

An aerial photograph of the Noosa District Sports Complex. The image shows a large green sports field with a white rectangular structure in the lower-left quadrant. To the right, there are several tennis courts with green surfaces and white netting. A building with a white roof is visible in the upper-middle section. The complex is surrounded by dense green trees and a paved road. In the background, a blue body of water and a distant town are visible under a clear blue sky.

Noosa District Sports Complex Master Plan 2020-2030



Noosa Council
Noosa District Sports Complex Master Plan 2020-2030
Final; January 2020

The final plan and approved recommendations will guide future facility development and investment both by Council and the clubs through grant applications or club capital investments.

This is the final master plan prepared for Noosa Council by:



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1. Introduction

The Noosa District Sports Complex (the Complex) is situated at 31 Butler Street and also fronts McKinnon Drive, Tewantin. The Complex offers a range of sporting facilities for use by clubs, schools and the community. The Complex currently caters for softball, pony club, tennis, touch football, netball, rugby league, cricket and a car club. Read Park, 2 Poinciana Avenue, is located to the east of the Complex and is incorporated into this study.

A Master Plan was previously prepared for the Complex in 2009. The *Noosa Council Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2018* and subsequent Implementation Plan identified the master planning of the Complex as a high priority. On this basis, Council has identified the need to review and update the previous master plan for the Complex.

The aim of this project is:

to provide a long-term vision for the Complex, identifying what the site should look like and how it should function into the future. The master plan considers the next 10-year period from 2020-2030 and guides future sports and active recreation infrastructure development and investment, both by Council and the clubs through grant applications or club capital investments.

1.1 Project Scope

The master plan is to consider:

- The *Noosa Sport and Recreation Plan 2018* Vision and Principles;
- The current configuration, capacity, usage, and functionality of the sports complex;
- The general community (especially the surrounding residents) expectation and needs;
- The needs across various sports and recreation users, including current and future tenants;
- Emerging trends and issues;
- Catchment areas and population demographic demands (present and future);
- Car parking and traffic movement/ management requirements;
- Relevant planning constraints and opportunities, including environmental, flood immunity, land zonings, DA requirements etc;
- Current and proposed tenure arrangements;
- Opportunities for sustainable facility outcomes;
- The realities of the economic, social, environmental and legislative context of the time; and
- Grant opportunities for the implementation and funding of recommendations.



1.2 Study Approach

The study approach comprised six (6) stages as illustrated below.

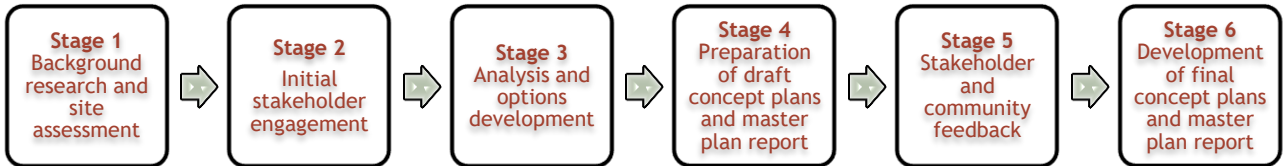


Figure 1: Project Methodology



2. Research

2.1 Literature Review

A number of documents were reviewed to develop an understanding of the current situation, Council's strategic and policy position and to set the study in context. The documents included:

- Noosa Shire Council Corporate Plan 2017 - 2037, June 2018 update;
- Noosa Sport and Active Recreation Plan, 2018;
- The Noosa Plan, 2006;
- The New Noosa Plan Discussion Paper, 2016;
- Noosa Shire Local Economic Plan, 2015;
- Noosa Social Strategy, 2015;
- Noosa Transport Strategy;
- Activate! Queensland 2019-2029, 2019;
- Queensland Cricket Infrastructure Strategy, 2018;
- Netball Queensland Statewide Facilities Strategy 2018-2025, 2018; and
- 2019 Sports Field Audit (eight audit reports were completed on fields in Noosa District Sports Complex).

The key themes arising from the literature review are summarised below:

- Themes and key focus areas arising from the Noosa Council's corporate planning indicate that Noosa's environmental outcomes and support for community are important aspects.
- In terms of sport and recreation provision, the priority of the Council is on participation levels, clubs are well governed, and facilities are fit for purpose, with efficient use of resources and minimal impact on the environment.
- Specific actions for sport facility master planning and development include:
 - Develop new or review existing master plans for multi-use and large sporting precincts.
 - The Master Plans to incorporate best practice sustainable design.
 - Explore opportunities for external funding.
 - Investigate the option for the co-location of commercial, NFP sport and active recreation providers on Council owned/ managed sports facilities.
 - Support sport and active recreation providers through initiatives that increase and/ or maximise the use of sporting and active recreation facilities and spaces.
- The Noosa Plan (planning scheme) covers the following aspects relevant to sport and recreation, noting that specific planning scheme overlays and zoning for the site are outlined in section 3.2.1:
 - Community services and recreational facilities are spread throughout the Shire in accordance with the needs of the population. A higher concentration of services exists in the coastal south-east corner and in Cooroy and Pomona.
 - Multiple use and shared facilities are encouraged.
 - Outdoor open space for formal and informal sport and recreation is provided within each urban settlement and has a moderate level of accessibility from each settlement.

- In preparation for an update of the Noosa Plan in 2019, a discussion paper was prepared, with specific strategic outcomes for Tewantin, which are relevant for inclusion/ consideration in the master plan:
 - Ensure built form and public realm offer high standards of pedestrian accessibility and comfort with wide shaded footpaths and multiple areas to rest or converse.
 - Improve safe and convenient pedestrian and cyclist connections throughout town including connections to the town centre, community facilities, schools, train station and sports fields.
 - Protect the well-established network of open space including parkland, sports fields and nature reserves.

In addition to the Noosa Council strategic documents, a number of sports that operate from the Complex have released state facility plans and these have been reviewed to determine any specific or broad recommendations for inclusion at the Complex. Specific requirements from these plans that are considered within the development of the master plan are:

- Short term development of a training facility (cricket nets) at Read Park, including lighting and ground works (Cricket);
- Provision of unisex change rooms and amenities areas, including upgrades to existing amenities (Cricket); and
- Resurfacing asphalt courts, replacing lighting and PA system (Netball).

Noting that the Queensland Cricket Infrastructure Strategy (Nov 2018) identifies the development of a cricket training facility at Read Park; the cricket nets component has already been funded and development completed, this is located in the northwest of Read Park.

The previous Noosa District Sports Complex Master Plan was prepared in 2009 to provide a long-term vision for the park. The status of the implementation and currency of the recommendations were considered in developing this master plan.

Sports turf and field quality and health was audited in February 2019, a repeat of a similar process undertaken in 2016. These agronomist reports provide an assessment of the overall health, grass cover and chemical analysis of the conditions supporting the sports turf. The reports provide an assessment of the overall quality and recommendations to repair/ maintain the fields in optimum condition to support the sport use.

2.2 Catchment profile

2.2.1 Population and Growth

The estimated resident population of the Noosa Council area as at 30 June 2017 was 54,654 persons¹. This represents an increase of 6,059 persons since 2007 and 2,976 persons since 2012.

The population of the Noosa Council area is expected to increase to 58,154 persons by 2026 and 61,940 persons by 2036, refer Figure 2.

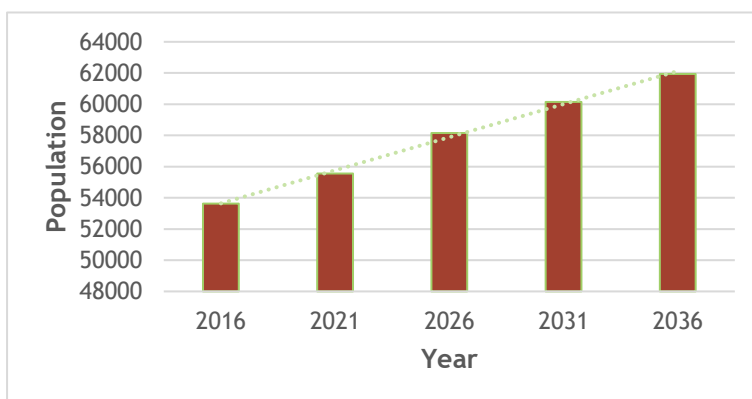


Figure 2: Population Growth of the Noosa Council area 2016 to 2036²

¹ Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, *Queensland Regional Profiles: Resident Profile for Noosa (S) Local Government Area, 12 November 2018.*

² Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office

The estimated resident population of Tewanin as at 30 June 2018 was 10,592 persons³. This represents an increase of 220 persons since 2008 and 165 persons since 2013. The population of Tewanin is projected to increase to 10,851 persons by 2026 and 11,353 persons by 2036. In 2016 Tewanin had 19.4% of the Noosa council area population, with this proportion estimated to decrease by 2026 to 18.3% and to 17.9% by 2036.

2.2.2 Age

The median age of the Noosa Council area as at 30 June 2017 was 48.3 years, which has increased from 43.6 years in 2007. The median age for Noosa is expected to increase further to 50.6 years by 2036, which is significantly higher than the predicted median age for Queensland of 39.9 years. The median age for Tewanin is older than Noosa council area; 48.8 (2017) up from 44.5 years in 2007. The age projections estimate that this pattern will continue.

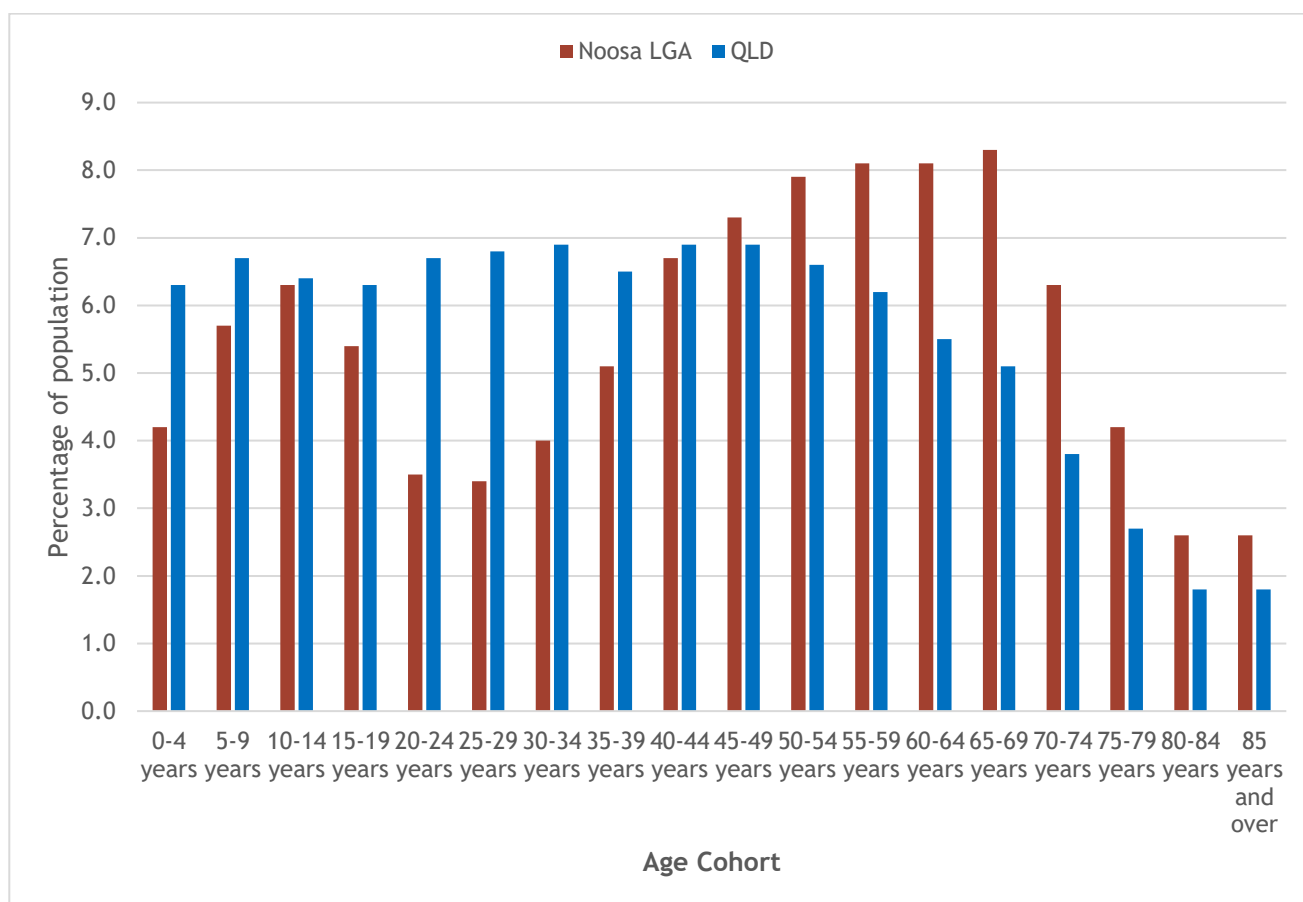


Figure 3: Age Distribution showing Comparison between Noosa Council area and Queensland

2.2.3 Family Composition

As at the 2016 Census, 32.6% of families in Tewanin and 34.5% of the families in the Noosa Council area were couple families with children and 47.2% (Tewanin) and 49.2% (Noosa council area) were couple families with no children. This compares with 42.5% and 39.4% respectively for Queensland.

2.2.4 Income

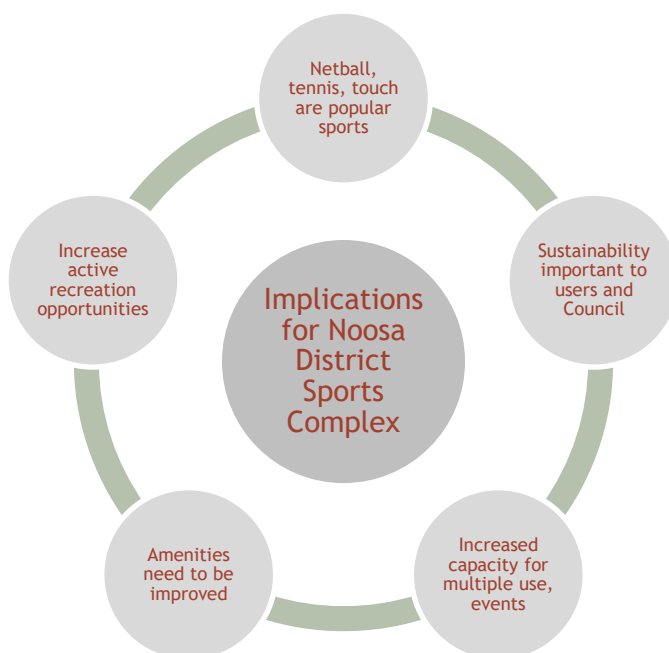
Low income families are those whose income is less than \$650 per week or \$33,800 per year. In Tewanin and in the Noosa Council area, the 2016 Census determined that 11.5% and 10.4% of families are classified as low-income families, compared to 9.4% for Queensland.

³ Source: Queensland Government Statistician’s Office, Queensland Treasury, *Queensland Regional Profiles: Resident Profile for Tewanin SA2, 26 August 2019.*

According to the 2016 Census, 6.0% (Tewantin) and 11.1% (Noosa Council area) of families in the earned a high income of greater than \$156,000 per year. This is lower than Queensland as a whole (15.3%).

The median total family income as at the 2016 Census in Tewantin was \$65,312 per year, compared with the Noosa Council area (\$72,956 per year), which compares to \$86,372 for Queensland.

2.3 Implications for the Master Plan for Noosa District Sports Complex



The Noosa Council area is expected to experience relatively small population growth to 2036 (additional 7,286 persons). Whilst significant growth is not anticipated, over time, this may increase the burden on existing sport and recreation facilities within the Council area.

The Noosa population is ageing with this trend expected to continue. This suggests that there will be an increasing need for sport and recreation activities to meet the needs of middle aged and ageing adults (gentle exercise, walking, modified sport). Further, universal accessibility to all facility infrastructure will become increasingly important. Noting that an aged living development (180 units and 60 aged care studios) is currently being constructed directly opposite the northwest portion of the Complex on McKinnon Drive.

Despite the ageing population, the proportion of children and teenagers aged 5 to 19 in the Noosa Council area is relatively consistent with Queensland as a whole. This indicates that participation in structured junior sport and recreation is likely to remain and there will continue to be a need to provide formal sport and recreation opportunities for these age cohorts. The Complex is close to and well-used by the Tewantin State School for a range of sport and physical education programs and sport competitions.

The household income profile for the Noosa Council area suggests a likely higher degree of price sensitivity. Sport and recreation opportunities will therefore need to be affordable to maximise participation.

Of the sports on site:

- Netball and tennis appear in the top ten for sports participated in by women and girls.
- Touch football, tennis, and netball featured in the top 15 activities participated in by Queensland adults.

Facility design trends, which also align with the Noosa Sport & Recreation Plan targets include:

- Incorporation of sustainable elements;
- Provision of shade (sun-safe and inclement weather), socialising, recreation and community space;
- Toilets and change rooms are expected to be adequate in size, accessible to playing areas with universal-access compliance and suited to male and female participation; and
- Planning and development of facilities capable of hosting multiple uses and alternative or modified forms of a number of sports (in some cases emphasising social as opposed to competition).

Refer to the Appendix 1 for further information on sport and recreation facility design, management and participation trends.

The Queensland Government’s Activate! Queensland strategy includes delivery of funding for infrastructure improvements to enhance ‘Active Community Infrastructure’ where this infrastructure improves the physical activity outcomes for the broader community.



3. Site Context and Current Facilities

The Complex is sited at 31 Butler Street, Tewantin and is comprised of one large parcel of land covering approximately 29.8ha. The north-western portion of the Complex is accessed via McKinnon Drive. This entry provides access to the netball courts, tennis courts and cricket fields. Access to the south-eastern portion of the site is via Butler Street and this entry provides access to the rugby league, touch, softball fields and the pony club, refer to Figure 4 for an aerial photo of the Complex and the current users and areas they occupy.

The Complex and this master plan also includes Read Park, which is situated across Butler Street to the east of the main Noosa District Sports Complex. The area of Read Park that is included in the master plan incorporates the cricket facilities, clubhouse, amenities and car-parking. The western portion of Read Park is designated as an environmental reserve together with adjoining bushland. The total land area of the two parcels that comprise the Complex is 33ha.



Figure 4: Aerial view of Noosa District Sports Complex with User Groups

3.1 Summary of Facilities



Figure 5: Noosa District Sports Complex Individual Facilities

Infrastructure on site includes:

- 11 netball hardcourts, 7 grass courts, car park and clubhouse, court lighting to 7 courts
- 3 cricket fields, informal and formal car parking, clubhouse, cricket practice nets, lights
- 10 tennis courts, car parking, clubhouse, court lighting
- Pony club arena,
- 8 softball diamonds, dugouts, clubhouse, informal car parking, lighting
- 2 rugby league fields, clubhouse, lighting (one field), spectator seating, informal car parking spaces
- 4 touch fields, clubhouse, lighting, informal car parking.

Tenancy arrangements for the clubs that have access to the Complex are summarised below:







- Tewantin-Noosa Cricket Club - Lease
- Noosa District Rugby League Club - Lease (known as Noosa Pirates Rugby League Club)
- Noosa Touch Association - Lease
- Noosa Netball Association - Lease
- Noosa Softball Association - Lease
- Tewantin Tennis Club - Lease
- Tewantin Pony Club - Lease
- Noosa Beach Classic Car Club - Permit.

An outline and images of the infrastructure on the site is outlined below.

Table 1: Facility Images of Noosa District Sport Complex

Facility/ Infrastructure	Photos	
<p>Sports fields and grounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cricket • Rugby League • Touch • Softball 		
		
		
<p>Sport courts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball • Tennis 		

Facility/ Infrastructure	Photos	
		
		
<p>Club houses and Buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball • Tennis • Cricket • Rugby League • Touch • Softball • Pony Club • Storage (sport equipment and grounds maintenance) 		
		

Facility/ Infrastructure	Photos	
Access, car-parking and circulation		
		
		

Facility/ Infrastructure	Photos	
		

3.2 Site Details

The total 33ha site is made up of two separate parcels of land: 31 Butler Street and Read Park. Both parcels are Crown Land, designated as Reserve for Recreation under control of Noosa Council as Trustee.

Table 2: Property Details

Property Description	Ownership Tenure	Current Use	Land Area (ha)
Lot 372 on MCH3843 31 Butler Street, Tewantin	State of Queensland Reserve - Council as Trustee	Cricket, netball, tennis, rugby league, touch, softball, pony club	29.8
Lot 14 on SP295888 Read Park, 2 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin	State of Queensland Reserve - Council as Trustee	Cricket	3.2

3.2.1 Native Title

The Kabi Kabi First Nations People are the registered native title claimants for the Noosa Shire area. It is anticipated that the Federal Court of Australia will make a consent determination over Kabi Kabi First Nation traditional lands in 2020. This determination will set out the rights and interests with respect to individual land parcels within the Kabi Kabi claim area in Noosa Shire and surrounding local government areas.

Native title rights and interests have been wholly extinguished to the majority of the Noosa District Sports Complex (Lot 372 on MCH3843) reserve parcel (28.472 ha of a total land area of 29.8 ha), due to the granting of a trustee lease in September 1986.

Non-exclusive native title rights and interests continue to exist over Read Park and within the small balance area of the reserve (1.328 ha comprising vegetated land east of the rugby league and touch fields); these areas will form part of the pending native title determination. This means that in terms of the proposed consent determination and draft Indigenous Land Use Agreement ('ILUA') in progress, native title rights and interests will continue to coexist with Council's rights and interests in these areas as native title has not been extinguished.

The effect of this 'non-extinguishment' depends on the nature and scale of any future works proposed within this balance reserve area. Minor works consistent with the purpose of the reserve that have no greater impact on continuing native title rights and interests can be progressed. Major works within this balance area including tree clearing is subject to notification processes and native title clearance under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. In respect of the developed areas of Read Park (Lot 14 on SP295888), Council may be able to demonstrate that these works (construction of cricket oval) has extinguished native title over the developed areas of this lot.

3.2.2 Planning Analysis



Figure 6: Zone Map Indicating Noosa District Sports Complex

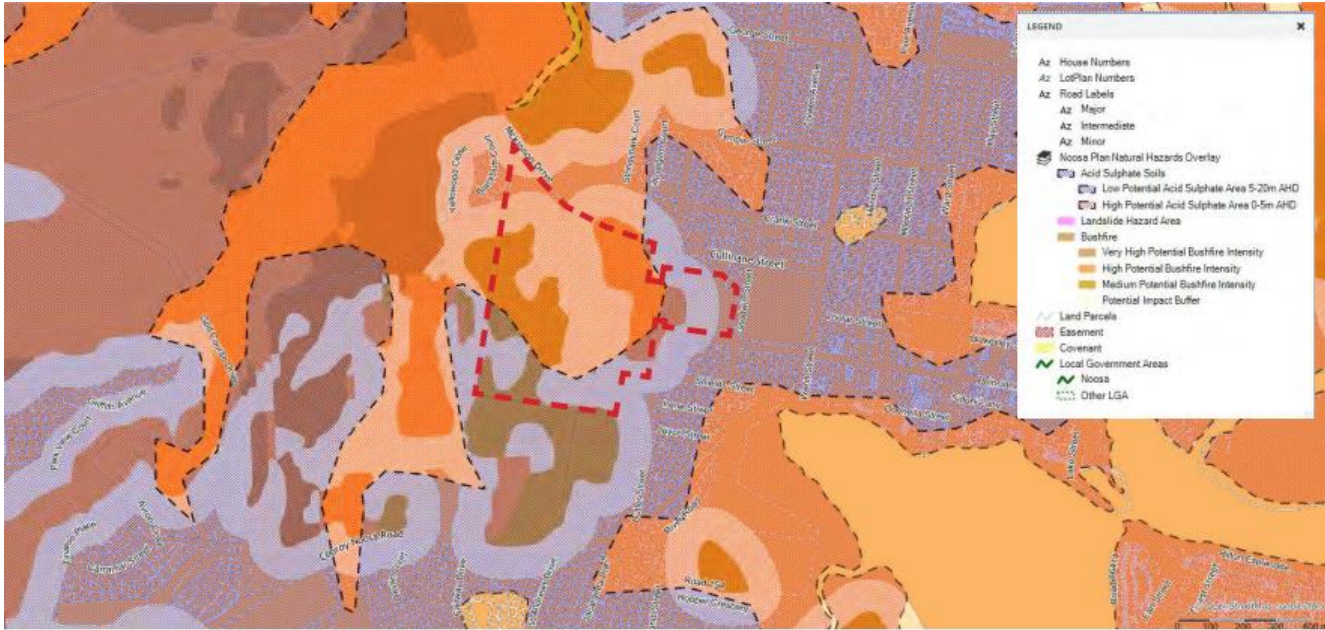
This section summarises ‘The Noosa Plan, 2006’ as it relates specifically to the site and/ or should be considered as part of future master planning and facility development tasks.

Table 3: Planning Scheme Information as it Relates to Noosa District Sport Complex

Planning Scheme Information		
Planning Scheme	The Noosa Plan, 2006	
Zone	Lot 372 on MCH3843	Open Space Conservation Open Space Recreation
	Lot 14 on SP295888	Open Space Recreation
Planning Scheme Overlays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acid Sulphate Soils (5m AHD or Below) • Bushfire (Potential Impact Buffer) • Environment - Enhance or Protect • Flood Hazard Extents • Remnant Habitat 	
Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP)	The Complex is classified as shire-wide sports park, and has two future works listed in the LGIP Schedule of Works: Noosa District Sports Complex <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade to facilities, amenities & resurface fields • 2021-2026 • \$1,577,400 	

Planning Scheme Information	
Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP)	Read Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade to facilities & amenities, oval resurface & additional cricket net • 2026-2031 • \$461,840

Figure 7: Planning Scheme overlays



NATURAL HAZARD AREAS

--- Site Boundary



BIODIVERSITY

--- Site Boundary



FLOOD HAZARD

--- Site Boundary



Figure 8: Water and Sewerage infrastructure⁴

3.2.3 Additional Site Features

This section summarises the local context of the Complex including access, adjoining and surrounding land-uses and the general amenity of the area.

Table 4: Site Analysis

Aspect	Detail
Adjacent land use and any constraints/ opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent land use includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tewantin Noosa Golf Course ○ Tewantin State School, with swimming pool that provides for community use outside of school hours ○ Funeral director and Tewantin cemetery; former TAFE ○ Residential area adjacent to the northwest (netball) and under development in north-east corner (buffered with vegetation) ○ Residential and community facility uses along Cullinane Street and the northern boundary of Read Park
Visual amenity and site setting including significant landscape/ environmental values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site has significant areas of vegetation, including the western parcel of vegetation, which is highly sensitive with endangered fauna previously identified, the southern boundary adjoins an area of significant vegetation. • There are limited sight lines from major roads. • Poor sight lines between venues

⁴ Information provided by Unitywater

Aspect	Detail
Access arrangements and possible conflicts (car, bike, bus, pedestrian and linkages).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main Complex site has 4 separate entry points, 2 of these are vehicular • Limited areas for parking, with limited formal bitumen parking areas • Internal road separates football and touch grounds, causing significant pedestrian/ vehicle conflict during match days compounded by dead end at north with limited/ no turning circle during peak usage times (due to informal car parking along road and grass areas) • Middle entry exit point is pedestrian only • Read Park has one main vehicular entry to a formalised car park, with good road frontage (along two boundaries) allowing pedestrian access along these frontages
Car parking (location, numbers, constraints/ opportunities and internal movement).	
Drainage, stormwater & hydrology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No easements • 2 x manholes • Significant stormwater infrastructure surrounding the main rugby league and touch fields; clubs reporting sink holes on the eastern side of the fields
CPTED principles.	Site is bounded with fringing vegetation which provides high quality internal site amenity, the vegetation needs to be managed or other mitigation introduced (lighting, wayfinding etc) for public safety.

In order to consider relocating the internal roadway (from Butler Street) and the incorporation of an internal road loop/ connection to the vehicle entry at McKinnon Drive; an arborist assessment was completed to determine significance of trees that would be affected by relocated roadway and optimised field locations.

These assessments were completed on:

- Trees along the fields/ roadway running north-south between the rugby league and touch fields
- Trees between rugby league, cricket and tennis, for a possible road connection running east-west.

The findings of these assessments and the Council perspective is that these trees have low retention value; however, consideration be given to off-set planting within the Complex, particularly seeking more suitable shade species in appropriate locations within the Complex.



3.3 Summary of Facility Opportunities and Constraints

3.3.1 Opportunities

Access

- High standards and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists; with connections to and between the Complex, the town centre, other facilities, schools and transport stations;
- The Council is working to reduce vehicular traffic and increase use of other travel modes;
- Opportunity to review the internal road network (appropriateness, suitability, ability) to provide an internal north-south access road;
- Opportunity to review the number, capacity, surface and placement of formalised car-parking; and
- Opportunity for provision of street furniture and infrastructure that supports/ encourages pedestrians and cyclists to use the Complex.

Facility Specific

- Potential for the complex to be considered as a hub for facilitated and self-directed physical activity participation.
- Amenity upgrades and provision of unisex change and amenities to suit desired standards and service levels;
- Review of sport lighting (including power supply) and upgrade for energy efficiency and to appropriate standards for the sports;
- Review standards of playing surfaces, making improvements to ensure longevity, safety for players, club viability and sustainable use of resources; and
- Adjacent land-uses are generally appropriate and compatible with sporting uses; the perimeter vegetation assists with buffer to any potentially sensitive receptors and provides high quality amenity for users and visitors to the Complex.

3.3.2 Constraints

Access

- The internal road network dissects playing fields which clubs have identified as a safety risk to users moving from one field to another.

Facility Specific

- The perimeter vegetation provides reduced sight lines to and through the Complex from surrounding streets.
- Utility infrastructure on the site (power, water, stormwater) is ageing, failing, non-compliant with current codes and will require replacement or upgrading as part of any associated upgrade and development works.

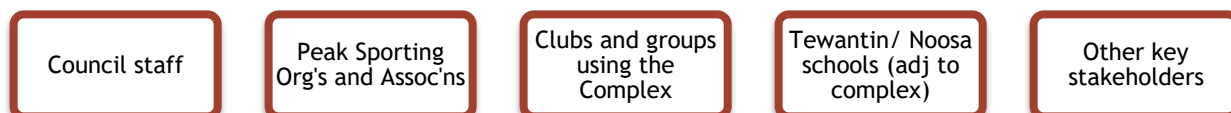
Development Constraints

- The site is impacted by acid sulphate soils, meaning any disturbance should be in a controlled manner in order to reduce risks to the environment, buildings, roads and other structures;
- Vegetation on the eastern and western sides of the Complex is within environmental protection areas and present bushfire hazard; with the portion on the western side indicated as remnant koala habitat; and
- The northern area of the Complex is within the (Noosa Plan) flood hazard overlay, these areas are currently vegetated.

4. Consultation

4.1 Engagement Program Overview

A targeted community and stakeholder engagement program was implemented to inform the development of this master plan for Noosa District Sports Complex. Stakeholder groups engaged as a part of the master plan development are shown in the figure below:



4.2 Key findings

The following key findings emerged from the engagement program:

- Overall, participation in the sports located at the Complex is a mix of static and increasing membership;
- The facilities generally require upgrades in response to their age and condition and in order to provide for changes in sport participation and facility provision trends;
- Council has strong policy on environmental sustainability which the clubs support, but the facilities do not all comply; and
- Most clubs have invested in the formation of development/ expansion/ improvement plans for their sport and facilities.

4.3 Detailed Findings

4.3.1 Facility Overview

Council advice on broader planning, potential and/ or unmet community demands, broader regional impacts and specific issues for inclusion in the development of the master plan, is summarised below:

- The Council's ZEN (Zero Emissions Noosa) strategy/ actions should apply at the Complex, specifically actions to reduce emissions. Use of energy, water, sustainable building design and drainage improvements will enhance the sustainability of the Complex and assist in supporting the financial viability of user groups as many of these measures can result in reduced operating costs;
- Council is working with Queensland Building and Construction Compliance (QBCC) to address a number of approval issues with buildings/ structures on site; with some requiring inspection and (possibly) retrospective approvals;
- Site access, including the option of an internal loop road, car-parking requires attention, e.g. formalising to manage drainage, improve car parking yield, site safety and overflow or contingency options for large events;
- The overall amenity/ feel and attractiveness of the Complex as the overall quality of the Complex is not perceived as reflecting the 'Noosa' brand, in that the attraction of the Noosa area is well-known for high quality and attractiveness, but the age and quality of the sporting and ancillary infrastructure is at a lower level;
- Infrastructure across the site is ageing and below standard:
 - Majority of building construction was in the 1970's and 1980's with little refurbishment
 - Lighting quality and standard across the whole site should be upgraded to current standard, both for sport and general amenity and safety

- Utilities and services across the site are old, in need of replacement to ensure compliance with current codes. Unitywater indicates that they have no plans for upgrades or renewals programmed for water and sewerage infrastructure.
- User group representatives that participated in the consultation program, in the main have an overly positive view of the Complex (facilities and management) and are clear and in agreement about the aspects that require attention and improvement. Of note is that:
 - The facilities within this Complex are predominantly used year-round by the primary sport;
 - Multiple uses across seasons is not a feature of this Complex, with the exceptions being:
 - When one of the user groups is hosting a championship or larger event requiring access to more fields than they are allocated under their existing tenure arrangement;
 - Oztag operates a short season utilising rugby league and softball fields;
 - There is a positive view of the collaborative and communicative relationship amongst clubs;
 - User groups cooperate well in staging carnivals and events, sharing equipment, grounds and amenities;
 - The general standard of sport fields and courts are adequate;
 - There are possible economies to be gained from increased sharing of resources utilised in (particularly) field maintenance;
 - Clubs at the southern end of the Complex are concerned about the future use of and current land management of the former TAFE site. This area is considered as a source of fire and pest risk for the resident sports.
- There are concerns that the not-for-profit arrangements of the current resident organisations may not be sustainable in the long term;
- Council management of the Complex requires clarification of roles assigned to user groups and those held by Council. User groups are particularly seeking Council take a Complex-wide overview to improvement and maintenance with appropriate liaison with external agencies, e.g. Energex. Overall the user groups are seeking an improved or partnering relationship with Council. Specifically noted issues considered by the user groups to be problematic include:
 - Need to resolve tenure, use and access issues for some groups to parts of the Complex, particularly for those clubs seeking funding for expansion;
 - Improved responsiveness to reported issues for rectification;
 - A request to review the mechanism for distributing field maintenance grants in order to improve outcomes for the investment and to address (perceived) inequities across user groups.

4.3.2 Sport and Activity Related

The information below from peak and local sporting organisations and associations provides a summary of the following considerations:

- Facility improvements;
- Participation rates and trends;
- Infrastructure needs and demands/ priorities;
- Potential funding partnerships; and
- State-wide and local facility and strategic planning implications for the Complex.

4.3.2.1 Recreation and Events

The site is popular and well-used by local residents. Consideration of recreation opportunities would be an advantage, including personal training/ trainers⁵; additionally, measures are required to manage dogs and dog walkers.

While the Complex has been utilised as a base for road cycling events and training; further needs expressed by community organisations external to the Complex to Council for assistance have largely been for storage options, rather than access to fields/ courts/ buildings.

Continued use of the complex for large non-sporting events requires consideration and improvement to vehicle management across the site; e.g. large-scale music event held annually at pony club "Red Hot Summer Tour" and Rodeo held at rugby league.

The site is also used for school athletics carnivals, competition in Cricket T20. Rugby league and touch facilities are a base for events and tournament e.g. Rugby League Emergency Services games, and Oztag competitions.

4.3.2.2 Tennis

Within Noosa Shire, across nine tennis venues there are 40 courts, equating to a benchmark provision of 1:1,366; persons, comparing favourably with the state target provision of 1:2,000. Information from 2017 audits of Tennis Queensland (TQ) affiliated clubs and centres throughout the State informs priorities for organisational and facility improvements. TQ has established a minimum target for all centres to install the electronic court gate and online booking system (Book a Court) and upgrading court lighting to LED fittings. Specific audit-related improvements for Tewantin Tennis Club have been completed.

The Tewantin Tennis Club is one of ten (10) tennis association/ clubs/ centres within Noosa Shire and part of the broader Sunshine Coast Regional Assembly.

In the period December 2017 to December 2018, the Tewantin Tennis Club's Book-A-Court data indicated 118 casual bookings and 1,704 re-occurring and casual bookings. Assuming a minimum of two to four players, this equates to between 3,644 and 7,288 people making use of the centre.

Membership data for 2017 and 2018 for the tennis clubs in Noosa Shire indicate that the Tewantin Tennis Club is the second largest. Membership data for the clubs in Noosa Shire over these two years indicate that total membership is approximately 1,000⁶, or 1.8% of the Shire population. The comparative and expected (from AusPlay data) proportion of the population participating in tennis is 3.7% or approximately 2,020 Noosa residents. In categories of players reported, Tewantin had the highest number of players in social tennis (48.5% of their membership) and players aged over 65years (72.8% of their membership).

Tewantin Tennis Club/ Centre is a 10-court facility, catering primarily for social play, with a high proportion of members/ players aged over 60; continuing to cater for this demographic is likely to be a continuing focus of the club. The club/ centre:

- Has scheduled social play each day of the week (doubles, graded and open);
- Conducts annual championships in August and hosts Sunshine Coast Tennis Seniors Queensland Tournament (September);
- Has junior teams playing in the Noosa District Tennis Association fixtures; and
- Conducts fast 4 competitions (Sunday afternoons) and participates on home and away basis in the Sunshine Coast Veterans Competition.

A need or demand for additional tennis courts has not been made, the club indicates that they have no ambitions to expand; however, the quality and standard of their amenities require attention, as well as the safety and security of their access and car-parking.

⁵ Council indicates that it has an existing policy on personal trainers operating in parks/ public spaces

⁶ This figure is an approximate, as the data supplied was not complete for all clubs, likely that those with 0 did not complete the required report.

The club considers the aged living development in McKinnon Drive as a well-located source of additional/ new players/ members for the centre. The emergence of Pickle Ball⁷, as an alternative sport that can be played on tennis courts, is another source of possible growth for the club.

The relatively isolated location/ bush-like setting of the facility within the overall Complex provides high amenity for users as well as being a potential security/ safety issue for users, especially at night.

4.3.2.3 Softball

In early 2019 Softball Queensland (SQ) commenced the development of a state-wide facilities audit and State Facilities Plan. The Noosa Softball Association facility regularly hosts state age championships, e.g. the under-19 boys state championships in 2018 and the under-14 boys state championships in 2019. The number of diamonds available at a venue/ facility combined with the expected number of nominations is the primary deciding factor in gaining a championship event.

The Noosa Softball Association is considered a 'steady' but proactive association, they are working to increase membership, including introducing social competitions, modified versions of the game, and mixed teams to attract more members.



Facility improvements required include dugouts and back nets. Lighting is understood to be at training standard. The association has received funding from the Queensland Government to replace lighting (two new poles and 16 LED lights) for the main field. Further improvements sought by the Association include refurbishment of the clubhouse, addition of a maintenance/ equipment shed, additional facilities for spectators, renewed lighting, field drainage upgrades and back fencing for the main diamond.

SQ provided recent registration data which indicates that the Noosa Softball Association has relatively static overall membership, which is approximately equal male and female, and predominantly junior ages. This is different to the demographics of state-wide membership which is approximately 1 male:2 females with more players in the senior and master ages than junior.

4.3.2.4 Netball

In 2018, Netball Queensland (NQ) completed a State Wide Facilities Plan; which as well as determining facility needs and improvements:

- Defines a hierarchy of facilities and indicates that the Noosa Netball Association (NNA) facility is a Tier 3 - Association Facility;
- Provides a provision ratio of courts to membership (2017 data) that ranks Noosa Netball Association 39th (of 77 Associations in the State) with 65 members per court; and well under the Queensland average (1:80) and median 1:147) suggesting that the current number of courts is adequate to service current and future potential demand;
- Specifically noted priority facility improvements for NNA:
 - Increased and upgraded toilet facilities to cope with the number of participants and to meet relevant building codes (high)
 - Resurfacing of bitumen courts (medium)
 - Replacement of lighting and PA system (low).

⁷ <https://pickleballaus.org/>

NQ provided recent registration data that indicates growth in NNA with 32% increase from 2017 to 2018, this growth being predominantly in the junior ages, attributed in part to the success of the Sunshine Coast Lightning.

The NNA is the only (NQ affiliated) netball association and complex within Noosa Shire. They operate at the Complex for their winter competition and run summer indoor competition at the Noosa Leisure Centre and Good Shepherd Lutheran College; and believe that in addition to improvements at the Complex, additional indoor court space/ facility is required. Improvements for the Complex include:

- Renewal of lighting,
- Courts surfacing and fencing to protect court surfaces from damage/ marking due to inappropriate use, and
- Expanded amenities to better cater for participants and spectators.

4.3.2.5 Cricket

In 2018 Queensland Cricket (QC) completed an Infrastructure Strategy which identifies specific facility-required upgrades as well improvements within the various cricket regions across Queensland. Improvements identified for the Complex (in the Infrastructure Strategy) focus on Read Park and are informed by the club's own master plan:

- Development of a training facility (new practice nets with three synthetic and two turf pitches and lighting have been funded by the Queensland Government and constructed in the north-west portion of Read Park)
- Lighting (funding from the federal government has been received for new LED lights, with capacity to 750 lux; to be constructed in 2020).

More broadly the QC Infrastructure Strategy reinforces the:

- Retention and upgrade/ renewal of synthetic pitch playing fields and synthetic practice nets, e.g. 40 new synthetic wickets required on the Sunshine Coast;
- Development of appropriate lighting for training nets; and
- Provision of unisex change and amenities.

Membership of the club has increased by between 14% and 29% per year with an overall increase from 2014-15 year of 85%; predominantly in junior ages and girls. The introduction of a senior women's team and the establishment of a senior women's competition on the Sunshine Coast has highlighted the need for amenity upgrades to better accommodate female participants.

The club has developed a 10-year master plan for the cricket facilities, in the QC Infrastructure Strategy the facility is indicated as Tier 3-4 local cricket, with representative carnival and minor event-host capability. To achieve this and continued implementation of the club's master plan, specific requirements include:

- Improvements to the change facilities at Read Park and McKinnon Drive
- Development of a new turf wicket block
- Maintain the synthetic / junior capability and capacity, with the possibility of either building a smaller turf block adjacent to the existing synthetic wicket or replace and rebuild (minimum) one synthetic wicket at another suitable location within the Complex
- Grounds maintenance storage (Read Park)
- Installation of shade.

The club has also indicated, that if an indoor training facility was planned or available, they would make use of it.

4.3.2.6 Touch Football

The Noosa Touch Association demonstrates a relatively high and static membership and operates year-round (44 weeks) competition at the Complex. The Association is not seeking additional fields but is focused on improvements to lighting (to be undertaken in 2020) to bring up to standard and field fencing to improve safety and reduce ball/ vehicle conflict.

4.3.2.7 Rugby League

The Noosa District Rugby League club operates junior and senior competition at this Complex and at Cooroy Sports Complex. Their growth has been strong and across all categories. The club is not seeking additional fields but has facility improvement priorities:

- Field surface quality, drainage and fence replacements;
- Lighting upgrades (lighting installation to the western fields to be completed in 2020);
- Improved spectator facilities - grandstand, shade, field perimeter mounds and pedestrian pathways;
- Amenities and change facilities to cater for increased player numbers, referees and female participants; and
- Establishment of a community hub for physical activity encompassing allied health, fitness and targeted programming to improve broader community physical activity participation.

4.3.2.8 Pony Club

Queensland Pony Club Association information is that the Tewantin Pony Club is a strong club showing good membership growth, commitment to facility upgrades and the facility is a venue for local events and competitions.

Membership growth of the club is indicated at 45% over the previous three-year period, placing use pressure on the facilities, particularly storage and amenities. In 2019 the club has completed installation of an amenities block within their facility.

To cater for growth and to improve the quality and standard of the facilities the club is seeking:

- Improved perimeter fencing and activity surface quality
- New lighting and security to improve the safety of the facility
- Increased support from Council for the maintenance of arenas and key pony club infrastructure.

4.4 Implications for the Master Plan for Noosa District Sports Complex

Participation in the sports (that returned detailed information) indicate growth over three years ranging from 44% to 85%, with two clubs indicating a decrease of 11% and 30%, although with population growth, moves to year-round sport, alternative formats and increase in female options in non-traditional sports mean that these growth trends are likely to continue/ be exceeded.

The built facilities and amenities at Noosa District Sports Complex are ageing with condition and standards that are less than desirable and therefore unable to appropriately cope with growth and change in sport format or participation levels. National and State sporting organisations have developed/ documented facility standards to guide development/ requirements for local and regional competitions. Lighting, playing surfaces and amenities should comply with these facility standards where appropriate to the participation level, facility management plan and resourcing.

Cricket and rugby league clubs have plans for expansion/ new clubhouse and amenities, incorporating space for fitness development, allied health and community access. Netball and cricket are seeking a new multi-purpose indoor facility to accommodate indoor forms of training and competition in their sports. Clubs at the southern end of the Complex are concerned about the future use of and current land management of the former TAFE site. This area is considered as the source of fire and pest risk for the user groups' facilities.

Council and the clubs are similarly interested in increasing the environmental sustainability of the Complex with installation of appropriate technology to reduce/ optimise energy and water use and decrease the overall impact of the Complex and its operations on the environment.

As the Complex is located in a largely residential area with some further surrounding residential expansion, its active recreation offer should also be increased, thus optimising the overall community benefit derived from the Complex.

5. Demand Analysis

The Complex is multi-use and caters for a variety of sports, clubs, one local school and the community. Previous Council planning objectives are for sport and recreation facilities to be fit for purpose, with efficient use of resources and minimal impact on the environment. Other key considerations from other planning documentation include:

- Multi-use outcomes;
- Environmentally sustainable design outcomes;
- External funding contributions;
- A variety of not-for-profit and commercial use and multiple management models;
- Maximised use of facilities;
- Encourage maximum participation outcomes;
- Ensure built form and public realm offer high standards of pedestrian accessibility and comfort;
- Improve active recreation space and infrastructure for community use;
- Improve safe and convenient pedestrian and cyclist connections; and
- Protect the well-established network of open space including parkland, sports fields and nature reserves.

Planning by Queensland Cricket has identified the development of Read Park into a training facility (cricket nets), including lighting, upgraded grounds and amenities. Netball Queensland has also identified the need to upgrade amenities to better cater for participants, replace asphalt courts, lighting and PA system at the Complex.

Several elements of the 2009 Master Plan were not addressed. This may be as a result of the difficult funding environment in Queensland for sport and recreation facilities over the past ten years and/ or changing participation trends. On this basis, the current master plan must be realistic and consider the difficult funding environment that remains.

The Complex is 33ha in total area, with Read Park situated to the east and separated by Butler Street. The site is Crown Land with Council as Trustee. The majority of the site supports its continuing use as a sport and recreation precinct as it is zoned Open Space Recreation. Small parcels of the site are zoned Open Space Conservation. Any potential development into these areas is problematic and costly.

Facilities are generally ageing across the site with increasing maintenance costs and amenities that do not meet current standards or participants' requirements. Improved vehicular, active transport and pedestrian movement outcomes are required in order to improve safety, improve accessibility and increase the functionality of the car parking network and to ensure a contribution to the Council and community desire to increase cyclist and pedestrian access/ use.

The site incorporates areas with flooding, acid sulphate soils and vegetation constraints.

The population profile of Noosa suggests sport and recreation facilities will need to cater for both ends of the age spectrum (children and older adults). This suggests a mix of formal sport and informal gentle exercise/ exercise facilities will be required. Accessibility to and through sites will be of equal importance.

Touch football, tennis and netball are some of the highest participation sports in Queensland and will likely require continued access to sports infrastructure.

Overall sport and recreation facility design is increasing the trend towards improved incorporation of sustainability elements, improved community accessibility, enhanced shade provision, facility and safety lighting and higher standard amenities.

Council is concerned that the current standard of site infrastructure is a mix of ageing facilities, non-compliant facilities and facilities that do not meet contemporary standards for sport and recreation facilities. Improved accessibility arrangements should be a priority for the site according to Council. With the exception of opportunities for storage solutions, Council is not aware of any demand for increased access to sport and recreation facilities within Noosa.

The number of tennis courts within Noosa Shire compares favourably to Tennis Queensland provision standards. The recent upgrade to surfaces and lighting at the Tewantin Tennis Club were the only items identified by Tennis Queensland for improvement. The majority of use at the Tewantin Tennis Club at the Complex is for older adults with occasional social tennis. Limited school aged participation is occurring.

The Complex is considered a major softball venue, hosting state aged championships at the site. Softball Queensland has identified potential facility improvements as dugouts, back nets, match standard lighting and improved facilities for spectators. The number of netball courts compared to membership indicates the Complex sits around halfway compared to other associations throughout Queensland, and well under the median rate. This suggests the current number of netball courts is adequate to service current and future potential demand.

Netball and cricket have identified the need to develop additional indoor sport space (competition and training) and have individually indicated a desire to work together and with Council on the planning and development of a multi-use facility. The development of an additional indoor sport facility requires further investigation within the context of all indoor sport facilities within Noosa Council area to determine the most appropriate location, facility mix, partners and timing for development, therefore this master plan concept has not included this development for consideration.

User groups are seeking to further improve their partnership with Council, including relating to funding, advocacy with third parties and asset management.

The combined priorities of user groups for improvements to the Complex relate to accessibility, environmental sustainability, crime prevention and the overall standard of buildings.



6. Vision and Intent for the Complex

The vision of the Noosa Council for sport and recreation as stated in the *Noosa Sport and Active Recreation Plan (2018)* is:

Increased opportunities for everyone to participate in sport and active recreation so they can achieve life-long physical and mental health benefits.

All five (5) principles of the Plan provide guidance for the Complex and the master plan, with the key elements being:

- Grass roots participation;
- Facilities are fit for purpose;
- Encouraging formal and informal participation, choice and catering for range of ages, abilities and interests;
- Effective, efficient use of resources through partnering between community, commercial and government providers; and
- Environmental responsibility through best practice use of resources and minimal environmental impact.

The specific vision for the Noosa District Sports Complex is to:

Offer opportunities for the Noosa community to be physically active and healthy through the provision of an active precinct that provides:

- *Formal and informal physical activity participation opportunities*
- *Accessibility*
- *Training and competition opportunities*
- *Events*
- *Protection of its environmental values*
- *Management synergies across user groups*
- *Viability*
- *Functionality.*

6.1 Facility Mix

In consideration of the research, consultation and demand analysis, the recommended Noosa District Sports Complex concept master plan has been prepared with the facility components outlined below.

Priorities for the delivery of components have been applied based on expressed need and then adjusted based on affordability and ability to deliver in the time frames. The definitions of these priorities are:

- Short - 0-3 years;
- Medium - 3-7 years and
- Long - year 7 and beyond.

The recommendations shown here and on the concept plan, will guide future facility development and investment both by Council and the clubs through grant applications or club capital investments.

Table 5: Facility improvements as shown on Concept master plan

Plan Ref	Zone	Facility Description	Priority
A	Rugby League	Upgrade playing fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x rectangular rugby league fields, located to accommodate pedestrian and roadway realignments • Irrigation and improved field drainage • Re-sow surface to high-wear turf species • Replace fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lights • Accessible point - emergency access (ambulance) • Extend existing pathways to provide a 3m wide pedestrian path around the main (eastern) field for pedestrian and cycle access to rugby league fields and clubhouse (northside of the viewing mound) • Viewing mound to be maintained. 	Short - Medium
B		Redevelopment and expansion of rugby league building to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide indoor spaces that can accommodate for community programming and training facilities, allied health provision, fitness equipment and function area. • Provide upgraded amenities and change rooms in line with NRL guidelines, DDA compliant and accommodating the needs of female players and visitors. • Provision of seating areas - some undercover (100-150 pax) • Add solar panels and water harvesting infrastructure (including tanks) • Grounds maintenance store 	Medium
C	Netball	Upgrade netball courts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure adequate runoff 3.05m • Replace fittings (as required) with (min) 100 lux LED lights 	Short
D		Resurface 1 x grass courts to hardcourt surface	Short
E		Resurface 4 x asphalt courts to hardcourt surface	Short
F		Resurface courts remaining 7 x hardcourt Fencing to perimeter of courts area	Medium - Long
G		Redevelop/ reconfigure/ expand netball amenities/ administration building to 300m2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve provision of amenities for players • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse • Improve drainage between Internal road and netball building 	Short - Medium
H	Cricket Main Complex	Second oval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52.5m radius from outer most of 4 corners of wicket block • 4 x 3.05m turf pitches • 2.74m min safety runoff (boundary to fence) or 2m between playing field boundaries • Improved field drainage • Lighting to 300-500 lux outfield 	Medium

Plan Ref	Zone	Facility Description	Priority
I		Third oval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43m (N-S) and 40m (E-W) radius from outer most corners of wicket block • 4 x 3.05m pitches (3x turf and incorporate existing 1 x synthetic surface) • 2.74m min safety runoff (boundary to fence) or 2m between playing field boundaries • Improved field drainage • Lighting to 300 lux outfield 	Medium
I2		Existing synthetic cricket pitch location	
J		Navy Cadets to be relocated to a more suitable facility for their needs. Amenity upgrade to accommodate building repurposing for other community/sports club needs	Short Medium - Long
K	Cricket Read Park	Main oval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55m radius from outer most of 4 corners of wicket block • 4 x 3.05m turf pitches plus 3 x 3.05m synthetic pitches • 2m safety runoff surrounding field • Lighting to one field 300 lux outfield; 500 lux pitches block • New scoreboard • Improve field drainage and irrigation 	Short - Medium
K1		• Additional cricket practice nets (implemented)	
L		Redevelop/ reconfigure/ expand current amenities buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliant with Cricket Australia guidelines for Open Age Community Club facility, with additional amenities accommodating for increased female participation. • Upgrade public toilets / amenities • Add shade extension across building frontage • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse 	Short - Medium
M	Touch	Upgrade playing fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x rectangular fields, located to accommodate pedestrian and roadway realignment • 70m X 50m, with 5m safety runoff • 2 x rugby league field overlays • Irrigation and improved field drainage • Resow surface to high-wear turf species • Replace poles with new fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lighting (local standard competition) • Accessible point - emergency access (ambulance) • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse to clubhouse building • Field perimeter fencing with player/ pedestrian access gaps 	Short - Medium
N		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor community space for club gatherings and recreation facilities / seating / fitness and play equipment • 3m wide pathway to accommodate cycle/ pedestrian movement around field perimeters and linking playground/ active recreation space. 	Medium - Long

Plan Ref	Zone	Facility Description	Priority
O	Softball	Upgrade lighting to diamonds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace fittings (as required) with 200 lux LED lighting • Improve field drainage • Investigate spectator seating upgrades 	Short
P	Softball	Refurbish clubhouse: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update within existing footprint • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse • New maintenance/ storage shed - approximately 25m2 	Medium
Q	Tennis	Reconfigure clubhouse: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To incorporate new amenities • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse Redevelopment of court surfaces as required to accommodate for modified formats or new social games e.g. Pickle Ball, Fast4, 3-a-side	Short - Medium
R	Pony Club	Reconfigure clubhouse to provide additional amenities and administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse 	Short
S		Site fencing around perimeter and tree management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trim trees within path of high horse transporting vehicles • Undertake tree maintenance to reduce risk of tree limb falls 	Short
T	Complex Improvements	Design safe pedestrian and cycle movement into and throughout the site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the two entrances to each car park node 	Short
U		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From entrances to external path network, including to connection to underpass at Butler/ Poinciana junction • From car park to clubhouse/ amenity and activity zones • Safety lighting (LED) along paths and at all site entries • Drinking water stations with bottle filling capability • Installation of artificial shade where required for player and spectator comfort 	Short - Medium
V		Signage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update entrance signage • Update site map signage • Incorporate internal directional signage within internal road network 	Short
W		Car parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the expansion of McKinnon Drive entrance car park into the road reserve; re-fence as required • Formalise all current car parks via sealing and line marking • Safety lighting (LED) • Provide PWD and bus parking • Formalise car park north of main rugby league field • Consider expansion of Butler Street entrance car park to the north, with offsets for vegetation provided at the Butler Street entrance (external) 	Staged over term of the plan

Plan Ref	Zone	Facility Description	Priority
X		Internal road connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocate internal north-south road from east of the rectangular fields to the west of these fields (running along the edge of the vegetation) (road corridor width to be 14m) • Connect eastwards to current road north of the rugby league clubhouse • Include new road connection north of tennis centre joining current western access road • Complete detailed design to relocate the touch and rugby league fields to accommodate the new link road on the western boundary of these fields. The detailed design will include all traffic management considerations and a detailed landscape plan that will be developed in consultation with Council's Parks and Garden Team to ensure the appropriate offsets are included for any trees requiring removal. 	Short
X1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of all internal roads • Seal internal roads • Create designated safe pedestrian crossing points 	Staged over term of the plan
Y		Retain carpark south of Touch clubhouse and formalise with inclusion of delivery/ loading and 'kiss and drop' facility	Medium
Z		Formalise new access from Butler St to northern rugby league overflow carpark for temporary use during permitted events	Short - Medium
1		Car club shed - improved security	Short
2		Indicative locations for viewing turf mounds - subject to detailed design/ assessment	
3		Open space conservation areas to be maintained through weed removal and infill revegetation planting where required	On-going as required
4		Upgrade stormwater infrastructure to reduce failures and improve drainage of site	Short - Medium

6.2 Management

6.2.1 Site Management and Maintenance Responsibilities

The group comprising representatives of the tenant clubs at Noosa District Sports Complex should continue to meet and work with Council to:

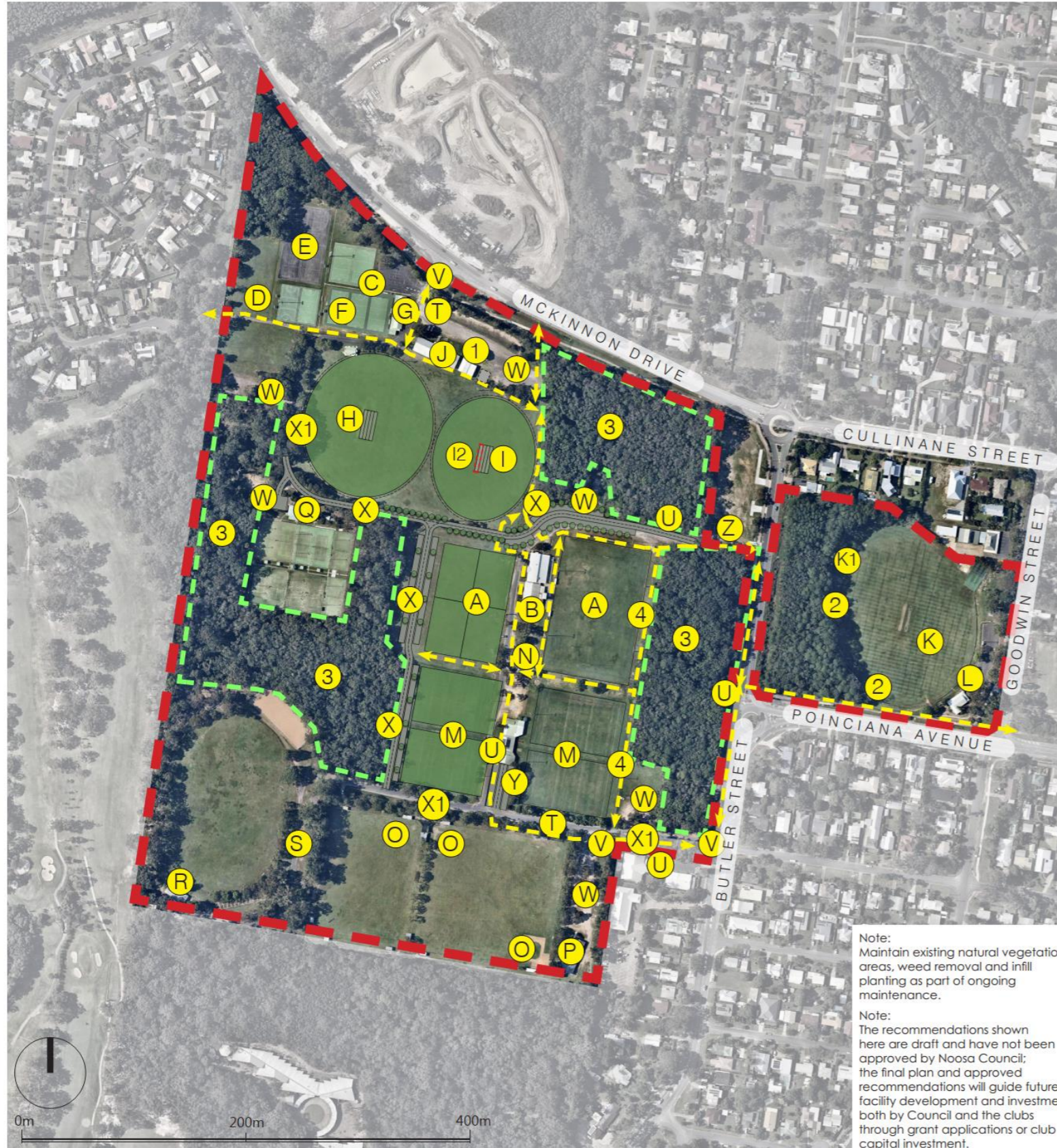
- Oversee the implementation of the approved master plan
- Manage the annual event calendar avoiding duplication and ensuring that events are well managed, minimising impact on the Complex and users
- Improve sharing of resources and enhance communication between user groups and Council

The lease documents will continue to include and outline the responsibilities of clubs in relation to facility maintenance and development. The areas of the Complex that are external to leased areas remain the responsibility of Council to maintain.

6.2.2 Tenure adjustments

The leases to Noosa District Rugby League Club and Noosa Touch Association will require boundary re-alignments to account for the new location of the north-south internal roadway, removing the roadway and associated responsibilities from the clubs.

7. Concept Master Plan



→ Internal Path Connections
 — Site boundary
 — Open Space Conservation Areas

NOOSA DISTRICT SPORTS COMPLEX MASTERPLAN

FINAL MASTER PLAN

SCALE: 1:2000 @A1
 1:4000 @A3
 DRAWING: MP-03 [H]
 PROJECT: 18058
 DATE: 06.01.2020



LEGEND

- A Rugby League**
Upgrade playing fields:
 - 2 x rectangular rugby league fields, located to accommodate pedestrian and roadway realignments
 - Irrigation and improved field drainage
 - Re-sow surface to high-wear turf species
 - Replace fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lights
 - Accessible point – emergency access (ambulance)
 - Extend existing pathways a 3m wide pedestrian path around the main (eastern) field for pedestrian access to rugby league fields and clubhouse
 - Viewing mound to be maintained. Pathway connections to be on northside of the mound.
- B** Redevelop and expand rugby league building to:
 - Provide indoor community space training, fitness programming
 - Provide upgraded amenities/ change compliant with NRL Guidelines, DDA and meeting needs of female users
 - Provision of seating areas – some undercover (100-150 pax)
 - Add solar panels and water harvesting infrastructure (tanks)
 - Grounds maintenance store
- C Netball**
Upgrade netball courts:
 - Ensure adequate runoff 3.05m
 - Replace fittings (as required) with (min) 100 lux LED lights
- D** Resurface 1 x grass courts to hardcourt surface
- E** Resurface 4 x asphalt courts to hardcourt surface
- F** Resurface courts remaining 7 x hardcourts
- G** Redevelop/ reconfigure/ expand netball amenities/ administration building to 300m²:
 - Improve provision of amenities for players
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse
 - Improve drainage between internal road and netball building
- H Cricket Main Complex**
Second oval:
 - 52.5m radius from outer most of 4 corners of wicket block
 - 4 x 3.05m turf pitches
 - 2.74m safety runoff
 - Improved field drainage
 - Lighting to 300-500lux outfield
- I** Third oval:
 - 43m (N-S) and 40m (E-W) radius from outer most corners of wicket block
 - 4 x 3.05m pitches (3x turf and incorporate existing 1 x synthetic surface)
 - 2.74m safety runoff
 - Improved field drainage
 - Lighting to 300lux outfield
- I2** Existing synthetic cricket pitch location
- J** Navy Cadets to be relocated to a more suitable facility for their needs. Amenity upgrade to accommodate building repurposing for other community/sports club needs.
- K Cricket Read Park**
Main oval:
 - 55m radius from outer most of 4 corners of wicket block
 - 4 x 3.05m turf pitches plus 3 x 3.05m synthetic pitches
 - 2m safety runoff surrounding field
 - Lighting to one field 300 lux outfield; 500 lux pitches block
 - New scoreboard
 - Additional cricket practice nets (implemented)
 - Improve field drainage and irrigation
- K1** Additional cricket practice nets (implemented)
- L** Redevelop/ reconfigure/ expand current amenities buildings:
 - Compliant with Cricket Australia guidelines for Open Age Community Club facility with additional amenities accommodating for increased female participation.
 - Upgrade public toilets / amenities
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse
 - Add shade extension across building frontage
- M Touch**
Upgrade playing fields:
 - 4 x rectangular fields, located to accommodate pedestrian and road realignment
 - 70m X 50m, with 5m safety runoff
 - 2 x rugby league field overlays
 - Irrigation and improved field drainage
 - Resow surface to high-wear turf species
 - Replace poles with new fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lighting (local standard competition)
 - Accessible point – emergency access (ambulance)
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse to clubhouse building
 - Field perimeter fencing with player/ pedestrian access gaps
- N** Outdoor community space for club gatherings and recreation facilities / seating / fitness and play equipment
- O Softball**
Upgrade lighting to diamonds
 - Replace fittings (as required) with 200 lux LED lighting
 - Improve field drainage
 - Investigate spectator seating upgrades
- P** Refurbish clubhouse:
 - Update within existing footprint
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse
 - New maintenance/ storage shed - approximately 25m²
- Q** Tennis
Reconfigure clubhouse to incorporate new amenities:
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse
- R** Pony Club
Reconfigure clubhouse to provide additional amenities and administration:
 - Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse
- S** Site fencing around perimeter and tree management:
 - Trim trees within path of high horse transporting vehicles
 - Undertake tree maintenance to reduce risk of tree limb falls
- T Complex Improvements**
Design safe pedestrian and cycle movement into and throughout the site:
 - From the two entrances to each car park node
 - From entrances to external path network, including to connection to underpass at Butler/ Poinciana junction
 - From car park to clubhouse/ amenity and activity zones
 - Safety lighting (LED) along paths and at all site entries
 - Drinking water stations with bottle filling capability
 - Installation of artificial shade where required for player and spectator comfort
- U** Signage:
 - Update entrance signage
 - Update site map signage
 - Incorporate internal directional signage within internal road network
- V** Car parks:
 - Formalise and expand (if possible) all current car parks via sealing
 - Safety lighting (LED)
 - Provide PWD and bus parking
 - Formalise car park north of main rugby league field
- W** Internal road connections
 - Relocate internal north-south road from east of the rectangular fields to the west of these fields (running along the edge of the vegetation) (road corridor width to be 14m)
 - Connect eastwards to current road north of the rugby league clubhouse
 - Include new road connection north of tennis centre joining current western access road
 - Upgrade of all internal roads
 - Retain car-park south of Touch clubhouse and formalise
 - Seal internal roads
 - Create designated safe pedestrian crossing points
- X** Formalise new access from Butler St to northern rugby league overflow car-park for temporary use during permitted events
- X1** Car club shed - improved security
- Y** Indicative locations for viewing turf mounds - subject to detailed design/ assessment
- Z** Open space conservation areas to be maintained through weed removal and infill revegetation planting where required
- 1** Upgrade stormwater infrastructure to reduce failures and improve drainage of site
- 2**
- 3**
- 4**

Note:
Maintain existing natural vegetation areas, weed removal and infill planting as part of ongoing maintenance.

Note:
The recommendations shown here are draft and have not been approved by Noosa Council; the final plan and approved recommendations will guide future facility development and investment both by Council and the clubs through grant applications or club capital investment.

8. Development Staging Plan

Once finalised the master plan will guide the future development of the Noosa District Sports Complex. This section outlines the proposed staging of development.

In addition to this staged development, it is recommended that the master plan is reviewed and updated after years three (3) and six (6) with a full review and update (new 10-year master plan) in year nine (9).

Table 6: Proposed Staging

Priority/ Year	Zone	Works Description
Short Year 2 - 3	Netball	Upgrade netball courts, include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace fittings (as required) with (min) 100 lux LED lights • Resurface 1 x grass courts to hardcourt surface • Resurface 4 x asphalt courts to hardcourt surface • Install solar panels
Year 1	Softball	Upgrade lighting to diamonds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace fittings (as required) with 200 lux LED lighting
Year 1- 3	Whole complex	Internal road connections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocate internal north-south road from east of the rectangular fields to the west of these fields (running along the edge of the vegetation) (road corridor width to be 14m) • Connect eastwards to current road north of the rugby league clubhouse • Include new road connection north of tennis centre joining current western access road <p>Formalise carpark south of Touch clubhouse</p> <p>Formalise new access from Butler St to northern rugby league overflow carpark for temporary use during permitted events</p> <p>Design safe pedestrian and cycle movement into and throughout the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the two entrances to each car park node • From entrances to external path network, including to connection to underpass at Butler/ Poinciana junction • From car park to clubhouse/ amenity and activity zones • Safety lighting (LED) along paths and at all site entries <p>Signage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update entrance signage • Update site map signage • Incorporate internal directional signage within internal road network
Year 1	Rugby League & Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realign/ rebuild 1x rugby league and 2x touch fields (western) to accommodate pedestrian and roadway realignment, Irrigation and improved field drainage, sow surface to high-wear turf species • Replace fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lights (RL) • Replace poles with new fittings (as required) with 150 lux LED lighting (local standard competition) (Touch) • Relocate scoreboard • Install perimeter fencing to Touch fields <p>Upgrade stormwater infrastructure to reduce failures and improve drainage of site (eastern side of fields)</p>
Year 2	Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconfigure tennis centre clubhouse to incorporate new amenities

Priority/ Year	Zone	Works Description
Medium Year 3 - 4	Complex wide - amenities and change upgrades (x5)	<p>Redevelop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby League clubhouse and amenities building to provide for community and club activity • Netball amenities/ administration building • Ex-Navy Cadets building - amenity upgrade to accommodate building repurposing • Read Park cricket amenities building, including public toilets <p>To all new/ upgraded buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and upgrade services as required • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse (including to current Touch and new Pony Club buildings)
Year 3	Cricket Read Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New scoreboard
Year 4	Rugby League	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of seating areas - some undercover (100-150 pax) • Grounds maintenance store
Year 4	Cricket Main Complex	<p>Second oval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved field drainage • Lighting to 300-500 lux outfield
Year 5	Softball	<p>Refurbish clubhouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add solar panels and rainwater collection tanks for reuse • New maintenance/ storage shed
Year 4 - 5	Whole complex	<p>Drinking water stations with bottle filling capability</p> <p>Installation of artificial shade where required for player and spectator comfort</p> <p>Outdoor community space for club gatherings and recreation facilities / seating / fitness and play equipment</p>
As required - Year 7	Netball	<p>Resurface courts remaining 7 x hardcourt</p> <p>Fencing to perimeter of courts area</p>
Stage over life of plan	Car parks and remaining internal roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalise all current car parks via sealing and line marking • Safety lighting (LED) • Provide PWD and bus parking • Formalise car park north of main rugby league field <p>Upgrade all internal roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seal internal roads • Create designated safe pedestrian crossing points

9. Warranties and Disclaimers

The information contained in this report is provided in good faith. While Otium Planning Group has applied their own experience to the task, they have relied upon information supplied to them by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence' and as such these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

There will be differences between projected and actual results, because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite or guarantee the achievability of the projections as it is not possible to substantiate assumptions which are based on future events.

Accordingly, neither Otium Planning Group, nor any member or employee of Otium Planning Group, undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than client in respect of this report, for any errors or omissions herein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.

Appendix 1

Trends in Facility Planning and Sport and Recreation Participation

Trends Analysis

A range of sport and recreation trends have been observed through studies undertaken by the Otium Planning team for various local governments throughout Australia and analysis of published data (e.g. ABS, CSIRO, Australian Sports Commission). Below is a summary of trends having implications for sport and recreation planning and provision.

Contemporary Sport and Recreation Management Trends



Megatrends⁸

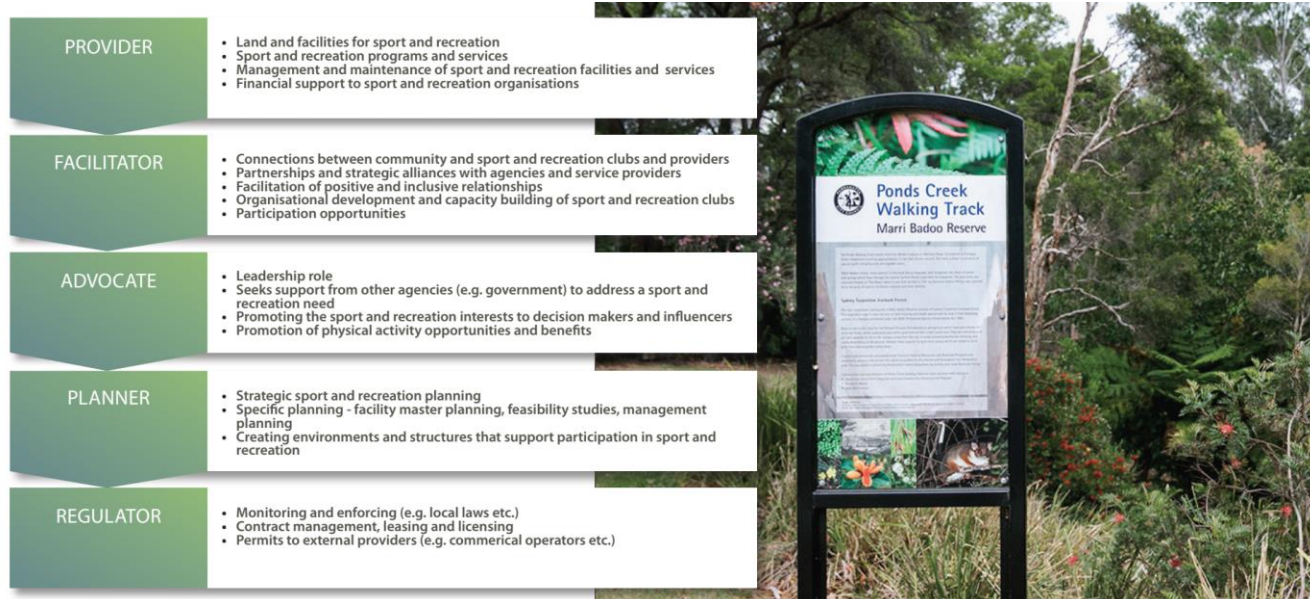
<p>A PERFECT FIT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise People are fitting sport into their increasingly busy and time-fragmented lifestyles 	
<p>FROM EXTREME TO MAINSTREAM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rise of lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports, which are particularly popular amongst younger generations These sports typically involve complex, advanced skills and have some element of inherent danger and/or thrill seeking 	
<p>MORE THAN SPORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The broader benefits of sport are being increasingly recognised by governments, business and communities Sport can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development and international cooperation objectives 	
<p>EVERYBODY'S GAME</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia and other OECD countries face an ageing population The ageing population will change the types of sports we play and how we play them 	
<p>NEW WEALTH, NEW TALENT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and income growth throughout Asia will create tougher competition and new opportunities for Australia both on the sports field and in the sports business environment 	
<p>TRACKSUITS TO BUSINESS SUITS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market forces are likely to exert greater pressure on sport in the future Loosely organised community sports associations are likely to be replaced by organisations with corporate structures and/or formal governance systems The cost of participating in sport is also rising and this is a participation barrier for many people 	

Influencers

<p>HOW PEOPLE ARE PARTICIPATING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised sport is generally static but there is growing demand for more social forms of participation Preference for "turn up and play" activities with minimal volunteering commitments Continuous growing popularity of running, riding, mountain biking and outdoor recreation Self directed, informal activity is increasing along with demand for outdoor and natural settings Participation is increasing in water-based recreation such as stand-up paddle boards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing participation in exercise and fitness related activities Strong emergence of some activities in response to inclusion in the Olympics, changing structures by traditional sports and the rise of individual fitness Increasing sports "tourism" activities New versions of court sports such as pickle ball are becoming popular with older participants 	
<p>FROM EXTREME TO MAINSTREAM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Season overlap and across season usage is becoming more prevalent The rise of personal trainers and 'led' fitness means an increased use of public spaces for organised or led activity Shift from predominantly weekend and early evening participation to weeknights, days, work hours and early mornings The rise of 24-hour gyms, and emerging, modified, short form versions of sports Introduction of more social sport and modified forms of participation and scheduling to grow participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based provision (ie volunteer) is under pressure and more and more clubs are looking at paid staff for administration Increasing commercial provision of casual and social sport – "pay and play" 	
<p>SOCIAL FACTORS AFFECTING MANAGEMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographic shift, especially in larger cities, is changing participation patterns. Ageing population and growing numbers of active and financially independent retirees who readily participate in outdoor recreation and travel. Increasing densities in larger cities and increasing medium and high-density living for young couples and families with young children. Declining housing affordability pushing many aspiring home owners and renters to urban fringes, greenfield development fronts and regional areas. Increased "seachange and treechange" activity with lifestyle affordability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> driving interstate migration (along with employment). Rapid change in employment structures with increased part-time, casual or insecure work and participation in the 24-hour economy. This affects participation ability as well as volunteerism. High correlations between low socio-economic areas and worsening health outcomes Increasingly multi-cultural society desiring greater variety of recreation activities reflecting a wide range of interests and new sports. Boom and bust impacts of communities linked strongly to the mining economy. 	
<p>KEY CHALLENGES INFLUENCING SPORT & RECREATION MANAGEMENT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declining volunteerism placing pressure on the remaining volunteer base and on the way Councils manage facilities on their land Asset management – greater pressure on Councils with ageing assets and increasing community expectations Many clubs are struggling with facility management Declining land availability and increasing cost of provision Increasing community expectations for better quality spaces and facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased focus on healthy and active lifestyles Need for shift from 'viewing sport and recreation infrastructure as a 'cost' to viewing it as an 'investment, impact and value' to communities Competitive funding environment – need for demonstrable broad community value. 	

⁸ Hajkowicz, S.A., Cook, H., Wilhelmseder, L., Boughen, N., 2013. The Future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades. A Consultancy Report for the Australian Sports Commission. CSIRO, Australia.

Role of Local Government



Sports Fields

Leading Practice in Sports Field Management by Local Government

The following provides a brief summary of some of the mechanisms that local governments around Australia (and where relevant internationally) are using to effectively manage sports fields at a corporate level:

Sports Fields

- Multi-faceted approach to demand assessment - more than ha per capita but also considers provision trends, existing use and demand
- Many Councils are developing dedicated sports field optimisation studies that involve a robust, evidence-based analysis of supply, usage and future demand
- Alternative/ innovative approaches to improve capacity of existing fields before developing new, e.g. upgrading drainage, lighting, new technology, synthetic fields etc.

Outdoor Playing Fields

In relation to outdoor playing fields, the following trends are evident:

- Single playing field facilities do not support effective competition outcomes and are costly to maintain within the overall network of sportsgrounds.
- Sports fields are increasingly being located as part of a larger, multi-use sport and recreation precinct providing opportunities for formal and informal activity.
- Designing and maintaining playing surfaces to maximise their sustainability is important as the intensity of use of playing surfaces increases.
- Water harvesting initiatives to reduce town water consumption, maintain a high standard of playing fields and improve viability is important.
- Provision of shade (natural and artificial) is increasingly important given the emphasis on sun safe practices.

- Change rooms, canteen, storage and clubrooms are considered typically ancillary facilities provided within outdoor playing field environments.
- With the rise in female participation within historically male dominated outdoor sports, the demand for female specific and/ or universal change facilities is increasing. Similarly, the need for improved site security (e.g. lighting) is also increasing.
- Due to the open nature of outdoor playing field facilities, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles are critical to protect users and the facility assets.
- Lighting of playing fields, compliant with Australian Standards and/ or sport-specific standards and increasingly the desire for light emitting diode (LED) lighting to enhance cost savings is increasing in importance
- Facility design should consider incorporating options for temporary/ spill-over parking to support major events.
- The way people utilise sportsgrounds is changing and people are now relying on open space for an increasingly diverse array of activities. Coupled with increasing cultural diversity, this means that sportsgrounds need to accommodate diverse activities to meet a variety of needs, including for both formal and informal playing opportunities.

Facility Planning and Design

Trends in facility planning and design include:

- The planning process for new facilities has improved significantly with the conduct of effective feasibility studies being the norm. These studies have generally included management/ marketing/ financial plans with demand projections based on sophisticated market analysis.
- There is a trend away from single purpose facilities towards multi-purpose facilities, however facilities need to be designed to ensure they can meet the specific needs of key user groups.
- Contemporary planning seeks to create, where possible, ‘community hubs’ for sport and recreation that can meet a broader range of needs and facilitate higher utilisation and viability.
- More flexible designs are being created and there is a growing expectation that facilities will need to be renovated/ upgraded on a periodic basis. There is a realisation that facilities have a “customer interest life-span”, which is much less than the facility’s lifespan.
- Sport facility designs are increasingly required to cater for different levels and standards of competition.
- Synthetic playing surfaces are being developed in areas where limited provision opportunities, high use of existing facilities and/ or an inability to adequately maintain grass fields to suitable standards are evident.
- Lighting of playing fields and parks for safety and/ or to extend their usage and functionality is increasingly important. Evening competitions are likely to continue to grow.
- Provision for socialising spaces is a key component of facility design.
- Environmentally sustainable design of facilities are pre-requisites.
- Toilets and change rooms are expected to be adequate in size, accessible to playing areas and people with disability (PWD) compliant and suited to male and female participation.
- Accessibility to facilities, particularly via walking and cycling is increasingly important.
- With ongoing Government economic constraints and limited capital and operational budgets, new sports facilities may need to consider joint venture arrangements between private and public sectors and sports associations.

Participation Trends

Since 2001, data has been collected on participation in exercise, recreation and sport by adults aged 15 years and over. Consistent data was collected via the Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS)⁹ between 2001 and 2010. Similar data was collected by the ABS¹⁰ between 2011 and 2014. The AusPlay¹¹ survey was introduced by the Australian Sports Commission in 2016 and collects sports participation data annually for children aged 0-14 and adults aged 15 years and over.

While it is not possible to accurately compare results across the three surveys due to differences in data collection, some trends are worth noting in relation to outdoor multi-use sports facilities like the Noosa District Sports Complex.

- 2016, 2017 and 2018 AusPlay data revealed that recreational walking, athletics (including jogging and running), football/ soccer, touch football, tennis, and netball featured in the top 15 activities participated in by Queensland adults.
- AusPlay data shows that football/ soccer, gymnastics, rugby league, athletics, netball, cricket and tennis featured in the top 10 activities participated in by Queensland children in 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- Of the top ten club-based sports participated in by adults in 2016, 2017 and 2018, five are field or court sports, indicating that a strong preference for club-based field sports remains. The top sports were football/ soccer, golf, netball, tennis, basketball, touch football, swimming, athletics and rugby league.

Women and Girls Participation in Sport

The Australia Government is encouraging young women to participate in physical activity via the '*Girls - Make Your Move*' campaign. The campaign was aimed at teenage girls, promoting physical activity and sport as fun with many positive benefits.

The AusPlay report shows that 82% of women 15+ years of age participate in physical activity weekly, on average spending more than 4 hours per week in sport and physical activity. Of the women who paid to participate in sport or physical activity the average annual expenditure was \$560 for sport related activities and \$828 for non-sport activities.

When looking at motivations and barriers to women's participation in physical activity the data show 'physical health or fitness', 'fun and enjoyment', and 'social reasons' were the top motivators. The main two barriers, accounting for 57% of all responses were 'Poor health' (29%) and 'Not enough time/ other commitments'.

⁹ Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Surveys (ERASS). 2003, 2006 and 2010 survey periods. Funded by the Australian Sports Commission and state and territory government agencies responsible for sport and recreation through the Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport. Surveys are conducted of persons aged 15 and over.

¹⁰ Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Australia. Produced by Australian Bureau of Statistics for the Committee of Australian Sport and Recreation Officials (CASRO) Research Group

¹¹ AusPlay Survey. Australian Sports Commission. Most recent survey period January to December 2018 (data released April 2019)

Table 7: Top 10 Motivators and Barriers

Motivator	Percentage	Barrier	Percentage
Physical health or fitness	81%	Poor health or Injury	29%
Fun and enjoyment	40%	Not enough time/ other commitments	28%
Social reasons	26%	Don't like sport/ physical activity	7%
Lose or maintain weight/ tone	21%	Disability	6%
Psychological/ mental health/ therapy	19%	Not a priority (anymore)	6%
To be outdoors/ enjoy nature	16%	Looking after child/ infant	5%
Walk the dog	14%	Increasing age/ too old	5%
Way of getting around	9%	Physical job	5%
Physio/ physical therapy/ post op	9%	Too lazy	4%
Hobby	5%	Can't afford it	3%

Overall the participation for men and women is similar, as shown below:

Table 8: Comparing Participation Rates for Men and Women

Participation type	Gender	15-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Overall participation	Females	95%	89%	89%	88%	91%	89%	85%
	Males	98%	90%	90%	91%	90%	87%	85%
Organised participation	Females	81%	70%	65%	59%	56%	46%	44%
	Males	79%	70%	67%	62%	54%	43%	43%
Non-sport-related activity	Females	38%	68%	78%	79%	84%	85%	79%
	Males	36%	52%	56%	56%	62%	68%	69%

The data does show that women and girls are less active in sport-related activities, less likely again to participate in team sports, and less likely again to participate in club-based sports. The data shows that although women participate at a similar rate to men, however their sessions tend to be shorter on average than men. This could be linked to the types of activities they are likely to participate in (personal fitness related activities) and a reflection of their lack of time for activities, especially during the busiest periods of parenthood.

The top 10 activities (nationally) that women and girls participate in are:

1. Walking (recreational) (55.0%)
2. Fitness/ Gym (39.2%)
3. Swimming (17%)
4. Running (including athletics) (13.1%)
5. Yoga (9.0%)
6. Cycling (8.7%)
7. Pilates (5.9%)
8. Bush Walking (5.8%)
9. Netball (4.4%)
10. Tennis (3.8%)

The report states “having a child affects many parents’ ability to lead an active lifestyle, particularly whilst their children are young. Perhaps surprisingly, the effect of parenthood on physical activity seems to be just as pronounced (if not more so) for men”.

The report summarises that, besides netball, women generally have a low participation rate in team sports. It suggests that team sports should review the product they are offering, to ensure that it better meets the needs of women and creates opportunities for women to exercise with friends in a fun environment, as the social benefits of sport and physical activity are increasingly resonating.