

# Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

RECREATION STRATEGY 2019

## Harbour Trust



## Acknowledgement

The Harbour Trust acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of Sydney Harbour, and of the sites under our stewardship: the Borogegal, Birrabirrigal, Cammeraygal, Gadigal, Gayamagal, Wallumedegal and Wangal People.

### **A note about this Recreation Strategy**

This Strategy examines the use of Harbour Trust land for recreation, needs and constraints, and opportunities for new/improved/changed facilities.

Opportunities for change have been considered in the context of the imperatives set out in the Harbour Trust's Act: to protect environmental and heritage values, establish parkland, maximise public access, enhance the amenity of the region, and cooperate with government and community stakeholders; and the objectives and outcomes of the Comprehensive Plan.

Opportunities for potential change have been identified following community consultation on this Strategy. Any proposal for a new recreation activity or facility, or for a change to an existing facility, would need to be supported by an evidence-based needs/impact assessment and be subject to consideration against the Objects of the Harbour Trust Act and the outcomes in the Comprehensive Plan and relevant Management Plan. Where proposals would require changes to the relevant Management Plan, then this would be subject to further community consultation, in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

If a change to a Management Plan would be required to accommodate a new recreation facility, activity or use, this is identified in this Strategy.

## Contents

1. INTRODUCTION .....	4
2. PURPOSE .....	6
3. PLANNING PROCESS.....	9
4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES.....	11
5. FACILITIES AND DEMAND.....	17
6. ANALYSIS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE .....	24
7. CONCLUSION AND IMPLEMENTATION .....	49
8. RECREATION ON HARBOUR TRUST LANDS – 2019 – ADMINISTRATIVE SCHEDULE .....	51



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Harbour Trust



Australian Government  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

The Harbour Trust manages unique places on Sydney Harbour that have significant heritage and environmental values. These places are in varying stages of renewal as public parkland. Since its formal inception in 2001, the Harbour Trust has pulled down fences, remediated contamination, regenerated bushland, created landscaped parkland, renewed utilities, built paths, adapted buildings while allowing some new structures, and introduced a carefully-curated ecology of new uses. This is an ongoing process. Driving this activity is the Harbour Trust's mission to create public places where environmental and heritage values are protected, amenity is enhanced, and public access is maximised.

One of the Harbour Trust's most vital roles is to establish parkland for the enjoyment of all. Vibrant, interesting and sustainable parks include a range of passive and active recreational opportunities. Encouraging recreation on its sites is an important part of the Harbour Trust's mission.

The Harbour Trust aims to establish and maintain parks and places that provide opportunities for their enjoyment by people of all ages and abilities, and a wide range of tastes. Facilitating broad engagement by the community with our sites helps to create vital and vibrant places that are deeply valued and appreciated.

The use of Harbour Trust land is governed by the *Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Act*. The Act includes a number of objects that are relevant to and support the use of Harbour Trust lands for recreation. These include: managing the land as a park; maximising public access; enhancing the amenity of the Sydney Harbour region; protecting and interpreting

environmental and heritage values; and cooperating with all levels of government and the community in furthering these objects.

The *Comprehensive Plan* was approved in 2003 as a requirement of the Act, and sets out a vision for the sites. Among its overarching objectives, and desired site outcomes, the Harbour Trust's Comprehensive Plan supports the use of Harbour Trust land for recreation. The purpose of this Recreation Strategy is to examine the ways in which recreation on Harbour Trust land can be supported and enhanced. It also identifies opportunities where the involvement of third parties (such as councils or commercial partners) in facilitating recreational activities, may be considered. This Strategy also examines existing facilities, their usage, and opportunities for meeting existing and emerging needs, guided by the principles contained in the Harbour Trust's Act and Comprehensive Plan.

Recreational activities in a parkland setting find a wide variety of expression, ranging from the more active (such as organised sports) through to more passive activities (such as spaces for quiet reflection, or picnics).

The Harbour Trust aims to provide opportunities for a wide range of tastes and abilities, which will be informed by the changing needs over the course of an individual's life, gender equity, diversity, demographic trends and even social fashion; and in particular by the attributes and constraints of the sites it manages.



## 2. PURPOSE

Harbour Trust



Australian Government  
Society Harbour Federation Trust

The Harbour Trust's *Corporate Plan 2018-22* recognises that with population growth comes an increasing need for additional recreation facilities and accessible public open space. Addressing that need, the Corporate Plan states that in 2018-2019 the Harbour Trust will 'create new opportunities for passive and active recreation' and 'finalise the Recreation Strategy to facilitate increased active recreation on our sites'.

This Strategy serves that purpose and has been prepared within the context of the Harbour Trust's approach to managing the lands in its care, which is identified in the Corporate Plan - this includes:

- *Steward our Parklands*: 'To care for, conserve, and enhance our parklands and built assets, applying the principles of ecologically sustainable development'.
- *Welcome Everyone*: we welcome all visitors to our places: 'Our parklands are for all Australians and we welcome both domestic and international visitors. We want to ensure our sites tell their rich stories, are easy to access and are places of exploration and discovery'.
- *Build Partnerships*: 'Underpin our work through collaboration and engagement with partners to help us deliver our vision. We are responsible for important public places, and we want to encourage dialogue and debate about their future and the choices we make to ensure sustainability'

Harbour Trust lands provide a wide range of recreational facilities that are used and enjoyed by the community. The wants and needs of the

community are continually evolving. With a changing, diverse population, come changing needs for recreation.

This Strategy assesses the facilities currently available on Harbour Trust land, and identify whether they are appropriate, or sufficient to meet the needs of changing populations.

The Harbour Trust has prepared this Strategy to explore ideas with the community and stakeholders regarding recreation – both passive and active – on Harbour Trust land. It will look at existing usage, demand, opportunities and constraints, and arrive at some suggested opportunities for change. It is not a statutory plan. It will also identify opportunities where the involvement of third parties (such as councils or commercial partners) in facilitating recreational activities, may be considered. Following community consultation, the Strategy will be finalised. The assessment of facilities and demand will guide any subsequent formal planning process that may be required in relation to any potential new recreation facilities. The process for that is discussed further on in this Strategy.

The term 'recreation facility' is used here in a very broad sense, reflecting the wide range of recreational activities that are - or could potentially be - engaged in, on Harbour Trust land. Existing and potential 'facilities' include walking paths, picnic benches, sports ovals, sports courts, indoor sports centres, kayak ramps and so on. This Strategy sets out a detailed compendium of existing or potential facilities, and briefly outlines relevant considerations, to arrive at suggested opportunities for change.

### What is 'recreation'?

Recreation has been described as *an activity of leisure, leisure being discretionary time*.

"Recreation" is an essential element of human biology and psychology. Recreational activities are often done for enjoyment, amusement, or pleasure and are considered to be "fun".

What is perceived as "recreation" in one instance may not be in another. Recreation takes many forms and is constantly changing based upon societal norms, trends and new directions.

Recreation can sometimes be defined as "active" or "passive", the difference generally relating to level of exertion that is sustained during the activity. "Passive recreation" could include reading or fishing, while "active recreation" could include dog walking or playing football.

Examples of recreation on Harbour Trust land include: jogging, cycling, dog walking, yoga, soccer, netball, swimming, fitness/gym workouts and children playing. Some of these activities are conducted in organised groups and are competition-based ("formal recreation"); others are self-directed and some do not involve competition ("informal recreation").





### 3. PLANNING PROCESS

Harbour Trust



 Australian Government  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

*This section describes how the Recreation Strategy sits within the Harbour Trust's planning framework.*

Under the *Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Act 2001*, the Harbour Trust is exempt from certain State laws, including those relating to town planning and the environment. The Act requires the Harbour Trust to prepare a 'Plan'. Such a plan, entitled the *Comprehensive Plan*, was approved by the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment in 2003, and amended in 2009 to include Sub Base Platypus. The Comprehensive Plan provides thematic objectives for all the sites, desired outcomes for each of the sites, and establishes a planning framework that requires the preparation of more detailed *management plans* for each site, and a process for the *environmental assessment* of proposals.

The preparation of the Comprehensive Plan and Management Plans was subject to extensive community consultation.

Proposed actions on Harbour Trust land, including proposals for new recreation facilities, are assessed by the Harbour Trust to determine whether they are consistent with the Harbour Trust's Act, and Plans; and to consider potential impacts. Significant proposals are exhibited for community consultation, which may also include referral to the Minister for the Environment in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Proposals may only be implemented once they have been approved following this assessment process.

This Strategy has no statutory force. Its purpose is to examine the use of Harbour Trust land for recreation, identify needs and constraints, identify opportunities for new/improved/changed facilities, and to facilitate an open conversation with stakeholders about this topic.

Opportunities for change have been considered in the context of the imperatives set out in the Harbour Trust's Act: to protect environmental and heritage values, establish parkland, maximise public access, enhance the amenity of the region, and cooperate with government and community stakeholders; and the Objectives and Policies in the Comprehensive Plan.

Any proposal for a new recreation activity or facility, or for a change to an existing facility, would need to be supported by an evidence-based needs/impact assessment and be subject to consideration against the Objects of the Harbour Trust Act and the outcomes in the Comprehensive Plan and relevant Management Plan. Where proposals would require changes to the relevant Management Plan, then this would be subject to further community consultation, in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan. If a change to a Management Plan would be required to accommodate a new recreation facility, activity or use, this is identified in this Strategy.

The Harbour Trust has consulted with the community and stakeholders about this Strategy. This provided stakeholders with an opportunity to bring issues and concerns to the attention of the Harbour Trust, and conversely for the Harbour Trust to articulate the physical and planning limits on what is possible. This Strategy was publicly exhibited and submissions invited. The Harbour Trust considered all submissions and this informed the final Strategy. The final Strategy will be made available on the Harbour Trust's website. The Harbour Trust will re-examine the use of Harbour Trust land for recreation within five years of this Strategy being finalised.



#### 4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Harbour Trust

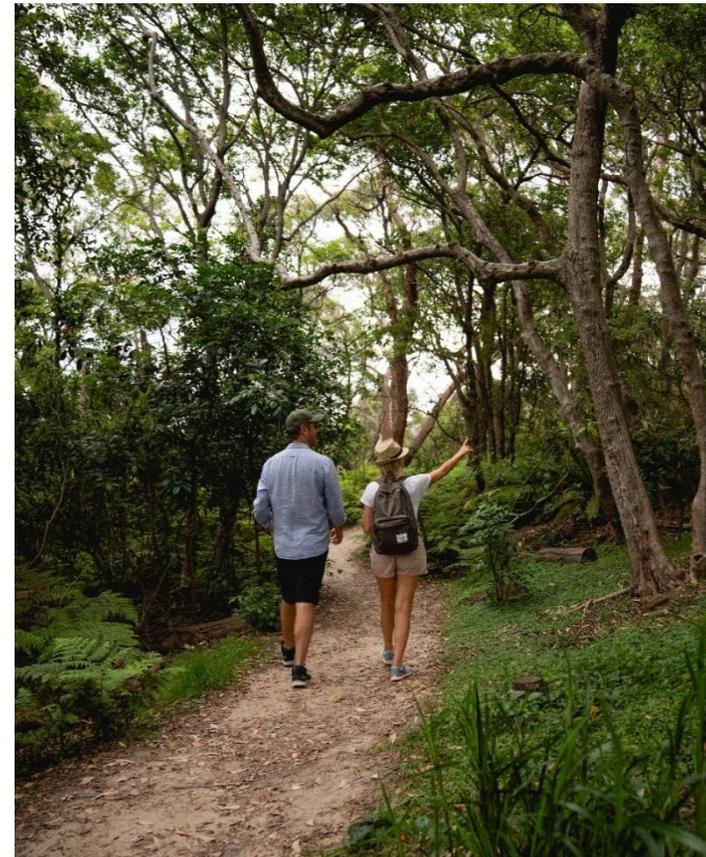
 Australian Government  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

*The key principles that guide the use of Harbour Trust land for recreation are contained in the Objects of the Harbour Trust's Act, and relevant objectives within the Comprehensive Plan, which are discussed further on in this section.*

The only outcomes that are suggested in this Strategy are those that are able to further the Objects of the Act and are consistent with the objectives and outcomes of the Comprehensive Plan.

### **The Harbour Trust Act**

Section 6 of the *Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Act 2001* sets out the objects which the Harbour Trust must abide by and are discussed below.



Object of the Act	Discussion
(a) to ensure that management of Trust land contributes to enhancing the amenity of the Sydney Harbour region;	Amenity, in the context of a park, is a product of a park's natural and cultural attributes. It is a quality that can be enhanced by improving those attributes – which includes providing facilities for recreational activities.
(b) to protect, conserve and interpret the environmental and heritage values of Trust land;	The Harbour Trust's sites are rich in environmental and heritage values. Recreational use of land is not incompatible with those values, where it can be achieved in a manner that protects those values. Recreational uses also provide opportunities to interpret environmental and heritage values – such as the playground at Sub Base Platypus which has a submarine theme.
(c) to maximise public access to Trust land;	Maximising public access is critical to the Harbour Trust's mission, and at the heart of what constitutes a public park. 'Access' can be understood to manifest itself in recreational activities. The term 'maximise' means 'to the greatest extent possible', acknowledging that there are some limits and constraints to access. This touches on the delicate balancing of imperatives. In some areas, public access may need to be limited, perhaps to protect sensitive flora or fauna, or for safety reasons.
(d) to establish and manage suitable Trust land as a park on behalf of the Commonwealth as the national government;	<p>The core of the Harbour Trust's mission is the creation of a park – through the rehabilitation of formerly closed and degraded sites into public places that balance the objects of the Harbour Trust Act. The term 'park' covers a range of different types of places. Parks are diverse and can contain many different aspects, including wilderness, natural areas, cultural landscapes, open lawns, sports fields, buildings for a range of uses, paved areas, roads, and paths.</p> <p>Parks can provide places of recreation. Recreation takes many forms – from enjoying moments of quiet repose through to active team sports. Getting the mix of these components right, and in keeping with the objects of the Harbour Trust Act, is an ongoing balancing act requiring regular review. The parklands managed by the Harbour Trust are suitable for recreation in its various forms, where this can be balanced with the other objects.</p>
(e) to co-operate with other Commonwealth bodies that have a connection with any Harbour land in managing that land; (f) to co-operate with New South Wales, affected councils and the community in furthering the above objects.	The Harbour Trust works closely with all levels of government, and the community, to further the objects of the Act. Stakeholders were consulted in the preparation of this Recreation Strategy.

## The Comprehensive Plan

The Harbour Trust's *Comprehensive Plan* was approved by the Minister for the Environment in 2003, with a subsequent amendment in 2009 to include the former HMAS Platypus site. The Comprehensive Plan sets out broad objectives and policies that apply to all of the Harbour Trust's lands, and specific desired outcomes for each of the sites.

Activities on Harbour Trust land must be consistent with the objectives and specific site outcomes identified in the Comprehensive Plan.

All the suggestions contained in this Strategy are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

This section of the Recreation Strategy sets out the Comprehensive Plan's broad objectives that are relevant to recreation.

Specific site outcomes in Management Plans (where relevant to particular facilities/activities), are discussed in Section 6 of this Strategy.

The Objectives and Policies from Section 3 of the Comprehensive Plan that are especially relevant to recreation are:

- *Open Space and Recreation*
- *Sporting Facilities*
- *Ecologically Sustainable Development*

These objectives provide a clear policy statement on the subject of recreation, and are reproduced here in full.

There are of course many other objectives that will be relevant, depending upon the nature of the recreational activity and local circumstances, including:

- *Transport Management and Air Quality*
- *Aboriginal Heritage*
- *Cultural Heritage*
- *Adaptive Re-use of Buildings and Places*
- *Design Approach*
- *New Buildings*
- *Access*
- *Consultation and Communications*
- *Education*
- *Tourism*
- *Funding and Management of Leases*
- *Conflicting Policy Objectives*

### Open Space and Recreation

*The provision of a network of open spaces providing a range of passive and active recreational opportunities is an essential component of the Trust's objective of maximising public access and of establishing a high quality park.*

*In providing open space and recreational facilities the Trust will:*

- *Provide recreational opportunities that enhance the character and values of the locality and are sympathetic with the cultural and natural significance of the place*
- *Ensure that the recreational facilities are available to the broad community of Sydney while still contributing to some of the needs of the local community.*
- *Promote co-operative management between the Trust and adjoining space owners and managers.*
- *Manage recreational activities, including special events so that the cultural, natural and recreational values of the locality are not compromised.*
- *Enhance the diverse nature of the harbour through the provision of a range of open space and recreational areas ... that cater for a range of age groups and activities.*
- *Ensure that organised group activities are managed to avoid conflicts and environmental impacts*
- *Co-locate recreational facilities to allow for the shared use of services and facilities, such as parking and to encourage multi-purpose journeys.*

### Sporting Facilities

*The Trust has a range of existing sporting facilities including ovals and fields at Middle Head, Georges Heights and North Head, gymnasiums and multi-purpose courts. Some of these facilities such as the ovals at Middle Head and Georges Heights are currently used by a broad range of sporting groups and schools. The Trust proposes that these facilities will be retained and enhanced and will continue to be available for community use. Others such as the oval at North Head and some of the built facilities will be reviewed.*

*In some cases, new or upgraded sporting facilities may be suitable to achieve the objective of maximising public access, providing a diversity of activities, or may have considerable community benefits. Public*

*access may be maximised by providing sporting facilities in addition to those that already exist.*

*Although in general, there is little need, or justification to develop new sporting facilities when our priority is to protect, conserve and interpret the environmental values and heritage values of the Trust lands and to enhance the amenity of the Sydney Harbour region, the Trusts' priority is also to maximise public access to the Trust lands and to establish and manage parklands.*

*Accordingly, the Trust will only consider new sporting facilities, whether using new or existing buildings where they:*

- *Are compatible with the physical capacity of the site*
- *Are compatible with the overall objectives and planning direction for the site, including the protection, conservation and interpretation of the sites*
- *Can be integrated into the overall landscape design as attractive open spaces when not being used for sports activities*
- *Complement the network of paths and access routes and improve or provide linkages between existing sporting facilities on Trust lands and in the vicinity*
- *Enhance the visual connections and continuity between parkland areas*
- *Have minimal negative visual, heritage and environmental impact*
- *Provide equity of access to all appropriate user groups*
- *Are co-located, where possible, to allow for shared use of essential services such as parking and amenities*

### Ecologically Sustainable Development

*ESD is central to the Trust's management, strategic planning and development decision-making. The concept of ESD has been*

*defined as: “Development that improves the quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that improves the ecological processes on which life depends” – National Strategy for ESD (1992).*

*The Trust recognises that the implementation of these objectives is not straightforward. This is partly because they provide minimal instruction for practical action and contain some ambiguity. The Trust also recognises that the principal objective is to achieve the effective integration and balance of economic, environmental and social considerations.*

*To meet this objective the Trust will ensure that:*

- The natural biological diversity is protected, conserved and interpreted with particular emphasis on threatened species and endangered populations and communities as an integral part of any redevelopment or use of Trust land sites.*
- Trust sites are accessible to the community and offer a high quality of life for those who live or work at the site and a highly desirable recreation destination*
- Re-use and redevelopment preserves significant areas for open space as a resource for generations to come*
- Development and adaptive re-use achieves reductions in the use of energy from sources which are non-renewable or emit greenhouse gases in energy generation or consumption compared to previous uses or comparable uses*
- All development and ongoing management activities on Trust sites maximise the appropriate use of recycled and reused materials and reduce waste generation*
- Development minimises the use of materials, which deplete natural resources or create toxic pollution in their manufacture, use or disposal*

- Buildings to be removed will be reused where possible and where demolition is necessary materials will be recycled where possible*
- Use of Trust sites minimises the negative impact on Sydney’s air quality and avoids ozone-depleting substances. This includes encouraging the use of public transport, walking or cycling*
- Measures are taken to minimise impact of noise and light pollution on environmental conservation areas and surrounding land uses*
- Any use of the Trust lands results in improvement to water quality entering the harbour from the site*
- Any development remediates the results of polluting activities of the past and ensures protection of soil and sediments within the developed area*
- It remains accountable in the achievement of ESD, by measuring, monitoring and reporting with respect to the key indicators for sustainability and use this information to continually improve policies, plans and practices*
- Contracting and procurement methods are developed, implemented and reviewed so that environmental objectives supporting ESD are adopted by contractors and suppliers*
- The formation of partnerships and works with the community, stakeholders and other agencies to achieve environmental outcomes*
- Adhere to Water Sensitive Urban Design principles when developing any future plans*
- Investigate and where appropriate use renewable energy on Trust sites*



## 5. FACILITIES AND DEMAND

Harbour Trust

## Harbour Trust Recreational Facilities

There are a range of recreational facilities across the Harbour Trust's sites. The diversity and quality of these facilities is enhanced by the spectacular foreshore locations of these sites.

This Strategy broadly identifies the recreational facilities within all the Harbour Trust sites but does not consider in detail the recreational services provided by private businesses within tenanted properties. These private tenant-provided facilities include fitness centres, gymnasiums, dance and yoga studios.

### Harbour Trust parkland and recreational facilities – overview

145.9 ha of iconic land on Sydney Harbour

Over 15 km of walking paths

2 sports ovals

7 public sports facilities

6 tennis courts

1 playground

10 public barbecues

1 campground

Approximately 90% of all Harbour Trust is open to the public. Around 2% of all Harbour Trust land used for active sports, this includes indoor and outdoor facilities such as ovals and hard courts.

## Review of Relevant Policies

One of the objectives of the Harbour Trust is to "... co-operate with New South Wales, affected Councils and the community ..." in furthering its objectives. In this context, it is appropriate to consider state planning instruments. The Harbour Trust has reviewed relevant strategies, policies and plans prepared by other government agencies that examine the need and supply of recreational facilities – some of the key policies and studies are summarised below.

### The Greater Sydney Region Plan - A Metropolis of Three Cities

The Greater Sydney Regional Plan, *A Metropolis of Three Cities* sets a 40-year vision (to 2056) and establishes a 20-year plan to manage growth and change for Greater Sydney in the context of social, economic and environmental matters.

With regard to open space and recreation, it identifies green infrastructure such as urban tree canopy, green ground cover, bushland, waterways, parks and open spaces as being key in establishing the Greater Sydney Green Grid, which will improve access to foreshores, waterways and the coast for recreation, tourism, cultural events and water-based transport.

Greater Sydney's Green Grid sets a long-term vision for a network of high quality green areas that will connect communities to green infrastructure. It will promote a healthier urban environment and improve access to

spaces for recreation and exercise. Scenic and cultural landscapes and rural landscapes complement green infrastructure.

Specific projects that could provide enhanced recreational opportunities on Harbour Trust land include the Bondi to Manly Walk, Cycleway from Barrenjoey Head to Manly, and The Great Coastal Walk.

Relevant Objectives for open space and recreation include:



**A collaborative city**  
**Working together to grow a Greater Sydney**

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**Potential indicators\*:** Increased use of public resources such as open space and community facilities

**Objective 5:** Benefits of growth realised by collaboration of governments, community and business



**A city of great places**  
**Designing places for people**

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**Potential indicators\*:** Increased access to open space

**Objective 12:** Great places that bring people together

**Objective 13:** Environmental heritage is identified, conserved and enhanced



**A city in its landscape**  
**Valuing green spaces and landscape**

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**Potential indicators\*:** Increased urban tree canopy, Expanded Greater Sydney Green Grid

**Objective 25:** The coast and waterways are protected and healthier

**Objective 26:** A cool and green parkland city in the South Creek corridor

**Objective 27:** Biodiversity is protected, urban bushland and remnant vegetation is enhanced

**Objective 28:** Scenic and cultural landscapes are protected

**Objective 29:** Environmental, social and economic values in rural areas are protected and enhanced

**Objective 30:** Urban tree canopy cover is increased

**Objective 31:** Public open space is accessible, protected and enhanced

**Objective 32:** The Green Grid links parks, open spaces, bushland and walking and cycling paths

### National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework

The National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework was agreed to by all Australian Governments in June 2011. The Framework is a guide for government activity and resource allocation. It provides a mechanism for engaging the whole sport and recreation industry in the achievement of national goals for sport and active recreation. It also sets out the agreed roles and responsibilities of governments and expectations of sport and active recreation system partners.

### NSW Office of Sport – Strategic Plan 2018-2022

The Office of Sport – Strategic Plan 2018-2022 sets out the following relevant priorities for open space and recreation:

#### PLACES & SPACES

Well managed facilities that meet the needs of users and investors

#### SECTOR PERFORMANCE

A strategically focused and empowered NSW sport and active recreation sector

#### PARTICIPATION

More people in NSW participating in sport and active recreation

### Mosman Open Space Recreational Needs Assessment

Mosman Council undertook an open space recreational needs assessment which was adopted by Council on 6 October 2015. The assessment will assist Council with planning for development, improvement and maintenance of future recreation facilities in the next 10 years and

provides key opportunities the Council can action to assist in meeting increasing demand include the following:

- Equity and diversity
- Programmability and Utilisation
- Resource Efficiency and Partnership
- Managing Capacity
- Asset Renewal

The assessment makes specific recommendations relating to sports facilities across the Mosman LGA, including those on Harbour Trust land. Recommendations include:

- Create more accessible and circuit paths and routes for walking and cycling;
- Increase sports fields capacity and associated facilities at Cross Street, Middle Head Oval and Georges Heights Oval through changing surfaces and installation of lighting;
- Integrate scheduling of Harbour Trust tennis courts with Council-managed tennis courts.

### North Sydney Recreation Needs Study 2015

The North Sydney Recreation Needs Study 2015 was undertaken by North Sydney Council as a review of demographics, policies and plans, projected participation in activities and the distribution and nature of existing opportunities. It states that there is a good range of recreation facilities in the North Sydney area, however maintaining an adequate supply; quality

and diversity of opportunity will be an ongoing challenge. The goal resulting from this study are:

- Increased participation in physical and social opportunities
- Enhanced use of existing resources whilst minimising overuse
- A diversity of recreation opportunities for the widest range of the population, now and in future
- Maintenance of the green nature and character of the North Sydney area
- Co-operative, effective and sustainable service delivery

Although this assessment does not make specific recommendations relating to sports facilities managed by the Harbour Trust, it does note the provision of new public open space at Sub Base Platypus.

#### Woollahra Municipal Council – Recreational Needs Assessment and Strategy 2006

The Recreational Needs Assessment and Strategy was commissioned by Woollahra Municipal Council in 2006. The key strategic objectives of this strategy are:

- A. Provide a diversity of recreation facilities and opportunities.
- B. Provide facilities and infrastructure that can support high levels of community use.
- C. Encourage and support community involvement in sustainable club management and development.

D. Facilitate diverse recreation programs and participation opportunities (either directly by Council or external providers).

E. Provide effective management, support and resources

In respect of recommendations that are applicable to Harbour Trust land, the Assessment recommends the linear trail between Christison Park and Gap Park be widened and the fencing around Macquarie Lighthouse be removed to enhance public access to the park. These recommendations have been implemented.

#### Hunters Hill Council Outdoor Sport and Recreation Plan 2011

Hunter's Hill Council completed the Hunters Hill Council Outdoor Sport and Recreation Plan in November 2013. The Plan identifies the following key issues and needs:

- Appreciation of local parks and quality open spaces
- High demand and shortage of sports grounds
- Diverse and equitable access to sport and recreation
- Improved policy environment, management and resources
- Priority facility improvements

The study's key findings and strategic framework have been organised into a series of actions and plans for four priority areas:

1. Governance and management
2. Outdoor recreation and active living

3. Other high participant sports
4. Sportsfield sports

The Plan makes no recommendations in relation to Harbour Trust land.

### Warringah Council Open Space Strategy 2015

In 2015, Warringah Council (now part of Northern Beaches Council) prepared an Open Space Strategy. The purpose of this strategy was to provide a suite of overarching strategic directions to guide the future management of Warringah's open spaces and the activities within them that are available for all to enjoy.

The Strategy includes the following Objectives:

- Support the prioritisation of open space projects
- Provide guidance for scoping new recreational assets and renewal of existing assets
- Identify opportunities for diverse and multiuse facilities and attractive and inviting open spaces meeting the needs of a broad range of demographics
- Encourage innovation and creativity
- Enhance the environmental, natural, cultural, heritage and built values of Warringah's open spaces, including consideration of opportunities for adaptive reuse
- Encourage and support opportunities for a safe healthy lifestyle

- Develop and maintain Warringah's open space assets within council's foreseeable finances
- Contribute to understanding the availability or potential for open space in areas that may experience population growth

The strategy does not make recommendations in relation to Harbour Trust land.

### Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds Strategy 2017

In 2017, Northern Beaches Council adopted a sportsgrounds Strategy and Strategic Implementation Plan 2017 to 2031.

The key actions recommended in the Strategy in priority order are:

- Allocate sportsfields based on a needs and participation growth basis;
- Improve the capacity and resilience of existing sportsfields;
- Build new and upgrade existing sportsfields in new housing development areas;
- Partner with schools to provide additional sportsfields for the community;
- Install synthetic surfaces on some existing sportsfields to enable greater use; and
- Convert suitable open space to sportsgrounds including some golf course land as needed.

The Strategy does not make recommendations in relation to Harbour Trust land, however it does commit to working with schools and other organisations to more efficiently utilise existing recreational facilities to meet demand.

### Draft Northern Beaches Walking Plan

In late 2018, Northern Beaches Council prepared a draft plan that seeks to deliver a walking network that connects all parts of the Council area. The key goals of the plan are to:

- Connect the network
- Deliver the network
- Make walking safe
- Create walkable neighbourhoods
- Encourage walking

The Draft Plan makes no recommendations in relation to Harbour Trust land.

### Findings

Studies by councils, sports groups and Regional Organisations of Councils have consistently found there is a shortage of sports fields to meet the playing and training needs of the communities on and around Harbour Trust lands.

In many cases, maintenance standards of sportsfields are considered below expectations. Each study identifies opportunities to more efficiently use existing facilities – to enable their use by a larger or more extensive part of the community – as well as opportunities to create new facilities where there are currently none. For example, some councils suggest installing lights or synthetic turf to fields where these currently are not provided, to enable the fields to be used later into the evening or more intensively throughout the year.

Other recommendations are for the more efficient booking of existing recreational spaces, such as employing a ‘locals first’ bookings systems, again to enable their increased or more efficient use. Finally, other recommendations include encouraging school facilities to be available for use by the general public or sporting groups and maximising opportunities for disparate groups (eg older/younger people and those with mobility impairments) to have access to recreational facilities.



## 6. ANALYSIS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE

Harbour Trust

*This section sets out an inventory of existing and potential uses and recreational facilities on Harbour Trust land.*

An analysis of current (or prospective) use of recreational facilities, and potential opportunities for modification or improvement, or involvement of third parties, is discussed. Suggested opportunities for change have been considered in the context of the Objects of the Harbour Trust's Act and the Objectives and Policies in the Comprehensive Plan.

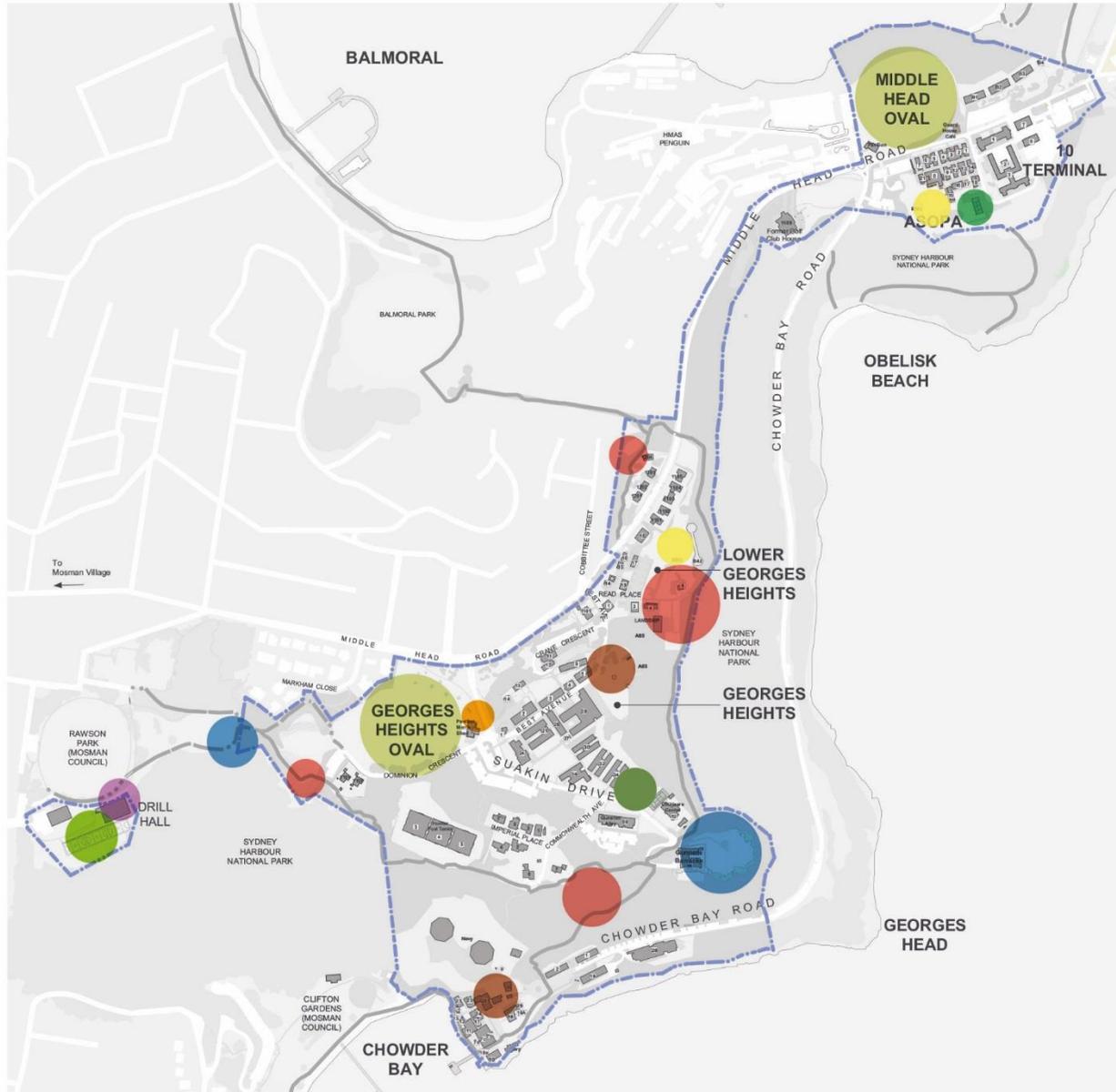
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Facilities managed by Harbour Trust volunteers (including the restoration and gardening teams and the North Head Sanctuary Foundation), and private tenants (excluding local councils) have not been included in this inventory.

The Harbour Trust will periodically invite feedback on the use of Harbour Trust lands for recreation. This feedback could address the suggestions contained in this Strategy, and could include comments or suggestions about the Harbour Trust's existing recreational facilities or desired enhancement of those facilities or possible new facilities.



## Headland Park, Mosman — Existing Recreational Facilities



### Legend

- Ovals (Soccer, cricket, Aussie Rules)
- Tennis Courts
- Netball Courts
- Indoor sports centre (Netball, Futsal, Basketball)
- Walking tracks
- BBQ/picnic areas
- Lookouts
- Mens Shed
- Parade grounds

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for Change
<p><b>Headland Park</b></p> <p>Headland Park, Mosman, encompasses a diverse mix of open spaces, adaptively re-used heritage buildings and some new buildings for commercial and community uses. Recreation facilities include parklands, foreshore areas, lookouts, sports ovals, tennis courts and netball courts.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Two ovals and the Drill Hall precinct are owned by the Harbour Trust, but managed by Mosman Council, denoted with an asterisk*. Mosman Council is required to prepare an Operations Plan to ensure facilities are managed with suitable level of investment and equity of access – to be reported on annually</i></p>				
<p>* Middle Head Oval (with lights) &amp; Pavilion</p>	<p>Soccer Aussie Rules (day/night use for training and games)</p>	<p>Mosman Council has explored options for upgrading playing surface, including possibility of synthetic surface, to support more intensive use.</p> <p>In 2018-19 Council upgraded the natural turf surface. Council will monitor the success of the surface.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Middle Head Management Plan identifies use of oval for sports, does not specify surface type.</li> <li>Middle Head Oval is an attractive space, with a natural surface that allows for multi-function use (sport, walking, occasional helicopter landings).</li> <li>Mosman Council has improved the natural surface.</li> <li>The Harbour Trust's preference is for a natural surface to be retained at Middle Head Oval.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any future review of the Harbour Trust's Management Plan for Middle Head would be subject to community consultation and approval by the Harbour Trust Board.</li> </ul>
		<p>Council proposal for new, relocated Pavilion. To provide improved facilities in unobtrusive location, allowing existing intrusive pavilion to be demolished, improving park aesthetics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified outcome in Management Plan.</li> <li>Council allocating developer contribution funds – potentially 2021.</li> </ul>	<p>Accept DA and consult with community.</p>

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for Change
* Georges Heights Oval & Pavilion	Soccer  Cricket (day use only for training and games)  Mens Shed	Mosman Council's <i>Open Space Recreational Needs Assessment</i> explores options for the installation of lights and synthetic turf on existing ovals to meet demand for playing space. Council approached the Harbour Trust regarding a synthetic surface for Middle Head Oval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Harbour Trust's preference is for Georges Heights oval to remain as a natural surface.</li> <li>Current Georges Heights Management Plan prohibits installation of lights due to a number of potential visual and amenity impacts. The Plan would need to be amended to accommodate the installation of lights.</li> <li>Nearby ovals (Rawson and Middle Head) have lighting.</li> <li>The Harbour Trust's preference is to maintain the prohibition against floodlighting at Georges Heights Oval.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any future review of the Harbour Trust's Management Plan for Georges Heights would be subject to community consultation and approval by the Harbour Trust Board.</li> </ul>
* Drill Hall Netball Courts	Netball (day use only for training)	Mosman Council proposal to introduce floodlighting to meet demand for playing space. Lights would facilitate increased use of the existing courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Management Plan prohibits lighting and competition use – Plan would need to be amended</li> <li>Current site Lease and DA prohibits lighting and competition use – Plan would need to be amended</li> <li>Nearby Rawson Oval has lighting.</li> <li>Subject to support and funding by Council / local sports groups</li> <li>Subject to detailed impact analysis (especially traffic, parking, noise, light impacts)</li> <li>Community consultation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with the community regarding a draft amendment to the Drill Hall Management Plan which would propose amended controls for the lighting and night- time use of the outdoor netball courts.</li> <li>Consider a planning application by Mosman Council for its proposal for lighting the Drill Hall courts, if one is received. Any application would be subject to an evidence-based assessment and community consultation.</li> <li>Following consultation, the draft plan and planning application would be subject to consideration by the Harbour Trust Board.</li> </ul>

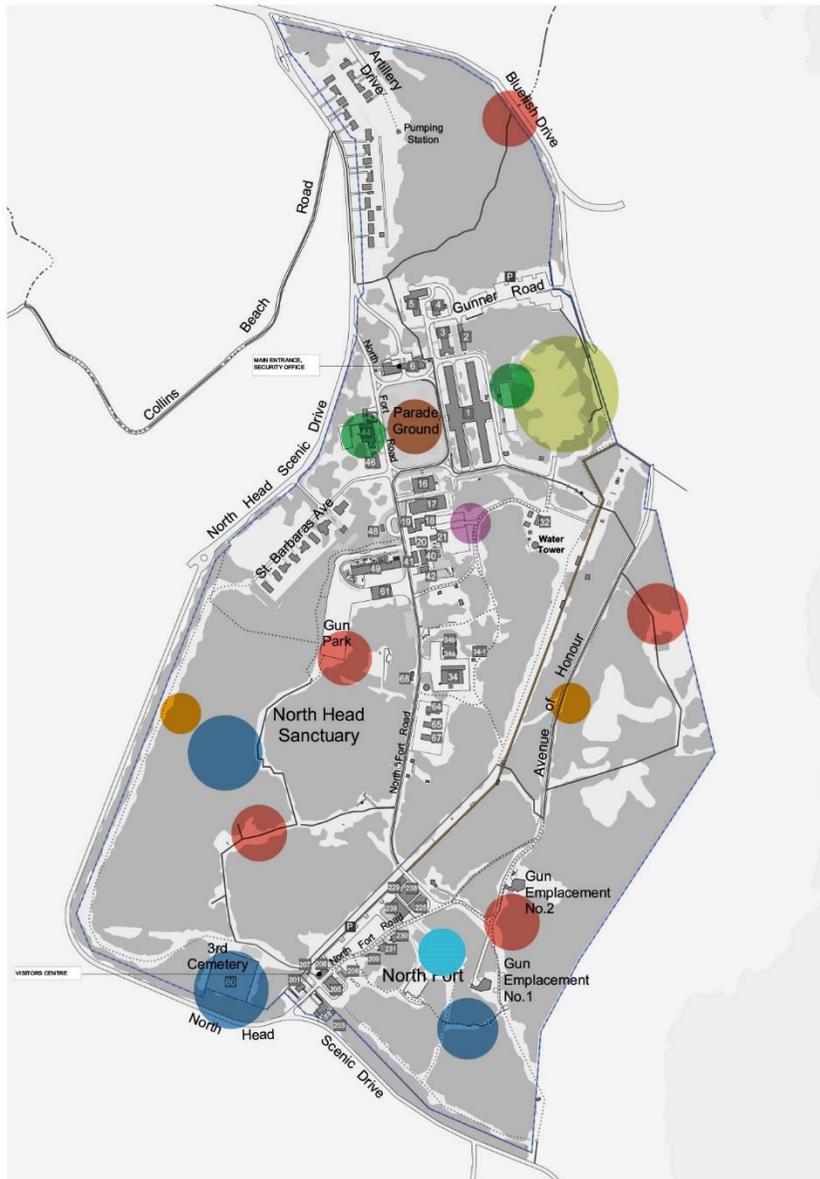
Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for Change
* Drill Hall – 1913 Hall	Out of School Hours care  Community Groups for activities such as yoga	Mosman Council manages this facility and the mix of uses/activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential to modify mix of uses/activities may be considered by Council</li> </ul>	Consider any request to alter mix of uses/activities, as they arise
* Drill Hall – Marie Bashir Centre	Netball  Futsal  Basketball	Mosman Council manages this facility and the mix of uses/activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential to modify mix of uses/activities may be considered by Council</li> </ul>	Consider any request to alter mix of uses/activities, as they arise.
Drill Hall – Open Space	Socialising  Walking  Children Playing  BBQs/picnics	Continue current uses  Potential for new structures for meetings/storage/club house	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management Plan does not allow for new structures</li> <li>Heritage/visual impact</li> <li>Potential for intensification of use</li> <li>Facilities for storage/meetings/club activities available in the Drill Hall and Marie Bashir Centre</li> </ul>	New structures for storage/meetings/organised sport are not supported
Parking areas/hardstand/ other areas of open space	Currently used for parking / open space	There have been suggestions to create new outdoor sports courts or sporting fields (for <i>netball/futsal/basketball</i> ) on existing parking areas or existing open space (or on areas that have been identified for future open space)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested locations are used for parking or open space</li> <li>Use of these areas for formal/ organised active sports is not consistent with Management Plan</li> <li>Excavation for a new surface could impact subsurface contaminants</li> <li>Use of parking areas/hardstands/other areas of open space for new sports fields or new courts for formal/ organised active sport is not supported.</li> </ul>	-

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for Change
Camouflage fuel tanks	Gallery / performing arts space / storage	Potential to use 1 tank for indoor recreation space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent with Management Plan.</li> <li>• Air quality to be assessed</li> <li>• Adequacy of space – existing structural columns restrict use of space as an unobstructed indoor recreation space</li> <li>• Need to ensure adequate provision of parking</li> <li>• Would be subject to EOI and DA processes and commercially funded.</li> </ul>	Consider any proposals that arise.
		Continue to use 2 other tanks for gallery/performing arts/storage	-	-
Tennis courts at Middle Head and Georges Heights	Tennis	Consider potential for introducing floodlighting to facilitate increased use of the existing courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject to support/funding by third party</li> <li>• Detailed impact analysis</li> <li>• Community consultation</li> </ul>	Undertake evidence based needs/impacts assessments and studies
		Improve online booking system - allow bookings on the hour and half hour for minimum 30-minute blocks – improved flexibility for users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online booking system already in place – simple modification to improve flexibility for users.</li> </ul>	Consider changes to existing booking system to allow for a more flexible booking system
		Consider allowing private management of the courts. A commercial approach may improve user experience, and provide enhanced offering, such as skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equitable access to diverse groups of the public.</li> <li>• Would be subject to EOI process</li> </ul>	Consider any commercial proposals for private management of the courts.

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for Change
		Consider adapting one or more courts for other sports – such as netball, basketball, futsal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suitability of court for alternate use (eg size)</li> <li>Potential for increased intensity of use</li> <li>Would be subject to EOI process and funded by a third party</li> </ul>	<p>Consider opportunities as they arise using an evidence-based assessment.</p> <p>Consult with community and stakeholders about any proposed changes.</p> <p>Subject to funding (third party)</p>
Walking Tracks	Walking, jogging, orienteering, community fun runs, dog-walkers	Connect to NPWS proposed walking track (Middle Head to Chowder Bay)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NPWS planning and design for the proposed walking track</li> </ul>	Continue to liaise with NPWS to ensure a cohesive approach and outcome
		Coordinate with NPWS opportunities for modest path connections/signage to link with any new paths planned in Sydney Harbour NP including integrating into Bondi-Manly walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with NPWS</li> </ul>	
		Easy-grade/accessible loop at Middle Head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified in Management Plan.</li> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Implement when funding becomes available.
		Consider bush schools/outdoor education/bush tucker program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise
Picnic/BBQ areas – Artists precinct, Middle Head	Socialising	Installation of additional tables, benches and BBQs throughout Headland Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Implement when funding becomes available.
Gravel areas of parade grounds	Petanque/Bocci	Install benches, shade, noticeboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential occasional conflict with other uses: Defence at Chowder Bay; and memorial services at Georges Heights.</li> <li>Subject to funding – possibly by a third party</li> </ul>	Implement when funding becomes available.

<b>Asset</b> (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	<b>Main recreational uses</b>	<b>Possibilities</b>	<b>Considerations</b>	<b>Opportunities for Change</b>
<i>Playground (proposed) – Middle Head</i>	Play space for children	Playground proposed under the Harbour Trust’s Playground Strategy 2016.  Mosman Council has identified longer term funding – would form part of new pavilion proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified in Management Plan.</li> <li>• Play facilities would complement café and attract new visitors to the precinct</li> <li>• Playground should be suitable for a mix of ages and abilities</li> <li>• Use natural materials to complement the locality and heritage values</li> </ul>	Liaise with Council regarding design. Accept a DA from Council when it is forthcoming.
<i>Community Garden</i>	Socialising	Fenced community garden - provides social recreation, community interaction and promotes environmental sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location to be identified</li> <li>• Community interest and involvement</li> <li>• Use raised beds to avoid any potential contaminants and improve access for elderly/mobility impaired persons</li> <li>• Potential to interpret Bungaree’s Farm.</li> <li>• Subject to third party funding</li> </ul>	Undertake community interest survey and identify suitable location/s.  Implementation subject to funding.

## North Head Sanctuary, Manly — Existing Recreational Facilities



### Legend

- Former Oval  
(Walking, picnicking,  
low intensity sports)
- Tennis Courts
- Gymnasium  
(Currently unused)
- Walking tracks
- BBQ/picnic areas
- Lookouts
- Shared pedestrian/bicycle tracks
- Parade grounds

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
<b>North Head</b>				
North Head Sanctuary, Manly, comprises large areas of bushland with pockets of former Defence buildings, some reoccupied for new uses, others still vacant. Recreational uses are largely for passive, consistent with the vision of creating a sanctuary focussing on the natural environment and the cultural heritage of the area.				
Walking tracks	Walking, jogging, orienteering, community fun runs	Identified network of paths has been implemented. No new paths proposed.  Coordinate with NPWS opportunities for modest path connections/signage to link with any new paths planned in Sydney Harbour NP including integrating into Bondi-Manly walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated approach to the whole headland is a key aim of the Management Plan.</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.
		Consider bush schools/outdoor education/bush tucker program		
Former Oval	Walking, picnicking, low intensity sports	Reinstatement of playing field is not supported.  Low intensity activities – such as those that do not need a regular field – e.g. archery and orienteering, camping  Install tables, BBQs and benches – for picnickers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management Plan identifies oval for creation of habitat, and passive open space.</li> <li>Low intensity activities would attract more visitors to the precinct whilst having regard for the ecosystem of North Head Sanctuary.</li> <li>Consider environmental impacts of low intensity activities</li> <li>May require some modest new infrastructure.</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities for low intensity activities as they arise.  Install tables, BBQs and benches when funding becomes available.

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
Gymnasium	Currently not used.	Seek to reactivate this vacant space for active sports, potentially: fitness, gymnasium, squash, basketball, netball, futsal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The building is purpose-built for active recreation</li> <li>Building may require some refurbishment, adaptation, to ensure it meets contemporary standards – subject to third party funding.</li> <li>Activation would be subject to EOI and funded/implemented by third party (council or commercial operator)</li> </ul>	Promote the opportunity for use of this building – e.g. local government, sports associations, private fitness.
Shared pedestrian / bicycle track	Walking, jogging, cycling	Continue use.	-	-
Parade Ground	Not used for recreation. Has been used for occasional low impact/no set up events.	Over the years, sports groups have approached the Harbour Trust enquiring about possible use of the Parade Ground for hard surface courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage values and visual impact</li> <li>Low impact/no set up activities such as petanque or short term events could be considered to help activate the space</li> <li>The Harbour Trust does not support use of the Parade Ground for hard surface courts, given visual impact and impact on heritage values.</li> </ul>	Consider proposals for low impact activities like petanque, or short term events, as they arise.
North Fort	Walking, picnics, lookouts	Playground facility proposed under the Draft Playground Strategy 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play facilities would complement and diversify visitor experience</li> <li>Discreet location and unobtrusive design</li> <li>Playground to be suitable for a mix of ages and abilities</li> <li>Use natural materials to complement setting</li> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Consider location and design for play and picnic facilities.  Implement when funding becomes available.
		Installation of modest/low key tables, benches and BBQs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discreet location and unobtrusive design</li> <li>Do not locate BBQs adjacent to bushland</li> </ul>	

<b>Asset</b> (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	<b>Main recreational uses</b>	<b>Possibilities</b>	<b>Considerations</b>	<b>Opportunities for change</b>
Tennis	Currently unused	Reinstate the use of the tennis court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courts are in poor condition – surface and fencing are degraded.</li> <li>• Maintenance and repair to tennis court</li> <li>• Introduce online booking system</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	<p>Undertake repairs and maintenance works when funding is available.</p> <p>Investigate online booking system</p>
Existing sheds (North Fort, Sheds Precinct)	Unused/storage	Potential to convert to multi-purpose sports court (netball, basketball, futsal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildings would require reconfiguration to accommodate proposed use</li> <li>• Consider consistency with management plan</li> <li>• Need to ensure adequate provision of parking and arrangements for access (no vehicle exit from North Fort via North Head Scenic Drive after 6 pm (winter) or 8.30 pm (summer))</li> <li>• Would be subject to EOI process and commercially funded</li> </ul>	<p>Consider opportunities as they arise.</p> <p>Subject to third party funding</p>

## COCKATOO ISLAND- Existing Recreation assets/uses

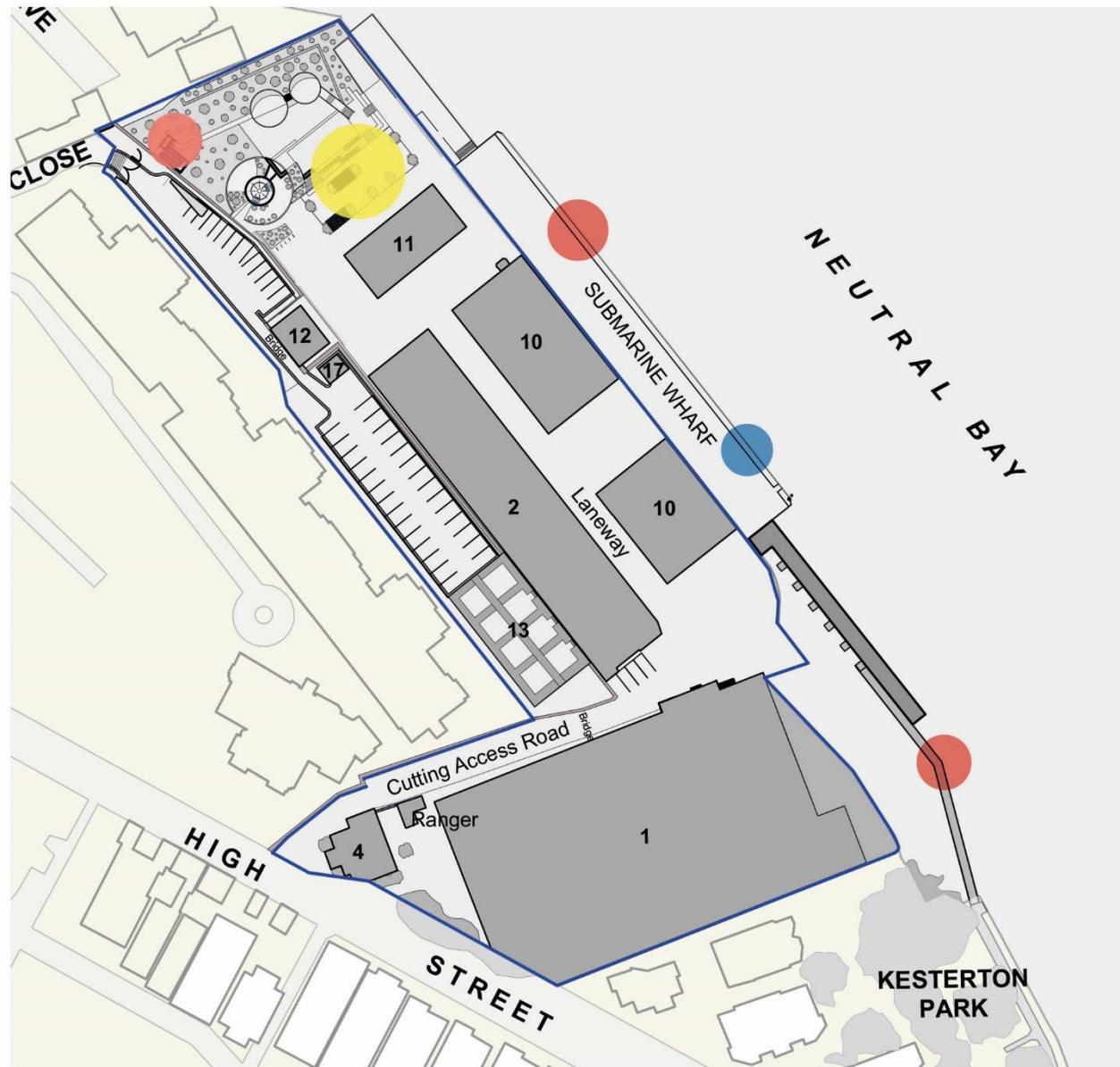


Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
<b>Cockatoo Island</b>				
Cockatoo Island is the largest island in Sydney Harbour with many layers of history. The Island accommodates a range of convict-era and industrial buildings, hardstand areas, wharfs, docks, cranes and other industrial infrastructure. Recreational use is predominantly camping and walking.				
Campground / Apartments	Socialising  Camping	Continue use.  Opportunity to expand offering to include accessible accommodation (apartments / tents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage considerations</li> <li>Installation of access ramps / modifications to bathrooms</li> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Implement when funding becomes available.
Swimming Area	Swimming (currently closed)	Re-open swimming area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety (pollutants, trip hazards etc)</li> <li>Cost</li> <li>Suitability</li> </ul>	Could be considered if funding for make-safe works became available.
<i>Playground (proposed)</i>	Play facility for children	Playground facility proposed under the Draft Playground Strategy 2016.  Could have a water-play theme – to provide amenity for site visitors, and to interpret the site’s history.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play facilities would diversify visitor experience and increase visitation.</li> <li>Opportunity to interpret heritage values</li> <li>Playground to be inclusive/suitable for persons with a disability</li> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Consider design for a play facility.  Implement when funding becomes available.
Path and track network	Walking	Continue use.  Opportunity to create accessible path network  Opportunity to improve interpretive signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage considerations</li> <li>Installation of access ramps and lifts</li> <li>Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Implement when funding becomes available.

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
Basketball court (inside building 150)	Basketball	Continue use.	-	-
Tennis Court	Tennis (currently unused)	Reinstate the use of the tennis court  Potential to modify to accommodate alternate sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fence around court requires repair</li> <li>• Introduce online booking system</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	<p>Undertake repairs and maintenance works when funding is available.</p> <p>Investigate online booking system</p>
Chess board	Chess	Continue use.	-	-
Existing path network	Cycling	Private operator to run a rent-a-bike to explore the Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for novice cyclists to ride in a safe car-free environment.</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Suitability and viability</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.
Adjoining harbour	Kayak	Consider kayak hire /kayak tour operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Suitability and viability</li> <li>• Minor capital works may be required to improve launch area</li> <li>• Kayaks may need on-site storage – to be resolved</li> <li>• Potential to partner with third party operator</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.
Hardstands	Walking, socialising, events	Consider simple line-marking to create courts for netball/basketball/futsal on existing hardstands – for training or competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an island, may not be attractive to local sports groups</li> <li>• Would encourage increased visitation.</li> <li>• Potential conflict with use of hardstand by events</li> <li>• Safety</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitability and viability</li> <li>• Funding</li> </ul>	
Cliff face	Not used	Potential for use for rock climbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Consider stability of cliff face</li> <li>• Suitability and viability</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.

## Sub Base Platypus — Existing Recreational Facilities



Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
<b>Sub Base Platypus</b>				
Sub Base Platypus, North Sydney, is currently being revitalised with open spaces and visitor-focused cultural, recreational and commercial activities. Recreational facilities currently include walking paths, a playground and picnic area.				
Playground	Children's play facility	No change proposed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently low utilisation – potential to review design</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Review design – subject to funding
Over water link, open space	Walking, jogging	Continue use	-	-
BBQs/Picnic Areas	Socialising	Continue use	-	-
Torpedo Factory (upper level)	-	Passive recreation  There have been suggestions for the installation of one or two sports courts (e.g. netball, basketball, indoor cricket) in the Torpedo Factory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation use is not inconsistent with Management Plan</li> <li>• Harbour Trust is considering a concept design for the Torpedo Factory</li> <li>• Noise and amenity impacts</li> <li>• Traffic and parking impacts</li> <li>• The Harbour Trust's preference is for the Torpedo Factory not to be used for formal/organised active sports</li> <li>• The Harbour Trust's preference is for low impact community uses</li> </ul>	-
Buildings 2 and 10, Torpedo Factory (lower level), Retort building	-	Possibility for commercially-provided fitness, gym, dance, yoga etc studios.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent with Management Plan.</li> <li>• Noise and amenity impacts</li> <li>• Traffic and parking</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
Cliff face	Not currently used	Use cliff face or the Cutting for rock climbing – as a private commercial operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Harbour Trust’s preference is for the cliff face not to be used for rock climbing</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Suitability</li> <li>• Potential contamination on cliff-face</li> </ul>	-
Waterway	Not currently used	Community feedback often suggests that the Harbour Trust consider installing a netted swimming area between the over-water walkway and the foreshore.	The Harbour Trust does not support installing a netted swimming area between the over-water walkway and the foreshore. There are a number of nearby alternate attractive swimming areas including MacCallum Pool (Cremorne Point) and North Sydney Pool.	-
Waterway	Not currently used	Provide a floating pontoon to facilitate access by recreational boats and kayaks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Management Plan identifies the potential for a floating pontoon which could include a landing platform for kayaks. This would facilitate access for small recreational vessels and kayaks.</li> <li>• Kayaks may need on-site storage – this must be unobtrusive and not impede access/use of space for other users.</li> <li>• Subject to funding.</li> </ul>	Actively seek funding to construct floating pontoon.
Waterway	-	Consider kayak hire /kayak tour operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The floating pontoon – subject to funding – would include a pontoon and steps for the launching of small recreational vessels and kayaks.</li> <li>• Potential to partner with third party operator</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.

## Woolwich Dock and Parklands, Woolwich — Existing Recreational Facilities



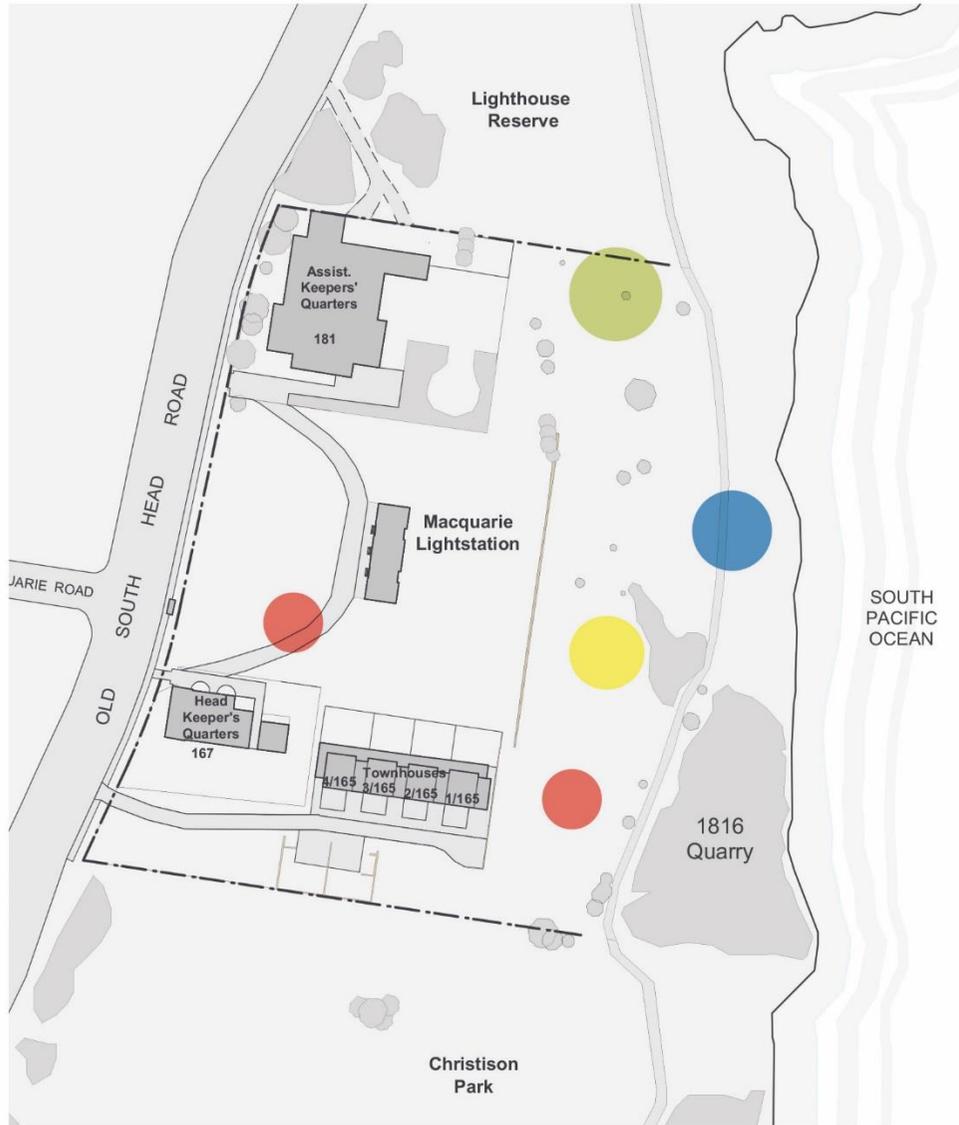
### Legend

- Open space/Dog walking
- Walking
- Picnic areas
- Lookouts
- Boat Ramp

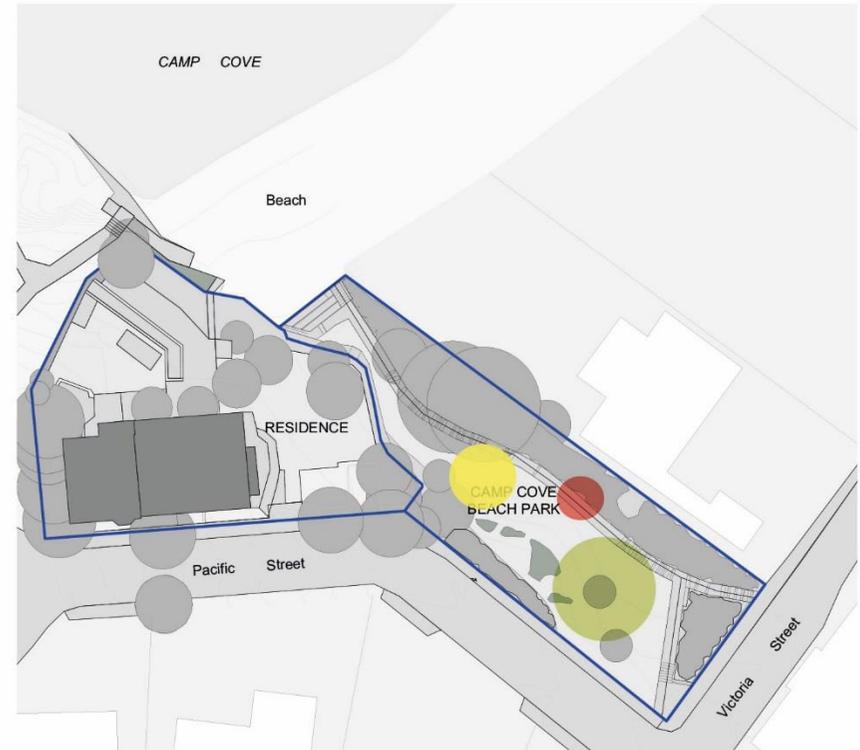
Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
<b>Woolwich Dock and Parklands</b>				
Woolwich Dock and Parklands comprises the dockyard, the Goat Paddock and the large-open space of the Horse Paddock. Recreational uses include walking, picnic areas and sailing.				
Walking tracks	Walking, jogging, running	Better connection with Clarke's Point Reserve and Kelly's Bush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Hunters Hill Council</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Liaise with Hunters Hill Council to explore opportunities.
Horse Paddock	Dog walking  Passive recreation  Occasional community events	<p>This large flat open space suggests the possibility of introducing a sportsfield – but this is not supported due to space limitations, conflict with existing passive use of this space, potential impact to subsurface contaminants if excavation is required, and the potential traffic/parking generation exceeding the site's capacity.</p> <p>Improve with shade trees, benches, picnic area</p> <p>Occasional community events – the Horse Paddock was designed to include a sloping area/amphitheatre. Electrical supply was also included</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve access and amenity</li> <li>• Parking</li> <li>• Current Management Plan for Woolwich Dock and Parklands states the use of the Horse Paddock is for passive recreation and occasional community events</li> <li>• The Harbour Trust's preference is for the Horse Paddock not to be used for formal/organised active sports</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities for passive recreation and occasional community events as they arise

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
Horse Paddock	-	Playground	<p>The draft Playground Strategy 2016 does not support a playground due to proximity of existing Council playground at nearby Weil Park, and the Harbour Trust's proposed play facility on nearby Cockatoo Island.</p> <p>Any future review of the Playground Strategy could consider opportunities for an accessible play facility on the Horse Paddock – which could interpret ship-building, dock construction, land reclamation</p>	Review Playground Strategy and explore options for new playspace
Parking area for cars with trailers that use boat ramp	Parking for users of adjacent boat ramp (access from Margaret Street)	Continue to support parking	-	-
Barge roll-on/roll-off ramp	Sailing (club house in adjacent Clarkes Point Reserve)	<p>Continue to allow Sailing Club to use Harbour Trust land for temporary storage of vessels.</p> <p>Consider kayak hire /kayak tour operator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Suitability and viability</li> <li>• Potential conflict with occasional barging to/from Cockatoo Island (generally only one day a week)</li> </ul>	Consider opportunities as they arise.

## Macquarie Lightstation, Vaucluse — Existing Recreational Facilities



## Marine Biological Station, Vaucluse — Existing Recreational Facilities



### Legend

- Open space
- Walking
- Picnic areas
- Lookouts

Asset (Existing/ <i>Potential</i> )	Main recreational uses	Possibilities	Considerations	Opportunities for change
<b>Marine Biological Station Park</b>				
The former Marine Biological Station includes an historic cottage built for marine research, now a private residence, and an adjoining Park used primarily for passive recreation and access to Camp Cove Beach.				
Park, picnic area	Walking, jogging, socialising	Continue use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential to upgrade path to improve accessibility</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Subject to funding
<b>Macquarie Lightstation</b>				
Originally built in 1818, Macquarie Lighthouse is Australia's first and longest operating navigational light source. Located along the route of the Bicentennial Coastal Walk from Clovelly to South Head, the grounds of the lighthouse are used for passive recreation.				
Walking path	Walking, jogging, socialising	Continue use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential to upgrade path to improve accessibility</li> <li>• Subject to funding</li> </ul>	Subject to funding
Open space	Kite flying	Continue use	-	-



## 7. CONCLUSION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Harbour Trust



Australian Government  
Sydney Harbour Recreation Trust

Harbour Trust lands are used for a wide range of recreation activities. The Harbour Trust supports the continued use of the lands in this way.

The Strategy identifies some modest potential changes, to improve existing facilities, or provide new facilities, to meet changing or emerging needs.

Most such new facilities are contingent upon funding, or would need to be initiated by third parties. The Harbour Trust's consideration of any new facilities would be made on an evidence-based approach – demonstrating need and addressing the Harbour Trust's Act, Comprehensive Plan and relevant Management Plan.

Where a proposal would require an amendment to a Management Plan, this would be conducted with full public consultation.

Implementation will be an ongoing process, reflecting the changing needs of the community.





Step	Date
1. Harbour Trust Board considers Draft Strategy and agrees to its public exhibition.	22 March 2019
2. Draft Strategy on public exhibition.	From: 29 March 2019
	To: 10 May 2019
3. Board considers submissions and agreed to finalise the Draft Strategy with changes addressing issues raised.	22 July 2019
4. The Harbour Trust will re-examine the use of Harbour Trust lands for recreation within five years of this Strategy being finalised.	

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Harbour Trust



Australian Government  
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

 Cockatoo  
Island

 Headland  
Park MOSMAN

 NORTHHEAD  
— SANCTUARY MANLY —

SUB BASE  
PLATYPUS