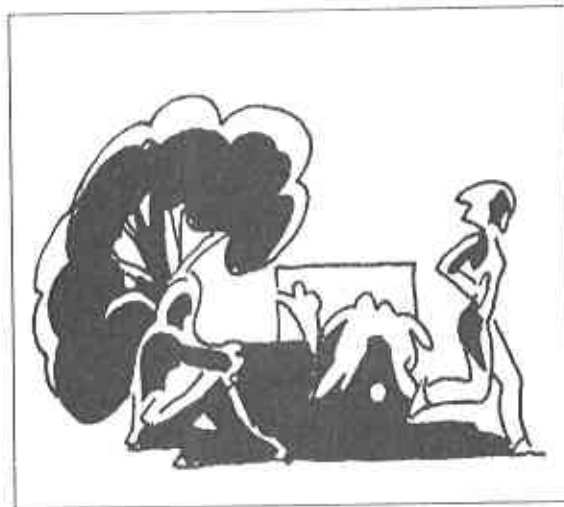


**DISTRICT PARKS  
GENERIC PLAN OF  
MANAGEMENT**



RANDWICK **R** CITY COUNCIL

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Readers,

In June 1994, Randwick City Council began a major program developing open space Plans of Management for all parks, beaches and reserves under its management.

Open space comprises the second largest land use in the City of Randwick and is a public area for which Council has an important responsibility. Our parks and other recreation areas include some of the most valuable assets we have to offer, including large areas of natural vegetation and coastal reserves, a number of sports orientated parks and ovals, informal roadside reserves, pocket and neighbourhood parks. Within these areas you may find rare native vegetation species and even some wildlife.

Council has a number of 'district' parks within its city area including Snape Park, Pioneers Park, Coral Sea Park, Nagle Park, Kensington Park and Latham Park. These are parks that have a sporting tradition but also offer non-structured recreational activities such as picnicking, playground use and relaxation on the parks shady perimeters. They generally attract people from around the Eastern Suburbs as well as those who live close to the parks and are more sports orientated than 'neighbourhood' parks but less so than 'regional' parks.

Public participation featured strongly in the development of this and other generic plans within the COSRPOM due to the public ownership of these areas. This communication and input has enabled meaningful strategies and actions to be developed with the collaborative support of the community and Council. It is hoped that such collaboration will continue in the future.

Thanks go to all those who were involved in the development of this plan. I commend it to you.



Councillor Chris Bastic  
**MAYOR**

# DISTRICT PARKS GENERIC PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

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## GLOSSARY

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| CR Act   | Crown Lands Act, 1989                           |
| DLWC     | Department of Land and Water Conservation       |
| DUAP     | Department of Urban Affairs and Planning        |
| EPA      | Environment Protection Agency                   |
| EP&A Act | Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 |
| LG Act   | Local Government Act (NSW), 1993                |
| LGA      | Local Government Area                           |



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This plan of management is one in a set of eight *generic* plans of management which, along with a City-wide *Strategic Plan* for open space and recreation, comprise the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). The district parks plan addresses issues raised by community representatives, local experts, government authorities and Council's internal steering committee for the COSRPOM.

The plan covers all parks that provide 'district scale' sporting and recreation facilities within the City of Randwick. This includes both Council owned 'community land' under the Local Government Act (1993) (LG Act) and Crown Land. The principal goal of the plan is stated below:

*'The provision of safe, diverse and quality recreational opportunities for the residents of and visitors to Randwick City's district parks'*

District parks are a sub-category under the 'Sports Ground' category as defined within the LG Act (1993). They predominantly serve to fulfill a large proportion of the sporting needs of residents and visitors to the City of Randwick. They also serve an informal recreational purpose around the park perimeter where playgrounds, picnic facilities and in some cases barbecues, childrens cycle tracks and landscape planting works (including the provision of shade) are recommended. This plan of management emphasises the multi-purpose of district parks for both formal and informal recreational activities and recommends a combination of facilities to serve these activities. Licence agreements under the LG Act for the two 'community land' district parks; Snape and Nagle, are applicable to this plan of management.

Each district park within the City of Randwick has its own distinct management issues particularly in regard to the use and leasing/licensing of the sports fields. It is therefore recommended that specific plans of management for each district park are developed. Lessees/licensees will play an important role in the management of the leased/licensed areas within these parks. The development of specific plans of management will also ensure that the use of the park and the needs of residents and visitors can be further investigated and detailed management recommendations set out accordingly. The majority of district parks are still to be covered by plans of management. The major recommendations of this plan are as follows:

- \* Increase the recreational opportunities for families and people requiring the use of sporting facilities
- \* Plans of management and associated lease/licence agreements to be drawn up for all district parks
- \* Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing maintenance practices
- \* Increase communication levels and understanding between Council and the community/sporting groups regarding recreational requirements
- \* Buildings to be sensitively designed and new ones/additions to be located only when a strong need has been demonstrated
- \* Access to these open space areas to be available to all

A twenty year time frame is recommended for this plan with annual reviews for recommendations that have cost implications and five year reviews of the entire plan.



## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The community of the City of Randwick and others who have an interest in Council's future plans for its open space and recreation opportunities throughout the City, are invited to comment upon this draft generic plan of management. This plan will affect the management of district parks over the next two decades and it is important that members of the community are aware of, and have the opportunity to express their opinion on the strategies recommended.

Any comments that you would like to make in relation to this plan should be put in writing, referring where appropriate, to the specific section concerned, and addressed to:

**The General Manager  
Randwick City Council  
Administrative Centre  
30 Frances Street  
RANDWICK NSW 2031**

*marking it to the attention of:*

**Ms Adrienne Jcuda**  
*Strategic Planner - Works Division*



# 1. INTRODUCTION

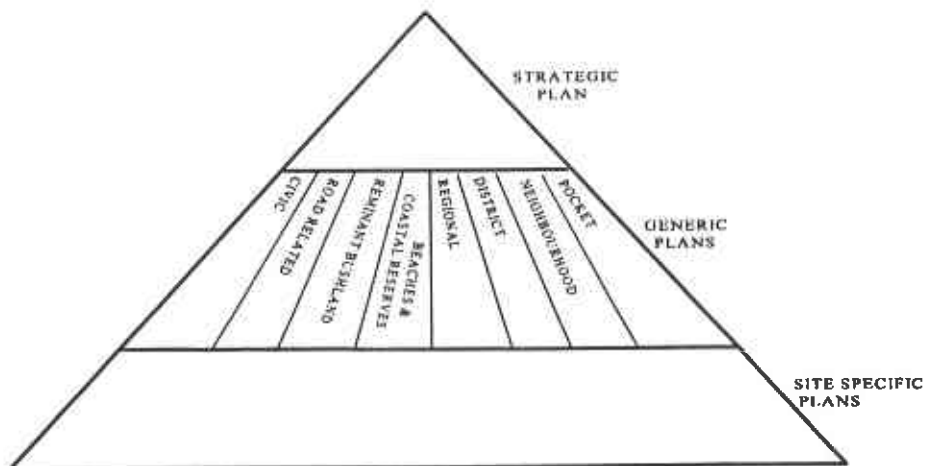
## 1.1 Aim and Background

### *Aim of the District Parks Plan of Management*

'To provide a practical framework and timetable for achieving short, medium and long term management objectives in accordance with the guiding principles for district parks within the City of Randwick.'

This generic plan of management for district parks is one in a series of eight, twenty year generic plans that comprise the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). It has been prepared in compliance with the LG Act (1993) and is categorised a 'Sports Ground' under the LG Act and sub-categorised into the 'District Park Generic Plan of Management for the COSRPOM. 'Generic' plans are those that incorporate the management of a number of areas comprising the same values and characteristics, in this case district parks. A Strategic Plan for all open space and recreation opportunities within the City of Randwick links with, and provides direction to the Generic Plans which then feed directly into the site specific plans of management. Together, these provide a comprehensive management approach for open space and recreation in the City of Randwick for the next two decades. Figure 1 demonstrates how the generic plans of management relate to the overall structure of the COSRPOM.

**Figure 1: The COSRPOM Plans of Management**





District parks provide a significant level of recreation opportunity particularly for the formal recreation sports requirements of the residents of, and visitors to Randwick City. Other than Coogee Oval and facilities that are located within Heffron Park which are classified 'Regional Parks', almost all the sporting fields are located within district parks. Within these parks opportunities for sports development is available offering facilities outside the education arena for after schools sport and for participants who have left school and play on a casual basis or represent their local team. District parks should also serve to accommodate those who are spectating sporting games or who wish to use the park for a picnic, to exercise the dog, utilise a playground or simply enjoy the green space in an otherwise built up urban environment. Increasingly, facilities within district parks are catering for these less formal recreational uses and this plan aims to further improve informal recreational opportunities for these users.

District parks within Randwick City are generally located within the central area of Council's boundaries with concentrations around the suburb of Maroubra - this is also where the majority of young people and young adults live. Playing fields are in high demand throughout the Eastern Suburbs and sports players from a number of adjoining council areas regularly travel to Randwick City to use its playing fields. Randwick's dominant sporting history has resulted in the location of a relatively high number of sports playing fields which, due to the regional demand for such facilities, are highly utilised even though on a national level statistics show traditional sports participation to be on the decrease.

Conflicts over the provision of recreation for the general public and those for which fees are charged are reviewed within this plan of management. Non-permissible activities and facilities as indicated via community consultation are also prescriptively set out. Figure 2 shows where Council owned 'community' Crown Land district parks are located.

## 1.2 Requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act)

The Act sets out Council's duty in respect to preparing plans of management for 'community land'. By July 1993 Council had undertaken an extensive assessment of its public land (land vested in or owned by Council) and classified such land as either 'community' or 'operational'.

The following definition of 'community land' has been summarised from clause 6 (2) of schedule 7 of the Act:

*Community Land is land that is owned by Council, and all land, other than Crown and commons, which has been placed, or falls under its care and control (vested in) and may comprise: a public reserve; land subject to a trust for a public reserve; land dedicated as a condition of development consent under Section 94 of the EP & A Act 1979; land reserved, zoned or dedicated for use as open space under a planning instrument; or land that is owned by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning.*

All land that Council resolved to be 'community' must, by July 1st 1996, be used and managed in accordance with plans of management (PoM's). It is intended that these PoM's will aid the effective co-ordination and management of community land within the Council area. Where Council holds a number of community land areas that have similar values and characteristics, 'generic' PoM's may be adopted to provide one comprehensive plan of management. Generic plans must contain a schedule (list) of those areas included.



The Act requires the following information to be contained within each plan of management:

1. the category or categories of land;
2. objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land;
3. the means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives;
4. the manner in which Council proposed to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets;
5. for land categorised as natural area, further categorisation;
6. express authorisation for leasing or licensing (specifying whether or not limited to public purposes), and any other provisions; and
7. provisions applying to the grant of a lease or license or other estate in land.

Community land cannot be sold or otherwise disposed of by councils and there are restrictions on community land use and on the granting of leases and licenses. Where appropriate, Environmental Planning Instruments under the EP&A Act (1979) may impose additional restrictions. There are also additional matters that are required to be addressed where the land is not owned by Council.

### 1.3 District Parks within the City of Randwick

The following lists all open space land within the district park category and sub-categorises it into the various ownership groups: (see Figures 2 and 3 for location points)

**Table 1: Regional Parks under Randwick City Council's Management**

| Parcel of Land  | *Recreation Inventory No. | Ownership | Management Body | Reference No. on Fig.2 |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Nagle Park      | A/4-753-01                | Council   | Council         | 1                      |
| Snape Park      | A/4-683-01                | Council   | Council         | 2                      |
| Coral Sea Park  | B/4-793-01                | Crown     | Council         | 3                      |
| Kensington Park | B/6-060-01                | Crown     | Council         | 4                      |
| Latham Park     | B/4-548-02                | Crown     | Council         | 5                      |
| Pioneers Park   | B/3-031-05                | Crown     | Council         | 6                      |

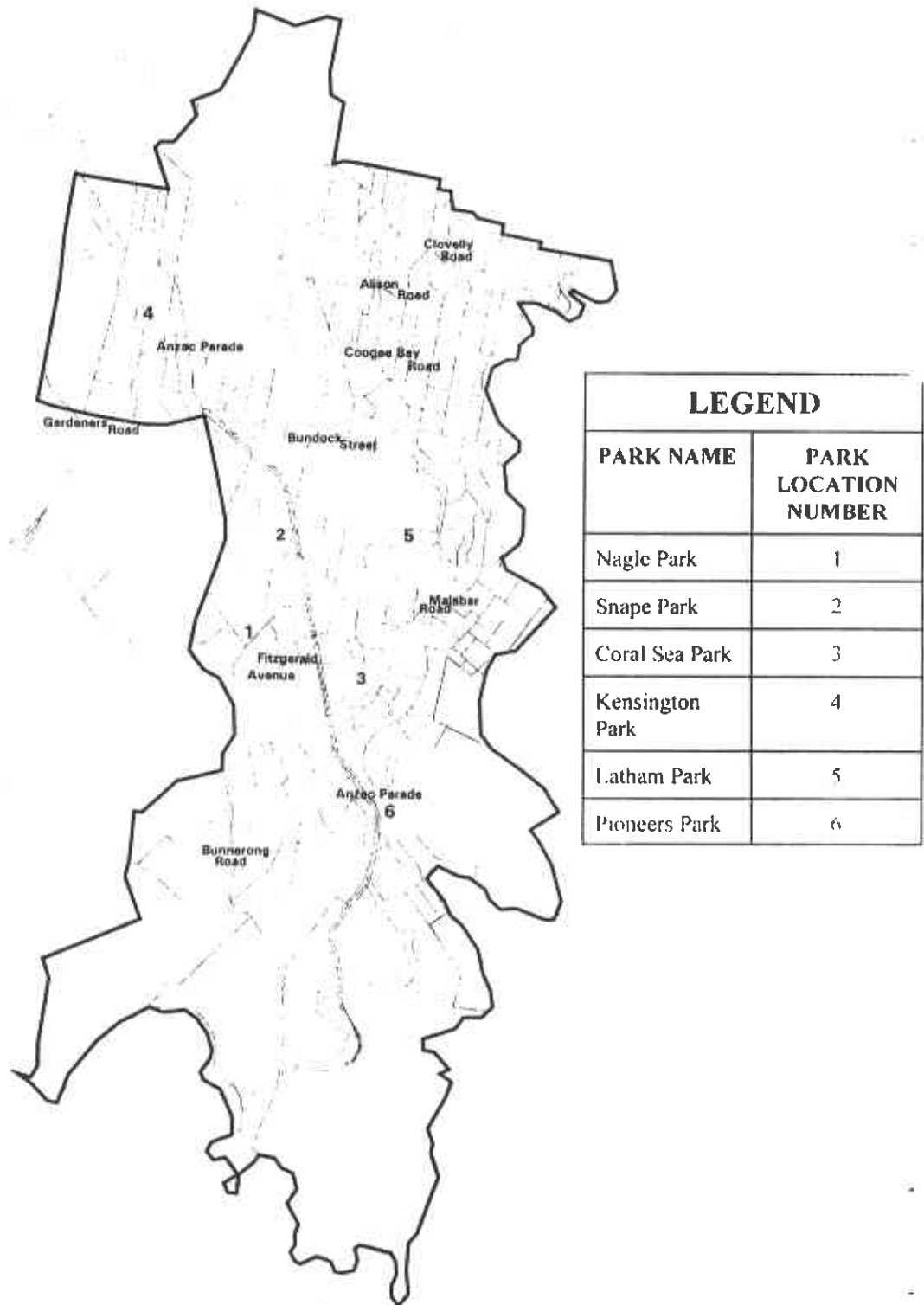
\* the recreation inventory is a data base of parks and reserves information and lists all parks and reserves within the City of Randwick using reference numbers such as those shown

#### *Public and Private District Park Open Space*

The total area of Council managed district parks presented in Figure 2 is approximately 43 hectares of which 9.45 hectares are Council owned 'community land'.



**Figure 2: Distribution of District Parks within the City of Randwick (including Community and Crown land)**



## 1.4 Using this Plan of Management

As described in Section 1.1, this generic plan is one of a series of eight. All generic plans follow the same format which is derived from the strategic plan. This plan comprises the following sections:

1. *Introduction:*

This component explains the background to the development of the plan of management, the history and function of district parks in the City of Randwick, how the plan works, community participation and the distribution of this open space type throughout the City.

2. *Management Philosophy:*

This component provides the foundation of management within the plan and its recommendations, including the vision, the guiding principles for the management of district parks in the City of Randwick, the aim of the plan and its relationship with other relevant Council documents.

3. *Objectives, Priorities and Implementation:*

The objectives are derived from major issues identified via the management philosophy section and a range of internal and external information sources. The means of implementing the objectives include: statements on priority; proposed year of completion; the department or division within Council that is responsible for implementation; and the performance measurees. These are presented in a tabular format. This section also addresses *how* the objectives and performance targets will be achieved and assessed. This is the main way by which the implementation of the plan may be monitored.

4. *Indicative Time Frame for Implementation:*

This determines when the required development works should take place and therefore when funds are required. It is based on the information contained in Section 3 'Management Objectives and Priorities' and will help to link this plan with Council's Management Plan and Section 94 Contributions Plan.

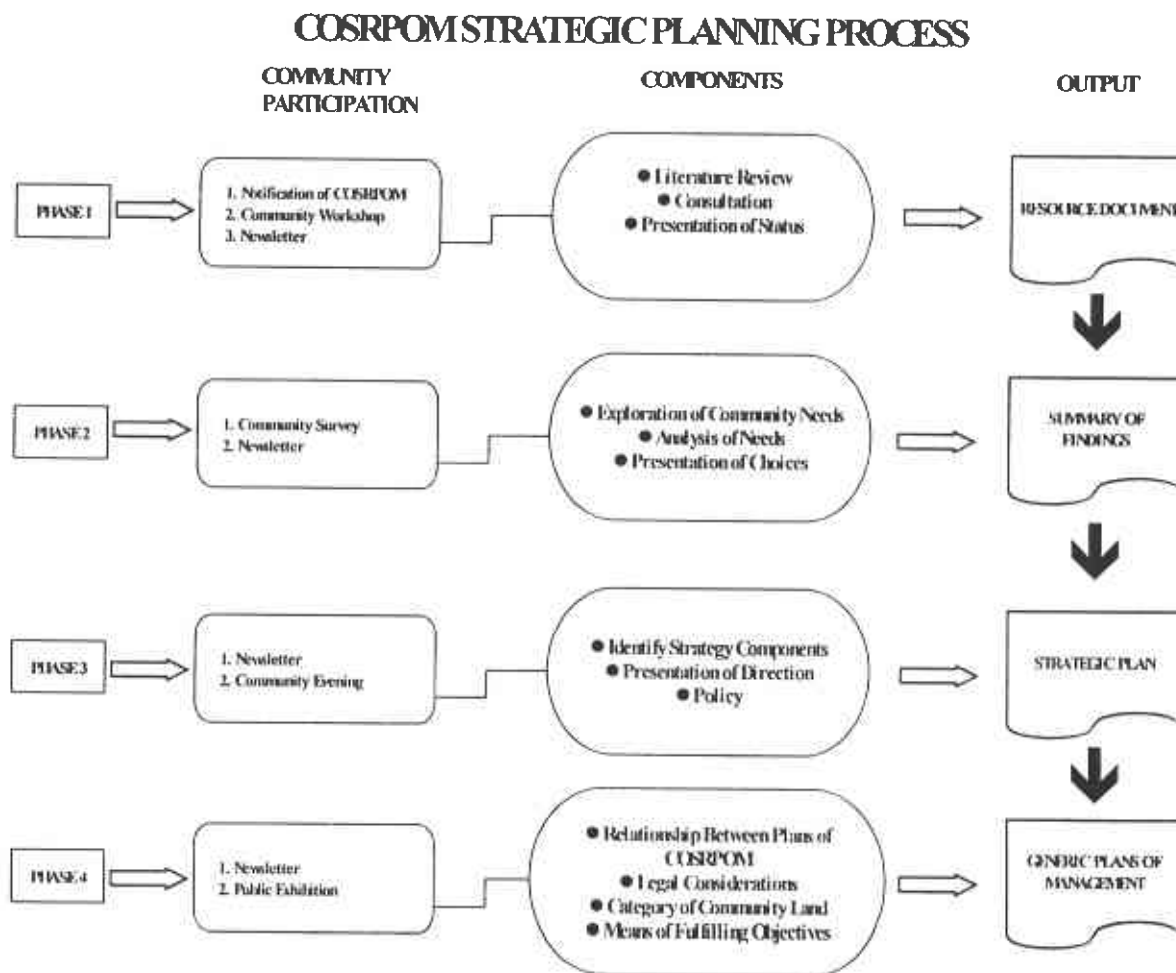


### 1.5 Community Participation

#### Community Participation Process

A comprehensive consultative process was undertaken throughout the preparation of the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). Figure 3 outlines the components of the community participation and consultation process and how it relates to the production of the plans that comprise the COSRPOM.

Figure 3: Community Participation and the COSRPOM Planning Process



**Community Participation Components**

The COSRPOM *Guiding Principles* which are set out in Section 2 have been derived primarily from the community consultative and participative process. In addition to a survey questionnaire which was completed by over seven hundred residents throughout the City of Randwick. Two rounds of evening participative meetings were held between Council and community members.

The first round of community participation was held between September and October 1994. It addressed open space and recreation provision on a City wide basis via a series of eight workshops which were attended by a total of sixty people. Within these workshops the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities were determined by community representatives. The second round of participation was held in July 1995 and attended by nearly seventy people. It comprised both a community forum and small group discussion evening, whereby community representatives addressed the goals for various open space areas.

Many of the *objectives* that are presented within Section 3 are derived from both the first round of community participation and the *COSRPOM Community Survey*. The survey was distributed to 8,000 residents throughout the City. Refer to Appendix B for the questions and results of the survey.

The following table presents those characteristics that community representatives identify as common and specific to district parks. These may also be interpreted as 'values' that this open space category possesses.

**Table 2: District Parks Generic Characteristics determined by Community Representatives**

| Setting | Vegetation     | Furniture            | Size  | Buildings    | No. of People | User type     | Distance to travel               |
|---------|----------------|----------------------|-------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| active  | shade          | playground equipment | large | change rooms | large numbers | sports people | public transport                 |
|         | grass and turf | seating              |       | amenities    | teams         | individuals   | bicycle                          |
|         |                | bicycle tracks       |       | kiosk        | high turnover | concerts      | car                              |
|         |                | lighting             |       |              |               |               | (Generally further than walking) |



## **2. MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY AND CONTEXT**

### **2.1 Vision Statement**

*Vision:*

*To enhance the quality of life of those residents and visitors who engage in recreation within the district parks of the City of Randwick*

### **2.2 Corporate and Community Goals**

*Corporate Goals:*

1. To provide appropriate and equitable recreational and open space opportunities as identified through community needs.
2. To provide safe, diverse and quality recreation opportunities for Randwick residents.
3. To ensure access for all including actual and perceived access to recreational resources.

*Community Goal:*

'To provide large, well maintained, clearly defined sporting and recreation facilities and amenities, close to public transport.'

### **2.3 Guiding Principles**

1. Publicly Accessible Sporting and Informal Recreational Settings
2. Clear Communication of the many Recreational Needs and Changing Trends
3. Non-Alienating Parks that Welcome Diverse Range of Users
4. Visual Character to be of a High Standard Reflecting Natural and Cultural Heritage Values
5. High Maintenance and Safety Standards
6. Improved Management Practices Utilising a Number of Funding Sources

### **2.4 Management Context**

A number of plans form the context for this generic plan of management. These plans are in addition to the statutory Acts described in Section 1 and include Council and other relevant documents.

***COSRPOM Strategic Plan***

This document was compiled to provide a 'Strategic Direction' for the open space available for public recreational use throughout the City of Randwick. It therefore covers all different open space types such



as the district parks, remnant bushland and civic open space. The strategic plan also addresses the need for rationalisation of open space in certain areas and the acquisition of open space in others and addresses the methods by which this may be undertaken. Recommendations outlined in the Strategic Plan that relate specifically to this plan of management include the development of plans of management for all district parks, the requirement for both sporting and informal recreational opportunities to be provided and the need to increase access to additional sports playing fields in specific areas of the City.

The generic plans of management address specific management objectives only and not those issues that are of a strategic nature. As described in section 1, the Strategic Plan policy recommendations and individual strategies direct the objectives that have been provided within this generic plan of management.

#### ***Randwick City Council Management Plan***

The Local Government Act, 1993 requires that each council must prepare a Management Plan for at least a three year period, in Randwick City Council's case it is from 1994 to 1997 and aims to make Council more accountable to its residents and sets out how it will achieve a high level of service. Council's Management Plan also contains information of a similar nature so that the community is able to identify what, how and when changes and undertakings will take occur. This generic plan of management is an important component in the overall land management undertakings of Council. It provides clear objectives and means of achieving those objectives over a twenty year period and also includes decisions on priority and costing implications.

Objectives and priorities that are presented in Section 3 of this plan must be reflected in the Management Plan so that funds can be allocated and the recommended works can be implemented. Each relevant department must therefore address the areas of responsibility that are allocated to them within Section 3.2 and convey these responsibilities into the overall management plan beginning in the 1996/97 financial year. It is the Management Plan that will effectively give force to the recommendations and actions within this plan as it is the principle mechanism by which Council priorities are set and resources allocated.

Works programs will be particularly influenced by this and other generic plans of management whereby relevant Council officers will incorporate recommended actions into the financial planning section of the report on an annual basis - this will also provide Council with the opportunity to review targets as time goes on. Council departments and divisions other than the Works - Recreation and Parks and Recreation divisions that have responsibility for particular aspects of the COSRPOM such as Council's Planning Department, Corporate Services, the Plant Nursery, Works Department and Community Services, must incorporate within their divisional/departmental budgets and works programs, the necessary undertakings.





It is recommended that the Management Plan is incorporated under the table; Principal Activity - 'Improvements Recreation Facilities' is as follows:

**Table 3: Management Plan Principle Activity 'Improvements - Recreation Facilities'**

| OBJECTIVES   | PERFORMANCE TARGETS   | MEANS OF ACHIEVING TARGETS   | MEANS OF MEASURING PERFORMANCE  |
|--|---|--|---|
| To provide and manage a system of safe, high quality parks and facilities offering a diversity of recreational opportunities suitable for and readily accessible to a wide range of users, in accordance with the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management. | Implementation of annual works programs for improvements recommended within the City Open Space and Recreation Generic Plans of Management and associated site specific plans of management | a) Council Staff to prepare and annually review improvements works and programs<br>b) Council staff/consultants to prepare designs, documentation and estimates for the adopted programs | a) recommended works/improvements reviewed or completed by target dates and within budget<br>b) designs prepared with adequate lead time for works to commence on target<br>c) community satisfaction |

#### **Section 94 Contributions Plan**

The Section 94 (of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979) Contributions Plan which permits Council to levy developers for funds to embellish existing open space or for the dedication of new open space, will also be directly affected by the recommendations and completion dates within this plan of management. The current plan allows for contributions to be used to embellish 'regional open space facilities', of which district parks are included along with those open space areas that are now called 'regional parks' and 'beach and coastal reserves' under the COSRPOM.

#### **Plans of Management**

Two site specific plans have already been drawn up for district parks and are summarised as follows. All district parks are recommended for plans of management before the end of this decade. Review of existing plans of management (PoM's) should be led by the recommendations held within this generic plan. Similarly, all new site specific PoM's are to adhere to the recommendations held within this plan.

#### **Latham Park - South Coogee, 1985**

This PoM refers solely to the management of Latham Park and the use of the park by vested interests. There is no time span for the life of the plan. The uses upon the land at the time of the plan were for bowling and rugby union and leased by South Coogee Bowling Club and by Randwick Rugby Club. Presently a management agreement exists between Council and the tennis court operator. This is the first management agreement of its kind within open space areas of Randwick City Council. Main issues within the PoM included; the lease arrangements with the Bowling and Rugby Clubs, the tennis complex proposal, the use of the amenities block, use of the undeveloped area of the park and the tenure of the park.



*Pioneer's Park - Malabar, 1990*

This PoM relates to the park only and specifies the management of the users who have a vested interest in the park. The life of the plan is approximately ten years and the main issue relates to the licence agreements between the primary users; South Eastern Juniors Rugby League Football Club who sub-lease to South Eastern Little Athletics Inc. and St. Spyridon College. This agreement is still to be drawn up.

*Future Plans of Management**Snape Park*

Presently hired out on seasonal licenses by South Sydney Junior Rugby league club. Formalising a license agreement with the club is an option to be explored within the plan of management process for this park

*Nagle Park*

Presently hired out on a seasonal license to the Eastern Suburbs Junior Rugby Union and to Coogee-Randwick Junior Rugby League Football Club. Formalising a license agreement with one or both of these clubs is an option to be explored within the plan of management process for this park.

*Kensington Oval*

The Kensington Bowling Club has an expired licence on the eastern portion of the park and the South Sydney Junior Rugby League Football League has a seasonal licence for the oval. Renewal and formalising the license agreements with these clubs is an option to be explored within the plan of management process for this park.

*Coral Sea Park*

Maroubra United Soccer Club Inc. has a six monthly seasonal licence which may be formalised with the club within the plan of management process for this park.

*Relationship between the Site Specific Plans of Management and this Generic Plan*

The above plans that have already been prepared will be reviewed at the date indicated within each individual plan, having regard to the direction and emphasis set out within this generic plan of management. The objectives within Section 3 of this document relate closely to the development and review of site specific plans of management. Having made a positive start on the district parks with a number of plans of management, it is now necessary to complete the final plans that provide clear and specific management recommendations for the remaining district parks within the City of Randwick. It is intended that this generic plan will provide the first fully comprehensive plan for district parks.



### 3. ISSUES, PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

#### 3.1 Major Issues

***Issue 1: Management Planning***

Appropriate management planning enables the implementation of recommendations. For district parks, a requirement for site specific plans of management will enable most major works within these areas to occur only after the comprehensive plan of management process comprising community consultation and participation has been undertaken. Other management planning systems that are necessary include the updating of and improvements to Council's Recreation Inventory which lists all open space areas, categorises their type and documents any other notable features for each site. This requires a comprehensive review in light of the recommendations within this and the other generic plans of management. Links with the other existing management systems as described in Section 2.5 are also an important part of ensuring that plans of management contain realistic recommendations and are properly resourced.

Other items such as licensing, leasing and the issuing of permits as recommended within the City Open Space and Recreation Strategic Plan are relevant to district parks. The objective of performance measuring is also presented.

***Issue 2: Permissible Use, Leasing, Licensing and Permits***

Within district parks, a wide variety of formal and informal recreational activities are encouraged. Significantly, indoor sporting facilities are viewed as permissible and leasing and licensing of facilities and playing fields is also considered appropriate. The occasional hiring of sections of these open space areas for carnivals, film or outdoor theatre, special events and social gatherings is also appropriate through the issuing of permits. Table 4 shows those activities and uses that were considered to be suitable/unsuitable within district parks.



**Table 4: Suitable and Unsuitable Activities and Facilities within District Parks**

| Activity/Facility      | Score | Assessment |
|------------------------|-------|------------|
| telephones             | 0     | suitable   |
| dogs                   | 1     | suitable   |
| leased sports fields   | 0     | suitable   |
| leased indoor sports   | 1     | suitable   |
| playing fields         | 0     | suitable   |
| cafe's                 | 1     | suitable   |
| indoor public centre   | 1     | unsuitable |
| playgrounds            | 0     | suitable   |
| bike tracks/lanes      | 0     | suitable   |
| parking                | 0     | suitable   |
| kiosks                 | 0     | suitable   |
| basketball/court games | 0     | suitable   |
| walking tracks         | 1     | suitable   |
| roller/skateboard area | 0     | suitable   |
| picnic/BBQ facilities  | 1     | suitable   |
| outdoor performance    | 0     | suitable   |
| toilets                | 0     | suitable   |
| special events         | 0     | suitable   |
| markets                | 2     | suitable   |
| guided tours           | 5     | unsuitable |
| signage                | 0     | suitable   |

*Legend: 0 = there were no objections to the facility within this open space type, 6 = all six groups during the COSRPOM community evening (26/7/95) considered the facility to be inappropriate.*

There are two relevant Acts: the Crown Lands Act (1989) and; the Local Government Act (1993). Different provisions exist for the LG Act than those for the Crown Lands Act. The Crown Lands Act does not allow revenue from the leased or licensed facility to be provided purely as a source of profit whereas the LG Act does not specify on this matter. All leases and licenses however are also now subject to the objectives set out in this plan which are determined by the values of the district parks as identified by community representatives and by site constraints. Licenses rather than leases are appropriate within district parks and will be detailed within site specific plans of management. No sub-licensing will be acceptable within new licence agreements. Further details regarding lease, licence and permit agreements are set out in Appendix D. The following table (Table 5) shows those licenses and leases currently apply to district parks:



**Table 5: Leases and Licences Currently in Operation within District Parks**

| <i>Name of district park</i> | <i>licence</i>                                     | <i>lease</i>              |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Snape                        | South Sydney Juniors Rugby League Football Club    |                           |
| Nagle                        | Eastern Suburbs- Randwick Junior Rugby Union       |                           |
|                              | South Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League |                           |
| Coral Sea Park               | Maroubra United Soccer Club Inc.                   |                           |
| Kensington Park              | Kensington Bowling Club (license expired)          |                           |
|                              | South Sydney Junior Rugby Football League          |                           |
| Latham Park                  |  | Tennis Club lease pending |
| Pioneers Park                | South East Junior Rugby League Football Club       |                           |

Permits will be issued for activities that are proposed by community members or sporting groups for short term periods or as one off events. These will replace the existing 'seasonal licence' arrangement in which the applicant must fulfill specific conditions and user pays costs as set out in the City Open Space and Recreation Strategic Plan.

**Issue 3: Recreational Provision**

Traditionally, district parks have been the home of sporting activities, particularly within the City of Randwick where a strong sporting spirit and high participation rates have dominated recreation. On a national level and even at a global level, participation in recreation has become more informal and less centred on the structured traditional games such as rugby, soccer and cricket. The terminology has also changed from 'active' and 'passive' types of recreation to 'formal' or 'structured' and 'informal' or 'unstructured', reflecting the different recreation choices available to people.

District parks in the City of Randwick are however still in strong demand, partly due to the tradition of sport within the area and partly because the provision of sports fields in the Eastern Suburbs does not meet the available demand. With this in mind the provision of facilities and recreation opportunities for those who seek less structured activities is on the increase and, to some extent should be met by these large parks that often have under-utilised recreation space, particularly along the perimeter areas. The district park setting should *invite* informal recreation users through the use of appropriate landscape works, appropriate seating, shade, play equipment for children and the provision of picnic facilities which all improve the mix of recreation opportunities in these traditionally sports dominated open space areas.

The multi-use of playing fields and buildings is also encouraged whereby popular new activities/games/sports can have the opportunity to utilise these areas and hire out fields where appropriate. This encourages a broader range of people to participate in recreation within district parks



and ensures that Randwick residents have the opportunity to excel in new recreation activities as they become popular. Indoor sports centres providing opportunities such as swimming and gymnasiums are more appropriate to regional parks than district parks.

**Issue 4: Facilities and Amenities**

'Facilities' is the term used for those items that are recreational aids or part of the activity for example goal posts, score boards, seating, picnic tables, playground equipment and cricket nets. 'Amenities' is the term used for those items that are associated but not integral to the recreation activity for example toilets, showers, bubblers and first aid rooms. District parks require both facilities and amenities to a greater extent than all other park types due to the number of people involved, the type and range of activities being undertaken and the relatively confined space in which it is all happening. Each district park will require specific investigation as to the range and quantity of facilities required within each site specific plan of management. General considerations for the provision of facilities and amenities are however set out in Section 3.2.

**Issue 5: Visitor Management**

Visitor management involves improving access to and within district parks, the enforcement of rules and restrictions and the management of the various interests and users of the park. Access via public transport is favoured by community members as one of the dominant 'values' and each plan of management should address this need and provision and recommend improvements where necessary. Parking is permissible within district parks according to the site specific conditions identified within the individual plans.

Rules and appropriate activities within parks should be clearly signposted and enforced. These rules and regulations will require regular review as trends and activities of a legitimate and prohibited nature will vary continuously. Parks staff should be easily identifiable to the park users and others by means of Council uniform, badges or headwear so that people may report anti-social activity and as a deterrent to vandals.

Management of the varying interests within District Parks such as sports groups, individuals, dog walkers, etc., must be sensitively dealt with in terms of the hours or location of use and their dominance within the parks. Appropriate signage, planting to define various settings, the booking system and lease, licence and permit arrangements all contribute to ensuring user groups are sensitively and safely managed in relation to one another.

**Issue 6: Communication**

As outlined above, communication with users of the park is a necessary consideration and will normally occur through appropriate signage and in some cases leafleting of local residents. Signage must portray those activities that are inappropriate, contact telephone numbers in times of an emergency and positive information such as those activities that are permitted or alternative locations where they may be undertaken. The community should be encouraged to become involved in the planning process for a District Park through a plan of management community workshop or through a local meeting to discuss playground re-development options. Localised needs and information will become available through this process that will enable improvements that are considered important to those that utilise the park.

Council's Communication with schools has also been identified as an important step towards increasing the use of school playing fields to the mutual benefit of all. Additionally, Council's representation within

