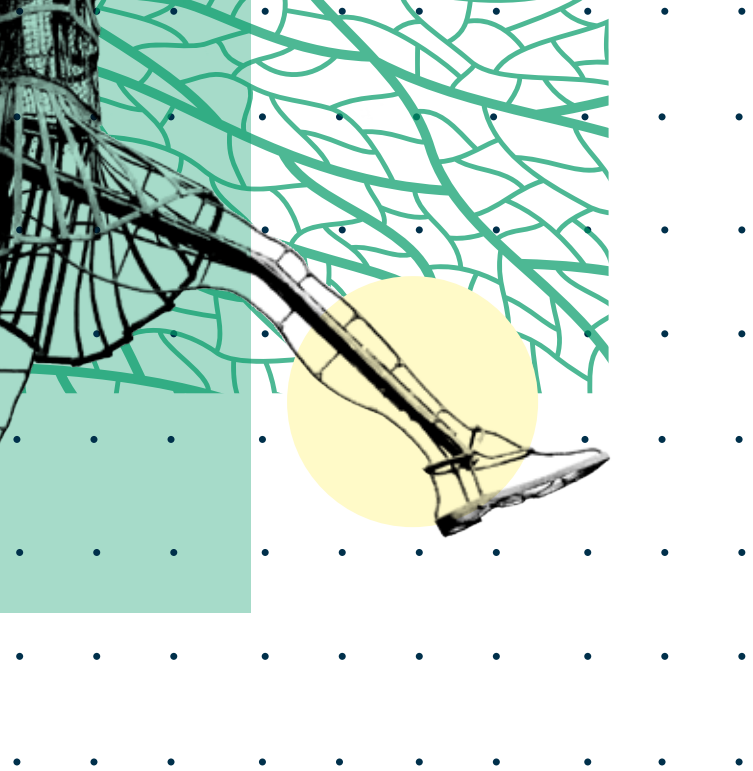




2020-2035
**OPEN SPACE
STRATEGY**



Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and the Elders from other communities who may reside in Moyne Shire.

Ross Planning contributed to the Background and Supporting Evidence Report, facilitated a consultation program and undertook the audit of open space in Moyne Shire. Council built on this by preparing the Strategy and Action Plan.

We would also like to acknowledge the following community members who provided some terrific photographs of our open space for this report. We received more than we could use so thank you to all that took the time to send in their photographs.

Barbara Sanders, Carly Sawatzki, Daniel van Engelen, Grace Warmuth, Greg Howat, Janine Carter, Lisette Mill, and Peter Rooke

Contents

CHAPTER 01: Introduction	04
CHAPTER 02: Methodology	06
CHAPTER 03: Guiding principles	10
CHAPTER 04: Open space in Moyne	12
CHAPTER 05: Our community and open space	14
CHAPTER 06: Open space trends	18
CHAPTER 07: Planning policy and open space	22
CHAPTER 08: Moyne's open space standards	24
CHAPTER 09: Assessing supply and demand	28
CHAPTER 10: Open space for our communities	30
CHAPTER 11: Strategy governance	34
CHAPTER 12: Partnerships and management	36
CHAPTER 13: Acquisition and rationalisation	38
CHAPTER 14: Appendix	42
More information	51
Council contact details	51



Introduction



The Open Space Strategy is a key strategic planning document for Council, Council partners and stakeholders in open space and will inform the direction for open space in the Moyne Shire over a 15-year period.

The focus of the Strategy is primarily related to Council owned and / or managed land. A key to the success of the Strategy and sustainable development and enhancement of open space open space across the Shire is to grow our partnerships and integrate planning and management policies from a range of organisations, associations, government and communities.

Identifying the community's needs, aspirations and expectations in regards to open space were incorporated into the development of the Strategy. It quantifies the intrinsic value of open space to the Moyne Shire community, and presents a range of directions, recommendations and actions under decision-making and governance frameworks.

Importantly, the Strategy has also considered emerging trends for open space planning and use. These include trends for sport and recreation, population and demographics, environmental and cultural, play and access for all residents regardless of age or abilities.

A separate detailed Background and Supporting Evidence Report accompanies the Strategy which details the context and basis for the actions and recommendations in this document. The Action and Implementation Plan presents the priority projects for open space over a five-year period to be annually reviewed and updated across the life of the Strategy.

1.1 Vision for open space

The vision sets the desired scene for open space development and investment and reflects the community's aspirations along with Council's corporate vision.

To continue to deliver high quality, connected and sustainable open spaces that meet community need and provide benefits to the environment, economy and community. Moyne will be known for its natural features and its many strong communities.

1.2 What is open space?

The definition and value of open space can be as varied as the communities it serves. At its most basic, Healthy Spaces and Places defines parks and open space as follows:

'Parks and open space refers to land that has been reserved for the purpose of formal and informal sport and recreation, preservation of natural environments and provision of green space'.

Open spaces are fundamental to people being able to participate in recreation, sporting and social activities. They also create desirable neighbourhoods that lead to healthy and attractive places to live and visit.

Quality open spaces are integral to environmental protection and provide unique opportunities for economic development.

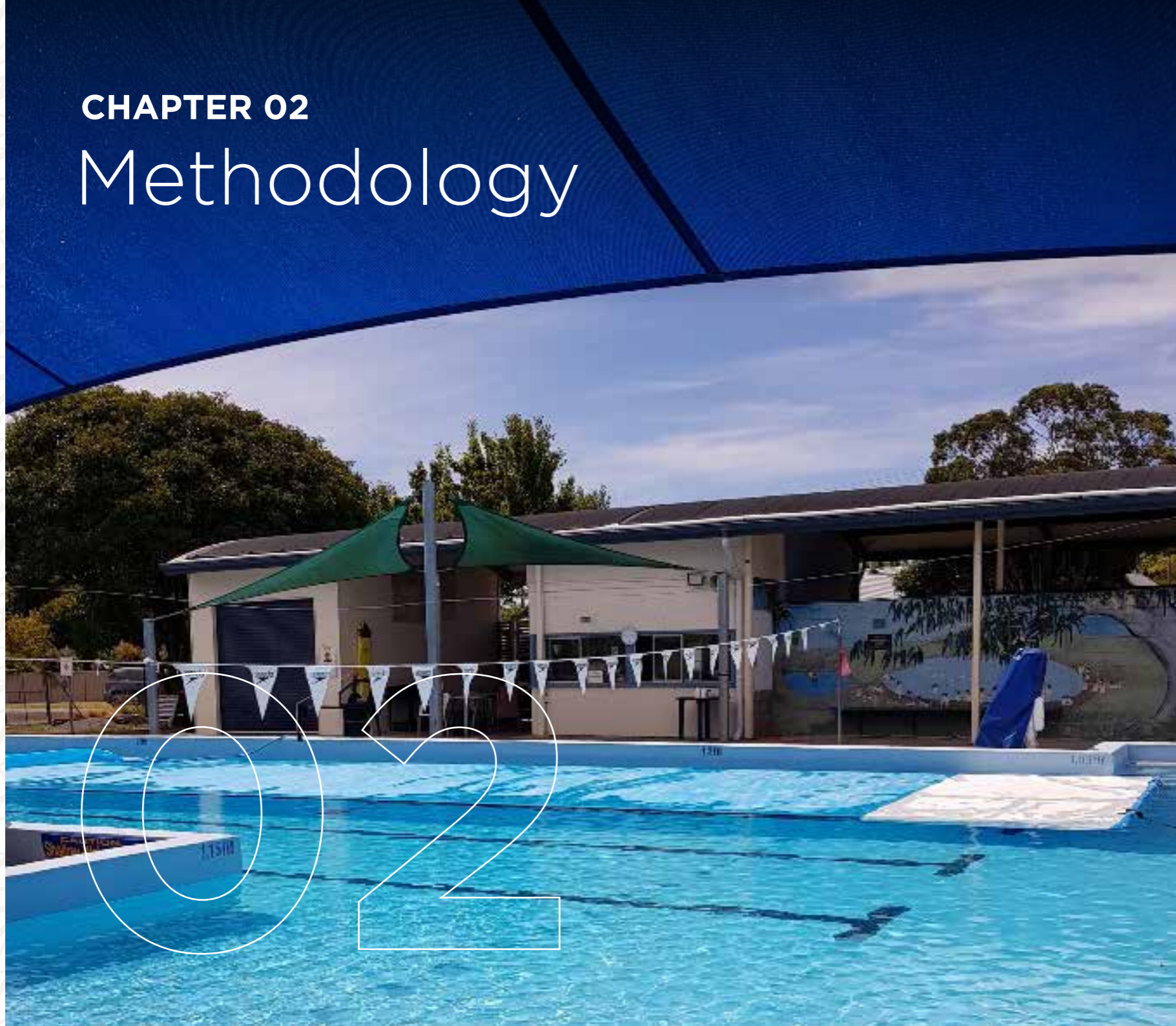
They have a major role in improving community health, both physical and mental, reducing crime, stimulating economic growth and even boosting property value.

They can also establish a sense of ownership and belonging to local communities, with these attributes being known to improve the wellbeing of individuals and communities alike.



CHAPTER 02

Methodology



This Strategy has been developed giving thought to:

- › What we already know about the Shire's open spaces and how they work in our community
- › Understanding what the local community values and their preferences for different open space types and functions
- › Council's and the community's capacity to deliver the required infrastructure and service levels to meet community needs and future demand
- › Assessment of planning scheme policy and objectives for open space and ensuring Moyne open space standards are consistent with quality provision of open space

The methodology used to develop the Strategy was broken down into stages. Figure 1 shows the sequential development of a strategic framework and detailed analysis of open space across the Region.

The information gathered and generated throughout this process informed the directions and recommendations.

Figure 1 - Methodology summary



2.1 What we needed to understand

Three factors have been considered as central to the development of the Open Space Strategy:

- › Open space planning framework - state, regional and local planning environment and frameworks
- › Community needs analysis – community values and current and future trends and demand
- › Open space assessment - analysis of supply, demand, accessibility, embellishments and potential gaps.

2.2 Core open space

The Strategy focuses on our core open space assets to provide a clear direction for Council. Core open space is defined as:

- › Recreation parklands and gardens - land which may have some modifications to support community social interaction, active recreation leisure and well-being uses, including natural appreciation and reflection
- › Sporting fields and outdoor courts - land which has been modified to support structured sports and recreation.

Private or commercial land and facilities have been excluded from this analysis as these types of open space are generally considered less available to the community.

Whilst the Strategy does not directly include conservation areas, national parks, beaches and foreshores, it does acknowledge their importance to our community. They have an increasing role in providing varied recreation and nature-based experiences to residents and visitors and for the protection of flora and fauna habitats.



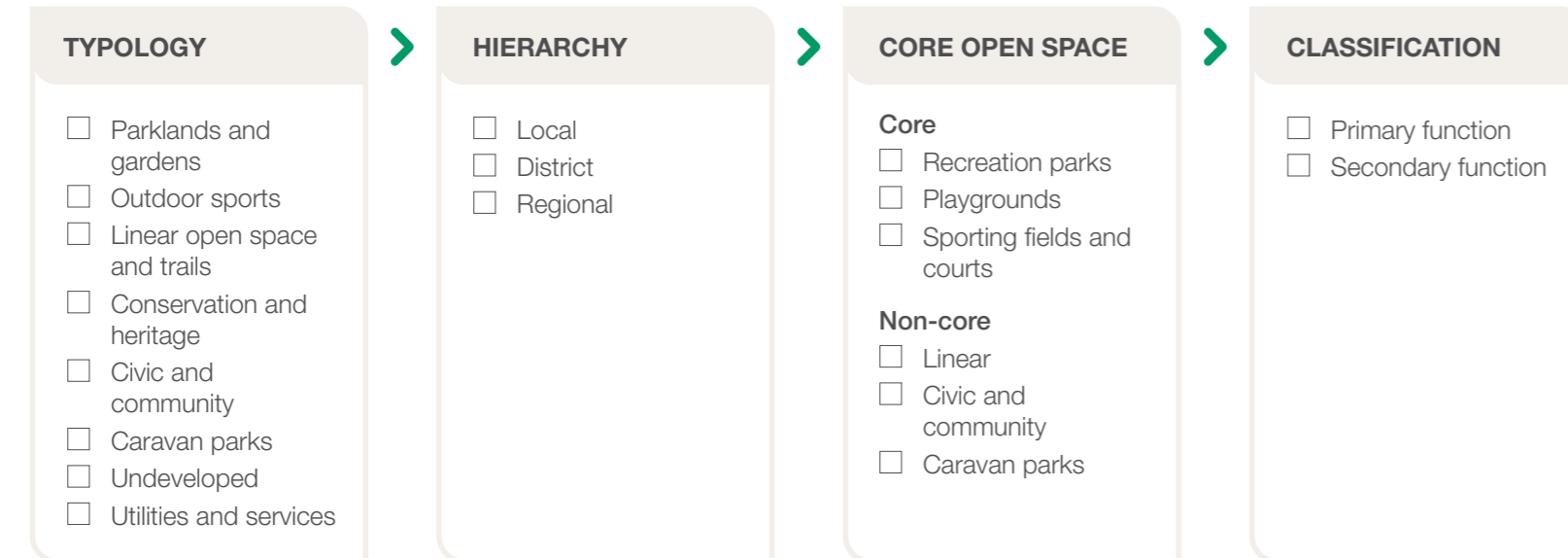
2.3 Classification framework

This Strategy has assessed all open space land within the Shire under Council ownership or control. The open space network has been classified into eight open space types.

These describe open space based on land and activity use as shown in Figure 2. The various open space types possess different values, functions and characteristics.

Open space is also categorised under a hierarchy which informs how the space is used and the features that are needed to support the primary function.

Figure 2 - Open space classifications



This framework will form part of the framework for Council and community decisions (see Decision making framework section) for planning, development, management, investment and/or rationalisation for existing and new potential open space by assessing:

Local – spaces that are predominantly provided to serve an immediate local catchment.

District – parks and open space that generally serve a local township area and its surrounding localities / villages

Regional – areas that serve regional catchments meaning the whole of, or broader than, the municipality.

Resource allocation will continue to be a balance between asset maintenance strategies, community demand, legislative requirements and resource realities.

- What type of open space is it?
- What catchment and use does it represent?
- Is it core open space for Council, the community and users?
- What is the primary function for the open space, even if there are multiple uses and users?

2.4 Strategy and policy alignment

The following documents have been referenced for the consideration and development of the Open Space Strategy.

Council will review and prioritise the implementation of outstanding master plan actions in accordance with the principles and goals of this Strategy.

Table 1 - Summary of strategies and policies

Strategic planning documents	Land use, asset and open space plans
Victoria Planning Provision Clause 19.02.6S	Port Fairy Coastal and Structure Plan
2017-2021 Council Plan	Port Fairy Southcombe Park Master Plan 2016
Moyne Planning Scheme	Port Fairy East Beach Master Plan 2019
Open Space Strategy 2003	Port Fairy Gardens Reserve Master Plan 2019
Recreation Strategy 2014	Koroit Victoria Park Master Plan 2018
Moyne Shire Early Years Review 2019	Port Fairy Railway Place Master Plan 2011
Moyne Economic Development Strategy 2019	Macarthur Market Street Precinct Plan 2019
Moyne Shire Climate Adaptation Plan 2017	Peterborough Irvine Reserve Master Plan 2019
Moyne Shire Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021	Woorndoo Township and Streetscape Plan 2019
Moyne Shire Rural Housing and Settlement Strategy 2015	Mortlake Tea Tree Lake Master Plan 2017
Shipwreck Coast Master Plan 2019	Koroit Structure Plan 2020
	Koroit Drainage Plan 2017

CHAPTER 03

Guiding principles



These guiding principles should be regarded as the key values for our open space decision-making and partnerships.

3.1 Quality planning

Council will ensure an evidence-based strategic approach to the provision of recreation and open space opportunities. Facilities will be fit-for-purpose. Governance practices will be adaptive to be reflective of appropriate open space land and asset management.

3.2 Partnerships

We will ensure that the community are provided with opportunities to become involved in decision-making regarding open space.

Council will work closely with other key land managers, Traditional Landowners, Parks Victoria, Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and others to ensure an integrated approach to open space management.

3.3 Accessible and connected

We will work towards providing well-linked and accessible open space precincts that enhance health and wellbeing opportunities for all communities.

3.4 Attractive places and spaces

Council will ensure that open space areas are designed and effectively maintained. We want to encourage the community to value them and use these spaces.

3.5 Adaptable places and spaces

We will plan for facilities that offer diversity of choice to reflect varied community needs. Multi-use facilities will respond to changing demographics, and adapt to climate change.

3.6 Sustainable places and spaces

Council supports social, cultural, environmental and economic sustainable use of open space. Cultural landscapes, ecology and habitats are to be protected and enhanced in Council managed open space.

3.7 Appropriately resourced

We will plan and allocate resources for the provision of recreation and open space. This will be strategic, effective and equitable, aligning with Council and community capacity to deliver.



Open space in Moyne

Moyne Shire covers an area of approximately 5,478km², and has approximately 3,859ha of open space. 407ha or 10.5% of the total open space is considered core for the purpose of the Strategy.

This provides a provision ratio of 19.65ha of core open space for every 1,000 residents.

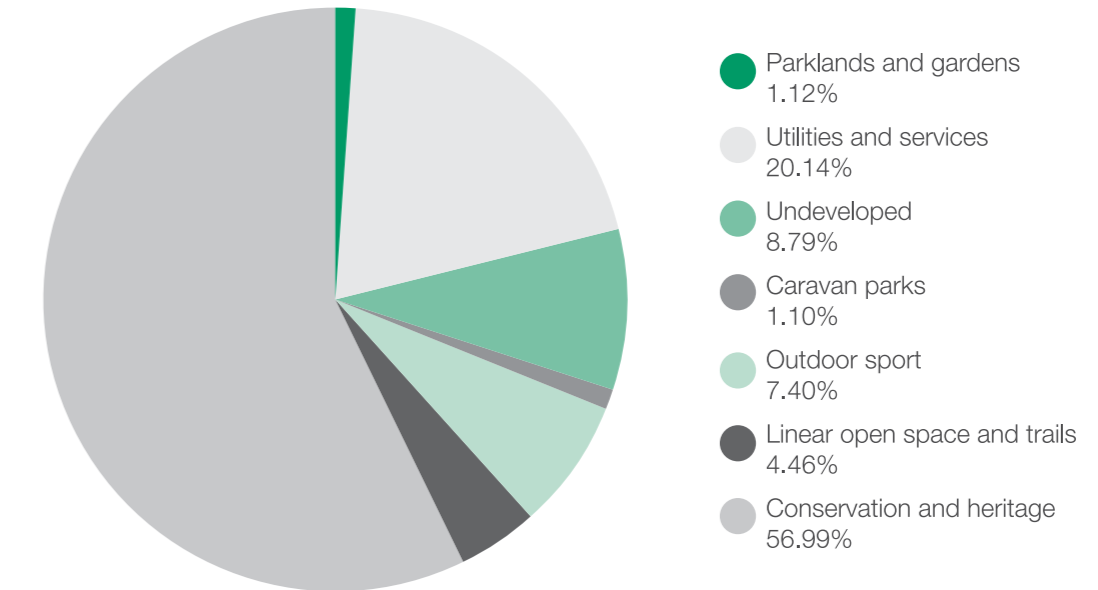
As defined earlier core open space is

- Parklands and gardens
- Sporting fields and outdoor courts.

The Moyne open space landscape covers a range of assets and features from parks and gardens, coastal reserves and significant water assets, sporting and recreation reserves, tracks and trails, playgrounds, civic spaces such as community halls and Regional, State and National Parks.

Our open space is broadly used for sport, leisure, events, environmental conservation, visitor attraction and amenity, commercial activities and formal and informal recreation and social activities. A breakdown of the Moyne Shire's current total open space provision is presented in Figure 3.

Figure 3 - Moyne open space provision by type

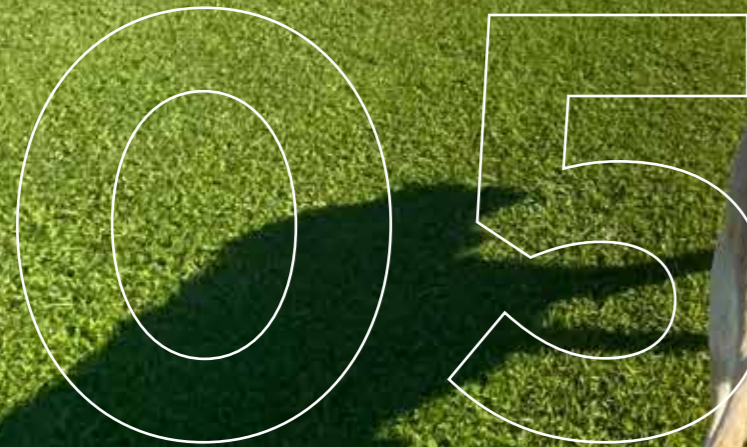


Further summary of the total open space by type, hierarchy and location is presented in Table 3 in the Appendices.



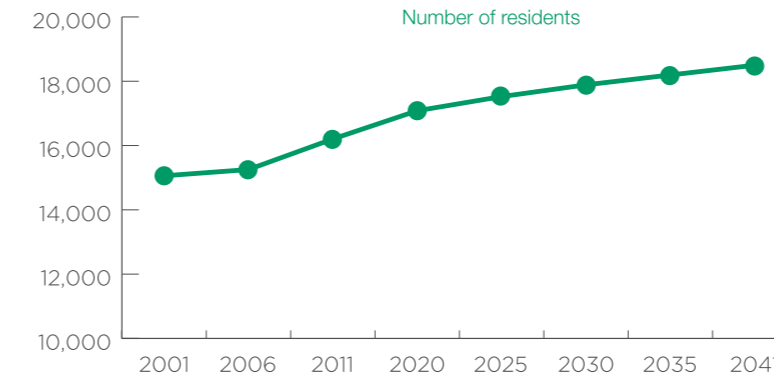
CHAPTER 05

Our community and open space



The following provides an overview of the key population and demographic data for Moyne including forecasts to 2041. This data should be used to inform future planning for open space and open space improvements across the Shire for residents and users.

Figure 4 - Forecast population of Moyne



The data shows that our population is forecast to grow by 1,366 residents (2020-2041), an increase of 8%. There will be a moderate increase in residents aged over 65 years and declines in those aged 49 and under. These trends are reflected in forecast changes to household types with increases in couple only and lone person households.

Figure 5 - Forecast population by age group

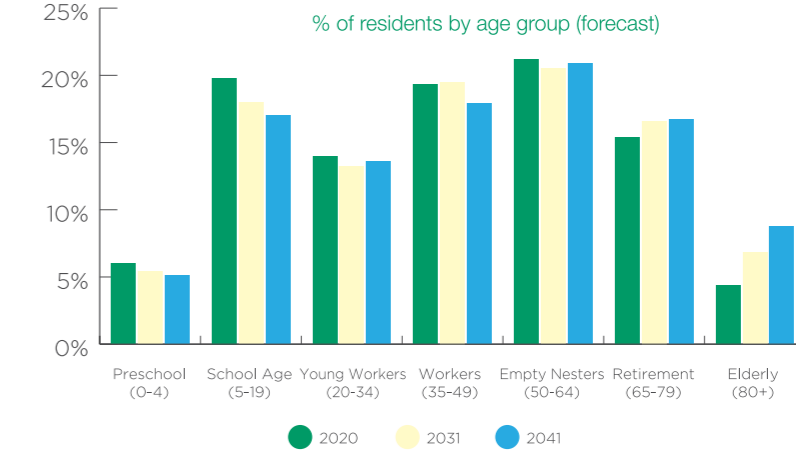
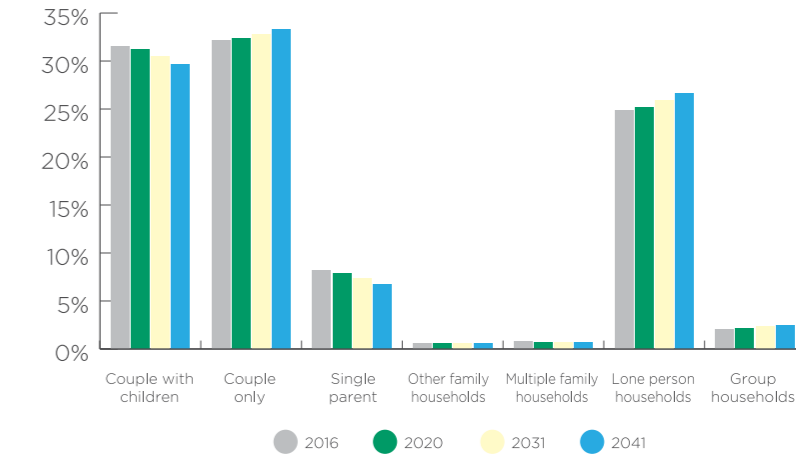


Figure 6 - Forecast household change by type (% of total household)



Open space facilities can contribute towards Council’s economic development objectives to encourage families and workers to Moyne.

Provision and purpose planning will be needed in communities where population growth is likely to occur. We also need to provide accessible open space that supports an active lifestyle for our older resident and for all abilities.

Importantly, facilities and opportunities to use and access open space for sport, recreation and leisure must also not be cost-prohibitive for our residents and visitors.

Other data shows that Moyne has a strong level of volunteer activity with 32.4% of our residents aged over 15 participating in volunteer activities. This is much higher than the Victoria-wide rate of 19.2%.

Volunteers are particularly important for open space and public asset management and community progress associations.

Ensuring a sustainable supply of skilled and committed volunteers will be important for Council’s ongoing community partnerships and the management of our public assets.



5.1 Community open space values

Our residents consider open space to be one of our most valuable assets for the following qualities and features:

- › As places to unwind
- › Are close to home
- › Views to the ocean and river
- › Places to exercise
- › Feeling safe
- › Dog walking friendly
- › Interaction with the natural environment
- › Social interaction with family and community
- › Appeal to all ages
- › Clean and quiet beaches.

Consultation highlighted the level of importance put on the provision of quality open space. It is also evident that residents place a high value on environmental areas and the flora and fauna that inhabit them. Conservation and protection of these assets is core to the Strategy.

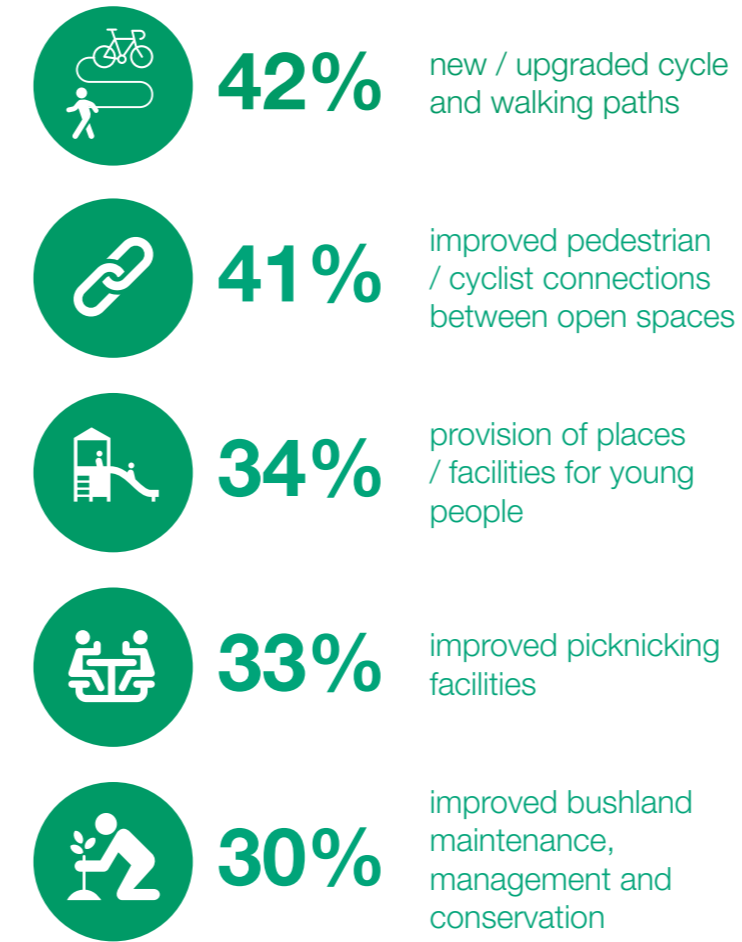
Strategy actions are designed to respond to community need and values to further enhance our open space network.

5.2 Community open space priorities

The consultation highlighted the following community priorities for open space related improvements.

The Strategy Action Plan addresses these priorities in either specific localities, or as part of Council’s overall approach to open space planning and investment.

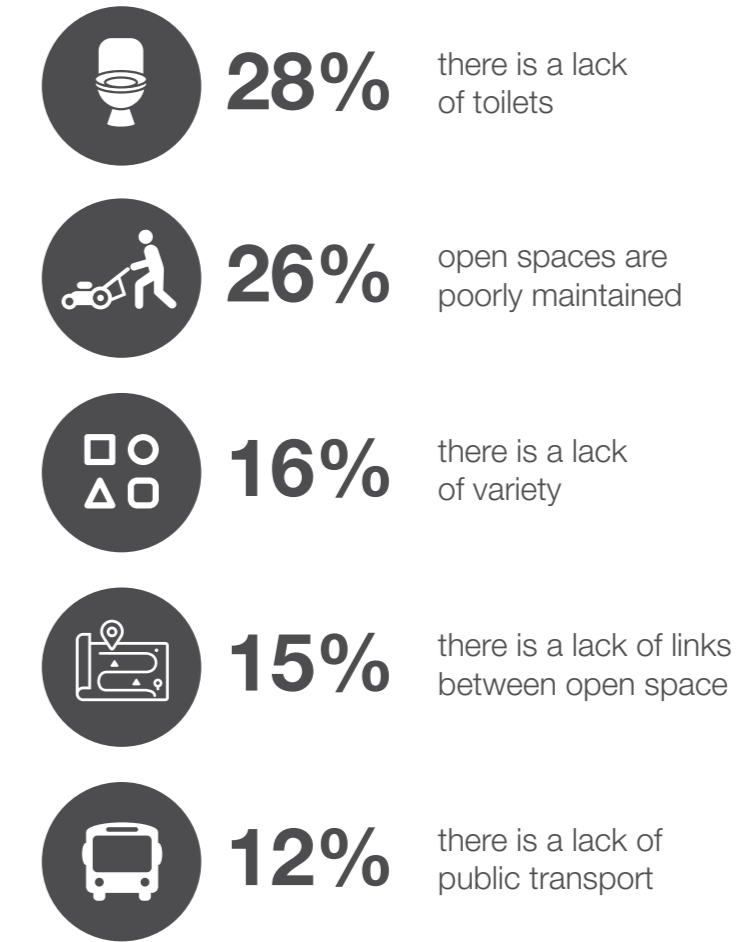
Figure 7 - Community open space priorities



The community also highlighted the following barriers to using and accessing open space.

Barriers to community use will inform Council’s improvement and resource planning for open space accessibility and experience. This will include where these barriers exist for our core open spaces and open space design and investment.

Figure 8 - Community barriers to open space use



CHAPTER 06

Open space trends



People's use of and demand for open space is changing.

Our leisure activities including more screen time, participation changes in organised and non-traditional sport, and work and leisure time pressures are all part of this change.

Understanding these trends is important for planning and investment in open space and for encouraging people to have more active, outdoor lifestyles for their health and wellbeing.

The following summarises how the Strategy responds to these trends.

6.1 Sport and recreation

Sport and recreation participation rates have implications for sport facility asset planning.

- Identify where investment should occur in sporting facilities and options to develop multi-use and multi-sport facilities by communities and catchment.
- Continued delivery of support for facility user groups and communities through robust governance, maintenance and programming arrangements
- Development of programs and facilities that can expand the range of sports available to our community.
- Explore options for innovative partnerships such as with local schools in communities where access to sporting and public open space are limited.
- Investment in walking and cycling paths and trails to improve links to key sport and recreation facilities.

6.2 Visitors and events

The visitor economy is important economically for Moyne Shire. 2019 REMPlan figures, show it contributed \$72 million to the local economy and supports an important number of jobs across a range of businesses.

- Use of open space for the visitor economy can lead to increased demands. Improved planning and co-ordination of open space for festival and events needs to be developed including user policies and agreements.
- The UNESCO World Heritage listed Budj Bim near Macarthur and Tower Hill State Park near Koroit are attracting significant government funding. Possibilities to link and connect our existing open space through tracks and trails, cultural interpretation and the use of technology with these international cultural products will be pursued.
- Council will continue its strong and unifying role in advocating and partnering with public land managers on destination planning for local and regional open space.



6.3 Environment and climate

Improved natural environment and bushland maintenance, management and conservation was one of the community's highest priorities for our open space.

- Partnerships with Landcare groups, schools and tertiary institutions, government departments and statutory authorities will add great value and support to the work of Council to the benefit of the environment and the community.
- Developing adaptation responses for assets and infrastructure to address forecast impacts from climate change.
- Apply the service level and desired service standards to manage environmental issues arising from public use of open space.
- Community halls and other civic spaces present opportunities to improve local habitats and develop community gardens.

6.4 Commercial use of open space

Commercial use of open space can make a valuable economic and cost contribution to communities.

- The challenge is to balance our approach to commercial uses with existing use and protection of open space and amenity.
- Management and policy strategies will be applied through our Event Management Planning program and user agreements
- Development and implementation of master plans and management plans for core open space will incorporate consideration of commercial uses.

6.5 The importance of play

Play is a fundamental part of childhood and community recreation. Play for all ages and abilities provides engaging and diverse activities that contribute to community health, well-being and social participation.

- Adventure and nature play will increasingly feature in our play space design.
- Open spaces design will cater for teenagers and younger adults to promote recreational play, socialisation and leisure.
- A district level space accommodates a range of activity zones, have high natural surveillance and offer amenities such as shade, shelter, seating, water fountains and Wi-Fi connectivity.
- Play design elements for older residents will include not only gym apparatus, but also equipment that encourages people to engage in play and social activities.
- Sensory experiences will be incorporated into landscape design to support health benefits for older residents.
- Wherever possible, our play spaces will be universally accessible, to ensure they offer an inclusive play experience.



CHAPTER 07

Planning policy and open space



Council's Planning Scheme provides the statutory framework for open space land use planning and resourcing for new public open space. It describes the desired outcomes to be achieved in relation to the provision of open space in residential subdivisions and presents the objectives for open space in Moyne.

The Strategy should be read in particular conjunction with Clause 21.08 Clause 53.01, and Clause 56-05-2.

Clause 56-05-2 is supported by a range of Standards that describe the key benchmarks and criteria to be applied to open space. These are listed under the summary of Moyne Shire's Desired Service Standards (section 8.5).

Shire growth rates are projected to be low and currently not of a rate which would be likely to provide adequate development contributions over a 10 to 15-year period in support of the Strategy.

This may lead to a significant gap between when the need for open space upgrades arise and the time taken to collect sufficient contributions to fund upgrades.

Encumbered land, such as low lying and flood prone land may be set aside as open space however this does not contribute to the contribution figure set out in the schedule to clause 53.01. Co-location of public open space with adjacent encumbered land could occur where the encumbered land is usable and can add value to the overall site for recreation.

In support of active, healthy communities, Council will also need to ensure that pedestrian connections are considered in the planning of new subdivisions, including direct pedestrian access to key destinations.

Clause 56-05-2 sets out guidance on the type and amount of open space required or what improvement contributions can be made for existing open space and assets in lieu of an open space land contribution.



CHAPTER 08

Moyne's open space standards



When planning, designing and improving our open space, Council will apply recognised standards where appropriate and achievable to do so. There are four primary measures we will use as part of these standards.

8.1 The Quantity Standard

The quantity standard identifies the recommended minimum provision of land for open space and references how much open space should be provided based on total population.

A quantity standard analysis of a number of local councils in Victoria and New South Wales was undertaken to inform the most appropriate quantity standard for Moyne Shire.

An audit of our open space identified that Moyne Shire has a current provision rate of 19.65ha/1,000 residents of core open space. Whilst this highlights that provision is well catered, opportunities will exist for improving existing open space and planning for new where accessibility, suitability or useability shortfalls are evident.

Our overall provision rate should be viewed in context with the following factors:

- Open space quality, accessibility, land characteristics, experiences and improvement standards
- The overall provision of open space across the geographically large land area of the Shire
- Location of residents and their access to open space within the catchment area of their residence
- Forecast population growth
- Needs of communities in relation to open space provision.

8.2 The Accessibility Standard

The accessibility standard determines how easy and convenient it is for people to get to a park or sport and recreation facility and how far they have to travel to do so.

This Strategy has referenced the accessibility standard in the Planning Scheme and industry benchmarks for our more urban communities and new residential subdivisions.

Natural and man-made constraints such as rivers, major highways, footpaths, need to be considered when calculating accessibility.

Given Moyne's dispersed, rural settlements, consideration of accessibility standards for parklands, gardens and sporting facilities will be based on locality, population and provision of these assets within the wider catchment.



8.3 The Land Characteristic Standard

Land characteristic standards are used as a base for determining the minimum quality land characteristics that are appropriate for each type of open space. For Moyne, we have included parklands, sporting facilities, play spaces and tracks and trails.

Land characteristics include size and shape of the land, likelihood of flooding and bushfire risks, accessibility and safety, heritage, cultural and biodiversity values, vegetation and other topographical features.

8.4 The Improvement Standard

Improvements standards define what improvements and embellishments are needed for specific open spaces, to make them attractive and functional.

Depending on the type of open space and what it is used for, embellishments can include play spaces, seating and shelter, public amenities, car parking, sporting assets, signage, landscaping, lighting, fencing and pathways.

To ensure a consistency in planning and approach to embellishments, Council will develop design guidelines for typical open space infrastructure such as footpath treatments, accessibility, installation design and purpose and replacement and upgrade standards.

8.5 Desired standards for Moyne Shire

The combinations of the four primary open space standards are referred to as our Desired Standard of Service for our open space.

Whilst it is not always possible or practicable to uniformly apply these standards to open space across the Shire, they will be applied most commonly to our core open space. Reference also needs to be made to key Clauses, Standards and Schedules relating to open space provision within the Moyne Shire Planning Scheme. This will help to further inform:

- Future improvements and upgrades to existing open spaces
- The planning and delivery of future open space.

The application of the desired standards of service in smaller individual catchments such as villages and hamlets will primarily focus on local need and access to open space within a locality's catchment.

The desired open space service standards for Moyne are:

- Averaged quantity standard across core open space – minimum 2.8ha / 1,000 residents
- Accessibility standards for our main urban centres (Tier 1 and Tier 2 towns):
 - 95% of dwellings within 400m of a local parklands and gardens and local outdoor sports facility
 - 95% of dwellings within 2,000m of district parkland and gardens
 - 95% of dwellings within 1,000m of a district sports facility
- Accessibility standards for regional parklands, gardens and outdoor sports are not applied under the Strategy as these level facilities can be provided at locations broader than the municipality.
- By their very nature, land characteristics and improvements standards do not have set benchmarks but are included in the process for decision-making on the provision of open space.

The following standards have been adopted from the Moyne Shire Planning Scheme.

- Development contributions to open space land from residential sub-divisions:
 - Residential: - 5% of the net developable area of land
 - Rural residential: - 1% of the net developable area of land.
- Provision of open space within residential sub-divisions:
 - Where not designed to include active open space, local parks should be generally 1 hectare in area and suitably dimensioned and designed to provide for their intended use and to allow easy adaptation in response to changing community preferences.
 - Additional small local parks or public squares in activity centres and higher density residential areas.
- Active open space of a least 8 hectares in area within 1 kilometre of 95% of all dwellings that is:
 - Suitably dimensioned and designed to provide for the intended use, buffer areas around sporting fields and passive open space
 - Sufficient to incorporate two football/cricket ovals
 - Appropriate for the intended use in terms of quality and orientation
 - Located on flat land (which can be cost effectively graded)
 - Located with access to, or making provision for a recycled/ sustainable water supply
 - Adjoin schools and other community facilities where practical
 - Designed to achieve sharing of space between sports.
- Linear parks and trails along waterways, vegetation corridors and road reserves within 1 kilometre of 95% of dwellings.

Table 4 in the Appendices provides a snapshot of the Desired Standard of Service (DSS) for core open space types within the Moyne Shire.



CHAPTER 09

Assessing supply and demand



In order to plan for investment in existing and future open space, Council will consider community need, and access to open spaces experiences in addition to the desired standards of service.

9.1 Community need for open space

Consideration will be given to the social, demographic and environmental characteristics of a community or area to determine what type of open space may be needed and the type of embellishment that would be required.

Assessment would be made of population characteristics and existing facilities within the community and within the local and regional area. This provides a degree of flexibility to open space planning particularly for smaller communities where the desired standards of service may not be the most appropriate criteria to use. It allows for consideration of the people living in the community and recreation preferences and what open space-based facilities and assets already exist.

Forecast population growth and potential for or proposed residential development will also be included in open space planning particularly for our larger, more urban communities.

9.2 Access to experiences

Moyne Shire has a diversity of open space that provides residents and visitors with a varied network of experiences.

Some of these experiences are co-located in specific sites, connected by trails and footpaths or provided as stand-alone experiences.

It should be recognised that not every locality will have access to every open space experience. How this has been categorised is shown in Table 5 in the report Appendix.

9.3 Open Space Supply and Demand Framework

The Moyne Shire Open Space Supply and Demand Framework will form part of Council's and community decision-making on the planning and provision of open space in the Shire

It will help ensure that the desired standards of service and community needs and access are integrated with open space planning and investment.

The framework is presented in Figure 9 in the Appendices.



CHAPTER 10

Open space for our communities



For each of our towns, villages and hamlets, the Strategy considers the location, access to activities and experiences, what improvements to open space can be achieved and preferred outcomes for that community and area.

The Strategy has ensured that diversity of open space, recreation and sport is at least available at a Shire-wide level.

The Strategy also supports active lifestyles and improving people's access to open space as part of current and future community growth and development.

A list of our towns and settlements together with summary descriptions of the provision of open space is presented in Table 7 and Table 9 in the Appendices

10.1 Hierarchy of towns and localities

A four-tiered hierarchy of places within the Shire has been established in order to appropriately plan for the future open space, sport and recreation needs of each community.

The tiers applied are:

- Tier 1 – District Towns – population above 1,000
- Tier 2 – Towns – population between 200 and 1,000
- Tier 3 – Villages – population below 200 with some level of local services
- Tier 4 – Hamlets – small communities with limited or no local services

The tiers have been established by grouping places based on their size, population and location and are categorised in accordance with the Moyne Shire Rural Housing and Settlement Strategy 2015.

10.2 Tier 1 towns

Port Fairy, Koroit and Mortlake have been identified as our Tier 1 towns. They provide local and district level recreation options for residents and visitors and in some cases, regional recreation parks within their locality, generally within the preferred 400m accessibility of most residents.

Local, district and specialised sporting facilities also feature as core open space in these towns with multi-use and shared facilities providing for a range of sport participation options. These facilities not only service the local community but also service the wider regional catchment.

These towns provide a good level of opportunities for active transport, that allow for accessibility to facilities including road, footpath and tracks and trails. Connection gaps where they exist, can be more readily addressed given the condensed nature of the town centres and concentration of key assets and services.



10.2.1 Tier 1 key directions

- › Council will continue to progress priority open space projects identified in major strategic land use and facility development and master plans.
- › Walking and cycling connections and wayfinding between local open space assets for residents and visitors will be improved through a rolling program of investment, which align to strategic plans and community need.
- › Investment in upgrades and improvements to sport and recreation precincts that provide for diversity of sporting options, and sustainability of current uses will be undertaken in line with master plans for specific sites.
- › Upgrades and renewal to existing recreation and play areas will be progressed as local enhancement projects.
- › The use of open space for festivals and events is broadly supported. The protection of existing primary uses and accessibility of open space sites - eg sporting ovals – will influence provision and management requirements of current and future open space in these localities.
- › Development of new open space will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Clause 56.05.02 of the Moyne Planning Scheme as residential growth occurs. This will include the provision of local play and recreation spaces and connectivity with existing assets and destinations.
- › Land in some development areas will need to be set aside for biodiversity / habitat conservation purposes, and low-lying / flood-prone land may need to be set aside as open space.

10.3 Tier 2 towns

Macarthur and Peterborough are our Tier 2 towns. They can support sport and recreation open space at a local level and also provide district level recreation parklands and gardens.

Sporting facilities where provided, support the local needs of residents and they can also provide for specialised recreation pursuits. These include facilities that may service a district catchment such as swimming pools, equestrian, golf or other specialised centres and recreation reserves.

Multi-use facilities and open space areas are preferred to provide for a wider variety of sporting and recreation options. These sporting facilities should also complement existing facilities in Tier 1 towns.

Local connectivity with open space will be a key feature of open space investment to ensure that use of facilities and spaces can be more readily accessed and enjoyed. Amenity improvements to existing open space will also be a priority response for these Tier 2 towns.

10.3.1 Tier 2 key directions

- › Continue to implement the Macarthur Market Street and the Peterborough Irvine Reserve Precinct Plans.
- › Continue to improve the connectivity within these towns including footpaths, tracks, trails and wayfinding.
- › Enhance the linkages with high profile, iconic visitor destinations within the region of these localities.
- › Plan for future open space needs as and when future residential development occurs in accordance with the provisions of the Clause 56.05.02 of the Moyne Planning Scheme.

10.4 Tier 3 villages and Tier 4 hamlets

Moyne Shire have many Tier 3 villages and Tier 4 hamlets that support rural local services and local open space-based activities. These can include a local park or play area, and sporting facilities generally dedicated to traditional sports. Facilities can also be available at local schools.

These localities, but not all, can be geographically remote. Some have developed specialised recreation open spaces such as equestrian facilities, speedways, community halls or environmental reserves and corridors. Local sport and facilities can be critical to these communities for social and recreational purposes. Services can be central within the community but some facilities may be located on the outskirts of the township requiring private transport or good connecting pathways and tracks.

These communities often have areas or sites that are of environmental, heritage and cultural importance. Council will work with the communities and land management partners on appropriate protection, conservation and enhancement when a need is identified that fits with Council's asset planning.



10.4.1 Tier 3 and 4 key directions

- › Upgrades and renewal to play areas and equipment will continue to be implemented when there is a renewal planned or when a community need is identified.
- › Local connections, signage and wayfinding to local facilities and services will continue to form part of Council's community investment programs.
- › Greenfield residential development when it occurs, will require open space to be provided in accordance with the provisions of Clause 56.05-2 of the Moyne Planning Scheme.
- › Land in some localities may need to be set aside for biodiversity/habitat conservation purposes and low lying/flood prone land may also need to be set aside as open space.
- › Rationalisation or repurposing of disused recreation assets will be undertaken on an as needs basis and in consultation with the local community.
- › Maintenance and upgrades to existing open space and recreation facilities will occur when a need is clearly identified or a new use opportunity arises.
- › Community spaces associated with local community halls and assets will be maintained and renewed under licence agreements with Committees of Management and any new facilities that a community would like developed will follow a design and business case process under Council's Hall Cluster Priority program.
- › In some localities, no new open spaces are proposed. Rather the focus will be on renewal and improvements to existing open space and facilities.

CHAPTER 11

Strategy governance



Implementation and oversight of the Strategy will be primarily the responsibility of Council.

The Strategy describes, understands and acknowledges the important role of a number of agencies and organisations in the planning, investment and management of open space across the Shire.

To support the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy the following will form the governance framework;

- Establishment of an internal Open Space Strategy Working Group to inform Council's financial and operational planning.
- Annual Strategy review and updates with reporting to Council and other partners on the progress and priority setting for implementation of the Strategy
- Development of reporting and management systems to support Strategy reviews and monitoring
- Creation of design and investment plans for key projects and initiatives to ensure they are competitive and "shovel-ready" for investment and funding
- Review and updates to land asset user agreements for Council owned and / or managed open spaces and associated assets.
- Alignment and reference to the Moyne Planning Scheme and to other land use policy, management and governance frameworks
- Media and community announcements on particular projects and actions in a timely manner



CHAPTER 12

Partnerships
and management

12



Council works in partnership with a range of Committees of Management, Recreation Reserve Committees, sporting clubs and community groups on the management of open space. These arrangements are governed through either lease agreements, facility and asset licence agreements or in some cases, Community Asset Committees established by Council under Section 65 of the Local Government Act 2020.

There are a number of other partners that either currently contribute to and support open space-based projects. The Strategy is an opportunity to strengthen and enhance these partnerships through a shared understanding of the open space issues and priorities for the Shire and communities.

These partnerships include:

- › Government agencies and departments
- › Wannon Water and other utility providers
- › Catchment Management Authorities
- › Private land owners and holders
- › Landcare management groups
- › Community associations and health agencies
- › Arts and cultural organisations
- › Education and health institutions

Council will continue to enrich its planning and governance for open space and enhance partnerships with agencies, communities, public land owners / managers and others.

Through a range of mechanisms, our partnerships will assist us with identifying community open space provision, and support for funding and investment.



CHAPTER 13

Aquisition and rationalisation

13

The Moyne Shire has a relatively high provision of open space. Quality, function and useability varies from space to space and location to location.

Council can consider the purchase of land or may acquire new land through development contributions or bequests.

Repurposing or disposing open space land can occur when it is surplus to requirements, no longer meets the desired standards of service or when the sale will provide funds towards a replacement or new facility.

A benefit of land rationalisation is resources can be directed to open space areas and assets that provide high benefit to communities. This would be achieved through not only the sale or repurposing of the land, but through reduction in costs associated with the maintenance.

The acquisition and rationalisation criteria Table 8 in the Appendix provides guidance to Council and will be used in conjunction with the decision making framework process in section 13.1.

13.1 Decision-making framework

Moyne Shire Council will utilise the framework shown in Table 2 - Decision making framework and criteria to inform planning, development and investment in existing and potential new open space.

13.2 Funding the Strategy

There is a range of Federal, State, philanthropic and organisational grants and funding that can be accessed to support investment in and renewal of open space and assets.

The Strategy will need to attract a range of funding to support its implementation. Whilst Council can allocate budgets for projects through its annual Capital Works allocations and ongoing maintenance budgets, additional capital investment will be need to be found. Council will work with government, organisations, user groups and the community on fundraising options for the Strategy.

The application of the proposed development contributions policy will also provide opportunities for support investment.

Funds can be applied to individual localities and projects in the Strategy, or form part of a larger "region" based approach to community, visitor and open space project development.



Table 2 - Decision making framework

TPOLOGY	What type of open space is it?
	Is something similar already provided and accessible?
	Is the project a greenfield or existing open space initiative?
HIERARCHY	Does it provide a local, regional or district facility and service?
	What is the rationale and criteria for its hierarchy classification?
CORE OPEN SPACE	How would the open space be defined as either core or non-core?
	Does the proposed investment or development change this status, and if so, how and why?
CLASS	What is the primary function / use of the open space - its classification?
	Who / what are the other uses / users of the open space?
	Does the proposed investment or development change this primary function, and if so, how?
DSS	How does the open space relate to Council's quantity standards?
	How does the open space relate to Council's accessibility standards?
	How does the open space relate to Council's overall desired standards of service?
NEED AND DEMAND	What are the population and demographic profiles of the locality/catchment?
	What residential growth is planned or underway and what is the access to open space from this development?
EXPERIENCE	How does the open space project / investment respond and address the trends in sport, recreation and open space uses and function?
	What type of open space experiences already exist in the locality/region?
	How will the investment/development add value or impact on existing open space and open space experiences?
	How does the open space align to the principles of Universal Design for accessibility, safety and functionality for the community?

EMBELLISHMENT	What embellishments are required or should be provided given the above and why?
	What additional embellishments are proposed beyond the open space classification and hierarchy and why?
GOVERNANCE	Who is responsible for land / open space asset and what impact will the development / investment have for them?
	What open space / asset agreements are in place or required?
FUNDING	How is the open space development / investment going to be funded?
	What are the ongoing financial implications from the development / investment and whose responsibility are they?
USAGE	What evidence is there for the proposed use or growth in use of the open space?
	How does this affect or consider the provision of open space for a similar purpose?
PLANNING	Does the open space development / investment align to Council's Planning Scheme?
	Does the open space development / investment align to any strategic plans for the facility and / or community?
	Are there any land use and land use planning implications and if so, what are they?
CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL	How does the open space investment / development consider and respond to cultural and environmental factors?
	What aspects, embellishment and / or uses would impact or improve cultural and environmental features?
ECONOMIC	How does the open space investment / development add value to local economy?
	How does it support and add value to the visitor economy whilst addressing issues from possible commercial use of the space?
OTHER	Are there any other considerations that should be taken into account, and if so, what are they?
	Who are the key partners that should be informed and / or involved and why?
	How does the open space / embellishments support Council's healthy lifestyles objectives for residents?



14



Table 3 - Summary of open space by key descriptors

Classification	Hierarchy	Function	Number	Hectares	% of the network	Example
Parklands and gardens	Local	Core	9	16.83	1.12%	Pioneer Park Port Fairy
	District	Core	6	24.21		Botanic Gardens Koroit
	Regional	Core	1	2.32		Botanic Gardens Port Fairy
Outdoor sports	Local	Core	20	41.69	7.4%	Winslow Recreation Reserve
	District	Core	27	85.27		Purnim Recreation Reserve
	Regional	Core	0	0		N/A
	Specialised	Non-core	5	158.68		Mortlake Swimming Pool
Linear open spaces and trails	Local	Non-core	5	0.7	4.46%	Loch Ard Street Reserve Peterborough
	Regional	Non-core	24	171.36		Port Fairy to Warrnambool Rail Trail
Conservation and heritage	Local	Non-core	12	144.62	56.84%	Laang Bushland Reserve
	District	Non-core	10	548.48		Caramut Conservation Reserve
	Regional	Non-core	10	505.79		Hopkins Falls Reserve Wangoom
	State	Non-core	12	994.79		Bay of Islands Coastal Reserve, Mepunga West
Civic and community spaces	Local	Non-core	8	3.30	0.15%	Port Fairy Community House
	District	Non-core	3	2.6		Blackwood Centre Koroit
Caravan park	Local	Non-core	2	1.10	1.10%	Southcombe Caravan Park Port Fairy
Undeveloped	N/A	Non-core	20	8.79	8.79%	Chatsworth Recreation Reserve
Utilities and services	N/A	Non-core	83	20.14	20.14%	Port Fairy Air Strip and Port of Port Fairy



Table 4 - Summary of desired standards of service

Classification	Hierarchy	Size	Accessibility	Desired provision rate
Parklands and gardens	Local	0.3ha - 1.5ha (min 1ha generally preferred, unless smaller is considered fit-for-purpose). Minimum width 50m	400m of at least 95% of dwelling within Tier 1 and 2 towns. Not applicable within Tier 3 Villages and Tier 4 Hamlets^. Serves a local catchment.	0.3ha/1,000 people
	District	1.5ha – 4 ha	2,000m of at least 95% of dwellings within Tier 1 and 2 towns. Not applicable within Tier 3 Villages and Tier 4 Hamlets^. Aligned to planning precincts	0.5ha / 1,000 people
	Regional	4ha – 10ha	2,000m+ Aligned to Council boundaries	n/a^
Outdoor sports	Local	0.5ha – 4 ha	400m of at least 95% of dwelling within Tier 1 and 2 towns. Not applicable within Tier 3 Villages and Tier 4 Hamlets^.	2.0ha / 1,000 people (total)
	District	4ha – 10ha (min 8ha preferred)	1,000m of at least 95% of dwellings within Tier 1 and 2 towns. Not applicable within Tier 3 Villages and Tier 4 Hamlets^.	
	Regional	10ha+. May include specialised sporting infrastructure in smaller parcels	2,000m+	
	Specialised	As required for activity	Serves a Shire-wide catchment	n/a#
Total				2.8ha / 1,000 people

^The Locally appropriate provision standards discuss the Tiers and are outlined in Table 8 - Provision type by tier *It is important to note that there are no standards for the provision of parklands and gardens at a regional level. Demand for land for these purposes should be based on the presence of significant physical features, or unique opportunities.

#There are also no standards for the provision of specialised outdoor sports facilities. These facilities are opportunistic, require specialised infrastructure, and are often not open to the public or provided for on private land.

Table 5 - Activity and experience provision

Experience	Example space and elements	Current provision within the Shire
Play	Discovery, learning and adventure (e.g. playground, climbing and spinning elements, kick-about space)	Tier 1 and 2 places provide a number of open spaces that cater for Play. Tier 3 and 4 places typically provide limited play opportunities, restricted to a co-located community precinct such as a hall and/or recreation reserve. There is an overall deficiency in the range and diversity of play opportunities across the Shire. Additionally, the Shire provides little play experiences for children that are older than a toddler. A number of existing sites provide the opportunity to be upgraded in order to provide better play experiences.
Exercise	Places for personal or group trainers or individual exercising (e.g. fields and courts, linear track or pathway, exercise stations, swimming pool)	The Shire has an abundance of sporting fields and ovals in which to participate in exercise, right across the four tiers. Residents have reasonable access to the Shire's four swimming pools. The Shire has a deficiency in outdoor courts (that are in safe, usable condition). Each of the Tier 1 and Tier 2 places should be provided with an outdoor court (such as a modified size basketball court) in which to encourage exercise. Tier 3 and 4 places could consider the development of walking circuits around their recreation reserves in order to provide exercise opportunities. Tier 1 places have good access to linear tracks and/or pathways such as residential footpaths, foreshore areas and the Rail Trail.
Escape, break out and relaxation	A quiet space (or section of a space) (e.g. formal garden, seating, shaded area, view)	Due to its natural beauty and abundance of coastal, environmental and bushland spaces, the Shire has a diverse range of places for escape, break-out and relaxation across the four tiers.



Table 5 - Activity and experience provision (continued)

Experience	Example space and elements	Current provision within the Shire
Access to nature	Plantings, waterways and vegetation protection (e.g. bushland, edible garden, formal garden)	Access to nature is key to the lifestyle of the Moyne Shire. This experience type is plentiful across the Shire.
Socialisation	A space to meet with friends / family, meet new people from your community (e.g. cafe, plaza, dog off leash area, men's shed, community garden)	Tier 1 and 2 places provide opportunities for socialisation. There are some deficiencies across the Tier 3 and 4 places.
Activity and hobby	An area to undertake / enjoy a hobby (e.g. men's shed, community garden)	The Shire has a good provision of halls and community facilities in which to undertake activities and hobbies. There is a deficiency in outdoor spaces including community gardens, in which to support this experience type.
Connectivity	Linking destinations (e.g. through tracks, trails, pathways, and urban plazas)	Tier 1 and 2 places have a reasonable provision of connected places, however requires improvement in key locations including Port Fairy, Koroit and Mortlake.
Cultural / community events	A space for markets, celebration and organised activities e.g. urban plaza, amphitheatre, gazebo (or similar structure), lawn space	Tier 1 and 2 places provide opportunities for cultural and community events. Whilst these large scale events are mostly restricted to Tiers 1 and 2, some improvements can be made to allow smaller scale events within Tier 3 and 4 places.

Table 6 - Embellishment standards

Embellishment standard	Parklands and gardens			Outdoor sports		
	Local	District	Regional	Local	District	Regional
Playground (activity node)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Wheeled recreation activity node (e.g. skate park)		✓	✓			
Shade trees clustered near activity nodes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lighting		✓	✓		✓	✓
Internal pathways and paving		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bicycle racks		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shade structures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Park entrance signage	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Directional signage		✓	✓		✓	✓
Interpretive signage		✓	✓	✓		
Tap / drinking fountain		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bench seating	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Electric barbeque		✓	✓			
Picnic shelters		✓	✓	✓		
Bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public toilets		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Internal road and car parking		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clubhouse			✓	✓	✓	✓
Spectator facilities			✓	✓	✓	✓
Sports field			✓	✓	✓	✓
Sports courts			✓	✓	✓	✓

Figure 9 - Supply and demand framework

DESIRED STANDARD OF SERVICE (DSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity standard e.g. hectare per 1,000 residents Accessibility standard e.g. 400 - 800m to 95% of residents Land characteristics Improvement and embellishment
NEEDS BASED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infill or greenfield urban development Population growth trends Demographic profiles Geographic dispersal / accessibility
DEMAND AND NEEDS BASED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forecast population growth Demographic profiles Greenfield residential development Existing open space
LAND CHARACTERISTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Size and shape Flood and bushfire immunity Cultural and environmental values Other site features - visibility and sight lines, topography, creeks etc
IMPROVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of activity options Furniture, assets and public amenities Sporting assets and buildings Signage, landscaping, pathways
EXPERIENCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play / exercise and diversity of recreation options Socialisation Access to nature Cultural and community events

Table 7 - Locality tiers and descriptions

Tier	Type	Places	Description			
1	District towns	Port Fairy Koroit Mortlake	<p>As the main business centres of the Shire, the district towns have a population of between 1,000 and 3,000 and can support the full spectrum and hierarchy of open space types.</p> <p>Tier 1 places often provide higher order open space types that provide for the whole Shire. These places also experience significant visitation from visitors to the Shire.</p>			
2	Towns	Macarthur Peterborough	<p>The towns that comprise Tier 2 have an approximate population range of 200 to 1,000 people.</p> <p>The population can support both sport and recreation opportunities within a reduced spectrum of open spaces (when compared to Tier 1).</p>			
3	Villages	Caramut Cudgee Garvoc Hawkesdale	Kirkstall Nullawarre Mailors Flat	Orford Panmure Winslow	Woolsthorpe Woorndoo Yambuk	The remoteness and distribution of the population requires a unique open space provision (when compared to the other tiers).
4	Hamlets	Bessiebelle Chatsworth Childers Cove Crossley Ellerslie	Framlingham Grassmere Hexham Illowa Killarney	Laang Nirranda Purnim Rosebrook	Southern Cross Towilla Way Yangery Yarpturk	The Hamlets require a limited open space provision, centralised around a community hall, tennis court and/or recreation ground.



Table 8 - Acquisition and rationalisation criteria

Reserve type	Assessment criteria
Local open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another larger and/or higher standard park or reserve (that can provide a local park setting) is located within 400m • The park is too small to be of recreation value and there is no realistic opportunity to acquire adjacent land to establish an area of useable public open space • Recreation facilities are limited or of a low standard • Use of the site for recreation activity or as an access way is low • The location is not conducive to safe or appropriate recreational use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - difficult to access; - in a high vehicle traffic area
Neighbourhood or larger open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another higher standard neighbourhood or larger park is located within 500m • The land has limited landscape, amenity or habitat • Use of the site for recreation activity is low • Part rationalisation of the open space will enhance the quality, safety and useability of the reserve • Part rationalisation will have no impact on the level of utility of the park.
Outdoor sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is clear evidence that the land is not required now or in the future for sport or informal recreation (taking into account existing and potential demand and the capacity of the land to cater for non-sporting needs) • The size of the sportsground (i.e. the number of playing fields) is not required now or in the future for sport or informal recreation • Part rationalisation will enhance the quality, safety and usability of the sportsground • Part rationalisation will have no impact on the level of utility of the reserve.

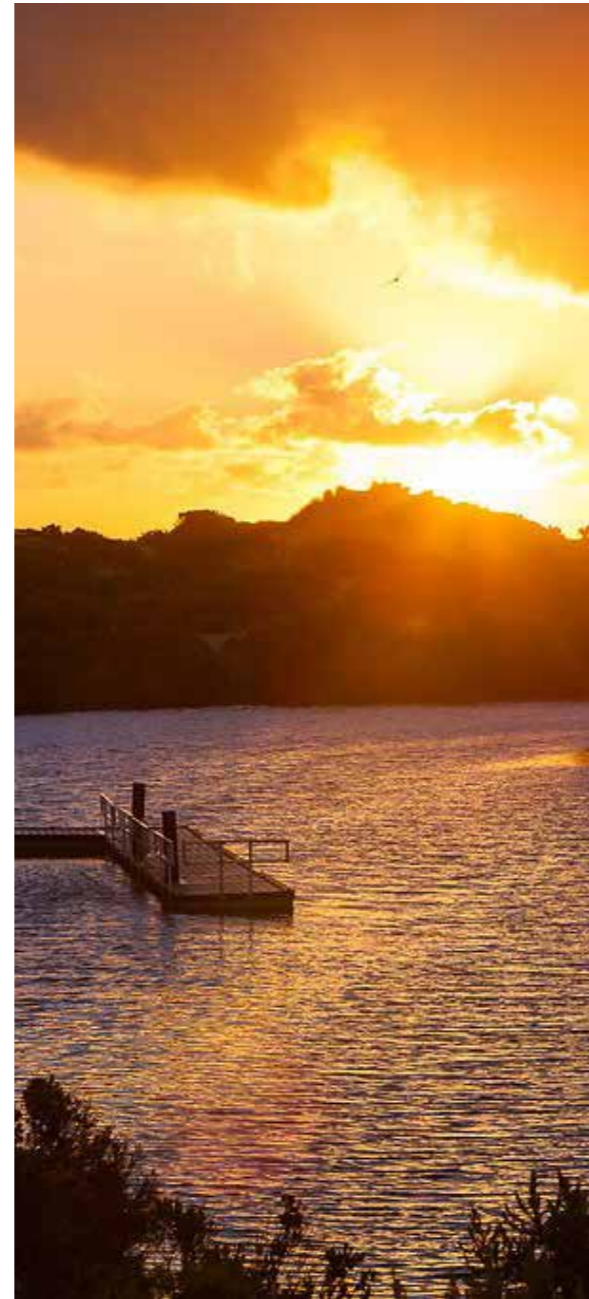


Table 9 - Provision type by tier

Tier	Parklands and gardens			Outdoor sports			
	Local	District	Regional	Local	District	Regional	Specialised*
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
3	✓			✓			✓
4	✓						✓

*The provision of specialised outdoor sports facilities is opportunistic and specific in nature – requiring individual infrastructure to make them usable, or are private facilities that may not be publicly accessible



More information

The Moyne Shire Open Space Strategy comprises of a suite of documents that provide the rationale, evidence and collected research for the Strategy, our priority projects and actions.





Council contact details

Manager Cultural and Community Development

Moyne Shire Council

PO Box 51

Port Fairy, Victoria, 3284

P: 1300 65 65 64

E: moyne@moyne.vic.gov.au

www.moyne.vic.gov.au