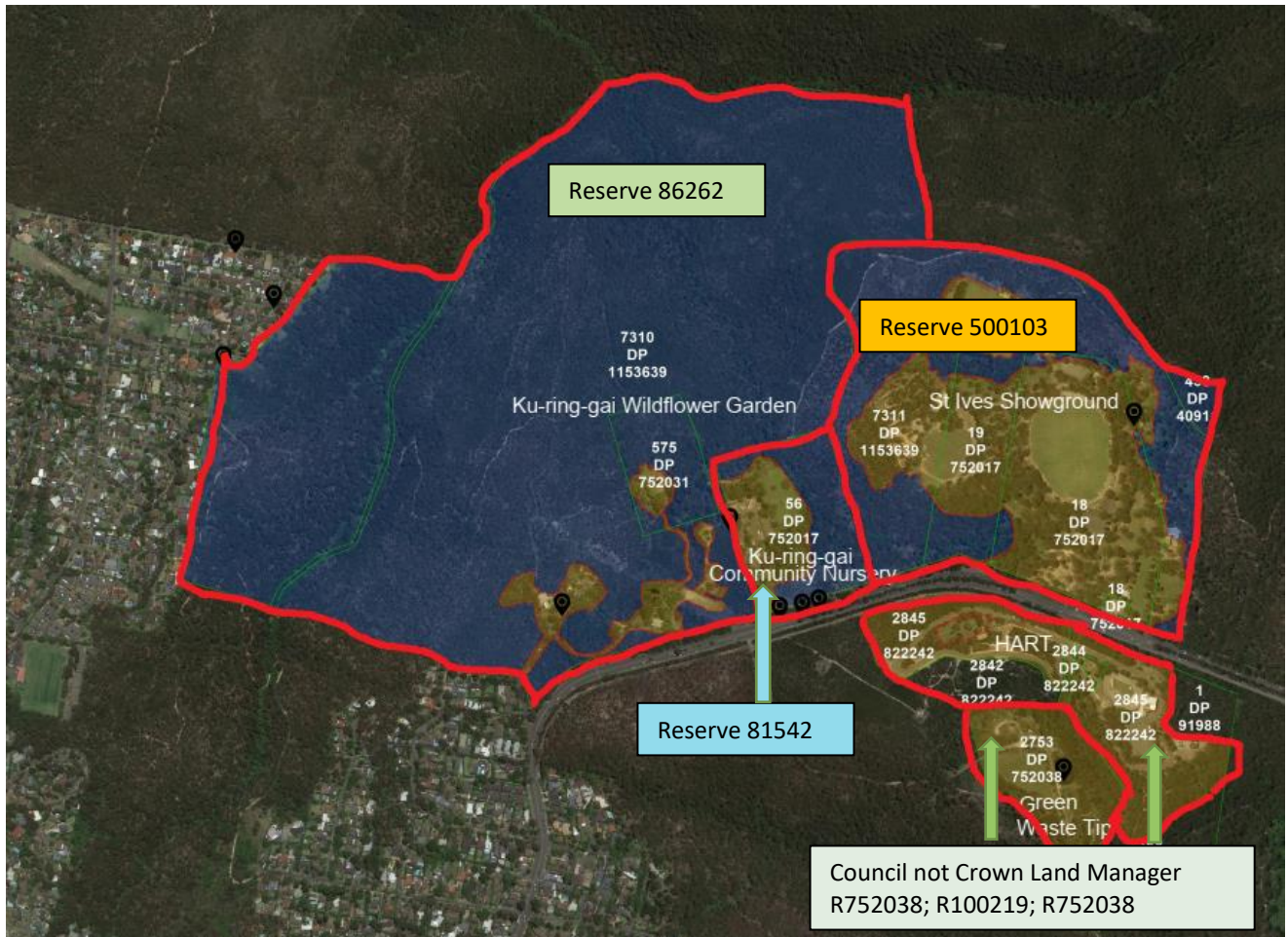


Figure 1 - Crown Land included within this PoM

Reserve Number	86262
Reserve Type	RESERVE
Reserve Name	KU-RING-GAI WILDFLOWER GARDENS
Gazetted Date	12/5/1967
Status	CURRENT
Management Type	Council Crown Land Manager
Manager	Ku-ring-gai Council
Existing Reserve Purpose	Promotion Of The Study And The Preservation Of Native Flora And Fauna
Additional Proposed Reserve Purpose	Environmental Education Public Recreation Native Nursery Community Purposes
Reserve Number	500103
Reserve Type	DEDICATION

Reserve Name	ST IVES SHOWGROUND
Gazetted Date	9/5/1958
Status	CURRENT
Management Type	Council Crown Land Manager
Manager	Ku-ring-gai Council
Existing Reserve Purpose	Public Recreation; Showground
Additional Proposed Reserve Purpose	Community Purposes Urban Services
Lots	Whole: Lot 438 DP 40911, Lots 18-19 DP 752017, Lot 7311 DP 1153639 Parish Broken Bay County Cumberland
Reserve Number	81542
Reserve Type	RESERVE
Reserve Name	COUNCIL NURSERY
Gazetted Date	17/4/1959
Status	CURRENT
Management Type	Council Crown Land Manager
Manager	Ku-ring-gai Council
Existing Reserve Purpose	Plantation; Public Recreation
Additional Proposed Reserve Purpose	Community Purposes Urban Services
Lots	Whole: Lot 56 DP 752017 Parish Broken Bay County Cumberland

Please refer to Table 1 for more detail on Crown Reserves, land status, lot details and reserve purpose.

The five precincts and initial land categorisations are shown in the following Maps (Figures 2 -6). Land Categorisation was endorsed by DPIE Crown Lands for all areas on 30/3/2020, except for Reserve 86262 (KWG) which was initially deferred with final endorsement received 03/12/2020.

As part of this PoM, a sub-category of Natural Areas (watercourse) has been recommended for R500103(SIS), R86262 (KWG) and R81542 (KCCN) to reflect the watercourses and protect riparian vegetation. This additional categorisation is mapped in Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4.

The Categorisation Report and Letters confirming initial categorisation of R86262 are contained in Appendix 4.

Figure 2 - St Ives Showground

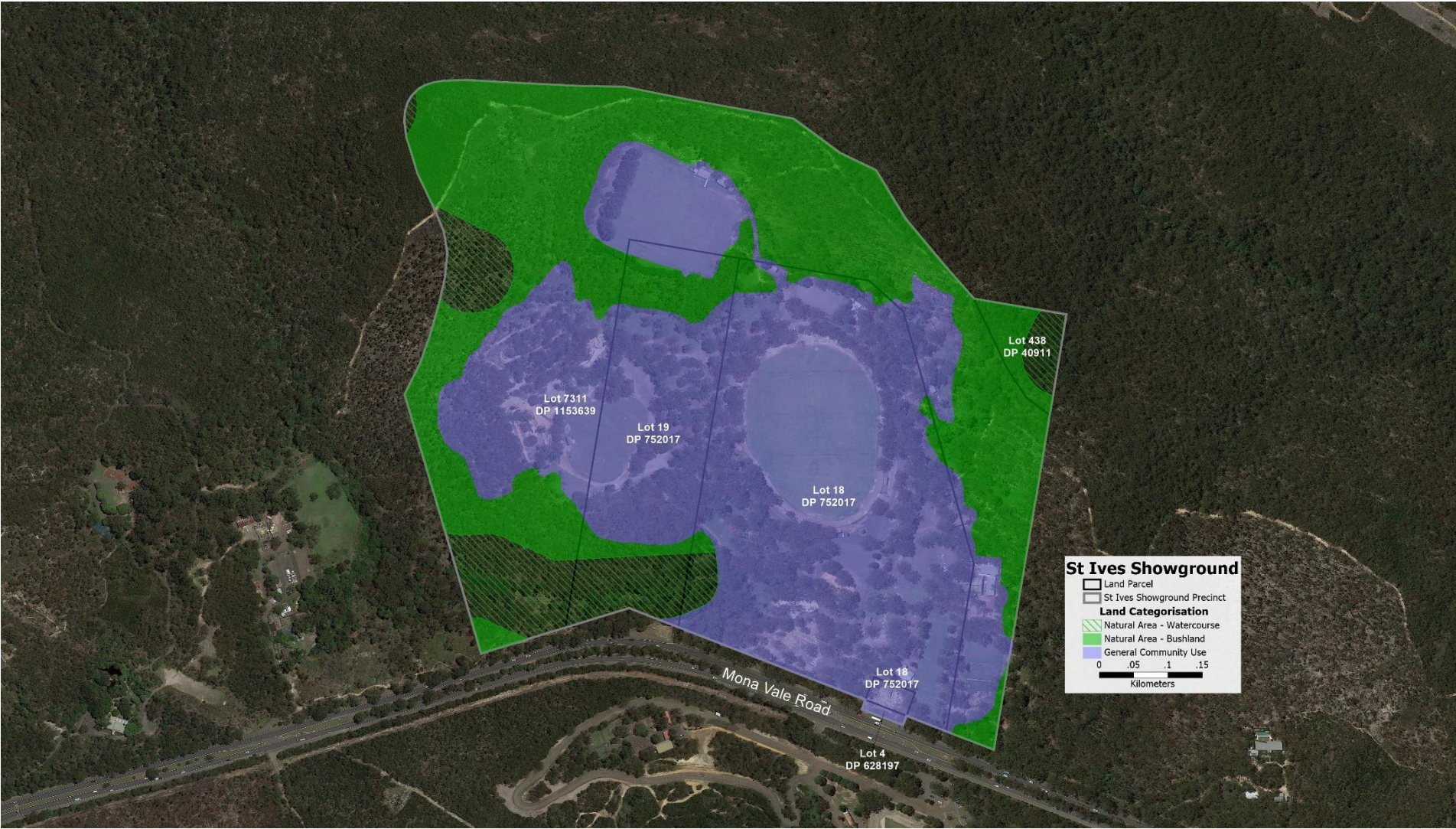


Figure 3 – Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

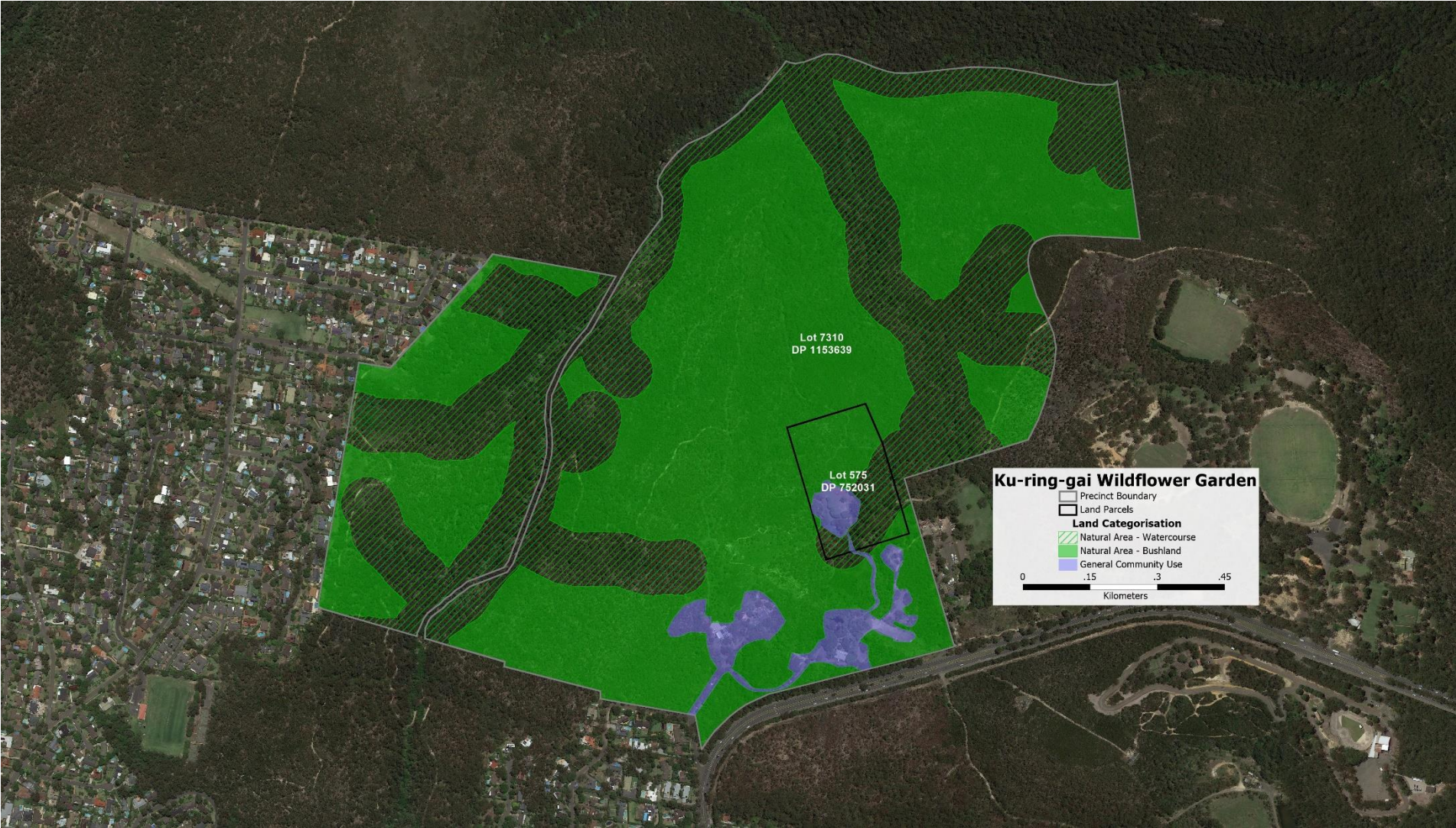


Figure 4 – Former Ku-ring-gai Community Nursery



Figure 5 - St Ives Road Safety Centre leased to Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART) and licensed to NSW Police for the Community and Road Education Scheme (CARES).
(Note Council is not Crown Land Manager for this site, it has been included to enable integrated management planning for the overall precinct)



Figure 6 – Green Waste Tip (Note- Council is not Crown Land Manager for this site it has been included to enable integrated management planning for the overall precinct).



1.4 Purpose of this Plan of Management

This plan has been prepared to:

- Meet Council's obligations with respect to public land management under the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Land Management Act 2016, and the Native Title Act 1993.
- Enable Council to renegotiate or enter contracts, leases, licences and hire agreements, associated functions and for the provision and services of utilities.
- Balance community and commercial opportunities.
- Provide for community demands whilst managing environment and heritage values sustainably.
- Provide direction and guidance in relation to balancing regular community use with special events.
- Maximise recreation and education opportunities provided by the St Ives Showground and Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden.
- Provide a framework for the strategic and sustainable management of all precinct lands.
- Meet the objectives of the Council's Community Strategic Plan.
- Ensure consistency with meeting the objectives of the Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement.

Operational details regarding the implementation of this plan are not included. Such operational details are in separate policies and work plans which are separately updated as required. This approach allows for innovation and flexibility in the implementation of the plan.

1.5 Process of preparing this Plan of Management

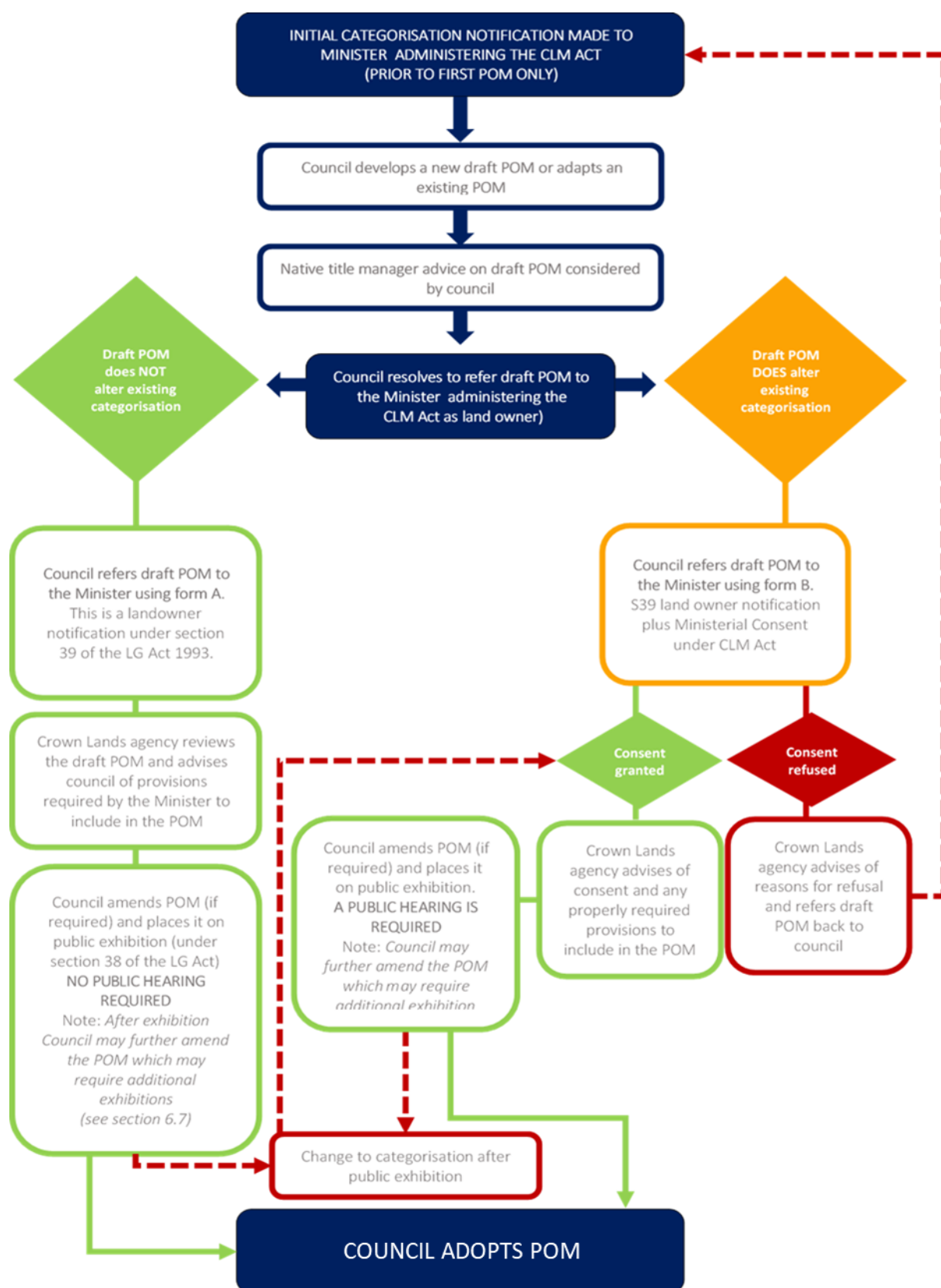


Figure 7 – Process for Preparing a Plan of Management (Source- NSW Crown Lands Templates- 2021)

2. Site Appreciation

The SISPL are recognised as a significant regional recreational resource. This PoM aims to provide a sustainable management framework for extensive recreation use integrated with the complex range of other site values including education, bushland and cultural management.

The SISPL supports a diverse range of sport, outdoor recreation, community events, cultural, heritage, and environmental values.

The SISPL contains several ecologically important areas including:

- Threatened vegetation communities listed under NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 including Duffys Forest Endangered Ecological Community and Coastal Upland Swamp.
- Riparian habitats protecting creek systems.
- Habitats for a number of threatened plants and animal species (listed under NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and or Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999).

The precinct is linked by numerous local and regional walking tracks such as 'Harbour to Hawkesbury', and local fire trails are also used for recreation.

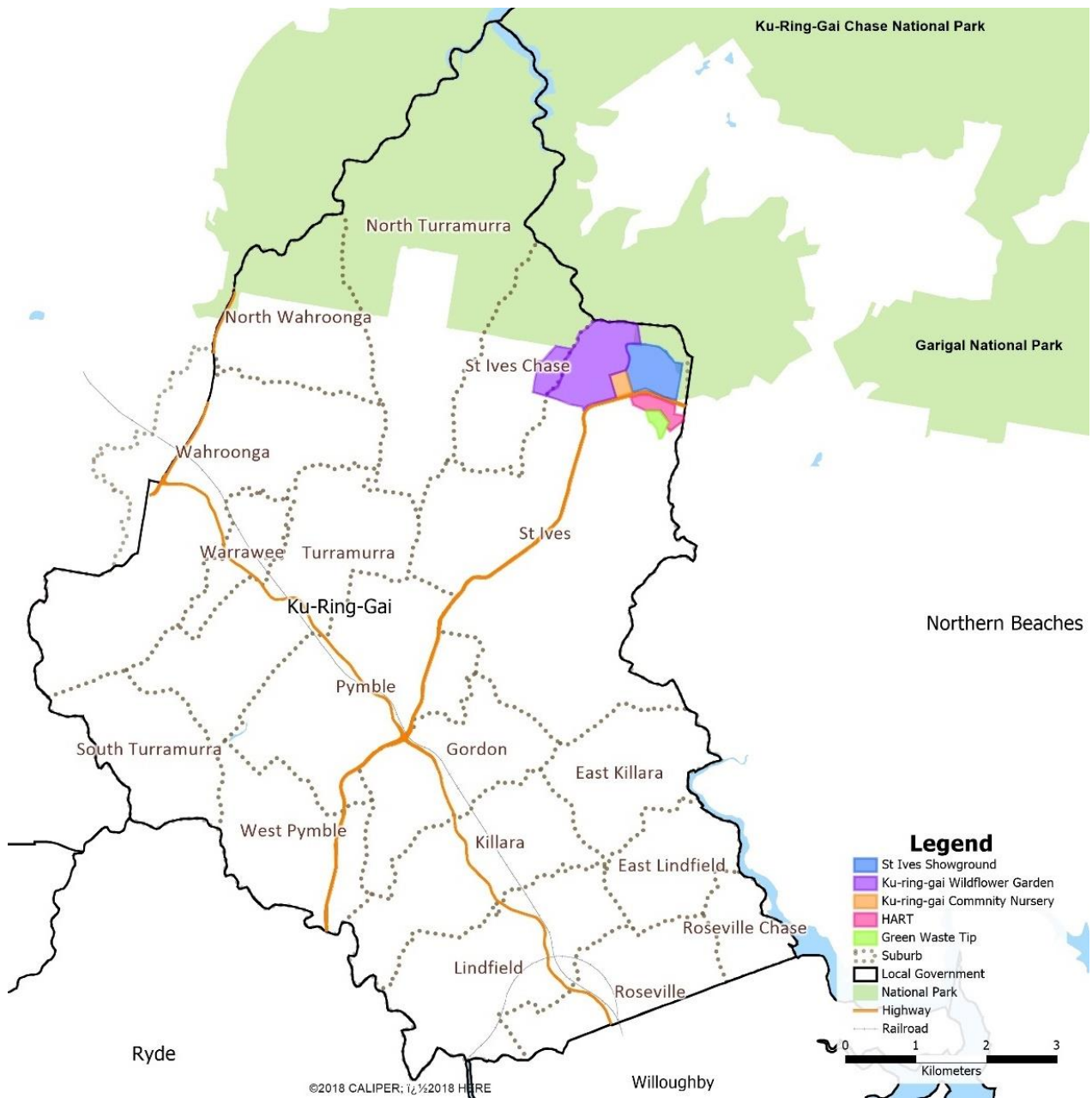
Significant heritage features of the site include:

- The site's former use as an army training camp during World War II.
- The site has been used as a showground since 1927.
- A 'Sydney School' designed pavilion in the KWG.

2.1 Locational Context

The SISPL is located on both sides of Mona Vale Road, St Ives. It sits to the eastern edge of the residential suburb of St Ives and borders native bushland of the Garigal National Park to its south and Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park to the north. The Ku-ring-gai Council boundary also runs close to its eastern boundary, bordering the Northern Beaches Council local government area (See Figure 8).

Figure 8 – Context Map



2.2 Ownership and Management

A summary of the site ownership and management is provided in the below table.

Table 1 - Ownership and Management - Council Managed Crown Reserves

Area	Land Status	Management	Real Property Identifiers	Reserve Purpose(s)
St Ives Showground	Crown reserve (Dedication): D500103.	Council Manager	Whole: Lot 438 DP 40911, Lots 18-19 DP 752017, Lot 7311 DP 1153639	Public Recreation; Showground <i>Community Purposes*</i> <i>Urban Services*</i>
Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	Crown reserve (Reservation): R86262.	Council Manager	Whole: Lot 7310 DP 1153639, Lot 575 DP 752031	Promotion of the Study and the Preservation of Native Flora and Fauna. <i>Environmental Education*</i> <i>Public Recreation*</i> <i>Native Nursery*</i> <i>Community Purposes*</i>
Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery	Crown reserve (Reservation): R81542.	Council Manager	Whole: Lot 56 DP 752017	Plantation; Public Recreation <i>Community Purposes*</i> <i>Urban Services*</i>

**Additional Proposed Reserve Purposes*

Table 2 – Ownership and Management – Reserves where Council is not the Crown Land Manager (included to ensure integrated planning for the SISPL).

Area	Land Status	Management	Real Property Identifiers	Reserve Purpose(s)
St Ives Road Safety Centre	<u>Lot 2842:</u> Part of (Crown) Parish or County Reserve (Reservation): R752038.	<u>Lot 2842:</u> Defaulted to the Minister (Crown Lands) [not managed by Council]	Whole: Lots: 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, DP 822242	Future Public Requirements.
Honda Australia Rider Training (HART) Centre				
Community and Road Education Safety (CARES) Road Safety Centre	<u>Lot 2843:</u> Crown Reserve (Reservation):	<u>Lot 2843:</u> Defaulted to the Minister (Crown Lands)		Government Purposes.

Area	Land Status	Management	Real Property Identifiers	Reserve Purpose(s)
	R100219. <u>Lots 2844, 2845:</u> Crown land: Term Lease to Council	[not managed by Council] <u>Lots 2844, 2845:</u> Crown land: 1. State of NSW Lease to Ku-ring-gai Council 25 Year Term Lease to Council (2019-2044) 2. Ku-ring-gai Council sub-lease to HARTS (Honda Australia Motorcycle and Power Equipment P/L) 5-year term (expired) 2013-2018.		Driver/Rider Education and Training, Community & Environment Purposes Buildings, Conservation Purposes, Business Purposes
Former Green Waste Tip (GWT)	Part of (Crown) Parish or County Reserve (Reservation): R752038.	Defaulted to the Minister (Crown Lands) State of NSW Permissive Occupancy to Ku-ring-gai Council, start 1972. Purpose(s): Dumping, recycling, recovery, storage and deposit of vegetation, e.g.: bushes, stumps, tree loppings, lawn clippings, pruning, etc	Whole: Lot 2753, DP 752038	Future Public Requirements.

Note: Council is not currently the Crown land manager for the HART, CARES and GWT sites.

2.3 Site Values and Roles

The SISPL provide a diverse range of infrastructure, activity spaces, natural areas and activity offerings. Key site features are shown in the maps below.

Figure 9: Key features of St Ives Showground

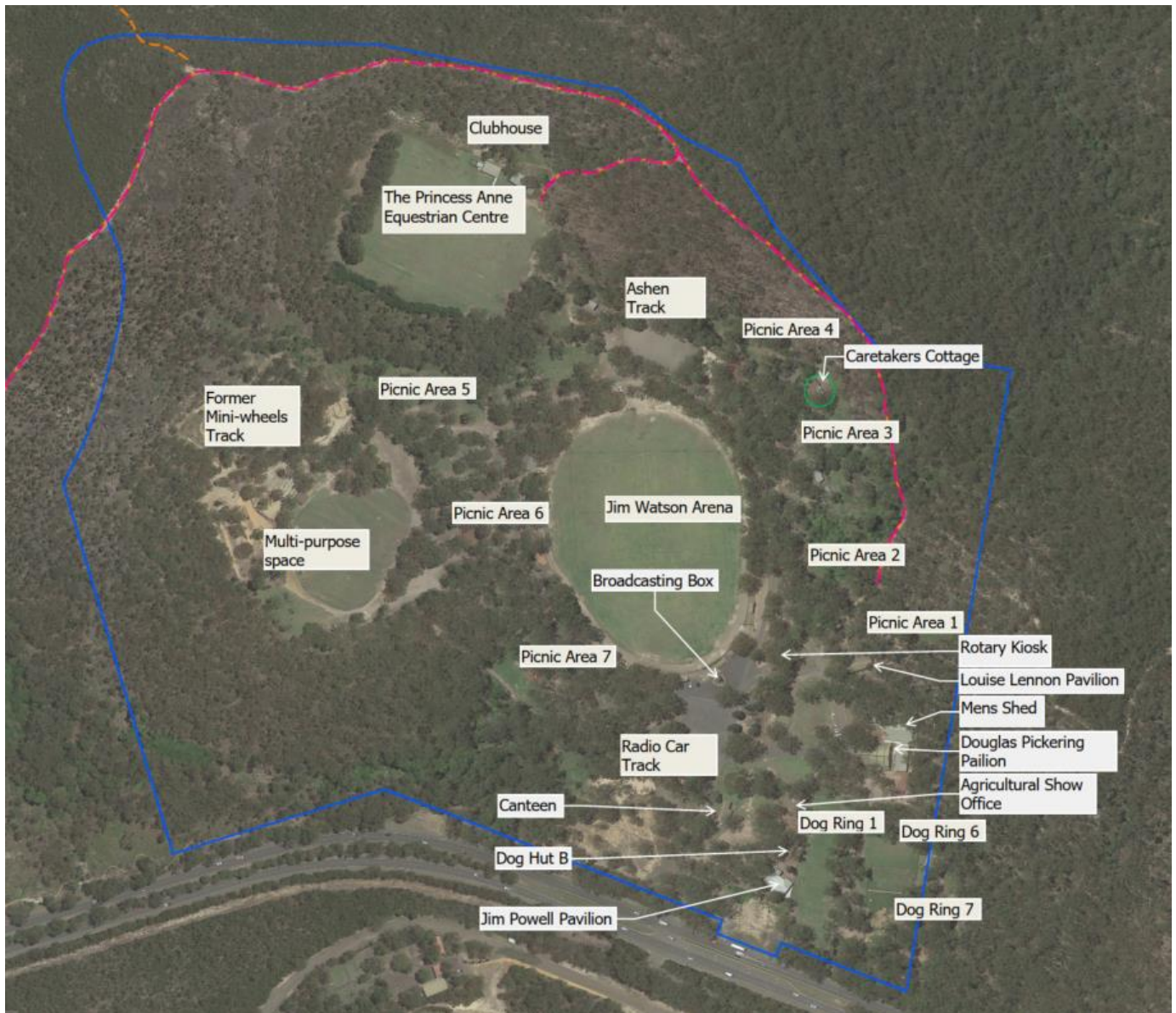


Figure 10: Key features of Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden and Former Community Nursery

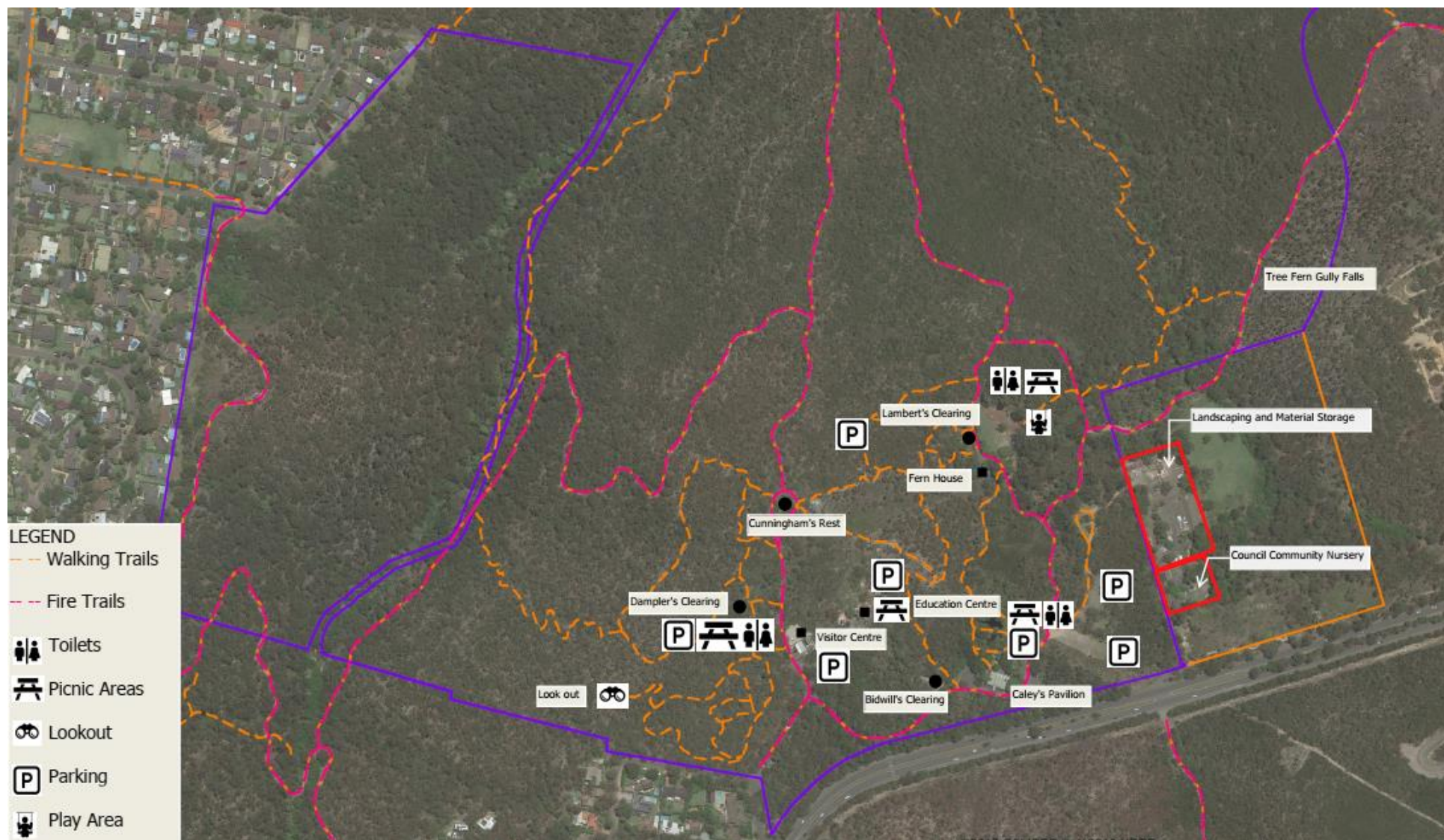
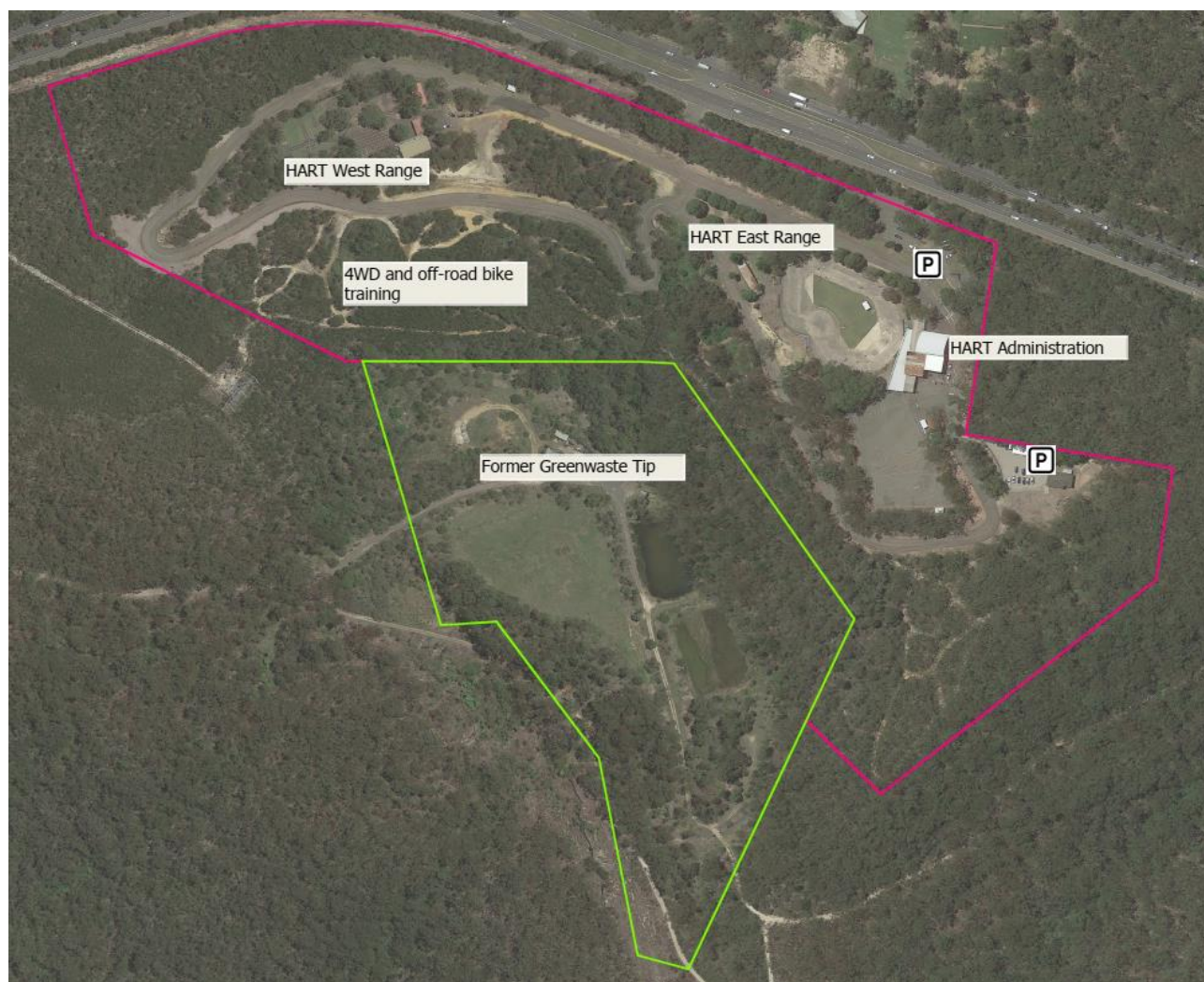


Figure 11: Key features of HART, CARES and Former Greenwaste Tip



HERITAGE VALUE

SIS is a place of exceptional significance at local level and high significance at state level for its ability to demonstrate the themes related to agriculture and defence in Australia (Phillips Marler, 2006). The majority of the culturally significant fabric on the site dates from the World War Two period (1942-1944) when the site was the base of a number of army units.

The KWG Pavilion (Caley's Pavilion) has a high state significance as being a rare representative example of a small public building in Sydney designed in the style of the Sydney School of Architecture, a period which flourished mostly in the northern suburbs of Sydney between the late 1950's and early 1970s (Phillips Marler, 2006, 2011).

Refer to Figure 10.

RECREATION AND SOCIAL VALUE

The SISPL provides a diverse range of combined recreational and event experiences within a unique setting. The scale of the site allows users to experience a varied set of uses. It draws people from the local Ku-ring-gai area as well as other areas of the Greater Sydney Region. Added to this experience is a layering of reminiscent cultural past uses found in the built fabric retained from the site's past agricultural and Army defence uses.

The SISPL is highly valued by local residents and visitors from the region as a destination for passive recreation in an idyllic natural setting, along with passive trail-based activities throughout the adjoining bushland. In more recent

years, a range of formal and informal recreation uses combined with special destination events have continued the strong social values of the SISPL.

The SISPL has significant social values with events such as the St Ives Agricultural and Horticultural Show running almost continuously since 1926. The annual St Ives Show is organised by the Northern Suburbs Agricultural and Horticultural Society over two days each May.

The KWG offers another unique experience with its environmental education programs and informal recreation opportunities. The KWG Pavilion has high (State) significance for its continuing association with the teaching of environmental education and a space for community gathering and the practice of native gardening in the Ku-ring-gai LGA for more than 50 years.

The Ku-ring-gai Community Nursery Site provides additional social value for the community. The onsite propagation program provides native plants for local residents and Council programs.

VISUAL QUALITY

The SISPL aesthetic significance is identified by the Australian Heritage Database as being reflected in the existing stands of trees, natural bushland and proximity to Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park which provides a significant natural and green setting, unique for a showground in the Sydney region (Philips Marler, 2011). The bushland context, and the rural/agricultural character of the Showground including arenas, buildings and infrastructure combines for an evocative identity unique to the Sydney metropolitan area.

Within the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden the KWG Pavilion has high aesthetic significance demonstrated by its sculptural simplicity, its monumental stone and timber construction and an original floor plan with two complementary spaces, one external and one internal (Philips Marler, 2011).

NATURAL VALUE

The SISPL contains significant vegetation communities including the endangered ecological communities of Duffys Forest and Coastal Upland Swamp. Many rare and/or threatened species of flora and fauna are found here. The landscape features highly valued habitat, including but not limited to old hollow bearing trees, sandstone benches and crevices, terrestrial termite mounds, and canopy connectivity.

2.4 Heritage and Culture

Indigenous Heritage

The Aboriginal Heritage Office prepared a preliminary Aboriginal heritage assessment of the St Ives Showground Precinct including KWG in 2010 based on desktop and preliminary field inspections (Aboriginal Heritage Office, 2010)

The report found there was clear potential for unrecorded sites throughout the SISPL, and very high potential for unrecorded sites in bushland areas and areas subject to less previous development disturbance. Such sites would typically be associated with sandstone (i.e. rock shelter sites, engravings/sharpened grooves). The potential for artefact scatters were determined to be less common and more difficult to detect.

The report's preliminary inspections did not reveal any Aboriginal sites other than several recovered and relocated engravings located on rock salvaged from the F3 (Sydney to Newcastle freeway) during construction after 1963. The rock engravings are presently located in the KWG.

Significant Aboriginal sites are distributed widely across the Northern Sydney Region, with the SISPL containing a number of environmental factors which would indicate probable sites of habitation within the area.

Non-Aboriginal Heritage

The following non-Aboriginal heritage values were identified within and adjacent to the SISPL:

- The site has been used as a showground since 1927 when the St Ives Show Society held their fifth annual show at what was then the Northern Suburbs Showground.
- Between 1941-1944, the Showground was occupied by the Army under National Security Hiring Regulations. A variety of army battalions and divisions stationed on the site from 1941- 1944, most notably the 18th Battalion, or Ku-ring-gai Regiment stationed on the site from 1942-1943.
- The Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden Pavilion was designed by architect John Daubney and was constructed in 1968. It is significant as a rare and representative example of a small public building in the “Sydney School” style and for its continuing association with the teaching of environmental education and providing a continued space for community gathering and practice of gardening for more than 50 years (Phillips Marler 2010 Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Pavilion Draft Conservation Report).
- Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park (which directly adjoins SIS) is listed on the National Heritage List under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

No items within the SISPL are listed on any statutory heritage lists including the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan. The SISPL currently does not have a Conservation Management Plan to inform management of conservation items and their precincts as identified in the Phillips Marler (2006) St Ives Showground Cultural Assessment and Action Plan.

In 2001 the St Ives Showground was classified by the National Trust and included on its register. The SISPL is nominated on the Australian heritage database as having social significance to the local community for its agricultural and horticultural past uses as well as its annual events on site dating back to January 1921. Also significant is the site’s use during WWII for the Ku-ring-gai Regiment.

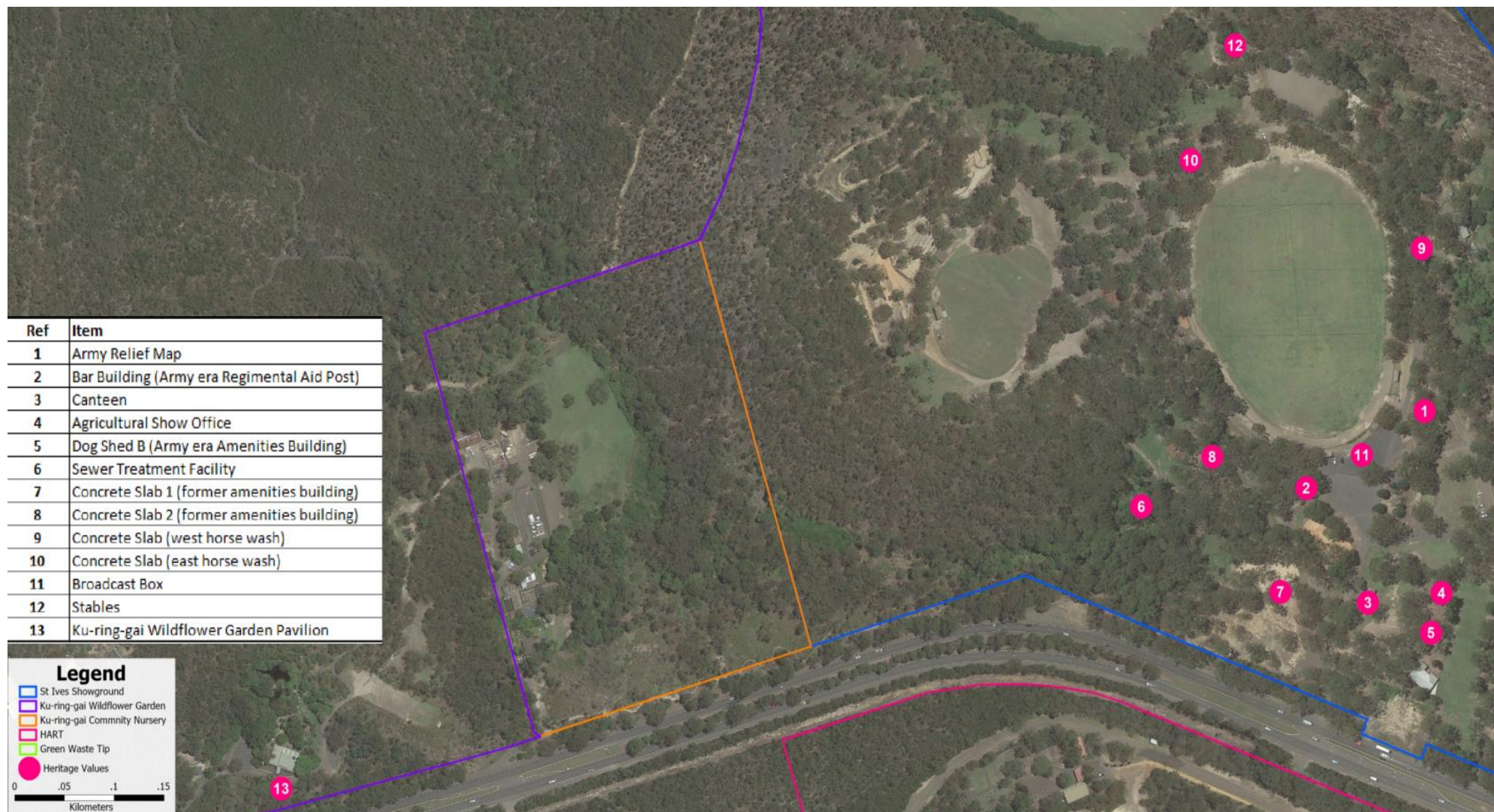
Ku-ring-gai Council is required to identify and protect non-indigenous heritage assets identified under the NSW *Heritage Act 1977*. Management of these assets must be in accordance with the principles as outlined in the ‘Burra Charter’. In accordance with the two Phillips Marler reports (2006 and 2010) the potential heritage assets are identified as follows (See figure 10):

1. Army Relief Map
2. Bar Building (Army era Regimental Aid Post)
3. Canteen
4. Agricultural Show Office
5. Dog Shed B (Army era Amenities Building)
6. Sewer Treatment Facility
7. Concrete Slab 1 (former amenities building)
8. Concrete Slab 2 (former amenities building)
9. Concrete Slab (west horse wash)
10. Concrete Slab (east horse wash)
11. Broadcast Box
12. Stables
13. Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden Pavilion (designed by John Daubney)

Consideration should be given to whether some or all of the items within the Showground listed above, excluding the Wildflower Garden Pavilion (Caley’s Pavilion), have a group listing or several group listings, which would enable proper inclusion of the setting more widely as well as the social significance of the precinct as a whole.

Other identified items for retention, conservation and interpretation include two farm dams - relics of past market gardens, and chicken/pig farming by the Tunbridge family.

Figure 12 – Heritage Values



2.5 Natural Environment

2.5.1 Climate

The Terrey Hills Meteorological Station is the nearest location for climatic records for the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands. The mean annual maximum and minimum temperatures at Terrey Hills range from 13.1°C to 21.9°C. The mean annual rainfall is 1,077mm with the mean monthly rainfall displaying a degree of seasonality, with wet summers and drier winters. Source: www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_066059.shtml

2.5.2 Geology, soils and topography

The site is located within the Hawkesbury Sandstone geological group which is characterised by medium to coarse sandstone and minor shale lenses.

The majority of St Ives Showground, precincts south of Mona Vale Road and the southern areas of the KWG are located within the Lucas Heights Soil Landscape which comprises gently undulating crests and ridges on plateau surfaces of the Mittagong formation, with alternating bands of shale and fine-grained sandstone. Rock outcrops are absent and soils comprise moderately deep, hard setting Yellow Podzolic Soils, Yellow Soloths and Yellow Earths. The Lucas Heights Soil Landscape is typically vegetated with dry sclerophyll low forest and woodland on stony soil with low fertility and low available water capacity.

The Lambert Soil Landscape occurs within KWG on exposed plateau tops and sideslopes of the Hawkesbury Sandstone. It is characterised by undulating to rolling hills with rocky outcrops, wide rock benches with low broken scarps, small hanging valleys and areas of poor drainage. The area has broad ridges, gently to moderately inclined slopes with open and closed heathland, scrub and low eucalypt open-woodland. Soils are shallow, highly permeable with very low fertility and high erosion hazard. Soils include discontinuous Earthy Sands and Yellow Earths, Siliceous Sands/Lithosols, Leached Sands and Yellow Podzolic Soils. Lambert Soil landscapes can have seasonal waterlogging and localised perched water tables.

The Gynea soil landscape is widespread throughout the site and is characteristically found on lower ridges and slopes on undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone. It is characterised by rock outcrops, broad convex crests, moderately inclined slopes with wide benches and localised rock outcrops on low broken scarps. Soils are shallow to moderately deep and include Yellow Earths, Earthy Sands, Siliceous Sands, localised Gleyed and Yellow Podzolic Soils, Siliceous Sands and Leached Sands. The soil is highly erodible and permeable with very low soil fertility.

Hawkesbury Soil Landscape occurs along the main tributaries of Cowan Creek including Ku-ring-gai Creek and Tree Fern Gully Creek in the KWG. The landscape is characterised by rugged, rolling to very steep hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone with rock outcrops, narrow crests and ridges, incised valleys, steep slopes and rocky benches, broken scarps and boulders. The soils are shallow, discontinuous Lithosols/Siliceous Sands, Earthy Sands, Yellow Earths and Podzolic Soils. Shale lenses can occur and Siliceous Sands and secondary Yellow Earths are along drainage lines. The soil is extremely erodible, rock falls can occur on steep slopes and rocky outcrops, and the soil is highly permeable with low soil fertility.

2.5.3 Hydrology, water quality and water sensitive urban design

Most of the precincts south of Mona Vale Road are located within the Middle Harbour Catchment whilst the remaining study area including north of Mona Vale Road is within the Cowan Creek Catchment draining to the Hawkesbury River to the north.

The three main creeks that drain to Cowan Creek are Ku-ring-gai Creek and Tree Fern Gully Creek to the west and east of the KWG precinct, and the creek to the north of the Showground (Refer Figure 13 below). These creeks are classed as Riparian Land Category 1 on Council's Riparian Lands and Water Courses Map in Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015. This category typically includes the most intact riparian zones in remnant bushland.

Water quality of Ku-ring-gai Creek is negatively impacted by urban development within the catchment upstream of the KWG, eroded creek banks in parts, soil nutrification and eutrophication of the creek that has exacerbated weeds. The two other creeks are in good condition because their tributaries largely drain from bushland and reserves.

A stormwater harvesting reuse system is installed at the KWG, two leachate harvesting and reuse systems are installed at the KCCN and GWT sites, and two gross pollutant traps are located on Mona Vale Road near the KCCN. The two dams within the KWG also capture runoff from Mona Vale Road and the wetland vegetation filters the water before it flows into Tree Fern Gully Creek.

The figure below shows the riparian lands and water sensitive urban design (WSUD) systems that are installed near or within the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands to improve water quality and flows.

Figure 13 – Riparian Land and Water Sensitive Urban Design Devices



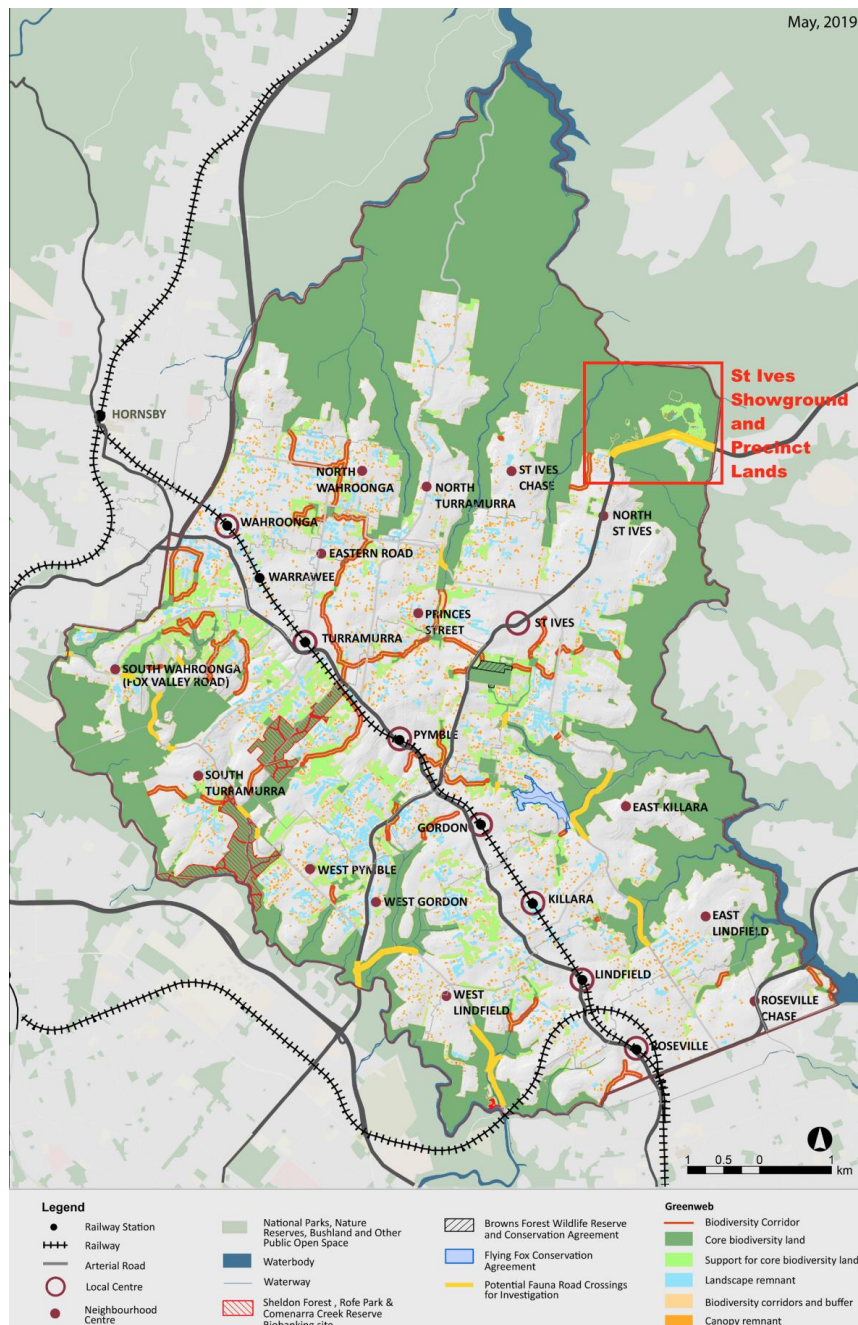
2.5.4 Flora and Fauna

The site contains significant flora, fauna and biodiversity values, being located between the extensive bushland areas of Garigal and Ku-ring-gai Chase National Parks. Habitat types within the SISPL include heathland, tall forest, dry sclerophyll low forest and woodland, sandstone outcrops, ponds, gullies, creeks and managed land. (Refer Figure 15). The flora, fauna and ecosystems in the Showground and Precinct Lands, along with the adjoining National Parks are of exceptional importance containing biodiverse areas supporting both rare and non-urban species. They play a

significant role as part of the conservation network of protected lands in the Northern Sydney Region, allowing the movement of native animals and plants across the landscape.

The SISPL comprise a key component of Council's ecological grid and have been identified as containing core biodiversity and support for core biodiversity land mapped within Councils Local Environmental Plan, Development Control Plan and identified in Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement: Ku-ring-gai Ecological Grid (Ku-ring-gai Council 2020 p.153). The SISPL also form part of Ku-ring-gai's urban forest, Green Web and Sydney Green Grid (identified in the North District Plan prepared by the Greater Sydney Commission). As part of a wildlife corridor, the SISPL facilitate movement and gene flow across the landscape, connecting otherwise fragmented remnants and ecosystems, which is central to conservation management (Ku-ring-gai Council 2020 LSPS p.150).

Figure 14 – Ku-ring-gai Ecological Grid (Ku-ring-gai Council LSPS 2020 p.153)



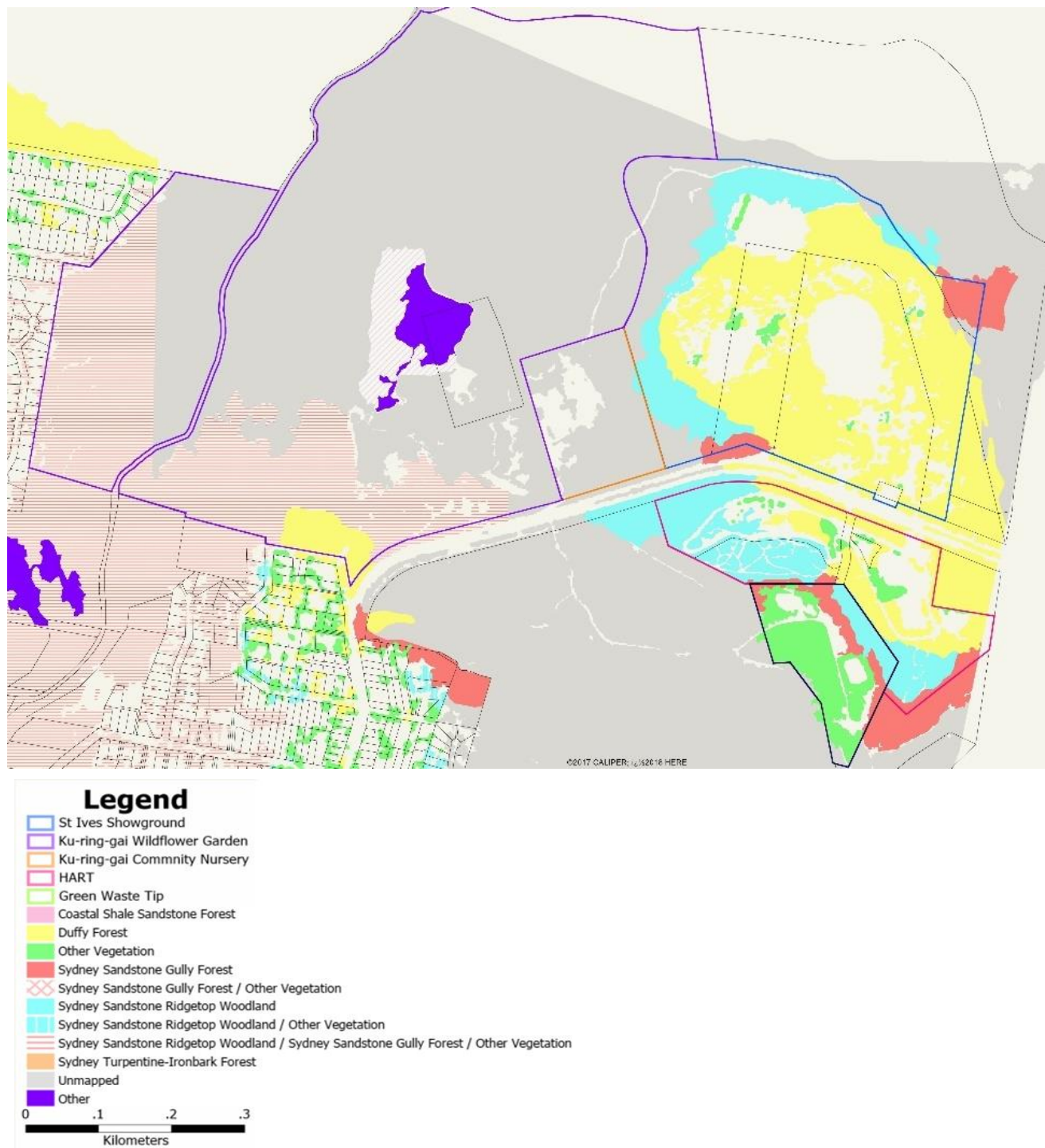
Duffys Forest Ecological Community in the Sydney Basin Bioregion occurs within the Precinct Lands and is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. It is typically found on ridgetops, plateaus, upper slopes and occasionally mid slopes on Hawkesbury sandstone geology, in association with laterite soils and soils derived from shale and laminite lenses. Structurally it reflects open-forest to woodland and is

widespread throughout the Showground precinct. It also occurs in southern areas of the KWG and south of Mona Vale Road.

Coastal Upland Swamp in the Sydney Basin Bioregion is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. It is associated with periodically waterlogged soils on Hawkesbury sandstone plateau and occurs in the Lambert soil landscape of the KWG.

The St Ives Wildflower Garden comprises 123 hectares of garden and displays Sydney sandstone bushland, two endangered ecological communities noted above as well as 18 threatened species of flora and fauna. The Gardens also display Australian native flora not endemic to the area including showy native flowers, rainforest trees and bush foods such as macadamia, Davidson's Plum and native ginger.

Figure 15 - St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands Vegetation Map (Ku-ring-gai Council Supplied 2021)



The following threatened species have been recorded within the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands or within a 5km radius and therefore have the potential to occur in the SISPL.

Table 3 - Threatened Flora with potential to or known to, occur in the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands

Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act Status	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Status
<i>Grevillea caleyi</i>	Caley's Grevillea	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered
<i>Melaleuca deanei</i>	Deane's Paperbark	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Tetratheca glandulosa</i>		Vulnerable	
<i>Genoplesium baueri</i>	Bauer's Midge Orchid	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Darwinia biflora</i>	Briggs Myrtaceae	Vulnerable	Vulnerable

Grevillea caleyi is a shrub restricted to an 8 km square area around Terrey Hills and occurs on ridgetops within Duffys Forest Endangered Ecological Community and open forest, generally dominated by *Eucalyptus sieberi* and *E. gummifera*. The 2004 Commonwealth and New South Wales State Recovery Plan for *Grevillea caleyi* considers the conservation requirements of the species to ensure its long term survival.

Melaleuca deanei is a shrub that occurs mostly in ridgetop woodland, with only 5% of sites in heath on sandstone. The 2010 Commonwealth and New South Wales State Recovery Plan for *Melaleuca deanei* considers the conservation requirements of the species to ensure its long term survival.

Tetratheca glandulosa is a small spreading shrub typically located where shale cappings occur over sandstone on ridgetops and upper-mid slope sandstone benches in heaths and scrub to woodland and open forest. The State Government has prepared environmental assessment guidelines for this species.

Darwinia biflora is an erect shrub that occurs on the edges of shale-capped ridges. Threats range from loss of habitat through changes in land use and urban expansion, and degradation of habitat through the implementation of inappropriate fire regimes, slashing for easement maintenance, illegal track creation and weed invasion. The 2004 Commonwealth and New South Wales Recovery Plan for *Darwinia biflora* considers the conservation requirements of the species to ensure its long term survival.

Genoplesium baueri is a terrestrial orchid that grows in dry sclerophyll forest and moss gardens over sandstone (Refer Figure 5). It has been identified in 5 locations within the KWG and has been the subject of a 12 year study in association with the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and the Australian Plants Society North Shore Group. The two northern populations are significant as they comprise 94% of the total monitored population in NSW and the orchid is increasing in number in these locations. The known sites form part of a targeted strategy for managing this species, developed under the Saving Our Species program through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.



Figure 16 - *Genoplesium baueri* (source W. Grimm)

According to the NSW Wildlife Atlas (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) and the Protected Matters Search Tool (Department of the Environment Water Heritage and the Arts), numerous threatened fauna species have been recorded in the locality within a 5-10km radius. The species with a medium to high potential of occurring in the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands due to the sites providing potential habitat are listed in Table 5 below.

Table 4 - Threatened Fauna with potential or known to occur in the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands

Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act Status	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act status
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Vulnerable	
Frogs			
<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>	Giant Burrowing Frog	Vulnerable	
<i>Pseudophryne australis</i>	Red-crowned Toadlet	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Birds			
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathamii</i>	Glossy Black Cockatoo	Vulnerable	
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo	Vulnerable	Endangered
<i>Ninox connivens</i>	Barking Owl	Vulnerable	
<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	Vulnerable	
<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	Vulnerable	
<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	Vulnerable	
<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin (south eastern form)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	Vulnerable	
Mammals			
<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	Eastern Pygmy-Possum	Vulnerable	
<i>Isodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-wing Bat	Vulnerable	
<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	Eastern Bent-wing Bat	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Scoteanax rueppellii</i>	Greater Broad-nosed Bat	Vulnerable	
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail Bat	Vulnerable	
<i>Mormopterus norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Free-tail Bat	Vulnerable	
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Reptiles			
<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>	Rosenberg's Goanna / Heath Monitor	Vulnerable	
<i>Hoplocephalus bungaroides</i>	Broad-headed Snake	Endangered	Vulnerable

2.6 Bushfire

The Ku-ring-gai Bushfire Management Policy 2020 guides the effective and sustainable management of bushfire risk within the Ku-ring-gai LGA. The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Minimise the risk posed by bushfire to the community, built assets and the natural environment.
- Ensure Council's compliance with all relevant legislation, standards, codes and plans.
- Promote a shared responsibility for bushfire management among Council, other land managers, fire authorities and residents.
- Empower Ku-ring-gai residents to improve the bushfire-resilience of their homes and families.
- Ensure bushfire management activities have due regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.
- Support Council's involvement in incident control and recovery.
- Improve the collection and sharing of knowledge, including indigenous knowledge about bushfires and bushfire management.
- Ensure continual improvement in Council's bushfire management strategies.

The Ku-ring-gai Bushfire Management Policy 2020 provides an implementation framework and a range of activities to meet the above objectives of the Policy.

The biodiversity, both flora and fauna, has evolved over many thousands of years experiencing periodic bushfires. This type of disturbance has influenced the species and the ecosystems we presently recognise. This influence benefits the populations of some species and restricts others, with the inter-fire interval, intensity, scale, duration, variability and seasonality of fires impacting this balance. Ku-ring-gai Council is responsible for the management of 1,100 hectares of bushland, subject to the provisions of State Environmental Planning Policy No. 19 - Bushland in Urban Areas and the Natural Areas Plan of Management.

The management of fuel levels in bushland areas within the SISPL is the responsibility of the property owner or land manager. In Ku-ring-gai LGA, fuel management is the responsibility of Council, State authorities and the individual property owners. As highlighted in the 2020 Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report, *"governments have a significant role in disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Many of the measures that are needed to manage the risk of disasters are matters for the government. Governments also own and manage land, property and other assets, including state forests and national parks, government buildings, and some critical infrastructure. Governments must manage risks to these assets, just as businesses and individuals must manage risks to their own assets"*.

Ku-ring-gai Council conducts an annual Fuel Management Program (directed by the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan) using hazard reduction or controlled burns as a means of reducing the amount of fuel that adds to the fire front during bush fires. Regional co-operation with other land managers in and adjoining the Council area, particularly the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), is essential to ensure effective fire management. Consistent plans and operations in both the Rural Fire District and the Sydney Fire District are co-ordinated with both the NSW Rural Fire Service, the NSW Fire Brigades, NPWS, Hornsby Council and other key landowners through the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Bushfire Management Committee. The Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan, provides a 5 year plan that maps the level of risk across the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai council areas, helping the community and authorities prepare for bush fires. The aim of this Plan is to minimise the risk of adverse impact of bush fires on life, property and the environment.

Fire trails that run between the SISPL and the NPWS managed lands are a shared resource under this PoM.

Figure 10 indicates the location of existing fire trails, which play a fundamental role in bushfire management and firefighting. In addition, some trails effectively integrate with the track network to expand the recreational access

network for walkers. Further, it is noted that the existing access track to the Green Waste Tip site acts as a fire trail and as such is a key access to be retained and maintained.

2.7 Access and Circulation

Access to the SISPL is primarily by private vehicle with limited public and active transport options. The St Ives Showground, Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery and Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden are accessed via Mona Vale Road.

Whilst each of these sites have their own independent entries, access and circulation between these spaces is limited to fire trails or internal maintenance roads as shown in Figure 10.

Access and circulation is of high importance to facilitate the efficient and safe operation of destination events such as those hosted at the SIS. During 2020, Council has undertaken improvements to the entrance/exit of SIS to enhance safety in relation to user access and circulation.

The former Green Waste Tip site and the Honda Australia Roadcraft Training centre are located south of Mona Vale Road with separate road entries and no formal internal access road between the two sites.

There is an opportunity for a signalised intersection to be investigated. To allow for safer circulation of both pedestrians and vehicles between SIS and HART. This will be dependent on Transport for NSW and associated speed limits along this section of Mona Vale Road.

The Green Grid is a landscape first planning concept that links parks, open spaces, bushland and walking and cycling paths. It provides an aspirational blueprint for a corridor incorporating ecological, hydrological, recreational and cultural pathways, including key open space destinations such as the SISPL.

This PoM recognises and reflects Council's strategic directions in relation to the development of the Green Grid in including specific actions from the Ku-ring-gai Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement such as:

Investigate the creation of a Green Grid Strategy that:

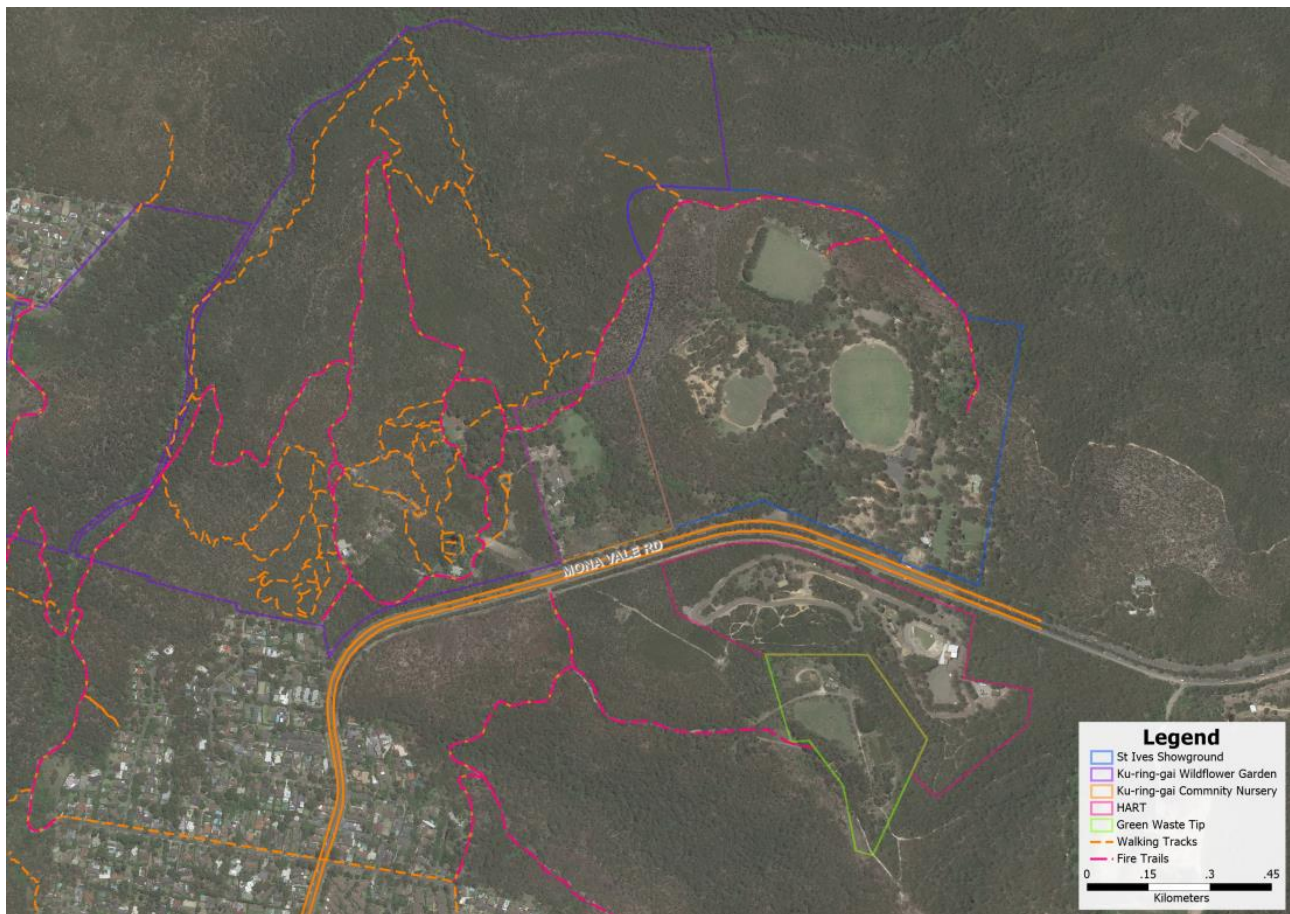
- *Refines Sydney Green Grid and Ku-ring-gai Local Green Grid opportunities, constraints and required actions.*
- *Identifies walking and cycling routes from connecting Local Centres with nearby parks and natural areas, walking track connections from the St Ives Precinct with existing national park walking trails, including improved biodiversity connections and green infrastructure.*

2.7.1 Walking Tracks

A series of walking trails and tracks exist across the site catering to hikers and walkers. The precinct is linked regionally by a number of walking tracks such as the 'Harbour to Hawkesbury'. Warrimoo, Middle Harbour and local fire trails are also used for recreation.

Bushwalking tracks exist within the SISPL. Walking track condition and signage varies across the site. There is an opportunity for this to be coordinated to improve access, legibility and interpretation. Council has also been working to close a number of trails that threaten to fragment bushland areas, or are impacting on natural vegetation and wildlife and Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.

Figure 17: Existing circulation and access including walking tracks



2.7.2 Vehicular access and circulation

The SISPL is currently split into two distinct areas by Mona Vale Road with no formal pedestrian access across the six traffic lanes. The majority of users arrive by car, and traffic dominates all entry points.

Circulation and orientation, especially within the Showground precincts, currently has poor legibility and way finding, both in regard to directional signage and hierarchy of tracks and roadways. The 1999 PoM stated that *'the area between the entrance and the Main Arena, along Conway Avenue, is confusing and difficult to interpret'*. Works that have been undertaken since this time have not rectified this situation and this remains a key circulation issue to be addressed.

The positioning of the internal link road should be reviewed during master planning to ensure safety, accessibility and minimal impact on environmental or heritage values

The landscape treatment to precinct land entries is minimal and understated, enhancing its rural character. Wayfinding to all precincts from Mona Vale Road is currently minimal.

Noise generated along the main arterial road is diffused within the site by topographical placement. Traffic noise can detract from the recreational experience of the SISPL as a natural setting and potentially its habitat value for wildlife.

2.8 Views and Landscape Character

Extensive views are available over the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park (KCNP) from the north-western area of the Showground precinct, especially from the western edge of the former mini-wheels site. Currently, views are limited to informal glimpses along tracks, and there is a lack of significant public lookout points within the SISPL due to the

nature of existing landform and the density of tree cover. Residents adjacent to the north-western boundary enjoy picturesque views over the KWG dense tree canopy.

Motorists travelling along the Mona Vale Road boundary are only aware of the activities happening within the southern edge of the Showground precinct due to dense screening by bushland vegetation and gently falling topography from the road into the GNP in the south and the KCNP to the north.

Due to the nature of the Hawkesbury Sandstone topography, views within the SISPL are generally restricted to framed and feature views rather than panoramic outlooks. The major exception to this is the views obtained from the walking trail and lookout mentioned above. This general absence of panoramic views is not, however, a negative attribute, as it enhances the feeling of isolation from the urban environment for users, and contributes to a sense of discovery e.g. seeking to find what is around the next bend.

Views within the SISPL are of exceptional quality for a remnant bushland area and comprise a valuable contrast to the surrounding urban environment of St Ives. A variety of natural views exists from vegetation found down gullies and along ridges, contributing to a feeling of being immersed in nature. The site's visual character has an important link with its pre-European history and the lack of comparable environments increases the importance of its visual management considerations.

2.9 Buildings and Structures

The built structures scattered throughout all the precincts are a mix of styles that have evolved over time. The buildings within the Showground precinct, apart from the brick grandstand, kiosk and toilet block, are generally weatherboard structures that have been painted a uniform colour of olive green and white and are quite rural in character. Some buildings are remnants of army use. There is room for improvement in integrating the buildings across the different precincts through appropriate signage, colours and materials in the future. The cultural assessment (Phillips Marler, 2006) lists recommendations for maintaining and conserving buildings at SIS.

Ku-ring-gai Council is planning to develop a multi-purpose Cultural and Environmental Education Centre within the SIS. The centre will provide a range of education programs, activities and exhibitions focused on environmental and cultural topics.

2.10 Site and user characteristics

The SISPL caters to two broad user groups – the local community, and those who travel further distances specifically to visit the reserve. It is estimated in Council's St Ives Showground and Precinct Options Paper (2010) that in excess of 500,000 people will visit the SIS site annually to undertake various active and passive recreational pursuits. The KWG and the Showground Reserves are frequently used by visiting clubs and organised groups and smaller informal groups/individuals for recreation pursuits such as picnics and barbecues, school education, day excursions from schools, photography, bushwalking, orienteering, displays and shows, equestrian events, organised sports training and competitions, and dog training events. Regular events are held by the Ku-ring-gai Model Flying Club and Ku-ring-gai and Warringah Radio Control Car Club.

It is noted that the SISPL has a diverse and unique mix of facilities across the precincts. This allows for current and potential commercial, community, recreation and cultural activities. These types of activities will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis within the framework of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* and relevant zonings, but also taking into account the regional recreational, environmental and cultural role of the SIS and precincts.

Table 5 - Current uses, facilities and regular events in SISPL

Precincts	Facilities	Uses	Regular Events
Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden (KWG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible walking track • Hiking trails linking to regional NPWS trails (no formalised links in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking/ hiking - Picnicking - Play, exercise, cycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature play for pre-schoolers • Junior Rangers after-school program • Eco Birthday Party Program

Precincts	Facilities	Uses	Regular Events
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> place or wayfinding strategy) Plant display areas Ponds Boardwalks Fern House, shade house Administration office building Toilets Open-air and undercover picnic areas for small and large groups Children's playground Bicycle track Parking on-site for cars and bus/ coach Caley's Pavilion Visitor Centre Wildflower Workshop Native Nursery locally sourced provenance indigenous plants Exercise equipment. Bushland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guided walks and activities Environmental education Retail Community events and other hiring of the pavilion Education (TAFE NSW and NSW Emergency Services Training) Protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Holiday Environmental Education Program Educational Walks and workshops 'Walk and Talk' programme APS The North Shore Group of the Australian Plant Society Venue hire including Caley's Pavilion and Picnic Areas Eco Sculpture Festival Wildflower Parkrun Seasonal special events e.g. Easter, Winter, Halloween and Christmas.
Council Community Nursery (Referred to as the Old Nursery site).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape materials and recycling store Council compound for landscape works Plant propagation shed Soil and compost storage areas Glasshouse and shadehouses Former administration office/house Bushcare equipment and chemical stores Numerous large sheds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native Plant propagation Community Nursery Native Bee Project hub Landscape recycling & storage area Research centre for universities Storage of Park equipment, signs and plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers program for Bushcare plant propagation Community beehive education and pick up
St Ives Showground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main Arena/Show Ring Grandstand Broadcast Box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major events Festivals Camping Outdoor Cinema Polo Dressage Showjumping Horse shows Dog shows Car shows Circus Sports training Sports competitions Dog off-leash area. 	<p>Tuffnudderz The Big Bounce Aussie Night Markets Northern Suburbs Agricultural Society Show St Ives Medieval Faire Drive in Movies Outdoor Movies</p>

Precincts	Facilities	Uses	Regular Events
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education (TAFE NSW and NSW Emergency Services) Commercial filming 	
	Caretaker's Cottage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenancy for security, park management 	
	Events Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markets Fairs Community events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car shows
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pavilions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Douglas Pickering Louise Lennon Jim Powell Craft Toilets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Ives Show exhibitions Community events Seminars Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Suburbs Agricultural and Horticultural Society - annual 3-day show Ku-ring-gai Trampoline Club Casual hire.
	Craft Hut B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Show Day events Hire. 	
	Community Shed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities for older men and women 	
	Kiosk building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event information and kiosk for events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current casual hire linked to events Intent to seek permanent user in near future
	Dog Rings/Off-leash Dog Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog shows/ obedience and agility classes Off-leash exercise. 	Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog Ring No. 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog obedience and agility classes Dog showing Dog Rings No. 6 and 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog obedience and agility classes Dog showing Dog off-leash area
	Radio Control Car Club Track and Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radio-controlled electric car racing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ku-ring-gai and Warringah Radio Control Car Club (1st and 3rd Sundays of the month).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Princess Anne Arena Equestrian Centre Clubhouse Storeroom Tank Amenities (recently upgraded) Flag poles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show jumping Dressage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One day events Competition Training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northside Riding Club Twilight and Spring Horse Shows.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equestrian Warm-up Ring Stables. 	Sand-based equestrian warm-up area	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use space used for model planes Clubhouse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flying model planes Informal ball games Events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ku-ring-gai Model Flying Club.

Precincts	Facilities	Uses	Regular Events
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional playground Children's playgrounds Commercial outdoor recreation facility such as a ropes course. Picnic areas with wood barbecues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's play and cycling Family and social gatherings Education Commercial adventure play and high ropes course facility or similar. Events. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking on-site for cars and bus/ coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bush tracks/ fire trails. Bushland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Running Mountain biking Bushwalking Horse throughfare on appropriate tracks Stargood Spinal Injury rehabilitation programs Junior Triathlon Racewalking Fitness Recreation Protection of biodiversity and eco system services 	
HART – Australian not-for-profit organisation training facility CARES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World-class training and administration centre which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2km dual-lane, closed road circuit with dedicated low-speed training areas 9 on-site air-conditioned classrooms A range of support infrastructure. 	Provides road safety training for drivers, passengers, motorcycle riders and motorcycle pillion passengers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART) Community and Road Education Scheme (CARES) (NSW Police).
Green Waste Tip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disused tree tip site Water Plant Mulching Leach Pump House Cycling and hiking tracks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remediation Environmental monitoring Water Recycling. 	

Play Equipment, Furniture and Picnic Facilities

In 2020, Council constructed a new regional playground which caters for a wide range of visitors to the SIS. Set within the remnant edge of Duffy's Forest bushland, the new inclusive play space has a range of play equipment and nature-play experiences for all ages and abilities.

[illegible]

The SIS includes the Princess Anne Arena, of which the grassed arena is approximately 0.8ha in size. The arena is used predominately as an equestrian facility for training and competition days in show jumping, dressage, horsemanship and similar. It can also be used as an event space and is suitable for other sports, music and community events.

The Jim Watson Arena has hosted a multitude of events including horse shows. Its current use is primarily for informal off-leash dog walking and for major events. It is also used for regular sport training and competitions, especially football (soccer).

Dog Off-Leash Areas

St Ives Showground provides various dog off-leash areas, including fenced areas that are suitable for dog training and exercise activities. Dog Ring 1 is a designated off-leash area approximately 20 metres wide by 100 metres long. It is located by the Jim Powell Pavilion which is the clubhouse for the Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club. The Jim Watson Main arena is another popular space for off-leash activities.

Hobby Groups

The SISPL currently hosts various model-based activities and clubs including leased spaces for flying fixed-line model planes and radio control cars. In the past, the SIS has also provided for a mini-wheels motorbike club. This use caused conflict with the environmental values of the reserve and also resulted in noise complaints from nearby residents.

Camping

In the past, SIS has been used for camping which has recently been limited to special event purposes only. It is proposed to maintain the current special event camping only position until a further market analysis has been undertaken to determine the viability of commercially operated camping in the future. There are a number of locations within the precinct that could be appropriate for camping.

2.10.2 Sport

Existing active and organised sports facilities include the use of Jim Watson Arena for football (soccer) and a range of equestrian activities. There is an opportunity to explore further the use of the SIS for regional sports training and competition.

An indoor sports facility was previously proposed at the KCCN. However, this was not deemed viable due to asset protection zones required to allow this type of development to occur.

KWG also hosts Parkrun every Saturday morning. The 5km course is run on a mixture of tarmac paths and concrete paths and regularly attracts more than 100 participants who walk or run the course.

2.10.3 Events

The Ku-ring-gai Destination Management Plan 2017- 2020 identifies an aspiration to develop events infrastructure and supporting facilities to position the Showground as a centre for international-standard events for music, cinema and performing arts.

The annual St Ives Agricultural and Horticultural Show at the Showground in May each year draws large numbers of people, as does the KWG annual Festival of the Wildflowers.

In September 2014 the inaugural St Ives Mediaeval Faire attracted in excess of 10,000 people over the two days of the event at the SIS. The event has been running annually since with the exception of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden hosts a range of events from school education programs to celebratory events including weddings.

2.10.4 Honda Australia Roadcraft Training Centre and Community and Road Education Scheme

HART and CARES provide road user safety training for drivers, passengers, motorcycle riders and motorcycle pillion passengers.

3. Planning Context

3.1 Overview

This section describes the broader legislative and policy framework which applies to St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands.

Full versions of the legislation referred to below are on-line at www.legislation.gov.au and www.austlii.edu.au.
Ku-ring-gai Council's website is www.kmc.nsw.gov.au.

The relevant provisions of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* and *Native Title Act 1993* are described below.

	LAND USE	SPORT/RECREATION/OPEN SPACE	ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE	ACCESS/HEALTH/SAFETY/MANAGEMENT/MARKETING
COMMON-WEALTH/ NATIONAL	Native Title Act 1993 Telecommunications Act 1997	Federal government sport planning - Sport 2030 – National Sport Plan The Future of Sport in Australia (Crawford Report) Australian Sport: The Pathway to Success National sport development plans - AusPlay National physical activity participation data	Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act	Disability Discrimination Act 1992 Work Health and Safety Act 2011 Australian Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management • Lighting • Building Code of Australia • Access
NSW	NSW Premier's Priorities			
	Crown Land Management Act 2016 Crown Land Management Regulation 2018 Local Government Act 1993 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Leasing of Crown Land Policy Licensing of Crown Land Policy/Guidelines 2018 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 Roads Act 1993 Draft Strategic Plan for Crown Land	Draft Greener Places Design Guide Women in Sport – Her Sport, Her Way 2019-2023 Future Sports Plans Delivering Sport and Active Recreation in NSW NSW peak sporting body strategic and development plans AusPlay NSW physical activity participation data Facility grants programs incl. Local Sport Grant Program Companion Animals Act 1998	Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 Biosecurity Act 2015 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 Pesticides Act 1999 and Pesticides Regulation 2017 Water Management Act 2000 State Environmental Protection Policy 19: Bushland in Urban Areas Heritage Act 1977 Rural Fires Act	Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 Disability Inclusion Act 2014 Tobacco Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and Regulation 2016
SYDNEY	Greater Sydney Region Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities – Connecting People 2018			
		Greater Sydney Green Grid		
REGIONAL	Our Greater Sydney 2056: North District Plan 2018			
		50 Year Vision for Sydney's Open Space and Parklands North District Plan 2018 Sports Facilities Plan (Office of Sport) NSROC Regional Sportsground Strategy Review 2017 NSROC Community Facilities Plan	Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bushfire Risk Management Plan Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Fire Access and Fire Trail (FAFT) Plan	
Local	Ku-ring-gai Community Strategic Plan 2038 incl. Delivery Program (4 years), Operational Plan and Budget (1 yr), Resourcing Strategy Ku-ring-gai Local Strategic Planning Statement			

	LAND USE	SPORT/RECREATION/OPEN SPACE	ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE	ACCESS/HEALTH/ SAFETY/MANAGEMENT/MARKETING
Strategic / specific need	Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 Ku-ring-gai Development Control Plan 2018 Ku-ring-gai Contributions Plan 2010 Ku-ring-gai Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020	People, Parks and Bushland – Open Space Strategy for Ku-ring-gai 2005 Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy Ku-ring-gai Destination Management Plan St Ives Showground Business Plan Sport in Ku-ring-gai Strategy 2006 Recreational Facilities Asset Management Plan 2011 Management of Community and Recreation Land and Facilities Policy	Climate Change Policy Urban Forest Policy Water Sensitive City Policy Bushfire Management Policy Biodiversity Policy Fauna Management Policy Draft Mini Wheels Site Management Plan	
Implementation	Delivery Program (4 years), Operational Plan and Budget (1 year)	Landscape Masterplans Terms and conditions for sports facilities and casual hire, seasonal allocation		St Ives Showground Business Plan KWG Branding Strategy Maintenance programs

3.2 Crown Land and Reserves

3.2.1 Crown Land Management Act 2016

The requirements of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*, which governs the management of Crown land in NSW have been considered in preparing this Plan.

Councils are Crown land managers for Crown reserves. The Act authorises local Councils that are appointed to manage their dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it were public land under the provisions of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. Such Crown reserves will be managed in much the same way that Council-owned community land is managed.

3.2.2 Objects and principles of Crown land management

The objects and the principles of Crown land management in the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* ensure that Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of NSW. This Plan of Management has been prepared according to the requirements of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* for Council managed Crown reserves which are classified as community land and categorised under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

3.2.3 Classification and categorisation of Crown land

Section 3.21 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* states that dedicated or reserved Crown land may be classified and managed as if it were public (community or operational) land within the meaning of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. All of the Crown land parcels included in this Plan of Management are or are intended to be classified as community land.

Section 3.23(2) of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* requires that Crown land is to be categorised consistent with the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. As a Crown land manager, Council is authorised to classify and manage its dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it were public land within the meaning of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. The default classification for Crown land managed by Councils is as community land.

The purpose of Crown land dictates the initial categorisation of Crown reserves. A category is assigned to Crown land that is most closely related to the reserve purpose and is consistent with the guidelines and core objectives for community land under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. Following the assignment of a category to Crown land, the council must prepare a Plan of Management under the Local Government Act that reflects the assigned category.

Ku-ring-gai Council's initial assignment of community land categories to the St Ives Showground, Wildflower Gardens Reserve and Council Nursery Reserves were acceptable to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE)– Crown Lands, who reviewed them on behalf of the Minister responsible for Crown Lands.

The five precincts and initial land categorisations are shown in the following Maps (Figures 2 -6). Land Categorisation was endorsed by DPIE Crown Lands for all areas on 30/3/2020, except for Reserve 86262 (KWG) which was initially deferred with final endorsement received 03/12/2020.

As part of this PoM, a sub-category of Natural Areas (watercourse) has been recommended for R500103 (SIS), R86262 (KWG) and R81542 (KCCN) to reflect the watercourses and protect riparian vegetation. This additional categorisation is mapped in Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4.

The Categorisation Report and Letters confirming initial categorisation are contained in Appendix 4.

Council management of the land parcels south of Mona Vale Road is underpinned by Council not being a Crown land manager for these parcels, as well as the land being a mixture of reserved and un-reserved Crown land with differing reserve purposes and use and occupation agreements (a lease and a permissive occupancy) with the Crown.

3.2.4 Native Title

Council must also manage Crown land in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993* and Part 8 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* in relation to native title.

3.2.5 Dealings with Crown Land

Section 3.23(7)(f) of the CLM Act states that Section 44 of the LGA applies i.e. that the nature and use of community land must not be changed pending the adoption of a Plan of Management for community land.

Sections 1.15(1) and (2) of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* states that Crown land must not be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed, dedicated, reserved or dealt with in any other way unless it is authorised by this Act. However, another Act may make special provision for particular Crown land.

3.2.6 Use of Crown Land

Uses of Council managed Crown reserves are dealt with in Sections 2.12 and 2.13 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2018*.

Use of dedicated or reserved Crown Land

Dedicated or reserved Crown land may be used only for the following purposes:

- the purposes for which it is dedicated or reserved.
- any purpose incidental or ancillary to a purpose for which it is dedicated or reserved.
- any purpose specified in a Plan of Management for the land.
- any other purposes authorised by an Act.

However, Council may grant short term licences over dedicated or reserved Crown land under Section 2.20 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* for any prescribed purpose listed in Clause 31 of the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018. Generally, when managing dedicated or reserved Crown land, and for the purposes of this Plan of Management, Council:

- a) must manage the land as if it were community land under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, and
- b) has for that purpose all the functions that a local council has under that Act in relation to community land (including in relation to the leasing and licensing of community land).

Leases and Licenses

Leasing and licensing of Council managed Crown reserves is addressed in:

- Section 2.20 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Leasing and licensing of the Crown land south of Mona Vale Road is addressed in:

- Leasing of Crown Land Policy.
- Licensing of Crown Land Policy and Licensing of Crown Land Guidelines.

Refer to Section 5.5 of this Plan for information about leases, licences, permits, easements and other estates over Crown land.

Councils may grant a lease or licence for Crown land in the same way as for community land owned by the Council.

Schedule 7 (Clause 5) of the *Crown Land Management Act* provides that any existing tenure for Council managed Crown land continues in force for the term of its original grant.

Prior to the adoption of the first Plan of Management over Crown land, Councils may issue short term licences for up to one year for prescribed purposes under the *Crown Land Management Act*. Councils may also renew existing leases, as long as the permitted uses do not change and no other uses are permitted. Councils may also grant new leases if they only permit uses which are the same as leases over the land in force prior to the commencement of the CLM Act.

The *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018* provides for transitional arrangements that enable Councils to continue currently authorised uses and short-term uses of Crown land while preparing Plans of Management. During the initial period (until 30 June 2021) and until Council adopts a first Plan of Management for Council managed Crown land, the Regulation allows Councils to:

- Issue short term licences over Council managed Crown land for a range of prescribed purposes, such as holding sports and recreational activities, camping and events.
- Renew existing leases for a term not exceeding 21 years (including any option for the grant of a further term) over Council managed Crown land if the renewal does not authorise any additional use for the land.
- Grant new leases over Council managed Crown land for a term not exceeding 21 years (including any option for the grant of a further term) if there was a pre-existing lease immediately prior to the repeal of the *Crown Lands Act 1989* on 1 July 2018 and the new lease does not authorise any additional use of the land.

3.3 NSW Local Government Act 1993

The *NSW Local Government Act 1993* provides the legislative framework for Council's day to day operations. The Act identifies a Council's responsibility to actively manage public land and to involve the community in developing a strategy for its management.

The framework for classification and categorisation of community and Crown land is shown below.



3.3.1 Classification

Council owned and Crown land that is classified as ‘community’ land under the Act must be managed and used according to the provisions of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

Community land is defined as land which must be kept for the general use of the community. Council has no power to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of community land, except for the purpose of enabling that land to become, or be added to, a Crown Reserve or land reserved or dedicated under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

3.3.2 Plans of Management for Community Land

The Act requires all community land to be covered by a Plan of Management. A Plan of Management that covers more than one area of community land must identify:

- the category of the land.
- core objectives for management of the land.
- the purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used.
- the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise.
- express authorisation for any leases, licences or other estates over the land.
- objectives and performance targets for management of the land.
- the means for achievement of management objectives and a method for assessing performance.

The nature and use of community land may not change without an adopted Plan of Management.

The community is involved in the preparation of a Plan of Management for community land in the following ways (at a minimum):

- council must exhibit the draft Plan of Management for at least 28 days and give at least a further 14 days for the making of submissions.
- any significant amendments to a draft Plan must be publicly exhibited in the same way, until the Council can adopt the draft Plan without further amendment.
- making a submission to a public hearing regarding categorisation or re-categorisation of community land.

3.3.3 Categorisation of Community Land

Community land and Crown land must be categorised in accordance with the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* as either *Sportsground, Park, Area of Cultural Significance, Natural Area, or General Community Use*. A category assigned to community and Crown land, using the guidelines for categorisation in the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, reflects the Council's intentions for future management and use of the land.

3.3.4 Use agreements

Under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* a lease, licence, permit, easement or other estate (use agreement) may be granted over all or part of community land.

In accordance with Section 46A of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* a Plan of Management for community land is to specify and authorise any purpose for which a lease, licence, permit, easement or other estate may be granted over community land during the life of a Plan of Management.

3.4 Plans of Management and reporting for community and Crown land

Requirements relating to reporting and plans of management for Crown land will generally be as provided by the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* rather than the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Devolved Land

Any Crown land that is a public reserve under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* with no appointed Crown land manager or that is not held under lease from the Crown will continue to devolve to Council management in accordance with Section 48 of the *Local Government Act*. This land is not defined as public land, nor is a PoM required under legislation.

Native Title

Plans of Management are a critical tool to ensure that any authorisation or restriction on the use of a reserve is consistent with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*.

On Crown land, Native title rights and interests must be considered unless:

- native title has been extinguished; or
- native title has been surrendered; or
- determined by a court to no longer exist.

The Crown Land Management Act includes provisions to facilitate Councils to comply with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*, and clarifies their responsibilities where native title has not been extinguished or determined.

Preparation of this Plan of Management requires Council to obtain the written advice of a qualified Native Title Manager approved by the Minister to oversee proposed dealings and actions for the land and ensure compliance with native title obligations.

Under Section 8.8 of the NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016, Council has given notice via resolution to the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act that Lands Advisory Services Pty Ltd has been engaged as Native Title Manager for this Plan of Management.

The Act requires that Native Title Manager advice must be provided at the time of adoption or submission of the Plan of Management for adoption, addressing the effect that adopting the Plan of Management would have on Native title. To not do so may leave a Council at risk of being responsible for compensation if a Native title claim is upheld on a Crown reserve managed by the Council.

The Native Title Manager must advise whether:

- any Plan of Management covers Crown land which is not excluded land.
- leases, licences and any other dealings and land tenures (such as leases, licences, easements, mortgages, covenants and other restrictions on use) which may affect native title are valid under native title legislation.

This requirement does not apply to 'excluded land', which includes:

- land subject to a determination under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) that native title rights and interests have been extinguished or do not exist.
- land surrendered through an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA).
- land where the native title rights and interests have been compulsorily acquired.
- protected under section 24FA of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).
- land for which a 'native title certificate' is in effect. A native title certificate can be issued by the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act where there is adequate evidence to show that native title rights and interest for the land have been extinguished or do not exist. The issue of a native title certificate does not affect rights under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

Council Crown Land Managers must obtain Native Title Manager advice prior to carrying out certain activities. Classification or initial categorisation does not require native title manager advice. However, categorisation will inform any subsequent Plan of Management, which does require Native Title Manager advice prior to its adoption. Management functions must be consistent with the reserve purpose and may be important to the validation of any future acts under native title legislation.

Therefore, it is important that Council Crown Land Managers assign a categorisation that most closely relates to the reserve purpose. Certain management functions exercised for the land by a CCLM after it is classified or categorised (as enabled by a Plan of Management) for example, the issuing of a lease or licence, will also require native title manager advice.

Some examples of acts which may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves managed by Council include:

- construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, tennis courts, grandstands and barbecues.
- construction of extensions to existing buildings.
- construction of new roads or tracks.
- installation of infrastructure such as power lines, sewerage pipes, etc.
- issue of a lease or licence.
- undertaking of major earthworks.

When proposing any act that may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves, the act must be authorised through Part 2 Division 3 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth).

3.5 NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* is the primary piece of legislation which governs the strategic planning and development assessment processes undertaken by state and local government in NSW.

3.5.1 SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007

The NSW State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) aims for the effective “delivery of infrastructure across the State by:

- Improving regulatory certainty and efficiency through a consistent planning regime for infrastructure and the provision of services.
- Providing greater flexibility in the location of infrastructure and service facilities.
- Allowing for the efficient development, redevelopment or disposal of surplus government owned land.
- Identifying the environmental assessment category into which different types of infrastructure and services development fall (including identifying certain development of minimal environmental impact as exempt development).
- Identifying matters to be considered in the assessment of development adjacent to particular types of infrastructure development.
- Providing for consultation with relevant public authorities about certain development during the assessment process or prior to development commencing.
- This SEPP takes precedence over Council’s LEP, where conflicts arise between the requirements of the two documents.

3.5.2 State Environmental Planning Policy No 19—Bushland in Urban Areas

The general aim of this Policy is to protect and preserve bushland within the urban areas because of its:

- value to the community as part of the natural heritage.
- aesthetic value.
- value as a recreational, educational and scientific resource.

The specific aims of this policy are to:

- protect the remnants of plant communities which were once characteristic of land now within an urban area.
- retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration which will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term.
- protect rare and endangered flora and fauna species.
- protect habitats for native flora and fauna.
- protect wildlife corridors and vegetation links with other nearby bushland.
- protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.
- protect bushland for its scenic values, and to retain the unique visual identity of the landscape.
- protect significant geological features.
- protect existing landforms, such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores.
- protect archaeological relics.
- protect the recreational potential of bushland.
- protect the educational potential of bushland.
- maintain bushland in locations which are readily accessible to the community.
- promote the management of bushland in a manner which protects and enhances the quality of the bushland and facilitates public enjoyment of the bushland compatible with its conservation.

3.6 Other relevant legislation

3.6.1 Disability Discrimination Act

The Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992* allows for individuals to lay complaints if they have been unfairly treated because of their disabilities. Under the DDA a disability is defined as:

- Total or partial loss of the person's bodily or mental functions; or
- Total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- The presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness; or
- The presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
- The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person's body; or
- A disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
- A disorder, illness or disease that affects a person's thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour;"

The Act promotes awareness that disability does not diminish a person's fundamental rights within the community.

Council aims to make our community land accessible where appropriate through thoughtful sustainable design, including but not limited to park furnishings, public facilities, pathways and crossings.

3.6.2 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* seeks to provide for the protection of the environment, especially parts of national environmental significance. As well as promoting the conservation of biodiversity and ecologically sustainable development through the conservation and the ecologically sustainable use of natural resources.

3.6.3 NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

The *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* aims to protect, restore and enhance the quality of the environment in a way that integrates economic and environmental considerations.

3.6.4 NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977

The NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 makes it unlawful to discriminate on the grounds of race, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, age and on other grounds in certain circumstances. The act promotes equality of opportunity for all people.

3.6.5 NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* covers the establishment, preservation and management of national parks, historic sites and Aboriginal relics throughout NSW as well as the protection of native flora and fauna.

3.6.6 Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

The purpose of this Act is to maintain a healthy, productive and resilient environment for the greatest well-being of the community, now and into the future, consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development (described in section 6(2) of the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*), and in particular:

- to conserve biodiversity at bioregional and State scales, and

- to maintain the diversity and quality of ecosystems and enhance their capacity to adapt to change and provide for the needs of future generations, and
- to improve, share and use knowledge, including local and traditional Aboriginal ecological knowledge, about biodiversity conservation, and
- to support biodiversity conservation in the context of a changing climate, and
- to support collating and sharing data, and monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and the effectiveness of conservation actions, and
- to assess the extinction risk of species and ecological communities, and identify key threatening processes, through an independent and rigorous scientific process, and
- to regulate human interactions with wildlife by applying a risk-based approach, and
- to support conservation and threat abatement action to slow the rate of biodiversity loss and conserve threatened species and ecological communities in nature, and
- to support and guide prioritised and strategic investment in biodiversity conservation, and
- to encourage and enable landholders to enter into voluntary agreements over land for the conservation of biodiversity, and
- to establish a framework to avoid, minimise and offset the impacts of proposed development and land-use change on biodiversity, and
- to establish a scientific method for assessing the likely impacts on biodiversity values of proposed development and land-use change, for calculating measures to offset those impacts and for assessing improvements in biodiversity values, and
- to establish market-based conservation mechanisms through which the biodiversity impacts of development and land-use change can be offset at landscape and site scales, and
- to support public consultation and participation in biodiversity conservation and decision-making about biodiversity conservation, and
- to make expert advice and knowledge available to assist the Minister in the administration of this Act.

3.6.7 NSW Rural Fires Act 1997

Under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* Council has responsibility for controlling land under its ownership or care, control and management, and to ensure they do not cause damage to adjoining land or property.

The objects of this Act are to provide:

- For the prevention, mitigation and suppression of bush and other fires in local government areas, (or parts of areas) and other parts of the State constituted as rural fire districts.
- For the co-ordination of bush fire fighting and bush fire prevention throughout the State.
- For the protection of persons from injury or death, and property from damage, arising from fires.
- For the protection of the environment by requiring certain activities referred to in paragraph (a).
- To be carried out having regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development described in section 6 (2) of the Protection of the Environment Act.

3.6.8 NSW Contaminated Land Management Act 1997

The general object of this Act is to establish a process for investigating and (where appropriate) remediating land that the EPA considers to be contaminated significantly enough to require regulation under Division 2 of Part 3.

3.6.9 NSW Heritage Act 1977

The *Heritage Act 1977* provides the following objects:

- To promote an understanding of the State's heritage.
- To encourage the conservation of the State's heritage.
- To provide for the identification and registration of items of State heritage significance.
- To provide for the interim protection of items of State heritage significance.
- To encourage the adaptive reuse of items of State heritage significance.
- To constitute the Heritage Council of New South Wales and confer on it functions relating to the State's heritage.
- To assist owners with the conservation of items of State heritage significance.

3.6.10 Work Health and Safety Act 2011

The main object of this Act is to provide for a balanced and nationally consistent framework to secure the health and safety of workers and workplaces by:

- protecting workers and other persons against harm to their health, safety and welfare through the elimination or minimisation of risks arising from work or from specified types of substances or plant, and
- providing for fair and effective workplace representation, consultation, co-operation and issue resolution in relation to work health and safety, and
- encouraging unions and employer organisations to take a constructive role in promoting improvements in work health and safety practices, and assisting persons conducting businesses or undertakings and workers to achieve a healthier and safer working environment, and
- promoting the provision of advice, information, education and training in relation to work health and safety, and
- securing compliance with this Act through effective and appropriate compliance and enforcement measures, and
- ensuring appropriate scrutiny and review of actions taken by persons exercising powers and performing functions under this Act, and
- providing a framework for continuous improvement and progressively higher standards of work health and safety, and
- maintaining and strengthening the national harmonisation of laws relating to work health and safety and to facilitate a consistent national approach to work health and safety in this jurisdiction.

3.6.11 NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001

The *NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001*:

- Promotes waste avoidance and resource recovery.
- Repeals and replaces the Waste Minimisation and Management Act 1995.
- Establishes a scheme to promote extended producer responsibility in place of industry waste reduction plans.
- Continues the Waste Fund for the purposes of funding relevant programs.

4. Basis for Management

4.1 Introduction

The basis for management will guide management of St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands over the next five (5) to ten (10) years. It incorporates the core values of the community and regular users of the precinct lands. Management is guided by the following **key** Council documents and subsequent updates, revisions or replacements of these :

- Ku-ring-gai Local Strategic Planning Statement (2020).
- Ku-ring-gai Community Strategic Plan (2018).
- Management of Community and Recreation Land and Facilities Policy (2018).
- Ku-ring-gai Destination Management Plan.
- Commercial Leasing Policy (2019).
- People, Park and Bushland – Open Space Strategy for Ku-ring-gai (2005).
- Recreational Facilities Asset Management Plan, Ku-ring-gai Council (2011).

Refer to Section 3.1 for detail on other strategy and policy documents.

4.2 Stakeholder engagement

As part of the preparation of this PoM, a webinar with key SISPL stakeholders was conducted on 28 October 2020. An associated stakeholder survey was also conducted.

The feedback and input received was as diverse as the site characteristics and its respective uses. A summary of key themes from the stakeholder engagement is provided below.

4.2.1 Values

Common key values identified through the stakeholder engagement included:

- The natural heritage, landscape and bushland character.
- The capacity for the site's continued role in education ranging from environmental to driver training.
- The importance of the precinct lands in relation to sport, recreation and social value.
- Social and community values in respect to local and regional scale destination events.

4.2.2 Issues raised

Issues identified through the stakeholder engagement process included:

- Protecting and enhancing local flora and fauna including limiting introduced species.
- The need to carefully balance various needs such as community sport, regional events and dog walkers.
- The needs to enhance maintenance and management.
- Clearer communication including signage and wayfinding.

4.2.3 Desired future uses / developments

Key future uses and developments identified include:

- Continued conservation and education.

- Balancing local community use with major and special events.
- Increase informal recreation activities and opportunities.
- Enhancing access and circulation, including major entry points.
- All weather sport and recreation facilities to cater for increasing community needs.

4.3 NSW Government Objectives for Crown and Community Land

4.3.1 Objects and Principles for Crown land management

The objectives of the Department of Planning Industry and Environment - Crown Lands regarding land management directly relate to the objects and the principles for Crown land management in the Crown Land Management Act 2016. The objects of the Act (Section 1.3) are to:

- Provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of New South Wales.
- Provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land.
- Require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be taken into account in decision making about Crown land.
- Provide for the consistent, efficient, fair and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of New South Wales.
- Facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of New South Wales because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people.
- Where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land.
- Provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

The principles for Crown Land management in Section 1.4 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*, and how this Plan is consistent with those principles, are outlined below.

Table 6: Principles for Crown Land management

Principle of Crown land management	How this Plan of Management is consistent with the principles
Observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown land.	This plan is supportive of protecting the physical environmental setting of St Ives Showground and Precincts.
Conserve the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna, and scenic quality) wherever possible.	This PoM is supportive of protecting the physical environmental setting of St Ives Showground and Precincts.
Encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land.	Recommendations in the Plan encourage public use and enjoyment of the St Ives Showground and Precincts for a wide range of sporting, active recreational, community and cultural activities.
Encourage multiple uses of Crown land, where appropriate.	Recommendations in the Plan would continue multiple uses of St Ives Showground and Precincts, while recognising there may be conflicts between activities.
Use and manage Crown land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, where appropriate.	The Plan contains proposed actions which would help sustain the land and resources, such as managing the type and extent of activities in and developments on the St Ives Showground and Precincts.
Occupy, use, sell, lease, license, or otherwise deal with Crown land in the best interests of the State, consistent with the above principles.	This Plan contains prescriptions that would ensure that land owners, managers, lessees and licensees deal with the St Ives Showground and Precincts in the best interests of the State.

4.3.2 Core objectives for Community Land

The *NSW Local Government Act 1993* establishes core objectives for each of the five categories of community land. Council must manage the community land, and ensure the community land is used, according to these core objectives. Any additional management objectives for the land must comply with the core objectives established within the Act.

This Plan of Management covers numerous sites with various categories. These categories and the core objectives from the Local Government Act 1993 are outlined in the following table.

Table 7 – Community Land Core Objectives relevant to this PoM

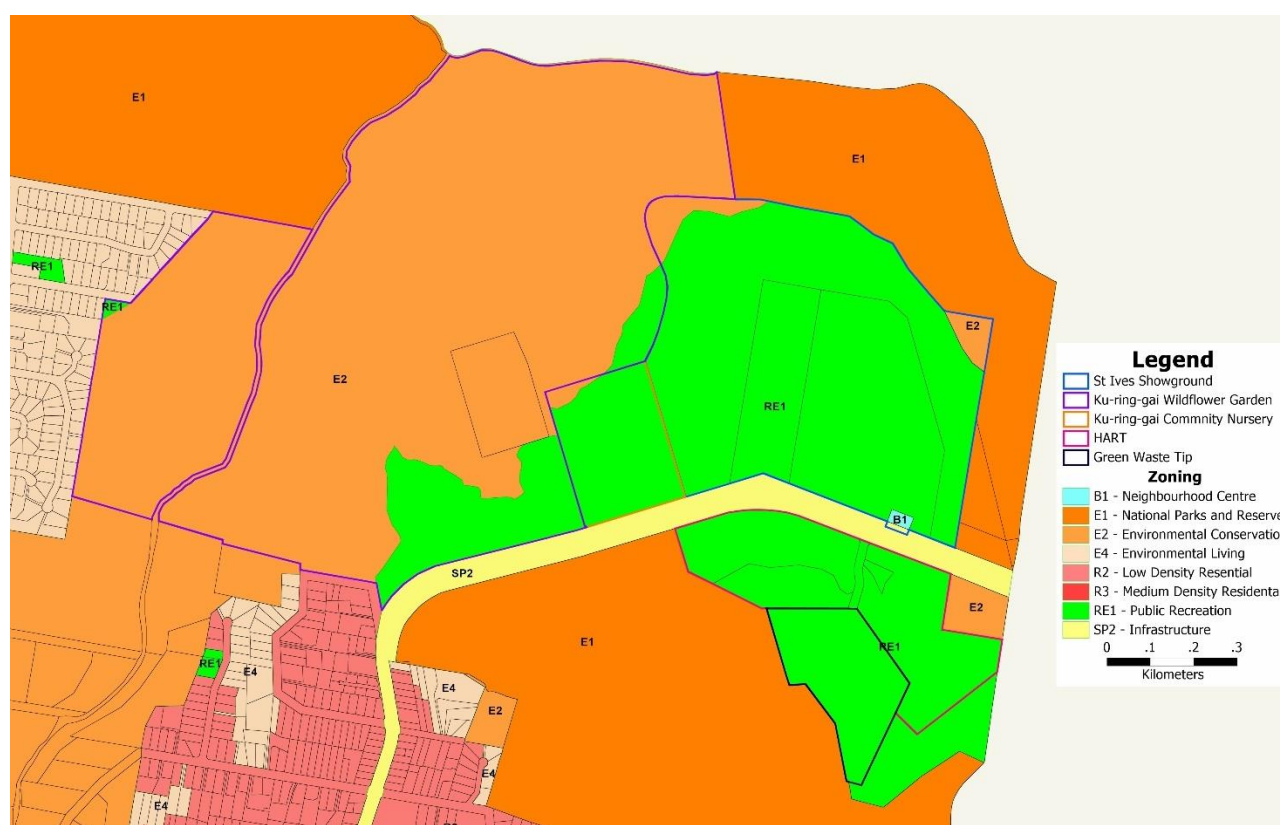
Community Land Category	Core Objectives
Natural Area – Section 36E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and To maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and To provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and To provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and To assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994.
Natural Area – Bushland Section 36J	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and To protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and To promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and To restore degraded bushland, and To protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and To retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and To protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.
Natural Area – Wetland Section 36K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands, with particular reference to their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), and to the flora, fauna and habitat values of the wetlands, and To restore and regenerate degraded wetlands, and To facilitate community education in relation to wetlands, and the community use of wetlands, without compromising the ecological values of wetlands.
Natural Area – Watercourse Section 36M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, to manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, to restore degraded watercourses, and to promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.
General Community Use Section 36I	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on

Community Land Category	Core Objectives
	<p>the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and • In relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

4.3.3 Objectives of Land Use Zones

This Plan of Management is consistent with the objectives of the land use zones that apply to the SISPL. These zonings are illustrated in the figure below.

Figure 19 – Land zoning (Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015)



Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 identifies the following objectives, works and uses permitted for the respective land zones.

RE1 Public Recreation

The **objectives** of the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 for the RE1 Public Recreation zone are to:

- Enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes
- Provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses
- Protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes
- Protect, manage and restore areas of high ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values.

Works and uses **permitted without consent** under the RE1 Public Recreation zoning include:

- Environmental facilities; Environmental protection works; Roads

Works and uses **permitted with consent** under the RE1 Public Recreation zoning include:

- Animal boarding or training establishments; Aquaculture; Beekeeping; Camping grounds; Car parks; Caravan parks; Centre-based child care facilities; Community facilities; Emergency services facilities; Flood mitigation works; Food and drink premises; Forestry; Information and education facilities; Kiosks; Markets; Plant nurseries; Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Registered clubs; Respite daycare centres; Roadside stalls; Signage; Water recycling facilities; Water supply systems.

Works and uses **prohibited** include:

- Any development not specified (above).

E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves

The objectives of the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 for the E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves zone are to:

- To enable the management and appropriate use of land reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* or acquired under Part 11 of that Act.
- To enable uses authorised under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- To identify land that is to be reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and to protect the environmental significance of that land.

Works and uses **permitted without consent** under the E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves zoning include:

- Uses authorised under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Works and uses **permitted with consent** under the E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves zoning include:

- Nil.

Works and uses **prohibited** include:

- Any development not specified (above).

E2 Environmental Conservation

The objectives of the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 for the E2 Environmental Conservation zone are to:

- Protect, manage and restore areas with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values.
- Provide for a limited range of development that does not have an adverse effect on those values.

Works and uses **permitted without consent** under the E2 Environmental Conservation zoning include:

- Environmental protection works

Works and uses **permitted with consent** under the E2 Environmental Conservation zoning include:

- Environmental facilities; Flood mitigation works; Oyster aquaculture Roads; Water storage facilities.

Works and uses **prohibited** include:

- Business premises; Hotel or motel accommodation; Industries; Multi dwelling housing; Pond-based aquaculture; Recreation facilities (major); Residential flat buildings; Restricted premises; Retail premises; Seniors housing; Service stations; Tank-based aquaculture; Warehouse or distribution centres; Any other development not specified (above).

B1 Neighbourhood Centre

The objective of the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 for the B1 Neighbourhood Centre zone is to:

- Provide a range of small-scale retail, business and community uses that serve the needs of people who live or work in the surrounding neighbourhood.

Works and uses **permitted without consent** under the B1 Neighbourhood Centre zoning include:

- Home Occupations.

Works and uses **permitted with consent** under the B1 Neighbourhood Centre zoning include:

- Bed and breakfast accommodation; Boarding houses; Business premises; Centre-based child care facilities; Community facilities; Health consulting rooms; Home-based child care; Light industries; Medical centres; Neighbourhood shops; Neighbourhood supermarkets; Oyster aquaculture; Respite day care centres; Roads; Shop top housing; Tank-based aquaculture; Water reticulation systems; Any other development not specified in item 2 or 4.

Works and uses **prohibited** include:

- Agriculture; Air transport facilities; Airstrips; Animal boarding or training establishments; Biosolids treatment facilities; Boat building and repair facilities; Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Camping grounds; Caravan parks; Cellar door premises; Cemeteries; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Correctional centres; Crematoria; Depots; Eco-tourist facilities; Electricity generating works; Exhibition homes; Exhibition villages; Extractive industries; Farm buildings; Freight transport facilities; Function centres; Health services facilities; Heavy industrial storage establishments; Helipads; Highway service centres; Home occupations (sex services); Industrial retail outlets; Industrial training facilities; Industries; Jetties; Landscaping material supplies; Marinas; Mooring pens; Moorings; Mortuaries; Open cut mining; Passenger transport facilities; Plant nurseries; Pond-based aquaculture Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Research stations; Residential accommodation; Resource recovery facilities; Restricted premises; Rural industries; Rural supplies; Sewage treatment plants; Sex services premises; Specialised retail premises; Storage premises; Timber yards; Tourist and visitor accommodation; Transport depots; Truck depots; Vehicle body repair workshops; Vehicle sales or hire premises; Warehouse or distribution centres; Waste disposal facilities; Water recreation structures; Water recycling facilities; Water supply systems; Wharf or boating facilities; Wholesale supplies

4.4 Vision and Guiding Principles

The management vision for St Ives Showgrounds and Precinct Lands is:

The St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands will become a key regional destination parkland integrated with the landscape and balancing community, environmental, cultural and heritage values. The precinct lands will provide a range of accessible, connected and inclusive community, recreation, education and event opportunities for generations to come.

The vision is underpinned by the following guiding principles:

A Landscape First Approach – The St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands will celebrate its unique landscape character. Nestled between two national parks, these lands are part of Guringai Country. Protection of the natural heritage and biodiversity values of the site including key landscape features, vegetation communities and habitats will underpin management and planning for the site.

Iconic – As a key regional level destination, the site will integrate iconic elements in landscape, built form and finishes. The rich Indigenous and European heritage values underpin the SISPL iconic status as a recreation venue drawing people from Ku-ring-gai LGA and beyond.

Inclusive, accessible and diverse - The St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands are inclusive, inviting and accessible to all members of the community. A diverse range of recreation, social, education and environmental uses facilitate a broad range of activities.

Sustainable – The site will be developed and managed sustainably. This includes but is not limited to water sensitive urban design, energy efficiency initiatives, measures to reduce urban heat, and opportunities for water re-use and harvesting.

Quality – Providing a high standard of facilities will ensure the capacity of the site is enhanced and will help establish a sense of community pride. Capital works and service standards reflect the significance of the sites and will be balanced with consideration of Council’s long-term asset management obligations.

Adaptable – As communities continue to evolve, so too does their outdoor recreation and community infrastructure needs. This Plan of Management provides a framework and platform that aims to best meet the immediate and medium-term needs of the community, whilst allowing for flexibility to adapt to changing needs in the future.

5. Future Use and Development

5.1 Current and Proposed Use

Subject to constraints analysis and environmental / project approvals, the SISPL will continue to provide a resource that encourages, promotes and facilitates a wide range of recreation and community use, including major events. Development can also include elements to encourage multiple-use, community (informal), formal/structured sporting use, educational activities or community events.

In accordance with the *LG Act 1993*, this Plan of Management expressly authorises Council to consider and to approve or to refuse, as it deems appropriate, the granting of any easements, leases, licences, or other estate (including entering into a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement within the meaning of Part 5 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*) over community land subject to this Plan of Management:

- which would not compromise the nature of the land as a community asset and
- pursuant to approval from Crown Lands and LG Act 1993 (Sections 45, 46, 46A, 47, 47A, 47AA, 47B & 47C).

5.1.1 St Ives Showground

Current Facilities and Use

The SIS currently provides a diverse range of facilities and uses including:

- Jim Watson Arena – used for polo, dressage, show jumping, special events, off-leash dog exercise, sports training and sports competition.
- Various pavilions including Douglas Pickering, Louise Lennon, Jim Powell, Craft and the Community Shed. These spaces are used for a variety of purposes such as exhibitions, community events, education/training courses, seminars and meetings.
- Numerous other built form including the Northern Suburbs Agricultural and Horticultural show building, the kiosk building and the canteen building (Army Remnant). The primary use of these building is to support events by providing administration, food and beverage etc.
- The Showground's former caretaker's cottage - tenanted by Council's real estate agent to a Council employee to help provide a market return and additional park management and security.
- Princess Anne Arena – used for equestrian activities including show jumping and dressage, for both training and competition.
- Multi-use area to the west of the Jim Watson Arena - used for flying model planes and informal ball games.
- Former mini-wheels site – Currently being managed for low impact recreation, environmental education and for the rehabilitation, protection and preservation of bushland including the restoration of Duffys Forest ecological community and associated fauna habitat.
- Playgrounds– one regional scale playground and associated infrastructure constructed in 2020. Two small scale playgrounds are also provided.
- Picnic areas with wood barbecues and associated toilets – Used for social gatherings.
- Bush walking tracks/ fire trails – used for trail running, mountain bike riding, orienteering and bushwalking including organised events.
- Bushland managed for the protection of biodiversity and eco system services.
- Off-leash dog areas – used for informal dog exercise as well as formalised use including dog shows, obedience and agility classes.

- Radio Control Car Track – Located near the entrance of SIS, this space is used for radio-controlled car activities including informal use and regular competitions.

Future Facilities and Use

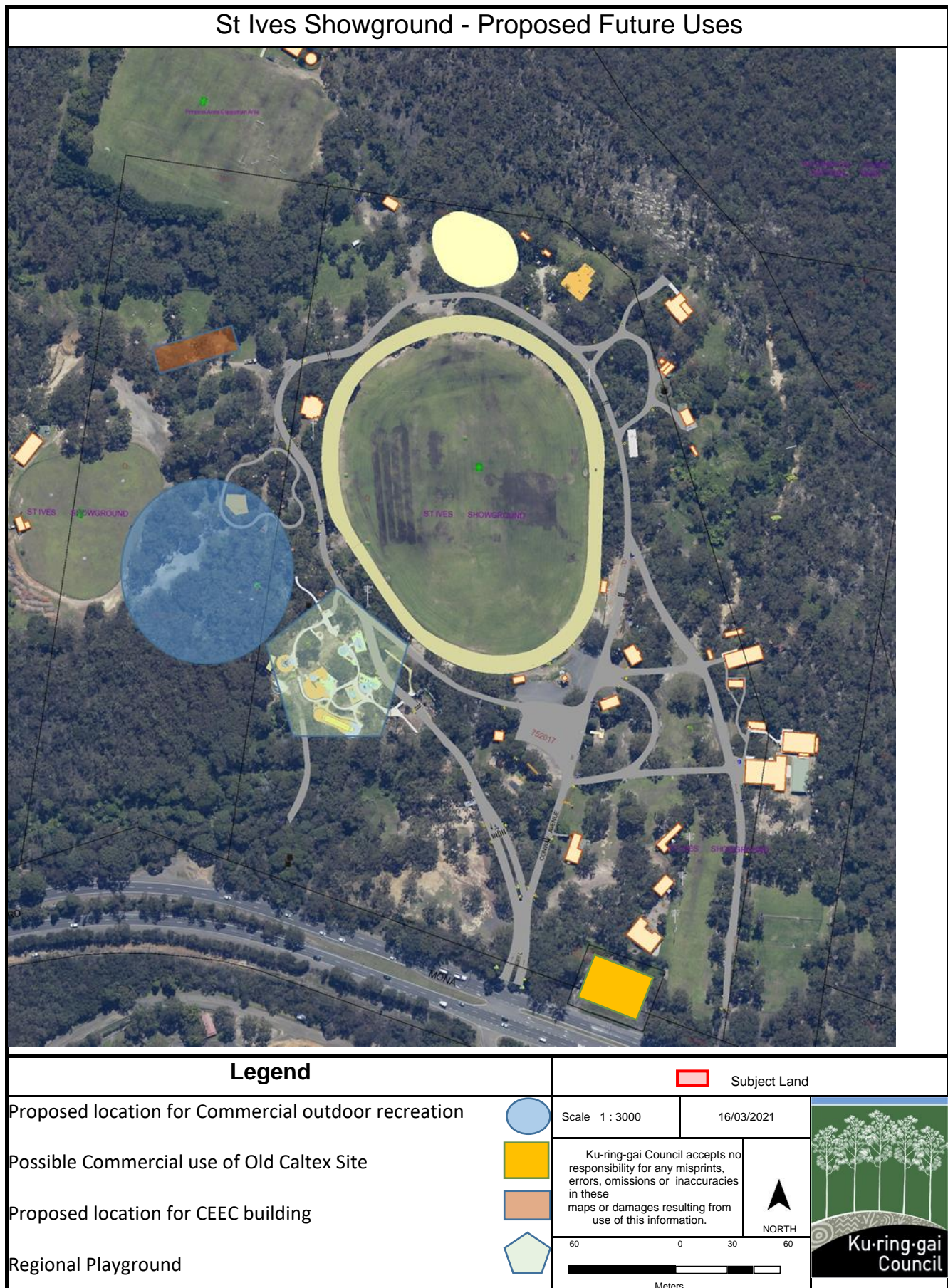
Majority of the existing facilities and uses are to be retained. Upgrades are proposed to restore heritage values, incorporate sustainable and environmentally sensitive design principles, increase community and commercial opportunities, provide visitor information services and facilitate greater capacity for special and regional events. Playgrounds and picnic facilities are to be enhanced and some spaces will be available for hire.

The following are proposed:

- There are opportunities to increase compatible supporting commercial activities such as food and beverage operators, or appropriate commercial recreation facilities under commercial lease or licence agreements, including but not limited to, adapting the existing kiosk building.
- It is proposed to upgrade the Douglas Pickering Pavilion by including water tanks and a dedicated hydrant for fire control purposes.
- The trotting track around the perimeter of the Jim Watson Arena will be removed and adapted for general recreation use.
- Access, circulation, entrance/exit points and parking will be formalised.
- Additional bushwalking tracks and fire trails to key points of interest will be built in accordance with Council's Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy.
- Destination, interpretative and wayfinding signage will be improved.
- A re-designed entrance that seeks to enhance arrival experience whilst retaining biodiversity values will be considered as part of future master planning work.
- Basic improvements and promotion of the site's unique location and facilities to service increased popularity in trail running events.
- Investigation of potential opportunities to provide discretionary services such as bike hire and guided interpretation and education.
- The Regimental Aid Post building has significant local heritage value, will be conserved and used for compatible community and/or commercial uses consistent with its significance and fabric.
- A new Cultural and Environmental Education Centre will provide a multi-use building for education programs, exhibitions and activities whilst demonstrating ecologically sustainable design.
- The multi-use area currently used primarily for model plane activities will be improved to support broader uses such as outdoor cinema, concerts, theatre etc.
- Development of a commercially operated outdoor adventure recreation area including issuing a future licence or lease for a high ropes course or similar activity.
- Rehabilitation and repurposing of the former mini-wheels site is planned. Based on suitability of the site yet to be determined, this may include activities such as sustainable / nature based community education and camping or other recreation activity.
- Future camping within the Showground may support events and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities for overnight camping along the Harbour to Hawkesbury Route.
- Potential for community gardens or relocation of the community nursery
- Improvements to existing buildings or assets to improve and broaden community utilisation including short term casual letting.
- Possible commercial use of the small area zoned B1 (formerly the Caltex Site) to provide commercial services supportive of the use of the reserve and to generate revenue to support management and maintenance of the St Ives Showgrounds Precinct.

(See Figure 20 following).

Figure 20 - Current and Proposed Uses for St Ives Showground



5.1.2 Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

Current Facilities and Use

KWG contains the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden Pavilion which is used for continued interpretation, education activities and events. KWG also contains a visitor centre and administration building. Other existing facilities within KWG include:

- Accessible bushland walking tracks including the Solander Trail.
- Hiking trails linking to regional NPWS trails (no clear wayfinding signage).
- Plant display areas.
- Ponds.
- Boardwalks.
- Fern house.
- Open air and undercover picnic areas for small and large groups.
- Children's playground.
- Bicycle track.
- Parking on site for cars and bus/ coach.
- Arboretum of Local Native Species
- Bushcare
- Caley's Pavilion

These facilities provide for a variety of uses including informal outdoor recreation such as picnicking, walking and nature appreciation. Formal recreation includes but is not limited to:

- Guided flora/fauna walks.
- Bush birthday parties.
- Environmental education.
- Special and seasonal events.

The unique flora and fauna provides for a range of related activities including not for profit community horticulture groups, biodiversity monitoring, bush regeneration activities including volunteer programs and scientific research

Events and uses include but are not limited to interpretive programs and guided walks, the Spring Eco Annual Festival, weekly Parkrun and private functions.

Future Facilities and Use

The existing facilities and uses will be retained, including the enforcement and signposting of the current 'No dog' policy.

The proposed upgrades and uses include:

- Caley's Pavilion is to be retained and upgraded including curtilage protection zone and conservation works. The Pavilion is to provide multi-purpose community, education and commercial function uses. The integration of a café/kiosk to be explored.
- Upgrades will take place at existing playspaces and new picnic areas to allow for greater use and cater for bookable gatherings. A destination nature play playground at Lamberts Clearing is proposed along with picnic and amenities upgrades.
- Road upgrades and a car parking strategy will be progressed. This includes a new, publicly accessible, link road to overflow parking for approximately 60 cars in the existing cleared area under the transmission lines to support future community use.

- Improved boundary fencing
- Designation of the site as a Wildlife Protection Area (under the NSW *Companion Animals Act 1998*)

5.1.3 Ku-ring-gai Community Nursery Site

Current Facilities and Use

Former retail and wholesale nursery specialising in locally sourced provenance indigenous plants for both public and private contracts. The community nursery 'The Garden Shed' is used for propagation, seed collection and storage and plants are grown in relevant shade and glasshouses. The site includes a space and staging area for Council programs including the Native Bee Program. The site is also used for outdoor and indoor storage of landscaping materials, park furniture and recycled materials.

Future Facilities and Use

Majority of the existing facilities and uses are to be retained. The site will also be investigated for suitable and compatible recreation uses. This could include community and commercial operations such as camping facilities, adventure-based recreation such as obstacle courses and potential for sporting facilities.

Other potential future uses include:

- Developing a small retail section with associated sensory track / garden, bushfoods garden and native flora and fauna educational activities including use by the Australian Plant Society.
- Potential for environmental initiatives with associated infrastructure. For example, solar farming, community green waste and compost, sustainable light industry for community benefit etc.
- An internal road link is to connect the KWG to St Ives Showground through the Community Nursery Site. This road will be shared use for circulation within the Precinct and managed specifically during major events for site parking and bump-in/bump-out functions associated with staging of events.
- Improvements to existing buildings or assets to improve community utilisation.

5.1.4 HART – Honda Australia Road Training - not-for-profit training facility

Current Facilities and Use

World-class training and administration centre located on 40 acres of natural bushland, includes:

- 2km dual-lane, closed road circuit with dedicated low-speed training areas.
- Nine on-site airconditioned classrooms and a range of support Infrastructure.

The site is leased to Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART) who provide driver training for road users, 4WD driving, motorcycle riders and motorcycle pillion passengers, including under contract to the NSW State Government.

Future Facilities and Use

The existing facilities and uses are to be retained.

HART to permit occasional use of all bushland track areas for mountain bike and other events, subject to coordination availability and approval by HART.

A second entry point is proposed along the south-west boundary of the HART site, should the existing GWT access through Garigal NP become unavailable. This is essential for bushfire evacuation needs.

An additional two parcels of Crown land including the areas R100219 (Licence 315729) and R752038 (Mole Trig) are proposed to be allocated to Council's care control and management. These are to be added to the land currently leased by Council. These would be maintained as bushland and buffer impacts to Garigal National Park.

5.1.5 Green Waste Tip

Current Facilities and Use

Prior tip site used for green waste which is currently used for site rehabilitation and water recycling/harvesting.

Future Facilities and Use

The main objective for the site is to continue site rehabilitation and water recycling/harvesting.

Additional improvements and proposed uses to be considered are:

- A feasibility study could be undertaken to determine the potential for a dedicated mountain bike facility.
- Explore the potential for environmental initiatives with associated infrastructure. For example, solar farming, community green waste and compost, alternate location for community nursery, sustainable light industry for community benefit etc.
- Should recreation use or additional environmental infrastructure not be viable, then full rehabilitation and inclusion into Garigal National Park could be pursued.

5.2 Current use agreements

There are a diverse range of user groups with different agreement. These are summarised below.

Table 8: Current use agreements

Tenure	Area/facility	Lessee/licensee	Lessor/licensor	Permissible activities under agreement	Term/expiry
Occupancy at will	SIS	Northern Suburbs Agricultural and Horticultural Association	The Council of the Municipality of Ku-ring-gai	Holding of the St Ives Show and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Occupancy at will
Licence Agreement	Jim Powell Pavilion, grassed activity areas (dog rings), SIS	Northern Suburbs Dog Training Inc	St Ives Showground (D500103) Reserve Trust	Dog training and competition and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Licence Agreement	Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop – “The Shed,” SIS	Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop Inc	Ku-ring-gai Council	General community use and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Licence Agreement	Radio Car Control Track, SIS	Ku-ring-gai Warringah Radio Control Electric Car Club Inc	St Ives Showground (D500103) Reserve Trust	Model electric and gas car competition, training and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Licence Agreement	Princess Anne Arena, exercise ring, SIS	Northside Riding Club Incorporated	St Ives Showground (D500103) Reserve Trust	Horse Riding and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Licence Agreement	Ku-ring-gai Model Flying Clubhouse and Model Aeroplane Flying Arena, SIS	Ku-Ring-Gai Model Flying Club Inc	St Ives Showground (D500103) Reserve Trust	Flying model aeroplanes, training and competition and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover

Tenure	Area/facility	Lessee/licensee	Lessor/licensor	Permissible activities under agreement	Term/expiry
Licence Agreement	Ku-ring-gai Road Safety Centre, 451 Mona Vale Road, St Ives being Lots 2844 and 2845 in DP822242, SIS	Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (Minister for Police)	Ku-ring-gai Council	School Road Safety Education Centre ("CARES") and associated activities in line with NSW Police Force education operations.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Sublease	451 Mona Vale Road, St Ives	Honda Australia Motorcycle and Power Equipment Pty Ltd (HART)	Ku-ring-gai Council	Driver & rider training and other related activities subject to Council approval.	Expired agreement, currently on holdover
Lease	Former Caretaker's Cottage, SIS	Tenancy for security, park management	Ku-ring-gai Council	Residential tenancy	12 months with holdover provisions
		Casual public letting	Ku-ring-gai Council	Casual public letting tenancy	Short term letting

5.3 Permissible Uses & Developments

The St Ives Showground and Precincts provide for a range of public uses ranging from recreational to cultural activities with areas of high natural value plantation and bushland conservation and environmental education.

Management of the precincts will be consolidated to recognise shared and interrelated community and environmental values and use, and to increase efficiency and sustainability.

Permissible uses and development in the SISPL will be consistent with:

- The values, roles and objectives for the land set out in this document.
- The guidelines and core objectives for the relevant categories in the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, and any other additional objectives council proposes to place on those categories in this plan.
- Uses listed in the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.
- The requirements of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*.
- The *Native Title Act 1993* in the case of crown land.
- Uses permitted on community and Crown land without consent under the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) Infrastructure 2007.
- The objectives for and permissible uses listed under the relevant land zoning in the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015.
- Authorised leases, licences, permits or easements.
- Relevant Council policies, regulations or local laws.

Use of Crown Land and permits on Crown Land will be issued in accordance with the *Native Title Act 1993*. Any current and planned development and activities should be managed with regard to any adverse impacts on neighbouring residents and land uses.

It is envisaged that as this Plan of Management is implemented, the SISPL will be increasingly used in a sustainable way due to improved management. The resulting benefit will be to enhance the health and wellbeing of the community and manage the resource sustainably.

In addition to the above, substantial upgrades and proposed new development on sports grounds will take into account:

- Planning controls for the land.
- Characteristics of the land affected.
- Existing and future use patterns.
- Any landscape masterplan for the land.

Certain reserve embellishments, commercial and other uses may require a Development Application. Minor changes such as park furniture replacements are to be carried out as set out in the relevant Council Asset Management Plan.

5.3.1 Future Development

This Plan authorises, within the requirements of relevant legislation and Council policy, the future development of the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands as listed within this Plan for the following purposes and uses:

- Alterations and additions to the existing land and infrastructure to provide improved facilities for the uses permitted by this Plan of Management.
- Construction of new facilities consistent with the community uses of the land.
- Improvements to the landscape and aesthetic elements of the land.
- Any landscape works, infrastructure improvements or refurbishments required to keep the facilities in good working condition and able to support regular use.
- Any works, improvements or refurbishments to improve sustainable operation and use of the site including those that reduce consumption of electricity, improve water efficiency and reduce impacts on adjacent land uses.

Development of the land will need to address requirements of relevant legislation and plans governing use and development of the land, which include:

- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
- SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007.
- SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008.
- *Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015.*
- *Ku-ring-gai Development Control Plan 2018.*

The facilities and structures at the SISPL may change over time as the needs of the community and user groups change.

5.3.2 Scale and Intensity of Permissible Uses and Developments

The scale and intensity of development and activities on the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands is generally dependent on:

- The nature of the approved uses and developments.
- The physical constraints of the land.
- Carrying capacity of the land.
- Relevant legislation, plans and policies.
- Approved development applications, council resolutions, and any conditions imposed by council.
- An approved masterplan or conservation plan.
- Impact on the environment, in particular endangered or threatened communities.
- Proximity to neighbours and potential noise impacts

- Traffic and parking impacts
- Permissible times of use.

The indicative scale and intensity of use for each precinct is indicated below.

St Ives Showground

Limited to compatible uses and consistent with the site's characteristics and capacity. Primarily daytime use 7 days a week. Sporting and special community events may be allowed up to 10pm. This may be enforced through boom gates or other safety and security measures.

Hours can extend beyond this based on Council approval, especially if areas are earmarked for activities such as camping in the future.

Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

Limited to compatible uses and consistent with the site's characteristics and capacity. The site will operate 7 days a week consistent with Council's operation hours of:

Monday to Friday: 9am-5pm

Weekends: 10am-5pm

Hours can be extended beyond this based on Council approval and the booking of Caley's Pavilion.

Ku-ring-gai Community Nursery Site

Dependent on future use. Up to 7 days a week with evening education events and programs until 10pm. Hours can be extended beyond this based on Council approval.

HART – Australian not-for-profit organisation training facility

Primarily daytime use, 7 days a week.

Evening education events and programs until 10pm.

Green Waste Tip

Dependent on future use. Up to 7 days a week, primarily day time use.

5.4 Approvals for Permissible Activities

5.4.1 General Requirements

While a Plan of Management expressly authorises and enables certain functions such as the issuing of leases and licences, any facility or other development works would still require the relevant planning approvals to be undertaken. Any capital projects proposed by Council within the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands would require community engagement to be undertaken as part of the delivery of that project.

Planning controls established in the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015* set the framework for approving permissible activities at SISPL.

Section 68 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* specifies activities which may be carried out on community land with prior approval of the Council, except when the regulations or a local policy adopted under Part 3 allows the activity without approval. Those activities are:

- Engage in a trade or business.
- Direct or procure a theatrical, musical or other entertainment for the public.
- Construct a temporary enclosure for the purpose of entertainment.
- For fee or reward, play a musical instrument or sing.

- Set up, operate or use a loudspeaker or sound amplifying device.
- Deliver a public address or hold a religious service or public meeting.

Part F of Section 68 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* also lists other activities relevant to this PoM, including:

- Operate a public car park.
- Operate a caravan park or camping ground.
- Install or operate amusement devices.
- Use a standing vehicle or any article for the purpose of selling any article in a public place.

Sections 69 to 74 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* deal with approvals required for activities on Crown land.

The SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 provides greater flexibility in the location of infrastructure and service facilities and permits certain uses on community and Crown land without consent.

5.4.2 Public works and Native Title

In the case of delivery plans for Crown land that involve the issue of tenures or a public work, it is a requirement of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* that the Ku-ring-gai's Native Title Manager notify NTSCorp, the Native Title Service Provider for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in New South Wales, and provide them with the opportunity to comment.

The *Native Title Act 1993* defines a public work as:

- (a) Any of the following that is constructed or established by or on behalf of the Crown, or a local government body or other statutory authority of the Crown, in any of its capacities:
 - (i) A building, or any other structure (including a memorial), that is a fixture; or
 - (ii) A road, railway or bridge; or
 - (iia) Where the expression is used in or for the purposes of, Division 2 or 2A of Part 2, -a stock-route; or
 - (iii) A well, or bore, for obtaining water; or
 - (iv) Any major earthworks; or
 - (v) A building that is constructed with the authority of the Crown, other than on a lease.

On Crown land where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work:

- which has not been specifically detailed in the relevant (PoM) action plans, and
- is on reserved or dedicated land, where native title is not extinguished.

The following actions are required:

Prior to approval - Council will notify and give an opportunity to comment to, any representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander bodies, registered native title bodies, corporate and registered native title claimants, in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

Where a proposed update of a Park Masterplan or any other plan is the approving documentation for a public work on Crown land - that approval will not be given unless the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993* have been addressed, including the *notification and opportunity to comment* as noted above. The use and development of Crown land without an earlier act in accordance with Subdivision 24JA(1)(a) of the *Native Title Act* is restricted.

5.5 Prohibited uses and Developments

The activities prohibited in the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands will be listed on regulatory signs. A person who fails to comply with the terms of the sign is guilty of an offence for which penalties apply under Section 6.3.2 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

Prohibited uses also include any land uses that are not permitted with or without development consent in the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan 2015 unless they are permissible under a higher-order environmental planning instrument.

Prohibited uses also include those contrary to the provisions of Native Title legislation where such legislation applies to any specific parcel of land, or proposals that are inconsistent with any agreements or approvals established.

Activities prohibited on all areas categorised as Natural Areas:

- any activity contrary to a notice on the land.
- any act or thing that will disturb or endanger any person or native fauna or flora (e.g. discharging of firearms, damage or removal of plants, animals, rocks, soil or timber) that would compromise the core objectives of this Plan of Management.
- wilfully or negligently injure or unnecessarily disturbing and/or removing plants (including vegetation clearing), animals, rocks or soil without approval.
- wilfully removing, destroying, defacing, damaging or otherwise interfering with any item, notice or sign.
- wilfully removing, destroying, defacing, damaging or otherwise interfering with any heritage object or site.
- lighting fires anywhere in other than a designated constructed barbecue or fireplace and/or specifically approved by Council.
- driving, riding or parking any unauthorised motor vehicle, including motorbikes (trail bikes, quad bikes, etc.) or any other off-road recreational vehicle, in any part of a natural area other than designated driving, riding or parking areas.
- construction of unauthorised tracks or trails and the use of tracks or trails (for walking, running, bike riding, horse riding, etc.) in natural areas other than those specified in this Plan and the Ku-ring-gai Council Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy 2020.
- engaging in unauthorised trade or business including sale of motor vehicles.
- creating a public nuisance or do anything likely to endanger the safety of or cause injury to any person or animal.
- the lighting of fireworks / amateur fireworks displays within natural areas.
- wilfully breaking, throwing, placing or leaving any bottle, glass, glass receptacle or syringe, foreign material or litter within the natural areas.
- dumping of any waste or item, including items such as garden waste, grass clippings, household waste, and building materials including fill material.

5.6 Leases, Licenses and Hire Agreements

5.6.1 Agreements to occupy public land / buildings

In accordance with Section 46A of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, a Plan of Management is to specify in relation to community land any purpose for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted. This section of the Plan of Management describes the leases, licences and other estates permitted on the land covered by this Plan, i.e. community land and Crown land.

The *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* allow Councils to grant leases, licences and other estates over community and Crown land.

A lease, licence, permit, other estate, or easement (use agreement) may be granted over all or part of community land. Council policy supports a multi-use approach to community assets and prefers user agreements that allow for a broad range of uses of facilities. Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. Several licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest. Leases will be considered

in exceptional circumstances, such as instances where there is a significant capital contribution by a lessee, or the arrangement is commercial in nature.

5.6.2 Authorised uses and developments under lease, licence, permit or other estate

In general, Council will balance current community needs against potential commercial returns when considering SISPL facilities' use and the granting leases, licences, and other estates. Granting of leases, licences, permits, other estates and easements for the use or occupation of land covered by this Plan of Management are expressly authorised under Section 46 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

Uses must be compatible with the guidelines and core objectives for community land categories outlined in the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. Proposed uses must also be consistent with the Reserve Purpose for Crown land.

On Crown land, subject to the *Native Title Act 1994*, any secondary interest or short-term licences may be considered subject to the provisions described in Division 2.5 and 3.3 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Regard must also be given to the relevant zone in the applicable environmental planning instruments and any development consent if applicable.

Specific leases, licences and other estates are authorised at SISPL consistent with current and proposed used outlined within this Plan.

5.6.3 Use agreements over Crown land

Considerations for Crown land leases and licences

The Crown Land Management Act sets out requirements for granting leases, licences, permits, easements or right of way, including secondary interests on dedicated or reserved Crown land. On Crown land, where Council is Crown Land Manager, Council can grant leases, licences and other permits once the transitional period has passed, and an operative plan of management has been endorsed by the Minister.

The *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLMA 2016)* has additional requirements for leases and licences over dedicated or reserved Crown land as follows:

Table 9: Leases and licences over dedicated or reserved Crown land

Section of CLMA	Description	Lease and licence requirements	
3.22	Function of Council as Crown Land Manager	As Crown Land Manager, Council must manage the land as if it were community land under the <i>NSW Local Government Act 1993</i> , and can exercise all the functions that a local council has under that Act in relation to community land (including in relation to leasing and licensing of community land).	
8.77	Advice of Native Title manager required to grant interests	Where Council is Crown Land Manager, prior to granting a lease, licence or other permit, a native title report must be prepared in accordance with Native Title legislation. This requirement also extends to capital works on Crown reserves.	
2.20 & 3.17 and Crown Land Regulation 2018 Clause 31	Short term licenses over dedicated or reserved Crown land	<p>The Minister or Council may, regardless of dedication and reserve purpose, issue short term licenses for a maximum term of one year for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access through a reserve • Advertising • Camping using a tent, caravan or otherwise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filming (as defined by the <i>NSW Local Government Act 1993</i>) • Functions • Grazing • Hiring of equipment • Holiday accommodation • Markets • Meetings • Military exercises

Section of CLMA	Description	Lease and licence requirements	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering • Community, training or education • Emergency occupation • Entertainment • Environmental protection, conservation or restoration or environmental studies • Equestrian events • Exhibitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mooring of boats to wharves or other structures • Sales • Shows • Site investigations • Sporting and organised recreational activities • Stabling of horses • Storage.
2.19 & 3.17	Secondary interests over dedicated or reserved Crown land	The Minister or Council may issue a secondary interest where they are satisfied it is in the public interest and would not be likely to materially harm its use for the purposes for which it is dedicated or reserved.	
2.18	Special provisions relating to Minister's powers over dedicated or reserved Crown land	<p>The Minister may grant a lease, license, permit, easement or right of way over dedicated or reserved Crown land for a facility or infrastructure, or any other purpose the Minister thinks fit.</p> <p>Before doing so, the Minister must consult the Crown land manager or the relevant government agency if the land is used, occupied, or administered by an agency or the Minister to whom that agency is responsible.</p> <p>If the land is to be used or occupied under the relevant interest for any purpose except a purpose for which it is currently dedicated or reserved, a notice is to be published specifying the purposes for which the land is to be used or occupied under the relevant interest and be satisfied that it is in the public interest to grant the relevant interest.</p>	

Source: Crown Land Management Act 2016

5.6.4 Native Title

A lease, licence or permit over Crown land may impact native title rights and interests. Prior to approval, any lease, licence, or other estate on Crown land will require native title manager advice under the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* and the *Native Title Act 1994*.

Any lease, licence or permit issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1994* and in accordance with Part 8 of the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* unless Native Title is extinguished. For Crown land, which is not excluded land, this will require written advice from Council's Native Title Manager that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation.

Appendix 1 provides a summary of Council's Native Title Manager's advice at the time this Plan of Management was adopted. Where Crown land is not *excluded land*, then no lease is permitted, and the issue of a licence or permit is restricted subject to assessment and agreement under the legislation.

Future Acts:

To undertake a future act (including the adoption of a Plan of Management) on Crown land, Council must comply with the future act provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* and meet the requirements of Section 8.7 the *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016*. Generally, Section 24JA of the *Native Title Act 1993* allows most actions that a council would be wanting to undertake. To utilise Section 24JA the reservation must have been validly created prior to 23 December 1996.

5.6.5 Public notification

Section 47(1) of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* requires that any proposed lease, licence or estate of Council community land and Crown Land (where Council is the Crown Land Manager) is publicly notified. Any comment received must be considered prior to granting such interests. Under Sections 46 and 47, where a lease or licence exceeds five years and objections are received via public notification, Ministerial consent is required prior to granting such interest.

5.6.6 Short-term casual use and occupation

Licences for short-term casual use or occupation of SISPL for a range of uses may be granted in accordance with Section 46(1)(b)(ii) for the purposes specified in Clause 116 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

Authorisation may be granted for short-term casual use or occupation of SISPL for the following uses and occupations provided the use or occupation does not involve the erection of any permanent building or structure.

Table 10: Authorised uses for short term casual use or occupation

Proposed use	Express authorisation of lease, licence or other estate for:
Sporting events	Seasonal and one-off sporting competitions and training. School sports carnivals.
Social/ community events	One-off or occasional community or commercial events such as school excursions, fairs, fund raisers, fun runs. One-off or occasional cultural, musical or entertainment events such as 'cinema in the park', Christmas carols.
Compatible nature-based uses	Nature based activities including outdoor guided tours, camping, orienteering, trail running and mountain biking.
Other short-term uses of community land	Short term/temporary uses set out in the <i>NSW Local Government Act 1993</i> and the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i> including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- playing of a musical instrument or singing for fee or reward- engaging in a trade or business- playing of a lawful game or sport- delivery of a public address- commercial photographic sessions- picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings- filming sessions- markets and / or temporary stalls including food and wine events and other boutique events- corporate functions- other special events/ promotions provided they are on a scale appropriate to the use of a local/regional recreation ground and to the benefit and enjoyment of the local community.- emergency purposes, including training, when the need arises.

All short-term casual uses and occupation are subject to Council's standard conditions for hire, approval processes, and booking fees. A temporary licence will be issued by Council as part of the approval process prior to the community land being used for these activities. Organisers of the activity are subject to conditions of hire.

Fees for short term casual bookings will be in accordance with the fees and charges as published in Ku-ring-gai Council's annual Operating Plan and Budget. Short term temporary occupation of Crown land is subject to Native Title Manager advice.

5.7 Master planning

Master planning for reserves and open space sites provides a strategic design framework for future infrastructure and landscape embellishments. Masterplans provide not only design intent but determine how the functions and relationships within open space practically operate. Through responding to community engagement and applying a landscape first approach, they maximise community outcomes and prioritise capital expenditure.

At the time of writing this Plan of Management, there was no endorsed Masterplan for the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands. Future master plans are to be developed in accordance with the principles and objectives of this Plan.

6. Management Issues

The management of the overall precinct and the issues associated with such a complex and multi-user site have been grouped into four management areas:

1. Providing Outdoor Recreation Including Community and Regional Events.
2. Protecting Environment and Heritage Values.
3. Asset Management and Maintenance.
4. Communication and Information.

6.1 Providing Outdoor Recreation, Community and Regional Events

6.1.1 Management Aims

Provide a diverse range of recreation, sport, community and education opportunities for all members of the community.

Ensure an appropriate balance between the provision of recreation and events and protection of biodiversity and heritage values.

Continue to strengthen the sustainable use of the St Ives Showground Precinct as a regional recreation and event destination.

6.1.2 Issues Description

Demand and capacity

- Ku-ring-gai Council and surrounding local government areas continue to grow through residential development. This will lead to increased pressures on SISPL as a regional recreation resource. Management needs to ensure that investment improves the capacity of the precincts to accommodate increasing demand while protecting site values.
- With the increasing demand for outdoor recreation spaces, it will be important to ensure the precinct is managed to support multiple uses and that opportunities for more efficient and diverse uses are supported through investment.
- Managing increased use requires improved management of access and circulation networks. In particular, vehicle traffic and parking is an increasingly important issue.
- National and state participation data indicate an increasing trend for outdoor and nature-based recreation. Destinations such as SISPL will be increasingly popular.

Site Entry

- The existing design and speed limit of Mona Vale Road provides a barrier to gaining safe access to and between the sites.
- There is no vehicular or pedestrian access directly between the St Ives Showground and the HART site, which limits the capacity for these lands to function as a co-ordinated parkland precinct.
- Road design and the entrance location and signage for east-bound traffic along Mona Vale Road is unclear, especially for St Ives Showground and the former Nursery.
- There is no suitable entrance, place identification or directional signage at the entrance to St Ives Showground.
- The entrance to Wildflower Gardens is via a local street, impacting on local residents.

Internal access and circulation

- Vehicles are the primary transport mode for visitors to SISPL. The St Ives Showground Precinct lacks well-structured and planned internal access roads leading to conflicts with users and the environment.
- There is a lack of direct pedestrian or cycle connections between the Wildflower Gardens and St Ives Showground Precinct.
- Whilst there are extensive spaces for walking and cycling, there is a lack of designated pedestrian, cycle, or shared pathways, especially in the St Ives Showground Precinct.

Parking

- There are not enough vehicle parking spaces available during major events.
- Most of the car parking is not formalised and lacks directional signage.
- The lack of formal parking and users creating informal parking areas can cause soil erosion and compaction, which impacts negatively on the environment, vegetation, and water quality.

Public transport

- Public transport access to the site is limited to buses that operate along Mona Vale Road roughly every 30 minutes. Provision of regular bus services and supporting infrastructure such as bus stops with associated seating and shelter are required to support equitable public access.

Active Transport

- There is no dedicated cycleway along Mona Vale Road. In addition, there is limited shoulder space on the east-bound lane, which limits community members safe access the precincts via active transport. Development of safer on road corridors or alternative active transport corridor alignments would help address this issue.

St Ives Showground Precinct as a regional event destination

- The St Ives Showground Precinct hosts various regional events. There is a need to balance its role in providing for regional events with local community recreation use.
- The Ku-ring-gai Destination Management Plan 2017-2020 identifies Council's aspirations for the St Ives Showground Precinct, including to:
 - Develop the Showground as a distinctive destination for nature-based and cultural tourism experience.
 - Establish the trekking gateway for adjoining national park trails and Hawkesbury River to Sydney Harbour linkages to achieve similar iconic status.
 - Develop events infrastructure and supporting facilities to position the Showground as centre for international-standard events for music, cinema and performing arts.
 - Rebrand the Showground to reflect its competitive advantage and world-class potential.
 - Commission a revised master plan to balance existing recreational and community activities with a new tourism focus under a trust governance model used elsewhere.
 - Achieve the precinct's full potential as a seven day a week, four seasons integrated mixed-use destination for international and domestic visitors.

Leases, licences and hire and use agreements

- Various leases, licenses and other use agreements apply across the precinct lands.
- Future leases, licenses, and use agreements need to consider sustainable and community outcomes and allow for flexibility through multi-use arrangements where practical.
- Leases, licenses and use agreements are to balance social, economic and community benefits.

6.2 Protecting and Enhancing Environment and Heritage Values

6.2.1 Management Aims

Protect and enhance the natural environment and heritage values within and adjacent to the precinct lands.

Protect indigenous and European heritage and cultural values.

Support recreation and event use whilst protecting environmental and heritage values.

6.2.2 Issues Description

Natural heritage

- Increased population, urban development and land clearing, weeds, pests, pathogens and disease, increased erosion, and nutrient levels, changed hydrology, changed fire regimes (intensity and interval), loss of habitat and connectivity, trampling and overgrazing, compounded by climate change, continue to threaten the biodiversity values of the SISPL.
- Middle Harbour Valley (including Garigal National Park) is poorly connected to surrounding bushland, including Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park to the north, as Mona Vale Road highly compromises connectivity. To inform opportunities and complement the delivery of the Green Grid Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy, Council will undertake further investigation and implementation of biodiversity corridor improvements, including opportunities for fauna road crossing priority projects (Ku-ring-gai 2019 LSPS 151).
- Greater funding for bushland management is required. Council's resourcing is often limited due to the extent of public infrastructure it maintains, impacting the site manager's ability to undertake necessary works.
- There is a need to manage non-endemic native species in the KWG to ensure they do not invade adjacent endemic bushlands. These species include Cabbage Palms (*Livistona australis*); Gynea lillies (*Doryanthes excelsa*); Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*); and Rose or Flooded Gum (*E. grandis*). These could impact the structure and function of the surrounding endemic bushland change the hydrological regime.
- A major Ausgrid powerline traverses the KWG and the vegetation below the powerlines is routinely trimmed or cleared to ensure access and to manage fire hazard. At times, vegetation management appears excessive, particularly for Dwarf apple gum (*Angophora hispida*) which is a short tree that grows to 6 metres.

Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Communities

- The NSW Government 'Saving our Species' Program sets out priorities and strategies for the recovery of threatened species, populations and ecological communities for several species known or likely to occur within the subject lands, including the threatened Southern Brown Bandicoot (*Isodon obesulus obesulus*), Caley's Grevillea (*Grevillea caleyi*), and Bauer's Midge Orchid (*Genoplesium baueri*). KWG is a significant site for the Bauers Midge Orchid.
- The Red-crowned Toadlet, a vulnerable species under the Biodiversity Conservation Act, is typically found along the edges of roads where water drains into swales. These areas are routinely trittered in the KWG to remove vegetation encroaching on the roads to ensure access for fire fighting vehicles. The trittering process leaves vegetation in the drains and can be damaging to the toadlets' habitat and breeding sites.
- Threats to the Duffys Forest Ecological Community include land clearing and associated fragmentation, habitat degradation by rubbish dumping, weed invasion facilitated by urban runoff, an inappropriate fire regime, horse riding activities and trampling and soil compaction from access by people, trail bikes, and other vehicles.
- From time to time, trees within the Showground site that are within the Duffys Forest Ecological Community are required to be trimmed or removed due to safety reasons. The trees in the Showground also have limited age

classes, increasing their vulnerability. The older trees are often deemed unsafe, yet they are also the most likely to contain hollows that are essential for arboreal fauna.

- The lack of defined parking and roads at the Showground has resulted in compacted and eroded soil and has inhibited regeneration of Duffys Forest Ecological Community.
- Coastal Upland Swamp occurring in the KWG is vulnerable to changed hydrology regimes, high fire frequency, climate change, invasive weeds and disturbance/trampling from unauthorised access. Hydrological impacts from upstream in St Ives are a threat, and water quality and quantity should be monitored. The hydrological needs of the endangered ecological communities are currently not well understood and monitoring over 10-20 years may be required. This means current management responses may not be adequate to maintain or enhance the existing area of endangered ecological communities.
- Protection of threatened species, populations and ecological communities are priorities in pest management and fire management plans for the subject land.
- Recovery plans for threatened species guide Council in adopting best practice methods to protect and manage threatened species and reduce threat.
- Site surveys and research on threatened species assist with the management of threatened species and endangered ecological communities.
- Council's education programs and site interpretation can raise awareness about the threats to species and ecological communities, and the community can be involved in recovery programs and citizen science projects.
- A precinct level Conservation Management Plan covering biodiversity and heritage issues will guide management.

Pests – Weeds, Feral Animals and Disease

- The SISPL has a number of important natural habitats and vegetation communities that are threatened by foxes, dogs, cats, European honey bees, black rats, mice, rabbits and weeds.
- Council needs to ensure local activities comply with regional pest and disease management plans and controls.
- Effective management of weed, pest and disease threats requires collaboration with adjacent landowners, including NPWS.
- *'Priority is given to controlling pests where they are negatively impacting threatened ecological communities and significant native plant and animal species or are highly invasive or new and emerging species. Priority is also given to pest species that are subject to state-wide threat abatement plans or key threatening process plans.'* (DPIE 2019). Pest management efforts are then targeted and prioritised by Council in areas where they will be of greatest benefit within the Showground and Precinct Lands. This may include closing tracks or other areas to visitors for some period of time.
- Horse manure can be the source of weed infestations within the site and requires collaborative management with horse owners.
- An education program to help manage threats should be developed so users are aware of the actions they can take to assist.

Aboriginal Heritage

- Currently, Aboriginal heritage is not well showcased within the Showground and precinct lands. There are multiple opportunities to work with indigenous stakeholders to reflect on and celebrate Aboriginal heritage.
- Aboriginal heritage values should be protected. A more detailed study is required to understand the level of importance and identify any sites of importance. Currently, there are no recorded sites, but there is significant potential for sites to be present within the SISPL. Following the recommendation of the Aboriginal Heritage Office, a more detailed investigation is required to understand the heritage values and mitigate potential impacts of proposed development, in line with the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1973* and due diligence processes.
- Three Aboriginal engravings were relocated to the KWG in the south-east precinct following a salvage operation from road works that occurred during construction of the F3 Newcastle-Sydney Freeway (now known as the

M1) decades ago. The carvings are eroding and are not being actively protected. Furthermore, the environment around the carvings has changed since they were relocated. For example, a canopy has developed, including a fig tree that provides shade and causes moss, lichen, and vegetation debris to cover the carvings. The best location for the carvings requires consideration with a) potential relocation to the Community Environment and Education Centre or b) retention in their existing location with appropriate integration into the education program, site interpretation and site protection.

- A precinct level Conservation Management Plan covering biodiversity and heritage issues will guide management.

Non-Aboriginal heritage

- Heritage structures and landscapes are subject to a range of threats to integrity and value, including fire, vandalism, inappropriate or unsympathetic works on the item or within its precinct, and structural deterioration and impacts from pest species infesting and damaging buildings.
- The SISPL has heritage values that require protection, yet no items are listed on statutory heritage lists, including the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan. Statutory Heritage listing will assist with interpretation, conservation and funding from the Capital Works Program and grants.
- The SISPL currently does not have a comprehensive Conservation Management Plan to inform management of identified conservation items in the Phillips Marler 2006 St Ives Showground Cultural Assessment and Action Plan and the Phillips Marler 2010 Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Pavilion Draft Conservation Report.
- A Conservation Management Plan and the Burra Charter will provide a consolidated approach and guidance on addressing heritage and potential impacts in the SISPL. The proposed Masterplan for the Showground will also inform heritage management and appropriate adaptive reuse.
- Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings can enhance conservation outcomes through restoration works and ongoing maintenance and enable their history to be interpreted to visitors. Council will continue to identify opportunities for adaptive reuse where it supports conservation outcomes.
- A precinct level Conservation Management Plan covering biodiversity and heritage issues will guide management.

Water Quality, Erosion and Sedimentation

- Threats to water quality in the SISPL include:
 - Water quality in creeks and ponds impacted by uncontrolled stormwater runoff from developed areas upstream of and within the SIS and Precinct Lands, Mona Vale Road, and erosion from tracks and sediment from parking areas, playgrounds, and picnic areas.
 - Enriched soil from eutrophic water results in soil erosion and weed infestations which can invade adjoining bushland.
 - Concentrated areas of silt build-up have also occurred along bushland edges within the Showground, KWG and disused GWT site.
- Proposed future works will need to adopt Water Sensitive Urban Design principles and water management that is appropriate to the site and its context and complies with Council's Riparian Policy (2004), Water Sensitive City Policy and Strategy and where appropriate, Council's Water Management DCP (amended April 2005) to:
- Forward management planning should improve water quality outcomes through:
 - The Green Waste Tip site recycles green wastewater into valuable water for irrigation and nursery purposes.
 - Protect, conserve and improve the condition of the riparian corridors, including native biodiversity.
 - Manage the quantity, frequency, and quality of stormwater runoff to improve ecological stream health.
 - Reduce Council and the community's potable water use on the site by diversifying water sources in "fit-for purpose" applications e.g., water tanks, and through increasing water efficiency.

- Implement biofiltration of run-off and stormwater from adjoining key roads, tracks, car parking areas, horse stabling areas etc.
- The remediation of the former mini wheels site has commenced and should continue as a priority to prevent any further inappropriate activity.
- Areas identified for rehabilitation where topsoil has been eroded or removed could become soil recipient sites such as the former mini wheels area to aid in the rehabilitation process.
- From time to time, mulch is dumped at the Showground site illegally. Some offenders have been prosecuted.

Bushfire Management

- The SISPL lands are identified on Council's Bush Fire Prone Land maps and are subject to Bushfire Management Plans prepared by Council. Council's Bushfire Management Policy 2020 is used to guide the effective and sustainable management of bushfire risk within the Ku-ring-gai LGA. Specific fire regimes are important tools to maintain and enhance habitat variety for species within the SISPL lands that have evolved in the presence of fire.
- Climate change is extending the bushfire season and increasing the number of severe fire weather days, increasing the risk of more frequent and intense fires in the SISPL and adjoining natural areas. This can pose a significant risk to the native plant and animal communities through loss of species, degradation of habitat and access to alternative habitat. "Most bushfires in the region are the result of arson or other human activities, with less than 1% being from lightning strikes or natural forms of ignition" (DPIE 2019).
- The absence of fire in the landscape can also pose risk to native plant and animal communities that rely on the habitat variety and food sources created by burnt, recently burnt and unburnt areas (DPIE, 2019).
- Whilst prescribed burning provides a degree of reduced risk to life and property from bushfire, an increase in prescribed fire may be required to maintain the current level of bush fire risk. This should be planned in conjunction with the potential for cultural burning practice to become more central to management as there is an opportunity to investigate Indigenous land (and fire) management techniques.¹
- Bushfire risk can be managed through maintenance of Asset Protection Zones, landscaping, site access, service supply, emergency management planning and the planned location of new facilities that comply with the NSW RFS Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.
- Ku-ring gai Council is part of the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Management Committee, responsible for coordinating bush fire planning in the local area. To help reduce bush fire threat, Council undertakes manual works, develops and maintains asset protection zones, fire break maintenance and conducts strategic hazard reduction burns.
- Appropriate management strategies require regular review and updating to mitigate impacts from prescribed and wildfires on visitors, facilities and natural values.
- Ecological and hazard reduction burns have been undertaken as directed by the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (e.g., 1994 and 2014) and in accordance with best practice. They are planned and managed to avoid negative long-term impacts to threatened flora, fauna, and endangered ecological communities and to benefit local ecosystems.
- Post-burn issues include the need for monitoring and management, particularly for endangered or vulnerable species and endangered ecological communities.

Noise

- Former activities have caused noise complaints from nearby residents. Future use requires acoustic consideration and improved compliance with noise limits for special events.

¹ Indigenous land management draws on a deep knowledge of Australia's landscapes. It is based on cultural understandings of Country, is tailored to specific places, and engages local people in development and implementation. As identified in the 2020 Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report, "There is a growing recognition of the value of Indigenous land and fire management practices as a way to mitigate the effects of bushfires and improve disaster resilience. Governments should continue to engage with Traditional Owners to explore the relationship between Indigenous land management and disaster resilience"

Visual quality and character

- The site presents a diverse mix of visual character ranging from bushland to semi-rural/agricultural show character in the Showground. Any development/improvements must have regard for impacts on this unique combination of landscapes.
- Visual impact to or within curtilage areas of heritage items and landscape must be minimised following the implementation of a Conservation Management Plan, the Burra Charter and Heritage Impact Statements for proposed new development.
- Given the precinct's location adjoining the Garigal and Ku-ring-gai Chase National Parks, there are opportunities to enhance visual aspects, including lookouts and nature viewing spaces with associated interpretation.

Climate change

- Human-induced climate change is listed as a key threatening process under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*, and the associated loss of habitat is listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- Current scientific information suggests that Sydney and the SISPL will experience increases in temperature and number of hot days as well as higher rainfall in summer and autumn (OEH 2014 Metropolitan Sydney Climate Change Snapshot).
- Climate-related extremes due to climate change, such as heat waves, droughts, floods and extended bushfire season, can alter ecosystem structure, function and distribution and increase vulnerability for terrestrial flora and fauna.
- Species unable to migrate or adapt to climate change will be most at risk, especially those with small population size or slow growth and reproduction rates. Barriers to migration (such as Mona Vale Road and fences) and competition from weeds or impacts from feral animals will exacerbate impacts if not managed.
- Council has a responsibility to build climate resilience into its operations and implement adaptive management responses to mitigate, where possible, the impacts of climate change on Ku-ring-gai's biodiversity by identifying species most at risk and developing and implementing strategies to reduce those risks.
- Council's Climate Change Policy has been developed as a response to the projected implications of climate change on Ku-ring-gai's community, environment, and economic sustainability. Council's 'Towards Zero Emissions 2030 Action Plan' supports Council's Climate Change Policy, providing:
 - A mitigation response that describes how Council intends to meet its greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction target of 50% by 2030 (based on 2000 levels), and net zero GHG emissions by 2040 or sooner.
 - A suite of emissions abatement actions that supports community efforts towards a goal of net zero GHG emissions by 2040.
 - Investment pathways and abatement areas that support the mitigation response for Council GHG emissions targets, and the community emissions goal.
- A Cultural Environment and Education Centre at the Showground will give Council the opportunity to showcase climate wise initiatives in the building structure, its management, and education program.

6.3 Asset Management and Maintenance

6.3.1 Management Aims

Develop service standards and practices to ensure land and facilities are maintained to a high standard that reflects the precinct land's regional status.

Asset management strategies will include ongoing preventative maintenance and asset renewal.

Ensure management and maintenance protects site values and council and community investment in infrastructure.

Ensure the site remains accessible for the wider community and provides a diverse range of recreation opportunities.

Ensure the site's ongoing viability and sustainability by developing community and user partnerships and developing appropriate opportunities to support the cost of site operations.

6.3.2 Issues Description

Crown Reserve Management

- Council is not the appointed land manager for sites south of Mona Vale Road. Therefore, Council has little influence or control over future design, upgrades, or management of those sites.
- Appropriate and clear boundaries between the St Ives and Precinct Lands and adjoining land such as the National Parks and road corridors are required to delineate maintenance responsibilities of various land managers.

Conservation Management Plan

- Council's Conservation Management Plan will set out what is significant in the SISPL and what policies are appropriate to retain that significance in future use and development.
- The Conservation Management Plan should help inform the management and maintenance practices of significant sites at the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands and guide the conservation management of biodiversity values within the precinct.

Maintenance and service levels

- The diversity of spaces within the SISPL requires the development of maintenance and service standards with associated resourcing.
- There is currently a lack of consistency in park furniture such as bins, bollards, fencing, seating, shelters, barbecues, and signage, impacting service level provisions.
- Maintenance practices need to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.
- Repairing, consolidating, and upgrading tracks can better protect native species and natural environments.

Sustainable management

- The *NSW Local Government Act 1993* includes a Charter of Councils (Section 8). This charter includes the following:
"to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development".

- Sustainable management includes but is not limited to resource consumption, including energy and water consumption. The existing water re-use system from the Green Waste Tip is an example of sustainable management of the SISPL. Additional sustainable management practices will be explored in future development upgrades.

Capital and recurrent costs

- Managing and maintaining a large and diverse public open space such as SISPL is a costly exercise. Strategies to offset this financial impact on Council through potential fees, charges, or other income opportunities need to be considered where they do not reduce community access.
- Capital funding is needed for long term improvements to amenities, facilities, surfaces, and supporting infrastructure. Council will need to seek funding from other sources such as grants, lease and license fees, and development contributions to achieve these upgrades.
- There is increasing pressure on management's recurrent costs due to increasing community expectation on the quality of public open spaces.

Emergency Management

- Given the natural setting, the precinct sites are susceptible to natural disasters such as bushfires.
- Future design and reserve improvements will need to carefully consider the implication on emergency management processes such as evacuation routes, designated safe areas and park closures.
- Emergency Management Plans are required to be developed, regularly reviewed, and implemented to maximise safety of all precinct land users. This includes investigating the designation of the SIS as a 'Neighbourhood Safer Place'.

6.4 Communication and Information

6.4.1 Management Aims

The Environment and Education Centre will provide additional opportunities for a broad range of programs and services to enhance understanding and appreciation of the natural environment and Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage.

Ensure meaningful community engagement that develops a sense of pride and ownership of the precinct lands.

Develop communication and interpretation strategies for the multiple values of the site and to educate users on how to contribute to protecting site values.

6.4.2 Issues Description

Community Participation

- Community participation in the planning, design, management and use of SISPL should be an ongoing process requiring a tailored approach relevant to the issue stakeholder communities.
- The Plan of Management proposes that Council's Community Participation Plan will be the basis for community interaction and engagement with the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands.

Indigenous Community Engagement

- Engagement with Indigenous communities should be undertaken for all relevant planning, design and management projects t.

- A Cultural and Environmental Education Centre at the Showground should be considered to enable the community and visitors to engage with Aboriginal culture and give the Aboriginal community an opportunity to showcase their culture.

Signage and Place Making

- Current signage is provided in an ad-hoc manner, leading to confusing and cluttered outcomes and not creating a sense of place.
- Signage throughout the various precincts requires consolidation and consistent branding across various signage typologies such as destination, directional, regulatory and interpretive.

Education and site appreciation

- The precinct lands contain significant site values, which present opportunities for broader community education and appreciation.
- There is an identified need for a Cultural Education and Environment Centre to enhance understanding and appreciation of the natural environment and Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage.
- Council's Bushcare Program should be continued as it will assist in the ongoing management of nominated bushland areas across the precinct lands.
- Education of site users and visitors is needed to promote a culture of respect and accountability.
- There is a need to establish and maintain good relationships with adjoining landowners and occupiers to ensure planning and management is aligned where possible.
- Under Part 2 of the *State Planning and Environment Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*, Council is required to consult with public authorities such as the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- Continue to collaborate with Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, and the Australian Plants Society North Shore Group in the study and management of Bauer's Midge Orchid.

7. Action Plan

The following table provides an implementation plan for this Plan of Management. It identifies performance targets, actions, responsibilities, and priorities.

The implementation plan covers key management themes of:

1. Providing Outdoor Recreation and Community and Regional Events
2. Protecting and Enhancing Environment and Heritage Values
3. Asset Management and Maintenance
4. Communication and Information

The priorities for implementation are indicated as follows:

- Ongoing (O) - Regularly repeated
- High (H) – 0 to 3 years
- Medium (M) – 4 to 6 years
- Low (L) – 7 to 10 years

The actions specify which precinct lands they relate to:

- All precincts (ALL)
- St Ives Showground (SIS)
- Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery (KCCN)
- Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden (KWG)
- former Green Waste Tip site (GWT)
- St Ives Road Safety Centre leased to Honda Australia Roadcraft Training (HART) and licensed to NSW Police for the Community and Road Education Scheme (CARES).

7.1 Providing Outdoor Recreation, Community and Regional Events

Management Aims:

Provide a diverse range of recreation, sport, community, and education opportunities for all members of the community.

Ensure an appropriate balance between the provision of recreation and events and protection of biodiversity and heritage values.

Continue to strengthen the sustainable use of the St Ives Showground Precinct as a regional recreation and event destination.

Table 11 – Action Plan

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions- Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
Responding to increasing and diverse community recreation needs	Enhance access, circulation and nodes of intended use, including community use, regular user groups and special events.	ALL	H	Develop an integrated Masterplan for the SISPL. Undertake community and stakeholder engagement to help inform the future masterplan development.	Masterplan completed and following public exhibition is revised and adopted by Council.
	Increase the compatible and suitable community recreation uses of key precincts.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	O	Respond to needs identified through community engagement and master planning by aligning priorities for action. Implement priority actions for improvements and upgrades. Investigate the provision of café and other related retail opportunities such as bike rental etc.	Timely response to emerging demand. Provision of new and upgraded recreation facilities. Increased use of the site as measured through bookings data. Reduction of non-sanctioned activity and uses.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions- Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
	Develop an active transport and trail network plan.	ALL,	H	<p>Identify walking, running and riding trail networks, including links to adjoining lands in priority areas (SIS, KWG, KCCN) as well as adjoining national parks.</p> <p>Consider rationalisation of tracks and trails that dissect and fragment bushland areas and deter use of / closed illegal/ non-sanctioned tracks.</p> <p>Locate, design and construct new track and trail links.</p> <p>Integrate into the Masterplan.</p>	<p>Inclusion of new trails and linkages in the Masterplan.</p> <p>New trails avoid and minimise impacts to biodiversity and bushland connectivity.</p> <p>All sanctioned trails mapped (formal and informal) and improved signage provided.</p>
	Provide for additional formal sporting use that does not significantly impact on other uses, special destination events or the natural values of the SIS	SIS	H	<p>Investigate the potential to formalise sport facilities and support more sporting use in SIS.</p> <p>Upgrades to consider other event related uses and retaining compatibility with those.</p> <p>Undertake upgrades or enhancements needed to enable more sporting use.</p>	<p>Additional sporting users present on the site.</p> <p>Impacts from formal sport use are well managed and do not exceed thresholds identified in use agreements.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions- Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
	Develop options for additional use of Princess Anne Arena.	SIS	H	<p>Review the appropriateness of current equestrian and off-leash dog use (w.r.t. wildlife protection)</p> <p>Investigate compatible community recreation activities including a potential multi-use field and undertake or plan for upgrades needed.</p>	Increased use for community activities and recreation
	Accessible toilets are provided to all users within reasonable walking distance.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	H-M	<p>Audit available facilities for condition and access.</p> <p>Upgrade or replace facilities where needed.</p> <p>Investigate options for the provision of new facilities where gaps are identified. This could include use of temporary facilities for events or seasonal use.</p>	Provision of accessible toilet facilities that support recreational usage and complement the natural and cultural character and apply environmentally sustainable design principles where possible.
Enhancing safe access to and between the precinct lands	Provision of safe vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access to precinct lands	ALL	H	<p>Review overall circulation and site access as part of the proposed Masterplan.</p> <p>Request Transport for NSW to re-consider providing installation of signalised traffic lights for pedestrian and vehicle crossing at St Ives Showground's entrance.</p>	<p>Improved main entry points and linkages between precincts.</p> <p>Transport for NSW advice received, and improvement actions agreed.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions- Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Request TfNSW investigate improved public transport services/ connections to service this site, particularly for major events. Work with TfNSW to provide safe access to HART	
Provide parking to facilitate safe access	Increased parking areas provided to support regular and event use that does not impact on natural values of the precincts	SIS, KCCN	H	Review of parking strategy within the Masterplan. Implement short and longer-term actions to formalise and control car parking to reduce adverse impacts on the environment and enhance user safety	Car parking provided in accordance with masterplan. Short term actions to formalise existing parking areas and stop encroachment.
Explore compatible recreation uses	Increase the diversity of compatible community and commercial opportunities uses.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	M	Investigate the feasibility of establishing designated camping areas. Investigate the feasibility of providing additional “pay for use” outdoor recreation activities such as high ropes or guided activities.	Feasibility study complete and a decision made on the provision of paid camping. Completed study and adopted strategy for implementing activities/opportunities considered suitable in the study. Adopted activities are consistent with overall site values and management aims.
Provide appropriate community access to Ku-	Upgrade the Community Nursery site to provide safe access and support a range of appropriate community activities.	KCCN	M	Develop an options paper for future directions of the former Ku-ring-gai Council Community Nursery.	Preferred direction incorporated into Masterplan.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions- Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
ring-gai Council Community Nursery				<p>This could include partnerships with commercial and/or not-for-profit organisations to provide compatible community and recreation activities.</p> <p>Activities could include. A commercial nursery; Boutique camping, Adventure play.</p> <p>Investigations should include solar farming, community green waste and compost, sustainability industries and community enterprise uses.</p>	<p>Access and site upgrades planned.</p> <p>New activities provided in partnership are consistent with site values.</p>

7.2 Protecting and Enhancing Environment and Heritage Values

Management Aims:

Protect and enhance the natural environment and heritage values within and adjacent to the precinct lands.

Protect indigenous and European heritage and cultural values.

Support recreation and event use whilst protecting environmental and heritage values.

Table 12 – Action Plan

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
Protect life, property, and community assets from the adverse impacts of fire whilst managing fire regimes to maintain and protect biodiversity and cultural heritage	Bushfire hazards in Asset Protection Zones (APZs) and strategic fire advantage zones are maintained in accordance with the Bush Fire Environmental Assessment Code and Part 5 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	ALL	H	<p>Prepare site Bushfire Management Plan for the SISPL that is consistent with the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan.</p> <p>The plan should detail all hazard reduction, site management and emergency response activities and requirements.²</p>	<p>APZ works reporting by contractors and staff teams are submitted monthly and reviewed annually to ensure contract objectives in relation to the Bushfire Management Plan are met, particularly the maintenance of low or reduced fuel loads.</p> <p>Hazard reduction documentation</p>

² This plan should consider elements such as: Undertake regular manual hazard reduction works in APZs at the urban/natural area interface to mitigate bushfire risk and fire intensity; Prepare required documentation for hazard reduction works, including burns, and maintain relevant NSW RFS information systems (BRIMS/Guardian); Support NSW Fire & Rescue and NSW RFS during on-ground works and burns if required with appropriately trained staff.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Undertake community education programs targeting bushfire hazard management on urban interface properties in conjunction with the RFS and as identified within the Bushfire Risk Management Plan	completed and RFS information systems are updated as required to ensure no delay in on ground works. Council bushfire mitigation activities are reported annually through Council's IP&R process including relevant data such as numbers of hazard reductions, ecological burns and APZs worked
	Compliance with all relevant legislation, guidelines, policies and plans and RFS advice.	ALL	H	Ensure that planning for bushland rehabilitation and landscaping improvements to the understorey at the SIS do not increase fire risk to structures or inhibit site evacuation. Consult with the RFS and comply with relevant legislation, guidelines, policies, and plans, including Council's Bushfire Management Policy 2020 and the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Bush Fire Risk Management Plan to manage bushfire risk.	All actions comply with relevant legislation, guidelines, policies and plans and RFS advice. Bushfire planning and management activities are consistent with species recovery plans, relevant actions from the Saving our Species Program and research on specific species habitat related fire regimes.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Comply with all species related recovery plans, relevant actions from the Saving our Species Program and research on specific species and their fire regimes.	
	Fire trails, access points and tracks, and bushfire related signage is maintained in accordance with relevant guidelines and plans.	ALL	H	<p>Update and maintain the bushfire management strategies, evacuation plan and strategic fire trails.</p> <p>Undertake actions from the Hornsby - Ku-ring-gai Bushfire Operations Plan and from the Hornsby – Ku-ring-gai Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan and maintain fire trails at their stated category level.</p> <p>Install gates and signage to restrict vehicular access on fire trails to service, maintenance, and emergency vehicles only.</p>	<p>Monitor and review fire trail conditions through the Bushfire Risk Management Committee on a yearly basis.</p> <p>Gates and signs are audited at the start of the fire season annually.</p> <p>Annual audit of bushfire evacuation plans and fire trail maintenance.</p>
	Ensure successful regeneration of natural vegetation after controlled and uncontrolled burns or bushfire suppression operations.	ALL		Apply controlled burns in a mosaic regime to maintain the appropriate floristic and structural diversity for each vegetation community and threatened species (where feasible)	Biodiversity surveys, monitoring, and inventories to regularly update data to support fire land use management decision-making and environmental performance.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<p>Manage impacts on post burn sites during regeneration including excessive wallaby grazing or site trampling and spread of over dominant plants.</p> <p>Map fire history and link to monitoring and reporting activities.</p>	<p>“Burn” sites recover at acceptable rates and recovery activities are integrated into overall site management.</p>
	Adequate provision of Safer Neighbourhood Spaces	SIS	H	Investigate potential for a Safer Neighbourhood Space at the SIS	Determination of suitability of SIS as a Safer Neighbourhood Space and associated implementation
Build climate change resilience of the SISPL	Strategies are developed to manage and mitigate impacts on natural and cultural values and park assets due to impacts of climate change.	ALL	H	<p>Implement adaptive management responses to mitigate impacts where possible on natural and cultural values and park assets.</p> <p>Implement Council’s Climate Wise Communities Program to educate the surrounding community, site users and visitors about climate change and regenerative living.</p> <p>Ensure the proposed Community Environment and Education Centre</p>	<p>SISPL demonstrates increased resilience to drought, fire and extreme weather impacts.</p> <p>Increased community awareness of and support for, implementation of adaption and mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Improved site performance in reducing energy and water use and implementation of renewable energy</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<p>provides climate education and demonstrates Climate Wise strategies</p> <p>Implement a range of sustainability improvements across the site to reduce power and water use and reduce emissions.</p> <p>Implement a range of data capture strategies to enable better monitoring of performance in achieving climate related goals.</p> <p>Invest in technology to assist in monitoring and managing impacts such as soil monitors, water meters and irrigation controllers.</p> <p>Develop specific strategies for species at high risk due to climate change.</p>	<p>solutions and sustainable operations.</p> <p>Strategies in place to protect species most at risk from climate change.</p>
Manage Water Quality, Erosion and Sedimentation to protect, conserve and improve habitat.	Identify and implement management actions to reduce impacts in areas where water quality, erosion and sedimentation are a significant issue, with priority given to areas that directly affect natural and cultural values.	ALL	O	Collaborate and work with relevant stakeholders in undertaking water quality monitoring and collect pre-and post-work water quality data on Council	Implementation of a strategic water quality sampling program for priority area sites to establish water quality trends including

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<p>projects that aim to improve water quality.</p> <p>Implement mitigation and prevention measures for unauthorised tracks and illegal dumping of mulch.</p> <p>Implement control and mitigation measures for runoff from carparks, roads, tracks and equestrian areas, radio control car site and former Mini Wheels site.</p> <p>Ensure bins and other potential pollutant sources are located away from riparian areas.</p> <p>Implement Water Sensitive Urban Design principles and relevant guides or policies from Council and State Government.</p> <p>Continue to maintain Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) and educate visitors of the GPT function in reducing litter in creeks.</p>	<p>biological, physical and chemical indicators.</p> <p>Increased number of projects which have adopted WSUD principles, natural infrastructure to manage water quality and erosion and that have implemented Council's relevant policies and strategies.</p> <p>Gross pollutants and waterway pollution are managed through ongoing monitoring and maintenance of pollutant removal devices.</p>
	Restoration of degraded riparian areas to improve water quality, natural habitat and provide recreation benefits.	All	O	<p>Develop an overall Riparian Conservation Management Plan.</p> <p>Remediate unstable creek banks and Identify <i>priority</i></p>	Priority restoration sites identified and restoration plans prepared.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<p>areas for restoring creeks and degraded riparian areas.</p> <p>Investigate the potential to use soil translocation for restoration projects providing projects can comply with best practice guidelines for the management of pests and disease e.g. <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>.</p>	<p>Number of site plans implemented each year.</p> <p>Water quality and erosion/ monitoring indicates improved outcomes.</p> <p>Use of best practice guidelines for restoration of riparian and instream habitats.</p>
	Protection and enhancement of riparian zones and no loss of healthy riparian area or resilience of existing areas.	ALL	O	<p>Revegetation and stabilisation projects as detailed above.</p> <p>Protection of existing healthy riparian vegetation.</p> <p>Ensure contractors, maintenance staff and bushcare volunteers comply with guidelines for riparian protection.</p> <p>Integrate protections and enhancement of riparian zones into all development planning.</p>	<p>Improved riparian quality over time.</p> <p>No loss of healthy riparian vegetation.</p> <p>Bush regeneration reporting by contractors and staff teams are submitted monthly and reviewed annually to ensure objectives are being met with no loss of riparian zone condition.</p>
	Improve water quality in Ku ring gai Creek and other watercourses in the precinct.	ALL	O	<p>Actions as above.</p> <p>Investigate sedimentation and biofiltration systems adjoining roads, tracks,</p>	<p>Monitoring data indicate improved quality over time and no decline of average water quality in any permanent creek.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				carparks and horse stabling areas etc.	
	Increase aquatic biodiversity and support natural flow regimes.	ALL	O	<p>Use guidance from the Water Sensitive Cities Policy 2016 to minimise stormwater impacts by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Water Sensitive Urban Design approaches (such as use of vegetation lined drainage channels instead of concrete) • appropriate pollution control devices (sediment detention basins, litter baskets and filter gardens); and • erosion control devices (swales, low flow pipes) <p>Ensure relevant staff are trained in emergency response procedures and maintain spill response kits and equipment to mitigate pollution incidents and chemical spills.</p>	<p>WSUD infrastructure and GPTs are installed where possible and are included in Council's asset maintenance register.</p> <p>WSUD infrastructure and GPTs are maintained on a regular basis as required.</p> <p>Undertake regular assessment of watercourses in natural areas and continue to carry out the water quality and stream health monitoring program, reporting on condition changes through the water quality card system on a yearly basis.</p>
Improve the integrated water cycle management	Increased harvesting and reuse of stormwater on the site.	ALL	O	Investigate and implement options to harvest stormwater for treatment and reuse within the SISPL	Provision of new stormwater tanks and treatment mechanisms and an overall increase in

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
strategy of the SISPL lands				Lands as part of the existing integrated water cycle management strategy.	stormwater capture and storage.
Minimise weed, pest and disease impacts	Natural areas are protected from new incursions of pathogens and current pathogen-infected areas are maintained to prevent further spread.	ALL	O	<p>Assess suspected pathogen-infected areas and map test results within Council's corporate GIS system to inform land management strategies.</p> <p>Council staff and volunteers are to be aware of current pathogen-infected areas and comply with pathogen hygiene protocols.</p> <p>Implement measures to restrict or otherwise manage public access to pathogen affected areas to prevent further spread. This could include signage or barriers where appropriate.</p>	<p>All suspected pathogen affected areas are investigated and mapped, including positive and negative ID results for pathogens.</p> <p>Pathogen affected areas are monitored to confirm that no r spread of pathogens is attributable to Council staff, volunteers or public.</p> <p>Plant stock and landscape materials used in projects are pathogen free.</p>
	Limit impact and threat of undesirable fungus and mould infections.	ALL	O	<p>Consider <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> within future master planning and within the Conservation Management Plan.</p> <p>Prepare <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> management</p>	<p>Monitor for <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> and <i>Puccinia psidii</i> (Myrtle rust).</p> <p>Action plans developed rapidly when any spread is detected.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				plans for landscape works and soil translocation projects.	
	Manage invasive native plants that are detrimentally impacting on natural values and remove where appropriate.	ALL	O	Invasive plants are managed through bush regeneration and regular maintenance practices. Control weeds adjacent to or within natural areas using best practice	Reduced number of invasive native plants Monitor to determine the presence and extent of invasive native species.
	Reduce the spread of weeds and pests, within bushland.	All	O	Prepare a precinct wide Conservation Management Plan and site rehabilitation plans for areas such as the former Mini-wheels site. Collaborate with DPIE, NPWS, members of the regional pest management strategy, horse and dog owners who use the site, neighbouring landowners, bush generation. volunteers and experts to identify and manage pests and diseases. Undertake pest management in accordance with pest management priorities in the Greater Sydney Strategic Weed	Implementation of regular monitoring and reporting on weed and pest presence, spread and threats. Implementation of threat abatement plans, statements of intent and compliance with hygiene guidelines. Regularly update the Regional Pest Management Strategy to reflect new information. Reduced impacts on healthy vegetation and habitats from pests and disease. Feral animal control reporting by contractors and staff are submitted

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<p>Management Plan, The Regional Pest Management Strategy, and under the State Government's Saving our Species program.</p> <p>Careful management and disposal of vegetation waste including from bushcare activities.</p> <p>Continue to manage feral and domestic animals in accordance with the Fauna Management Policy 2016 (and subsequent versions) and the objectives specified in the State Government's <i>Saving our Species program</i></p>	regularly and reviewed annually to ensure contract objectives are met.
Encourage the recovery of threatened species, communities, populations and their habitats	Natural areas are subjected to integrated pest management for invasive species of flora and fauna to reduce the impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.	All	O	<p>Actions as above.</p> <p>Continue targeted removal of State or Regional Priority Weeds, as listed under the NSW <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> or the Greater Sydney Regional Weed Management Plan and the Local Priority Weed List.</p> <p>Ecological restoration programs and bush regeneration activities will assess and treat all weed species present within</p>	Weed control and bush regeneration reporting by contractors and staff teams are submitted monthly and reviewed annually to ensure contract objectives are met with improved ecosystem resilience and no net loss of habitat.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				natural areas based on their threat to site values.	
	Endangered/threatened and locally significant flora and fauna are protected where possible with an aim of no net loss of endangered ecological communities or high value habitat.	All	O	<p>Identify and map threatened flora and fauna in Council's Biobase system and the NSW BioNet Atlas.</p> <p>Identify and map significant habitat features in Council's 'Habitat Features' database.</p> <p>Undertake conservation management actions as outlined by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for identified endangered ecological communities and Saving Our Species program.</p> <p>Undertake fauna survey and monitoring within and adjacent to natural area reserves on an annual basis.</p> <p>Implement relevant priorities and strategies for the recovery of threatened species, populations and ecological communities set out under the NSW</p>	<p>Biobase, BioNet and Habitat Features database updated quarterly or when new species identified.</p> <p>Bush regeneration reporting by contractors and staff teams are submitted monthly and reviewed annually to ensure contract objectives are met with improved ecosystem resilience and no net loss of habitat.</p> <p>Flora and fauna surveys indicate no loss of target species or habitats.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Government Saving our Species Program	
	Rehabilitate the understorey of Duffys Forest Ecological Community to create biodiversity corridors and defined islands around areas of higher resilience without increasing bush fire hazard for assets.	SIS	H	Prepare a Landscape Plan to guide the rehabilitation project and site management. Ensure that revegetated areas are well defined and protected from trampling, encroachment and cars. Improve ecological connectivity.	Duffys Forest resilience, health and structure improved.
	Manage the urban forest within the site, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the age class of trees in Duffys Forest through planting and effective management • Review open space management practices with regard to impacts on remnant trees (such as compaction and trunk damage from mowing). 	SIS	O	Avoid removal of hollow bearing trees where possible. Address issues within the Conservation Management Plan. Consider canopy recruitment and planting using local provenance creating a diversity of age class stock where possible.	Healthy range of age classes Issues and actions addressed within Conservation Management Plan and implemented on ground.
	Rehabilitation of the former the mini-wheels site which includes Duffys Forest.	SIS	H	Rehabilitation plan prepared and implemented or incorporated into overall Conservation Management Plan	Site rehabilitation progress via observation / site species surveys

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
	Protect Duffys Forest from non-compatible uses.	SIS	H	Define areas for horse, dog, car and pedestrian access.	Access corridors mapped and clearly defined.
	Recovery of Bauer's Midge Orchid.	SIS KWG	O	Continue to work closely with the Australian Plant Society experts, in association with DPIE and the Royal Botanic Gardens on management of Bauer's Midge Orchid.	Flora survey for Bauer's Midge Orchid indicates recovery.
	Prevent negative impacts on the Red-crowned Toadlet population.	KWG	O	Following regular trittering, immediately remove fallen vegetation in road verges to reduce impacts on the Red-crowned Toadlet. Hand clip vegetation in known breeding site locations	Fauna survey for Red-crowned Toadlet indicates species population is stable or increasing.
	Protect the Coastal Upland Swamp	KWG	O	Monitor for changed hydrology regimes (water quality and quantity), fire frequency, climate change, weeds and disturbance. Remove or revegetate unauthorised tracks and prevent further establishment.	Monitoring indicates the ecosystem is remaining healthy. Prompt management of weed and pest threats to the area. Erosion and sedimentation addressed within Mini wheels rehabilitation.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
			M	Install fencing and signage where needed to protect sensitive areas. Address drainage and erosion within the former Mini Wheels site	
Protect Aboriginal Heritage and Improve Connection to Country	Aboriginal heritage is identified, protected and conserved following Statutory requirements and best practice	ALL	H	Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places are protected from activities within natural areas by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> restricted access to Aboriginal heritage data; Council works consider impacts to Aboriginal relics, with potential Aboriginal heritage sites referred to the Aboriginal Heritage Office for assessment; implementing measures to restrict or otherwise manage public access to prevent impact to heritage items and culturally sensitive areas; and install signage to inform and educate where appropriate; 	No loss or damage to Aboriginal heritage items and culturally sensitive areas occurs in natural areas. Items are appropriately protected in accordance with statutory requirements, due diligence processes and best practice. Indigenous stakeholders are satisfied with the management approach and outcomes.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Prepare and implement a management plan for the salvaged stone engravings from the construction of the F3 Freeway. Consider location at the proposed Environment and Education Centre or the KWG.	
	Engage, involve and employ Aboriginal people in park management operations and education programs where opportunities exist	ALL	M	<p>Consider and create opportunities to improve connection to Country and environmental health through Aboriginal cultural burning practices, operations, and education programs.</p> <p>Continue to consult and involve indigenous stakeholders in the management of the SISPL lands.</p> <p>Develop a targeted employment program for Indigenous people.</p>	<p>Indigenous stakeholder are satisfied with level of engagement and management of cultural values and sites.</p> <p>Increased number of indigenous people employed or engaged in operations.</p>
	Prepare an Aboriginal heritage education and interpretation strategy in partnership with indigenous stakeholders.	KWG, SIS	H	Involve Aboriginal stakeholders and the Aboriginal Heritage Office in the development of material and programs for interpretation of	<p>Aboriginal Education and Interpretation Strategy prepared.</p> <p>Improved interpretation of Aboriginal heritage and</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Aboriginal cultural and heritage. Deliver education program through Community Environment and Education Centre and KWG.	integration into education program. Stakeholders consulted and approve of Strategy. Improved visitor satisfaction regarding education and interpretation.
Significant heritage sites have statutory protection	Pursue listing all significant heritage sites under Ku-ring-gai LEP and if appropriate, under the State Heritage Register.	All	H	Engagement with indigenous stakeholders and relevant State departments to secure appropriate levels of statutory protection.	Significant sites recognised in statutory instruments.
	Non-aboriginal heritage items are protected and conserved as part of the living landscape and potential damage prevented	All	O	Non-aboriginal heritage items are protected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral of potential heritage items to the Council's Heritage Officer for assessment Implementing measures to restrict or otherwise manage public access to prevent impact to heritage items; and Installing signage to inform and educate where appropriate 	No loss or damage to non-aboriginal heritage occurs in natural areas. Improved education and interpretation of sites.
Enhance fauna habitat	Protect and enhance existing habitats.	All	O	Addressed within Conservation	Fauna surveys indicate increased populations of

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Management Plan, including the use of techniques such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • artificial hollows designed for targeted species, • vegetation corridors, • canopy cover expansion, • planting of more lower storey vegetation and increasing density of understorey, • retention of hollow bearing trees. 	target species and increased diversity.
Manage impacts from domestic dogs and cats	Ensure impacts from domestic dogs are effectively managed to minimise the impact on natural values. Manage Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden as a cat and dog free area.	KWG, SIS	M	Implement management controls so dogs always remain on leash except when in the designated off leash area. Investigate and implement strategies to encourage responsible behaviour and minimise impacts on native fauna and water quality, such as installing dog waste bag stands and garbage bins in strategic and accessible locations. Enforce Wildlife Protection Area within Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden	Reduced incidence of dogs off-leash outside of the designated area. Education and signage to change behaviours. Installation of waste bags and bins. Reduced issuance of Infringement notices. Reduced impact from domestic cats and reduced populations of feral cats.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Actions - Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				(subject to Council endorsement). Work with appropriate state agencies (such as NPWS) on programs to reduce feral cat populations.	

7.3 Asset Management and Maintenance

Management Aims:

Develop service standards and practices to ensure land and facilities are maintained to a high standard that reflects the precinct land's regional status.

Asset management strategies will include ongoing preventative maintenance and asset renewal.

Ensure management and maintenance protects site values and council and community investment in infrastructure.

Ensure the site remains accessible for the wider community and provides a diverse range of recreation opportunities.

Ensure the site's ongoing viability and sustainability by developing community and user partnerships and developing appropriate opportunities to support the cost of site operations.

Table 13 – Action Plan

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
Holistic management of overall precinct.	Investigate options for Council to become Crown Land Manager for all lands south of Mona Vale Road.	GWT HART CARES	H	Review of parcels/ reserves and those required for effective management of the overall precinct. Formal approach made to Crown Lands.	Allocation of Council as CLM for all appropriate sites.
	Adopt Council maintenance service level standards that support the site's regional significance and its social, cultural and ecological values.	ALL	H O	Develop and implement appropriate service level standards for each of the individual precincts within SISPL	Improved user satisfaction with site management. Timely repair and maintenance of infrastructure.
	Booking administration delivered in an efficient and effective manner.	SIS, KWG	O	Ensure all permanent and casual users comply with Councils Booking Guidelines, Conditions of	Increased awareness of and compliance with booking/use conditions.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				Hire and Special Major Events Guidelines. Review current systems to ensure ease of access for users and simplicity of communication of conditions to users.	Increased satisfaction of users.
Provide leases, licenses and use agreements to manage organised use.	Grant lease, licence or other user agreement according to the provisions of this Plan of Management.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	H	Review current agreements to incorporate the requirements of this PoM regarding managing use and activity to protect values and manage impacts on the site and adjacent areas. Ensure new leases, licenses or use agreements reflect the requirements of this PoM.	Audit of all existing agreements to identify revisions required. Organised users have an increased awareness of requirements. Regular compliance audits conducted on lessees.
	Permit commercial activities with a recreational focus such as fitness classes, recreation equipment hire, and recreational events through specific one-off approval or licensing/leasing in accordance with the <i>NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> .	SIS, KWG, KCCN	O	Develop and implement a policy framework for the advertising and awarding of commercial activities. Leases, licences and other estates granted according to application and assessment. Review current agreements with the view of adopting a more flexible license agreement that allows for enhanced	Commercial activities conducted in accordance with agreements. Greater flexibility for formal use agreements supports increased diversity of use. Expanded range of recreation opportunities enabled in approved areas.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				community use (subject to environmental considerations)	
	Explore options for introducing additional Commercial and non-commercial nature-based opportunities in appropriate locations.	SIS, KCCN	H	<p>Actions as above.</p> <p>Seek opportunities for commercial or not for profit entities to provide nature-based and other adventure play opportunities.</p> <p>Ensure the policy framework considers viability of providers and any fees charged are sustainable for the operator.</p>	<p>Increased diversity of nature-based and other adventure play activities.</p> <p>Visitation numbers increase in response to new opportunities.</p> <p>Pay to play activities do not displace free informal recreation opportunities.</p>
	Develop options for activation of the former caretaker's cottage to assist with onsite surveillance after hours.	SIS	M	<p>Develop options and implement preferred strategy to activate the cottage.</p> <p>Establish a formal agreement that delivers an onsite presence.</p>	Cottage is activated and onsite presence established.
Maintain heritage structures and fabric	Protect and manage cultural heritage features and values according to their significance.	SIS, KWG	H O	<p>Actions as detailed in Section 7.2.</p> <p>Regularly audit structures for deterioration to inform works required.</p>	<p>Management of structures undertaken according to prepared Conservation Management Plans (CMP).</p> <p>Condition of heritage items remains within anticipated parameters identified in the CMP.</p> <p>Ongoing maintenance and restoration of Heritage</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
					items according to adopted plans.
	Identify opportunities for adaptive reuse of appropriate heritage items.	ALL	H	Develop plans for adaptation and reuse to enable funding to be allocated or sought.	Re-use outcomes assist in the management and maintenance of items. Condition of items are improved through restoration and ongoing maintenance.
Manage hazards and risks	Fire hazards managed giving equal consideration to ecological values and safety of adjoining properties	ALL	O	Fire Risk Management Plan developed, and assets protected from fire impacts.	Implementation of Fire Risk Management Plan
	Hazards and risks associated with existing and proposed structures and built assets are regularly identified and mitigated or managed.	All	O	Undertake annual risk and hazard audits. Prepare Asset Management Plans for all buildings and major structures.	Audit actions are implemented according to level of risk and priority. Assets maintained according plans.

7.4 Communication and Information

Objective:

The Environment and Education Centre will provide additional opportunities for a broad range of programs and services to enhance understanding and appreciation of the natural environment and Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage.

Ensure meaningful community engagement that develops a sense of pride and ownership of the precinct lands.

Develop communication and interpretation strategies for the multiple values of the site and to educate users on how to contribute to protecting site values.

Table 14 Action Plan

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
Improve signage to enhance access to and movement within the reserves.	Ensure a consistent and effective approach to signage and wayfinding strategy within the SISPL.	ALL	H-M	Develop a signage and wayfinding strategy that considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall design style and palette • Entry point signage • Site identification, expression of local character and diversity of settings • Internal direction and wayfinding • Information an, education and interpretive styles • Trail and path wayfinding and information needs 	The strategy is developed and used to guide the staged upgrading of existing signage and installation of new signs.
	Entry and access points are prominent and easily recognised.	SIS, KCN, KWG	H-M	Undertake short term improvements to ensure improved visibility of entry points and clear site identification. Implement new signs as per the Signage Strategy and according to identified priorities.	Improvements made to site identification signage and visibility of entry points. Improved location and directional signage on Mona Vale Rd provided in partnership with TfNSW.
	Navigation within precinct sites is clear and legible for all users.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	H	Install temporary solutions to improve site legibility and wayfinding to key spaces and facilities.	Signage strategy endorsed and new signage installed according to identified priorities.

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
Enhanced understanding and appreciation of precinct lands and management activities.				<p>Improve signage of Duffys Forest and on the Sensory Walk.</p> <p>When the Signage Strategy is complete, implement the new sign style as sites are upgraded and various works are undertaken.</p> <p>Rationalise/remove all redundant signs.</p>	Improved user satisfaction with the legibility of the site.
	Visitors to and users of the SISPL have an increased appreciation for the various values of the site and an improved understanding of management priorities and activities.	All	O	<p>Implementation of Signage Strategy.</p> <p>Implementation of education and interpretation programs.</p> <p>Develop and implement an overall communications plan for the SISPL.</p> <p>Provide temporary signage in public areas to indicate when pest management is occurring, and the activities being undertaken</p>	<p>Decreased incidence of undesirable and non-sanctioned uses.</p> <p>Increased participation of surrounding community and site users and visitors in engagement programs.</p> <p>Improved user awareness of the diverse values of the site and understanding of management objectives.</p>
	Construct the Cultural Education and Environment Centre at the St Ives Showground Precinct.	SIS	H	<p>Finalise feasibility and funding for the new centre.</p> <p>Obtain development approval and construct the centre.</p>	Centre is developed and a number of partners engaged to deliver programs and activities.
	Raise awareness of natural values, threatened species and endangered ecological communities.	SIS, KWG	O	Continue to develop and implement a suite of community education resources, engagement and capacity building programs targeted at biodiversity protection, management and enhancement.	Increased community and user awareness of natural values, threatened species and endangered ecological communities.
Encourage active community involvement in the planning and	Increase community involvement in planning and site management activities.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	O	<p>Establish a Friends of the SISPL' group for general consultation and potential volunteering activities.</p> <p>Establish a Bushcare Group.</p>	<p>New community-based groups established.</p> <p>Increased numbers of volunteers engaged on the site.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
management of SISPL.				<p>Establish consultative groups representing stakeholders and users for major projects and around specific precincts (SIS, KWG, KCN)</p> <p>Consider the development of a regular SISPL email newsletter as part of the Communication Plan.</p>	
	Improvement of bushland values and biodiversity outcomes through active volunteer programs	ALL	O	<p>Actions as above.</p> <p>Support and promote the role of Bushcare groups in improving.</p> <p>Educate bushcare groups so they can implement best practice controls and identify pests.</p> <p>Continue to promote and support Council's Volunteer for Nature program through staff supervision, volunteer training, materials and plants.</p>	<p>Increased number of volunteers and volunteer retention rates.</p> <p>Effective identification and reporting of pests by bushcarers.</p>
	Residents located on the urban interface boundary of natural area reserves are aware of their potential impacts on natural area biodiversity and take positive actions to reduce their impacts	ALL	O	<p>Continue to educate and assist residents living adjacent to the natural areas, including on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • weed education; • ecologically sensitive lands; • promotion of fauna and flora habitat; • appropriate plantings (local natives, water wise gardens, fire considerations including species selection, location, ongoing maintenance); • ClimateWise community education; • responsible pet ownership; • impact of lights on fauna; • encroachment; 	<p>Education programs and assistance provided to residents living adjacent to the natural areas on an ongoing basis and are reported annually through the Council IP&R process.</p> <p>Increase in residents engaging in opportunities to join backyard bush friendly programs such as Greenstyle and ClimateWise.</p> <p>Number of multi-language welcome packs distributed to residents adjacent to natural areas.</p> <p>Number of water smart and creek smart programs targeted to urban interface properties of natural areas where water impacts are greatest.</p>

Objective	Performance Target	Applicable Lands	Priority	Means of Achievement	Performance Assessment
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> water cycle management, including filtration, capture and re-use strategies, such as water tanks and increased use of permeable surfaces 	
	Raise awareness and understanding of Historic Heritage post 1788	SIS	M	<p>Prepare a Post 1788 heritage education and interpretation strategy.</p> <p>Involve stakeholders in the development of material and programs for interpretation.</p>	<p>Improved interpretation of heritage and integration into education program.</p> <p>Stakeholders consulted and approve strategy.</p>
	Sponsorship arrangements with industry groups and not-for-profit organisations are secured to assist Council in achieving sustainable outcomes for natural areas.	SIS, KWG, KCCN	O	Seek opportunities to engage industry groups and not-for-profit organisations to sponsor programs to enhance natural areas	Sponsorship for environmental programs from industry groups and not-for-profit organisations delivered

8. Implementation and Review

8.1 Implementation

8.1.1 Management and Resourcing

Recommendations in this Plan of Management are to be implemented by Ku-ring-gai Council in order of priorities established in the action plan over the next 5 to 10 years.

Actions will be undertaken according to more detailed planning, completion of precedent actions, and resource availability. Some actions will only be possible with external partnerships and funding.

Plan priorities will be reviewed annually to take account of changes in the site issues and potential opportunities to bring forward actions.

8.1.2 Funding

In addition to Council's capital works program and maintenance budgets, there are opportunities for grants, corporate sponsorship, lease and licence fees, which will contribute to the implementation of the St Ives Showground and Precinct Lands Plan of Management.

Activities on the SISPL may generate additional revenue, including leases, licences, hire fees and commercial recreation operator agreements. This revenue can be applied to the overall management of the site and the implementation of the Plan of Management.

8.2 Review and Reporting

This Plan identifies a series of recommendations that will result in changed management practices.

Implementation will require ongoing consultation with stakeholders and regular reviews to ensure the recommended actions continue to meet the community's changing needs. Council is committed to a consultative implementation process that ensures a smooth transition between current and future provision models.

The actions listed within this Plan will be reviewed and reported on through Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) processes.

This Plan will be reviewed in detail every five years to ensure that priorities are being actioned in accordance with resource allocations and remain in line with community needs and Council objectives.

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Appendix 1 – Native Title Advice

To be added when submitted for adoption.

Appendix 2 – Stakeholder Engagement

Summary of outcomes from the Public Exhibition of the Draft PoM to be added after exhibition.

Appendix 3 – Bauer’s Midge Orchid

To be added by Ku-ring-gai Council.

Appendix Four – Categorisation Advice