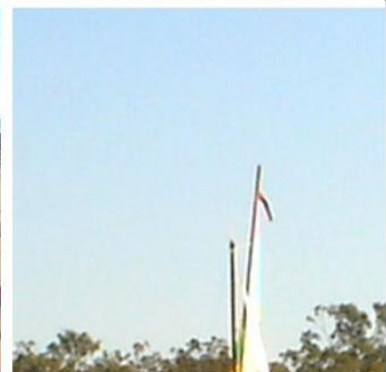




GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL



GLADSTONE REGION

*Amalgamation of
Open Space and Recreation Plans*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (2010)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Open Space and Recreation covers a wide range of elements including identifying relevant open space, protecting and managing it; establishing and maintaining a variety of park settings; ensuring adequate spaces and places to recreate; and providing adequate sporting fields and opportunities to meet the needs of communities.

Due to the Local Government amalgamations in 2008, Gladstone City Council, Calliope Shire Council, and Miriam Vale Shire Council combined to become Gladstone Regional Council. The three previous local authorities had existing 10 year opens space or sport and recreation plans undertaken from 2005-2008. Given that these plans were relatively recent, the newly formed Gladstone Regional Council decided to amalgamate the three existing plans. It was identified by Council that the rural areas of Calliope Shire were not included in the existing plans and therefore an open space and recreation plan was undertaken for the Mount Larcom, Calliope and Boyne Valley areas. A Sports Mapping study was also undertaken to determine the needs of sports throughout the Gladstone Region. Recommendations from the following five documents have been amalgamated as part of this plan.

REGIONAL VISION

All townships and geographical areas contribute in their own unique way to the region's rich and diverse open space, sport and recreation opportunities which:

- Encourages regionalisation and growth;*
- Features natural landscapes including the foreshores, rivers, valleys and mountains;*
- Caters for a range of diverse activities and settings – providing opportunities for all;*
- Creates a well balanced region of industrial growth and urban development with valued lifestyle choices; and*
- Contributes to community spirit and connectedness.*

DISTRICT FOCUS

Each area in the Gladstone Region is unique and contributes to overall provision of quality sport and recreation experiences. Each area should be managed to achieve its significant individual contribution to the Region.

Gladstone District Focus

The focus for Gladstone... is a regional centre for sport catering for regional, State and national level competition facilities with a range of signature parks and environmental recreation areas. All waterfront space is capitalised on. The city is linked with bikeways and pathways supporting its Healthy Active Campaign.

Boyne Tannum District Focus

The focus for Boyne Tannum district is... as a major location for families to gather at pristine beaches and foreshores. The river provides extended opportunities for boating and fishing related activities. The two townships provide regional level competition sporting facilities. The district also accommodates a regionally significant motor sport facility.

Miriam Vale District Focus

The focus for Miriam Vale... is the provision of quality green space areas for a variety of games, events and sporting competition for the Southern part of the region. A tourist stop destination at well maintained and equipped parks and amenities. There is collaboration with school for community use of school sport and recreation facilities to provide for the local people.

The focus for Agnes Water/1770... is to capitalise on the natural beauty for locals and tourists to have a unique experience. Quality green space is provided for competition sporting events and games for the Southern part of the region, along with a range of diverse park settings that contribute to the seaside holiday location.

Miriam Vale District Focus, continued...

The focus for rural Miriam Vale District (Rosedale, Baffle Creek, Flat Rock, Lowmead)... is to provide locals with the opportunity to access quality green space and parks that reflect the rural setting of the area. Facilities are provided, in collaboration with schools, to meet the needs of the local community. Council services are provided to support local people to develop and deliver sport and recreation programs and facilities.

Mount Larcom, Calliope, Boyne Valley District Focus

The focus for Mount Larcom... is a rural centre which provides a regionally significant showground. Quality facilities are safely accessible by the community. A range of activities are undertaken by the community utilising existing facilities.

The focus for Calliope... is well developed parks providing diverse recreation opportunities to this growing area. Local level competition fields provided for home and away games for a range of potential sporting organisations. Calliope's rural setting lends itself as a focus for a regional horse sports facility.

The focus for Boyne Valley... is the rustic rural green valley that provides tourists with a contrasting experience than that of the coast. Parks and quality green space supports the village feel of the valley townships. The community links with schools to access sport and recreation facilities providing for local needs.

PRINCIPLES

To guide Gladstone Regional Council through the planning and management of open space, recreation and sport the following principles have been created:

OPEN SPACE PRINCIPLES

1. Open Space is acquired and managed for a range of functions and values including nature conservation, scenic amenity, ecosystems, landscape heritage, outdoor recreation and sport.
2. Valued open space and natural landscape features are identified and protected.
3. Open space policies and plans are used to determine appropriate developer contributions.
4. Standards of provision and other relevant principles and policies are used in assessing demand.
5. Indigenous needs are considered when acquiring and managing open space areas.

RECREATION PRINCIPLES

6. Park and Recreation Standards of Provision and other relevant principles and policies are used in assessing demand.
7. The community has access to a range of well maintained, well managed and appropriately designed and located community facilities.
8. Recreation facilities are sustainable and preserved as intended.
9. Quality parks are provided:
 - within a reasonable distance of residential areas;
 - of suitable size and quality ;
 - within a diversity of open space settings;
 - with sufficient land for active recreation; and
 - to cater for changing community characteristics and use demands.

SPORT PRINCIPLES

10. The community has access to a range of well maintained, well managed and appropriately designed and located sporting facilities.
11. Sports Standards of Provision and other relevant principles and policies are used in assessing demand.
12. Increased participation in physical activity is nurtured through sports planning and provision.
13. Sports facilities are safe and accessible.
14. Sports facility managers are competent and effective.

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

15. Planning for open space, recreation and sport is coordinated within Council units (E.g. Parks, Town Planning, Community Development and Infrastructure Services) and that these units are aware of their responsibilities in implementing planning actions.

16. Regional open space and facility development is planned in conjunction with external agencies (E.g. Department of Environment and Resource Management, Department of Communities, Sport and Recreation).
17. The community is consulted in relation to open space and recreation planning and that their thoughts and ideas are considered and prioritised.
18. Appropriate plans are created for prioritised facility development, establishing tenure or for identified risks.

SERVICE DELIVERY PRINCIPLES

19. Communities are encouraged and supported in developing their skills to assist with the management and provision of open space and recreation opportunities.
20. A Service Delivery Framework is used to ensure the equitable and effective delivery of sport and recreation services to organisations throughout the region.
21. Appropriate policies are developed and implemented to support the acquisition, development and management of open space and recreation.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

To ensure infrastructure projects are equitably developed across the region, a process for assessing needs or requests has been developed. This assessment tool should be used at all times to evaluate the priorities for the region.

Multi-criteria Analysis – Assessment Tool

- Q1. Does the need come within the Standard of Provision?
- Q2. Is there strong community demand?
- Q3. Does it meet a greater risk?
- Q4. Is the need financially realistic?
- Q5. Does a growing demographic support the request?
- Q6. Does the need add to the environmental protection and natural sustainability of the area?
- Q7. Does the need add diversity or value to the existing provision?

Every facility need identified through the amalgamation process has been assessed to determine a priority.

HIGH PRIORITY = 1-3 Years

MEDIUM PRIORITY= 3-5 Years

LOW PRIORITY = 5-8 Years

The assessment process produced the following outcomes:

| GLADSTONE DISTRICT PRIORITISED PROJECTS | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| NEED | SCORE | PRIORITY |
| 1. Additional 33 Ha of recreation land in Gladstone by 2026 | 7 | High |
| 2. Additional 21 Ha of sport land in Gladstone by 2026 | 7 | High |
| 3. Linked walking trails for the Gladstone District | 7 | High |
| 4. Improve the condition of sporting fields throughout the region | 7 | High |
| 5. Environmental Park at Philip Street Park (security of tenure) | 6 | High |
| 6. Diverse Youth Space for the Gladstone District (Memorial Park) | 6 | High |
| 7. Barney Point Foreshore Upgrade | 6 | High |
| 8. Installation of play equipment in high use sporting parks or signature parks | 5 | Medium |
| 9. Sport and Recreation Signage Strategy for the Region | 5 | Medium |
| 10. Improve lighting at Clinton Park Sports Grounds | 5 | Medium |
| 11. Develop an additional football/Australian football field for Clinton Park Sports Association clubs | 5 | Medium |
| 12. Develop a lit turf hockey field in Gladstone | 5 | Medium |
| 13. Restore Marley Brown as a regional sports competition facility | 5 | Medium |
| 14. Install competition lighting at all unlit senior fields used for competition | 5 | Medium |
| 15. Develop Palm Drive Sports Grounds into a regional sporting facility | 5 | Medium |
| 16. Designate dog off-leash areas (Clinton, New Auckland, Glen Eden, Calliope) | 4 | Medium |
| 17. Strategic lighting of signature parks and pathways in Gladstone | 4 | Medium |
| 18. Lions Park Improvement Project | 4 | Medium |

| | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| 19. Gladstone Karting club track extension and facility improvements | 4 | Medium |
| 20. Retain Clinton skate facility and undertake specific safety and minor upgrades | 3 | Low |
| 21. Enclose the Gladstone Basketball outdoor court | 3 | Low |
| 22. Maroona Park Improvements | 2 | Low |
| 23. Green Space Sport for Harbour Islands | 2 | Low |
| 24. Sports Courts for Harbour Islands | 2 | Low |
| 25. Develop two competition fields and infrastructure at Past Brothers Junior League Fields | 2 | Low |
| 26. Kooyong Park Improvements | 1 | No priority |
| BOYNE TANNUM DISTRICT PRIORITISED PROJECTS | | |
| NEED | Score | Priority |
| 27. Develop environmental park linking with Boyne Tannum Sports Park | 6 | High |
| 28. Develop Boyne Tannum Sports Park | 6 | High |
| 29. Create a youth space in Benaraby | 5 | Medium |
| 30. Develop a new swimming pool for Boyne Tannum District | 4 | Medium |
| 31. Upgrade Canoe Point Outriggers Area | 4 | Medium |
| 32. Securing appropriate land for 4wd and trail bike riding (Benaraby Motorsportz Complex) | 3 | Low |
| 33. Develop Lilly Park (Jacaranda Drive) | 2 | Low |
| 34. District Equestrian Centre for Boyne Tannum District | 2 | Low |
| MIRIAM VALE DISTRICT PRIORITISED PROJECTS | | |
| NEED | Score | Priority |
| 35. Additional 1-2 ha of parkland in the rural areas of Miriam Vale District | 7 | High |
| 36. New District Park on the foreshore adjacent to the Agnes Water Surf Life Saving Club | 7 | High |
| 37. Additional 7ha of parkland in Agnes Water and 1770 by 2026 | 7 | High |
| 38. Sports court in Agnes Water | 6 | High |
| 39. Continuous off-road path linking Agnes Water and 1770 via Captain Cook Drive to address “missing links” north of the bowls club | 6 | High |
| 40. Upgrade paths for access to Sunset Lodge at Miriam Vale | 4 | Medium |
| 41. Convert the old tennis court at Rosedale into a youth space | 4 | Medium |
| 42. Larson Oval – improved access, car parking and new amenities | 4 | Medium |
| 43. Upgrade Flat Rock Picnic area (Baffle Creek) | 3 | Low |
| 44. Sports Courts in 1770 | 2 | Low |
| 45. Upgrade Agnes Water Springs Recreation Reserve | 2 | Low |
| 46. Upgrade Discovery Coast Sport & Recreation Grounds | 2 | Low |
| 47. Sports court in Bororen | 2 | Low |
| 48. Sports Court in Lowmead | 2 | Low |
| 49. Paths and trails in Lowmead | 2 | Low |
| 50. Paths and trails in Baffle Creek | 2 | Low |
| 51. Improve the disabled access ramp to public toilets at Rosedale Returned Soldiers Memorial Park | 2 | Low |
| 52. Paths and trails in Rosedale | 2 | Low |
| 53. Sports court in Turkey Beach | 2 | Low |
| 54. Undercover/indoor facility at Turkey Beach | 2 | Low |
| 55. Youth space in Baffle Creek | 2 | Low |
| 56. Develop Workman’s Beach and Agnes Water Community Centre into a district park | 2 | Low |
| 57. Path and rail crossing from town centre to Rosedale State High School | 1 | No priority |
| 58. Upgrade the Agnes Water Park on Discovery Drive | 1 | No priority |

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------|
| 59. Upgrade Agnes Water Captain Cook Lions Park Youth Activity Node | 1 | No priority |
| 60. Sunlover Avenue Park Upgrade (Agnes Water) | 1 | No priority |
| 61. Pathway link to Lowmead State School | 1 | No priority |
| 62. Paths and trails in Bororen | 1 | No priority |
| 63. Upgrade the Bororen Sports & Recreation Grounds | 1 | No priority |
| 64. Develop Captain Creek Sports & Recreation Grounds as a horse sport precinct | 0 | No priority |
| 65. Establish a new Local Park on Intrepid Drive Turkey beach foreshore, possibly co-located with future boat ramp | 0 | No priority |
| 66. Develop Turkey Beach Park (Lions Park) same as Intrepid Drive Turkey Beach foreshore | - | Unsure of project |

MOUNT LARCOM, CALLIOPE, BOYNE VALLEY DISTRICT PRIORITISED PROJECTS

| NEED | Score | Priority |
|--|-------|-------------|
| 67. Additional 2.65Ha of recreation land in Calliope by 2016 and a further 15.9Ha of recreation land by 2026 | 7 | High |
| 68. Additional 2.73 Ha of sport land in Calliope by 2016 and a further 10.6Ha by 2026 | 7 | High |
| 69. An additional Rugby League field in Calliope | 6 | High |
| 70. Develop a multiuse Sports Park in Calliope | 5 | Medium |
| 71. Jaycees Park – Development including landscaping, additional picnic shelter, water, and signage | 5 | Medium |
| 72. Sport and Recreation Signage Strategy for the District | 5 | Medium |
| 73. Fencing of Playground areas near roads – Hazelbrook and Bunting Park | 5 | Medium |
| 74. More bikeways in Calliope | 5 | Medium |
| 75. Scenic Multipurpose Trail along the Boyne Valley | 5 | Medium |
| 76. Regional Equestrian Centre | 5 | Medium |
| 77. A district level children's playground in the Calliope, Mt Larcom and Boyne Valley area | 4 | Medium |
| 78. A tourist stop at Builyan | 4 | Medium |
| 79. Paths at Mount Larcom | 4 | Medium |
| 80. Green Space Recreation for Nagoorin | 4 | Medium |
| 81. Develop Bunting Park hard court as a multi-purpose court | 4 | Medium |
| 82. Hazelbrook Park Development –including toilet facilities, irrigation, landscaping, picnic and BBQ facilities | 4 | Medium |
| 83. Access to Golding Park (Mount Larcom) from residential areas | 3 | Low |
| 84. Dog Park for Calliope | 3 | Low |
| 85. Skate Park/youth space in Nagoorin | 3 | Low |
| 86. A community playground in Nagoorin | 3 | Low |
| 87. Hard multipurpose court in Builyan | 3 | Low |
| 88. Redevelop Pincham Park including - more diverse play equipment, landscaped for shade, water and picnic shelter | 3 | Low |
| 89. Youth space in Builyan | 3 | Low |
| 90. Youth space in Ubobo | 2 | Low |
| 91. Paths in Builyan | 2 | Low |
| 92. Paths in Nagoorin | 2 | Low |
| 93. Paths in Ubobo | 2 | Low |
| 94. A community playground in Ubobo | 2 | Low |
| 95. Shaded Picnic area at Yarwun | 2 | Low |
| 96. Cricket Pitch for Ubobo Recreation Ground | 2 | Low |
| 97. Shaded picnic area at Nagoorin | 2 | Low |
| 98. A community playground for Builyan | 2 | Low |
| 99. Tourist stop in Yarwun | 1 | No priority |

| | | |
|--|---|-------------|
| 100. Public Toilets at Builyan Sports Ground | 1 | No priority |
| 101. A community playground for Yarwun | 1 | No priority |

Planning

Within the existing sport and recreation plans, a number of planning projects were identified. It is recommended that Council use the following triggers to determine when planning needs to be undertaken.

- Purchase of new land;
- Planned facility development;
- Establishing a lease or other long term agreement over land; and/or
- Meeting an identified risk.

The following plans are required within the next 5 years. These plans should be prioritised to determine if they are required in the next financial year; included in operational plans and budgeted for accordingly.

- Briffney Creek Sports Fields Master Plan
- Palm Drive Sports Grounds Master Plan and Feasibility
- Miriam Vale Showgrounds Master Plan
- Calliope Sports Park (proposed) Master Plan
- Bunting Park Master Plan
- Daniels Street Park Reserve (Turkey Beach) Concept Plan
- Boyne Tannum Sports Park Management Plan
- Regional Equestrian Centre Feasibility
- Gladstone Showground Feasibility
- Gladstone Racecourse Feasibility
- Clinton Park Sports Grounds Feasibility
- All Areas Asset Management Plan
- All Areas Capital and Major Maintenance Plans
- Mount Larcom Showgrounds Feasibility and Master Plan

Resource and Service Provision

Not only is it councils role to assist in providing infrastructure for sport and recreation but also to assist with the development and growth of community organisations who are delivering a valued service within sport and recreation to the community.

As well as the ongoing implementation of services and resourcing, the following specific actions should be undertaken within the next twelve to eighteen months:

- Investigate the feasibility of a **Grants Officer** to be employed by Council, servicing the Gladstone Region.
- Continue to provide services to community, sport and recreation organisations throughout the region, with particular focus on:
 - **Facility Asset Management Plans and Facility Management Training:** for Gladstone and District Tennis Association; Gladstone Amateur Basketball Association; Gladstone Kart Club; Gladstone Hockey Association; Gladstone Touch Association; Palm Drive Sports Complex; Memorial Park; Meteors Sports Ground; Clinton Park Sports Association and Dennis Park Management Group.
 - **Activities:** more assistance is required for shift workers to participate in organised sport and strategies to make activities more inclusive for people with a disability.
- Developing a **process to monitor participation** in sporting clubs throughout the region.
- Develop, implement and enforce **Tenure and Open Space Planning policies.**
- Continue **communication strategies with community, sport and recreation clubs** with particular focus on an annual sports forum, regular column in the Council connections and investigations into a “virtual” youth noticeboard.
- Develop **and implement a signage suite across the Gladstone** region (e.g. way finding and advisory signage) for key parks, community facilities and the walk-cycle network.
- Continue to **implement the Healthy Active Gladstone Region strategy.**
- **Negotiate community use of school facilities** with the relevant school principles and develop a Memorandum of Understanding for ongoing use.
- Continue to add and **update data on the FIS system.** Use the system to provide up to date reports to Council and other key stakeholders.
- **To develop and implement a Service Delivery Model to provide a system of prioritising sport and recreation organisation needs, timing and the key areas of focus.**