



# **KENSINGTON PARK**

## **PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

OCTOBER 2016

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## **Date of commencement**

This Plan of Management has been adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting of the 25 October 2016. It has been amended in accordance with the Council resolution (See appendix 6).



## Executive Summary

Kensington Park is a Crown Reserve bounded by Barker Street, Cottenham Avenue, Edward Avenue and Day Lane and located in close proximity to the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Kingsford Town Centre and future light rail stops. It is the only district park (with a sporting field) in northern Randwick, with a total area of approximately 4ha.

This Plan of Management (PoM) provides the community, sporting groups and Randwick City Council with a clear direction and framework on the future use and management of the Park. The PoM contains:

- an overview of the guiding planning framework;
- detailed description of the condition of land, current use and existing facilities;
- a summary of the results and implications of background research and analysis;
- an outline of the planning process to explain how the plan has been developed;
- a vision statement and associated management objectives;
- a Landscape Concept Plan showing the indicative design and proposed layout of the Park; and
- an Action Plan with detailed actions to facilitate the upgrade and ongoing management of the Park.

As a district park, the Park's primary function is to accommodate active and organised sporting activities while also providing informal and passive leisure opportunities. Key improvements in the Landscape Concept Plan include:

- well-connected pedestrian pathways throughout the Park, including a continuous walking track;
- improved connectivity with the adjoining Council Nursery site;
- extension of the existing children's playground;
- additional and upgraded recreational and ancillary facilities (e.g. outdoor gym, BBQ, shelters and additional lighting, seating and car parking); and
- supplementary planting and associated landscaping works.

This PoM has been prepared following detailed analysis of relevant planning and policy directions, comprehensive assessment of site conditions and use patterns and extensive consultation with internal Council staff, key stakeholders and the wider community.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 What is a Plan of Management

A PoM is a strategic document providing the planning and management framework for the future use, development and maintenance of public open space or other facilities administered by the commonwealth, state or local governments.

## 1.2 Background to the Plan of Management

The preparation of a PoM for Kensington Park is a direct response to the Council resolution of 23 September 2014. The need for a site-specific PoM for Kensington Park is also identified in Council's Generic District Park PoM and the Recreation Needs Study.

Other key drivers for preparing the PoM include:

- Light Rail. Kensington Park will be served with improved public transport following the introduction of light rail (i.e. a light rail stop at Strachan Street). Traffic and parking changes as a result of light rail may directly impact on the access to the Park and its connectivity to the surrounding road network. Therefore, the PoM not only covers the future planning and management of the Park but also addresses issues relating to traffic, parking and pedestrian access of its surrounding area.
- Increasing pressure on public open space in general. The open space resources in Randwick City will face continuing pressure in the context of growing population. Optimised planning, use and maintenance of existing parkland is important in addressing the recreational demand of the growing and changing population. It is therefore critical to maintain and strengthen the character and function of Kensington Park as a multi-purpose park including improved park facilities, to provide opportunities for diverse and balanced active and passive recreational activities.

## 1.3 Purpose

The purpose of this PoM is to provide a long term (10-year) strategic framework for the future recreational use and environmentally sustainable management of Kensington Park. The PoM is accompanied by a Landscape Concept Plan and an action plan to guide future asset management and capital works in and around the Park.

## 1.4 Aims

The aims of the PoM are:

- to develop a strategic and practical management plan for Kensington Park in accordance with Council's broad policy and planning framework;
- to set a long term (10-year) vision for the Park in response to the community's sports and recreational needs, values and expectations;

- to establish clear management objectives, strategies, actions to guide future upgrade and management of the Park; and
- to develop a Landscape Concept Plan that is compatible with the purpose, cultural value and features of the Park.

## 1.5 The Planning Framework

### 1.5.1 Relevant Council Plans and Policies

#### Council resolution (2014)

This PoM has been prepared as a direct response to the Council resolution of 23 September 2014, which resolved (Moore/Stavrinos) that:

*Council, in recognising Kensington Park is one of six District Parks in the City,*

- a) has previously adopted generic and site specific Plan of Management (PoM) to assist and guide the maintenance, development, operation and management for the City's range of parks, reserves and community facilities as an integral component of the City Open Space and Recreational Plan of Management (COSRPM) and*
- b) has recently committed to converting and refurbishing the former Kensington Bowling Club to a Community Centre*
- c) prepare a Plan of Management for Kensington Park that*
  - i) is consistent with the goals outlined in the current District Park Generic Management Plan including the objective to establish a site specific Plan of Management for Kensington Park*
  - ii) gives consideration to the historical and established use of the park, recognises the changes that have occurred since previously adopted and outlines a vision for the future of the park*
  - iii) explores opportunities to create linkages with the Randwick City Council Nursery as integral to the Park and Community Centre*
  - iv) comprises land owned or in the care or control of Council within and the immediately surrounding Kensington Park*
  - v) includes consideration for the following aspects PoM*
    - 1. Kensington Oval*
    - 2. proposed Kensington Community Centre*
    - 3. John Calopedos Memorial Reserve*
    - 4. the broader Kensington Park open space*
    - 5. Randwick City Council Nursery*
    - 6. park amenities and facilities*
    - 7. car parking and access.*

#### District Parks Generic Plan of Management

The need for a site-specific PoM for Kensington Park is also identified in Council's District Parks Generic PoM.

The District Parks Generic PoM is one of eight generic plans of management<sup>1</sup> which provide a comprehensive management approach for open space and recreational facilities in Randwick City. The District Parks Generic PoM recognises the importance of developing site-specific PoMs as each district park has its own distinct management issues particularly in regard to the use and leasing/licensing of the sports fields.

Site-specific PoMs have been prepared for two district parks, being Latham Park (1985) and Pioneer's Park (1990). The Generic PoM notes that it is necessary to complete the site-specific plans for the remaining district parks, including Snape Park, Nagle Park, Kensington Park and Coral Sea Park. All new site-specific PoMs are to be drawn up in accordance with the recommendations and directions set out in the Generic PoM.

### **Recreation Needs Study (2008)**

The Recreation Needs Study was undertaken to explore how the changing needs for open space may impact upon current and future provision of open space and sporting facilities across Randwick City. It provides Council and stakeholders with a framework for strategic recreation planning and effective recreation facilities development. It recognises that Randwick City provides over 80% of the total open space available in the East Subregion.

The Study identifies that the primary function of districts parks is to provide for organised and formal sporting activities while opportunities for informal recreation should also be provided through the provision of children's playgrounds, picnic facilities and landscaped areas.

The Study provides a set of principles for each open space classification (e.g. regional parks, district parks, etc) to guide their future development, management and use. The principles identified for district parks include:

- multi-use should be maximised, that is, balancing formal and informal recreation needs;
- provide opportunities for passive and informal recreation;
- provide amenity buildings and other facilities that support both active and passive park users and spectators;
- provide facilities that support people's participation in active sporting activities without minimising opportunities for access to the open space by the community for informal or passive recreational activities;
- ensure adequate access and associated parking to support the variety of uses and to minimise impacts on the neighbouring residential communities; and
- ensure sustainable use of the playing fields by developing procedures and opportunities to manage over use of playing fields.

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<sup>1</sup> The other generic plans of management are Regional Parks, Civic Parks, Neighbourhood Parks, Pocket Parks, Beach and Coastal Reserves, Remnant Bushland and Roadside Reserves Generic Plans of Management.



### **The Randwick City Plan (2013)**

The Randwick City Plan is a 20-year guide for future planning of Randwick City. This Plan, first developed in 2006, is kept up-to-date by ongoing and close consultation with the community. The Plan identifies six themes:

- Responsible management;
- A sense of community;
- Places for people;
- A prospering city;
- Moving around; and
- Looking after our environment.

These themes reflect the community's vision and the long term goals for the future of the City. Under the theme "Places for people", one of the outcomes is "excellence in recreation and lifestyle opportunities". A key action identified to achieve this outcome is to "progressively update open space plans of management, in accordance with an established priority list and the Recreation Needs Study, focusing on active and passive recreation opportunities".

### **Management Plan, Annual Report and Budgets**

Council's Management Plan is a four-year Delivery Program to implement the Randwick City Plan. Council's Annual Report provides the reporting mechanism and budget information to demonstrate how Council is achieving the vision and desired outcomes of the City Plan via the Management Plan.

### **Randwick Local Environmental Plan (2012)**

The Randwick Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012 is the principal statutory instrument regulating land use and development in Randwick City. It controls the use and development of land through zoning and other planning provisions.

Kensington Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation under the Randwick LEP 2012. The objectives of RE1 are:

- to enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes;
- to provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses;
- to protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes; and
- to protect, manage and restore areas with high biodiversity, ecological and aesthetic values, including buffer areas and habitat corridors.

Development for the purpose of the following in Zone RE1 requires development consent:

Animal boarding or training establishments; Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Building identification signs; Business identification signs; Car parks; Child care centres; Community facilities; Heliports; Horticulture; Information and education facilities; Jetties; Kiosks; Markets; Passenger transport facilities; Plant nurseries;

Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Respite day care centres; Restaurants or cafes; Water recreation structures

### **Randwick Development Control Plan (2013)**

The Randwick Development Control Plan (DCP) 2013 contains detailed planning and design guidelines for development, which supplements the statutory planning and development controls in the Randwick LEP 2012.

It applies to different types of development such as dwelling houses, residential flat buildings, and different locations such as business centres. It also addresses specific planning issues. Section F1 of the DCP sets out specific requirements for development in recreation zones (i.e. RE1 and RE2). It requires development proposed in these zones to avoid or minimise any potential adverse impacts on the enjoyment and preservation of areas currently used or reserved for open space and recreation purposes.

### **Randwick s.94A Development Contributions Plan**

The s.94A Plan provides the mechanism for requiring development contributions to be paid to Council to increase or enhance public amenities and services required as a result of development. The works identified in this PoM will be funded in part through Council's s.94A Plan.

### **Council's Hall Hire Policy**

First adopted in 2011, the policy sets out guidelines for the hire of Council's community halls. It was reviewed in 2015 to include specific provisions for the use, operation and management of the Kensington Community Centre.

## ***1.5.2 Other Legislative Context***

### **State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007**

The SEPP (Infrastructure) identifies development permitted without consent or as exempt development on a public reserve, including (but not limited to) roads, cycleways, single storey car parks, outdoor recreational facilities (not including grandstands), information facilities, lighting, landscaping, amenity facilities, walking tracks, seats, barbecues, shelters, sporting facilities and play equipment.

### **Crown Lands Act 1989**

The Crown Lands Act 1989 governs the planning, use and management of Crown land, including occupation, sale, leasing, licensing, reservation or dedication for a public purpose and other dealings.

s.11 of the Act provides key principles for Crown land management (outlined in the table below):

Principle of Crown land management	Consistency of this PoM with the principles
Environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land	The PoM incorporates a range of environmental features such as investigation of water saving measures, erosion management, preservation of trees and supplementary planting, etc.
The natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible	The PoM identifies conservation of the Park as open space, along with improvement and enhancement of its inherent natural elements (e.g. tree planting, etc.).
Public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged	Implementation of the PoM will enable greater public use and enjoyment of the Park through enhanced accessibility, improved recreational and ancillary park facilities and supplementary planting.
Where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged	Encouraging multi-use of recreational facilities is a key principle of the PoM and the Park design.
Where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity	The PoM seeks to conserve and improve the Park for the enjoyment of current and future generations, through the provision of multi-use and flexible park spaces and facilities.
Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles	The PoM provides clear management objectives and associated actions to ensure that the Park is used and managed in the best interests of the State.

s.112 ~ 116 of the Act sets out specific requirements relating to plans of management, with key provisions summarised below:

- The Minister gives consent for the preparation of a plan of management for a Crown reserve.
- The draft plan of management shall be placed on public display for not less than 28 days to allow for submissions to be made on the plan of management.

### Local Government Act 1993

The Local Government Act 1993 provides the legal framework for managing various affairs of local government, including the use and management of public land.

The Act requires all public land to be classified as either “community” or “operational” and requires councils to prepare a plan of management for all land classified as “community”. Once completed, the plan of management must be publicly exhibited for

not less than 28 days. A minimum of 42 days must be specified (from the date when the exhibition commences) during which submission can be made to the council.

### **Implications**

It is important to note that this PoM for Kensington Park will not be adopted under either of the above Acts for the following reasons:

- Kensington Park, as a Crown reserve, is subject to the Crown Lands Act 1989. Therefore, provisions in the Local Government Act relating to the preparation of PoMs for community land do not apply.
- Council officers have previously written to Crown Lands seeking the Minister's consent and support for preparing a site-specific PoM for Kensington Park. Crown Lands advised that their current policy only supports preparation of PoMs under the Crown Lands Act for Crown reserves of state or regional significance and Kensington Park does not meet this criteria.

The preparation of this PoM has been guided by both Acts, in particular requirements relating to public exhibition and key matters to be included and addressed in a PoM.

This PoM is a Council policy that sets out the strategic framework and directions for asset management and future capital works.

## 2 Description of Kensington Park

### 2.1 Location and Description

Kensington Park is a district park with a total area of approximately 4ha located on the border of Kensington and Kingsford. It is approximately 250m west of Anzac Parade.

It is a Crown reserve (Reserve No. D500235 & D500357), dedicated for “public recreation and community purposes”. Uses, activities, agreements and development within the Park therefore must conform to its dedicated public purposes. The Park contains 4 lots including:

- Lot 7076/DP 1028730 (under Reserve No. D500357)
- Lot 7112/DP 94001 and Lots 7073&7074 in DP 1028719 (under Reserve No. D500235)

The Park is managed by Randwick Council as the Reserve Trust Manager.



*Kensington Park Reserve*

### 2.2 History of Kensington Park

Kensington Park was part of the Samuel Terry's land grant and originally a swamp. The stream running from the Lachlan Swamps in the Centennial Park area to Botany Bay ran through this swamp and was part of the Sydney Water Supply from 1858 to 1886. Prior to 1858, the stream in the Kensington area was home to at least three mills - a flour mill

located near Ascot Street/Anzac Parade Kensington; Winder's mill, located south of Gardener's Road Daceyville and the Lachlan Mill, located at Kensington Park.

On 23 June 1915, Council was notified by NSW Government that Kensington Park (originally known as "Waterloo Park") was to come under the control of Council. The Park since then has evolved as follows:

- In 1927, the grassing of the cricket oval appears to have been completed as well as the fencing.
- In 1928, the Park was made available to the Randwick Rugby Club for training. In the same year, facilities including the grandstand, bowling greens and children's playground were constructed.
- In 1929, a Council proposal to extend Doncaster Avenue through the Park to Gardeners Road did not proceed due to significant concerns and objections from local residents.
- In 1929, the bowling club house was completed.
- Cricket games formally started in 1933 after a scoreboard was erected.
- From 1936, issues were raised about the conditions of the oval ground (e.g. hard crust, thin layer of grass).
- In 1949 permission was granted for sports on Sundays.
- From 1966 – 1977, part of the grandstand was used as storage for the bookmobile collection (Randwick Library Service).
- In 1973, picket fences and floodlights were replaced.
- A new grandstand building was completed and reopened in 1996. The grandstand is named after Kevin Longbottom - a local Rugby League player.
- In 2012, the refurbished playground was reopened to the public, following a \$210,000 upgrade which included the removal of old equipment and the installation of new see-saws, slides, swings, seating and rock climbing embankments. The revamped playground was further enhanced by new seating, large areas of landscaping and native plants and an extension to the bike track, which includes interactive traffic signs.





1930



1942



1961



2002



2004



2011



2012



2014

## 2.3 Tenures

There is no licence or lease agreement in place for possession, occupation or access to the Kensington Oval.

There is however a maintenance agreement between Randwick Council and the Randwick Petersham Cricket Club for maintaining Kensington, Snape and Coogee Ovals for the period from 2014 to 2017 (extendable via mutual agreement).

Kensington Oval can be hired on a seasonal basis or through casual one-off bookings. South Juniors Rugby League and Randwick Petersham Cricket Club are the two main sports groups that hire the Oval on a seasonal basis.

## 2.4 Condition of the Land

### 2.4.1 Soils, Drainage and Earth Mounding

Soils in the Park are generally loamy sand soil. The surfaces of Kensington Oval are even without specific drainage issues. There is no mound in the Oval.

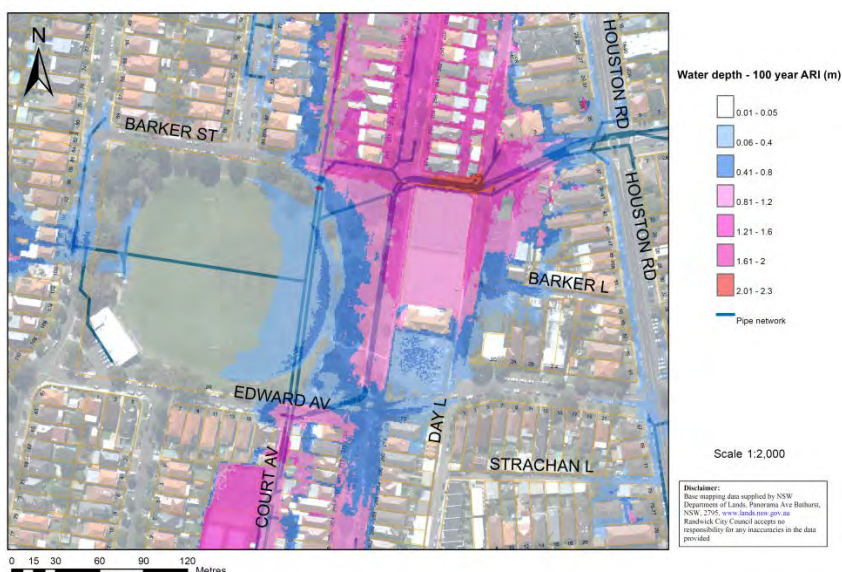
### 2.4.2 Contamination

There is no known contamination in the Park.

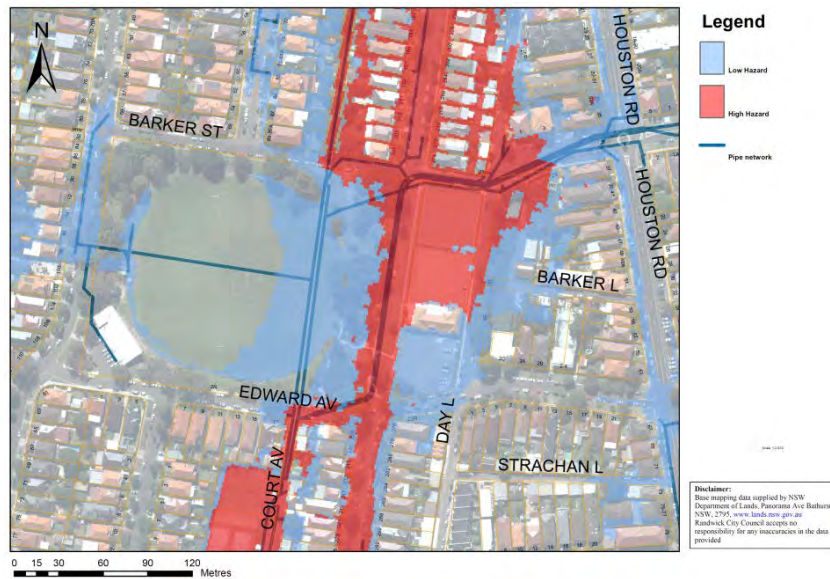
### 2.4.3 Flooding

The eastern part of the Park, in particular, the area immediately to the north and west of the community centre, is categorised as a high flood risk area in Council's Kensington – Centennial Park Flood Study.

The preparation of the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMSP) for this catchment is currently underway and various options will be investigated in the FRMSP to mitigate the flood impacts in the area.







*Flood maps (April 2013)*

#### **2.4.4 Water and Irrigation**

In accordance with the Water Management Act 2000, Council retains licences to operate water bore in the Oval. Under the terms and conditions of the licence agreements, Council cannot extract bore water more than 30 mega litres per year. This allocation is enough to meet the current water requirements for the Oval. There is an opportunity to use bore water/rain water for flushing toilets. Water bore in the Oval also feeds the water storage tanks at the Council Nursery for irrigating plants.

#### **2.4.5 Original and Remnant Vegetation**

Originally, the vegetation of the area was predominantly made of the community known as Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS) that is listed as endangered on Schedule 1 Part 3 of the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Kensington Park was once part of the chain of freshwater swamps, known as the Lachlan Swamps. Starting from Centennial Park, the swamps drained south into Botany Bay. Original vegetation of the swamps would have been dominated by freshwater sedge and rush species and ESBS would have resided on the dune slopes, surrounding the swamps.

Original vegetation can no longer be found in Kensington Park. It is a highly modified site, with plantings of indigenous and non-indigenous species fringing the Oval. Most of the plantings are trees of habitat value, providing a natural buffer from surrounding residential properties. A detailed planting list for the park is contained in Appendix 1.

#### **2.4.6 Native Fauna**

Mature trees surrounding the Oval provide shelter and forage sites for local fauna. Larger native birds such as magpies, wattle birds, Australian ravens have been observed at the

Oval, while rainbow lorikeets commonly flock to the site. The grey-headed flying-fox, listed as vulnerable on Schedule 2 Part 1 of the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, is known to occupy large figs and Eucalypts in the area.

#### ***2.4.7 Vandalism and Graffiti***

In Kensington Park, the main target for graffiti is the grandstand building. Vandalism and graffiti generally is not a major issue in the Park.

## **2.5 Current Use of Kensington Park and Existing Facilities**

### ***2.5.1 Sporting Uses***

Kensington Oval, which covers almost 45% of Kensington Park, is an attractive sports facility that primarily caters to rugby league and cricket. It is a popular venue for local sporting teams as it offers an A-grade cricket pitch, a site for rugby matches and a grandstand that provides public toilets, player's facilities and a kiosk on match days. The Oval is defined by picket fence to its perimeter.

The main user groups and visitors of the Oval include Randwick Petersham Cricket Club, South Sydney District JRL Football Club, Michael Cusacks Gaelic Club, Paddington Tigers, and local schools such as Kensington Public School and Randwick Boys High School.

### ***2.5.2 Passive Recreation***

A stationary survey (see section 3.3 for details) undertaken between 2015 and 2016 indicates that the Park accommodates a range of passive recreational activities, such as walking, jogging and dog walking.

However, there is a general lack of appropriately designed and located facilities in the Park for informal recreational activities. Although approximately 40% of the Park is available for passive recreation, much of the area is inaccessible due to limited through routes, surface tree roots and level changes.

### ***2.5.3 Children's Playground***

Located near the intersection of Edward and Doncaster Avenues, the John Calopedos Memorial Playground covers an area of approximately 600m<sup>2</sup> (or 1.4% of the park area). Following a \$210,000 upgrade, the playground was reopened to the public in November 2012. Equipment provided includes see-saws, slides, swings, seating and rock climbing embankments. The playground is fenced and unsheltered, although some large fig trees provide partial shade.

### ***2.5.4 Existing Buildings***

#### **Grandstand**

There is a single storey grandstand/amenities building located at the southwestern corner of the Park, approximately 150m from the children's playground. The original grandstand due to its poor/dangerous condition was demolished and reconstructed. The grandstand provides the following facilities:

- public toilets;
- facilities such as a recreation room, a kiosk and change rooms (including toilets and showers) for the use of the players;
- various storage rooms; and
- terrace seating in front of the building.

#### **Kensington Community Centre**

The former Kensington Bowling Club, located to the east of the Park has been approved to convert to a community centre (as per DA/87/2015 & DA/87/2015/A), incorporating the following key changes:

- removal of the two existing five-a-side soccer courts, bowling green edging, metal boundary fences and sandstone wall at the corner of Barker Street and Day Lane;
- internal alterations to create 2 attached but independent hall spaces;
- new toilet facilities;
- a half basketball court and new pedestrian paths to the north of the building;
- an on-site car park with controlled vehicular access via Day Lane; and
- new footpaths along the Barker Street and Edward Avenue frontages of the site.

Other building structures within the Park include a storage shed and two pump houses.

### ***2.5.5 Car Parking***

There is an unrestricted parking area adjacent to the grandstand building. It provides 11 parking spaces, 1 disabled parking and a loading bay.

The approved Kensington Community Centre provides 16 on-site parking spaces (including 1 disabled parking), which are only available to the centre users.

### ***2.5.6 Dog Control***

There are 14 designated off-leash dog areas in Randwick City. Kensington Park, given its high visitation rate for sports activities, is not a designated area for this purpose.

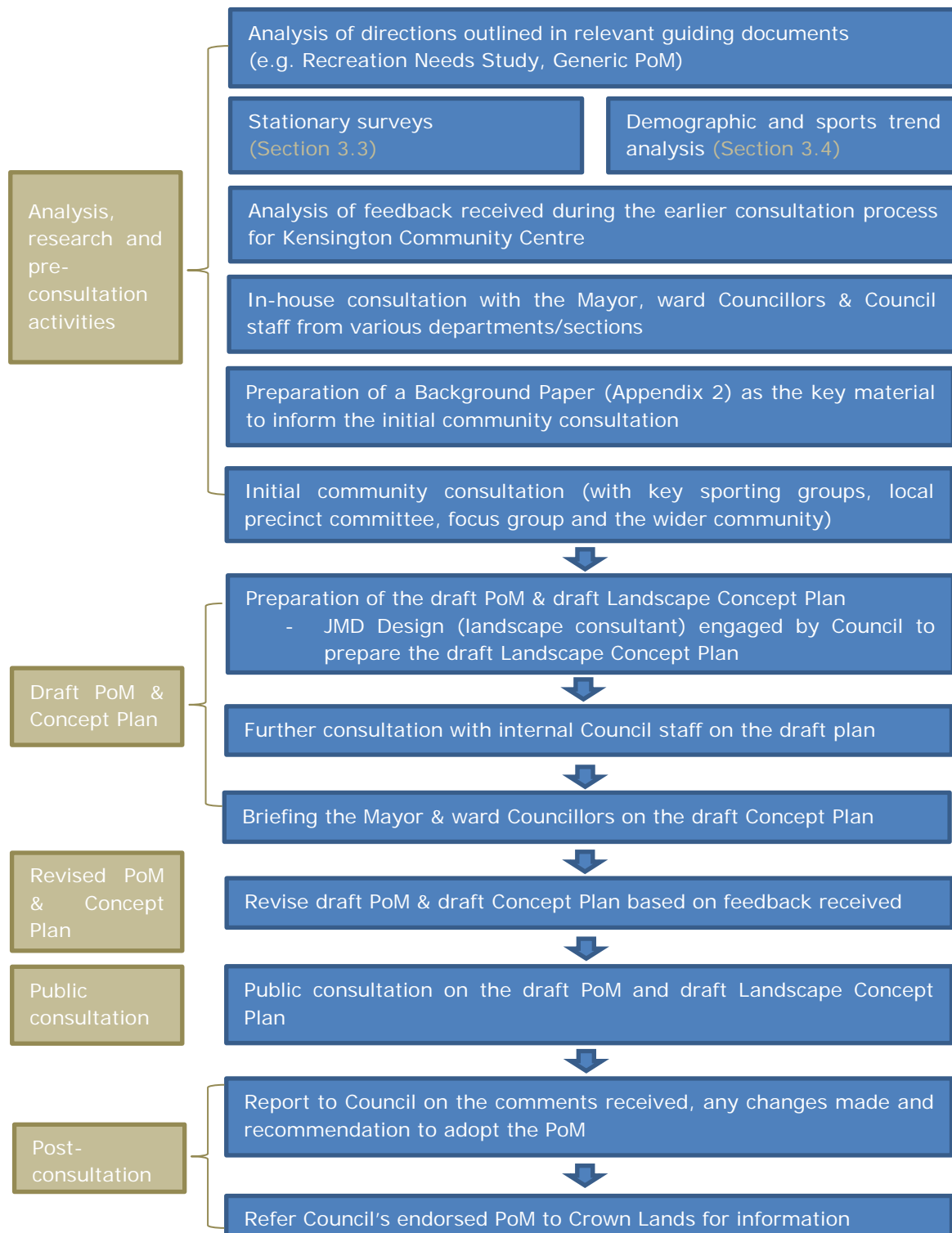
As part of the consultation process for the new Kensington Community Centre, a large number of submissions were received from local residents requesting a dog off-leash area in the Park. Following careful consideration, the post-consultation report (endorsed by Council on 22 July 2014) concluded that it is not appropriate or necessary to provide a dog off-leash area in the Park.



## 3 Preparing the Plan

### 3.1 The Planning Process

This PoM has been prepared in accordance with the planning process shown in the flowchart below.



*The planning process for preparing the PoM for Kensington Park*

## 3.2 Community Consultation

Community consultation is an integral part of the process of preparing a PoM.

### 3.2.1 *Pre-Consultation Activities*

Prior to the preparation of the PoM and Landscape Concept Plan, the following consultation activities were undertaken to identify positive features of the park, key issues and potential improvements that need to be addressed in the PoM.

#### 3.2.1.1 Analysis of outcomes of previous consultations

A community survey was conducted in February/March 2014 for the new Kensington Community Centre. While most of the comments received specifically related to the use of the community centre, a number of responses provide feedback on broad issues relating to Kensington Park (summarised below):

To provide:

- a community garden in the vicinity of the community nursery;
- outdoor gym equipment suitable for all age groups;
- improved passive recreational amenities/facilities;
- native flora providing habitat for birds and other small indigenous fauna;
- walking trail with trees;
- a kiosk/café;
- bike facilities to encourage people to cycle to the Park;
- restricted on-street parking during weekdays around the Park to limit long-stay parking by university students;
- better toilet facilities;
- BBQ facilities and picnic areas; and
- a table tennis table.

An analysis of the suitability of the above facilities in Kensington Park has been undertaken by the landscape consultant and facilities that are considered suitable have been incorporated in the landscape concept plan.

#### 3.2.1.2 In-house consultation

In-house consultation was undertaken between 2015 and 2016 with Councillors and Council staff from various disciplines to help understand concerns commonly raised by residents and issues relating to the day-to-day operation and management of the Park and surrounds.

Council departments/sections that have been closely involved in the entire process include Open Space Services, Open Space Assets, Integrated Transport, Buildings for our Community, Property Management, Rangers, Technical Services, Tree Management, Sustainability and Nursery.

### **3.2.1.3 Initial community consultation**

Initial consultation with the community was carried out between 17 June 2016 and 1 July 2016 through the following activities:

- online survey and other interactive tools for the community to share ideas and stories through the yoursayrandwick website;
- information/update provided at the Kingsford and West Kensington precinct meeting;
- a focus group discussion session;
- a meeting with key sporting groups (including Randwick Petersham Cricket Club, South Sydney District JRL Football Club and Michael Cusacks Gaelic Club);
- notices via Southern Courier, Council website, Randwick eNews and Facebook/Twitter;
- posters/flyers at all Council libraries and the Administration Building;
- letterbox drop to neighbouring residents; and
- onsite signage in Kensington Park.

During the consultation period, Council received 162 survey responses and four written submissions, including a group submission from the “Kensington Park Local Resident Group” (representing 46 residents). Key findings from the initial consultation are outlined in the attached Result Analysis Report (Appendix 3).

Feedback received through all these pre-consultation activities largely informed the development of the PoM and Landscape Concept Plan.

### **3.2.2 Public Consultation**

The draft PoM together with the draft Landscape Concept Plan was placed for public consultation between August and September 2016 through the following activities:

- notices via Southern Courier, Council website, Randwick eNews and Facebook/Twitter;
- public exhibition through yoursayrandwick website;
- display of the draft at Council’s Administration Building and libraries;
- posters and flyers distributed around Kensington and Kingsford;
- presentation at the Kensington West Kingsford Precinct meeting;
- direct written notification to Department of Industry - Lands, key sporting groups and other interested groups; and
- two drop-in sessions/open days.

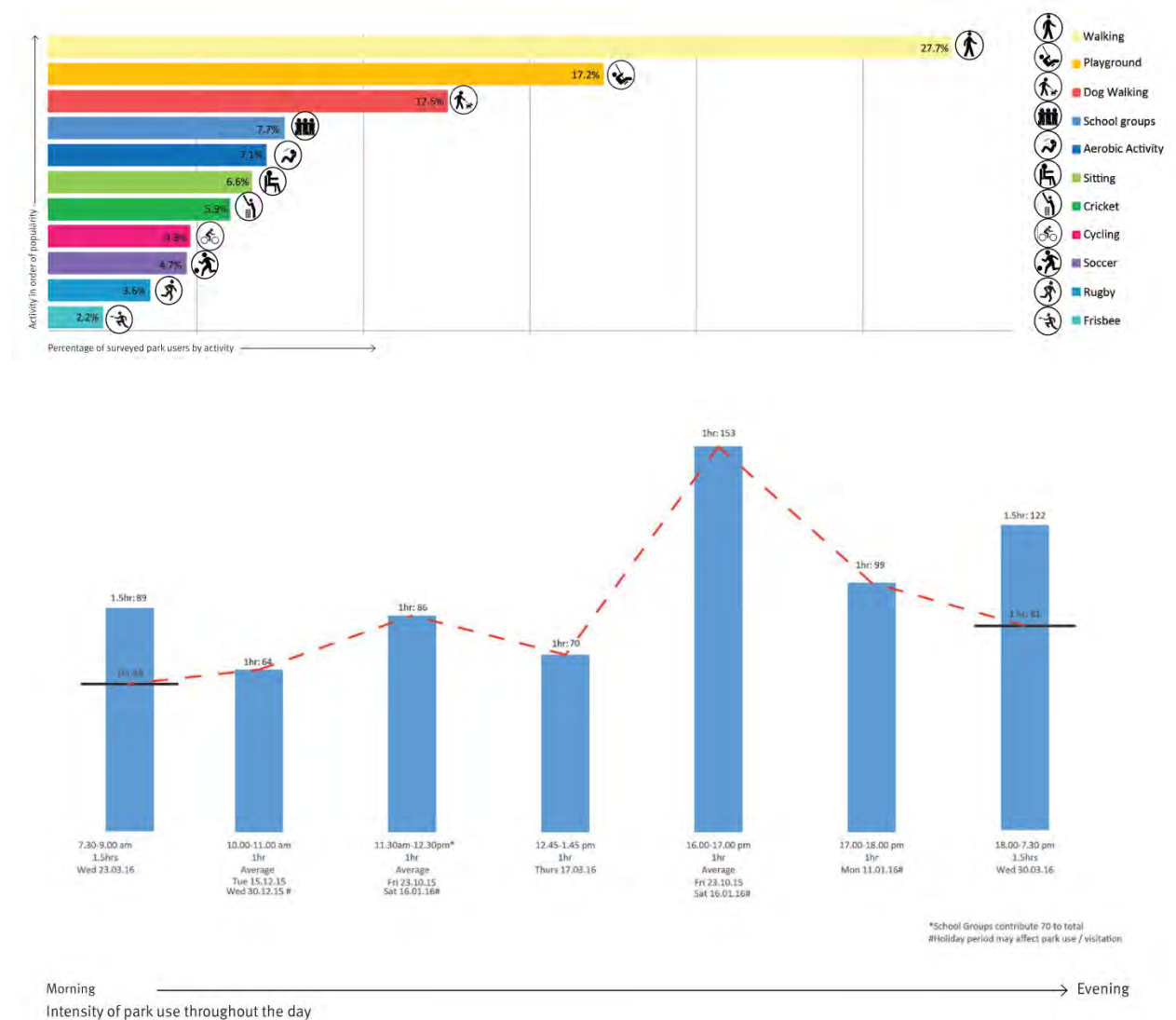
## **3.3 Stationary Surveys**

10 “stationary surveys” were carried out between October 2015 and March 2016 to help understand how the Park is currently used, gaps in provision and potential opportunities for enhancing facilities. The observation days and times were:

- Friday 23 October 2015                      11:30am-12:30pm
- Friday 23 October 2015                      4:00-5:00pm
- Tuesday 15 December 2015                10:00-11:00am

- Wednesday 30 December 2015 10:00-11:00am
- Monday 11 January 2016 5:00-6:00pm
- Saturday 16 January 2016 11:30am-12:30pm
- Saturday 16 January 2016 4:00-5:00pm
- Thursday 17 March 2016 12:45-1:45pm
- Wednesday 23 March 2016 7:30-9:00am
- Wednesday 30 March 2016 6:00-7:30pm

These surveys were mostly undertaken during the spring and summer seasons and are “non-participatory” in nature, which do not require communication with park users (refer to Appendix 4 for detailed survey results).



Analysis undertaken by JMD Design based on surveys carried out by Council officers

### Key findings

- The Park predominantly caters for informal activities and the top three activities are walking (also including people walking through the Park as a thoroughfare), visiting the playground and dog walking, representing respectively 27.7%, 17.2% and 12.5% of the user group.

- People using the Park as a thoroughfare make up more than 25% of the user group. The north south through-site pathway immediately to the west of the community centre is popularly used as a pedestrian and cycle link.
- Organised sport users comprise 14% of the user group: 5.9% involved in cricket, 4.7% in soccer and 3.6% in rugby. Note: Spring and summer (when the surveys were undertaken) are generally the quiet seasons for organised sports.
- The playground following the recent upgrade is the most popular facility in the Park.
- The intensity of park use fluctuates throughout the day with the highest number of users recorded between 4-6pm.

### Implications

- Need for a hierarchy of pathways throughout the Park including a circuit loop/walking track to support informal exercise, supplemented by numerous connecting paths for improved permeability;
- Explore the potential of expanding the playground to integrate more effectively with the wider Park and to meet with the growing demand; and
- Need for a wider range of park facilities to support passive recreation.

Activities	Spatial supply		Demand/usage	Notes
	Area	% of park	% of user group	
Organised sports	17,592m <sup>2</sup>	45%	14%	14% of the users visit the Park for organised sports, which has a very high spatial allowance of 45%.
Playground	596m <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	17%	The playground contributes to 17% of users and has a low spatial allowance of 1.4%.
Informal activities	15,932m <sup>2</sup>	41%	69%	Informal recreation contributes to 69% of users and has a proportionally low spatial allowance of 41%.

## 3.4 Demographic Analysis and Sporting Trends

An analysis of the demographic characteristics and trends in recreation participation in Randwick City has been undertaken to inform the preparation of the PoM.

### 3.4.1 Trends in Recreation Participation and Existing Supply

A household telephone survey was conducted in 2006 as part of the consultation process for Council's Recreation Needs Study (2008), to identify the existing trends in physical activity of Randwick residents. Key findings of the survey are summarised below.

- The top-five most popular activities in Randwick City are walking (46%), swimming (21%), running (14%), aerobics/fitness (12%) and soccer (7%).
- Participation rates in Randwick City for walking, swimming, running, soccer and netball are higher than the National and State averages.
- Participation rates for aerobics/fitness, cycling, tennis and golf in Randwick City are all below the respective National and State averages.



The study also assessed the adequacy of the number of sports facilities available in Randwick City, which indicates that there will be:

- a predicted oversupply of lawn bowling greens; and
- a predicted undersupply of fields for rugby and cricket and facilities for soccer, indoor sports and tennis.

### Implications

- Improve and increase facilities in the Park to better facilitate passive recreation activities such as walking and running; and
- Retain the main function of the Park as a sporting field for organised sports.

### 3.4.2 Demographic Characteristics

Kensington Park is located on the border of Kensington and Kingsford and mainly surrounded by low density residential uses. The Park is in close proximity to UNSW and Kingsford Town Centre.

The suburbs of Kensington and Kingsford demonstrate the following demographic characteristics, with particular implications on the design and planning of the Park.





800m Catchment (10 minutes' walk) of Kensington Park

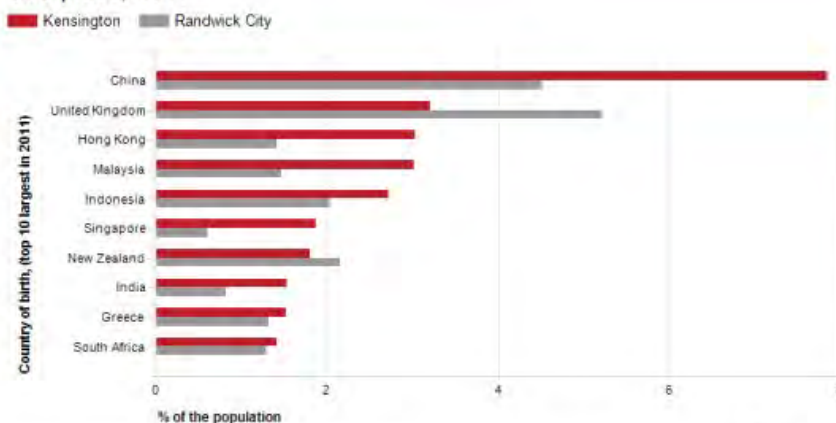
## Birthplace

"Country of birth" identifies where people were born and is indicative of the level of cultural diversity.

Kensington and Kingsford, compared to Randwick City, have a larger proportion of people born overseas, as well as a larger proportion of people from a non-English speaking background.

The largest non-English speaking country of birth in both Kensington and Kingsford is China and the number of people born in China in these two suburbs is continuously growing (increased by 481 persons in Kensington and 1,071 persons in Kingsford between 2006 and 2011).

### Birthplace, 2011

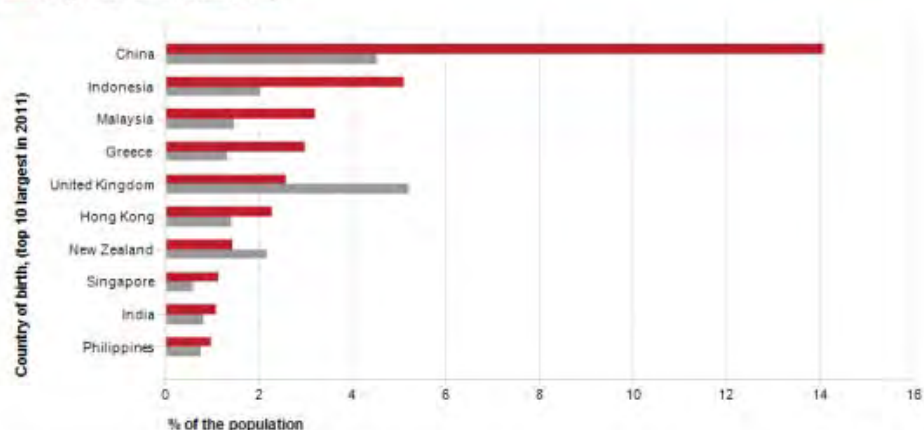


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

.id  
the population experts

## Birthplace, 2011

■ Kingsford ■ Randwick City

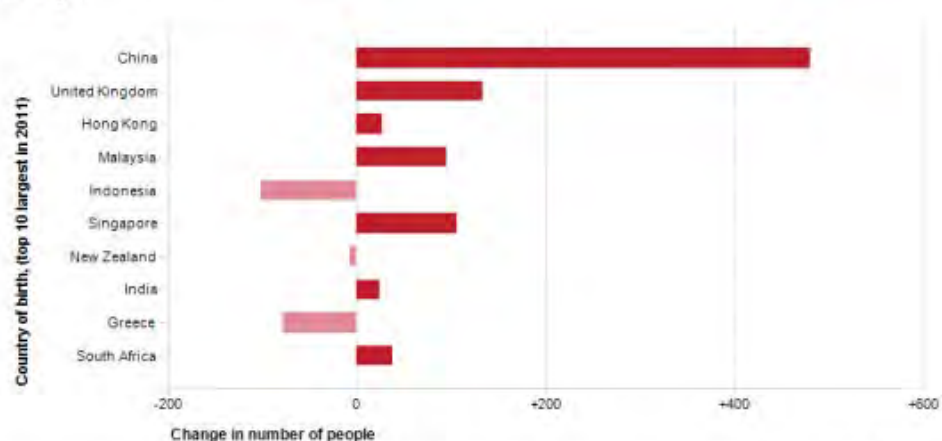


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile id by id, the population experts

**.id** the population experts

## Change in birthplace, 2006 to 2011

Kensington

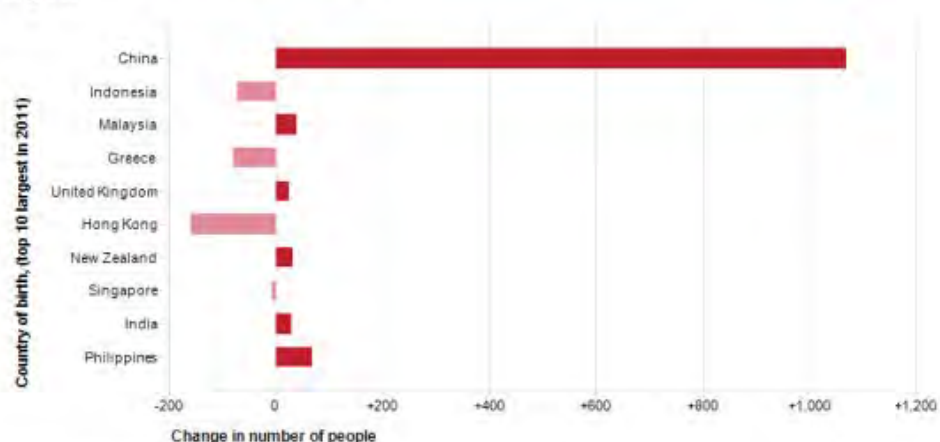


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile id by id, the population experts

**.id** the population experts

## Change in birthplace, 2006 to 2011

Kingsford



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile id by id, the population experts

**.id** the population experts

## Implications

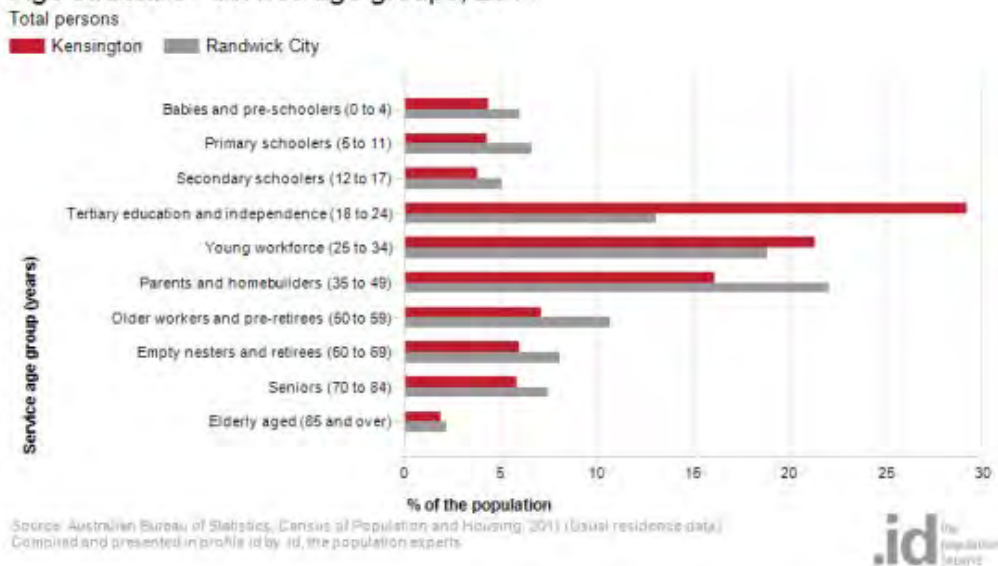
- Explore the opportunity of providing facilities for non-contact sports, such as table tennis tables and tai chi space due to the growing influence of migration.

## Age

Service age groups divide the population into age categories that reflect typical life-stages. They indicate the level of demand for services that target people at different stages in life and how that demand is changing.

Kensington and Kingsford, compared to Randwick City, have a lower proportion of people in younger age groups (0-17 years) and older age groups (60+ years). However, both suburbs have a higher percentage of people in “tertiary education & independence” (18-24 years) and “young workforce” (25-34 years). These two age groups had the greatest increase between 2006 and 2011.

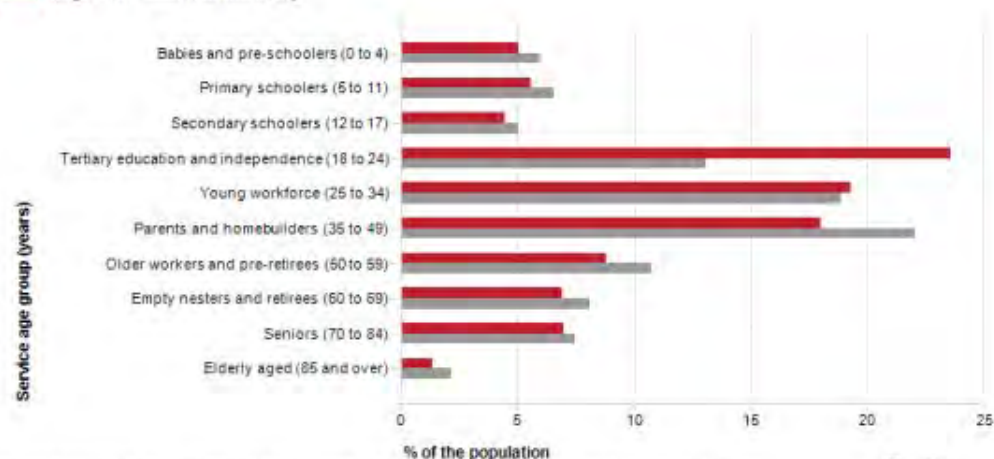
### Age structure - service age groups, 2011



## Age structure - service age groups, 2011

Total persons

■ Kingsford ■ Randwick City

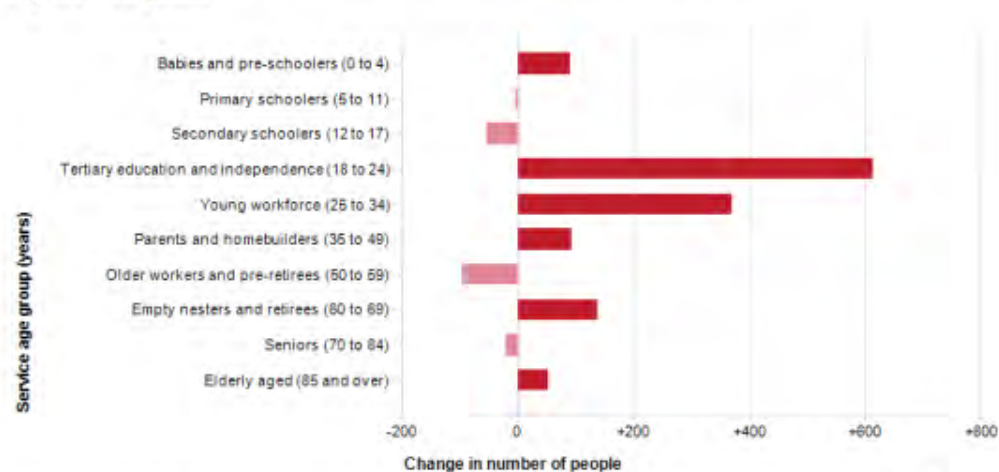


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data).  
Compiled and presented in profile by .id, the population experts.

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the population experts

## Change in age structure - service age groups, 2006 to 2011

Kingsford - Total persons

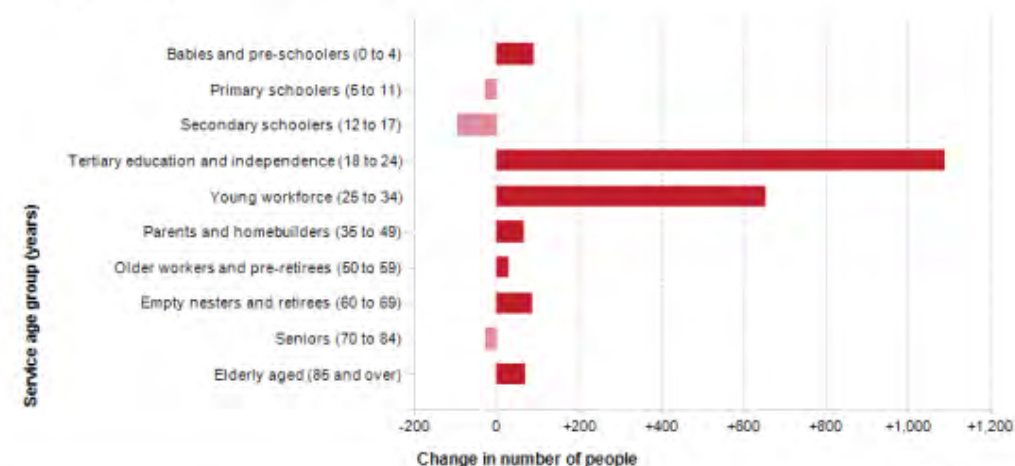


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011 (Usual residence data).  
Compiled and presented in profile by .id, the population experts.

.id  
the population experts

## Change in age structure - service age groups, 2006 to 2011

Kensington - Total persons



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011 (Usual residence data).  
Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts

.id  
the population experts

## Implications

The 2006 telephone survey (see table below) indicates that the most popular activities for people aged 18-34 years (the age group that had significant population growth between 2006 and 2011) are swimming, walking and jogging. Suitable and adequate facilities therefore should be made available to support walking and jogging in the Park.

Age Category	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3
14-17			
18-24			
25-34			
35-59			
60+			

Ranking of most popular activities of Randwick LGA residents - by age

Legend:

- Walking
- Running/Jogging
- Swimming
- Netball
- Soccer
- Cycling
- Cricket
- Lawn Bowls
- Golf
- Aerobic Fitness
- Tennis



## 4 Management of Kensington Park

### 4.1 Vision Statement

The management of Kensington Park will be based on the following vision statement that provides the long-term strategic direction for all future decisions affecting the Park:

*"Kensington Park provides good quality multi-use facilities for both active and passive recreation to cater to the diverse and changing needs of the community while maintaining and enhancing the Park's natural landscape character and aesthetic values."*

### 4.2 Management Objectives

Specific management objectives for Kensington Park have been identified through a review of best practice plans of management. An Action Plan (Section 4.4) has been developed as a means to achieve these objectives.

#### ***Element 1: Recreation/Access/Amenities/Aesthetics***

- To provide a range of quality structured and unstructured recreational opportunities that are relevant to the community needs, accessible to all age groups and ability levels and compatible with the purpose, culture, value and experience of the Park;
- To restrict vehicular access to the open space areas and provide adequate parking areas within and around the Park;
- To provide well connected pedestrian pathways within and around the Park;
- To encourage modern and functional designs for future park facilities and landscaping which enhance the Park's environment and surrounds; and
- To encourage a safe and secure environment.

#### ***Element 2: Sporting field***

- To ensure that the Park primarily caters for organised and formal sporting activities;
- To ensure that wherever possible sporting field and associated facilities are designed to be multi use;
- To ensure that the sporting field is well maintained to appropriate standards; and
- To minimise any detrimental impacts to surrounding residential areas from sporting activities.

#### ***Element 3: Environment and culture***

- To ensure environmental sustainability for the design, development and management of the Park;
- To protect, restore and maintain the natural resources in the Park;



- To promote environmental awareness and education; and
- To promote the use of the Park for suitable sporting and cultural events.

#### ***Element 4: Management and Community Involvement***

- To ensure public awareness in the use, management, planning and development of the Park and its resources;
- To implement efficient and effective park management and maintenance programs; and
- To ensure best practice and accountability in the financial management of the Park's assets.

### **4.3 Landscape Concept Plan**

A Landscape Concept Plan has been developed to support the long term (10-year) vision and outcomes of the PoM and to respond to feedback received during the consultation with Council staff, sporting groups and the local community.

The Landscape Concept Plan conforms to the management objectives (outlined above) and incorporates the following design principles:

- Retain the Park's primary function as a sporting facility while also catering to passive recreation such as children's play, picnicking and walking;
- Design for a broad range of user groups with flexibility to respond to the changing demands for public open spaces;
- Create additional and improved safe pedestrian access in and around the Park for enhanced permeability and accessibility;
- Design to establish a cohesive character and celebrate sense of place;
- Celebrate existing vegetation and develop connections with the wider green infrastructure networks; and
- Incorporate environmentally sustainable design where possible.

In summary, the Landscape Concept provides the following key sporting and passive recreation improvements:

- introduction of a loop path/walking track associated with connecting paths to form a pervious pathway network;
- improved linkage with the adjoining Council Nursery;
- extension of the existing children's playground to provide diverse play opportunities;
- provision of outdoor gym equipment (for all age groups);
- provision of additional car parking within and around the Park;
- supplementary tree and shrub planting; and

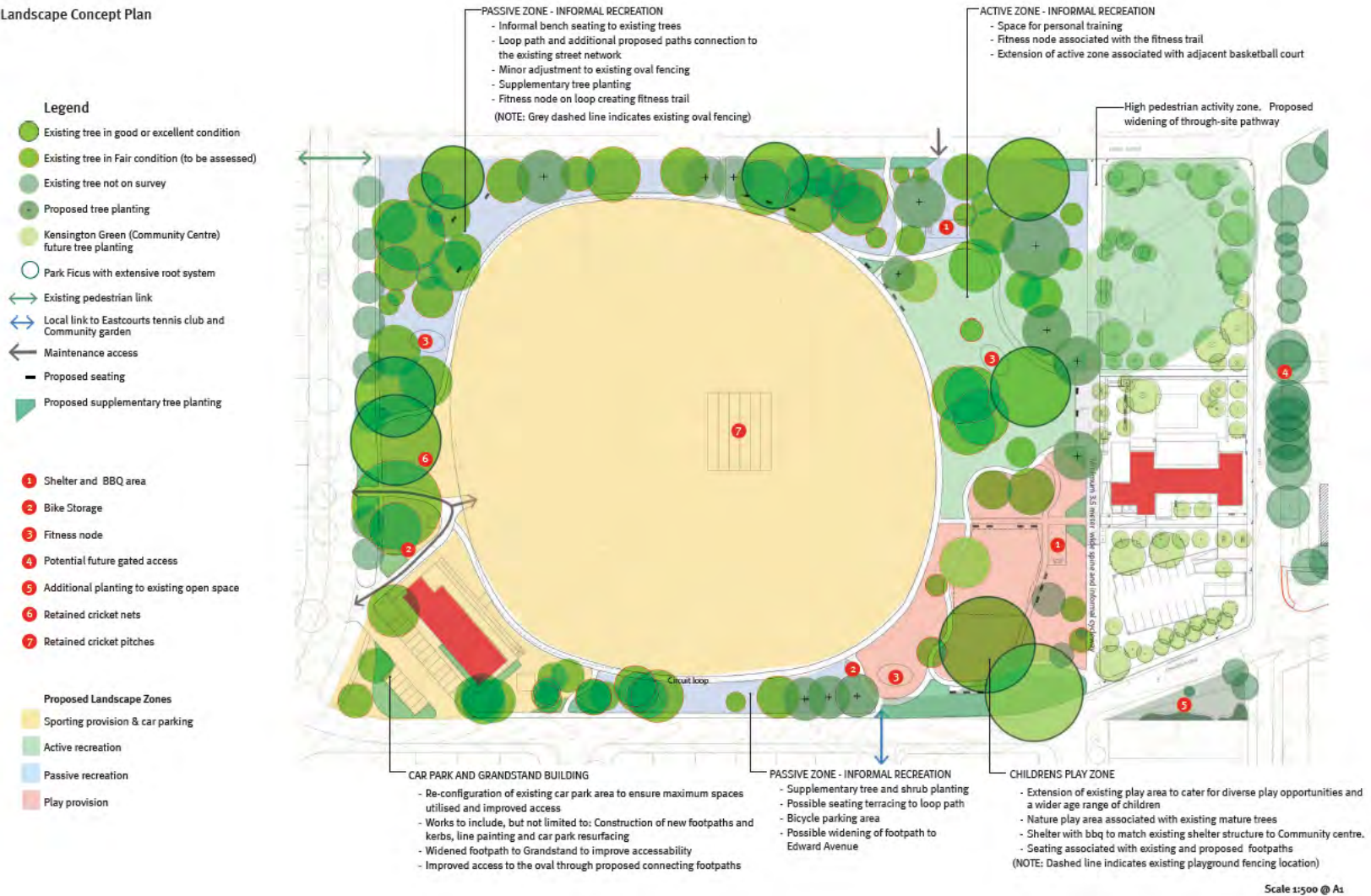
- provision of ancillary facilities and furniture, including shelters, BBQ facilities, bike racks and additional lighting and seating.

***Note: The design and upgrade proposals illustrated in the Landscape Concept Plan are indicative only and are subject to final detailed design prior to construction. Variations in the location of facilities and works may be required following the detailed design.***



*Kensington Park – Concept design photomontage (JMD Design)*

## Landscape Concept Plan



Landscape Concept Plan – Kensington Park (JMD Design)



## Landscape Concept Plan - Nursery and Adjacent Block



Landscape Concept Plan – Nursery and Adjacent Block (JMD Design)

## 4.4 Action Plan

The Action Plan outlined below provides the basis for implementing the PoM.

The Action Plan has been structured under the key management elements identified in Section 4.2. It outlines the strategies and actions required to achieve the management objectives. The priorities have been assigned in response to the specific action's relative importance or need for upgrading or improvement. Accordingly, the actions in the Action Plan have been categorised into:

- Short term (1-2 years)
- Medium term (3-5 years)
- Long term (6-10 years)
- Ongoing

The identified actions and staging will be implemented via Council's annual Management Plan and Budget. Costings associated with the actions will be identified at the detailed design stage and are subject to future capital works budget approval.

## Kensington Park Action Plan

### Element 1: Recreation/Access/Amenities/Aesthetics

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
<b>Use of Kensington Park</b>			
1.1	Provide quality recreational facilities that meet the needs of a broad range of user groups.	Provide adequate and appropriately designed facilities for passive recreation including pedestrian access paths, BBQ facilities, shelters, outdoor fitness equipment, seating, lighting and associated landscaping.	Within each term/stage
<b>Traffic, Parking &amp; Pedestrian Access</b>			
1.2	<b><i>Vehicular Access</i></b> Restrict vehicular access to the open space areas of the Park.	Provide and maintain emergency and maintenance access to the Park as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan.	Ongoing
1.3		Restrict vehicular access through landscaping as required.	Ongoing
1.4	<b><i>Car Parking</i></b> Provide car parking in suitable locations in and around the Park and minimise parking impacts on surrounding residential streets.	Reconfigure/realign the existing car parking area next to the grandstand to achieve maximum parking spaces with minimised impact on existing trees.  Designate parking spaces for people with disabilities in the car park.  Incorporate water sensitive design for the car park.  Associated works will include (but not limited	Short-medium term



No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		to) construction of new footpaths and kerbs, line painting and car park resurfacing.	
1.5		Investigate the opportunity of creating additional parking spaces as part of the reconfiguration of the intersection at Barker St and Day Ln. See also Action 1.15.	Short-medium term
1.6		Investigate time-restricted parking for adjoining streets during weekdays.	Short-medium term
1.7	<b><i>Bicycle Parking</i></b>  Encourage and support the use of active transport by Park visitors.	Provide bicycle parking facilities in locations close to car parks, children's playground and other key recreational facilities, as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan.	Short term
1.8	<b><i>Pedestrian Access</i></b>  Provide safe and pervious pedestrian pathways linking activities points within the Park, connecting to areas outside the Park, while also providing opportunities for informal exercise and other passive recreational activities.	Introduce a hierarchy of pedestrian pathways throughout the Park, comprising a continuous walking track/loop path, a north-south spine route and numerous connecting paths that link key activity points within the Park and connect the Park with adjoining streets.	Medium term
1.9		Explore suitable design solutions for the walking track where required to minimise damage/impact on exposed tree roots.	Medium term
1.10		Incorporate markers along the walking track to identify distance completed by pedestrians.	Medium term
1.11		Install clear signage (in accordance with Council's Civic Signage Manual) and feature paving at suitable locations to identify points of potential conflict of pedestrian movement with other activities (e.g. vehicular movement and	Medium term

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		cycling).	
1.12		Widen the footpath to Edward Ave (along the park side) to 1.5m.	Medium term
1.13		Upgrade the existing north-south spine route as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan to a minimum width of 3.5m.  Address conflicts between users (e.g. pedestrians and cyclists) through paving materials and landscaping where appropriate.	Medium term
1.14		All pedestrian paths will be designed in accordance with current design standards and guidelines, and where possible should be wheelchair and double stroller accessible.	Medium term
1.15	<b><i>Surrounding Road Network</i></b>  Improve the safety, accessibility, efficiency and legibility of the surrounding road network.	Reconfigure the two intersections at Barker St/Day Ln and Strachan St/Edward Ave/Day Ln for improved pedestrian and motorist safety, while exploring opportunities for additional parking and street planting.	Short-medium term
1.16		Investigate traffic calming measures for Day Ln (section between Barker St and Strachan St) and consider measures such as one-way traffic and raised thresholds for reduced traffic volume and traffic speed.	Short-medium term
1.17		Assess the parking and traffic arrangement for Barker St (section between Day Ln and Cottenham Ave) for improved traffic flow efficiency and safety.	Short-medium term

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		Introduce “no parking zones” along the southern side of Barker St near the two proposed peripheral access paths to facilitate safe pedestrian movement through these two pathways to/from Barker St.	
1.18		Investigate installing a pedestrian facility at Cottenham Ave near Barker St.	Short-medium term
1.19		Investigate parking and traffic arrangements at Barker Ln for efficient vehicular movement.	Short-medium term
1.20		Introduce way-finding signage, lighting, road surface marking or other suitable measures to better promote the mid-block pathway that provides direct linkage from Eastern Ave through the residential block to the Park.	Short term
<b>Linkages with the Adjoining Community Nursery</b>			
1.21	Enhance the connectivity with the adjoining Council Nursery.	Investigate the feasibility of introducing an additional entrance off Day Ln for the Nursery site, including suitable measures to address any related theft and security issues.	Short-medium term
1.22		Introduce palisade fence along the Day Ln frontage of the Nursery for improved visual connection.	Short-medium term
1.23		Introduce traffic calming measures at Day Ln to facilitate safe pedestrian crossing movements. See also Action 1.16.	Short-medium term
<b>Facilities/Amenities</b>			

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
1.24	Provide well designed, secure, energy and water efficient and conveniently located facilities and amenities to cater to the needs of the sporting groups and the community.	Ensure that park furniture and facilities are appropriately located and designed to address any potential flooding impacts.	Within each term/stage
1.25		<p><b>Grandstand/Amenities building</b></p> <p>Undertake minor refurbishment of the grandstand/amenities building as identified in Council's Capital Works Program 2016/17. Incorporate energy and water efficient features.</p> <p>Provide community access to the public toilets during daylight hours and access to the change rooms, kiosk and kitchen by sporting clubs during training and competitions.</p>	Short term
1.26		<p><b>BBQ and Picnic Areas</b></p> <p>Install shelters and BBQ facilities as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan.</p>	Medium term
1.27		<p><b>Basketball Court</b></p> <p>Construct the basketball half-court and pedestrian paths in the area to the north of the community centre in accordance with the development consent.</p>	Short term
1.28		<p><b>Outdoor Fitness Nodes</b></p> <p>Install all-age outdoor fitness nodes as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan.</p> <p>Ensure that all outdoor fitness equipment meets</p>	Medium term

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		Australian safety standards.	
1.29		<p><b><i>Children's Playground</i></b></p> <p>Upgrade and expand the existing play area to form a Children Play Zone as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan, including upgraded playground equipment, a natural play area for children across a wide age range, BBQ facilities with shelter, a fitness node and new seating.</p> <p>Ensure that all Children's play facilities meet Australian safety standards.</p>	Medium-long term

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
1.30		<p><b><i>Seating, Lighting and Other Features and Fittings</i></b></p> <p>Design the park furnishing and fittings in accordance with design elements selected for the community centre and Council's Urban Elements Design Manual. Ensure that park seating and miscellaneous furniture is suitable for individuals with different physical attributes and abilities.</p> <p>Provide additional seating, co-located with trees and the proposed walking track/pathways, as shown on the Landscape Concept Plan.</p> <p>Install new lighting along the walking track and review and modify existing playing field, amenity and safety lighting (if required), ensuring minimal light spill on adjacent residential areas.</p> <p>Provide water bubblers that are accessible for persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Provide drinking fountain with dog bowl at suitable locations in the Park.</p>	Within each term/stage
<b>Landscaping</b>			
1.31	Provide well designed and water efficient landscaping to enhance the ecological and visual qualities of the Park while ensuring safety and comfort of the park users.	Develop a consistent and coherent planting scheme (based on the indicative planting palette in Appendix 5) incorporating plant species that are appropriate to the site and provide seasonal colour and variation.	Short term



No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
1.32		Introduce supplementary tree and shrub planting in accordance with the Landscape Concept Plan and the planting scheme. Consider retention of local views and opportunities for natural surveillance when introducing additional landscaping.	Within each term/stage
1.33		Complete a detailed arborist report with specialist advice on trees to be retained or removed.	Short-medium term
1.34		Maintain and upgrade the green verge bounded by Edward Ave, Doncaster Ave and Day Ln with supplementary planting.	Short term
Safety and Security			
1.35	Ensure that the Park is designed and managed to maximise safety and security.	Identify passive surveillance opportunities and ensure that the Park is designed to maximise safety and security (including landscaping).	Within each term/stage
1.36		All structures, where possible, are to use surface materials that deter graffiti.	Within each term/stage
1.37		Record and follow up any vandalism and incidents of antisocial behaviour. This information should be used to initiate methods to deal with any problem areas.	Ongoing
1.38		Provide emergency service information signs near park entry points, amenity building and the car park.	Within each term/stage
1.39		Place warning signage along the north-south through-site pathway for pedestrians of cyclists travelling at speed. The warning signage is to	Medium term

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		be in accordance with current bicycle standards and guidelines.	
Signage			
1.40	Provide consistent and legible signage at suitable locations within the Park.	Review existing signage and develop a signage strategy for the Park in accordance with Council's Civic Signage Manual.	Short term
1.41		Install identification and directional signage (e.g. direction/location of the public toilets) for improved legibility across the Park.	Within each term/stage
1.42		Install regulation signage to clearly identify prohibited activities (e.g. dog off-leash) near the main entrances to the Park and other key areas.	Within each term/stage
Animal Control			
1.43	Maintain appropriate animal control measures.	Provide interpretive education for dog owners using the Park through improved signage and facilities (e.g. waste disposal and regulation signs).	Short term

*Element 2: Sporting field*

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
<b>Use and Maintenance of Kensington Oval</b>			
2.1	Ensure that Kensington Oval is well maintained to appropriate standards with good quality playing surfaces appropriate to its function and usage levels.	Introduce minor adjustment to the oval boundary and re-alignment of the picket fence at sections/locations identified on the Landscape Concept Plan, to facilitate the construction of the proposed loop path.	Medium term
2.2		Undertake seasonal spring renovations of the Oval surface including use of herbicides for spraying weeds, mechanical aeration of the surface and fertilising and topdressing as required.  Undertake regular mowing of the Oval as scheduled.	Ongoing
2.3		Permanent amplification devices will not be permitted, unless provided by Council and used according to the Council's specifications.  Any amplification device must meet the relevant Australian Standards, current NSW legislation and noise guidelines. Speakers must be faced away from nearby residential premises and where practicable, must be directed downwards, to minimise impacts on adjacent residential areas.	Ongoing

*Element 3: Environment and Culture*

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
<b>Sustainable Development</b>			
3.1	Ensure environmental sustainability for the design, development and management of the Park.	<b><i>Stormwater and Water Usage</i></b>  Assess the irrigation system for efficient water usage and improved water coverage.  Investigate water saving measures such as rainwater tanks and town water taps with auto-shut-off for the amenities building.  Investigate stormwater re-use measures.	Medium-long term
3.2		<b><i>Landscaping/Vegetation</i></b>  Establish a tree inspection program, inventory and maintenance replacement program.	Short-medium term
3.3		<b><i>Erosion Management</i></b>  Identify areas requiring erosion stabilisation and carry out works as required.	Ongoing
3.4		<b><i>Waste Management</i></b>  Provide waste disposal and recycling bins and include information about recycling at key active and passive recreation points throughout the Park.	Short term
3.5		<b><i>Use of Fertilisers</i></b>  Minimise the use of chemical fertilisers within the	Ongoing

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
		Park.	
3.6		<b><i>Flooding</i></b>  Ensure that design and management of the Park considers and responds to any potential flooding impacts.	Within each term/stage
<b>Use of the Park for events and cultural activities</b>			
3.7	Promote the use of the Park for sporting and cultural events while minimising any impacts on surrounding residential areas.	Investigate the use of the Park for sporting and cultural events such as markets and festivals during such times that do not conflict with sporting activities.	Short term
3.8		Council will administer bookings for all sporting and cultural events and may request an event management strategy which identifies impacts on surrounding residents, park users and sporting groups and measures to minimise or manage these impacts.	Ongoing

*Element 4: Management and Community Involvement*

No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
Ongoing Management			
4.1	Ensure efficient and cost-effective delivery of the Landscape Concept works.	Council is to continue to act as the Reserve Trust Manager for the care, control and management of the Park.	Ongoing
4.2		Identify a project manager to oversee the delivery of the Landscape Concept works including detailed design, staging, development applications and construction.	Short term
4.3		Landscape Concept works are to consider existing sporting uses within the Park and where possible to be scheduled to coordinate with the seasonal sports.	Ongoing
4.4		Prior to any significant works commencing within the Park, notify surrounding residents that may be affected, identifying the reasons for the works, anticipated timeframe and Council's contact person.	Prior to works commencing
Bookings			
4.4	Ensure that the sporting field and park facilities are used to their highest potential and that seasonal and casual bookings are efficiently and equitably managed.	All applications for use of the sporting field (both casual and seasonal) are to be managed through Council's booking system.	Ongoing



No.	Strategies	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Priority
Financial Management			
4.5	Ensure best practice and accountability in the financial management of the Park's assets.	User fees and charges should partially cover the operation and management costs of the Park and are to be based on Council's Fees and Charges Pricing Policy.	Ongoing
4.6		A review of the management and maintenance costs for the Park is to be undertaken regularly and the costs are to be considered in the review of Council's Fees and Charges Pricing Policy.	Ongoing
4.7		Investigate means to supplement Council's expenditure on the Park with external funding opportunities (e.g. grants) to facilitate park improvements.	Ongoing
Promotion of the Park			
4.8	Promote and encourage the use of the Park as a multi-purpose recreational facility.	Produce media releases and/or brochures about upgrades and new facilities within the Park as required.	Ongoing

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 List of Existing Planting Species in Kensington Park

A recent site visit to Kensington Park identified the following tree species:

#### Native and desirable species:

- *Agonis flexuosa*
- *Araucaria heterophylla*
- *Callistemon viminalis*
- *Eucalyptus ficifolia*
- *Eucalyptus robusta*
- *Eucalyptus saligna*
- *Eucalyptus* sp. No1 (possible *E.crebra*)
- *Eucalyptus* sp. No2 (possible *E.cinerea*)
- *Eucalyptus* sp. No3 (unidentified)
- *Ficus macrocarpa hillii*
- *Ficus macrophylla*
- *Ficus rubiginosa*
- *Hibiscus tilliaceous 'rubra'*
- *Lophostemon confertus*
- *Melaleuca armillaris*
- *Melaleuca quinquenervia*

#### Exotic and desirable species:

- *Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea*
- *Platanus x acerifolia*
- *Schinus molle*

#### Exotic and undesirable species:

- *Harpephyllum caffrum*
- *Olea europaea* subsp. *cuspidata*
- *Phoenix canariensis*
- *Pinus* sp.

Note: No flora listed under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and the State Threatened Species Conservation Act was identified. Further investigation is required to determine a complete list of *Eucalyptus* species occurring at Kensington Park.

## Appendix 2 Background Paper



## Introduction

Kensington Park is a unique district park with a strategic location. It is located approximately 300m from UNSW and 200m to Kingsford Town Centre and the future light rail stops. It is the only district park in northern Randwick, with a total area of 4ha.



Context map

## Context and drivers

The preparation of a Plan of Management (PoM) and a Landscape Concept Plan for Kensington Park is a direct response to a Council resolution. The need for a site-specific PoM for Kensington Park is also identified in Council's Generic District Park PoM and the Recreation Needs Study (2008).

Other key drivers for the project include the recently approved Kensington Park Community Centre, the upcoming light rail and the increasing pressure on public open space in general.

A development consent has been granted recently to convert the former bowling club site and the adjoining 5-a-side soccer field into a community centre (with on-site parking) and a landscaped area accommodating a half basketball court. This new Council asset requires an effective management framework to guide and monitor the operation of the centre.

Kensington Park will be served with improved public transport following the introduction of light rail. However, any changes to the traffic movement and parking as a result of light rail will also have a direct impact on the park and its surrounding road network. Therefore, the project will not only address the planning and

management matters of the park but also issues relating to the traffic flow, parking and pedestrian movement of its surrounding area.

The open space resources in Randwick City will face continuing pressure in the context of growing population density. Optimised planning, use and maintenance of existing parkland has become increasingly important to address the recreational demand of the growing and changing population. It is therefore critical to maintain and strengthen the character and function of Kensington Park as a multi-purpose park, to provide opportunities for diverse and balanced active and passive recreational activities.

### Scope of the project

The project will deliver a PoM and a Landscape Concept Plan for Kensington Park and its surrounds.

As noted, the scope of the project has been extended to areas beyond the park, to also address:

- traffic, parking and access issues around the park
- visual or physical connections between the nursery and the park, and
- green links that connect the park with other key destinations

### Aims and objectives

The objectives of the project are outlined below:

- to correspond to the objectives and principles set out in the generic PoM and Recreation Needs Study for district parks
- to ensure that Kensington Park retains its importance as a sporting field while providing increased opportunities and improvements in passive recreation
- to introduce a series of safe and pedestrian-friendly “green links” connecting the park with schools, shops and public transport to achieve an extended and connected open space network, and
- to develop a strategic and practical planning and management framework accompanied by a detailed action and staging program to guide future asset management and capital works in and around the park



## Planning framework

### Relevant Council plans and policies

#### Council resolution (2014)

This project has been undertaken as a direct response to the Council resolution of 23 September 2014, which resolved (Moore/Stavrinos) that:

*Council, in recognising Kensington Park is one of six District Parks in the City,*

- a) has previously adopted generic and site specific Plan of Management (PoM) to assist and guide the maintenance, development, operation and management for the City's range of parks, reserves and community facilities as an integral component of the City Open Space and Recreational Plan of Management (COSRPM) and*
- b) has recently committed to converting and refurbishing the former Kensington Bowling Club to a Community Centre*
- c) prepare a Plan of Management for Kensington Park that*
  - i) is consistent with the goals outlined in the current District Park Generic Management Plan including the objective to establish a site specific Plan of Management for Kensington Park*
  - ii) gives consideration to the historical and established use of the park, recognises the changes that have occurred since previously adopted and outlines a vision for the future of the park*
  - iii) explores opportunities to create linkages with the Randwick City Council Nursery as integral to the Park and Community Centre*
  - iv) comprises land owned or in the care or control of Council within and the immediately surrounding Kensington Park*
  - v) includes consideration for the following aspects PoM*
    - 1. Kensington Oval*
    - 2. proposed Kensington Community Centre*
    - 3. John Calopedos Memorial Reserve*
    - 4. the broader Kensington Park open space*
    - 5. Randwick City Council Nursery*
    - 6. park amenities and facilities*
    - 7. car parking and access.*

#### District Parks Generic Plan of Management

The need for a site-specific Plan of Management for Kensington Park is also identified in Council's District Parks Generic Plan of Management.



The District Parks Generic Plan of Management (PoM) is one in a set of eight generic plans of management which provide a comprehensive management approach for open space and recreational facilities in Randwick City. The District Parks Generic PoM recognises the importance of developing site-specific PoMs as each district park has its own distinct management issues particularly in regard to the use and leasing/licensing of the sports fields.

Site-specific PoMs have been prepared for Latham Park (1985) and Pioneer's Park (1990). The Generic PoM notes that it is necessary to complete the site-specific plans for the remaining district parks, including Snape Park, Nagle Park, Kensington Oval and Coral Sea Park. All new site-specific PoMs are to be drawn up in accordance with the recommendations and directions set out in the Generic PoM.

#### Recreation Needs Study (2008)

The Study was undertaken to explore how the changing needs for open space may impact upon current and future provision of open space and sporting facilities across Randwick City. It provides Council and stakeholders with a framework for strategic recreation planning and effective recreation facilities development.

The Study identifies that the primary function of districts parks is to provide for organised and formal sporting activities while opportunities for informal recreation should also be provided through the provision of children's playgrounds, picnic facilities and landscaped areas.

The Study provides a set of principles for each open space classification (e.g. regional parks, district parks, etc) to guide their future development, management and use. The principles identified for district parks include:

- multi-use should be maximised, that is, balancing formal and informal recreation needs
- provide opportunities for both passive and informal recreation
- provide amenity buildings and other facilities that support both active and passive park users, and spectators
- provide facilities that support people's participation in active sporting activities without minimising opportunities for access to the open space by the community for informal or passive recreational activities

- ensure adequate access and associated parking to support the variety of uses and to minimise impacts on the neighbouring residential communities, and
- ensure sustainable use of the playing fields by developing procedures and opportunities to manage over use of playing fields

#### The Randwick City Plan (2013)

The Randwick City Plan is a 20-year guide for future planning of Randwick City. This Plan, first developed in 2006, is kept up-to-date by ongoing and close consultation with the community. The Plan identifies six themes:

- Responsible management
- A sense of community
- Places for people
- A prospering city
- Moving around, and
- Looking after our environment

These themes reflect the community's vision and the long term goals for the future of the City.

Under the theme "Places for people", one of the outcomes is "Excellence in recreation and lifestyle opportunities". A key action identified to achieve this outcome is "Progressively update open space plans of management, in accordance with an established priority list and the Recreation Needs Study, focusing on active and passive recreation opportunities".

#### Randwick Local Environmental Plan (2012)

The Randwick Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012 is the principal statutory instrument regulating land use and development in Randwick City. It controls the use and development of land through zoning and other planning provisions.

Kensington Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation under the Randwick LEP 2012. The objectives of RE1 are:

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes, and

- To protect, manage and restore areas with high biodiversity, ecological and aesthetic values, including buffer areas and habitat corridors

Development for the purpose of the following in Zone RE1 requires development consent:

Animal boarding or training establishments; Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Building identification signs; Business identification signs; Car parks; Child care centres; Community facilities; Heliports; Horticulture; Information and education facilities; Jetties; Kiosks; Markets; Passenger transport facilities; Plant nurseries; Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Respite day care centres; Restaurants or cafes; Water recreation structures

#### Randwick Development Control Plan (2013)

The Randwick Development Control Plan (DCP) 2013 contains detailed planning and design guidelines for development, which supplements the statutory planning and development controls in the Randwick LEP 2012.

It applies to different types of development such as dwelling houses, residential flat buildings, and different locations such as business centres. It also addresses specific planning issues. Section F1 of the DCP sets out specific requirements for development in recreation zones (i.e. RE1 and RE2). It requires development proposed in these zones to avoid or minimise any potential adverse impacts on the enjoyment and preservation of areas currently used or reserved for open space and recreation purposes.

#### Council's Hall Hire Policy

First adopted in 2011, the policy sets out guidelines for the hire of Council's community halls. It was reviewed in 2015 to include specific provisions for the use and management of the Kensington Oval Community Centre.

### **Other legislative context**

#### Crown Lands Act 1989

The Crown Lands Act 1989 governs the planning, use and management of Crown land, including occupation, sale, leasing, licensing, reservation or dedication for a public purpose and other



dealings. Crown land is to be managed in accordance with the following key requirements:

- the objects of the Act (s.10) - "to ensure that Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of New South Wales"
- the principles for Crown land management (s.11)
  - that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land
  - that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible
  - that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged
  - that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged
  - that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
  - that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles

s.112 ~ 116 of the Act sets out additional requirements relating to plans of management. Some of the key provisions are:

- The Minister gives consent for the preparation of a plan of management for a Crown reserve, and
- The draft plan of management shall be placed on public display for not less than 28 days to allow for submissions to be made on the plan of management

#### Local Government Act 1993

The Local Government Act 1993 provides the legal framework for managing various affairs of local government, including the use and management of public land.

The Act requires all public land to be classified as either "community" or "operational" and requires councils to prepare a plan of management for all land classified as "community". The plan of management is to include (refer to s.35 & 36):

- the category of the land
- description of the land
- purposes for which the land will be permitted to be used and the scale and intensity of any such permitted use
- the objectives and performance targets of the plan
- means to achieve the objectives and targets, and

- measures to assess the performance

When the subject land is not owned by the council, the plan of management is to identify (refer to s.37):

- the owner of the land
- whether the land is subject to any trust, estate, interest, dedication, conditions, restriction or covenant, and
- any condition or restriction imposed by the owner

Once completed, the plan of management must be publicly exhibited for not less than 28 days. A minimum of 42 days must be specified (from the date when the exhibition commences) during which submission can be made to the council. Before giving public notice of the draft plan, the council must forward a copy of the draft plan to the land owner if the land is not owned by the council.

#### Implications

It is important to note that this PoM for Kensington Park will not carry statutory effect under either legislation. This is because:

- Kensington Park is Crown land to which the Crown Lands Act applies. Therefore, provisions in the Local Government Act relating to the preparation of PoMs for community land do not apply, and
- The Minister did not grant consent or direct a PoM to be prepared for Kensington Park Reserve and therefore will not finally adopt the plan. It is to be noted that Council officers have previously written to Crown Lands seeking the Minister's consent. Crown Lands advised that according to their current policy, preparation of PoMs under the Crown Lands Act is not supported unless the Crown reserve is of state or regional significance

However, the preparation of this PoM will still be guided by both Acts, in particular requirements relating to public exhibition and key matters to be included and addressed in a PoM. This PoM, once adopted by Council, will become a Council policy that sets out the strategic framework and directions for asset management and future capital works.

## Background

### Land to which the Plan of Management applies

This PoM applies to Kensington Park and several adjoining local streets.

Kensington Park is a Crown reserve (Reserve No. D500235 & D500357), dedicated for "public recreation and community purposes". Uses, activities, agreements and developments of the park therefore must conform to its dedicated public purposes.

It is a large district park with a total area of approximately 4ha, containing 4 lots including:

- Lot 7076 in DP 1028730 (under Reserve No. D500357)
- Lot 7112 in DP 94001 and Lots 7073&7074 in DP 1028719 (under Reserve No. D500235)

The Park is managed by Randwick Council as the Reserve Trust Manager.



Kensington Park Reserve

### History of the park

Kensington Park was part of the Samuel Terry's land grant and originally a swamp. The stream running from the Lachlan Swamps in the Centennial Park area to Botany Bay ran through this swamp and was part of the Sydney Water Supply from 1858 to 1886. Prior to 1858, the stream in the Kensington area was home to at



least three mills – a flour mill located near Ascot Street/Anzac Parade Kensington; Winder's mill, located south of Gardener's Road Daceyville and the Lachlan Mill, located at Kensington Park.

The area around Kensington Park appears to have been first developed in the early 1900s. By World War I development in Barker Street had started to move westward from Anzac Parade. At the same time development moved south along Doncaster Avenue.

Kensington Park (originally known as "Waterloo Park") was formally handed to Randwick Council on 23 June 1915. The evolving history of the Park since then can be summarised as follows:

- In 1927, the grassing of the cricket oval appears to have been completed as well as the fencing.
- In 1928, the Park was made available to the Randwick Rugby Club for training. In the same year, all the facilities including the grandstand, bowling greens and children's playground were constructed.
- In 1929, Council proposed to take some land from the Park to extend Doncaster Avenue through to Gardeners Road. Council then decided not to proceed with the extension due to community concerns.
- In 1929, the bowling club house was completed.
- Cricket formally started in 1933 after a scoreboard was erected.
- From 1936, there had been numerous issues with the oval ground (e.g. hard crust, thin layer of grass) which continued for years.
- In 1949 permission was granted for sport on Sundays.
- From 1966 – 1977, the space under the grandstand was used as storage for the bookmobile collection (Randwick Library Service).
- In 1973, picket fences and floodlights were replaced.
- A new grandstand building was officially opened in 1996. The grandstand is named after Kevin Longbottom – a local Rugby League player.
- In 2012, the refurbished playground was reopened to the public, following a \$210,000 upgrade which included the removal of old equipment and the installation of new see-saws, slides, swings, seating and rock climbing embankments. The revamped playground was further enhanced by new seating, large areas of landscaping and native plants, and an extension to the bike track, which includes interactive traffic signs.



Background Paper

Kensington Park and Surrounds



1930



1942



1961



2002



2004



2011



2012



2014

### Current uses

As the only district park in northern Randwick, Kensington Park provides the following recreational areas and facilities to support a range of uses and activities:

- Kensington Oval (mainly for organised sports, e.g. rugby league and cricket)
- The John Calopedos Memorial Playground, a fenced playground with swings, slides and climbing equipment
- A grandstand building, with public toilets, player's facilities, a kiosk on match days and storage
- A community centre (under construction as per DA approval)
- Passive parkland around the oval and to the north of the proposed community centre
- Grassed triangle site at the corner of Edward Ave and Day Ln
- A half basketball court (under construction as per DA approval)
- Other facilities: bench seating, public car parking, footpaths, lighting, signage and bins, etc.

(Note: There are 14 off-leash dog areas in Randwick City. Kensington Park, given its high visitation rate for sports activities, is not a designated area for this purpose. )

### Park catchment and demographic analysis

Kensington Park is a district park that caters for formal sporting activities as well as passive recreational uses. The main users and visitors of the park include:

- Active uses – Randwick Petersham Cricket Club, South Sydney District Junior Rugby League, UNSW, Eastern Suburbs Police Rugby League, Michael Cusacks Gaelic Club, Paddington Colts Jrlfc, Paddington Tigers Jrlfc, Kensington Public School, Randwick Boys High School, South Sydney District Junior Rugby League and Sydney Triathlon Group Multisport
- Passive uses – university/school students and local residents

A catchment analysis based on an 800m radius indicates that the park serves a large area of Kingsford and Kensington, comprising mostly single dwelling houses and some higher density developments along Anzac Pde in Kingsford.

The catchment area of the park generally demonstrates the following demographic characteristics (based on census 2011):



Catchment of Kensington Park

- There is a higher proportion of people in the younger age groups (15~29) in both Kingsford (38%) and Kensington (44%), compared with 26% in Randwick City. Both suburbs have a fairly high percentage of people aged 20 to 24 (20% for Kingsford and 22% for Kensington), compared to the city average (10%)
- The average household size of Kingsford (2.61) is higher than Kensington (2.37) and Randwick City (2.41). Compared with the City average, there is a higher percentage of households with 3 or 4 persons in Kingsford while the share of households with 2 persons is relatively higher in Kensington
- There is a greater concentration (76%) of higher density dwellings (e.g. semis, townhouses, flats) in Kensington, compared with 73% in Randwick City and 65% in Kingsford

The high percentage of higher density dwellings in Kensington and relatively larger households in Kingsford both indicate a high demand for public open space. The generally younger population in both suburbs also has particular implications for the design and planning of recreational facilities in the park.

The pressure on Kensington Park will continue growing due to the expected population growth and increasing apartment living. To address the increasing demand on public open space, it is critical



to upgrade our existing parks into multi-functional/multi-purpose parks which can attract and meet the needs of a wider range of people.

### Summary of previous consultations

A community survey was conducted in February/March 2014 for the new community centre. While most of the comments received specifically relate to the use of the community centre, a number of responses provide feedback on broad issues beyond the boundary of the community centre, which are summarised below:

To provide the following facilities in the park:

- a place where people can sit, rest, relax and enjoy nature
- a community garden running in the vicinity of the community nursery
- outdoor gym suitable for all age groups
- a dog off-leash area
- better passive recreational amenity/facilities in the park
- native flora providing habitat for birds and other small indigenous fauna
- walking trail with trees
- a kiosk/cafe
- bike facilities to encourage people to cycle to the park
- restricted on-street parking during weekdays around the park to limit long-stay parking by university students
- better toilet facilities
- BBQ facilities and picnic tables
- a table tennis table

Issues that need to be investigated in and around the park:

- Parking shortage, especially during university terms
- Deteriorating condition of the scout hall and investigation of possible upgrade/adaptive reuse of the building
- Insufficient recreational facilities in the park

### Stationary surveys in the park

A number of "stationary surveys" were carried out between October 2015 and January 2016, to record different types of activities occurring in the park and number of people involved in those activities. The survey basically is "non-participatory" in nature, which does not require communication with park users. When necessary, park users were also approached or interviewed to help identify where they live, how they normally get to the park,

how often they visit the park and what additional facilities they need most in the park, etc.

Results from the stationary surveys are illustrated by a series of maps, with key findings summarised below:

- Kensington Park is a popular destination for dog walking.
- The Children's playground is the most popular facility in the park, both in the morning and afternoon, weekdays and weekends
- The cross-site pathway is a commonly used pedestrian link as well as an informal cycle path
- Walking through/cut across the oval is a desired path to get to the other end of the park
- During summer season, the oval is primarily used for passive recreational activities, such as dog walking and exercising (walking, jogging, etc)
- The parkland between the former bowling green and the oval is relatively underused, and
- Bench seats provided in the park are barely used during the daytime of hot sunny days due to limited shade but are largely occupied in the late afternoon

## Key Issues

### 1) Traffic movement, parking and access

Kensington Park is located in close proximity to Kingsford Town Centre, UNSW and light rail. It is approximately 300m from UNSW and 200m from the future light rail stops.

#### Traffic movement

The introduction of light rail may result in a number of changes to traffic movement in the area, for example, “no right turns” from Anzac Pde onto several side streets. As such, Barker St may possibly expect higher traffic volume, carrying a large number of vehicles that intend to go through local streets to avoid traffic lights and then join traffic on Gardeners Rd. However, the western end of Barker St (the section adjoining the park) is relatively narrow (6.5m wide) and may have limited capacity to accommodate the increased traffic flow as well as on-street parking.



Western section of Barker St



Barker St

Another commonly raised issue is the poor design of the two intersections near the north-eastern and south-eastern corners of the park. These two intersections have the following safety issues:

- Wide crossing distances that make it unsafe for pedestrians
- Poor sightlines, and
- Lack of line-marking and signs to establish a clear roadway priority



These issues need to be investigated for improvement to better respond to the traffic impact associated with light rail.



Intersections (Barker St - Day Ln & Strachan St - Day Ln)

### Parking

There are approximately 180 parallel parking spaces along the edges of the park (on both sides of Barker St, Cottenham Ave, Edward Ave and Day Ln). Apart from the spaces on the western side of Day Ln (e.g. loading zone, disabled parking and clearway), parking around the park is generally unrestricted. The new community centre will provide 16 on-site parking spaces for centre users and 14 public spaces are currently available within the park, to the west of the grandstand building.



Parallel parking immediately near the park

The community survey (for the community centre DA) indicated that parking near the park, during university terms, is always at capacity, largely taken by university students. This is generally consistent with the result of a parking survey undertaken as part of the community centre DA. The survey concluded that only 15-

20% of on-street parking spaces within 200m of the community centre are available between 10am and 4pm on weekdays whilst there is significant on-street parking available at other times, including university holidays.

The opportunity for additional parking within or around the park needs to be investigated as part of this project.

#### Pedestrian accessibility

The edge of the park is clearly defined by 4 local streets that connect the park with the surrounding residential area and Kingsford Town Centre.

It is noticeable that Barker St and Edward Ave both terminate at Cottenham Ave, resulting in a relatively elongated residential block, bounded by Eastern Ave, Cottenham Ave, Day Ave and Tresidder Ave. Area to the west of this block generally has limited direct connectivity to the park. It is worth noting that there is a narrow midblock pathway linking Eastern Ave through the residential block to Cottenham Ave and Barker St. However, due to its location in between private houses, its width of less than 2m and lack of directional signs, this footpath is not popularly used.

Council's previous Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan (PAMP) study of Kensington and part of Kingsford identified "missing footpath at the northern side of Kensington Park". Along the northern edge of the park is currently an unformed track with uneven ground, crisscrossed with tree roots. Similarly, there is no formal footpath along the eastern side of Day Ln, with the space largely taken up by a row of mature trees. The other three sides of the park are generally facilitated with continuous concrete footpaths, with the exception of the southern boundary where there is a missing section between Court Ave and Day Ln. It is to be noted that part of this missing section (between Doncaster Ave and Day Ln) will be constructed by Council as part of the approved community centre DA.



A narrow footpath running through the residential block



Elongated residential block bounded by Eastern Ave, Tresidder Ave, Cottenham Ave and Day Ave



Footpaths within and along the park



Unformed footpath along the Barker St frontage of the park

## 2) Linkages between nursery, community centre and the park

To the east of the oval and community centre is a Council-managed community nursery which serves a wide catchment area. The nursery is mostly enclosed with colourbond fencing and is not readily visible from the park.

The Council resolution of 23 September 2014 requires the investigation of potential linkages connecting the nursery with the community centre and the rest of the park. The importance of connecting various Council assets in Kensington Park has also been reflected in the landscape design of the community centre. As part of the approved DA, numerous footpaths will be created along and across the site, to facilitate better connection with the adjacent nursery and through footpaths along Barker St and Strachan St to UNSW, the shops and the future light rail stops.





*Approved landscape design for the new community centre*

### 3) Optimised use of the park

A draft Landscape Concept Plan is to be developed for the park and its surrounds based on detailed site analysis and will be fine-tuned to reflect feedback collected through community consultation.

The draft Landscape Concept Plan is to formulate an updated structure plan for the park, to identify opportunities for improved park layout and provision of upgraded or new park facilities. The landscape design of the park is to be centred around the following two principles:

- To meet the recreational needs of a diverse range of people; and
- To ensure active and passive recreation uses are both adequately accommodated with suitable supporting facilities.

### 4) Potential green links connecting the park with surrounds

The area of publicly available open space in Kingsford and Kensington is very limited. Any future growth of Kingsford and Kensington Town Centres will largely rely on Kensington Park as a key green infrastructure to accommodate the increasing recreational demand.

It is therefore critical to introduce a series of safe, pedestrian-friendly and scenic pathways that link Kensington Park with other parks, shops and public transport (including light rail stops), as an extension of the open space network. These green links will be enhanced with supporting facilities, such as upgraded footpaths, continuous lighting, seats, tree planting/landscaping, surface

marking and signage (showing direction and distance to the Park) at focal points.

It is recommended that the following local streets/pathways be investigated as potential "green links":

- Barker St that connects the park with UNSW and the town centre;
- Strachan St that links the park with the town centre and the future light rail stop;
- The midblock pathway that connects the park with Eastern Ave and further north with Fitzpatrick Park; and
- Leonard Ave that connects Kensington Park with a pocket park along Gardeners Rd.



*Potential "green links" to be investigated*

## **Appendix 3 Initial Community Consultation - Results Analysis Report**



### **Kensington Park and Oval: Plan of Management**

#### **Community Consultation**

17 June to 1 July 2016

#### **Results analysis and report**

Prepared by Amanda Mather, Precinct Coordinator, Randwick City Council

Date: 15 July 2016



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### Executive Summary

This report outlines the consultation process undertaken to engage with the Randwick City community to prepare a draft Plan of Management for Kensington Park and Oval. Specifically, Council undertook to consult with the community to find out how residents and visitors use the park, what they love about it, and what improvements they would like to see.

The consultation was open from 17 June 2016 to 1 July 2016 and used a number of communication tools to inform residents of the project and encourage their participation in the consultation. Firstly, a dedicated YourSay webpage was created and included a background paper, a survey, 'share your ideas' and 'share your story' options. The consultation was also on exhibition at all Randwick City Libraries and at Council's Administration Building.

A focus group was conducted on 29 June 2016. The group was comprised of 10 local residents, 2 facilitators and 1 observer. The session included a short introduction, open discussion about how participants feel about the park, what they like and what they don't like, a 'card storming' exercise and 'stimulus board' exercise.

A number of written submissions from residents were also received by Council via email and via Customer Service.

Council used a range of methods to communicate and encourage participation in the consultation, including Facebook posts, tweets, Instagram, advertising in the Southern Courier, discussion at the Kensington West Kingsford precinct meeting, promotion in Randwick eNews, posters and flyers distributed around Kensington and the Park.

Results from the Yoursay webpage show that there were a total of 630 visits to the site, 162 survey submissions, 9 ideas and 1 story shared. From the survey, 67% of respondents use the park on a weekly or daily basis. The majority of respondents indicated that they use the park for exercise, with 98 responses, as well as the kid's playground with 61 responses. The most popular means of getting to the park is by walking, with 128 responses, followed by driving with 48 responses. The most important consideration for Kensington Park is to 'maintain or increase the number of trees', closely followed by the provision of 'more open space for passive recreation' and a 'continuous circular walking track'. When asked "what do you love about the park", the majority of responses referred to the park's trees, greenery and open space. In regards to "what could be improved", most respondents want more seating and an enclosed off-leash dog section.

### Background

Council resolution NM88/14 requires the preparation of a Plan of Management for Kensington Park

- i) is consistent with the goals outlined in the current District Park Generic Management Plan including the objective to establish a site specific Plan of Management for Kensington Park
- ii) gives consideration to the historical and established use of the park, recognises the changes that have occurred since previously adopted and outlines a vision for the future of the park
- iii) explores opportunities to create linkages with the Randwick City Council Nursery as integral to the Park and Community Centre
- iv) comprises land owned or in the care or control of Council within and the immediately surrounding Kensington Park
- v) includes consideration for the following aspects PoM
  1. Kensington Oval
  2. proposed Kensington Community Centre
  3. John Calopedos Memorial Reserve
  4. the broader Kensington Park open space
  5. Randwick City Council Nursery
  6. park amenities and facilities
  7. car parking and access.

### Consultation

The Kensington Park and Oval Plan of Management consultation was open from 17 June 2016 to 1 July 2016.

#### Yoursay webpage

[www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark](http://www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark)

A dedicated YourSay webpage was created and gave the community the option to complete a short survey, share their ideas for new features Council can consider in the plan, or share a story about the park. The online consultation was made available in hard copy, and was on exhibition at all Randwick City libraries and at Customer Service.

#### Focus Group

A focus group comprised of local residents to discuss Kensington Park was held on 29 June 2016. Over 40 residents registered to be part of the focus group, with a total of 10 chosen to participate. The session was facilitated by Joshua Hay, Manager Communications and Amanda Mather, Precinct Coordinator (Randwick City Council) and was comprised of open discussion guided by the facilitator, a card storming exercise and stimulus board exercise.

#### 1. Open discussion:

The group was encouraged to openly discuss how they felt about the park, what they liked and what

they thought could be improved. The group was also asked to share how they felt about the park being linked with Council's nursery. Some of the key comments made are listed below.

*What do you love about the park?:*

- Oval is well maintained
- Birds in the trees
- Residents look after it (no graffiti, vandalism)
- Cricket Nets

*What can be improved?:*

- Orientation of the cricket nets, danger of pedestrians being hit when walking around the oval
- Stroller access – Edward and Barker, path has been eliminated due to construction
- Integrate park with the community centre, no division by fence
- Need a path on Barker St side of the park
- Safety near Houston end an issue with traffic and crossing
- Community groups shouldn't have to pay to use the community centre

*Should the park be connected to the Council Nursery?:*

- Consider the park separate to the nursery, doesn't need to be connected
- Don't close the road between, that street is needed for parking.
- Overall feeling that there was no clear link between the park and the nursery
- An entrance facing the community centre would suffice

## 2. Card Storming:

All participants were given 3 cards each and asked to write one idea per card for improving the park. The cards were all stuck on the wall and categorised so that key themes/ideas could be identified.

Card Storming results:

Idea	Number of results
Footpath/walking track around park	4
Outdoor gym	4
Shaded picnic facilities and BBQs, bins, water bubblers	4
Traffic management and improved access to the park incl. pedestrian crossings	3
Big kids playground	3
Improvements to cricket nets (safety)	2
Keep all the trees	2
Community gardens	2
Cafe	2
Improved lighting (when oval lights are off)	2
Don't overbuild, keep passive spaces	1
Community centre open to all with Council staff onsite	1
Alcohol free in park and community centre grounds	1
Increased enforcement of dog off leash laws	1



### 3. Stimulus Board:

Participants were shown a series of images known as a 'stimulus board'. Participants were given 5 stickers each and asked to vote on the images they liked the most.

Voting results:

Idea	Number of votes
BBQs	5
Bike track	2
Chess	2
Community gardens	9
Giant slide	6
Outdoor gym	6
Ping Pong	2
Seating	3
Sheltered seating	6
Trees	8
Water play	1

See Appendix A for full notes on the focus group.

#### Written submissions

A number of written submissions from residents were received by Council. These included a five page submission from the Kensington Park: Local Resident Group, as well as a one page "Improvement and future use" submission organised by the Kensington Park: Local Resident Group, and signed by 46 residents. See Appendices A, B and C.

### Communication

Council used a range of methods to communicate and encourage participation in the consultation.

The communication methods included:

- Facebook posts to Council's 10,000+ strong Facebook page
- Tweets on the @RandwickMayor and @RandwickCouncil accounts
- Advertising in the Southern Courier
- Presentation at the Kensington West Kingsford Precinct meeting
- Promotion in Council's weekly Randwick eNews sent to 15,000+ subscribers
- Posters and flyers distributed around Kensington and Kingsford



Image: Facebook post 27 June 2016



Image: Poster and Flyer

## Precinct

Stella Agagiotis, Coordinator Strategic Planning attended the Kensington West Kingsford Precinct meeting on 20 June 2016 to speak about the draft plan of Management and take questions from residents. Flyers were handed out and residents were encouraged to contribute to Council's online consultation.

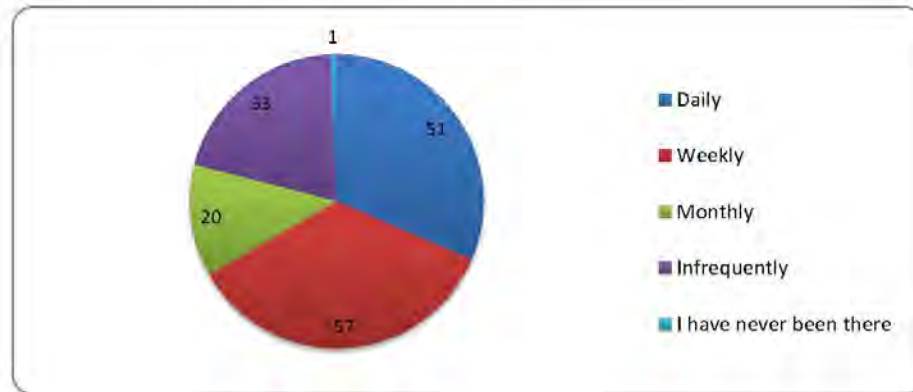
## Yoursay Results

- A total of 630 visits to the [yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark](http://yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark) webpage
- 114 maximum visits in one day (on 22 June)
- 162 survey submissions
- 9 ideas shared
- 1 story shared



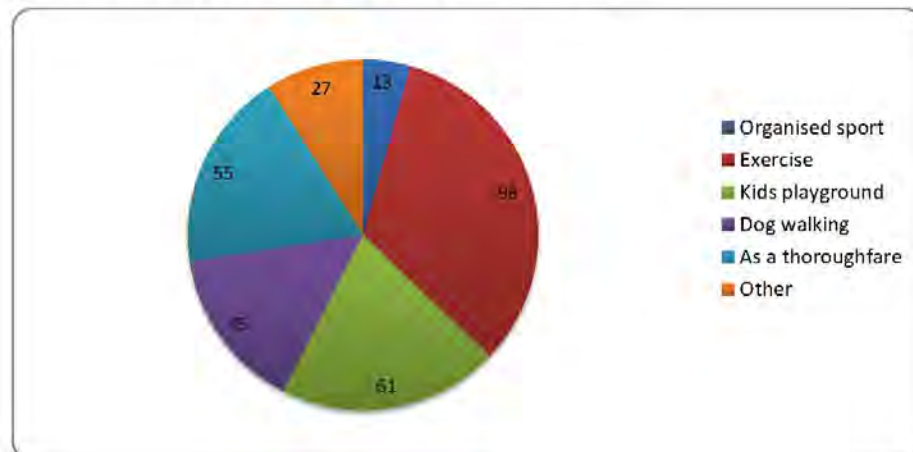
## Survey

### Question 1: How often do you use Kensington Park or Oval?



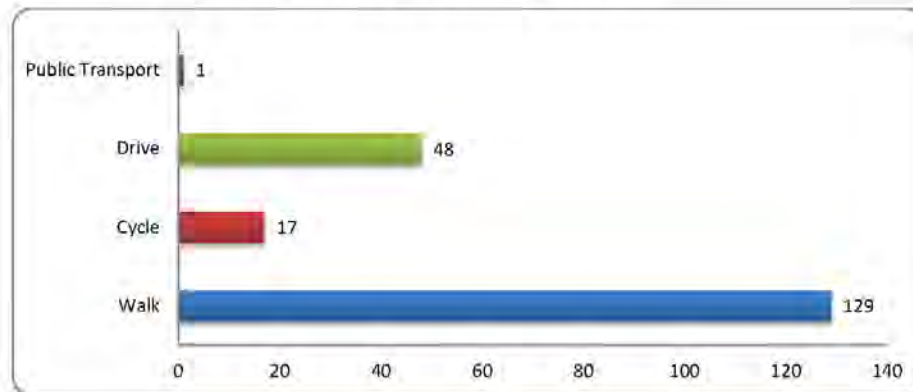
The results from this question show that the majority of respondents use the park on a weekly or daily basis, with 57 and 51 respondents respectively.

### Question 2: How do you use the Park or Oval (choose all that apply)?



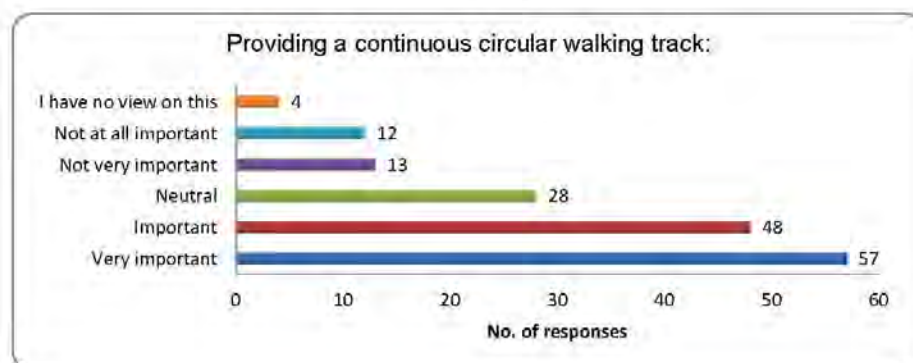
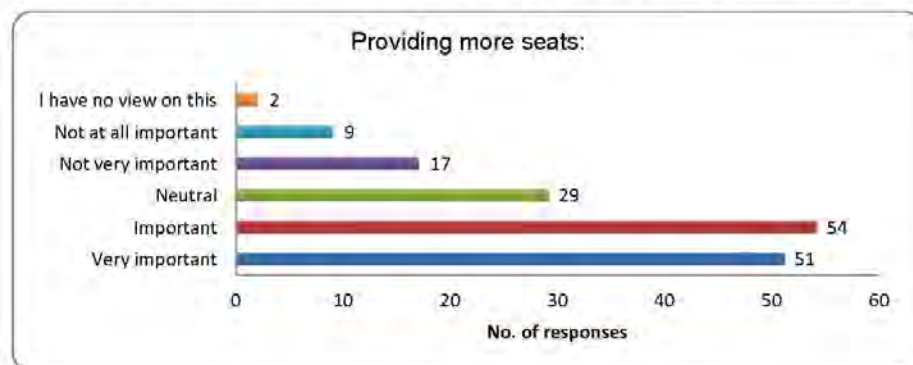
A majority of respondents indicated that they use the park for exercise, with 98 responses. This was followed by 61 responses for the kids playground and 55 responses for the park serving as a thoroughfare. 13 responses were received for organised sport.

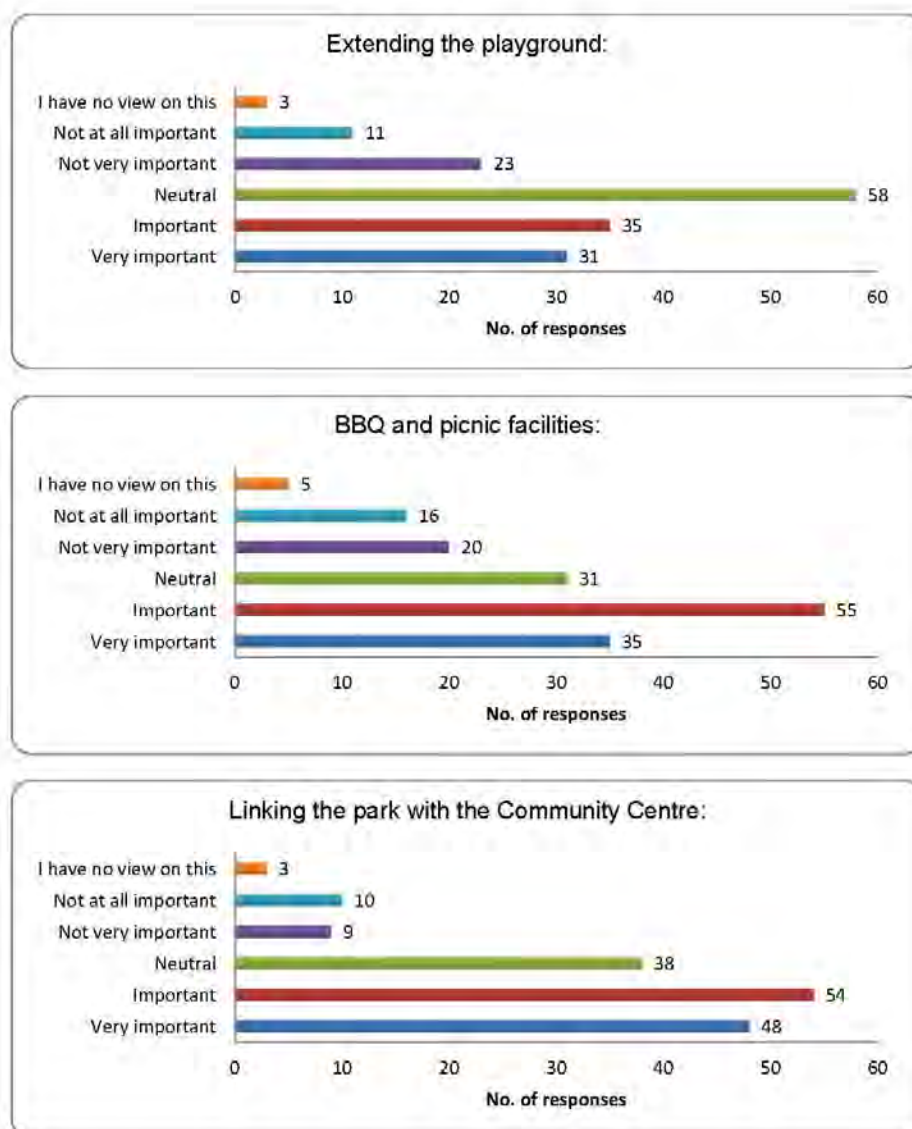
**Question 3: How do you get to the Park or Oval (choose all that apply)?**

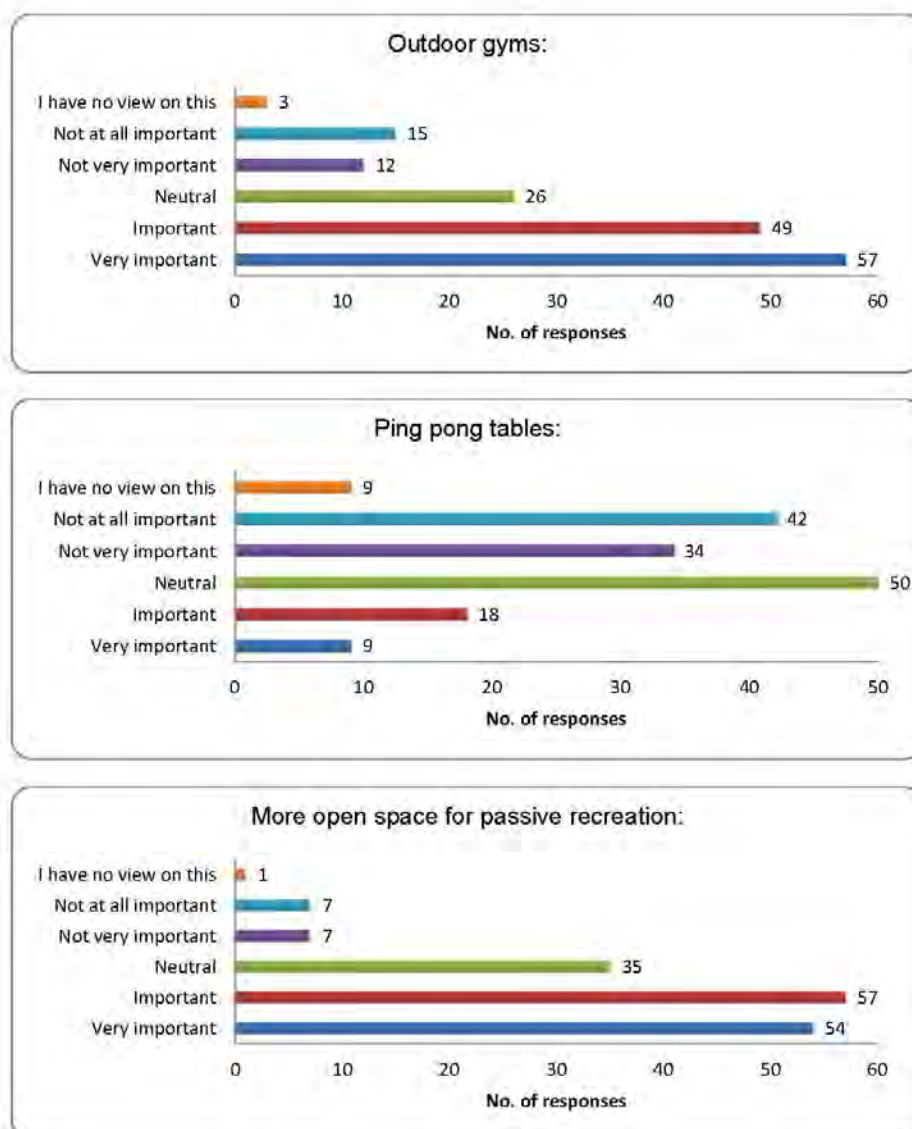


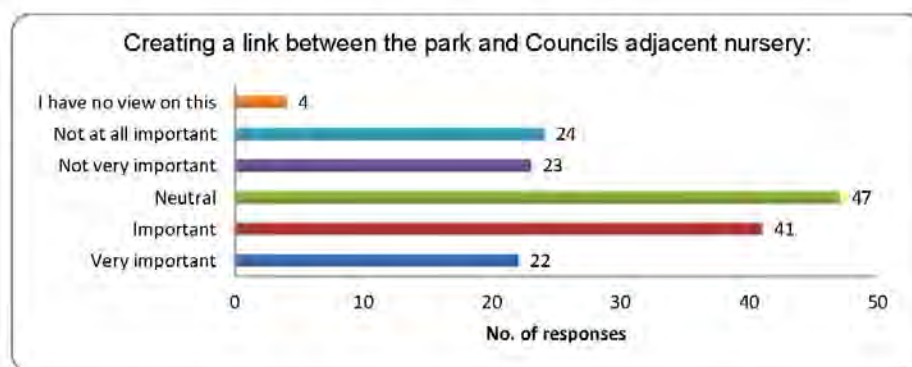
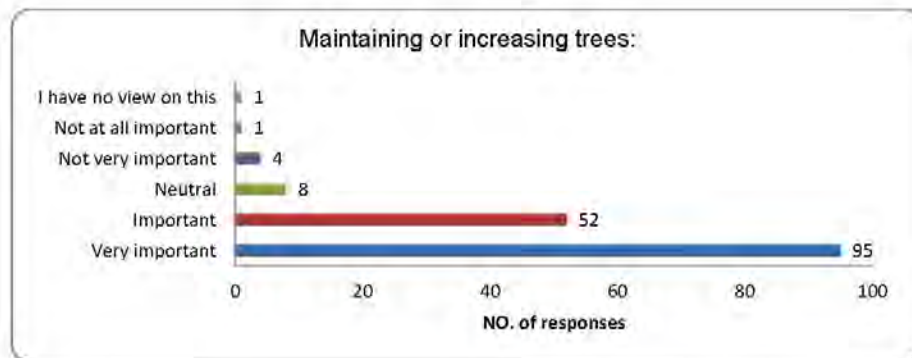
This graph shows that the majority of respondents walk to get to Kensington Park, with 129 responses. This is followed by 48 responses for drive, and 17 for cycle.

**Question 4: In considering the future of the park, how important are each of these elements?**

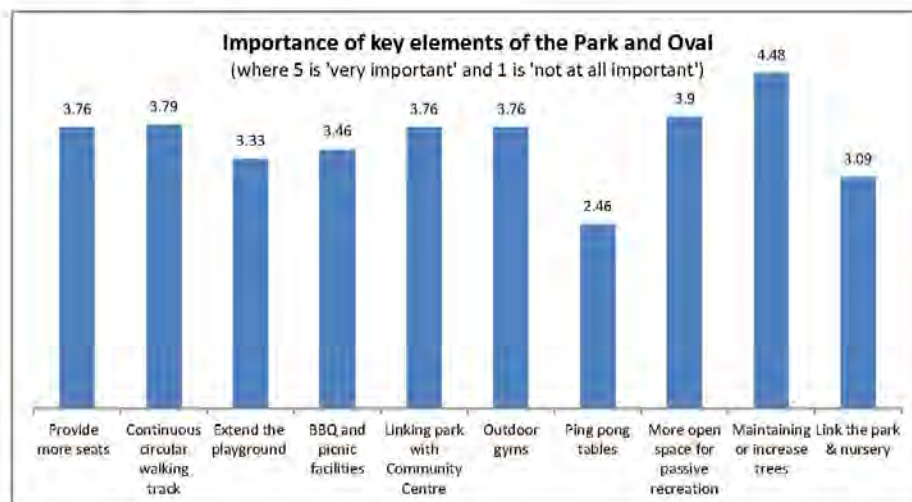








Relative importance of key elements:





This table shows that the majority of respondents consider 'maintaining or increasing the number of trees' as the most important element of Kensington Park. This is closely followed by 'more open space for passive recreation' and a 'continuous circular walking track'. 'Linking the nursery to the park' and the provision of 'ping pong tables' were the least important to respondents.

**Question 5: What do you love about the park?**

Comment:	Number of comments:
Green, open space, trees	80
Peaceful, tranquil, relaxing	24
Playground	21
Friendly, community park	15
Good for exercise	12
Kick a footy and play	10
Walk your dog	9
Well maintained and clean	8
Accessible	5
Birds	5
Watching sport	4
Picket fence	4
Cricket	4
Safe for kids	4
Nursery	1
Toilets	1

The table above shows an overwhelming number of respondents love Kensington Park because it is a green, open space with lots of trees. The tranquility of the park and the kids playground were also two elements respondents loved about the park.

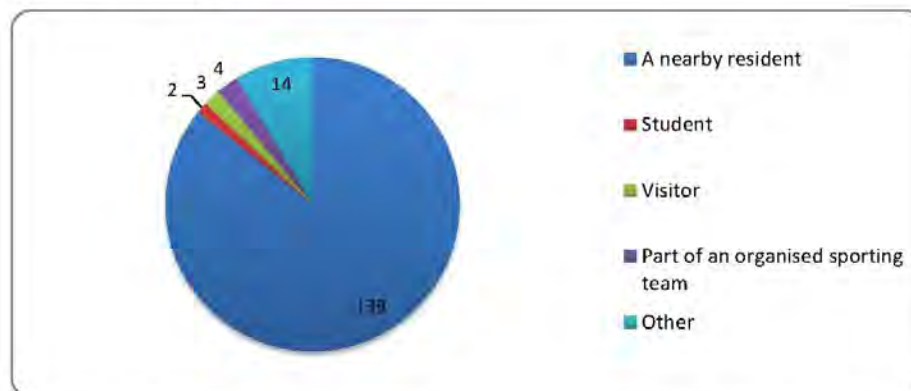
**Question 6: What do you think could be improved?**

Comment:	Number of comments:
More seating and tables	24
Enclosed off leash area for dogs	19
Outdoor gym	14
Paths for walking, running, cycling	11
Enforce off leash dog rules	10
Extend playground for older kids	10
Family friendly, cleaner toilets	10
BBQs	9
Activities for seniors at the community centre	6
Don't overbuild, keep passive space	6
Café	6
No organised sport	5
Alcohol prohibited	5
Shaded areas	5
Lighting	5
More bins	5

More native trees	5
Improve stadium	4
CCTV and more police patrols	3
Better parking	3
Improve access/footpaths	3
Barker Street one way	3
Water fountains	3
Chess	1
Ping pong	1
Nursery connection	1
Reposition cricket nets	1
Dog drinking fountain	1
Synthetic all weather pitch	1
Netball Court	1
More disabled parking	1

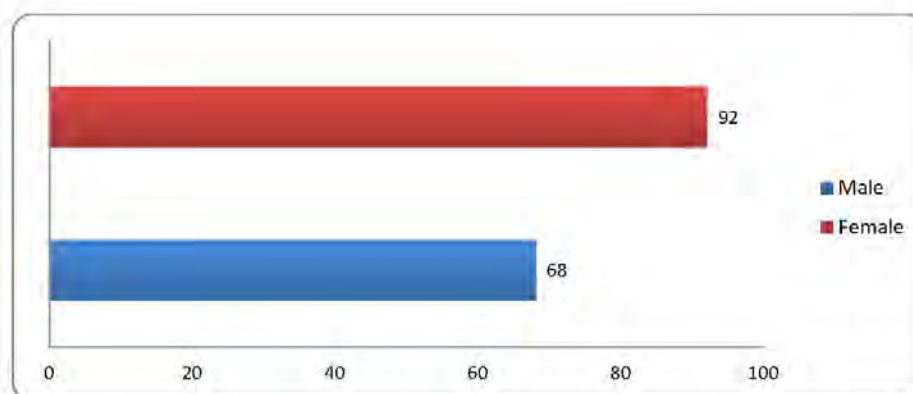
The table above shows that most respondents would like to see more seating and tables in the park, followed by an enclosed off-leash dogs section, and then an outdoor gym.

#### Question 7: Who are you?



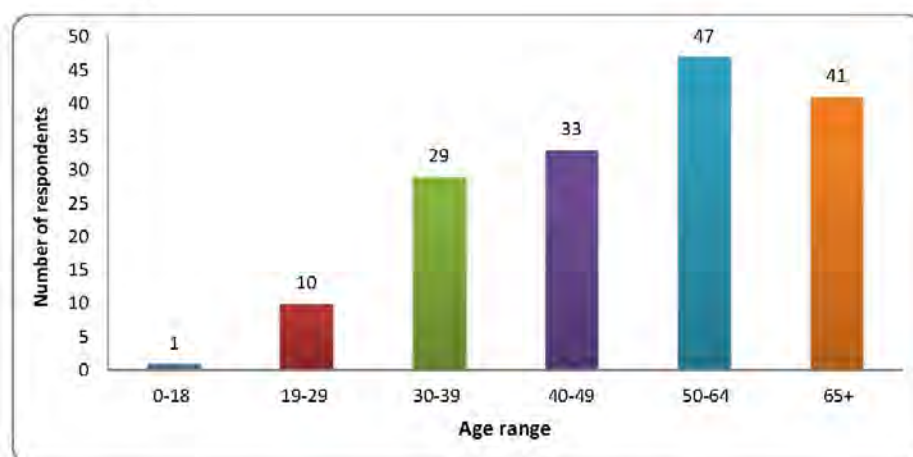
The majority of respondents are nearby residents, representing approximately 86% of respondents. This was followed by respondents who identified as 'other', which based on the residents address, represents those who live outside Kensington but still in Sydney. 2% of respondents are part of an organised sporting group.

#### Question 8: Gender



This graph shows that the majority of respondents are female, representing approximately 58% of respondents compared with 42% who are male.

#### Question 9: Age



Most respondents are aged 50-64, followed by 65+ with 47 and 41 respondents respectively falling into these age ranges.

#### Idea Sharing

Visitors to the YourSay webpage also had the option to share an idea for how Kensington Park could be improved. Other visitors could then vote on an idea they liked. A total of nine ideas were shared:

Idea:	No. of comments:	No. of votes:
Outdoor gym	1	2
Off leash dog area	2	6
Café at Community Centre (overlooking the park)	2	5
Irish dancing	1	2

More green space	1	0
Seniors activities at the community centre	1	0
No alcohol at community centre	1	0

#### Stories

One story was shared:

"This park is the scene of many happy times for my brother and I growing up as well as for our children now who love the playground so much & refer to it as Yiayia Papou park because our parents (their grandparents) take them there often."

## Appendices

### Appendix A – Focus Group notes

#### Kensington Park Plan of Management: Focus Group Notes

29 June 2016, 6-7.30pm

**Facilitators:** Joshua Hay, Manager Communications, Randwick City Council  
Amanda Mather, Precinct Coordinator, Randwick City Council  
Ting Xu, Senior Environment Planning Officer, Randwick City Council (observer)

**Participants:** 10 local Randwick City residents

#### Executive Summary:

The following report outlines the results of a focus group comprised of local residents to discuss Council's Draft Plan of Management for Kensington Park and Oval. Held on 29 June 2016, there were a total of 10 participants, 2 facilitators and 1 observer. The group began by introducing one another; describing how they use the park and one improvement they would like to see for the park. The facilitator then asked the group to openly discuss how they felt about the park, what they liked and what they didn't like (what could be improved). The group was also asked to share how they felt about the park being linked with Council's nursery. This was followed by a 'card storming' exercise, where all participants were given 3 cards each and asked to write one idea per card for improving the park. The cards were all stuck on the wall and categorised so that key themes/ideas could be identified. This was followed by another exercise where participants were shown a series of images known as a 'stimulus board'. Participants were given 5 stickers each and asked to vote on the images they liked the most. The evening concluded with final comments and thanks for their contribution.

#### Introductions:

Participant:	How they use the park:	One improvement they'd like to see:
Participant 1	kids for cricket football, walking exercising	Walking track around oval in-between the trees
Participant 2	Cricket nets	Community garden
Participant 3	Walks dogs, walking, sits to relax, playground	Security cameras
Participant 4	walking, playground	Community centre open for use anytime (no need to book) with a person on site
Participant 5	dog walking	More lighting, solar
Participant 6	exercise	Dogs on leash laws enforced
Participant 7	walking and exercise (dog walking)	Café
Participant 8	daughters use for walking, walking the dog	Meets with other dog walkers, has become a community, socialise together
Participant 9	Sports, playground	Parkland better used for passive rec, BBQs, more seating, monkey bars. Thinks oval functions well
Participant 10	Uses sporadically	outdoor gym, more like Bondi beach, better resistance



### Open Questions:

#### Feelings about the park

- Peaceful
- One of the few open spaces, big enough you feel like you are in the bush
- The sound of the cricket
- Old fashioned; a bit of country in the city (picket fence around the oval)
- Loves it how it is, any improvements should be soft

#### What do you like the most about the park?

- Oval is well maintained
- Birds in the trees
- Those who use it look after it (no graffiti, vandalism)
- Are toilets are open all night? This can encourage unsavoury activity
- More toilets close to the playground (used to be able to use the bowling club for toilets)
- Cricket Nets: used informally with the kids to practise. Refurbished, resurfaced, but hard to practise bowling because the concrete stops a little short (so as not to encroach on the oval). Ditch has developed (safety issue). Concrete wall with rubber back, if ball is missed it could rebound onto the batsman (would be better if there was a net behind the batter instead). Centre fence a bit too short.

#### Things to improve:

- Orientation of the nets, need to be careful when pedestrians are walking around the oval
- Strollers – Edward and Barker, path has been eliminated due to construction.
- Integrate park with the community centre, no division by fence or similar.
- Need a path on Barker St side of the park, dangerous crossing back over to the park after using the footpath on the opposite side of Barker St. Put a winding path through the trees. Wide enough to just get a wheelchair.
- Safety near Houston end an issue with traffic and crossing
- Footpath outside the park along Barker (trees may be a roadblock for this though)? But don't remove any trees.
- West ward feels a bit neglected, more gets spent on beaches.
- Community groups shouldn't have to pay to use the community centre, managed by council staff. Should be able to meet at the centre whenever you want. Afraid that without this, council may say residents aren't using it and will take it away.
- Half/half open to all at any time as well as for hire.
- Concern that 'free' could mean some people may abuse the centre.

#### Community Nursery:

- Consider the park is separate, doesn't need to be connected.

- With Flowers r Us gone, would be nice to have something back like that through the council nursery
- Don't close the road between though. How could you link it, what is the link?
- Would you have to close the street? That street is needed for parking.
- Overall felt there was no clear link between the park and the nursery
- An entrance facing the community centre would suffice.

Playground is great for little ones only, nothing for the tweens. Build another playground for bigger kids, expand it. Monkey bars, flying fox, moveable bridge. Flying fox could take up too much space.

Outdoor gym – could it go into community centre, barker street end near basketball court. Or corner near barker st. Don't like the idea of separating the gym and putting bits around the park.

Size of Queens Park outdoor gym. Maroubra Beach is a good outdoor gym.

Everyone uses the path outside the park, between Eastern and Cottenham? (in the background paper it says no one uses it – not true). Needs a crossing to the park too (top left of map as well as bottom right of map).

### Card storming exercise:

- Coffee shop near community centre or a mobile coffee van
- Outdoor gym corner of Barker Street near community centre area
- Big kids playground
- Parking is difficult especially on sports day, traffic management
- Crossing (is dangerous) Edward Ave down near Doncaster Ave
- Community gardens, place to meet
- More Lighting when sports aren't on
- Enforcing off leash dogs (people with disabilities, elderly), especially on the oval
- Keep all the trees for natural beauty, don't overbuild, don't do too much
- Alcohol free, don't like the idea of functions with alcohol spilling out of the community centre onto the veranda
- Water bubblers
- More garbage bins
- Shaded picnic areas not necessarily large structures
- Open to all for community centre
- How will uni students be prevented from using the cc carpark? Timed.
- More active surveillance by Council rangers
- Improve access to the park, slowing the traffic and more ped crossings
- Community garden

**Card Storming results** (each participant was given three cards, with one idea per card):

Idea	Number of results
Footpath/walking track around park	4
Outdoor gym	4
Shaded picnic facilities and BBQs, bins, water bubblers	4
Traffic management and improved access to the park incl. ped crossings	3
Big kids playground	3
Improvements to cricket nets (safety)	2
Keep all the trees	2
Community gardens	2
Cafe	2
Improved lighting (when oval lights are off)	2
Don't overbuild, keep passive spaces	1
Community centre open to all with Council staff onsite	1
Alcohol free in park and community centre grounds	1
Increased enforcement of dog off leash laws	1



Image: Card storming



Image: Stimulus board

**Stimulus Board exercise:**

- Maintain trees
- Community garden – but couldn't that be part of the nursery? Maybe alongside Edward Ave (long and thin).
- Water play, not enough space, close to beach
- Playground for fun

**Voting results** (each participant had 5 votes):

Idea	Number of votes
BBQs	5
Bike track	2
Chess	2
Community gardens	9

Giant slide	6
Outdoor gym	6
Ping Pong	2
Seating	3
Sheltered seating	6
Trees	8
Water play	1

**Final comments:**

- What is happening with the construction of the community centre?
- Community Centre needs to be integrated with the park
- Concern about the stats (background paper) being skewed by uni students – who are not permanent residents, come and go.
- “Slide is great because it’s so big” (Charlie, 5 years old)
- R2 residential area, will be an issue when cc hires out to functions

## Appendix B – Submissions log

Date:	Enquiry:	Comment:	Response:
31/5	Email to Council 'contact us'	Hi, The recent construction & lack of lighting has made Kensington Park a dangerous place to visit. 1. There is no walking space to get to the park on Barker St, between the nursery (Day Lane) and the park. It is a short stretch of road but that area has low visibility with cars parked, and an intersection with cars speeding past from different directions. 2. The park has no lighting when sports group are not playing, making it almost impossible for people to use the park -it's either unlit or being occupied by sports teams! I went past the park at 5:30pm on 30/5/16 and there were several people in the unlit park. This is made me feel unsafe as low visibility increases the risk of collision and I can't see what the other people are doing there. 3. The schedule of the park simply says "closed" on your website which doesn't not have any meaning.... please use more descriptive language so it is easy for residents to seek out information. Please reply by email.	Email from Stephen Leung: 1. A section of the existing footpath on the southern side of Barker Street, between Day Lane and Doncaster Avenue, needs to be taken up due to the extent of the work we are doing to the park. It would be safer if people used the footpath on the other side of Barker Street (northern side) to get to the park, and I will look into placing signs to advise pedestrians to use the other footpath.  2. The lights are not left on after sporting clubs use the oval as they are not insured past their booking times. If the lights are left on past their booking times and they continue to use the oval, they will not be covered by Council if anything were to happen. You may want to speak to Council's Supervisor for Open Spaces (Sportsfields) if you want more information on this by calling 9399 0999.
20/6	Phone	Lives in former greenkeepers cottage for Bowling Club -concerned that kikoff would return to site -concerned that ambiguous wording that "organised sport will continue to be a major focus for the park." Could imply that Kikoff is coming back - Aware that Kikoff is lobbying to return to the space or similar space	From Josh Hay: I reassured her that this process is nothing to do with any current activity of kikoff.
23/6	Email	Today I came in touch with a Council provided activity which might be suitable for Kensington Park.  I visited Enmore Park today with my 2 year old grandchild. Was delighted with the facilities they have there for children - very similar to our lovely children's play area at Kensington. However, I was intrigued by a group of about 100 children, parents or minders in another part of the Park. I was told it was the "Magic Yellow Bus" !  You are probably aware of this Council	Email from Amanda Mather:  What a lucky grandson or granddaughter you have that they are taken to lovely parks like the Enmore park you described.  I haven't heard of the magic yellow bus, but I will certainly add your email as a submission to be considered.



		<p>Service. This Yellow truck/vehicle stacked with toys and play equipment visits the Park each Thursday (and other parks on other days) and sets out these toys and play areas for the children. It is very popular and the children are ever so happy with this huge variety of play items.</p> <p>In some of the extra space now returned to Kensington Park (from the bowling green) this could be a wonderful addition.</p> <p>As I live near the Park I am surprised and happy to see how many children are using the playground. Parents pushing strollers etc are passing my home going to park all day.</p> <p>The other nice feature of Enmore Park was a coffee kiosk and seating for the users of the park. An extra or better use for some of the 'new' building.</p>
26/6	Email	<p>About Kensington Park...</p> <p>The huge trees and the variety of quiet uses all day are its two best aspects. I note that the plan (Background_paper_for_publishing_on_YourSay.pdf P18) points out that one of the bordering roads is narrow. Actually, they all are too narrow to allow opposite traffic to pass easily. Why not make the four roads all one-way, so they become a giant (square) roundabout with the park in the middle?</p> <p>Also on P20 "Along the northern edge of the park is currently an unformed track with uneven ground, crisscrossed with tree roots." This is impossible to fix without damage to those spectacular trees, so if there must be a formed path, put in a sign telling people to use the other side of Barker Street, or have the path well away from the trees (i.e. around the edge of the oval).</p>
		<p>Email from Amanda Mather:</p> <p>Thank you for your email regarding the Kensington Park Plan of Management. Your comments will be considered as part of the final consultation report to help draft a Plan of Management, along with all the other resident submissions we have gratefully received.</p>
30/6	Phone	<p>Park should remain a beautiful space with beautiful seating. Create a corner of the park for a 'memory garden' where residents (mostly seniors) can plant their favourite flowers or plants. Create a 'nature's medicine' garden for plants that are beneficial to our health, such as the aloe aborescens.</p>
30/6	Email	<p>Submission by the Kensington Park: Local Resident Group</p>

Appendix C - Submission from the Kensington Park Local Resident Group

Page \_1 of \_5

TO: Randwick City Council

RE: "Have Your Say" Kensington Park Plan of Management

30 June 2016

Thank you for providing the community with the opportunity to have input to the "Have Your Say" Kensington Park Plan of Management during the consultation period 17 June to 1 July, 2016.

We are:-

- very appreciative of the wide community consultation that Randwick City Council (RCC) previously undertook to form a view on the best use of this site, and
- pleased that RCC has acted upon the wide and varied community consultations of 2014/15 which reconnected the former Kensington Bowling Club site within Kensington Park, and
- pleased that RCC is continuing to engage the community in relation to Kensington Park.

The DA87/2015 currently in construction phase, is based on those consultations and is consistent with the Resolution 213/14 passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting 22nd July 2014. It reflects that community input and provides a very aesthetically pleasing design that enhances the public amenity and opens up the site for enjoyment by all the community, not just a specific group. Alternate uses of the park such as enclosed organised sport activities have already been considered at length in RCC Reports CS10/14 and DA87/2015 Report D40/15, as well as at RCC meetings (22.7.14/9.6.15) and were not approved. Organised sports are already well catered for at Kensington Oval, so it is heartening to note that more passive uses of the adjoining surrounds are being considered. Residents living in close proximity to Kensington Park should be able to enjoy a quiet living environment in their homes not impacted by noise and alcohol. DA87/2015 removes fencing and allows for a variety of activities for all members of the community to a greater degree than exclusive use of the space by specific user groups. Also: "The proposal is consistent with the generic aims for district scale parks." (Page 56 of the Compliance Report refers.)

**IMPROVEMENTS AND FUTURE USE**

RCC's investment in Kensington Park provides amenity, openly accessible to all. It is a long term asset in West Ward as well as the wider LGA, particularly for those affected by residential density. Suggestions in this letter and Attachment A to "Have Your Say" Kensington Park Plan of Management, are based on the premise that:---

- the current works of DA87/2015 will continue to completion,
- there will be no KikOff or other enclosed organised sport,
- the Outdoor Gym already approved in DA87/2015 for the adjacent area of Kensington Park will be constructed, and
- they will enhance the good work already being undertaken by RCC in Kensington Park.

Page \_2 of \_5

To quote from the DA87/2015: Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) **5.8 Public Interest** (pg37)

".....the works will improve the range of community facilities in this locality and the range of facilities available to the residents of Randwick LGA as well as the wider community." Council has taken the opportunity to create a truly beautiful space for all to enjoy, and where Community Centre users can also come out and enjoy the open park.

Children need green space with trees and plants to explore and for play. With predicted higher density, green space is even more important. A fully functioning open Community Centre, with an Executive Officer, providing activities for all ages at reasonable cost is also very important, particularly for an expanding population living in the confines of apartments.

We hope that RCC:---

- will stand firm in its resolve to create a balance with organised sport already on the Oval, with opportunities for a range of fitness activities, play and passive recreation in the remainder of Kensington Park and

- continue to pursue the passive recreation theme for future Kensington park use/integration with green open spaces.

Anything less or a change of use sells short its accessibility and enjoyment of the amenity.

We are proud of our neighbourhood and very much look forward to the completion of the “new look” Kensington Park with more green open space accessible to everyone.

Once again thank you Randwick City Council for a job well done, so far.

Yours sincerely,

Stella Calpis Margareta Keal Manuel Paey Maryann Williams Miriam Houseman  
West Kingsford West Kingsford West Kingsford West Kingsford Kensington

Page \_3 of \_5

**ATTACHMENT A:** Response, together with letter above, to RCC “Have Your Say” Kensington Park Plan of Management: consultation period 17 June to 1 July 2016.

From --- Kensington Park: Local Resident Group Representatives. Date: 30 June 2016

#### **Improvements and Future Use**

##### **1. Demographics**

- Park usage needs to accommodate more to the needs of long term local residents, rather than the large number of University students in the area for a very short time.
- Counting the high proportion of University students in the population for Kingsford and Kensington, without qualifying the numbers, skews the statistics of the demographics used in the RCC Background Paper (pg14), available on the “Have Your Say” link. These students are only in the area for only a very short time and already have access to the many facilities on the UNSW campus and nearby.

##### **2. Noise**

- Peaceful open space with activities appropriate for the residential setting (Refer Report CS10/14 pg.88).
- In recognition of adverse effects of loud noise on nearby residents in the past (well documented with RCC), noise levels be kept to a minimum, conducive to a peaceful environment for the neighbouring low density housing, monitored and limited at night.

##### **3. Alcohol**

- Alcohol and raucous behaviours have been major issues for residents living in close proximity, when the Bowling Club existed and also with KikOff. Alcohol and its related issues prompted well documented major complaints to RCC by nearby residents.

##### **4. Community Centre**

###### **• Executive Officer**

— An onsite Executive Officer is considered essential for the Community Centre to be fully accessible, utilised to its full potential and critical to its success.

--- In the current “Have Your Say” RCC to give consideration to the petition responses to DA/87/15, lodged with RCC 18 March 2015 during the consultation period, from 541 people --- of whom 438 reside in close proximity to Kensington Park. They were only briefly mentioned without detail in RCC Report D40/15. Yet 541 people sought a Community Centre not just rooms for hire, with a layout for concurrent diverse activities managed by an onsite Executive Officer to provide for an open drop in facility. (A copy of the petition lodged with the RCC 18 March 2015 is at Attachment B, without personal information). --- Experience has shown that successful community centres fulfil community needs by being a place where people can meet, and by having an Executive Officer to introduce and extend the programs/activities of the centre. A fully functioning Community Centre is particularly important for an expanding population and those living in the confines of apartments. That sense of community is so necessary for emotional well-being.

###### **• Concept of an open, active Community Centre versus rooms for hire**

— The Community Centre needs to be open and active where people can drop in and socialise, while participating in a variety of activities managed by an onsite

Executive Officer.

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--- Offer a wide range of free activities/programs such as but not limited to: --- community meetings, home work group, photography group, morning tea groups, hobby groups, exercise classes, school holiday programs, play groups, bingo and other games, book club/reading group, parents group, volunteers cooking for seniors plus a weekly community meal onsite/cooking classes.

--- Ability for programs/activities to run concurrently.

--- Provide a sense of community to have somewhere to go.

--- The concept of a venue facility providing rooms for hire does not meet the needs of a fully functioning, open active Community Centre and restricts access to the variety of Community Centre uses already documented with RCC from RCC's comprehensive consultation in 2014 and 2015 (e.g. the petition letters lodged 18 March 2015).

--- Associated costs for West Ward are minimal in comparison to what has been spent from RCC in other Wards.

--- An open Community Centre with an onsite Executive Officer could be trialled for a 2 year period

--- Propose "drop in times" at specified hours/days of the week. The second person required could be trialled with volunteers.

--- Alternatively RCC could trial the Centre being open with the use of volunteers for a short period of say 6 months Monday to Friday during the hours of 10am and 2pm, without excluding other users.

--- Funds could be raised towards the cost of the Executive Officer by stocking the fridge with water bottles/juice/cans, a few sandwiches and a cake of the day with which the volunteers could help.

#### • Bookings

--- RCC should restrict sports and other organisations being able to book the Centre with block-out continuous bookings that continually exclude local residents. Bookings could be granted for a limited period, with options to re-apply, to ensure that different groups/activities can gain access.

#### • Cost of bookings

--- Cost needs to be reasonable and affordable for the community to hire rooms but at no charge for drop in access to socialise etc.

#### • Community Centre Internal

--- Appreciate:--- fully equipped accessible kitchen adaptable for cooking community meals, internal toilets, security cameras, security entry/exit doors with security buzzers, soundproofing, tables/chairs/couches with place to store, designated area for the Executive Officer to encourage and manage Centre activities, opportunities for passive social activities, Wi-Fi, numerous power points for concurrent activities (very useful for craft groups/computer groups/educational classes etc.), lockable storage space, insect screens reverse cycle air conditioning.

#### 5. External Surrounds

• **No KikOff**/no enclosed spaces for sport use/organised sport only on Kensington Oval.

• **The outdoor gym for all ages** is supported in the location shown in DA87/2015, but construction should occur in a parallel timeframe to the DA site, to enhance parkland integration. The shaded location has already been approved by RCC 22 July 2014 for the adjacent area of Kensington Park, shown in the RCC Landscape concept Plan L---03 Issue A---120215 February 2015 (with DA87---2015).

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#### • Landscaping/green outdoor space

--- Need plenty of outdoor seating, tables/bench seats, picnic facilities, shade and



covered areas.

--- Increase usage as a neighbourhood park, increase opportunities and improvements for green open space for passive recreation. Outdoor chess would be good.

--- The high percentage of higher density living in Kensington/Kingsford and increased pressure of population growth indicate a high demand for public open space (RCC's Kensington Park and Surrounds Background Paper June 2016 pgs3,14,21). Kensington Park is pivotal to provide this green space.

--- 100% support the SEE statement at pg15 that the principal aim of the landscape design is "to return a currently insular site back to public use and to 're-stitch' the eastern end of Kensington Park back into the parkland context."

--- Support landscape design that returns Kensington Park, including the former Kensington Bowling Club Site, back to parkland.

--- Shade trees for small car park to the south.

### **6. Footpaths**

- Maintain the pedestrian access through the mid block cement walkway between houses from Cottenham Ave to Eastern Avenue. Contrary to the information contained in the RCC Background Paper (pg19), the walkway is used by residents. The alternative route from Eastern or Cottenham Avenue is to go the very long block to Tresidder Avenue only to walk the same length again to get to Barker St --- to access the shops/buses etc.. The walkway has recently had a very much appreciated upgrade to concrete.

- Footpaths on all sides of the Park, including Barker Street.

### **7. Parking and Access Issues**

- The small carpark to the south is supported as it allows easy and safe access to the Community Centre, but it needs to be dedicated/monitored for the use of Community Centre users.

- Dedicate parking in Day Lane for access to the Community Centre and surrounds.

### **8. Connection between the Nursery/Community Centre and the Park**

- Keep the nursery

- Direct call connection with the nursery could provide prompt assistance.



Appendix D – Kensington Park Local Resident Group "Improvement and future use" submission

TO: Randwick City Council Date: *16th June 2016*  
 RE: Response to "Have Your Say" Kensington Park Plan of Management consultation 17 June to 1 July 2016.  
 FROM: Name: Address: Phone:

**Improvements and Future Use**

**1. Demographics**

- Park usage needs to accommodate more to the needs of long term local residents, rather than the large number of University students in the area for a very short time.

**2. Noise**

- Peaceful open space. Noise kept to a minimum, conducive to a peaceful environment for the neighbouring low density residential housing, monitored and limited at night.

**3. Community Centre**

• **Executive Officer**

- An onsite Executive Officer to manage and grow activities/programs is essential for the Community Centre to be fully accessible, utilised to its full potential and critical to its success.

• **Open, active Community Centre**

- The Community Centre needs to be open and active for people to drop in and socialise, while participating in a variety of activities managed by an onsite Executive Officer.
- Offer a wide range of free activities/programs such as but not limited to:- community meetings, homework group, photography group, morning tea groups, hobby groups, school holiday programs, play groups, bingo and other games, book club/reading group, parents group, volunteers cooking for seniors plus a weekly community meal onsite/cooking classes - with the ability to run concurrently.
- Provide a sense of community to have a place to go.

• **Community Centre Internal**

- Appreciable - fully equipped accessible kitchen adaptable for cooking community meals, internal toilets, security cameras, security entry/exit doors with sensally buzzers, soundproofing, tables/chairs/sofas with place to store, a designated area for the Executive Officer to encourage and manage Centre activities, opportunities for passive social activities, Wi-Fi, numerous power points for concurrent activities, lockable storage space, insect screens, reverse cycle air conditioning.

• **Bookings**

- RCC should restrict sports and other organizations being able to book the Centre with blackout continuous bookings that continually exclude local residents.

• **Cost of bookings**

- Cost needs to be reasonable and affordable for the community to hire rooms but at no charge for drop in access to socialize etc..

**4. External Surrounds**

- **No KickOff/no enclosed spaces for sports use/organized sport only in Kensington Oval.**

• **Landscaping/green outdoor space**

- Need plenty of outdoor seating, tables/bench seats, picnic facilities, shade and covered areas.
- Increase usage as a neighbourhood park and improve green open space for passive recreation.
- Support landscape that returns Kensington Park, including the former Kensington Bowling Club Site, back to parkland.
- Shade trees for the small carpark to the south.
- The outdoor gym for all ages is supported, in the shaded location indicated by RCC (Resolution 213/14 of 22 July 2014).

• **Footpaths**

- Maintain the pedestrian access through the mid block culvert pathway between houses from Cottenham Avenue to Eastern Avenue. Footpaths on all sides of the Park.

**5. Parking and Access Issues**

- The small carpark to the south is supported for easy and safe access to the Community Centre but needs to be dedicated/monitored for the use of Community Centre users.

- Dedicate parking in Day Lane for access to the Community Centre and surrounds.

**6. Connection between the Nursery and the Park - Keep the nursery.**

## Appendix 4 Stationary Survey Results

Stationary Survey - Session 1 - 23 October 15 Friday 11:30 - 12:30pm



Stationary Survey - Session 2 - 23 October 15 Friday 4:00 - 5:00pm





Stationary Survey - Session 3 - 15 December 15 Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00am



Stationary Survey - Session 4 - 30 December 15 Wednesday 10:00 - 11:00am





Stationary Survey - Session 5 - 11 January 16 Monday 5:00 - 6:00pm



Stationary Survey - Session 6 - 16 January 16 Saturday 11:30 - 12:30pm





Stationary Survey - Session 7 - 16 January 16 Saturday 4:00 - 5:00pm



Stationary Survey - Session 8 - 17 March 16 Thursday 12:45 - 1:45pm





Stationary Survey - Session 9 - 23 March 16 Wednesday 7:30-9:00am



Stationary Survey - Session 10 - 30 March 16 Wednesday 6:00 - 7:30pm



## Appendix 5 Indicative List of Plant Species

Botanical name	Common name
<i>Alternanthera</i> 'Little Ruby'	Ruby leaf alternanthera
<i>Dichondra argenta</i> 'Silver Falls'	Silver Falls Dichondra
<i>Grevillea lanigera</i> 'Mount Tamboritha'	Spider Flower
<i>Hemerocallis</i> 'Flava'	Lemon Day Lilly
<i>Poa labillardieri</i> 'Eskdale'	Common Tussock-grass
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Cast-iron plant
<i>Leucophyta brownii</i>	Cushion plant
<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i> 'Snowstorm'	Melaleuca Snowstorm
<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i> 'Claret Tops'	Honey myrtle
<i>Santolina virens</i>	Green Santolia
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	Birds nest fern
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> 'White Anzac'	Callistemon White Anzac
<i>Doryanthes excelsa</i>	Gynea Lilly
<i>Grevillea sericea</i>	Silky Grevillea
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i> 'Zena'	Native Rosemary
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge
<i>Crinum pedunculatum</i>	Spider Lilly
<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club Rush
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum
<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>	Moreton Bay Fig
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box
<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>	Narrow leaved paperbark
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Prickly leaved paperbark
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash



Grasses and Groundcovers



*Alternanthera 'Little Ruby'*



*Dichondra argentea*



*Grevillea 'Mount Tamboritha'*



*Hemerocallis 'Flava'*



*Poa labillardieri 'Eskdale'*

Medium shrubs



*Aspidistra elatior*



*Leucophyta brownii*



*Melaleuca 'Snowstorm'*



*Melaleuca 'Claret tops'*



*Santolina virens*

Large Shrubs



*Asplenium australasicum*



*Callistemon 'White Anzac'*



*Doryanthes excelsa*



*Grevillea sericea*



*Westringia fruticosa 'Naringa'*

Raingarden species



*Carex appressa*



*Crinum pedunculatum*



*Ficinia nodosa*

Trees



*Banksia integrifolia*



*Corymbia maculata*



*Ficus macrophylla*



*Lophostemon confertus*



*Melaleuca linariifolia*



*Melaleuca styphelioides*



*Elaeocarpus reticulatus*

## **Appendix 6 Council Resolution**

This Plan of Management has been adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting of the 25 October 2016, which resolved (Moore/Nash) that:

- a) Council endorse the Kensington Park Plan of Management for finalisation subject to the deletion of the three outdoor ping pong tables;
- b) Council forward the Kensington Park Plan of Management to the Department of Industry – Lands for information; and
- c) Council agree that the Director, City Planning may make minor modifications to rectify any numerical, typographical, interpretation and formatting errors as required in finalising and printing the Kensington Park Plan of Management.

