

Barossa, Light and Lower North Region



Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Strategy September 2013





A Vision for Open Space and Public Realm

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region will have an equitable supply and range of useable open space and recreation services and facilities to meet the needs of the growing community. This will include active, passive, structured and unstructured opportunities that will showcase the region as a vibrant and liveable community and destination for leisure and recreation tourism.



Prepared for

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region Councils

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Executive Summary

The Barossa, Light and Lower North region, which covers approximately 3,150 square kilometres and comprises the Barossa, Light, Mallala and Gawler councils, is one of the most significant regions identified in the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide for future urban growth. These councils have partnered with the Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS), Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and Regional Development Australia (RDA) to fund the preparation of a strategy for open space, recreation and public realm across the region.

The area is diverse, ranging from the Barossa Valley to the coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent. It provides for farming, viticulture, industrial and commercial opportunities and is generally characterised by smaller townships. The combined population of the region is about 65,000 and is expected to grow to about 170,000 over the next 30 years. The area specifically has:

- a relatively young population with above average school aged and younger children;
- above average numbers of people aged between 45 and 64 years, and
- a high proportion of families with children.

Above average growth in recent years will continue and is proposed to be higher than the State average up to the year 2021. The SA Government's 30-Year Plan for population and dwelling projections to 2038 proposes 4,000 new homes in Gawler East and Evanston, population in Roseworthy to grow to around 60,000 and Freeling to about 500, with new developments in Two Wells and Mt Pleasant. The older ages are expected to see the greatest population increases. The significant urban development and proposed population growth in the region and in adjoining councils will create significant social, economic and environmental pressures.

The diversity and size of the region created a number of challenges for the project including the:

- Disparate nature of the four councils within the area;
- land uses, topography, geography and biodiversity of the area, of the
- demographic profile and makeup of the communities, including their population size
- range of lifestyle and recreation choices

A four stage process was adopted to prepare the strategy. This has provided a consistent approach to the planning open space that is relevant, easily understood and readily applicable by each council. These stages included the following.

- **Stage One** focussed on project familiarisation, the collection and review of relevant documentation, introductory stakeholder consultations and base map preparations.
- **Stage Two** established the framework used to classify open space and facilities.
- **Stage Three** included assessment of all open space and recreation assets and identified demand for open space and recreation through consultation and research which included a Trend and Needs Assessment.
- **Stage Four** consisted of drafting the strategy and final consultations.

In addition to the strategy, three technical papers consolidated the work conducted within the project stages. These documents provide the background and context for Study. These include:

- **Context Report** details previous research and work, provides a background and context and discusses a contextual approach to open space, public realm and ecology.
- **Consultation Report** brings together information and analysis from a range of consultations.
- **Audit Report** compiles and considers the data provided by the open space, public realm and environmental audits.

OPEN SPACE SUPPLY

In accepting that not all open space is accessible for community use, land must be understood in terms of Physical open space and Useable open space. This then provides the ability to identify supply levels and benchmark them. Physical open space is classified into the seven different categories of Local, Neighbourhood, District, Regional, Linear, Ancillary and Other. Useable open space refers to each of these categories with the exception of Ancillary and Other. In defining these categories the following abbreviated definitions were applied.

- **Local** Open Space caters to residents within walking distance (about 500 metres) and is used most often as passive space and low level activities.
- **Neighbourhood** Open Space caters for broader catchments and is distributed within a 1km radius of every household. It is designed to meet the needs of the whole family.
- **District** Open Space caters to the wider community and is generally used for multi use activities. These spaces often contain sports fields, courts and other significant infrastructure.
- **Regional** Open Space caters to the broader community where people will travel up to 90 minutes to visit
- **Ancillary** Open Space includes school reserves, cemeteries, road verges, creek lines, storm water channels and minor roads that support linear trails, revegetation and walk/cycling links.
- **Linear** refers to off road links to destinations and are normally trails for shared use cycling and walking. In some instances these can also be undeveloped and used by horses.

Useable open space, which is land in the ownership or care and control of councils for recreation and community access is mainly classified as Community Land and is primarily used for recreation. The distribution of physical open space in all its categories is shown below.

LGA	Local	N'hood	District	Regional	Linear	Ancillary	Other	Unknown	Total
Barossa	30.7	52.1	161	0	26.9	806.7	6846.6	0	7924
Gawler	30.6	11.5	82.1	39.3	14.8	93	125.9	36	433.2
Light	61.9	13.1	97.5	125.6	10	114.7	954.1	1.3	1378.2
Mallala	42.1	36.1	71.3	75.9	20.4	422.6	1513.5	0	2181.9
Total	165.3	112.8	411.9	240.8	72.1	1437	9,440.1	37.3	11,917.3

Table 2: Distribution of Open Space by Classification and Local Government Authority

Through comparisons with the supply of open space in the Adelaide Statistical Division (ASD) and to maintain the rural and peri urban settings within which the community has chosen to live, it was determined that 9 hectares per 1000 was a relevant benchmark - which each council exceeds. Useable open space across the region is allocated to Local, Neighbourhood, District, Regional and Linear as identified in the table below.

LGA	Distribution of Categories of Useable Open Space (hectares)										
	Local	%	N'hood	%	District	%	Regional	%	Linear	%	Total
Barossa	30.7	11.3	52.1	19.2	161	59.4	0	0	26.9	9.9	270.7
Gawler	30.6	17.1	11.5	6.5	82.1	46.0	39.3	22.0	14.8	8.3	178.3
Light	61.9	20	13.1	4.2	97.5	31.6	125.6	40.7	10	3.2	308.1
Mallala	42.1	17.1	36.1	14.6	71.3	29	75.9	30.8	20.4	8.3	245.8
Totals	165.3	16.4	112.8	11.2	411.9	41	240.8	24	72.1	7.1	1,002.9

Table 3: Useable Open Space (hectares) in the Study Area

The table below identifies existing open space distribution and highlights the need to plan for increased provision into the future to retain the 9 hectare per 1000 benchmark for each council.

LGA	Useable Open Space	Population 2006	Ha of OS per 1000	Population 2036	Ha of OS per 1000	OS required in 2036	Surplus or Deficit (Ha)
Barossa	270.7	20,528	13.19	39,965	6.8	360	- 89
Gawler	178.3	18,862	9.45	40,606	5.3	366	- 188
Light	308.1	12,405	24.84	79,217	3.8	713	- 405
Mallala	245.8	7,892	31.14	9,899	24.8	89	156
Region	1002.9	59,687	16.8	169,687	5.9	1527	

Table 4: Useable Open Space Provision per ha/1000people

The open space in Mallala and Light is well above the benchmark due to large unpopulated rural areas. Gawler and Barossa have supply levels of just over 9 hectares per 1,000. Population growth projected to 2036 indicates that open space at its current levels will fall below the benchmark for each council apart from Mallala and reinforces the need for councils to prepare and implement policy that will support the retention of 9 hectares as minimum provision.

Land categorised as Other includes public and private schools, tertiary institutional land (TAFE and university), churches and privately owned and managed recreation facilities, and other state government owned property such as forests, conservation parks and coastal conservation areas. It includes significant parcels of open space that are used and classified as Coastal Conservation and owned by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) and ForestrySA land used for forestry and forest recreation purposes. These spaces potentially have an important role in determining the future supply of open space and provide opportunities to share space through the negotiation of management agreements. For example, Public Schools across the region and Forestry land in the Barossa have potentially high value as multi-functional space at a regional level while Crown land along the coast may be best left for fauna, and to manage the effects of climate change and the quality of aquatic reserves. These different areas have, as a result of their locations, uses and classifications, different functions in regard to recreation use. Forestry and school land provides opportunities for multiple uses, whereas Coastal Conservation zones have limited recreation opportunities. Table 5 shows the distribution of Other Open Space and the number of parcels in each council.

LGA	School Type				Tertiary		State Government		Private	
	Public		Private		Ha	No	Ha	No	Ha	No
	Ha	No	Ha	No						
Barossa	30.6	6	6.1	2	0	0	5808.3	39	95.7	3
Gawler	31.5	6	48.6	2	0.4	1	0	0	45.1	3
Light	9.9	5	16	1	768.4	4	0	0	84.7	8
Mallala	6.5	2	0	0	148.6	1	887.5	60	588.9	9
Totals	78.5	19	70.7	5	917.4	6	6695.8	99	814.4	23

Table 5: Other Open Space within each LGA

Within this amount of Other Open Space, the Barossa Council has 6,353 of forestry land which may provide opportunities for further multi-purpose recreational opportunities in addition to the existing series of publicly accessible trails. Mallala has 642 hectares of DEWNR owned coastal land which has very limited recreational opportunities and may be best left for fauna, and to manage the effects of climate change and the quality of aquatic reserves.

A number of public and private schools within each council provide playing fields and opportunities exist to negotiate joint use arrangements to share these for community use. Light also has similar opportunities with Adelaide University land situated in the vicinity of Roseworthy. Private ownership of facilities by sporting clubs is seen as practical given the cost of maintenance and council's limited budget. Light, Mallala and the Barossa have adopted this approach.

The Audit Report stated that about 70% of open space should be categorised as district or regional for active and, or structured uses and that 30% should comprise local and neighbourhood open space. The Light and Gawler Councils have approximate provision at these levels, while the Barossa and Mallala fall slightly short with around 60% active space and 40% passive space each. In smaller towns, district space is often the main open space and provides passive areas as well as sports facilities and playing fields. The Barossa's towns of Lyndoch, Mount Pleasant, Springton, Williamstown and Eden Valley each have playing fields. Similarly, Mallala has about 30% of its allocation at District Level with six spaces in the towns of Dublin, Two Wells, Lewiston and Mallala. Gawler's supply at district level is 46% as a result of its residential setting and metropolitan-like design. Light has 31.6% of district open space located in the towns of Kapunda, Freeling and Greenock.

Gawler has significant regional space in its major sporting precinct along the North Para River. Light has a major sporting facility and golf course at Kapunda, and the aerodrome, while Mallala has equestrian and motor racing facilities. The Barossa has its large allocations in District Level which cater more to local and surrounding communities.

Coastal open space and boating facilities are located at Parham, Webb Beach, Thompson Beach, Middle Beach and Port Gawler in the District Council of Mallala. Strips of open space along the coast are primarily State Government owned conservation areas with Council parcels located in the small settlements. The coastal areas are important places for recreation and biodiversity.

Mallala has around 20% Ancillary Space due mainly to the allocation of the State's coastal ownership. Gawler also has around 20%, it is mostly the racecourse which has as specific sports focus and is in private ownership.

The Barossa has 10% Ancillary Open Space which is mainly isolated and not near major townships. Light has 8.3% open space in this classification with little or none of it useable as recreation open space.

TRAILS

Trails throughout the region are mostly shared use and cater to cyclists, horse riders, runners and walkers. The Barossa has 11 local trails, one regional and three national trails passing through it. Gawler and Mallala have one local trail each. Light also has three national trails pass through it as well as one regional trail. The majority of local trails are contained within the Barossa due to that area's strong focus on tourism and wineries, and the nature of the topography and landscape. Opportunities exist to develop trails along disused and existing rail routes as these are direct in nature and offer opportunity for cycling and access to key townships.

PLAYSPACES

It is recommended that each council adopts a playspace system that provides even distribution of facilities that offer a range of experiences within four classification systems that align with the open space classifications of local, neighbourhood, district and regional. Ideally playspaces should be located within 500 metres of residents to allow adults and children to walk to them. Playspaces need to be well designed and located, and can be incorporated into public realm and park settings without formal equipment. It is proposed that playspaces comprise five elements to include:

- Play equipment
- Imaginative / creative area
- Unstructured recreation area
- Special feature and
- Adult / carer area

There are 62 playspaces in the region - each located in open space. The table below identifies provision across councils including number per head of population. It has been identified in studies that mean a provision of playspaces is 1 for every 825 people within a residential setting.

LGA	Play Space Classification				Total	Pop	Play Space 1 per
	Local	N'hood	District	Regional			
Barossa	6	7	13	0	26	20,528	789
Gawler	7	5	3	1	16	18,862	1,178
Light	1	7	6	1	15	12,405	827
Mallala	1	3	1	0	5	7,892	1,578
Total	15	22	23	2	62	59,687	962

Table 8: Play Space Provision per LGA

The Barossa has 26 playspaces or one for every 789 people with 13 at district level. The majority of rural townships have open space and recreation infrastructure situated in one main area. The remaining 13 play spaces are in local and neighbourhood parks in the more populated townships of Nuriootpa, Angaston and Tanunda.

The Town of Gawler has 16 play spaces or one for every 1,178 people - six playgrounds are required to meet the benchmark. A total of 12 are located in local and neighbourhood parks. District level play spaces and youth parks (BMX and skate) are located at Princes Park and the regional level Elliot Goodger Park.

Light Regional Council has 15 play spaces in neighbourhood and district space and meets the benchmark. Kapunda has most play spaces. The District Council of Mallala has five play spaces in Dublin, Mallala, Two Wells, Lewiston and Parham - it requires nine more to meet the benchmark.

SPORT AND RECREATION

Sport and recreation comprises sportsgrounds with local club rooms, recreation and aquatic centres (wet and dry facilities) including indoor and outdoor swimming pools, indoor courts and gymnasiums or a combination of the two. It also includes state and regional facilities that cater to a wider catchment and normally target higher levels or specialist elements of sport and recreation.

Most sportsgrounds are located on district open space with ownership shared between councils and private bodies including schools and other tiers of government. Table 9 identifies sports ground distribution in each council, the classification of open space and its ownership. State and private ownership includes schools. The majority of grounds are provided in district space and private provision is a combination of private schools and private sports facilities.

LGA	Council Owned Facilities			State	Private	Total
	N'hood	District	Regional			
Barossa	2	12	0	0	4	18
Gawler	0	6	2	4	2	14
Light	2	4	0	2	5	13
Mallala	0	4	0	0	4	8

Table 9: Sportsgrounds per LGA

In relation to recreation and aquatic facilities, the region has three indoor venues and seven pools, two of which are located within an indoor venue. Five are seasonal outdoor facilities and only accessible during the summer. Utilising the University of SA's Centre for Environment and Recreation Management's (CERM) national standards for recreation centres, it is identified that there is a current lack of indoor facilities and pools in the region with Light and Mallala having no indoor recreation centres and Mallala no aquatic facility. While the current level of provisioning in these areas appears adequate based on travelling times and distances to larger regional level facilities in Gawler, smaller level facilities in Mallala and Light Council areas may be considered.

Regional and smaller level facilities should be considered at Roseworthy as and when it is developed and reaches its projected levels of population growth. Investigation should also be conducted into expanding the Gawler Centre or development of a new facility.

In regard to regional and state facilities, there are a number that cater to specific activities and draw large participant and spectator numbers. These are both government and privately owned facilities and include the Mallala Motorsport Raceway at Mallala, the Essex Park/Showgrounds and Gawler Racecourse in Gawler, and Dutton Park, Kapunda Trotting and Harness Racing Complex, Gawler Harness Racing Club and the Gawler Aerodrome in the Light Regional Council.

SUMMARY OF PROVISION OF OPEN SPACE

The **Barossa Council** has the majority of its open space located within eight primary townships and is well served in terms of its allocation. It has approximately 1.5 times the amount required to meet the 9 hectares per 1,000 people benchmark. The Barossa covers a large physical area and has reasonable recreation provision concentrated in the higher populated areas. While its overall allocation meets the benchmarks, some smaller townships would benefit from the addition of local level parks and the provision of play spaces to provide greater access to residents.

The Town of Gawler with 9.45 hectares per 1000 people exceeds the proposed benchmark of 9. With its residential population similar to a metropolitan council, it has good open space provision overall. Large amounts of regional and district level open space exist and the newer development areas have a reasonable local and neighbourhood level open. Open space is lacking in the inner south east of town, the outer areas to the west of the railway line between Evanston and Gawler West, and to north of the Barossa Valley Highway in the north east.

In regards to sport and recreation facilities, Gawler has the Gawler Sport and Community Centre, the Starplex at Trinity College (located on private school land), and the Gawler Aquatic Centre. In addition to these built facilities it has Essex Park, a 16 hectare sports precinct that includes linear trails and the Gawler Racecourse. A reassessment of sports facilities that considers a sports hub approach along with a review of the demand for the aquatics and recreation centres should be undertaken to align the supply of services with current and forecast need. An additional district level playing field is recommended in the eastern section of the town. There are eight council owned district level facilities and a further six located on private or school grounds. Higher quality open space would be achieved by preparing a water sensitive urban design framework to direct the design, function and maintenance of these spaces.

With playspaces distributed at the rate of one per 1,180 people - a further six are required. Opportunities should be explored to create links with the Bobridge and O'Grady Paths and shared trails from Gawler to Kapunda and from Gawler to Roseworthy/Wasleys and beyond.

The **Light Regional Council** has the majority of its useable recreation open space in the main townships of Kapunda and Hewett and the developing Freeling with adequate allocations existing in Roseworthy, Wasleys and Greenock. Both passive space and active sporting facilities are provided with 32% at district level which reflects the supply of sporting grounds predominately within the towns of Kapunda, Freeling and Greenock. A further 24% is a combination of local and neighbourhood spaces, with 3% linear and the remainder of 40% being regional - a combination of parklands and playing fields at the Dutton Park Sports and Tourist Park. Kapunda has a swimming pool and other regional and state level facilities include the national level Heysen Trail, the Kapunda Trotting and Harness Racing Complex and the Gawler Aerodrome. Opportunities to develop trails within townships along disused rail corridors should be considered.

The **District Council of Mallala** with its population centred in Mallala, Two Wells, Dublin and Lewiston has high levels of open space. The region has about 30% as district level with six reserves located in the townships and settlements of Dublin, Two Wells, Lewiston and Mallala as well as the coastal zone next to Port Gawler. This is balanced with local and neighbourhood allocation.

Council has no public indoor recreation or aquatic facilities in the area however privately owned facilities include the Mallala Equestrian Centre and the Reeves Plains Indoor Vaulting Arena. Mallala also has the privately owned car racing circuit.

While Two Wells and Lewiston currently have adequate space, policy will need to be prepared to guide the creation of open space into the future as these areas commence development.

Coastal open space and boating facilities are located at the settlements of Parham, Webb Beach, Thompson Beach, Middle Beach and Port Gawler. While the District Council of Mallala owns and maintains some open space situated in and around the small settlements, the majority of land along the coast is owned by the State Government for coastal conservation. The open space in this area, which provides access to the coast and boating facilities, will become more important over time as development in the northern areas of Adelaide increases.

PUBLIC REALM

As with many rural and semi-rural towns, the nature of public realm often relates closely to sport and recreation facilities and open space. Accordingly, these spaces that influence country life, need to be considered as multi use, public realm destinations that cater for a wide variety of users. They need to provide high quality landscape treatments that cater to pedestrians travelling to and from the area, and people and families enjoying the landscape around the grounds or passively using the spaces, as well as those playing sport and travelling in vehicles.

Main streets in rural areas should be hubs of activity and ambience that contribute to life and identity and support local business and tourism. They should be considered as more than a location or thoroughfare. Cars tend to dominate the streetscape by moving too quickly and encroaching on potential footpath space that may be used as social areas within the road corridor.

Many locations within the region contain unique trails, spaces, places and activities that require better maintenance. The region has beautiful landscape settings and these assets appear to be underappreciated. The public realm must reference the local context and be of high amenity to encourage people to utilise facilities, experience outdoor activities and enjoy the rural locations.

ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

There are significant areas of forest, conservation park, recreation spaces and other green space that all contribute to the environmental value and biodiversity of the region. The state of the environment and biodiversity in the region has been defined in various documents written by the Natural Resource Management board and local government authorities in the area.

To gain full benefit from these areas, adequate conservation and protection is required including active management of recreational uses. Use should be promoted to raise awareness of the value of the assets; however use must be carefully controlled to ensure the resources are improved and remain available into the future.

A number of fauna and flora species that are considered as threatened exist in the area. These include those listed on the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Act. Protection and conservation of these species and others identified as threatened in the region should be planned with consideration for the predicted climate change impacts.

The area contains fragmented landscapes that would benefit from detailed mapping to ensure adequate consideration throughout development planning to protect, strengthen and link up high value biodiversity areas and protect threatened species and ecosystems.

TOURISM

Tourism plays a vital role in delivering a range of economic, social and environmental benefits to the region. There are a number of plans and strategies in place in relation to development and management of tourism by the South Australian Tourism Commission.

The State Government's Regional Tourism Profile June 2010 - 2012 identified that the region attracts visitors from around the world and with stays of up to six days; the influence that tourism has on towns and spaces must be considered in planning, development and the ongoing management of open space. Opportunities exist to develop:

- shared use trails and pathways linking within councils and externally across the region,
- more inviting public realm and town spaces,
- private open spaces that reflect the topography, character and natural countryside
- spaces able to host local and regional functions that cater for community and cultural events
- local and state level sport and recreation activities such as mountain bike riding, walking along trails and linking commuting networks
- accommodation for large scale motor sport events
- open spaces that encourage stop-overs and visitations as a part of a larger journey
- eco and adventure based tourism activities that have the potential to be developed with greater promotion and recognition

DEMAND ANALYSIS

Through consultations including a community survey, forums and face to face interviews, the demand for the provision and management of open space, recreation and public realm was identified. Input was received from residents, sporting clubs, recreation and community groups, state sport and peak bodies, councils and State and Commonwealth departments. From that feedback, specific issues and key themes were identified and grouped into four categories of Open Space, Trails, Public Realm and Sport and Recreation. Open space is divided into two sub categories - Passive Space: predominantly recreation; and Active Space predominantly sport.

PASSIVE OPEN SPACE

Accessible - greater access to State Government land such as Forestry SA land and reservoirs

Activated - having more people visit parks and developing more activity within parks

Family Friendly - having more family orientated parks with family friendly facilities

Functional - making existing open space functional and meeting the needs of the community, including flexible spaces that cater to multiple uses such as events and passive activity

Linked - creating better connections between parks and other key destinations and facilities

Multi-Purpose - reserves with high recreational function that accommodate storm water use

Provision – the amount of useable open space needs to meet existing community requirements and be planned for future growth. Disposal and rationalisation is considered

Safe - making parks safe around rivers, waterways and roads

ACTIVE OPEN SPACE

Accessible and Visible - facilities need good access to townships and main roads

Affordable - the community should be able to afford to participate at the facility

Master Planned and Designed - sport and recreation facilities need to be professionally designed to be economically, environmentally and socially sustainable

Multi-Purpose - sports grounds in townships need a range of sport and recreation opportunities including active and passive pursuits for day and night (e.g. playgrounds, skate parks)

Planned - facilities need to be planned for all areas of proposed growth identified in the 30-Year plan. Other existing areas also require assessment for facility provision

Secure - access to Government land including schools needs developing and long term tenure.

Sport Hubs - clubs are experiencing growth and are willing to consider sharing multi-purpose facilities located within sports precincts

PUBLIC REALM

Access and Movement - spaces need to be pedestrian friendly with flowing movement corridors and safe road crossings

Amenities - more community facilities and public toilets are required

Enhancing - promote and develop the elements of public realm that currently exist

Entry Statements - markers identifying the entrance to towns are needed in many areas

Landscaping - use of trees to better present towns: entry statements and streetscapes

Main Street Activation - implement main street projects to activate towns

Public Art - install more public and community art to create a sense of place

Safety - provide civic areas and facilities that engender feelings of safety

Sense of Place - create a better sense of place through more civic areas and events

Way Finding - high quality signage around towns and trails is required for tourists

RECREATION AND SPORT

Accessible - should be accessible to people in terms of price, location and choice

Cycling - recreational and tourist based cycling can be developed and promoted through better signage and provision of more bike lanes

Indoor Facilities - planning is required for future growth

Outdoor Facilities - sport & recreation facilities including playing fields, hard courts, playspaces, equestrian facilities and swimming pools need to meet existing demand and future growth

Maintained - existing facilities need regular maintenance, upkeep and upgrading

Skating - high demand exists for the installation of skate parks and roller skate facilities

TRAILS

Linear - develop linear trails in places such as natural watercourses, rivers and old railways

Linked - where possible trails need to create linkages to other trails and destinations including neighbouring towns, sport and recreation facilities, rivers, reservoirs and tourism attractions

Provision - trails should meet demand for walking, cycling and horses

Safe - safety is a key element in trail design. Trails must be safe to use

Secure - long tenure of trails from State Government and councils is required

Shared Use - where practical trails should cater to a range of purposes including walking, cycling and horse riding

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Following the process laid down in the report, a strategic response is proposed for Open Space, Recreation and Sport, and Public Realm in terms of:

- A vision for open space and public realm across the region;
- Guiding principles;
- Regional strategies, and
- Local strategies.

The vision for open space, the public realm and the environment that is recommended for adoption by each of the councils within the region has been formulated to support the future desire and direction for the provision, management and maintenance of the spaces that each council is responsible for. The vision has been based on the local communities' and stakeholders' input into this study and will heavily influence the Guiding Principles.

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region will have an equitable supply and range of useable open space and recreation services and facilities to meet the needs of the growing community. This will include active, passive, structured and unstructured opportunities that will showcase the region as a vibrant and liveable community and destination for leisure and recreation tourism.

To support the vision for the region and to set the strategic directions for the Strategy, 24 Guiding Principles have been established as key foundation blocks. These have been used to develop a number of broad strategies that have been framed at an overarching or regional level to be applied across the Study Area. These have been made within the categories of Open Space and Trails, Recreation and Sport, and Public Realm.

They are further broken down into Council and site specific locations in the Local Strategies section. These individual local council strategies have been identified and listed within a separate table for each council and have been grouped within the same categories as the strategies to ensure flow and consistency - Open Space and Trails, Recreation and Sport, and Public Realm.

These strategies identify and individually address issues that are:

- relative to the council's region or area,
- general to individual towns and settlements, and also to
- site specific areas within towns and settlements

The initial focus of each of the councils in the first five years should be on policy preparation and adoption into their strategic frameworks and planning documents. This will set the direction and priorities for each region and support the implementation of the actions. There is a significant amount of policy and project work identified with the regional and local strategies and it is reasonable to expect that this will be undertaken over a number of years.

While the overall strategic document is prepared with 2036 as the timeframe and the 30-Year Plan as a key to its timing and development, it would be appropriate that there are regular reviews conducted and realignments made in accordance with the political, social and economic climate of the time, and in light of the actions and strategies that have been implemented at the time of the reviews.

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Section One: Background and Context

1.1 Overview

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region successfully applied to the State Government's Planning and Development Fund and to the Office for Recreation and Sport for grant funding to prepare a strategy for regional open space, recreation and public realm areas across the region.

The strategy has a number of invested stakeholders including the:

- Barossa Council
- Town of Gawler
- Light Regional Council
- District Council of Mallala
- Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS)
- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI)
- Regional Development Australia (RDA) Barossa, Light and Lower North Region

These stakeholders have identified the need to prepare a relevant regional recreation and open space strategy. The outcome of this project has been to produce a coordinated and prioritised strategy for the management and design of open space to include recreation, sport, trail networks, biodiversity and public realm spaces.

The Consultant's Project Brief for this strategy described the main goal of the project as:

...to ensure alignment with the vision, targets, relevant strategies and policies of the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide by contributing to critical land use arrangements and effective planning and growth outcomes.

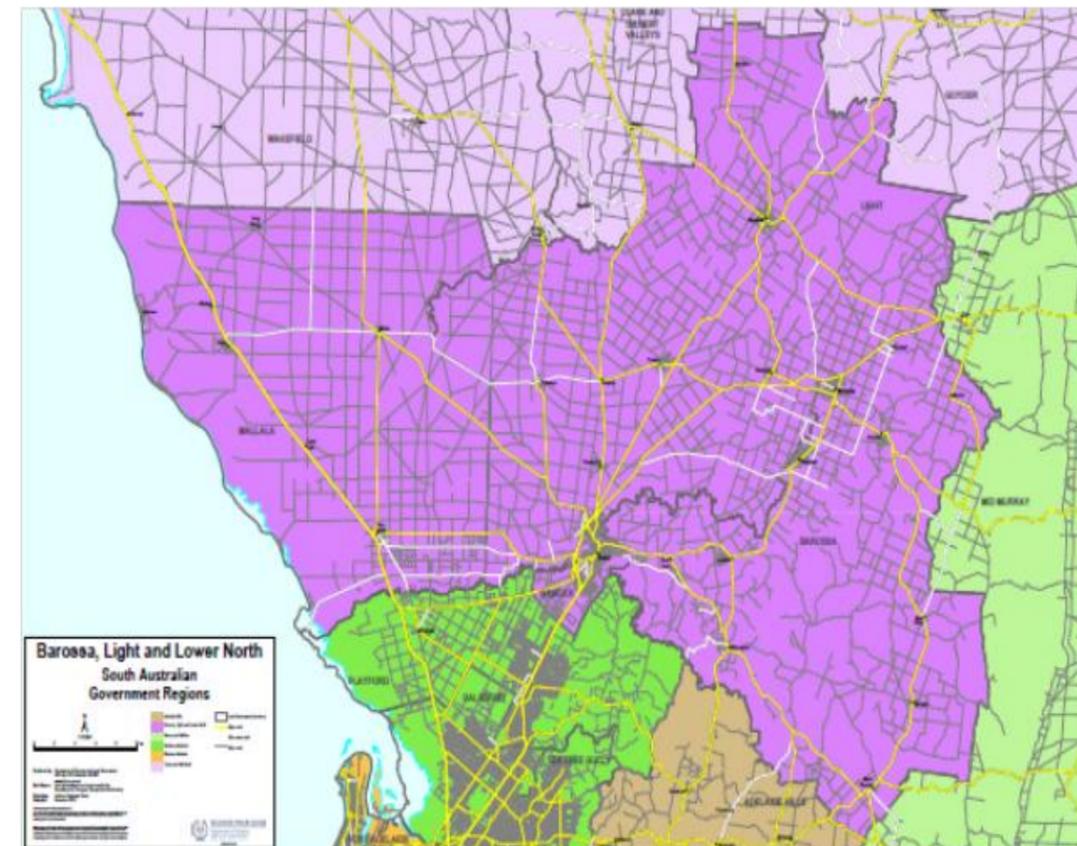
Other goals identified within the Brief include:

- a) Provide a clear strategic direction for open space and public realm development within the Barossa and Lower North Region to 2030/36. Specific targets over the next 5 years to be included;
- b) Provide policies, strategies and management plans for effective and equitable use of open space;
- c) Identify priorities for active and passive recreation opportunities that foster healthy communities, including but not limited to parks and reserves, walking and cycling trails, linear parks and biodiversity corridors, greenways, playgrounds, skate parks, BMX facilities and sporting hubs;

- d) Explore the viability of creation, acquisition, retention and conversion of open space;
- e) Improve decision making in relation to open space and recreation areas;
- f) Identify key issues and prioritise specific actions for asset management;
- g) Inform and collaborate with the community about councils' strategic open space and recreation priorities;
- h) Meet statutory obligations in respect of relevant legislation more effectively;
- i) Protect the natural landscape and environment;
- j) Provide increased capacity to leverage external funding opportunities;
- k) Make wiser, cost-efficient expenditure choices

1.2 The Region

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region covers an area of approximately 3,150 square kilometres and comprises the Barossa, Light, Mallala and Gawler councils. It is one of the most significant regions identified in the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide for future urban growth. The Study Area is identified below in Map 1.



Map 1: Study Area Boundary (in purple)

The area is diverse, ranging from the vineyards of the Barossa Valley, the farming lands in the north of the region through to the coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent. It is generally characterised by smaller townships that have a strong focus on a wide range of sport and recreation activities.

The combined population of the region is about 65,000 and is forecast to grow to around 170,000 in the next 30 years. The Study Area has experienced above average growth in recent years with the population projected to grow at a rate that will be higher than the State average up to the year 2021. The older age categories are expected to see the greatest population increase. Table 1 highlights the population statistics as of 2006 and also those projected to 2036 for each of the councils of Barossa, Gawler, Light and Mallala. (2006 ABS data has been used in this study due to the timing of the project relative to the release of the 2011 data). The area specifically has:

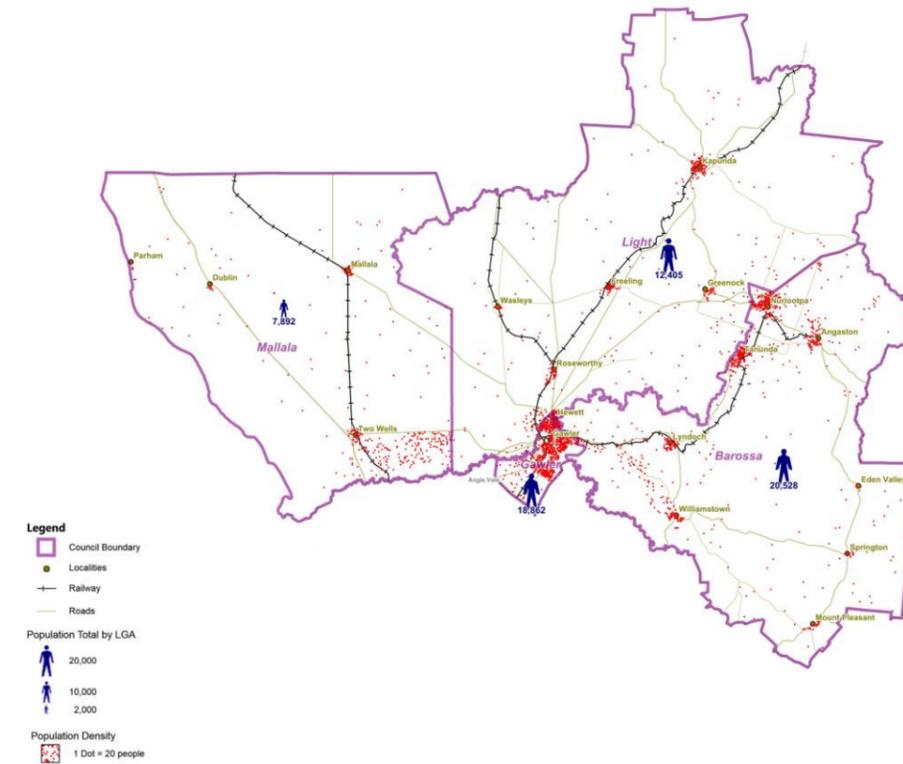
- A relatively young population with above average school aged and younger children;
- Above average numbers of people aged between 45 and 64 years, and
- A high proportion of families with children.

LGA	Population 2006	Population 2036
Barossa	20,528	39,965
Gawler	18,862	40,606
Light	12,405	79,217
Mallala	7,892	9,899
TOTAL	59,687	169,687

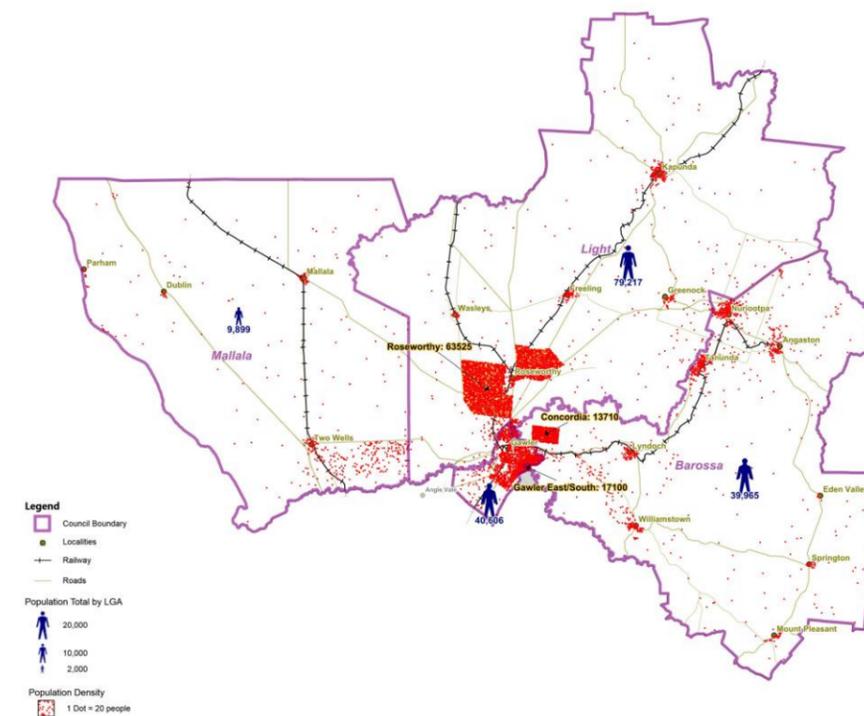
Table 1: Population by LGA

These figures are explained in part by the SA Government's 30-Year Plan for population and dwelling projections to 2038 which propose 4,000 new homes in each of Gawler East and Evanston, an increase in population in Roseworthy to around 60,000 and Freeling to about 500, and new developments in Two Wells (3,500 dwellings) and Mt Pleasant (350 dwellings).

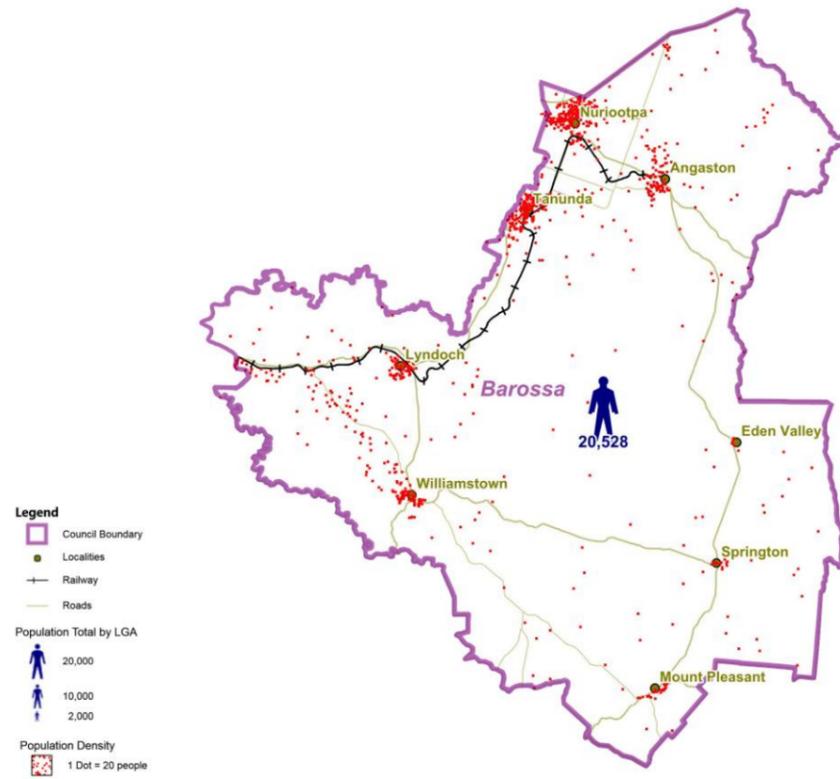
The population profiles at 2006 and 2036 illustrated opposite, show the current numbers and key areas for growth. Map 2 highlights the most populated towns including Gawler, Nuriootpa, Kapunda and Tanunda. Towns with smaller populations include Two Wells and its outlying areas, Mallala, Freeling, Angaston, Williamstown and Lyndoch. Map 3 shows the projected growth to 2036 and identifies the significant population increases planned for the areas around Gawler and Roseworthy and to a lesser extent Mallala, Two Wells, Freeling, Kapunda, Nuriootpa, Tanunda, Angaston, Williamston, Lyndoch, Springton and Mt Pleasant. Maps 4 to 11 on the following pages show these population profiles in larger format for each council area.



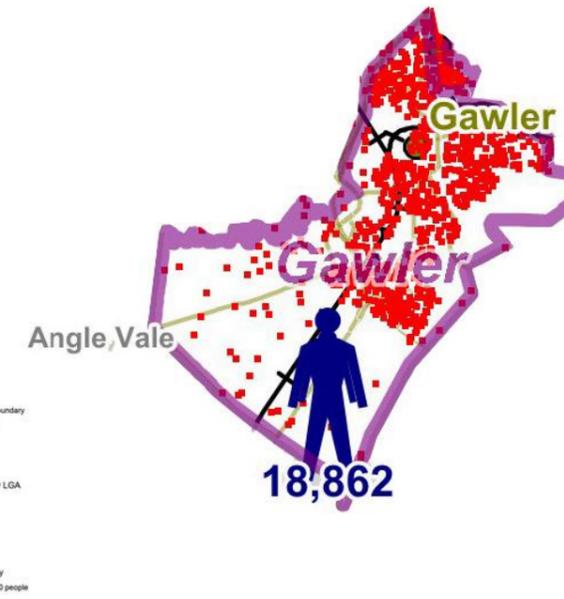
Map 2: 2006 Population by LGA



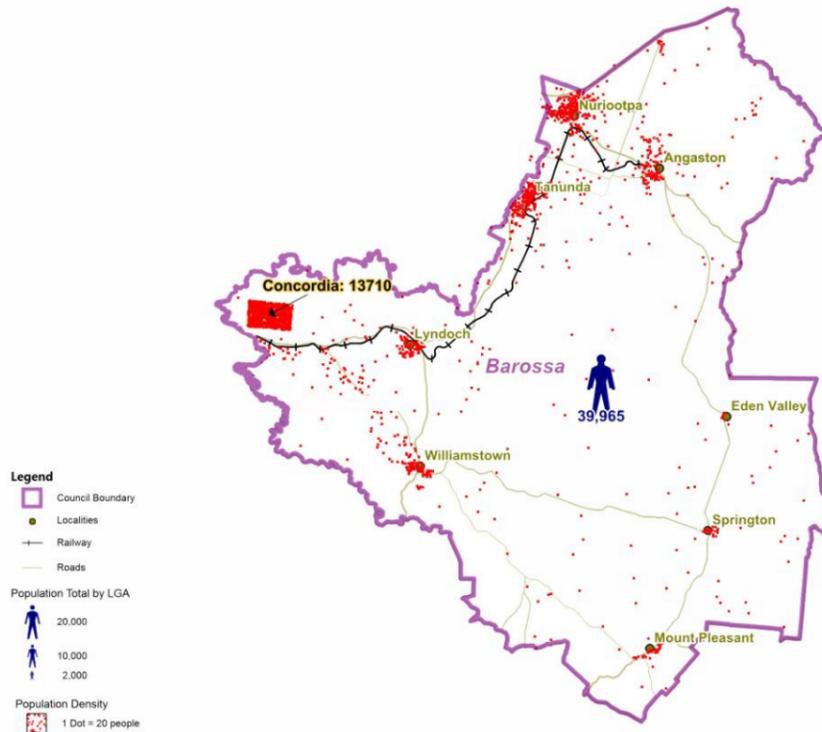
Map 3: 2036 Population by LGA



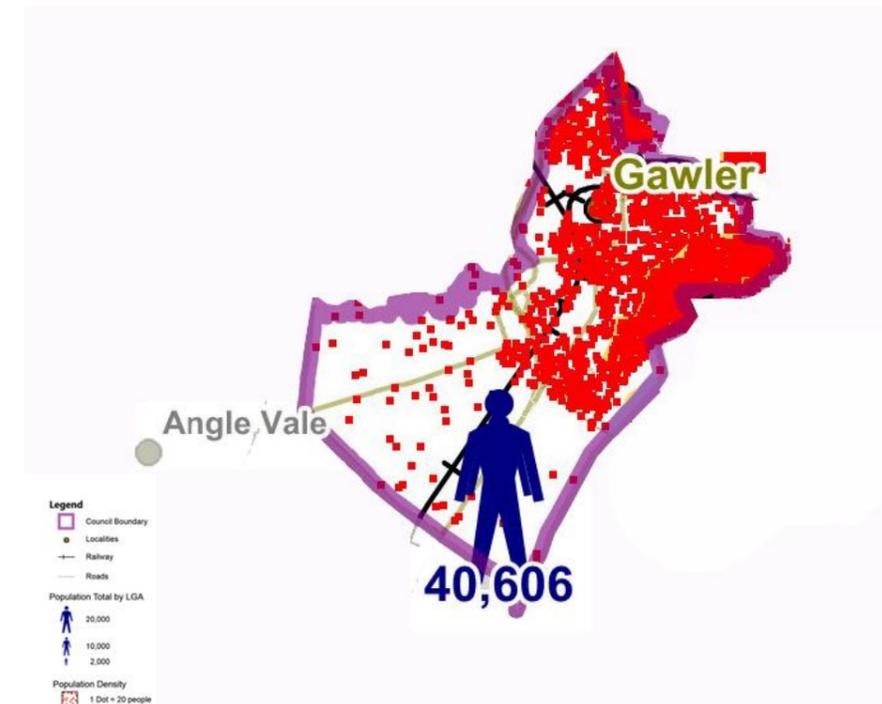
Map 4: 2006 Population Distribution of Barossa



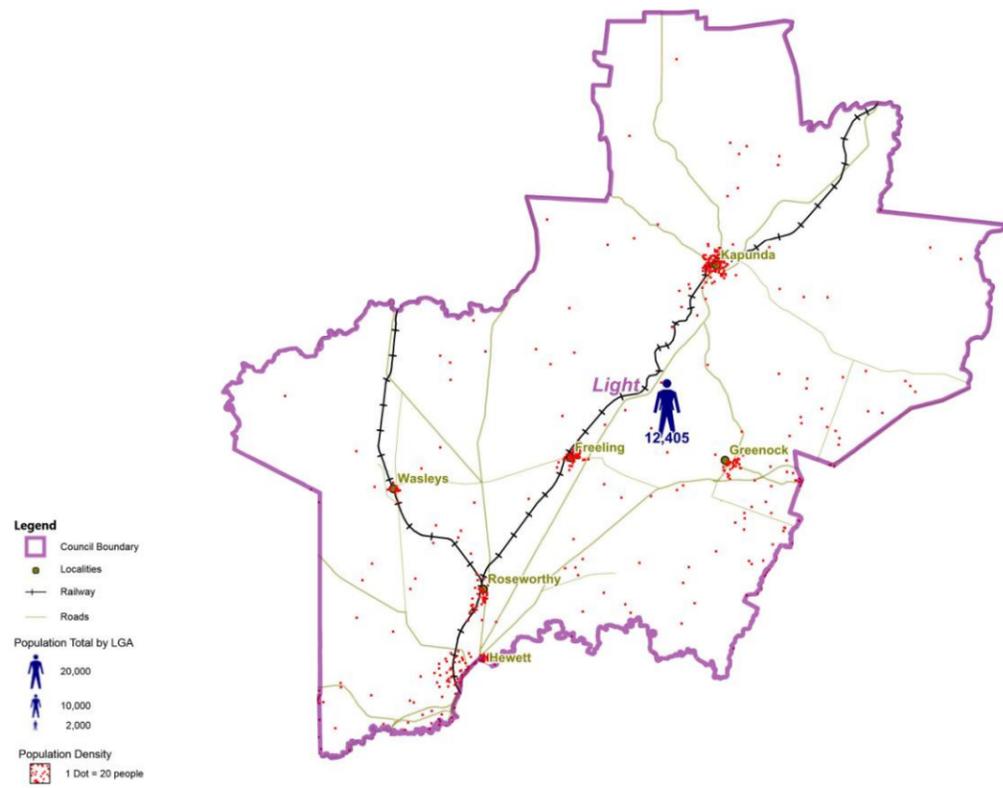
Map 6: 2006 Population Distribution of Gawler



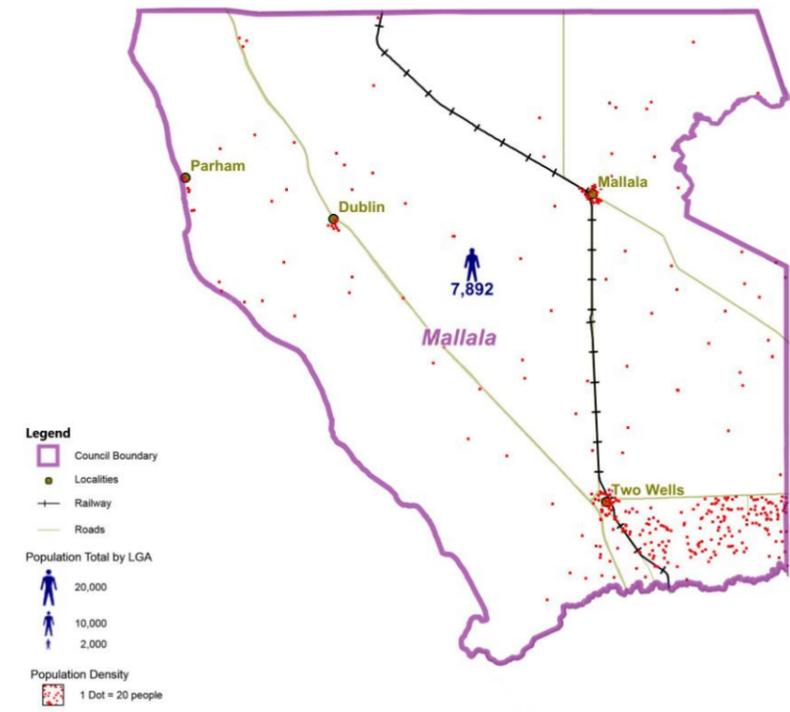
Map 5: Predicted 2036 Population Distribution of Barossa



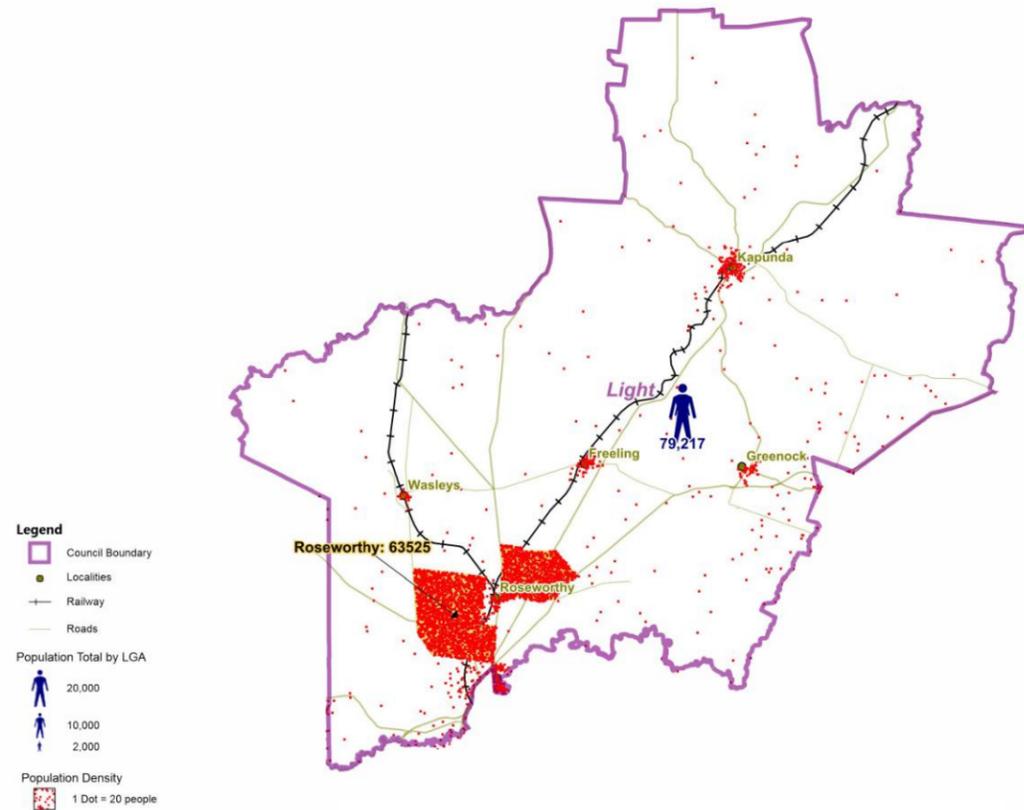
Map 7: Predicted 2036 Population Distribution of Gawler



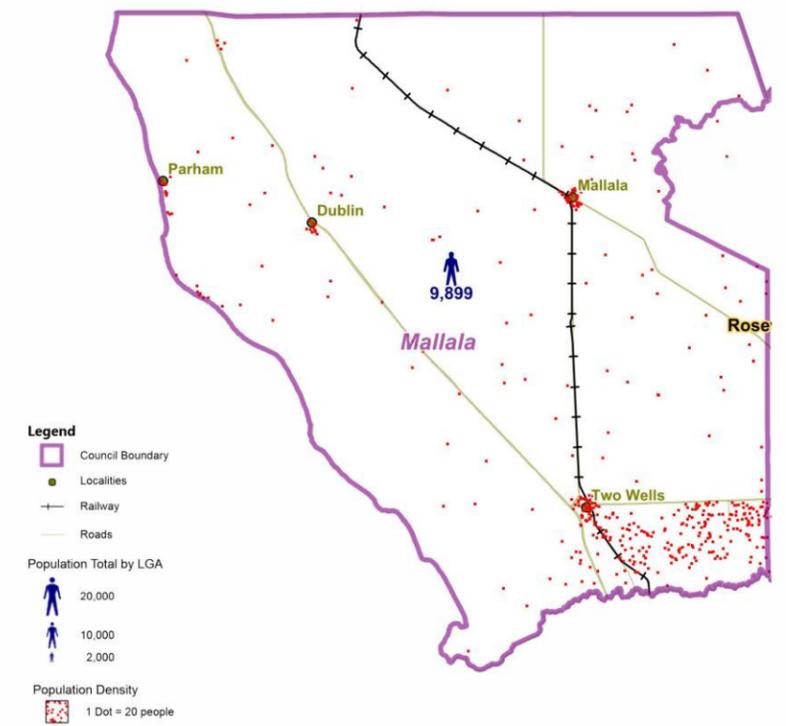
Map 8: 2006 Population Distribution of Light



Map 10: 2006 Population Distribution of Mallala



Map 9: Predicted 2036 Population Distribution of Light



Map 11: Predicted 2036 Population Distribution of Mallala

This region already has important recreation, sporting and open space assets and opportunities as well as significant environmental attributes. As a result of the diversity and size of the area, high demands are placed on open space, the public realm and the natural environment. It is recognised and acknowledged in most literature that this demand will continue to grow as the population increases. It is worth noting on the point of population projections that while proposed growth rates cannot be guaranteed, they have been used as targets and the basis for planning in line with the 30-Year Plan.

The 30-Year Plan proposes significant urban development in the region and in the adjoining councils. This will introduce growing population pressures not only in the region but also from the neighbouring metropolitan areas. As a consequence, regional priorities have been identified that are consistent with the Greater Adelaide Open Space System and designed to meet the requirements of the expected growth.

The wide ranging economic activities including farming, viticulture, industrial and commercial inter-linked with a combination of coastal and high and low population areas have presented considerable challenges in the preparation of this strategy due to the geographic diversity of the region, its population and economic base. These factors have required a systematic and consistent approach to the planning of open space. These diverse conditions require the acceptance from all councils involved in the project of an open space hierarchy - seen as general practice at state and local government levels.

The application of an open space hierarchy has also provided a solution to the diversity of the geographic area and its size by allowing a set of general principles to be applied which can then be refined to each individual township, regardless of physical size, dimensions and population. This approach provides consistency in the planning of open space and public realm as towns grow and the three large growth areas of Roseworthy, Two Wells and Concordia develop.

1.3 Initial Challenges and Approach

Given the diversity and size of the study area, the challenge in meeting the project's goals and objectives has been to implement a strategic and systematic methodology that is relevant, easily understood and readily applicable by each of the councils – noting that none of the councils has had in place an existing Open Space classification system. In achieving this, the Strategy has had to encompass the region's significant differences, particularly regarding the disparate nature of the individual councils':

- Land uses, topography, geography and biodiversity.
- Demographic profile and makeup of the many communities.
- Variations of townships and settlements across the region, including their population size.
- Range of lifestyle and recreation choices.

It has also needed to be consistent with goals of the 30-Year Plan and each council's strategic directions, and pragmatic in its approach to the complexity and diversity of spaces and issues that exist across the region.

In completing the project, a four stage process was adopted.

Stage One was designed to familiarise the consultant team with the project and confirm the expected outcomes, outputs and timelines of the project members. It also involved the collection and review of relevant documentation, introductory stakeholder consultations, base map preparations and preliminary work for the following stages including the development of a communication strategy for stakeholders and the broader community.

Stage Two focussed on establishing the open space framework to be implemented across the region. This system has been used to classify open space and facilities across the region and formed the basis for the audit.

Stage Three was the audit and research phase where a full assessment of all open space and recreation assets was conducted along with engagement with the community and stakeholders. Data was used to establish a regional inventory and the commencement of the application of the proposed classification system and framework. Consultation and research was also undertaken which identified the demand for open space and recreation. A range of consultation techniques was used in conjunction with analysis of the current and projected demographic profiles of communities, and a Trend and Needs Assessment was conducted.

Stage Four consisted of the drafting of the strategy and the final consultations with key stakeholders and the community.

The strategy is supported by three technical papers which have been prepared to consolidate the work conducted within the project's stages. It is important that these documents are read in conjunction with this study as they provide the background information and context for this work.

These documents include the:

- **Context Report**, which identifies the aims and the challenges of the study, details previous research and works undertaken, provides a background and context and discusses a contextual approach to the open space, public realm and ecology of the area.
- **Consultation Report**, which brings together the information and analysis obtained from range of consultations undertaken, and the
- **Audit Report**, which compiles and considers the data provided by the open space, public realm and environmental audits undertaken.

In its basic form, this strategy provides overarching principles and strategies at a regional level and then applies them at council and district levels. This provides the consistency that is required across the region, the conformity needed to meet state requirements and the practical functionality that each council must have to apply the strategies at a local level.

In adopting this methodology and because of the size of the study area, the strategy is limited by the level of planning detail it can go to. It is proposed that while the principles and strategies recommended in this strategy are applied to all settlements across the region, they are in the main, focussed on towns in excess of 500 people given that this where the majority of assets are, and that this is an economically sustainable approach to asset management.

It must be acknowledged that due to the vastness of the region, not each parcel of open space can be dealt with at an individual level. However, by adopting the Open Space Hierarchy, it is a relatively straight forward process to apply the principles of open space design, recreation facility provision, placemaking and biodiversity site requirements. It will be important that localised site-specific planning is undertaken.

Following the adoption of this approach and the broader and specific planning of sites, it will be prudent to link the proposed works to Councils' Asset Management and Financial Management Plans. While this is an internal process and at the discretion of each individual council as to how they manage their assets (within the confines of legislative requirements), creating these links will support the overall management and planning of open space and public realm.

1.4 Trends

A number of trends impact on the policy direction, frameworks and strategies for management, design and use of open space and the public realm. These include the following.

- **Awareness:** There is increasing recognition of the benefits of open space, sport and recreation in improving quality of life, health and wellbeing. This has led to higher expectations regarding the standard of facilities, programs and services that need to be provided in communities.
- **Culture:** Australia is a multi-cultural society and increasingly people are recognising the value of celebrating people's diversity as well as requesting activities and facilities not traditionally catered for in mainstream recreation.
- **Government Policy:** In line with a greater understanding of the positive health benefits of open space, sport and recreation, all tiers of government in Australia are creating and integrating policy frameworks to develop and maintain infrastructure and support participation in healthy lifestyles.
- **Longevity (Whole of Life):** Australia's ageing society is shifting the priorities in sport, leisure and recreation provision for many communities. The implications for this include the need to ensure physical access is addressed whilst considering the range of programming provided, particularly for this age cohort.
- **Youth:** The need for children to undertake more physical activity and exercise is well documented, with increasing rates of obesity amongst Australian children. Likewise the benefit of participation in quality leisure time activities and opportunities carries with it many additional social and personal benefits. Increasingly for this demographic age cohort there is a preference for individual and unstructured / informal activities rather than team or group activities and therefore opportunity arises to consider appropriate design elements into the urban form to encourage good use of leisure time.
- **Work Patterns:** Working hours have extended and more people work outside the traditional hours of 9-5 resulting in people seeking activities during times that have not traditionally been catered for and around which sport has not been historically structured. The need for greater flexibility in the management and structure of sport and recreation needs reconsidering including access to open space.
- **Volunteers:** The issue of declining personal time has impacted on organised sport in that people are now less willing or able to commit to volunteering. This is also the case with an ageing community that unlike their parents have the flexibility and often greater resources for travel and access to a range of leisure time activities. In turn this impacts on the long term commitment to volunteering and increased pressure on community groups.
- **Litigation:** Increased awareness of personal safety, public liability and child protection have added to legal responsibilities and liabilities providers and community groups are subject to.

- **Community Sport:** The administration of sporting clubs has become more complex, with the introduction of GST, the increased emphasis on risk management and decline in volunteers. As a consequence, land managers of sporting facilities are looking strategically at the way they manage facilities to ensure optimal use to benefit both the tenant (shared costs) and the community (increased access and opportunity).
- **Public Realm:** Consideration for the public realm and the significance placed on the spaces between buildings, streetscapes and public places have changed considerably over time in response to various developmental and lifestyle factors.
- **Technology:** Greater access to technology, the internet and longer opening hours of shops and entertainment venues has seen these elements become key competitors to sport and recreation for people's time. Positively however, the use of the internet and technology provides community sport and recreation providers with an opportunity to capitalise on new marketing and management tools for their organisations to retain and attract membership
- **Infrastructure:** Much of the sporting and recreation infrastructure we see today is the legacy of a surge in development witnessed in the mid to late 70s and is in many cases nearing its useable life. Modern planning methods and the demands on open space and community sport now mean councils are taking stock of their facilities and looking at design and location to ensure optimal use and access.
- **Climate:** Climate change has a significant impact on sports fields and open space and has created a need to reconsider usage, maintenance regimes and sustainable management practices to balance risk with the need to provide sport and recreation opportunities. Modern irrigation methods are key issues when planning for sport and recreation, as is the need to consider synthetic surfaces to alleviate wear and tear on turf playing areas.
- **Urban Development:** An increasing population and housing density within our cities and town centres (and the appreciation that this will increase further into the future) has resulted in a decrease in private and public open space. Trends now acknowledge that a higher value must be placed upon public realm and greater investment made into the quality of these spaces for use by people to spend time, connect with nature, interact and recreate.
- **Asset Management:** The costs of developing and maintaining open space and recreation and sport facilities are increasing and they must compete with the demands from other council programs and services for limited financial resources.
- **Use of Private Land for Public Recreation:** The demand for open space and limits placed on its access due to availability, financial resourcing and maintenance costs requires that opportunities to develop open space and facilities with private partners are increased.

1.5 Terminology and Definitions

The Background Context Report defines open space, recreation and sport, the public realm and biodiversity in detail to assist councils in their understanding of the importance of open space. As a summary and for the purposes of this section of the strategy the following definitions are used.

- **Leisure:** Whilst a universal meaning has never been agreed, leisure is traditionally seen as the time outside of work, sleep, chores and other daily duties and the time when an individual is free to choose an activity for intrinsic values and reasons.
- **Recreation:** Freely chosen activities usually occurring in leisure time which generate feelings of enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction. It is also be defined as active or passive:
 - **Active Recreation:** Exertion through deliberate or incidental activity undertaken in a place designed for the specific purpose. Examples include tennis courts, sports ovals, linear parks and active play areas.
 - **Passive Recreation:** Low activity such as picnicking, relaxation and socialising.
- **Sport:** Is separated from recreation due to its structured and competitive nature governed by time and rules. However, it may also be unstructured and classed as recreation when undertaken informally such as kicking a ball with friends or deciding to have a 'hit of tennis'.
- **Facilities:** Refers to built form infrastructure used primarily for sport, recreation and leisure and can include indoor (dry) facilities and aquatic (wet) centres.
- **Open Space:** Public space to include parks, reserves, playgrounds, sporting fields, creek corridors, malls, civic areas, streetscapes and areas of vacant public land. Private or institutional land that may be considered in a shared use or acquisition capacity and which can be made available to the community for identified open space needs is also considered.
- **Open Space Classifications:** One of the initial challenges for this project was determining a generic classification system of open space across the region. With the exception of the Town of Gawler, each Council acknowledged that it has no formal and consistent system of managing or classifying parcels of open space across the region. The classifications recommended in this report highlight a proposed traditional system as follows.
 - **Local Open Space** caters to residents within walking distance (about 500 metres). It is used passively and needs to be planned and designed to cater to those uses.
 - **Neighbourhood Open Space** caters for broader catchments and is distributed within a one kilometre radius of households. It is designed to meet the needs of the whole family. These areas include spaces for play and informal sport and recreation and may result in longer stays and often include amenities such as toilets, play spaces and picnic areas.

- **District** Open Space considers the wider community and areas that people deliberately visit for the purpose of a specific activity. They are generally used for multi-use activities and often contain sports fields, courts and other significant infrastructure.
- **Regional** Open Space caters to the broader community and areas where people will travel between 30 and 90 minutes to visit.
- **Ancillary** Open Space can include school reserves, cemeteries, road verges, creek lines, storm water channels and minor road networks that provide scope to incorporate features such as linear trails, revegetation and dedicated walking/cycling links.
- **Linear** refers to off road linkages to key destinations within a community and are normally trails for shared use cycling and walking. In some instances these can also be undeveloped and used by horses.
- **Public Realm** refers to the physical and visual aspects of built form in an area and relates to structural elements that make up the environment. These can include movement corridors, streets, pedestrian ways, bikeways, bridges, plazas, squares, transportation hubs, gateways, parks, waterfronts, natural features, view corridors, landmarks and building interfaces.
- **Physical Activity** is any form of bodily movement performed by our large muscle groups - going for a walk, cycling around the neighbourhood and mowing the lawn. Jogging and aerobics are more vigorous types of physical activityⁱ. Physical activity can also be:
 - **Deliberate:** Referring to an activity undertaken for the purpose of exercise, e.g. sporting activities, cycling, going for a walk or
 - **Incidental:** Referring to exercise that occurs while doing something else, e.g. walking or cycling to work, gardening, walking to the shops, or activity during social pursuits.
- **Biodiversity:** As a simplistic view, biodiversity can be seen as the multiplicity of life and life forms and the variety of communities and ecosystems in which they occur. It refers to the varieties of species in ecosystems, the genetic variations they contain, and the processes that are functionally enriched by the diversity of ecological interactions. Ecology is the study of the relationships between organisms and their environment. The ecology of a region includes the composition, distribution, amount (biomass), number and changing states of organisms within and among ecosystems.
- The 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide projects population will rise from 65,000 to around 170,000 by 2038. The main growth areas are Two Wells, Roseworthy, Gawler and Concordia. It also addresses matters relating to Open Space, the Public Realm and Biodiversity in this region.
- There is a range of threatened flora and fauna species within the region. Studies support a reduction of threats to species and habitat re-establishment.
- The Outer Northern Metropolitan Region Open Space, Recreation and Sport Strategy (1999) groups high level recommendations into categories of planning and development. It proposed plans for coastal areas and trail networks for walking, cycling and horses. It also identified specific projects.
- Informing Biodiversity Conversation for the AMLR Region SA breaks the region into different landscapes based on the level of fragmentation of natural ecosystems and offers comment and overarching principles for maintenance. These include Northern Coastline, Adelaide Plains, Hills Face/Foothills, Northern Lofty Ranges & Barossa and Eastern Hills.
- The Angaston, Two Wells, Greenock and Freeling Urban Design Frameworks (UDF) provide comment for Open Space, the Public Realm, Recreation, Sport and Activity, and Biodiversity.
- The Barossa Bushgardens Urban Design Framework (UDF) identifies how the Bushgardens integrates with the urban settings of Nuriootpa and the Barossa Valley.
- Projects and activities to meet demand for recreation are recommended for river linear parks, natural environments and recreation parks including the development of a linear path from Gawler to the coast.
- Formal studies have been conducted to guide redevelopment of Nuriootpa Centennial Park
- The Gawler Strategic Plan and Gawler Urban River Master Plan provide directions for Open Space, the Public Realm and Biodiversity
- Gawler Southern Gateway and Springwood developments have guiding principles for a coordinated approach to open space and biodiversity.
- Gawler's Walking and Cycling Strategy recommends upgrades to existing trails and development of bicycle and pedestrians networks.
- Recommendations are made to manage the Light River catchment
- Roseworthy ecological studies identify threatened flora and fauna and propose actions.
- The SA Public Health Act has introduced policies that seek to have a broader planning approach to public health and interlink with other departmental approaches including healthy living, which incorporates eating, physical activity and recreation amenity.

1.6 Strategic Alignment

A comprehensive review of the relevant documentation is provided in the Background Context Report. This section provides a summary of the relevant aspects of the literature.

Section Two: Supply Analysis

As identified in the Audit Report, it is important to understand the existing supply and future needs of open space and to assess these against realistic and acceptable industry benchmarks, and then analyse and plan for the appropriate levels of quality and quantity of open space.

2.1 Open Space Context

As discussed in the terminology and definitions, in its literal meaning open space can be any parcel of land that is physically undeveloped. However, not all open space is accessible for community use and therefore when examining appropriate levels of space in a given region or community, land must be understood in terms of both Physical and Useable open space. When this is established an overall provision (or benchmark) of space can be determined to assist in any understanding levels of supply or gaps within any given community and how this will be affected by any projected growth in population in the coming years.

2.1.1 Physical Open Space

Physical open space across the region comprises all land that is physically open for a number of uses and is classified into one of the following categories:

- Local
- Neighbourhood
- District
- Regional
- Ancillary
- Linear
- Other

The spread and distribution of this land is identified in Table 2 below and accounts for a total provision of 11,917.3 hectares across the region. Map 4 on the following page identifies the distribution of physical open space across the region.

LGA	Local (ha)	%	Neighborhood (ha)	%	District (ha)	%	Regional (ha)	%	Linear (ha)	%	Ancillary (ha)	%	Other (ha)	%	Unknown (ha)	%	Total
Barossa	30.7	0.3	52.1	0.6	161	2	0	0	26.9	0.3	806.7	10.1	6846.6	86.4	0	0	7924.0
Gawler	30.6	7	11.5	2.6	82.1	18.9	39.3	9.0	14.8	3.4	93	21.4	125.9	29.0	36	8.3	433.2
Light	61.9	4.4	13.1	0.9	97.5	7	125.6	9.1	10	0.7	114.7	8.3	954.1	69.2	1.3	0.09	1378.2
Mallala	42.1	1.9	36.1	1.6	71.3	3.2	75.9	3.4	20.4	0.9	422.6	19.3	1513.5	69.3	0	0	2181.9
Totals	165.3	1.3	112.8	0.9	411.9	3.4	240.8	2	72.1	0.6	1,437	12	9,440.1	79.2	37.3	0.3	11,917.3

Table 2: Distribution of Open Space by Classification and LGA

In looking at this map, some initial high level observations are that:

- Large areas are used primarily for farming, viticulture and some industrial
- The majority of residents live in the main townships
- The great majority of useable recreation open space is located in townships
- Large tracts of open space are primarily State Forest area in the Barossa zone and Coastal Conservation in Mallala
- There is a large area of coastline with small settlements.

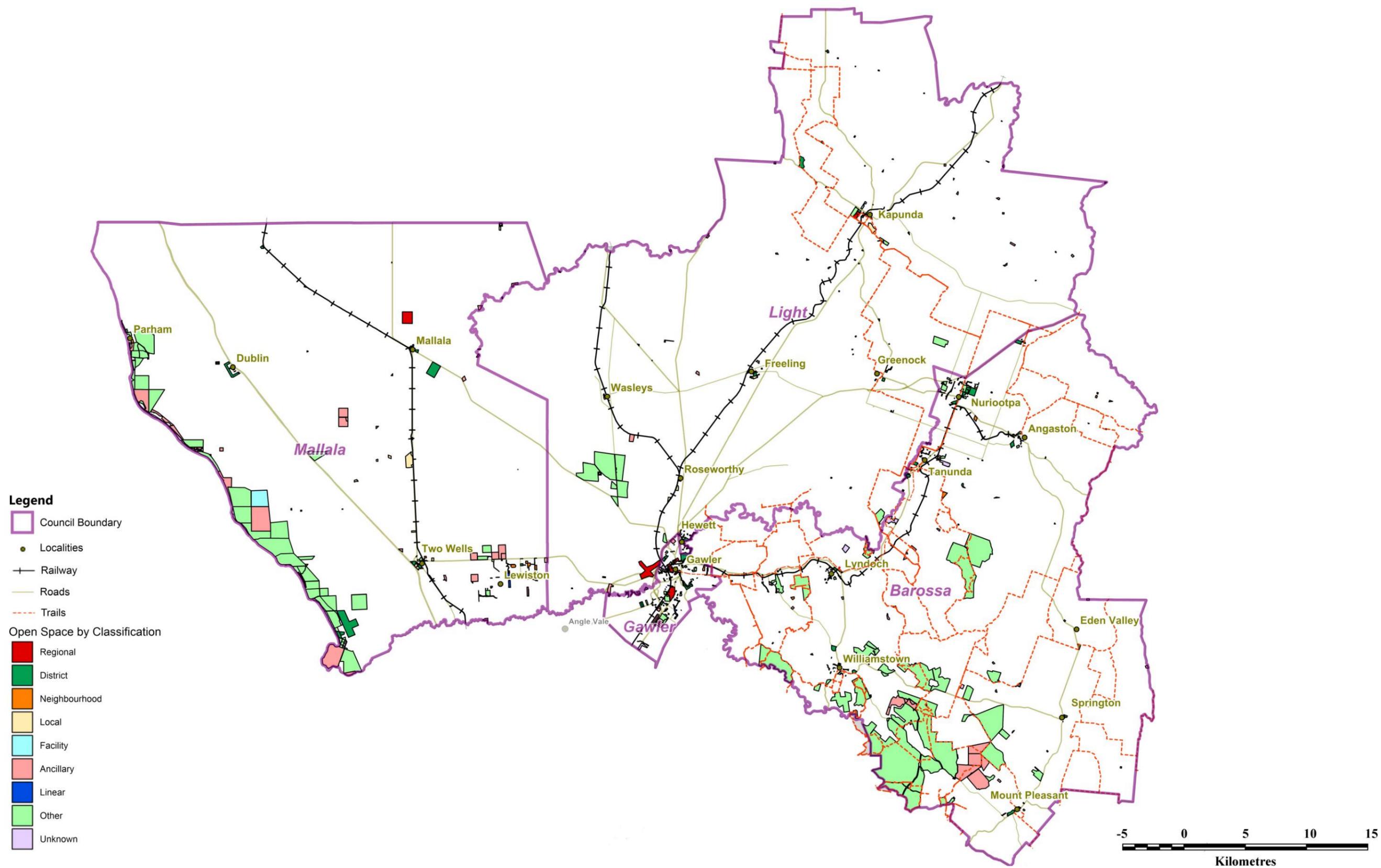
2.1.2 Useable Open Space

Useable open space is land that is in the ownership or care and control of councils for recreation and community access. Not all of this land will be classified as Community Land but can and should be used primarily for recreation. Accessible and useable open space across the region is allocated to Local, Neighbourhood, District, Regional and Linear as identified in Table 3 below.

LGA	Distribution of Categories of Useable Open Space (hectares)										
	Local	%	N'hood	%	District	%	Regional	%	Linear	%	Total
Barossa	30.7	11.3	52.1	19.2	161	59.4	0	0	26.9	9.9	270.7
Gawler	30.6	17.1	11.5	6.5	82.1	46.0	39.3	22.0	14.8	8.3	178.3
Light	61.9	20	13.1	4.2	97.5	31.6	125.6	40.7	10	3.2	308.1
Mallala	42.1	17.1	36.1	14.6	71.3	29	75.9	30.8	20.4	8.3	245.8
Totals	165.2	16.4	112.8	11.2	411.9	41	240.8	24	72.1	7.1	1,002.8

Table 3: Useable Open Space (hectares) in the Study Area

This table identifies that there is a significant change in the amounts of useable open space in comparison to the physical allocation with the Ancillary, Other and Unknown categories accounting for approximately 10,900 hectares of land.



Map 12: Physical Open Space Supply Across the Region

2.1.3 Open Space Provision

In auditing the open space (refer to the Audit Report), it was determined that a mean supply of open space across the Adelaide Statistical Division (ASD) was 9 hectares per 1000 people - although this is much lower at around 3ha per 1000 in more urbanised and densely populated councils closer to the CBD. However, due to the rural setting of the study area and smaller communities in the region, and in order to maintain the rural and peri urban settings which the community has chosen to live, 9ha is considered a reasonable benchmark. Based on the data supplied by councils and broad criteria used to define usable open space (see Audit Report), each council exceeds this amount, but it is acknowledged that requirements and demand for open space and facilities from residents living in smaller communities do not always proportionately diminish with the size and populations of their townships. Comparisons with councils in the inner and outer areas of Adelaide also support this view. (It should be noted that this benchmark is most effective when looking at the broader regional perspective and is not always directly applicable to individual towns with small populations. As an example, district level sports facilities in a small township can heavily skew supply and result in raw figures that incorrectly indicate oversupply.)

In regard to new development, the 9ha per 1000 would need to be negotiated between council and any proposed developer, as the open space allocation would in many cases not provide sufficient space to meet the benchmark. New developments, by statutory requirement are only obliged to provide 12.5% open space in developments over 20 allotments.

Table 4 identifies existing open space and highlights the need to plan for increased provision to retain the 9 hectare per 1000 benchmark for each council.

LGA	Useable Open Space	Population 2006	Ha of OS per 1000	Population 2036	Ha of OS per 1000	OS required in 2036	Surplus or Deficit (Ha)
Barossa	270.7	20,528	13.19	39,965	6.8	360	- 89
Gawler	178.3	18,862	9.45	40,606	5.3	366	- 188
Light	308.1	12,405	24.84	79,217	3.8	713	- 405
Mallala	245.8	7,892	31.14	9,899	24.8	89	156
Region	1002.8	59,687	16.8	169,687	5.9	1527	

Table 4: Useable Open Space Provision per ha/1000 people

The open space in both Mallala and Light is well above the benchmark due to large unpopulated rural areas. Gawler and Barossa have supply levels of just over 9 hectares per 1,000 which was anticipated as a result of their higher populations. In Gawler's case its smaller physical size, population and proximity to Adelaide aligns it more to a metropolitan council. While supply levels exceed the benchmarks based on the 2006 census, population growth projected to 2036 indicates that open space will fall below the benchmark for each council apart from Mallala. Policy will need to be prepared to maintain the 9 hectares minimum. While the State Government's Development Act and 30-Year Plan support open space provision at a high level, each council will need to ensure that its Development Plan provides policies for appropriate provision.

2.1.4 Other Open Space

Land in this category includes public and private schools, tertiary land (including TAFE and university); privately owned land including churches and privately owned and managed recreation facilities, and other State Government property such as forests, conservation parks and coastal conservation areas. Table 5 shows Other Open Space and the parcels in each council.

LGA	School Type				Tertiary		State Government		Private	
	Public		Private		Ha	No	Ha	No	Ha	No
	Ha	No	Ha	No						
Barossa	30.6	6	6.1	2	0	0	5808.3	39	95.7	3
Gawler	31.5	6	48.6	2	0.4	1	0	0	45.1	3
Light	9.9	5	16	1	768.4	4	0	0	84.7	8
Mallala	6.5	2	0	0	148.6	1	887.5	60	588.9	9
Region	78.5	19	70.7	5	917.4	6	6695.8	99	814.4	23

Table 5: Other Open Space within each LGA

Most public and private schools within each council provide formal playing fields for their student communities. Opportunities may exist to negotiate joint use arrangements with these schools to share facilities for community use. Models exist where councils have entered agreements with schools to access both passive and active open space. Within Light similar opportunities exist with the Adelaide University situated in the vicinity of Roseworthy - large tracts of active and passive space have potential community use as this area's proposed major residential developments occur in future years. Of interest is the private ownership of facilities by sporting clubs including some tennis courts, three bowls clubs, a golf course and the rifle club. Given the site specific requirements for these activities, the cost of maintenance and council's limited budget, private ownership is a practical approach.

The State Government category includes open space that is used and classified as Coastal Conservation - owned by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR), and ForestrySA land - used for forestry and forest recreation purposes. To varying degrees, these areas potentially have an important role in the future supply of open space and provide opportunities to share space through management agreements. For example, public schools in the region and forestry land in the Barossa have potentially high value as multi-functional space at a regional level while Crown land along the coast of Mallala may be best left for fauna, and to manage the effects of climate change and the quality of aquatic reserves. These different areas have, as a result of their locations, uses and classifications, different functions in regard to recreation. Forestry and school land provides opportunities for multiple uses, whereas Coastal Conservation zones have limited recreation opportunities. Table 6 identifies these uses.

LGA	Potential Multi-Function Crown Land		Limited Use Crown Land	Total
	Public School	Forestry	Coastal Conservation	
Barossa	30.6	6,353.1	0	6,383.7
Gawler	31.5	0	0	31.5
Light	9.9	0	0	9.9
Mallala	6.5	0	642.5	649.0
Region	78.5	6,353.1	642.5	7,074.1

Table 6: State Government owned Other Open Space within each LGA

The Barossa Council has 6,353 hectares of forestry land owned by Forestry SA with parts of this land providing a series of trails that are accessible to the public. This council has two private golf clubs within its boundaries as well as a smaller privately owned and managed go-karting facility.

Gawler Council with its metropolitan characteristics has no access to state or tertiary open space. It has eight schools and opportunities may exist to enter into joint agreements to enable the community to access open space - primarily for sport.

Mallala Council is similar to Light in its overall approach to ownership of facilities with the Long Plains Sports Club, Two Wells Equestrian and Pony Club, Mallala Bowls Club, Port Gawler Off-Road Motor Cycle Park, Mallala Motorsport Park, Reeves Plain Indoor Arena, Mallala Equestrian Centre and the Two Wells Golf Club privately owned. (The golf club also leases adjoining land from the Council.) It also has 642.5 hectares of State Government land owned by DEWNR which is classified as Coastal Conservation that intermittently stretches the length of the coast. The Port Gawler Conservation Park occupies land at the southern boundary of the Council.

2.1.5 Summary of Open Space Distribution

The Audit Report Table 4 highlight that each council area exceeds the recommended 9 hectares of open space per 1000 people. The Audit Report also noted that as a general rule, approximately 70% of all open space should be used for active and/or structured uses and classified as district or regional. The remaining 30% would then comprise local and neighbourhood open space and be designed primarily for passive use.

The Light and Gawler Councils have approximate provision at these levels, while the Barossa and Mallala fall slightly short with around 60% active space and 40% passive space each. It is worth noting that district open space makes a significant contribution to overall provision in small townships and is often the major allocation where sports facilities and playing fields are provided.

While district level open space and multi-purpose sports grounds provide for the wider community, they need to be designed in a manner to encourage multi-use. They provide a range of elements including toilets, sports fields, youth parks, dog exercise areas, civic spaces and possibly areas of biodiversity. Councils have provided district facilities for sport and recreation opportunities. This result is highlighted in the Barossa region's outlying towns of Lyndoch, Mount Pleasant, Springton, Eden Valley and Williamstown with each have playing fields. Mallala has just under 30% of its allocation at district level with six different spaces located in and around the townships of Dublin, Two Wells, Lewiston and Mallala as well as the coastal zone next to Port Gawler. This is balanced with the local and neighbourhood allocation as well as open space along the coast. Gawler's supply of local, neighbourhood and linear level space is 32% and reflects the nature of its residential settings and metropolitan-like design. Light with 31.6% of district open space appears reasonable and reflects the supply predominately confined to the towns of Kapunda, Freeling and Greenock.

Regional space considers the broader community and potentially areas where people will travel up to 90 minutes to visit. These spaces do not have to relate directly to physical activity and can be areas providing unique historical or cultural significance, significant natural areas and specific event venues. They provide important opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of communities and often complement the physical aspects of open space. Table 3 identifies large variations between councils regarding their allocations of regional open space. The Barossa has its large allocations in district level which cater more to local and surrounding communities.

Gawler has its regional space located in the major sporting precinct along the North Para River - the river also provides passive experiences. It should be noted that the Gawler Racecourse provides significant regional sporting space but is in private ownership and is classified within Other Open Space. Light has a major sporting facility and golf course at Kapunda, and the aerodrome, while Mallala has equestrian and motor racing facilities.

Coastal open space and boating facilities are confined to the settlements of Parham, Webb Beach, Thompson Beach, Middle Beach and Port Gawler in the District Council of Mallala. The elongated strips of open space are primarily State Government owned with council parcels situated in and around the small settlements. The coast in these areas is mainly shallow sand flats with large inaccessible areas interspersed with the open space. They are important places for recreation and biodiversity. In light of its use and community value, planning needs to satisfy the requirements of the local community, support the activities of visitors and complement those spaces already provided by the State Government, and consider:

- The visual and natural aspects of the space,
- Its vegetation and biodiversity including fauna and conservation habitats, and the
- Passive and active uses of the area.

Ancillary open space's main role is not necessarily open space but more as an add-on that complements and serves as an addition to primary open space. It can serve as a supplementary link between existing parks and reserves and can be important in areas deficient in open space. Mallala has a relatively high amount of Ancillary Open Space at around 20% due mainly to the overall allocation of the State Government's coastal ownership.

While Gawler also has around 20%, it is mostly the racecourse which has as specific sports focus and is in private ownership.

The Barossa has 10% Ancillary Open Space which is scattered throughout the region with the majority of this land isolated and not near major townships.

Light has 8.3% in this classification with little or none useable as recreation open space.

2.2 Trails

Trails in the study area are mostly of a shared nature and cater to cyclists, horse riders, runners and walkers. They are generally classified as being local, regional or national.

- Local trails provide quality experiences and make a contribution to the local community.
- Regional trails cater more to visitors from outside the local area and from interstate. They bring income to the region and provide high quality experiences.
- National trails look to attract interstate and international visitors, provide economic benefits at a state level and provide high level experiences.

Table 7 identifies the number and classification of trails in each of the councils.

LGA	Local Trails	Regional Trails	National Trails
Barossa	11	1	3
Gawler	1	0	0
Light	0	1	3
Mallala	1	0	0

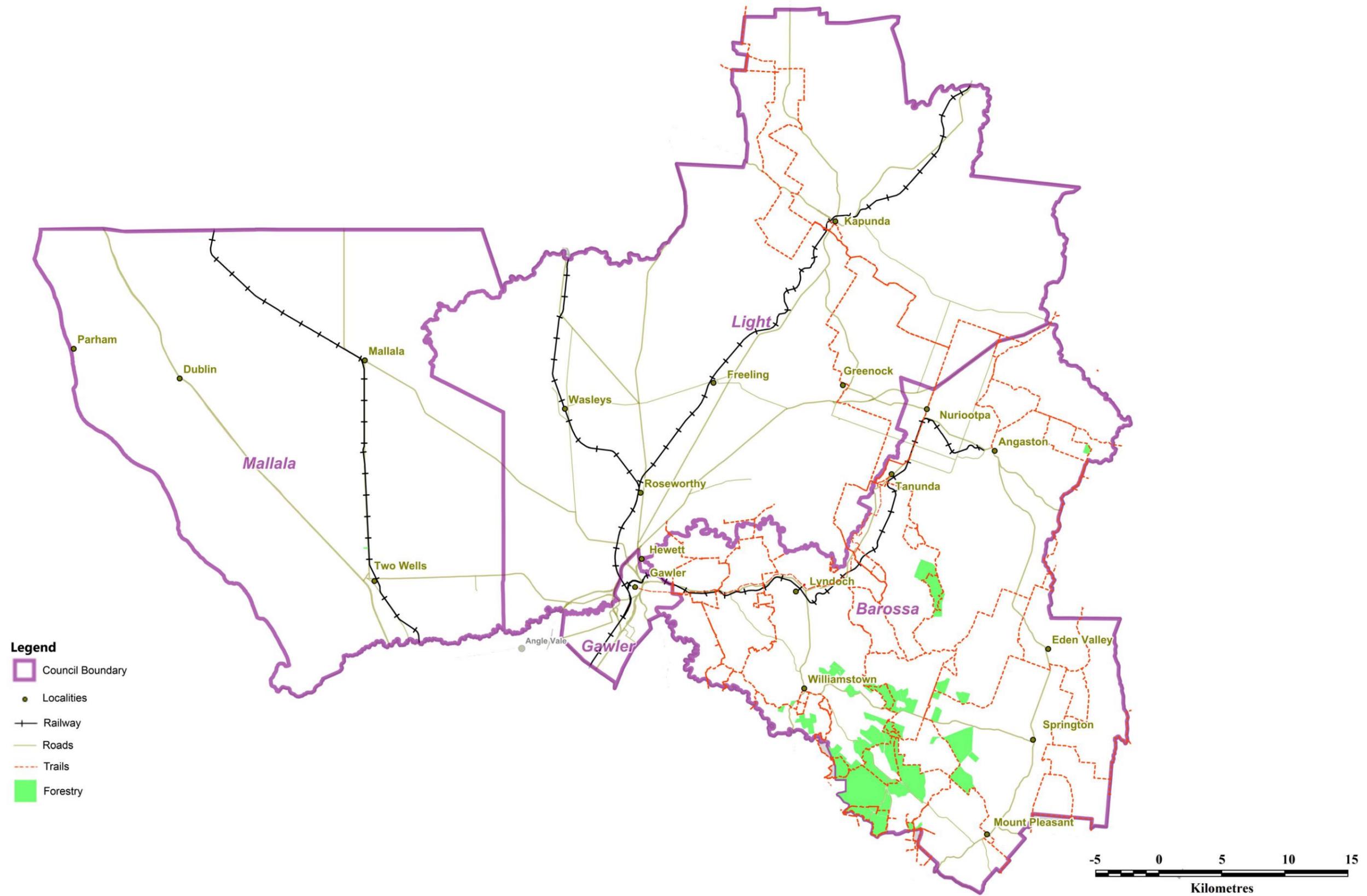
Table 7: Hierarchy of Trails within each LGA

The majority of trails are in the Barossa due to that area's strong focus on tourism and wineries, and the nature of the topography and landscape, but some pass through the neighbouring Light Regional Council. Significant national trails (which have their start and end points in other parts of the State) include the Heysen, Kidman and Mawson Trails. The network is made up of:

- 13 local level trails - 11 in Barossa and one in each of Gawler and Mallala Councils
- Two regional level trails - the Jack Bobridge Trail in the Barossa Council and the Stuart O'Grady Way in the Light Regional Council
- Three national level trails (identified above) that pass through both Barossa and Light.

Each of the councils is responsible for its local trails while the responsibility for the upkeep of the regional and national level trails falls to the State Government.

Opportunity presents itself to develop sealed walking and cycling trails along or on disused rail corridors and in some cases to develop trails alongside existing rail routes as these are direct in nature and offer opportunities for cycling and access to key townships. The Gawler to Kapunda, the Gawler to Roseworthy / Wasleys / Hamley Bridge and beyond, and the Two Wells to Northern Expressway (along the Gawler/Two Wells Road) for example, provide good opportunities to further develop the regional trails network (See Map 13).



2.3 Playspaces

The system recommended is an even distribution of play facilities that offer a range of experiences within four classifications that align with the open space classifications of local, neighbourhood, district and regional. As highlighted in the Background Context Report, there is a need to shift thinking from playspaces being only play equipment. With good design and location, playspaces can be incorporated into the public realm and park settings without formal equipment. Opportunities for imaginative and unstructured play, as shown in the playspace development model in Figure 1, highlight playspaces that comprise five elements. These include:

- Play equipment
- Imaginative / creative area
- Unstructured recreation area
- Special feature and
- Adult / carer area

Generally speaking, the higher the land classification the more components of the playspace development model should be included with a local parcel of land offering minimal or no equipment, and neighbourhood, district and regional all offering additional opportunities for play and recreation. This is discussed in the core and expanded design elements of open space in the attached technical reports and should guide the design and development of all open space as and playspaces across the region.

Whilst there are no benchmarks for the supply and provision of playspaces, the notion of the whole community having access to at least a local classified parcel of land and therefore a playspace within close proximity to the home is supported. Traditional planning methods have seen the installation of playgrounds where young children and families live but it must be understood that the needs of a child will change within a short period of time leaving the play equipment in place which will often has a shelf life of approximately 10-20 years.

Additionally, young children also visit grandparents, aunties and uncles and other family members and this provides further justification for an even distribution of playspaces over a concentrated focus in areas where young families reside. It is also acknowledged that in more rural areas a playspace within immediate walking distance of every household is warranted and so the notion of quality (higher level) playspaces of at least a neighbourhood classification should be developed in each township.



Figure 1: Playspace Development Model

2.3.1 Playspace Distribution

There are 62 playspaces across the region, each located in open space. Table 7 identifies the councils' provision including the number per head of population. In previous studies relating to playspace provision across metropolitan Adelaide it was identified that the mean provision of playspaces was 1 for every 825 people within residential settings¹. Whilst this is not a benchmark, it provides a guide to the amount of playspaces being developed in residential areas.

LGA	Play Space Classification				Total	Pop	1 Play Space per
	Local	N'hood	District	Regional			
Barossa	6	7	13	0	26	20,528	789
Gawler	7	5	3	1	16	18,862	1,178
Light	1	7	6	1	15	12,405	827
Mallala	1	3	1	0	5	7,892	1,578
Total	15	22	23	2	62	59,687	962

Table 8: Play Space Provision per LGA

This information highlights the following:

- **Barossa Council** has 26 playspaces or 1 for every 789 people
 - Half of its 26 play spaces are classed as district level
 - The remaining 13 play spaces are in local and neighbourhood parks in the more populated townships of Nuriootpa, Angaston and Tanunda.
 - Many rural townships have open space and recreation infrastructure in one main area
- **The Town of Gawler** has 16 play spaces or one for every 1,178 people
 - A further 6 playgrounds are required to meet the suggested benchmark.
 - Of those existing spaces, 12 are located in either local or neighbourhood parks indicating a more suburban nature to the council area.
 - It also provides three district level play spaces and youth parks (BMX and skate) located at Princes Park and the regional level Elliot Goodger Park.
- **Light Regional Council** has a total of 15 play spaces and meets the supply benchmark with the majority of supply located in neighbourhood and district level open space.
 - Kapunda, as the most established and populated town has most play spaces.
 - Freeling has play spaces located within local and neighbourhood level parks.
 - The Freeling Recreation Ground includes a youth park.
 - The neighbourhood level Roseworthy Recreation Park has a play space.
 - A play space is located in the district level Wasleys Recreation Park.

¹ City of Tea Tree Gully; The State of Play; Playspace Strategy 2007.

- **The District Council of Mallala** has five play spaces. Three are located in Dublin, Mallala and Two Wells, one in Lewiston and another in Parham. It is well below the supply benchmark and would require a further 9 play spaces to meet this benchmark.

2.4 Sport and Recreation

Sport and recreation across the region comprises:

- Sportsgrounds or local club rooms and sporting groups
- Recreation and Aquatic centres (wet and dry facilities) to include swimming pools (indoor and outdoor), indoor courts and gymnasiums or a combination of the two.
- State and Regional Facilities or facilities not owned by councils but cater to a wider catchment and normally target higher levels or specialist elements of sport and recreation

2.4.1 Sportsgrounds

Sportsgrounds cater for a range of activities and require large amounts of space. They generally draw users from a large catchment area, both in terms of travelling time and distances, particularly so in rural and regional areas. As a result, the majority of sportsgrounds are located on district open space. Ownership can be shared between councils and private bodies including schools and other tiers of government. Table 8 identifies the sports grounds in each council area, the classification of open space and its ownership. State and private ownership includes schools.

LGA	Council			State	Private	Total
	N'hood	District	Regional			
Barossa	2	12	0	0	4	18
Gawler	0	6	2	4	2	14
Light	2	4	0	2	5	13
Mallala	0	4	0	0	4	8

Table 9: Sportsgrounds per LGA

The majority of sport grounds are provided within the district level category for all councils. There is also notable provision at private level which is made up of a combination of private schools and sports facilities held in private ownership by incorporated bodies. Given the geographical area of the region and generally hotter summer and cooler winter months the design of facilities should be carefully considered and whilst it is not viable to develop indoor facilities for all sports grounds, the master planning process should consider shade and shelter and potential to cover some outdoor courts and where feasible develop smaller indoor facilities.

2.4.2 Recreation and Aquatic Facilities

The University of South Australia's Centre for Environment and Recreation Management (CERM) has developed a set of national standards for recreation centres which are classified according to their nature of use as being:

- Dry (court based);
- Wet (aquatic); or
- Wet and Dry (court and aquatic)

Facilities are discussed in terms of size with levels 1 - 4 being primarily dry, and levels 5 - 7 being aquatic including some dry elements with the higher classifications (see Table 9).

In addition to understanding the possible size and type of facility is the need to link this with its identified catchment or matching the community size to the facility level and vice versa.

- Level 1 Facilities meet the needs of a local community of up to 5000 people
- Level 2 Facilities are neighbourhood facilities servicing between 5,000 - 10,000 people
- Level 3 Facilities are district level catering for between 10,000 and 60,000 people
- Level 4 Facilities are classed as regional and cater for over 60,000
- Level 5 - 7 Facilities are likely to meet the needs of a statistical division or higher (State) and include both wet and dry facilities

Facility Level	Size	Component Examples
1	<1000m ²	One court facility with change rooms
2	1000m ² - 1999m ²	Two court facility with change rooms
3	2000m ² - 2999m ²	Two -Three court with small gym
4	>3000m ²	Three or more courts plus health and fitness suites, cafes and ancillary services etc
5 - 7	>3000m ²	Aquatic facilities attached to include 25 - 50m pools and associated leisure facilities

Table 10: Facility Type

The overall region has three indoor venues and seven pools, two of which are located within an indoor venue. Five are outdoor facilities and therefore seasonal. This means that they are only able to be used during the summer months. Facilities are highlighted in Table 10.

Facility	Owner	Wet	Dry	Level
The Rex	Barossa Council	25m Indoor Leisure pool Hydrotherapy pool	2 courts 6 squash courts Gymnasium Crèche Cafe Sports store	5
Starplex	Trinity College	25m Indoor 16m Learn to swim pool	4 courts Gymnasium Theatre Crèche Cafe Sports store	6
Gawler Sport and Community Centre	Gawler Council	NA	2 courts Studio room	2
Nuriootpa Pool	Barossa Council	50m Outdoor	NA	NA
Gawler Aquatic Centre	Gawler Council	50m Outdoor	NA	NA
Williamstown Pool	Barossa Council	33m Outdoor	NA	NA
Kapunda Pool	Light Council	25m Outdoor	NA	NA

Table 11: Wet and Dry Facilities

From this it can be seen that there is a lack of indoor facilities and pools in the area with Mallala having no indoor or aquatic centres and Light no indoor venues. While current provision in these areas appears adequate based on travelling times and distances for larger regional level facilities, smaller level 2-3 facilities in Mallala and Light Council areas may be considered.

With the continued growth of this region it is anticipated that a regional level 5-7 facility would be required in the future and that this would be best located in the central growth area of Roseworthy. As and when Roseworthy reaches its projected population, an additional two level 3-4 facilities may be required but this is subject to population growth and given a 30 year development to cater for the sporting and school communities. This investigation can be further considered as the Roseworthy Garden Town development is planned and progresses. A potential expansion of the Gawler Centre or development of a new facility may also be warranted.

2.4.3 State and Regional Facilities

A number of facilities can be classified as regional or catering to a specific activity and drawing larger visits by way of participants and/or spectators. Some of these may be government owned and others are under private ownership. These facilities are highlighted on Map 14 and include:

District Council of Mallala

- 1 Mallala Motorsport Raceway

Light Regional Council

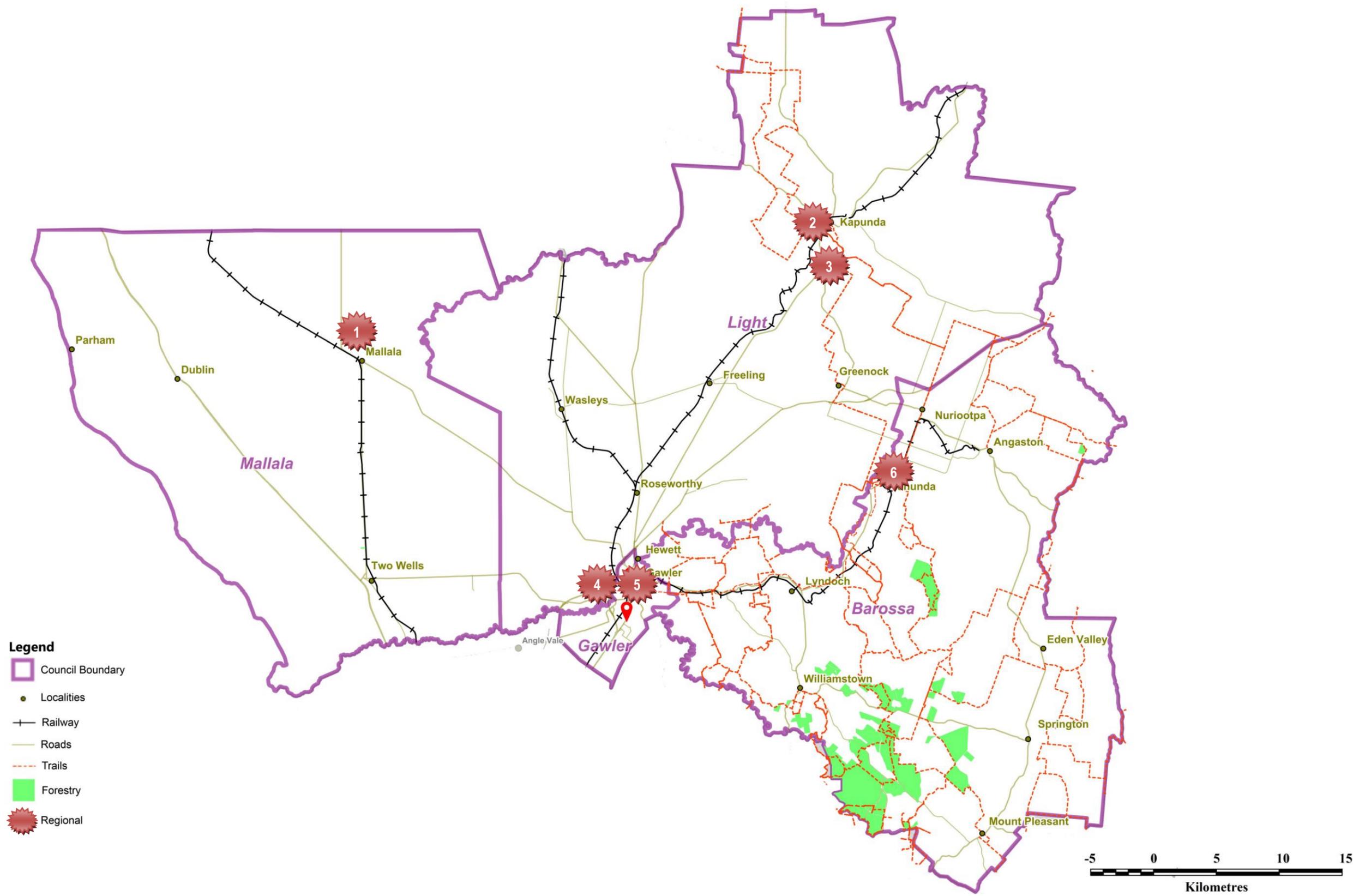
- 2 Dutton Park: Sports and Tourist park
- 3 Kapunda Trotting and Harness Racing Complex
- 4 Gawler Aerodrome and Gawler Harness Racing Club

Town of Gawler

- 5 Essex Park/Showgrounds: 16ha sports precinct plus significant linear trails network

Barossa Council

- 6 Barossa Rex Fitness and Aquatic Centre



2.5 Summary of Provision

The following provides an overview of each council in the study area and commentary on each township and its supply and provision of:

- Open space and Trails
- Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Playspaces

2.5.1 The Barossa Council

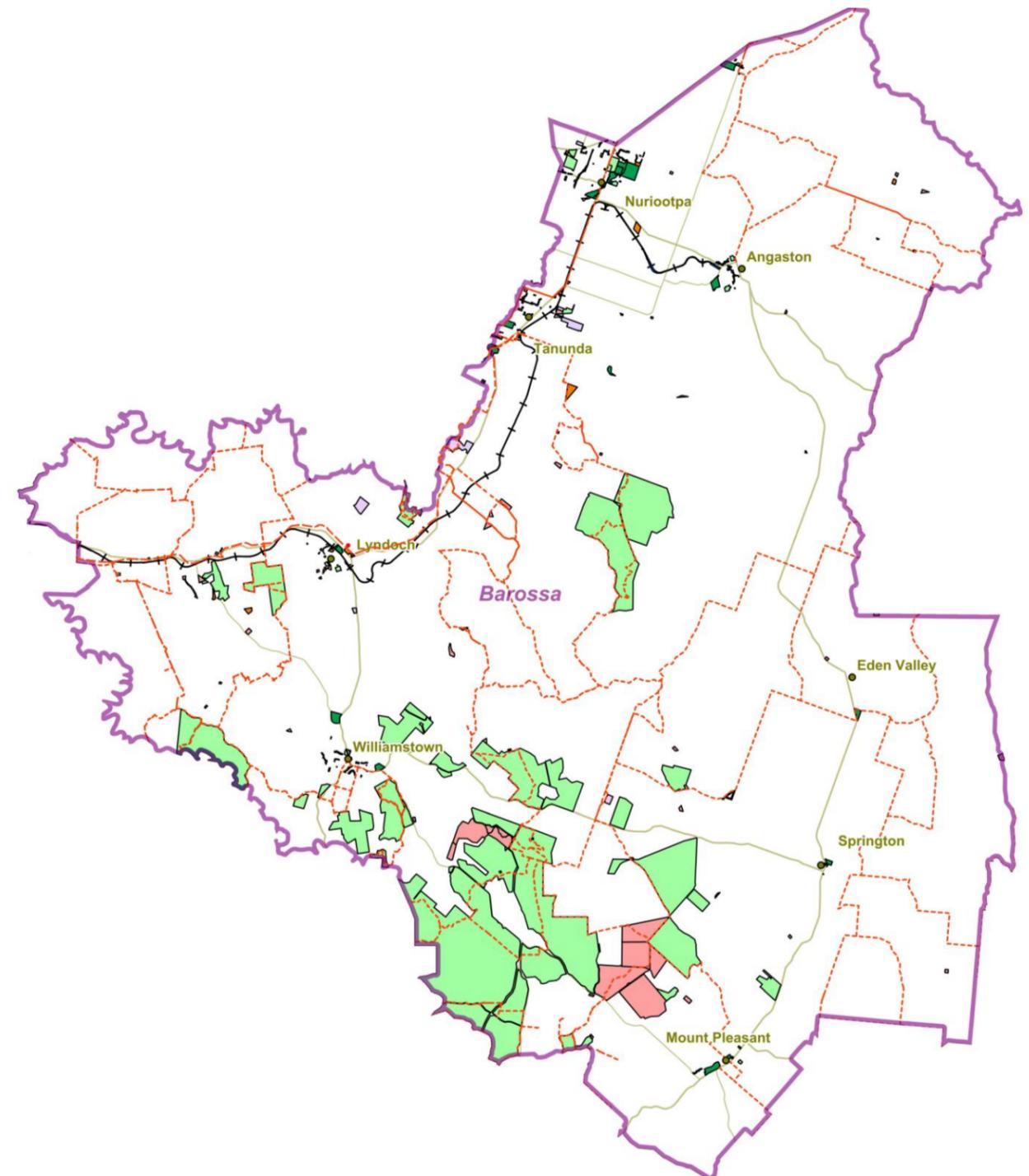
The Barossa Region (Map 15) has the majority of its open space located within the eight primary townships of:

- Nuriootpa
- Tanunda
- Lyndoch
- Williamstown
- Angaston
- Mount Pleasant
- Eden Valley
- Springton

The raw data identifies that the Barossa region is well served in terms of its allocation and has nearly 1.5 times the amount required to meet the 9 hectares per 1,000 people benchmark. The Barossa covers a large physical area, and as with its study partners, has reasonable recreation provision concentrated in the higher populated areas. It has large tracts of State Government owned ForestrySA land which is classified as Other.

While its overall allocation meets the benchmarks, some smaller townships would benefit from the addition local level parks and the provision of play spaces to provide greater access to residents.

Council has been proactive in recent years in relation to its approach to urban planning, open space and public realm through the preparation of urban design frameworks, main street master plans and recreation and sport precinct master planning for towns and sites including Nuriootpa, Angaston, Tanunda and Mount Pleasant. Details are provided in the Context Report – Technical Paper 1.



Map 15: Barossa Region

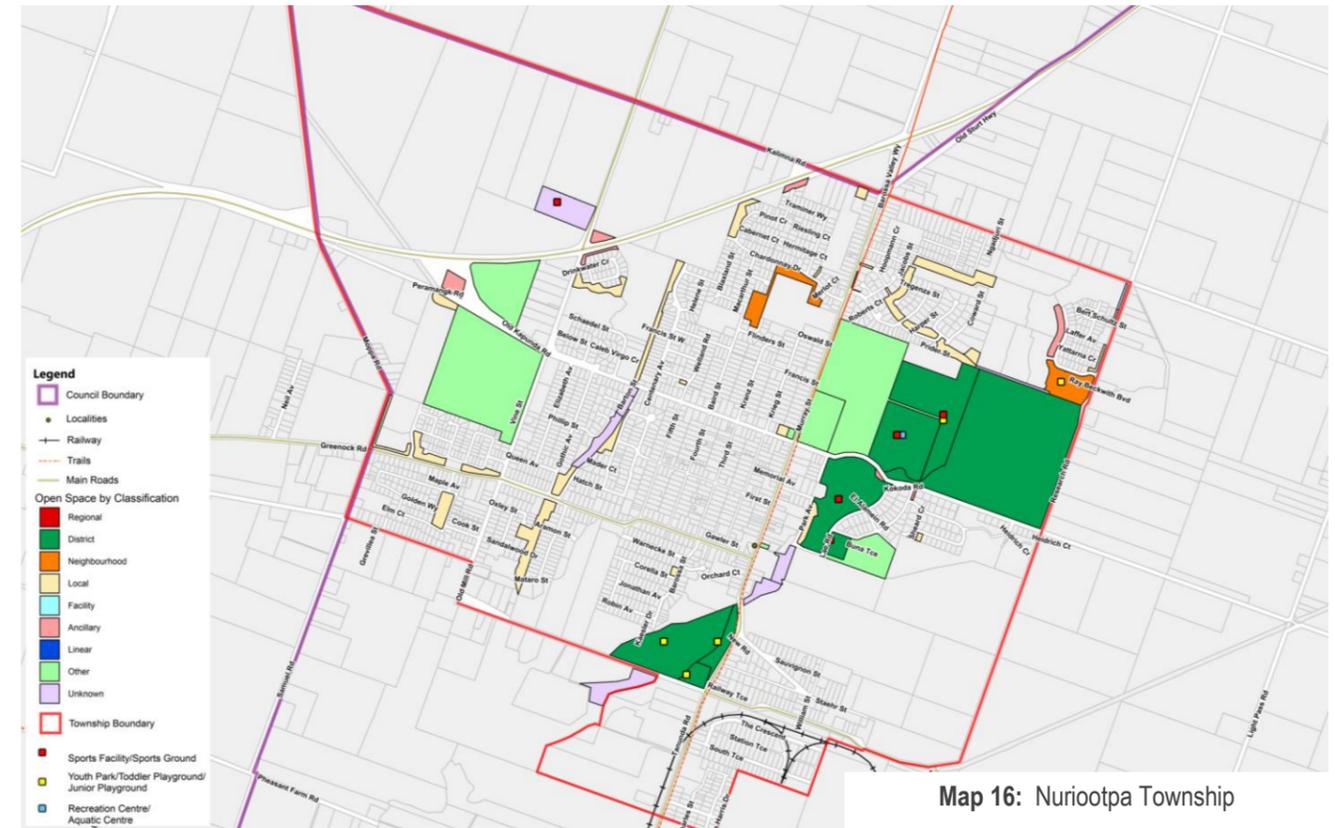
Nuriootpa

Nuriootpa overall has a good supply of open space although this is heavily focussed in the north west corner of the township in Coulthard Reserve which has potential to be enhanced to a regional level precinct with a more detailed master plan. A strategic plan and a master plan have previously been prepared for Centennial Park and include references to the passive and active open space areas of the site.

Tolley Reserve also has potential to be enhanced and a regional level playspace and facilities included into the site with a more detailed master plan.

Additional playspaces are warranted in the new developed areas in western sections of the township and Council could consider developer contributions to open space and playspaces within walking access of all homes which is currently not the case.

Linear open space is present through the western section of the town but is lacking between that area and Murray Street. Given the lack of opportunities to create new spaces in this area due to the established nature of the suburb, creating high quality space including facilities should be a focus for future development.

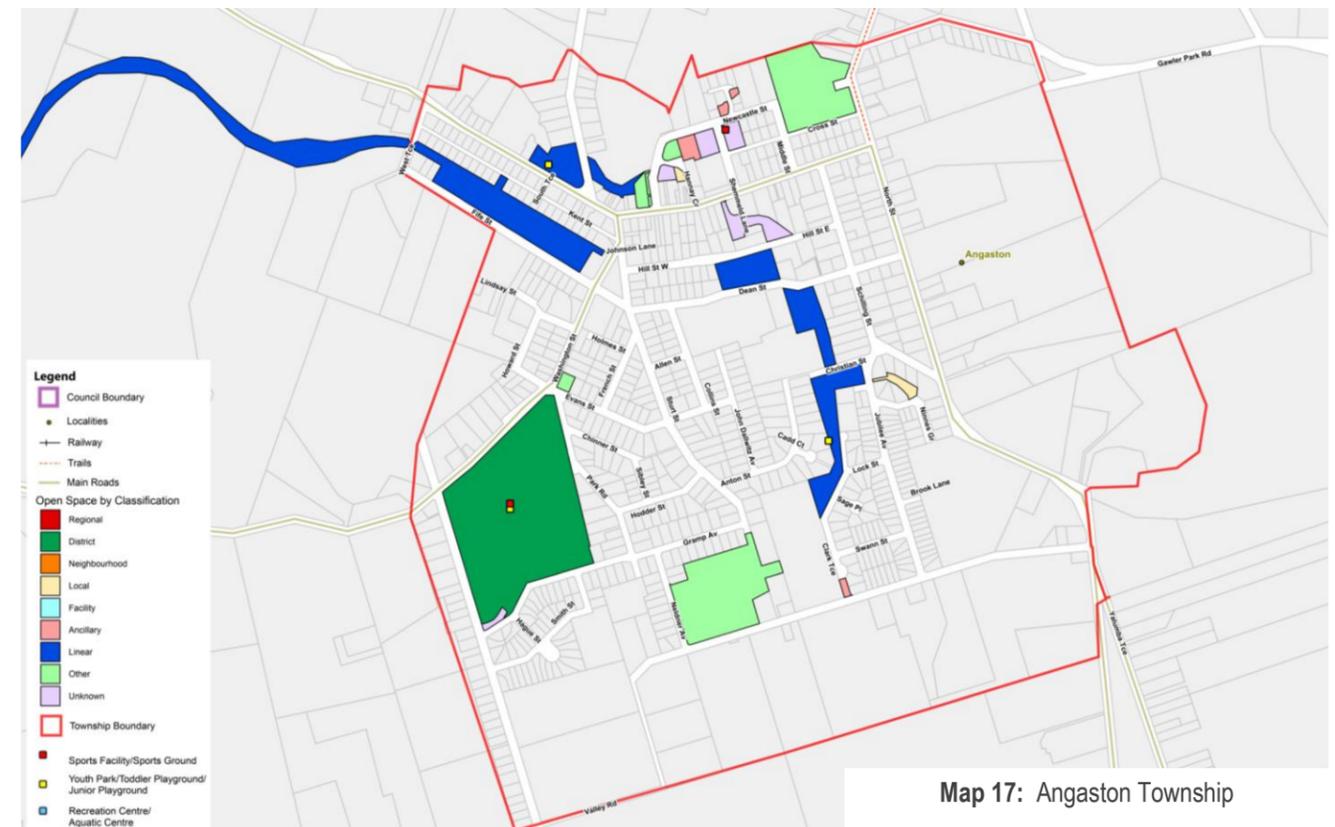


Map 16: Nuriootpa Township

Angaston

Angaston is well supplied by way of a district sports ground but lacks open space. Particularly so in the eastern sections of the township where more consolidated neighbourhood space is warranted. This could potentially be developed at key sections of the linear creek area, in particular the Christian Street Reserve which currently has a small playground. Alternatively, the Dean Street Reserve has good opportunity to be developed into a family recreation area although visibility and line of sight should be considered given the elevated and densely planted aspects of the park.

An Angaston Urban Design Framework was prepared in 2008.



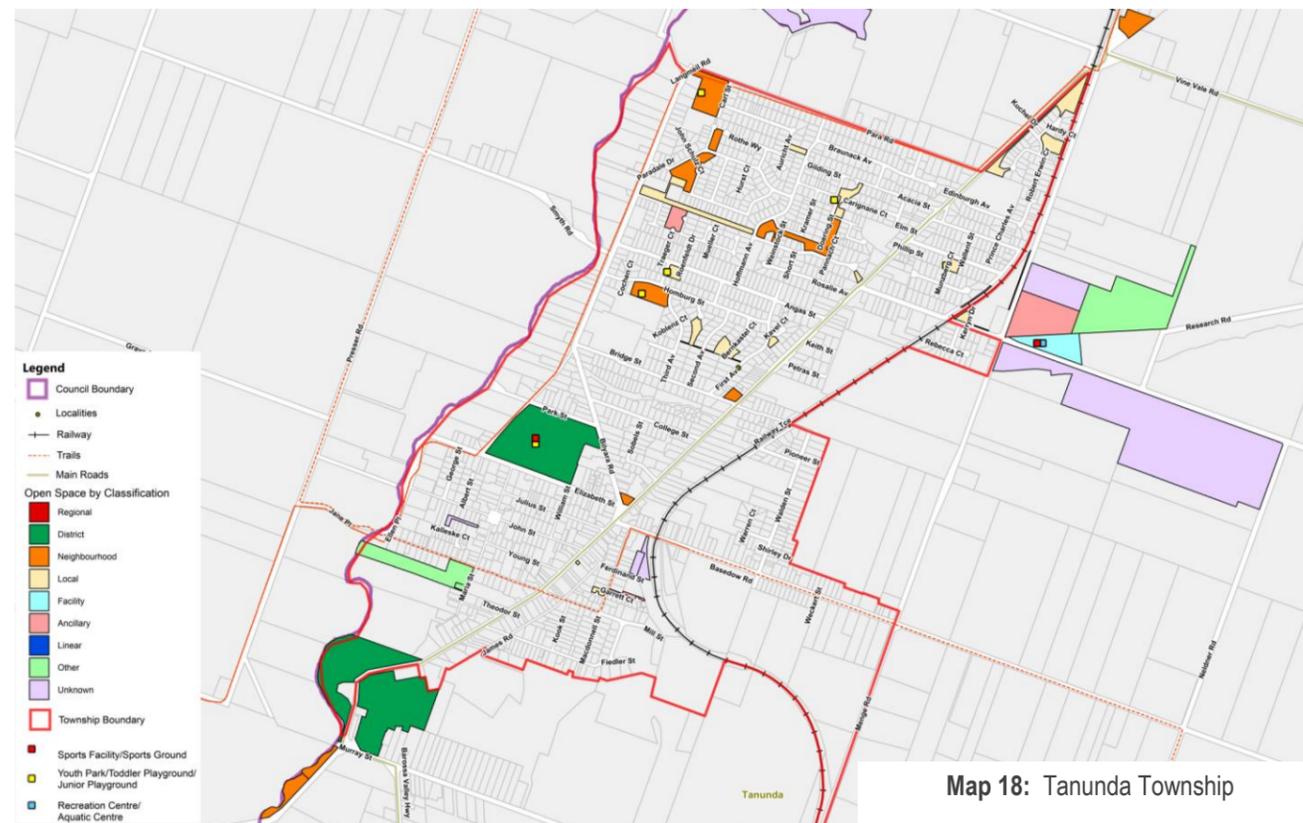
Map 17: Angaston Township

Tanunda

Tanunda is home to the Rex Health and Fitness Centre and is well supplied by way of indoor and aquatic facilities. It also has a good supply of neighbourhood open space particularly in the northern parts of the township. Local open space is lacking in the southern areas of town and access to district level facilities is restricted to residents in the south eastern section due the main road. A Main Street and Urban Design Framework has been completed for this Tanunda.

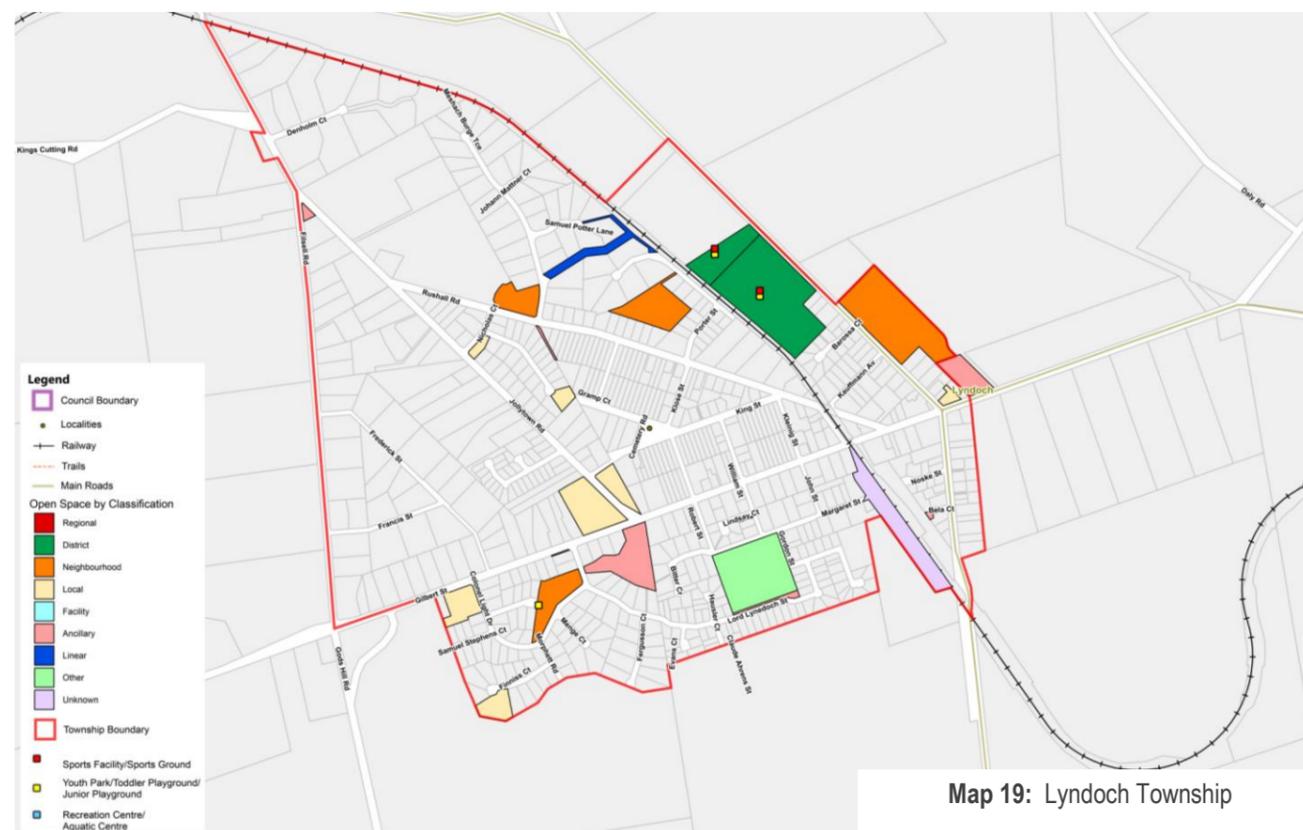
Consideration should be given to the growth of the community and potential gaps in the provision of play facilities in the north east and south east sections of the township.

A Main Street Master Plan has been completed for Mount Pleasant along with a master plan for the oval.



Lyndoch

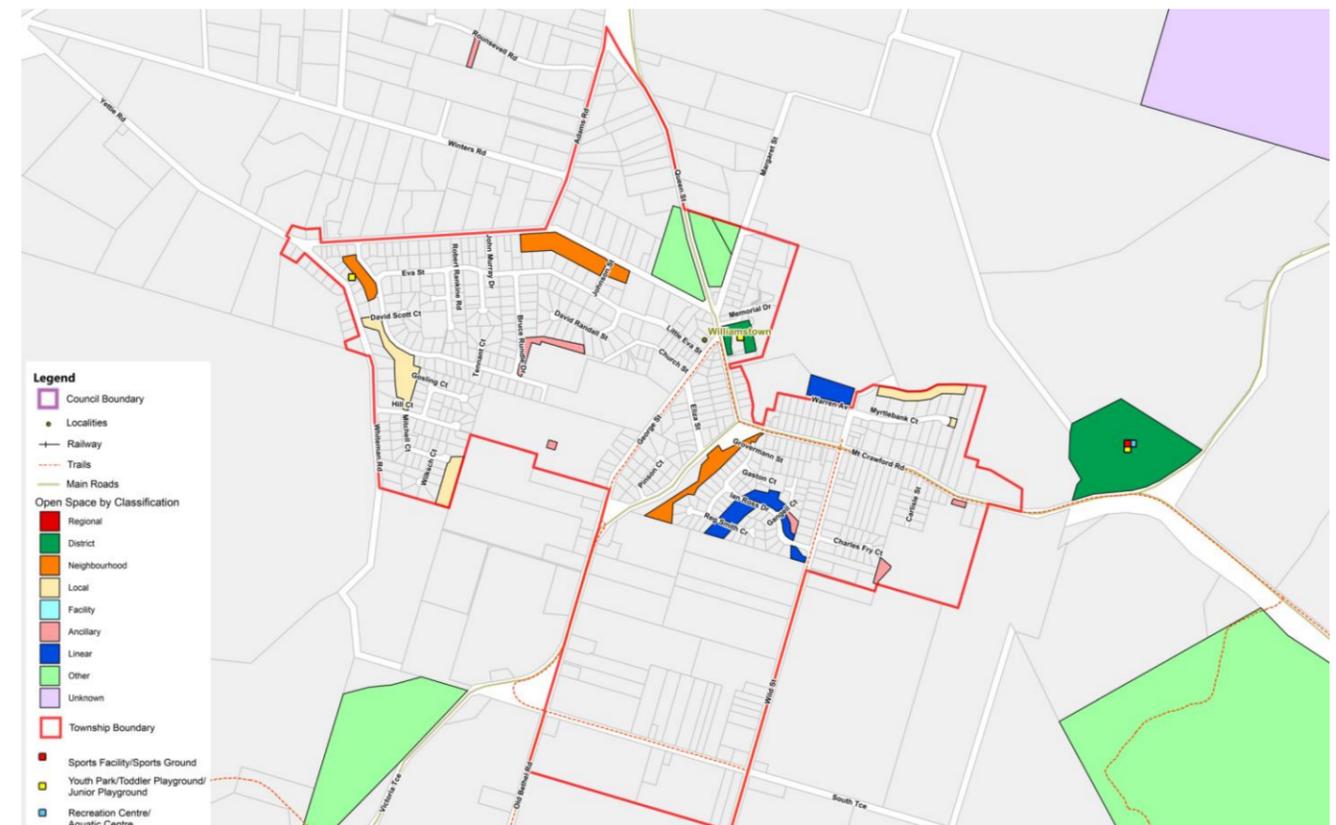
Lyndoch's distribution of open space seems relatively equitable with a good consolidated district sports precinct in the north of the township and large tracts of land used for passive recreation along the Barossa Valley Way which leads into the township. Housing currently being developed in the north provides opportunity for council to secure additional space including playgrounds which are also warranted in the western areas of the township.



Williamstown

Williamstown is home to one of the four outdoor pools in the region which sits in the district sports precinct in the eastern sections of the township. The site could benefit from a master plan to determine its future use and optimal layout. While providing a large area of open space, its location is not within walking distance of residents and accordingly does not provide easy access.

Given the established nature of the township and the size its population, the type and allocation of open space is relatively well distributed overall. It is noted that there are only two playgrounds in the township and a third may be warranted in the central neighbourhood parcel of land along Victoria Terrace or alternatively enhancing the minor play area on Memorial Drive.

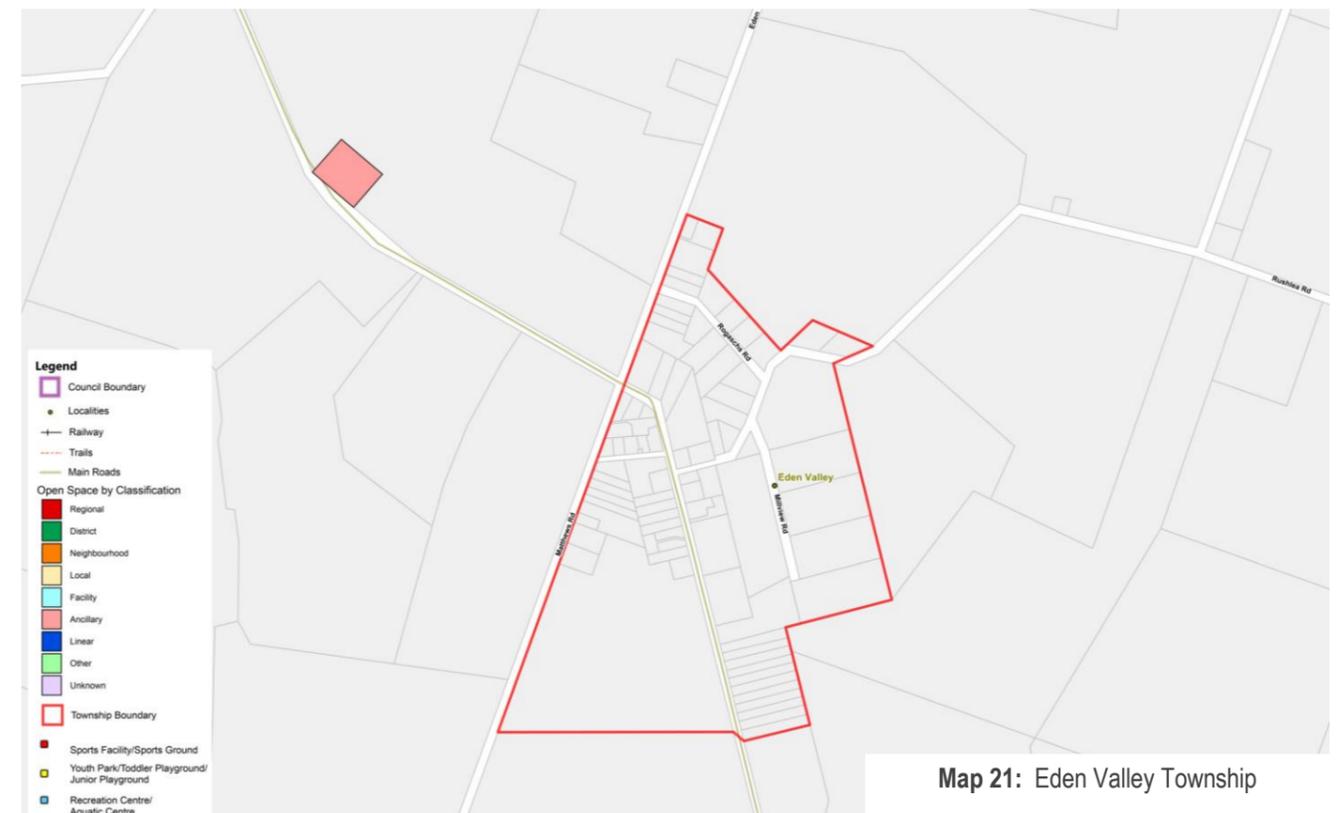


Map 20: Williamstown Township

Eden Valley

Eden Valley does not have any open space within its boundaries although there is a basic recreation and camping space to the south of the town (which does not show on Map 21). While its population and housing allocation is minimal, it does warrant a small local level park or some form of public realm space immediately accessible to local residents.

This proposed area could provide a play space, seating or signage, historical plaque or interpretation to reflect aspects of public realm. It would ideally be placed in the centre of the township in proximity to the general store and hotel.

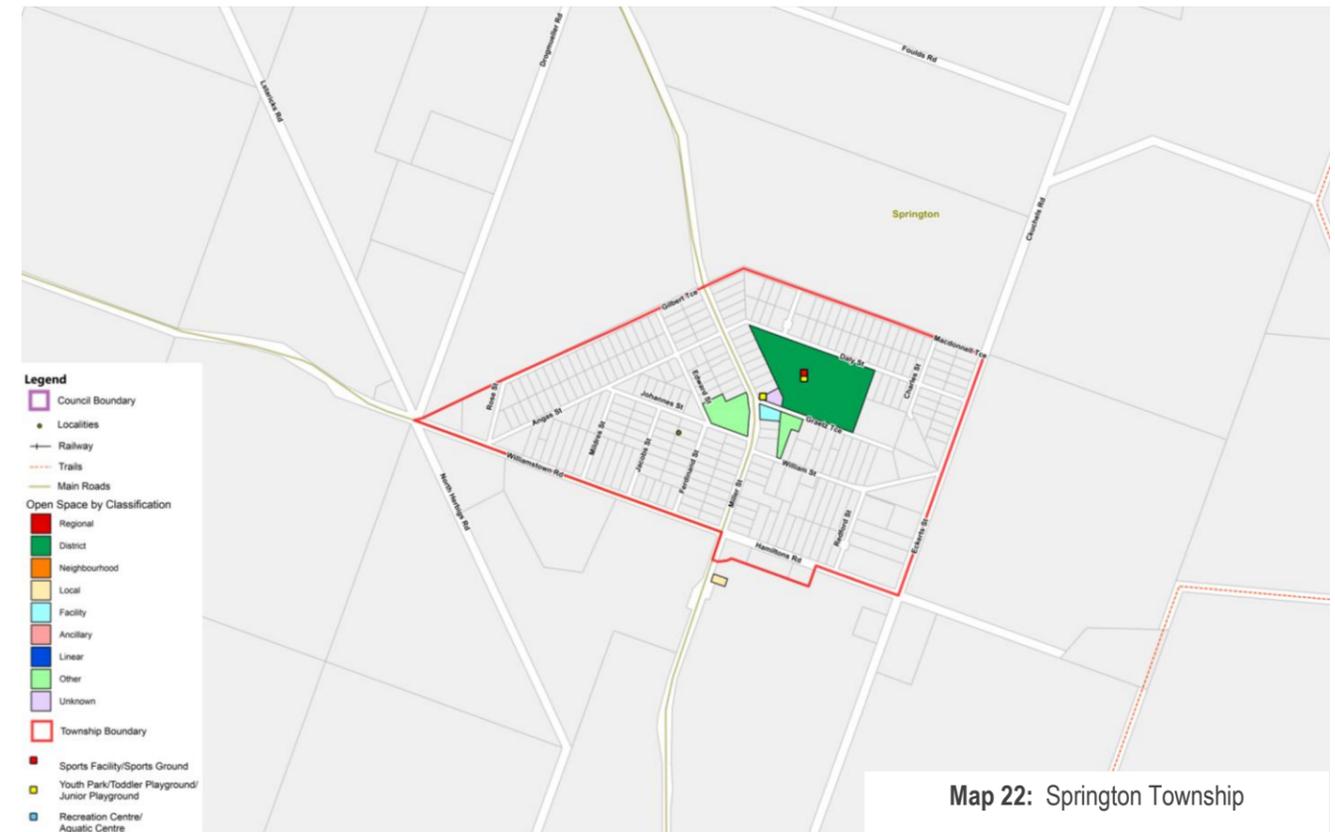


Map 21: Eden Valley Township

Springton

Springton has a district level sporting ground that provides some shelter and facilities - it also provides some passive space and a community hall to the south and adjacent to the playing fields. Some upgrading of the play spaces may be warranted and consideration could be given to the balance of provision of play equipment and natural opportunities in these places.

The visitor area and parking space around the Herbig Family Tree would benefit from an upgrade and considered as part of an entry statement to the township.



Map 22: Springton Township

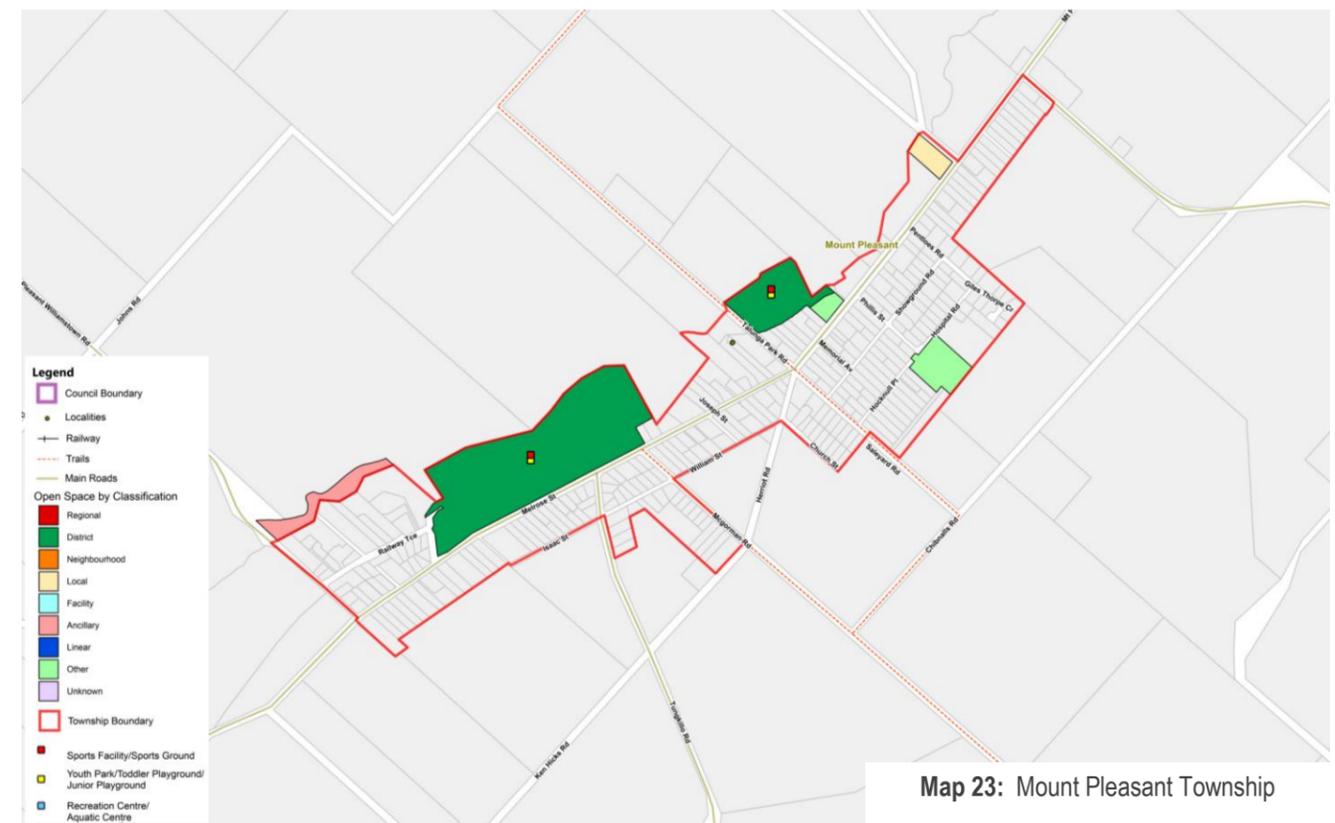
Mount Pleasant

Mount Pleasant is well served by two separate district level facilities that provide sporting facilities, showgrounds, tennis, pony club, bowls and play spaces. The Talunga Park Road facility consisting of tennis and bowling facilities would benefit from master planning.

A local level park is located at the north eastern entry to the township that provides artefacts and a history of the area.

With the majority of its residential population located to the east of the main road, residents would benefit from a local level park with play facilities within walking distance of homes that did not require crossing the Mount Pleasant / Keyneton Road.

A Main Street Master Plan has been completed for Mount Pleasant along with a master plan for the oval.



Map 23: Mount Pleasant Township

Stockwell

Stockwell has a significant district facility containing two large ovals as well as three local parcels all located in proximity to one another. The town is well served for open space however consideration should be given to the growth of the community as the township is relatively new and could eventually outgrow these facilities. Another play space and seating/shade area should be provided at the centrally located local space.

A new synthetic hockey pitch is planned to be installed in 2014 and these grounds are used for hockey and cricket and include shared clubrooms.



2.5.2 Town of Gawler

The Town of Gawler covers the smallest land area of the study partners and has the least amount of open space in comparison to the other regions. It also has the second highest population and the great majority of its residential dwellings are located in the township of Gawler itself. At 9.45 hectares per 1000 people, this area meets the proposed benchmark.

In considering that its residential population is more akin to a metropolitan council, it appears to have good open space provision even though it has the lowest supply of its regional study partners.

In regards to sport and recreation facilities, Gawler has the two court Gawler Sport and Community Centre, the Starplex at Trinity College (located on private school land) which has four courts, a 25 metre indoor pool and theatre, and the 50 metre outdoor Gawler Aquatic Centre.

In addition to these built facilities, it has Essex Park which is a 16 hectare sports precinct that includes linear trails.

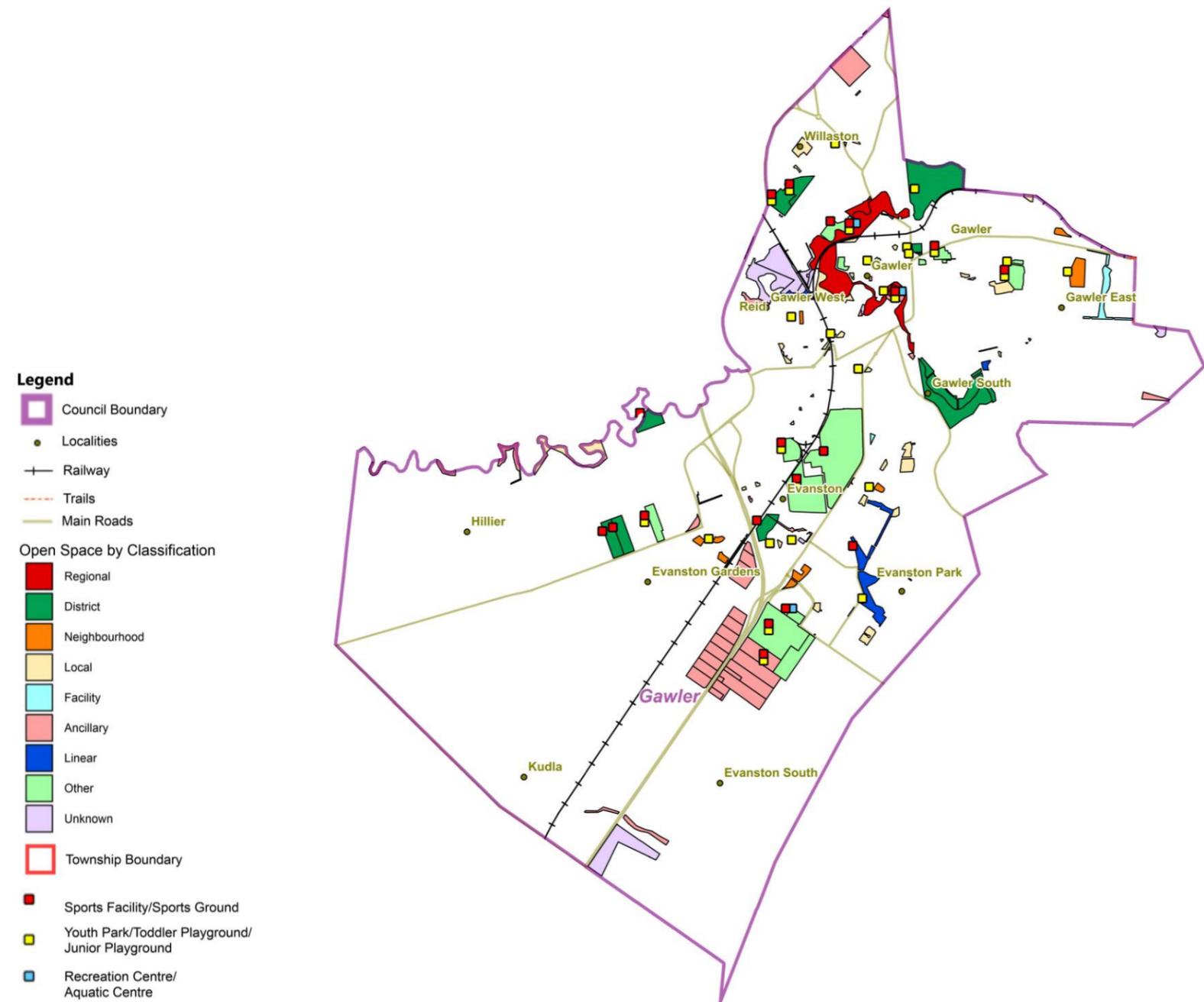
There are eight council owned district level facilities in the region and a further six located on private or school grounds.

Playspaces are distributed across the area at the rate of 1 per 1,180 people which is under the benchmark of 1 per 825. To achieve this, a further six play spaces are required.

Large amounts of regional and district level open space exist in Gawler. This in part reflects the original planning of the town. Newer developments have provided local and neighbourhood level open space as a result of legislation and accordingly, supply in those sectors is reasonable.

Open space is lacking at local and neighbourhood levels in the:

- north of the Barossa Valley Highway in the north eastern section
- inner south eastern section of town, and the
- outer lying areas to the west of the railway line between Evanston and Gawler West



Map 25: Gawler Region

A largely undeveloped parcel of land abutting Haines Road exists that has some trees and a bike track. Investigations could be undertaken to reduce the size of this reserve, upgrade the remaining smaller area and direct the remaining proceeds into other open space development.

The large area on Map 25 highlighted as unknown is primarily Reid Reserve which is in transitional from its current owner to Council.

In addition to these gaps in open space provision, more focus can be placed on delivering higher quality provision of open space by developing a water sensitive urban design framework to direct design, function and maintenance of these spaces. This would provide a balance between useable recreation space and areas that provide more visual amenity and that are environmentally sustainable.

In line with the vision of the 30-Year Plan, Council should have as priorities the:

- creation and greening of the Gawler Buffer as an urban forest and to act as a buffer between new growth areas and Gawler,
- development of the Gawler River Linear Park, to link open spaces in and around Gawler with the Gawler, South Para and North Para Rivers

A mixture of passive and active spaces is combined along the regional level linear park that follows the North and South Para Rivers and flows into the Gawler River. While this area is aesthetically pleasing and functional, it would benefit from a master plan that considers its overall function and uses. The Gawler River Linear Trail should be investigated in conjunction with relevant State Government Authorities and other councils.

A reassessment of sports facilities that considers a sports hub approach along with a review of the demand for the aquatics and recreation centres should be undertaken to align the supply of services with current and forecast need. In applying this approach at a district level, the development of a further district level playing field in the eastern section of the town, additional to the existing sporting facilities, should be fully investigated by Council.

As identified above and in Section 2.3 Playspaces, due to its higher residential levels, the township of Gawler needs six more play spaces to meet the benchmark of 1 for every 825 people. It is recommended that at a minimum, play equipment should be installed in parks and reserves in the following areas.

- Gawler River and North and South Para Rivers at suitable sites along the linear path. Installations could include fitness equipment and incorporate other elements suitable for both play and health;
- North of the Barossa Valley Highway in the north eastern section at Powell Drive Reserve and Berret Road Park
- East of Murray Street and south of Calton Road, and other reserves as they are developed in that area
- Gawler West, north and south of Ryde Street.
- Evanston Gardens, Evanston Park and Evanston South: by the playing fields next to the Gawler Squash Courts.

In addition to building playspaces in existing parks and reserves retrospectively, consideration should be given to installing play spaces at the time of developing new parks and reserves.

Opportunities should be explored to create linkages with the Bobridge and O'Grady Cycle Paths and develop shared use trails from Gawler to Kapunda and from Gawler to Roseworthy/Wasleys/Hamley Bridge and beyond.

2.5.3 Light Regional Council

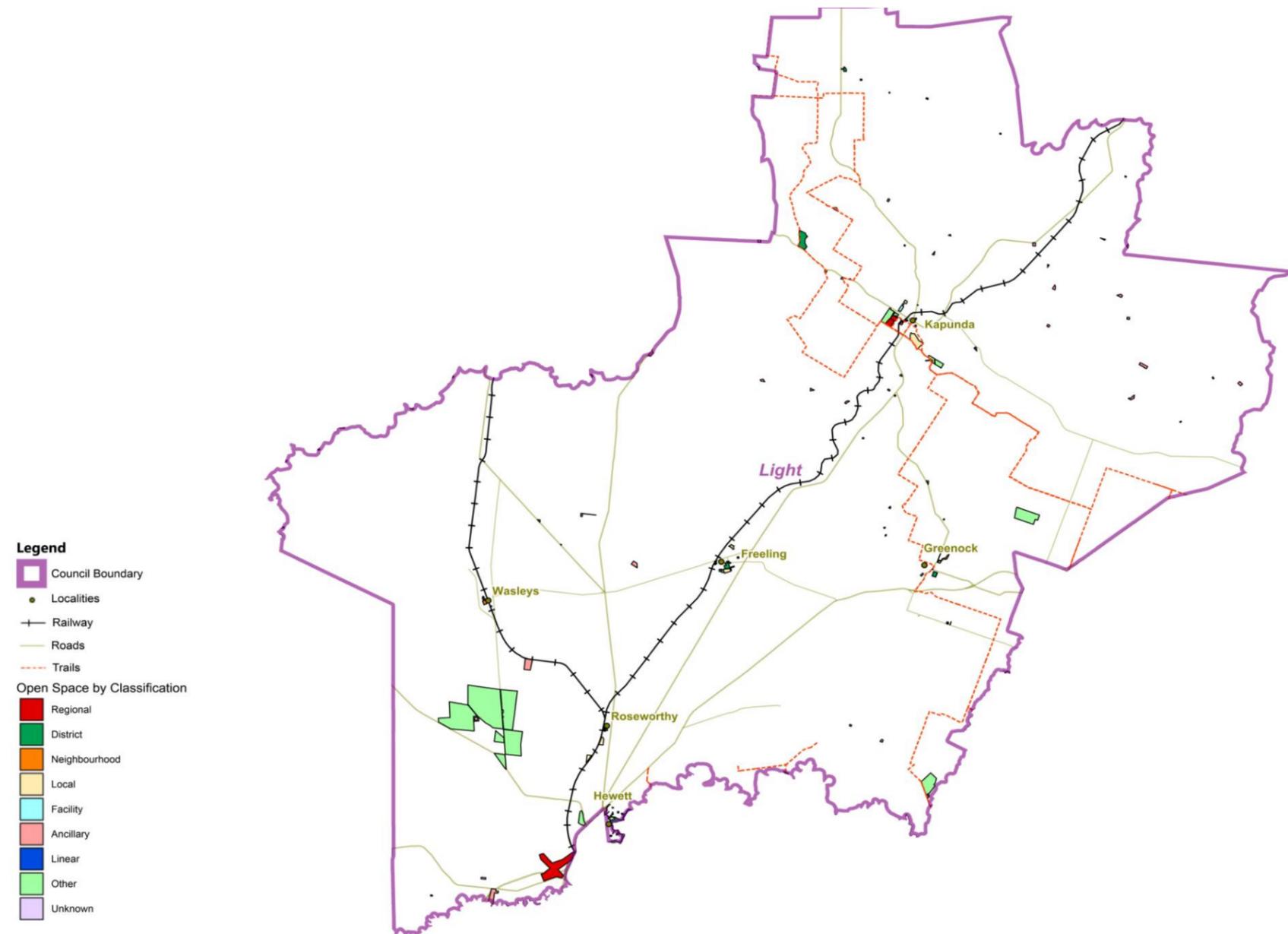
The data identifies that Light Regional Council has very high levels of open space with an allocation just under 25 hectares per 1,000 - almost three times the benchmark of 9 hectares per 1,000 people. This region, as with the Barossa and Mallala councils, covers a broad geographic area and has its recreation provision concentrated in the more highly populated areas. The majority of its useable recreation open space is in the main townships of Kapunda and Hewett and the Freeling. Adequate allocations also exist in Roseworthy, Wasleys and Greenock.

The level of supply is provided in both passive space and active sporting facilities. About 32% of the Light region's usable open space is at district level and reflects the supply of sporting grounds predominately within the towns of Kapunda, Freeling and Greenock. A further 24.% is a combination of local and neighbourhood spaces, with 3% linear and the remainder of 40% being regional – a combination of parklands and playing fields at the Dutton Park Sports and Tourist Park.

Kapunda has the only swimming pool in the region. Other regional and state level facilities include the national level Heysen Trail, the Kapunda Trotting and Harness Racing Complex and the Gawler Aerodrome.

The region meets the requirements for playspaces overall.

Opportunities to develop trails within townships along disused rail corridors should also be considered.



Map 26: Light Region

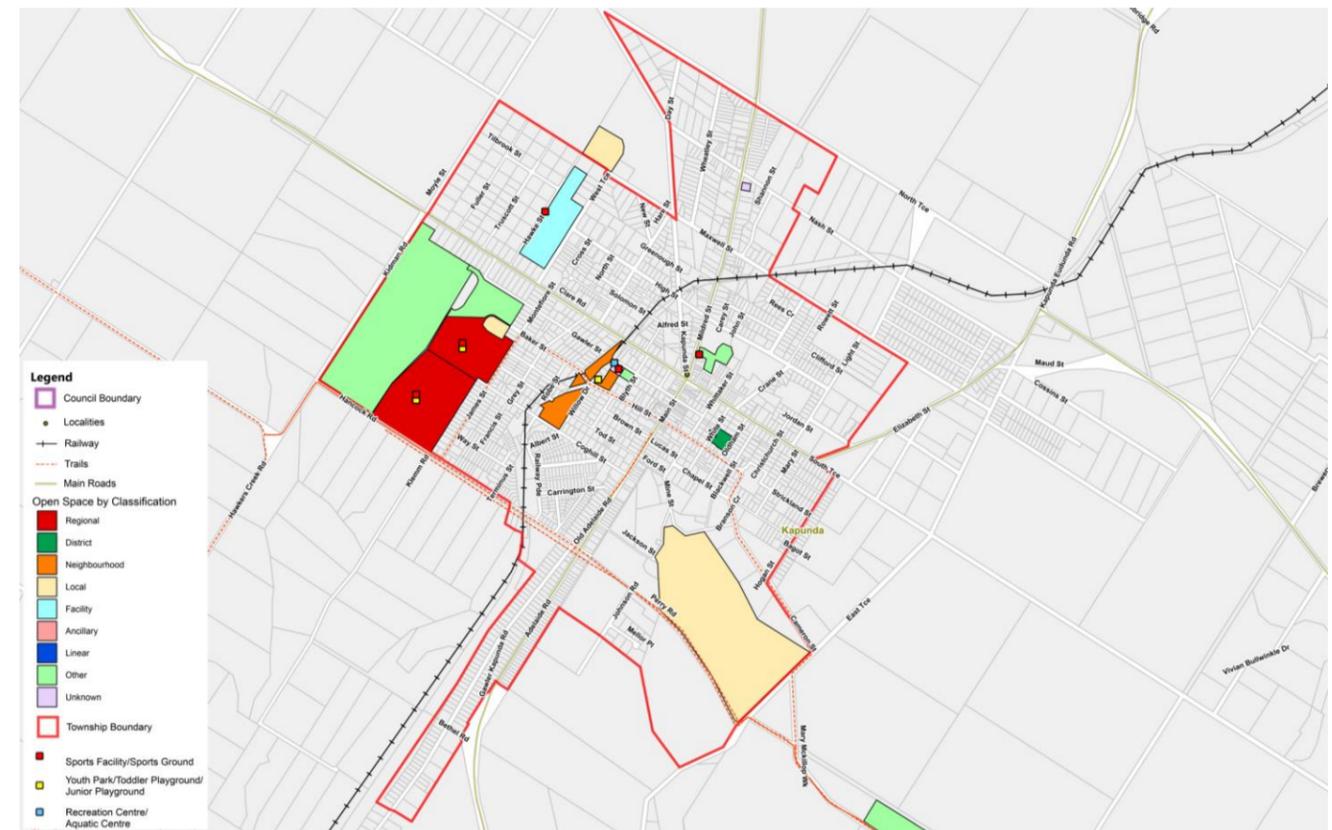
Kapunda

Kapunda has highly concentrated levels of open space on the west of the main road, at Dutton Park Sports and Tourist Park which incorporates a golf course, playing fields, caravan park, trotting track, passive spaces and formal gardens. Opportunities should be explored to further develop this facility as a sporting hub into. Another playing field is located to the north east. The Pines' Conservation Reserve seven kilometres out of Kapunda provides opportunities for walking and has potential for increased use.

Neighbourhood space is present along the disused railway line including Hill Street Playground which contains a play space and toilet amenities. The area also provides a pleasant space utilising water storage and a linear network that links into the swimming pool.

There is a gap in supply of local / neighbourhood level open space in the north of the town and on the east of Adelaide Road/Main Street. Play spaces should be considered for installation in any park that may be developed in the future as opportunities arise. The Kapunda historic mine site and trail present opportunities for upgrading and revitalisation.

Kapunda is well located between the Clare and Barossa Valleys and opportunities may exist to act as a conduit for linked trails including the Mawson, Kidman and Heysen. The development of a trails network linking key features within the township as well as from Kapunda to Freeling should be considered.

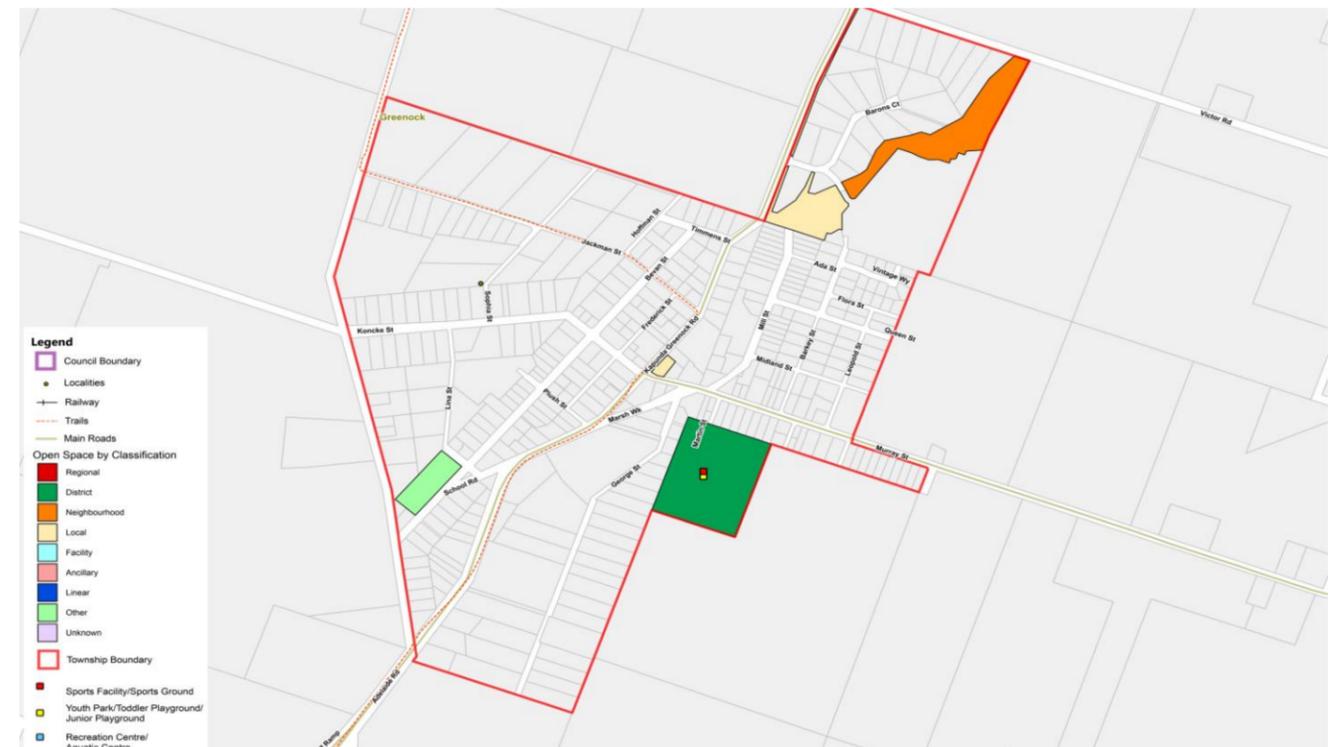


Map 27: Kapunda Township

Greenock

Greenock has its open space allocated at the Greenock Centenary Park and in the new residential development located to the north along the linear strip that follows a water course. Given the size and population of the established area of the township, focussing supply within the district space is seen as an appropriate strategy for open space provision.

In noting that provision is logically contained to the sport ground, opportunities to develop a local level space on the western side of the Kapunda Road should be considered given the number of residential properties that exist in that area.



Map 28: Greenock Township

Freeling

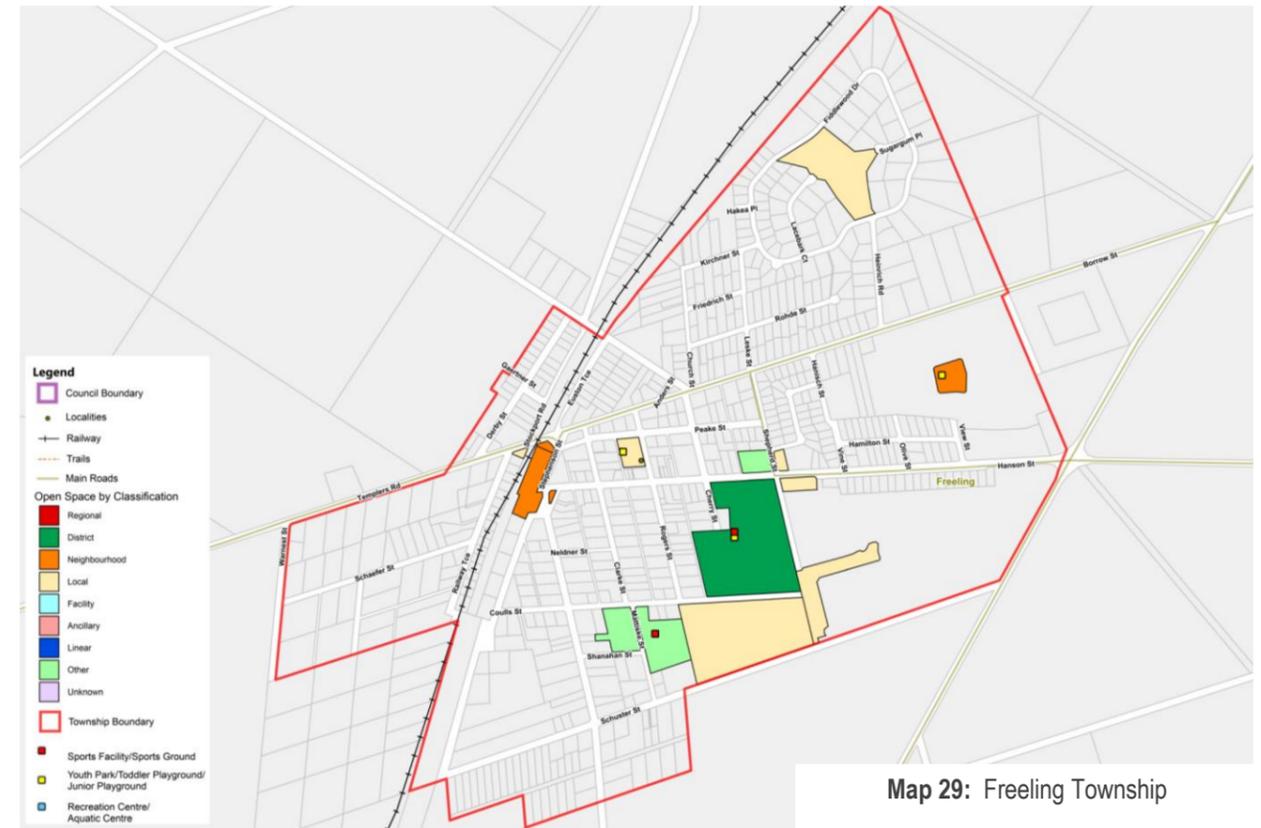
Open space is provided at the district level Freeling Recreation Park which has playing fields, outdoor courts and a modern skate park, the adjacent wetlands, which are bound by Schuster and Coulls Streets, the Railway Yard Reserve opposite the hotel, Mattiske Park and in the development areas of Park Range Estate and Freeling Estate.

Should Freeling continue to grow in the future, Council will need to ensure that sound policy is in place to provide sufficient high quality open space that is evenly distributed for the growing population. New development has the potential to create local open space that can service existing residents living in established areas of town.

A play space should be installed in the local level park located in Park Range Estate.

As identified in the comments for Kapunda, the disused rail corridor provides an opportunity to develop a linear shared use trail linking the two towns.

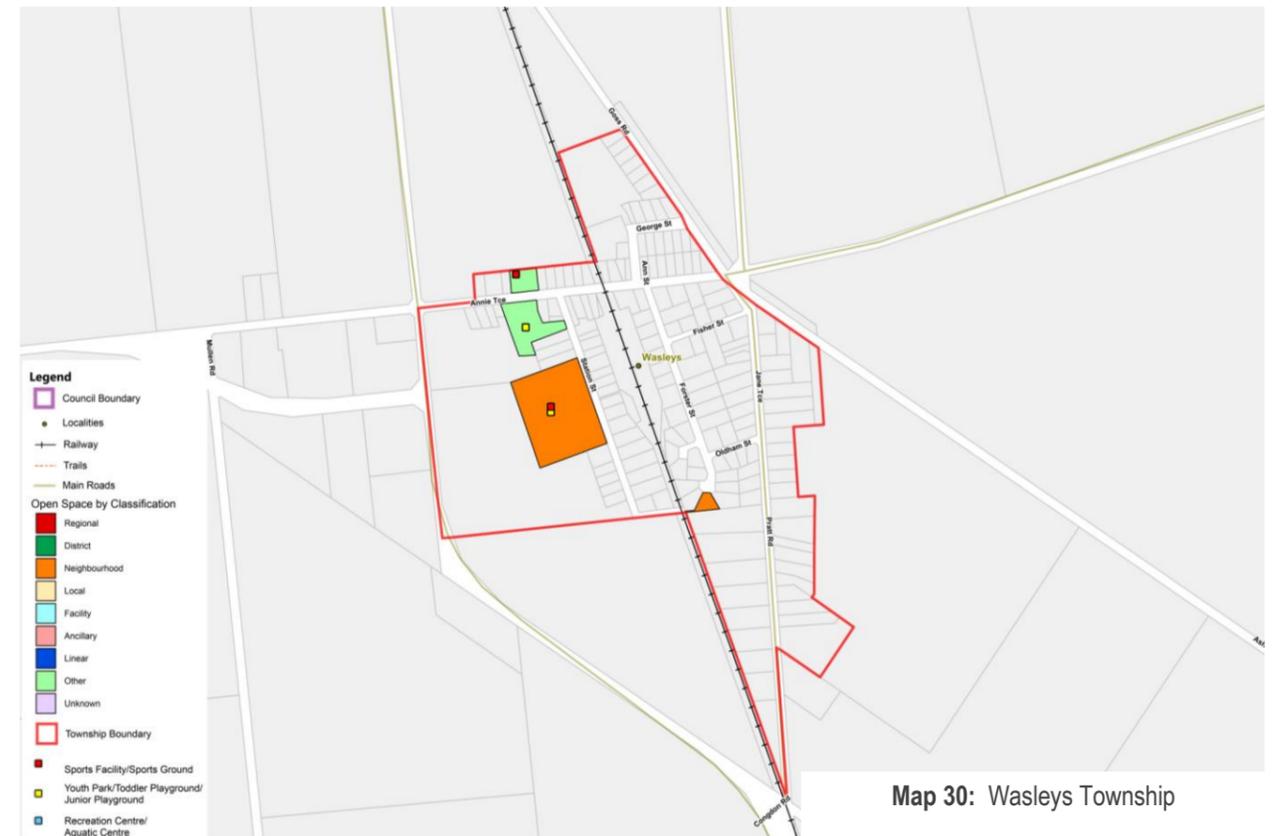
Based on public feedback, investigations should be conducted into the feasibility of developing of a category 2 recreation facility. This would be subject to funding.



Map 29: Freeling Township

Wasleys

Wasleys has its open space concentrated at the district level Wasleys Recreation Park on Station Street and the small Joseph Wasleys Reserve. Opportunities exist for some upgrading of the sports ground and its facilities and to create a passive space with more amenity and appeal for residents.



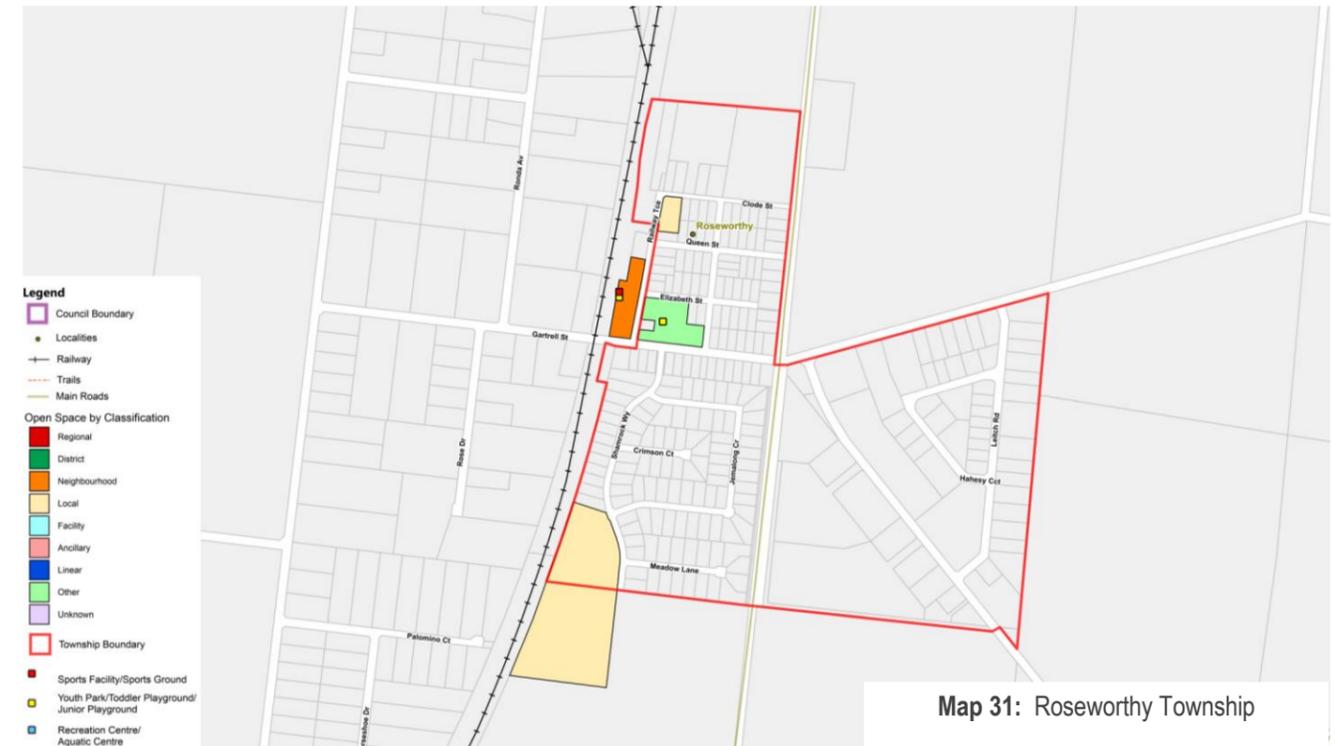
Map 30: Wasleys Township

Roseworthy

The local level open space in Roseworthy is undeveloped at this stage. A neighbourhood level area contains some sports facilities for tennis and netball (which is illuminated) and also provides a fenced passive space, a play ground and public toilets.

Roseworthy has been earmarked for major development in future years and as with Freeling, Council will need to develop policy to ensure appropriate levels and quality of open space is provided.

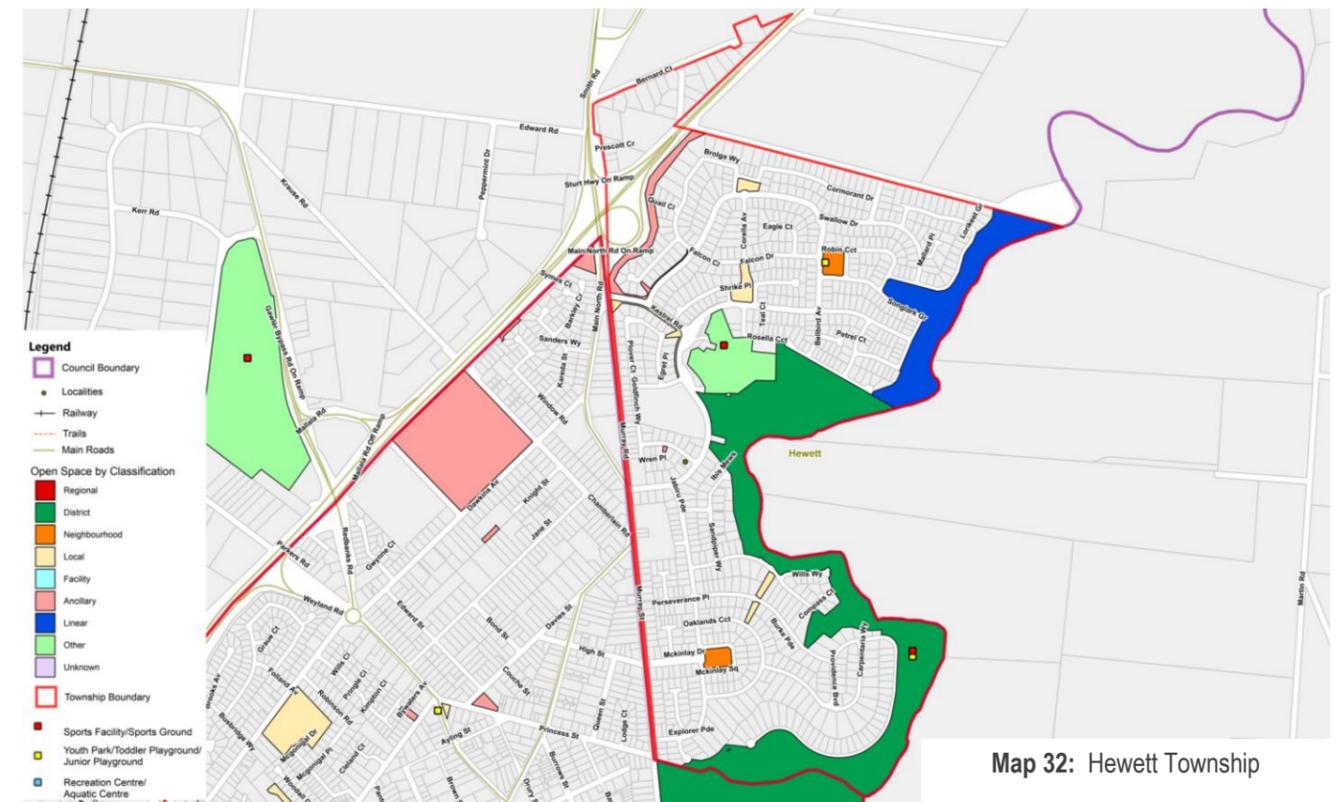
In light of the current size of the population, provision is seen as sufficient at this stage given the proposed future development.



Hewett

Hewett is an established residential suburban area adjacent Willaston. It has sufficient local and neighbourhood space and well developed linear space along the North Para River.

Further facilities including a dog park and playspaces should be considered for installation along the North Para River.



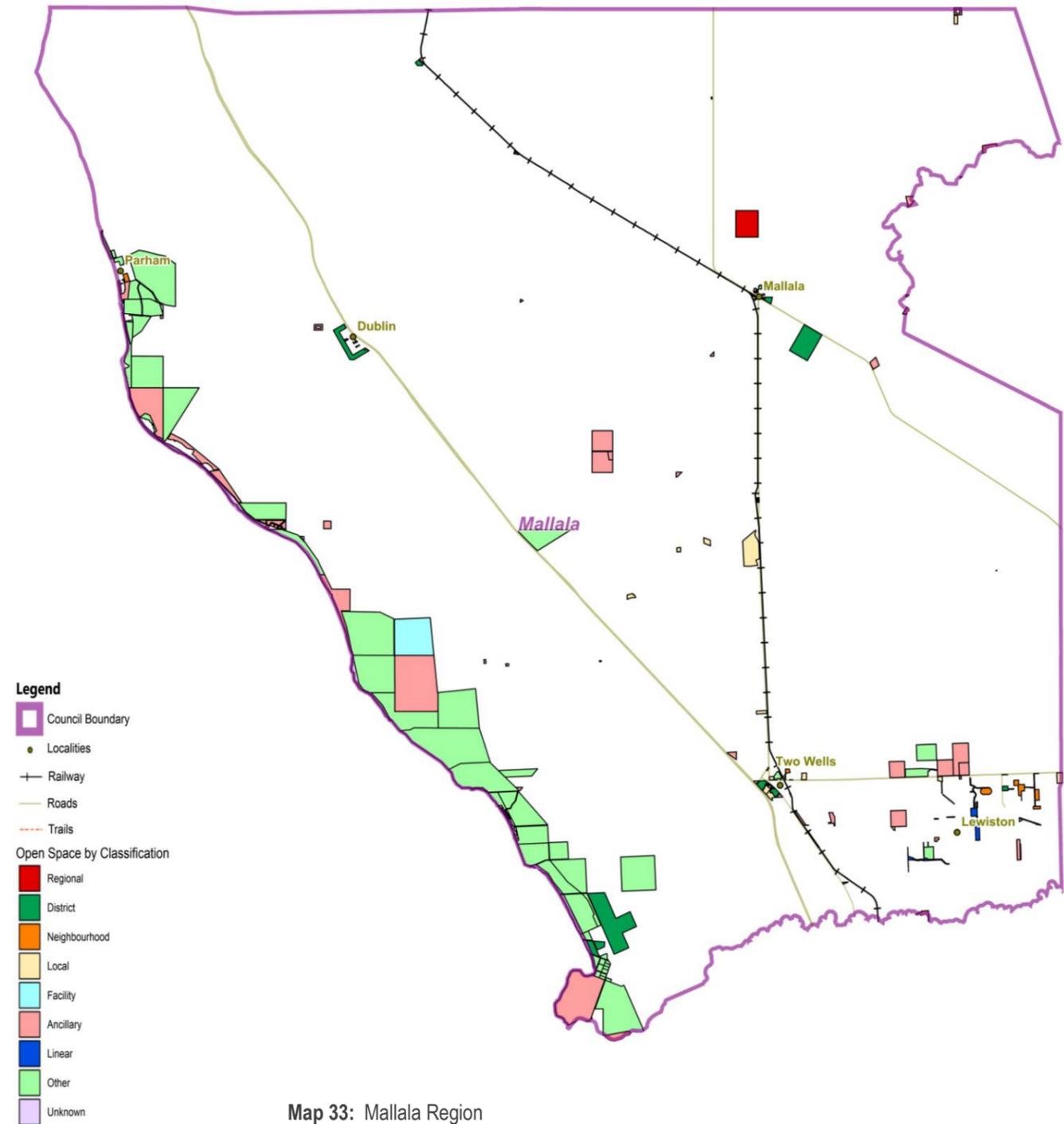
2.5.4 District Council of Mallala Open Space

The District Council of Mallala, with its comparatively low population centred in Mallala, Two Wells, Dublin and Lewiston provides high levels of open space in comparison to the benchmark of 9 hectares per 1,000 people.

The region has approximately 30% of its allocation classified at district level with six different reserves located in and around the townships and settlements of Dublin, Two Wells, Lewiston and Mallala as well as the coastal zone next to Port Gawler. Mallala also has the privately owned car racing circuit. This is balanced with the local and neighbourhood allocation. There are no publicly accessible indoor community recreation or aquatic facilities in the Council area however privately owned facilities include the Mallala Equestrian Centre and the Reeves Plains Indoor Vaulting Arena.

Two Wells and Lewiston have adequate space at the current time but as these areas commence development, the types, amounts and quality of space will need to be considered. It is recommended that Council develops policy to guide the creation of open space into the future.

Coastal open space and boating facilities are located at the settlements of Parham, Webb Beach, Thompson Beach, Middle Beach and Port Gawler. While the District Council of Mallala owns and maintains some open space parcels that are situated in and around the small settlements, the majority of land along the coast is owned by the State Government. The open space in this area, which provides access to the coast and boating facilities, will become more important over time as development in the northern areas of Adelaide increases.



Map 33: Mallala Region

Two Wells

Two large spaces west of Old Port Wakefield Road provide playing fields for cricket, football, a kennel and obedience dog club and a harness racing track. These areas are included in a previous master plan that identified broad precincts and will inform a future Town Centre Development Plan Amendment and the establishment of a 'market place'. Once other planning studies are complete, master plans for these sites should be prepared – particularly the sports precinct, with a focus on establishing sustainable use and management of the site, and links to the school, town centre and market place. A playspace has been identified as a priority for the sporting precinct. Consideration should be given to a new level 2 recreation centre and a bike path from Two Wells linking into the Northern Expressway along the Two Wells – Gawler Road.

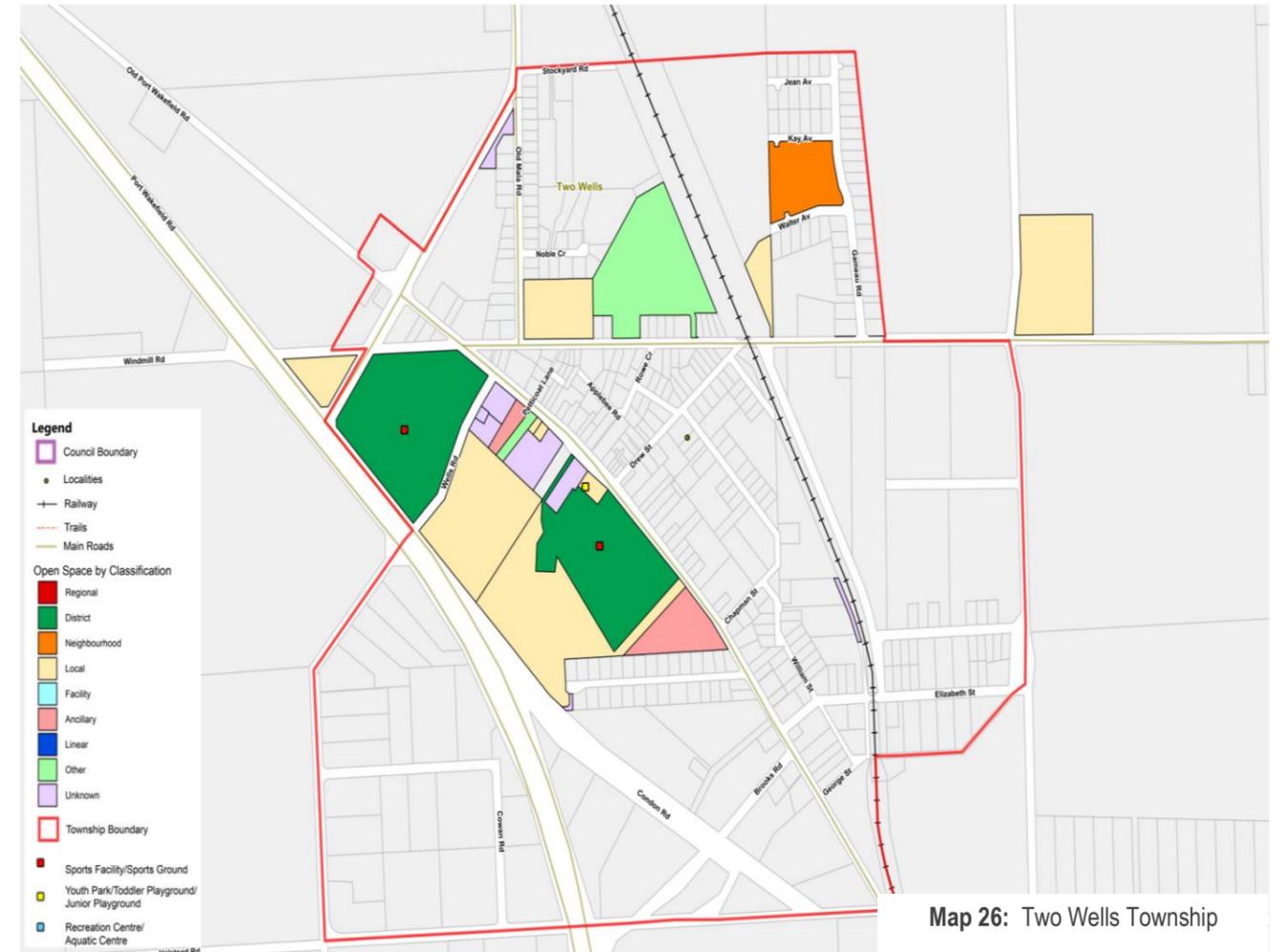
Local and neighbourhood open space provides reasonable access to most residences although the Old Port Wakefield Road is a barrier for those on its eastern side. Parcels in the main street provide for travellers looking to stop for a break, a play space and a soldiers' memorial. Wells and Hart Reserves require upgrading with the latter capable of providing greater amenity for the local community and potential for a skate park. Neighbourhood space in Talinga Estate provides a walking path and some tree planting. It appears that in addition to its recreation function, much of this space caters to storm water management in the form of a detention basin highlighting the need for Mallala (and all councils) to review/develop policy to determine appropriate levels of open space used for recreation and utility purposes such as storm water. Shared use paths linking the new residential development to the established town should also be considered.

Mallala

Mallala has a significant sports ground that caters to a range of sports and provides good quality facilities including a play space. It also has areas set aside for privately owned bowling greens and Mallala Equestrian Centre.

The southern section of the town is lacking in open space and while the district space provides a large area for active recreation, residents would benefit from a local park with a play space in the southern section of town within the sector divided by Butler Street and Adelaide Road.

Master planning of the central intersection in town may also be worth investigating with a view to better utilisation of land from an open space perspective as well as creating more vibrant areas that contribute to the public realm.



Map 26: Two Wells Township



Map 27: Mallala Township

Dublin

Dublin is a small township which is ringed by a primarily undeveloped parcel of open space. In 2001, the District Council of Mallala entered into a Heritage Agreement for the conservation of native vegetation native fauna on the land, within the area referred to as the Dublin Parklands.

A district level playing field is located to the south of the township within this band that caters to cricket, Australian Rules football, tennis and also provides a clubroom and a play space.

A reasonable area of well maintained local space offering a picnic area, toilets and shelter is provided adjacent to the Port Wakefield Road that caters for travellers. Some play facilities could be considered for this area that would provide for both travellers and residents, and complement the existing equipment at the sports ground.



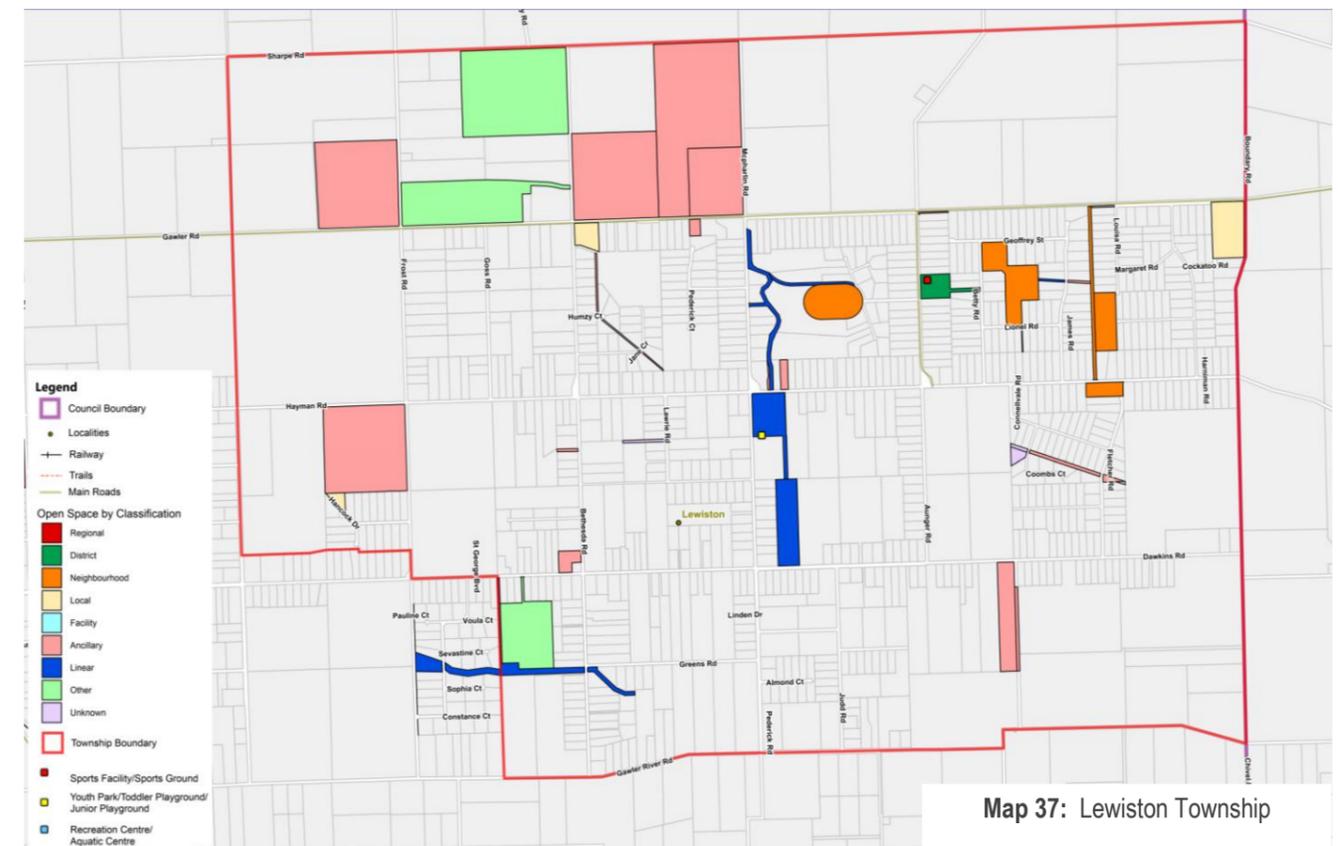
Map 36: Dublin Township

Lewiston

Lewiston has a number of neighbourhood level parks that interconnect and provide a trail network catering to horse riding and walking. This is important for residents given the zoning for the area as an Animal Husbandry Rural Living area. Further linking of reserves is encouraged where the primary use is as trails.

Developing facilities for passive recreation within these linked areas is important and given the recreational orientation and landscape of the area, the installation of natural play infrastructure would benefit the local community.

The future development of the Hams Park located between Pederick and Aunger Roads should cater to a range of activities and include high quality infrastructure for passive recreation including shelters and play equipment. Given the zoning of the area, it may also be appropriate to consider activities for dogs and horses (including trotting).



Map 37: Lewiston Township

Thompson Beach and Port Prime

The residential development along this section of the coast is a narrow and elongated strip confined to Thompson Beach – Port Prime is undeveloped. Both Thompson Beach and Port Prime have significant amounts of ancillary open space which is owned by Council. It is undeveloped land and is recommended to be held with no action planned for it in the foreseeable future.

The beach currently provides the necessary open space to cater for this area.

No formal boating facilities exist in this section of the coastline.



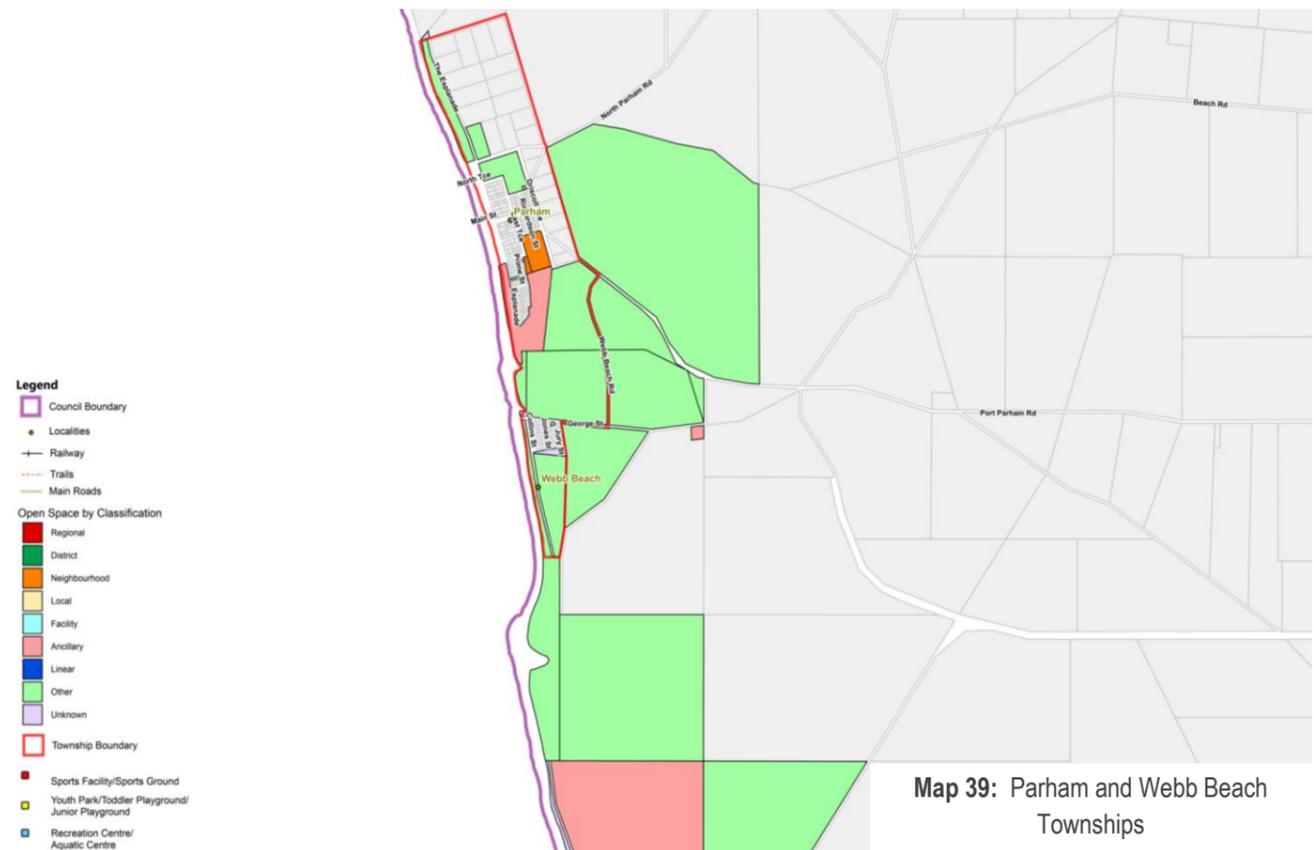
Map 38: Thompson Beach and Port Prime Townships

Parham and Webb Beach

Port Parham is a small settlement with coastal reserves that are owned by State Government. It has one neighbourhood space that contains some remnant vegetation, a playspace, the Port Parham Sports and Social Club and a walking link to the beach and other roads. With the beach close to all homes, the existing provision is satisfactory. Parham is a popular beach for crabbing and fishing and due to the tide it is a requirement to use a jinker (a self-propelled tall towing tractor) to access the water to launch and retrieve boats.

Webb Beach has no open space however as with Parham, due to the proximity of the beach and coastal reserve, this is seen as reasonable and does not provide a burden on Council in regards to maintenance. Webb Beach has a concrete boat ramp constructed many years ago.

At this stage it is recommended that no further construction of boating facilities is undertaken along this coastline until greater demand warrants development.

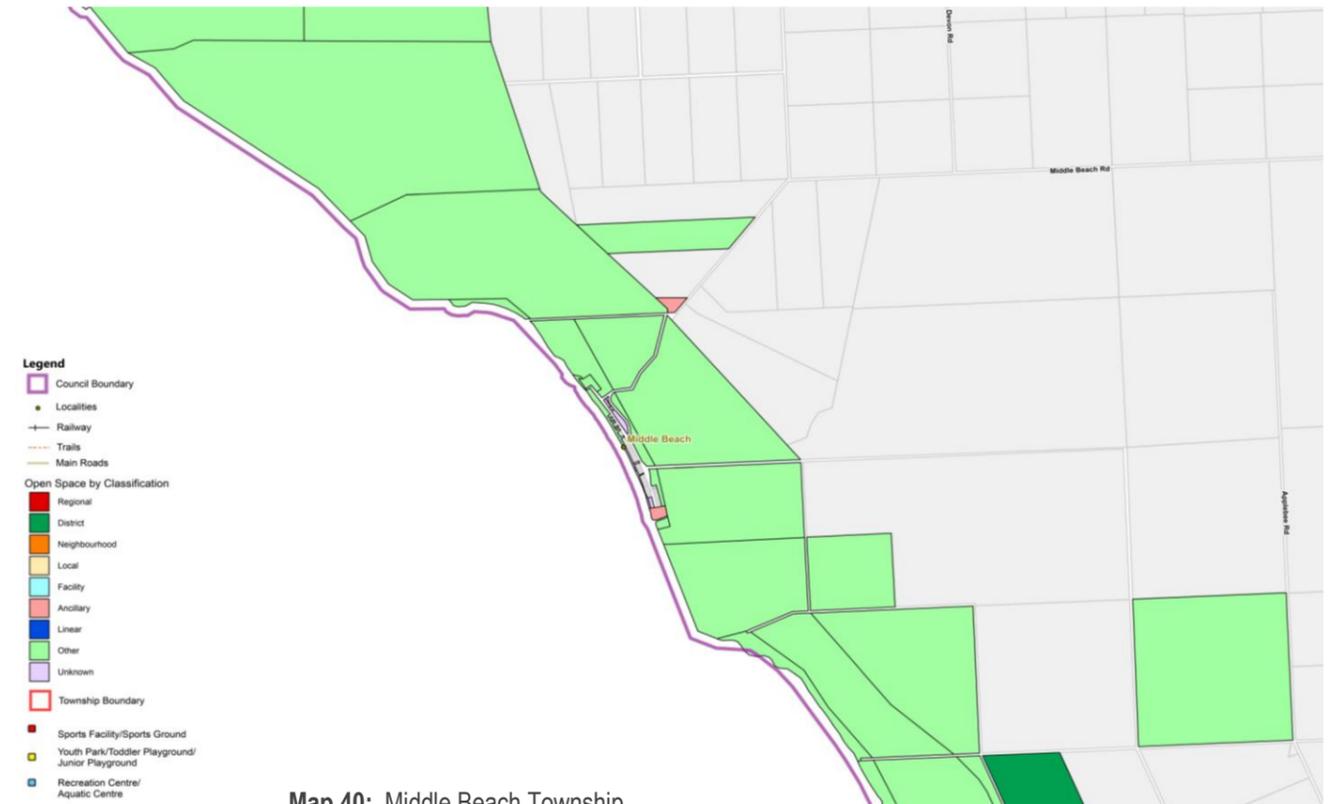


Map 39: Parham and Webb Beach Townships

Middle Beach

As with Webb Beach, Middle Beach has no Council owned and managed open space. It is a narrow and elongated strip surrounded by large tracts of undeveloped land with the beach providing the necessary open space to cater for the area. As the area further develops, low level play facilities should be considered in conjunction with State Government as the owners of the land. Previous improvements include a boardwalk (on State Government owned land) which is in poor repair. Upgrading of this facility and improvements to the road may attract people and encourage use.

A floating pontoon boat ramp was installed at the southern end of the settlement and supports boat launch and retrieve into the river at high tide.



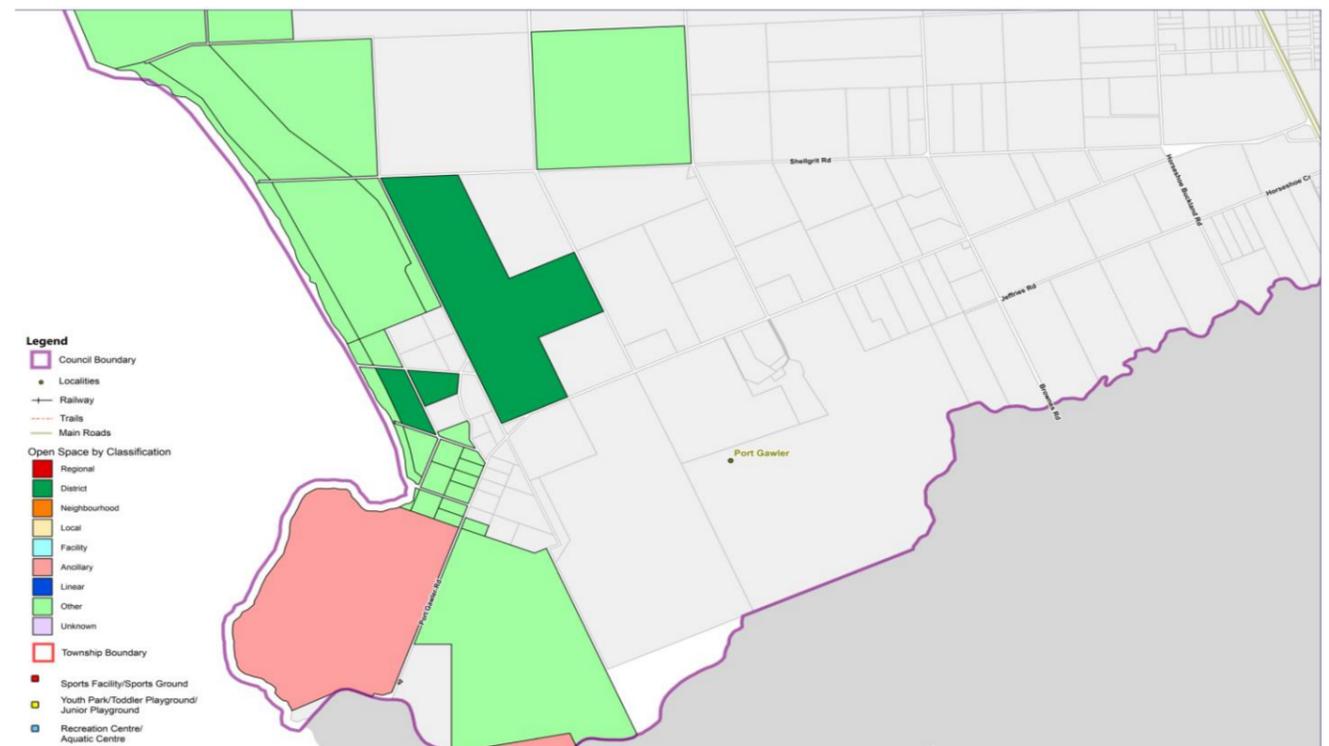
Map 40: Middle Beach Township

Port Gawler

This section of the coastline has no residential development and caters to fishing, crabbing and general recreation. There beach suffers from unauthorised vehicle activity including motor bikes and four wheel drives. Action should be taken to manage this and to minimise impact on the natural environment.

A motor bike speedway occupies council owned land adjacent to the beach and is managed by a private club.

Fishing and boat launching occur to the south section of this coast in the State Government owned park.

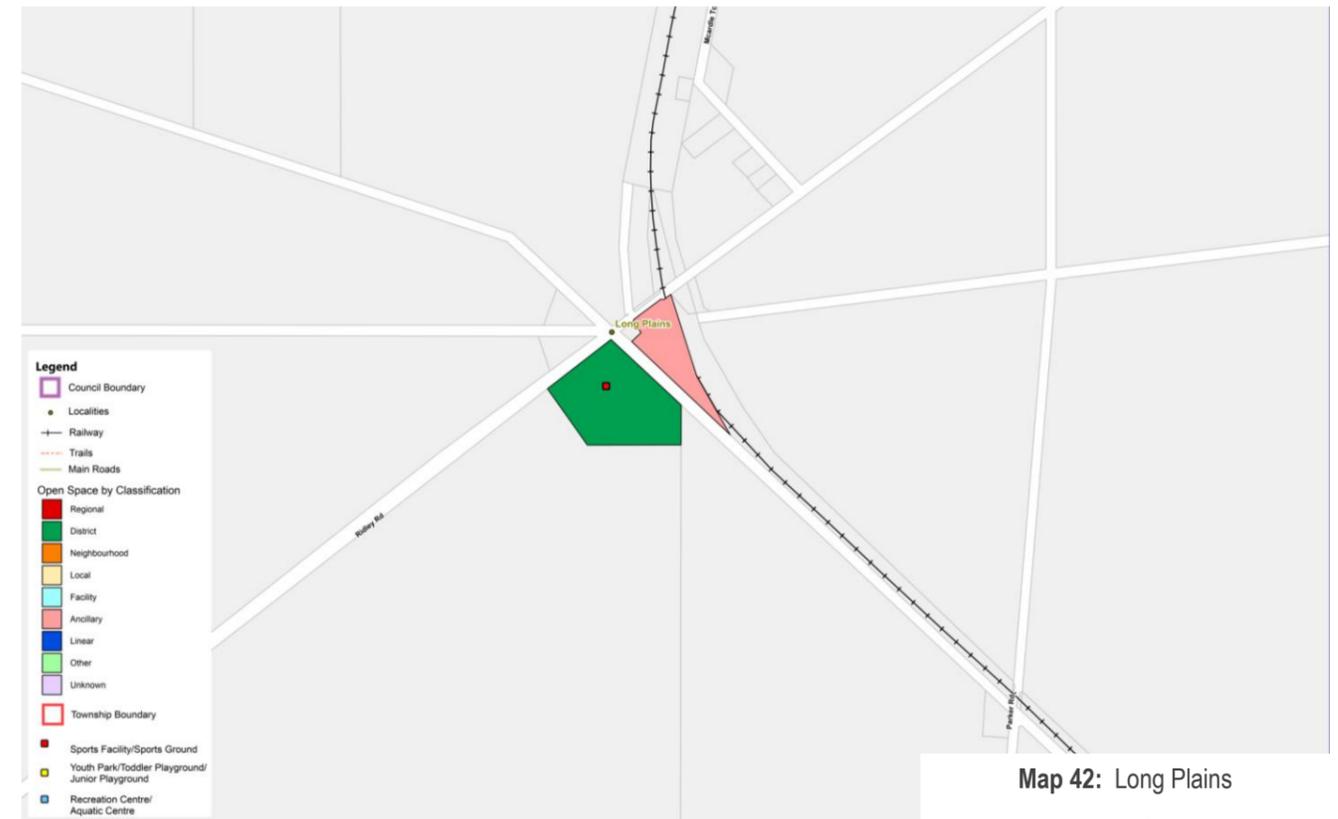


Map 41: Port Gawler Township

Long Plains

Long Plains has a district level sports ground that is owned by the club members. It has a playing field and court space that cater for Aussie Rules football, cricket, netball and tennis. The ground also provides a playground and public toilets. Tennis and netball share a clubroom and separate football clubrooms are also used by the cricket club.

An area of remnant vegetation lies to the northeast of the playing fields which is not in council ownership.



2.6 Public Realm

Due to the study region encompassing many rural and semi-rural towns and areas, the nature of what is considered as public realm relates closely to sport and recreation facilities and open space. Many people within these communities maintain strong ties with local sporting clubs and associations and rely heavily on such events and facilities (and the areas around and relating to them) as opportunities to interact, spend time and connect with people.

As described in previous sections, most of the townships within the region contain sporting facilities. Due to the influence of these spaces on country life and livelihood, these facilities should be considered as multi-use, public realm destinations that cater for a wide variety of users with high quality landscape treatments. Currently, many do not achieve this objective and appear to only service sport and vehicular access rather than pedestrians travelling to and from the area, and people and families enjoying the landscape around the playing fields, sporting club or passively using the spaces.

The Mainstreet of a town plays a vital role in the success of public realm throughout the region and should be considered as more than a location to drive to buy supplies but a place for people. An overarching observation of the study area is that of car domination within the streetscape; vehicles moving too quickly and excessive car parking encroaching on potential footpath space and meeting places within the road corridor. Main streets in rural areas should be thriving hubs of activity and ambience which contribute to life and identity and support local business and tourism. Members of the community need to be supported to participate in activities that would assist in enlivening the streetscape and public realm.

Many locations within the region contain unique trails, spaces, places and activities that are poorly maintained, this could be due to unsustainable construction methods and unrealistic and non-prioritised budget considerations. The proximity of the study area to beautiful landscape settings and assets appears to be currently underappreciated. The public realm must reference the local context, be of high amenity to encourage people to utilise facilities, experience outdoor activities and enjoy the exceptional rural locations.



Streetscape redesign can reallocate space to pedestrian movement and activities, supporting community life and business



Well designed public spaces promote activity, health, interaction and sense of community



Sustainable, considered and maintained landscape elements promote activity, identity and connection with nature

2.7 Environment and Biodiversity

While in general, this strategy has a limited focus on the biodiversity assessment of open space, it is noted that there are significant areas of forest, conservation park, recreation spaces and other green spaces that all contribute to the environmental value and biodiversity of the region. The state of the environment and biodiversity in the region has been defined in various documents written by the Natural Resource Management Board and Local Government Authorities in the area.

There are numerous issues with conservation conflicting with recreation uses that need future assessment and to gain full benefit from open space areas, adequate conservation and protection is required including the management of recreational uses. Examples occur in parks and reserves and along trails and water courses where legitimate uses may for example, threaten remnant vegetation, endangered grassland species and a range of fauna. While use should be promoted to raise awareness of the value of these assets, it must be controlled to ensure that the resources are improved and remain available into the future. Protection and conservation of species that have been identified as threatened in the study area should be planned with consideration for predicted climate change impacts.

The area also contains fragmented landscapes that would benefit from detailed mapping to ensure adequate consideration throughout development planning to protect, strengthen and link up high value biodiversity areas and protect threatened species and ecosystems.

The region can be divided into broad zones for ecological planning purposes within which specific priorities need to be considered. These are the:

- Northern Mt Lofty Ranges
- Lower North Hills
- Plains
- Coast
- Watercourses

Northern Mount Lofty Ranges

The northern Mt Lofty Ranges is one of the few areas in the region where large tracts of remnant native vegetation still exist. These are predominantly conserved through the open space network, including ForestrySA, SA Water and Parks and Reserves. Many of these areas are used as recreation open space including for camping, walking and mountain bike riding. These experiences are invaluable to achieving long term ecological outcomes because of the opportunities they provide for the public to learn about and value their natural ecosystems. The challenge is to manage competing interests and ensure activities do not harm the areas.

In the Northern Mt Lofty Ranges, priorities for open space include maintaining and improving the condition of the ecological assets and managing the interaction between people and the environment. Management plans for open space should be consistent and take a regional planning approach.

Lower North Hills

The northern Mt Lofty Ranges including hills face around Gawler, the Barossa and hill country of the Lower North have been heavily cleared but still include remnant native vegetation on steeper slopes, hill tops and as linear strips along roadsides and railway lines. Endangered Irongrass native grassland and Peppermint Box grassy woodland communities are a feature of this landscape and are often poorly recognised but still exist.

In this region, the preservation of remnant native grasslands and grassy woodlands in open spaces is a high ecological priority. Improved recognition should be achieved through collation of existing mapping, including surveys not in state databases, and audits of unsurveyed and undeveloped open spaces. It will be important to ensure that management plans are in place and implemented where these communities exist, with priority given to larger, well connected sites in good condition.

Revegetation of these communities requires specialist skills, and in the first instance, facilitating natural regeneration through removal of threats (e.g. weeds, rabbits) is the best approach.

Another natural feature of the region is the River Red Gum landscapes. The Barossa Bush Gardens provides a biodiversity focussed open space that includes local native landscaping, a seed orchard and a demonstration of how revegetation can improve River Red Gum health.

The Plains

This region has been heavily cleared in the past and used predominantly for dry land cropping, however hobby farming and urban development are becoming more prevalent in the region.

Most remnant native vegetation exists in small and/or linear strips along roadsides and on dune crests. Protection for such vegetation is poor due to clearance exemptions for roadside vegetation management and fence lines.

In this region, the lack of remnant native vegetation makes all remnants important, and managing threats such as weeds and grazing, as well as revegetation to expand and link remnants is a high priority. Whilst little vegetation is included in formal open space networks, many of the region's undeveloped road reserves and smaller dirt roads are used as informal linear trails. Where there is a change of land use from agricultural to urban or peri-urban, consideration should be given to incorporating remnant native vegetation into open space networks, including consideration of re-aligning road boundaries so that vegetation is not lost in order to widen the roads.

The Coast

The coastal section of the region includes high conservation value areas, including some relatively pristine environments. While a high number of these are part of formal open spaces, many areas are informally used. The Light River delta area is proposed to be included as a Sanctuary Zone in South Australia's Marine Park network. The Regional Coastal Management Plan identifies prioritised actions for the coastal zone and should be used as the basis for strategic management of coastal zones.

Water Courses

The Light and Gawler Rivers and their tributaries traverse the region, linking the hills, plains and coastal zones. Both have been highly impacted by development, including water extraction, clearance, pollution, weeds and obstructions to flow. However, they still possess areas of high ecological value, in particular permanent pools that provide refuge to aquatic species during droughts. Watercourse vegetation persists in most parts, although weeds are often prevalent.

Watercourse areas are valuable passive recreational assets, with many incorporating linear trails (e.g. Dead Man's Pass) and providing visitors with a "back to nature" experience. Watercourses are readily understood to be of high environmental value by the public and attract high participation in volunteer restoration activities. In many towns, weirs have been constructed to create artificial permanent pools; however, these areas often have low ecological value, in some cases contributing negatively to the aquatic ecosystems by obstructing movements of native fish.

Open space that includes watercourses is a high priority with highest priority given to sites that include natural permanent pools. The Light River Management Plan identifies areas of ecological value and management priorities for each. The Gawler River provides a focus for open space in Gawler and priorities have been identified in the Gawler Urban River Master Plan.

2.8 Tourism

While tourism is not the main focus of this strategy, it is important to acknowledge the vital role it plays in delivering a range of economic, social and environmental benefits to the region. There have been a number of comprehensive plans and strategies prepared in relation to development and management of tourism by the South Australian Tourism Commission for the area identified in these studies as the Barossa Region, which incorporates the Barossa Council, the Town of Gawler and the Light Regional Council. These include the 2005 Clare Valley & Barossa Tourism Regions Integrated Strategic Tourism Plan and the 2010/11 Tourism Barossa Business Plan. Accordingly, specific reference to tourism actions should be directed to these studies.

The State Government's Regional Tourism Profile June 2010 - 2012 identified that this region attracts visitors from Adelaide, across the state as well as Australia, and around the world. The average length of stay for domestic visitors is for between two to three days, with international visitors tending to stay for longer periods of up to six days. Given this, the influence that tourism has on towns and spaces must be considered in planning, developing and the ongoing management of open space.

Having acknowledged the importance of regional tourism, opportunities vary between councils. Experiences in the Barossa region (as defined above) provide many opportunities including:

- Food and dining, wine tastings and cellar door visits;
- Natural landscapes that can be experienced through walking, cycling and riding trails;
- Arts, crafts and culture including museums, galleries and regional tours;
- Events, festivals and functions throughout the year, and weekly markets.

In relation to open space, the Barossa Product Gap Audit (2011) recommended a number of potential opportunities for the region including:

- Documentation of existing trails and the preparation of a trails guide, plus the preparation of an environmental strategy as immediate actions;
- Creation of a cycle path to Gawler (which attracted funding from Regional Australia Development in 2011) and an adventure playground in the next five years, and
- Development of a town square to be known as Barossa Central within 10 years.

As is well documented, many international visitors are attracted to the region due to the reputation of the Barossa Valley being one of the world's best known wine growing regions. Opportunities exist for winery and other significant tourism operators including food producers and retailers, as well as council and State Governments to provide open space that meets the requirements of this market segment. Many wineries already provide landscaped grounds and gardens in acknowledgement of visitors. Potential exists to create more privately owned open spaces that reflect the topography, character and natural countryside to further enhance visitors' experiences.

Linked in to these opportunities is the potential to host a range of community and cultural events. While larger events such as the annual Barossa Under the Stars, the Barossa Vintage Festival and the Barossa Jazz Weekend are well known, many other activities are also hosted in private and council owned spaces. For private and commercial operators, the creation of such spaces provides the potential to attract people to their properties. For each council across the study area, consideration should be given to the design and development of spaces capable of hosting local and regional level functions and activities.

Along the same lines as cultural and arts based events, sports tourism is a developing market that requires considerable planning and significant infrastructure including open space. Cycling is a major draw card with recent stages of the Tour Down Under attracting many thousands of visitors. Other sporting events held include the Barossa Golf Open, South Australia Women's Hardcourt Championships, a half marathon running race and the Classic Adelaide Rally motor car race. While catering to elite competition draws large influxes of tourists, opportunities also exist for smaller markets at local and state level for activities such as mountain bike riding and walking along trails and linking commuting networks.

The District Council of Mallala has different opportunities to the Barossa region given its geographic location, topography, landscapes and climate. The Mallala Motorsport Park attracts a high number of competitors and associated personnel to race meetings and practice days and may create opportunities for further accommodation and related activities.

The area is also the pathway to the Clare and Barossa Valleys, and through to the north of the state and beyond, and presents opportunities for visitations as a part of the journey to these further destinations.

Additionally, through its pristine beaches and surrounding coastal environments, and associated activities including fishing, crabbing and bird watching, the area known as the Sapphire

Discovery Trail provides opportunities for eco and adventure based tourism that have the potential to be developed with greater promotion and recognition.

Section Three: Demand Analysis

This section of the strategy identifies the requirements of the people who visit, work and live in the area and who use the services and facilities. A thorough consultation process has been conducted with the key stakeholders of this project including members of local communities, relevant sport and recreation peak bodies and representatives of the councils involved. A methodology including an on-line community survey, community forums and face-to-face interviews have provided information to assist in identifying demand for the current and future provision and management of open space, recreation and public realm available in the region.

3.1 Localised Challenges

While the project is regional in nature, the strategies to be developed will impact heavily at a local level on the people, families, communities and businesses that live in the towns. The region faces significant change in coming years as the 30-Year Plan is implemented. This plan, which guides the future development of greater Adelaide, incorporates the regional direction for the study area. The most important factor is that of population growth. As stated previously in this study, projected growth to 2036 has identified that significant population increases are planned around Gawler and Roseworthy and to a lesser extent Mallala, Two Wells, Freeling, Kapunda, Nuriootpa, Tanunda, Angaston, Williamston, Lyndoch, Springton and Mt Pleasant. While this growth will have a greater impact in some areas and lesser in others, it will be important to consider the needs of all areas within this region and to develop appropriate overarching principles and strategies that support the communities of each town.

3.2 Community Expectations

The local communities of each council were invited to provide their views, thoughts and aspirations in relation to this strategy. Their responses have been assembled under the key areas of Open Space, Public Realm, and Recreation and Sport as follows.

3.2.1 Barossa Council

Open Space

Contributors felt that open space strategies need to be developed to activate and promote parks and reserves and to create better linkages between parks and other destination points. They saw the quality of trails as important. Some also want parks to cater more to the ageing community.

Public Realm

A number of people identified that many towns in the Barossa lacked public realm and, as was stated in feedback on the open space, that these areas needed to be better activated. They also commented that piazzas, while not present in many towns, would add to a sense of place as do a number of churches - with two in Tanunda of particular note.

Recreation and Sport

Tanunda Clubs were experiencing growth and asked about new facilities. With five reasonably sized townships in the region, a precinct approach to sports provision was supported by some in attendance. Backing this approach is council's support for shared use and sporting hubs. Fees and charges for facilities were also raised and enquiries made regarding different models.

3.2.2 Town of Gawler

Open Space

Comment was made that due to more young families, there is need for more family spaces for picnics, ball play and children's parties. In particular around the Gawler River, it was noted that the river frontage can create safety issues for use by families and that environmental upgrades are needed to improve the river's flow to the sea.

Public Realm

Respondents felt that families lack public amenities for children and baby changing and that what does exist feels unsafe. Connecting existing parks to the main street was seen as important as is general access and safety. A 40 kph speed limit was suggested to give priority to pedestrians and to provide more safety. Some saw the ambience of the main street as letting it down even with a wider footpath in place while others felt that the business mix is appropriate to activate the main street by providing safe and convivial spaces for people to meet and talk.

Recreation and Sport

It was stated by those attending that more ovals are needed in the east and concerns were raised about the open space controlled exclusively by clubs. Some felt that Gawler East should be for the public as well as clubs and more generally that Gawler had a high number of under-utilised grounds that are controlled by clubs who lock gates and do not provide for passive recreation. Karbeethan Reserve was noted as a well used multi-purpose facility that suffers with a shortage of car parks at busy times and that it would benefit from further development as a regional sports hub. Comment was also made regarding the need for parks with fitness stations and spaces for workers to jog and to contemplate, and that the BMX track needs an upgrade.

3.2.3 Light Regional Council

Open Space

It was commented that most towns have good amounts of open space but they need better linkages and use as trails. In Kapunda, most open space is situated on the west of the main road which acts as a barrier to access for those on the east. Greenock was seen as having a good but underutilised recreation park and town space. In Freeling, the Railway Yard Reserve is now the main green space. Issues were raised in relation to open space at Roseworthy including the lack of areas for children to play (including playspaces) and equestrian matters. Horse owners in Roseworthy living on small acreages are concerned about the options for horse riding and restrictions caused by urban growth. They asked about the creation of a regional or state level equestrian hub with indoor and outdoor arenas to be used for events, education and competition.

Public Realm

Map the Miner marks the entry to Kapunda, however no other town in the region has an entry statement. It was felt that better care and presentation of trees located at the entrances to the region's towns would improve their presentation. In Kapunda, while visiting artists and local galleries are seen as attractions, there is little public art besides one mural. There is also a lack of civic areas in the main street. Way finding and signage are also important to assist visitors.

Recreation and Sport

The community saw smaller towns as safe for walking and cycling and that improvements to verges have helped. Rail reserves could provide safe walking and cycling and connect towns. They would like to see the rail reserve from Kapunda to Freeling developed as a trail. The community wants planning for recreation and sport facilities including horse related activities.

3.2.4 District Council of Mallala

Open Space

Comments were made that because there is no open space strategy, much of the land developed as open space and facilities appears to be ad hoc and that some is not functional as open space - also many reserves seem to have a dual role for drainage due to flood mitigation challenges present from the Gawler and Light Rivers. The coast is seen as an important area for recreation but there is conflict with four wheel drive vehicles accessing sensitive coastline. At Lewiston, open space has not kept up with demand and the space is not large enough to be functional. Disposal of land by council is also a community concern in this area.

Public Realm

People felt that the main streets in towns were important links to sporting ovals which serve as the primary spaces for community events and festivals. They also stated that Mallala could benefit from entry statements, that angle parking created safety hazards and that signage was needed to encourage travellers on Highway 1 to use Two Wells and Dublin as a rest points.

Recreation and Sport

Security of tenure for sports grounds was raised along with a lack of indoor facilities. Requests were made to undertake planning for the future for recreation and sport infrastructure. A lack of trails was highlighted and comment was made that young people in Lewiston would benefit from a bicycle track to access facilities in neighbouring towns. Bike safety was identified as an issue. Trails for horses in the Lewiston area also need to be assessed and consideration should be given to the development of a state or regional equestrian facility.

3.3 State Sporting Organisations

A survey was circulated to each of the major sporting peak bodies within the state with the detailed responses in relation to issues and provision contained in the Consultation Report. The responses focussed strongly on facilities with BMX SA, Gymnastics SA, Horse SA, Motorcycling SA, Skate SA, SA Rifle Association all indicating that they are considering, investigating or planning to undertake development of new facilities at some stage in the future. In regard to existing facilities, the Sporting Car Club of South Australia and Squash SA are looking to upgrade their existing facilities at Collingrove and the Gawler Sport and Recreation Ground respectively, and Netball SA wants to establish a regional academy in the northern districts. The Walking Trails Support Group saw opportunities for the installation of additional trail networks and safety upgrades to existing trails. In addition, Horse SA has concerns around horse owners being displaced as urban development increases and their recreation options lessen as local road networks become too busy with traffic.

3.4 Stakeholder Needs

Meetings were held with individual councils and major government stakeholders. These included the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS), the Heart Foundation, the Office for Recreation and Sport, Walking and Cycling SA and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). At the DPTI, specific meetings were held with the Open Space, Walking and Cycling, and Strategic Planning sections of the department. Their responses follow.

The Barossa Council noted the impact that growth forecasts in the 30-Year Plan would have on the region. Staff also saw challenges in attempting to link public realm areas within townships and key recreation facilities with them. They were also keen to know if there had been any planning around the recreational use of SA Forestry land, Warren Reservoir and the Whispering Wall. Master planning of new and existing sites, trail development, the development of a range of recreation and sports facilities and skate parks were identified as important projects.

The Town of Gawler expects the development of 7,000 homes at Gawler East (Springwood) and Evanston South will be of high significance for the region. Staff also commented on the high demand for sports facilities in the east of the town and the high level use that major activity precincts experience such as the Gawler River area, the swimming pool area, recreation centre, race course and the cinema. Entry statements were required at the southern entrance to Gawler.

Light Regional Council staff saw the preparation of this strategy as an important in assisting them in their planning for recreation and sport projects. They felt it was important that both council land and other areas that are publicly accessible should be considered in the project. Staff noted that opportunities exist to develop linear links and trails and that main street projects taking into account the public realm need to be considered.

Staff from the District Council of Mallala commented that majority of land around the coastal settlements of Port Parham, Web Beach, Thompsons Beach, Middle Beach and Port Gawler was owned by State Government and that some conflict existed with users – particularly with four wheel drives and motor cycles. They also noted that there is demand for more sporting facilities around the Lewiston area – particularly for ball sports and equestrian.

Input for the consultation with DPTI focussed on trails and the suggestion to focus efforts around the Angaston - Gawler trail which has Federal Government and developer funding, the Jack Bobridge Trail and the Amy Gillet Bikeway, creating better links from Stuart O'Grady Bikeway along the Northern Expressway and creating better trail connections to the Gawler River.

3.5 Strategy Theme Development

From the review of the consultations and survey, the following key themes have been identified for inclusion into the strategy. They have been grouped under four main categories of Open Space, Trails, Public Realm and Sport and Recreation.

3.5.1 Open Space

Open space is divided into two sub categories - Passive Open Space which is mainly used for recreational use, and Active Open Space which has a predominantly sports focus.

3.5.1.1 Passive Open Space

Accessible - greater access to State Government land such as ForestrySA land and reservoirs

Activated - having more people visit parks and developing more activity within parks

Family Friendly - having more family orientated parks with family friendly facilities

Functional - making existing open space functional and meeting the needs of the community, including flexible spaces that cater to multiple uses such as events and passive activity.

Linked - creating better connections between parks and other key destinations and facilities

Multi-Purpose - reserves with high recreational function that accommodate storm water use

Provision - the amount of useable open space needs to meet existing community requirements and be planned for future growth. Disposal and rationalisation is considered

Safe - making parks safe around rivers, waterways and roads

3.5.1.2 Active Open Space

Accessible and Visible - facilities need good access to townships and main roads

Affordable - the community should be able to afford to participate at the facility

Master Planned and Designed - sport and recreation facilities need to be professionally designed to be economically, environmentally and socially sustainable

Multi-Purpose - sports grounds in townships need a range of sport and recreation opportunities including active and passive pursuits for day and night (e.g. playgrounds, skate parks)

Planned - facilities need to be planned for all areas of proposed for growth identified in the 30-Year plan. Other existing areas also require assessment for facility provision

Secure - access to Government owned facilities including schools land needs further development and long term tenure

Sport Hubs - clubs are experiencing growth and are willing to consider sharing multi-purpose facilities located within sports precincts

3.5.2 Public Realm

Access and Movement - spaces need to be pedestrian friendly with flowing movement corridors and safe road crossings

Amenities - more community facilities and public toilets are required

Enhancing - promote and develop the elements of public realm that currently exist

Entry statements - markers identifying the entrance to towns is needed in many areas

Landscaping - use of trees to better present towns: entry statements and streetscapes

Main Street Activation - implement main street projects to activate towns

Public Art - install more public and community art to create a sense of place

Safety - provide civic areas and facilities that engender feelings of safety

Sense of Place - create a better sense of place through more civic areas and events

Way Finding – high quality signage around towns and trails is required for tourists

3.5.3 Recreation and Sport

Accessible - recreation and sport should be accessible to people in terms of price, location and choice of experience

Cycling - recreational and tourist based cycling can be developed and promoted through better signage and provision of more bike lanes

Indoor Facilities - planning is required for future growth

Outdoor Facilities - sport & recreation facilities including playing fields, hard courts, playspaces, equestrian facilities and swimming pools need to meet existing demand and future growth

Maintained - existing facilities need regular maintenance, upkeep and upgrading

Skating - high demand exists for the installation of skate parks and roller skate facilities

3.5.4 Trails

Linear - develop linear trails in places such as natural watercourse, rivers and old railways

Linked - where possible trails need to create linkages to other trails and destinations including neighbouring towns, sport and recreation facilities, rivers, reservoirs and tourism attractions

Provision - trails should meet demand for walking, cycling and horses

Safe - safety is a key element in trail design. Trails must be safe to use

Secure – long term tenure of trails from State Government and councils is required

Shared Use - where practical trails should cater to a range of purposes including walking, cycling and horse riding

Section Four: Strategy Development

Given the challenges and identified issues within this report, the strategic response to future provision is discussed in terms of:

- A vision for open space and public realm across the region;
- Guiding principles;
- Regional strategies, and
- Local strategies.

These are discussed in terms of open space, recreation and sport and public realm.

4.1 A Vision for Open Space and Public Realm across the Region

It is proposed that as a result of this strategy, a vision for open space, the public realm and the environment is adopted by each of the councils within the region. This vision will provide the future desire and direction for the provision, management and maintenance of the spaces that each council is responsible for. The vision is based on the local communities' and stakeholders' input into this study and will heavily influence the Guiding Principles.

The Barossa, Light and Lower North Region will have an equitable supply and range of useable open space and recreation services and facilities to meet the needs of the growing community. This will include active, passive, structured and unstructured opportunities that will showcase the region as a vibrant and liveable community and destination for leisure and recreation tourism.

4.2 The Guiding Principles

To support the vision for the region and to set the strategic directions for the strategy, a number of guiding principles have been established as the key foundation blocks.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 1: Provision: 9ha of open space per 1000 people

Given its location, lifestyle and amount of open space, each council will strive to provide an average of 9 hectares of open space per 1000 people.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 2: Allocation: Open space in new residential developments

The Development Act identifies that 12.5% useable recreation open space is to be provided for new subdivisions of 20 allotments or more, or funds contributed to council at the prescribed rate.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 3: Diversity of use

The range of open spaces should be categorised and distributed within an Open Space Hierarchy that provides Regional, District, Neighbourhood and Local level parks. Supplementary open space is provided through greenways and ancillary land parcels offering aesthetic and physical buffers between competing land uses.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 4: Size: Minimum amount of open space

The community should not be restricted in active play due to the confinement of space. Maintenance costs also factor into cost efficiencies. The minimum size of any newly developed local open space including new residential development or council acquisition should be 2000m².

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 5: Access: Green space within a 500m walk in urban areas.

The community should have safe access to open space within walking distance of the home in more densely populated residential areas.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 6: Access: Green space consolidated in rural areas.

In smaller townships, open space should be consolidated to ensure a range of opportunities to include active, passive, structured and unstructured sport and recreation and be considered at a minimum district level classification.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 7: Equity: A distribution of experience and opportunity

Provide equitable access to the public realm and open spaces to ensure the type, location and quality of the infrastructure is evenly spread. This is based on the principle that a range of active and passive opportunities is available to all sections of the community including the aged, infirmed, people without transport, parents with young children, and people with disabilities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 8: Community Land: Useable open space and public realm

Open space within the hierarchy, owned by or managed under care and control of each council, should where possible, be classified as community land.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 9: Design: Innovative spaces showcasing creative communities

Open space and the public realm should be designed to protect and enhance the environmental, cultural and heritage values of each council and showcase their unique identities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 10: Safety: Creating safe parks and gardens and public realm

Design and maintain public realm and open spaces to ensure they are safe and that people using them feel safe. These should be designed as inviting areas rather than threatening.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 11: Place Making: Encouraging a sense of place and pride

Parks, reserves and the public realm need to build on the attributes of an area to develop and enhance the characteristics of public amenity and to create a sense of place including public art and community ownership. This can be achieved through interactive design, naming, events and public arts programs that use civic and open spaces as local features to showcase towns.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 12: Sustainability: Viable open space and public realm

The design, development and management of open space and the public realm should respond to environmental values and conditions, including design to combat drought, community aspirations, and economic considerations and it must remain viable in the long term.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 13: Promotion: Showcase open space and public realm

Promotion of open space and public realm is required. Areas of conservation and attractive landscape settings close to townships are incentives for visiting, living and working in this region.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 14: Car domination

Many towns in the region need to reduce the appearance and feel of car domination in their Main Streets and create spaces that encourage people to spend time.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 15: Movement: Pedestrian progress

Main street environments need to be designed and managed to support pedestrian movement within the streetscape.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 16: Comfort: Pedestrian and landscape amenity

The public realm needs to provide sufficient shaded places and walking routes. The use of landscaping and contact with nature within townships can support this character element.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 17: Mobility

Walkways and footpaths should provide suitable surfaces, widths and routes to support pedestrian movement and access to facilities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 18: Access

Open space should be designed to ensure access for all people and in line with the principles of the Disability Discrimination Act.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 19: Multi-Use: Multipurpose destinations

Facilities within open space and recreation areas need to cater to a variety of users and provide a range of experiences in the one setting.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 20: Multi-use Sport Areas: Multipurpose sport destinations

Areas created for sport need to cater for a range of different sports and shared facilities including playing fields, clubrooms and other infrastructure.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 21: Character: Identity and flavour

Townships need to create or enhance the visible identity of their Main Streets that will encourage visitors to stop and spend time in these places.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 22: Dynamic local communities

Civic spaces, parks and infrastructure need to encourage and support the local community to participate in activities that would enliven the public realm.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 23: Activation: Lively public spaces

Introducing different uses and mindsets for spaces will create more activated areas once attractive infrastructure improvements have been made.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 24: Asset maintenance

Locations that contain interesting activities, trails, spaces and places need regular maintenance and to be kept in good condition.

4.3 The Regional Strategies

Working from the Guiding Principles, a number of broad strategies have been developed at an overarching or regional level and can be applied across the study area. These have been made within the categories of Open Space and Trails, Recreation and Sport, and Public Realm. They are further broken down into council and site specific locations in the following sections of the strategy. The initial focus of each of the councils in the first five years should be on policy preparation and adoption into their strategic frameworks and planning documents. This will set the direction and priorities for each region and support the implementation of the actions.

Regional Strategies

Open Space	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>ROS Strategy 1</p> <p>With significant population growth expected over the next 20 - 25 years which will impact on the overall supply of open space, each council should endeavour to maintain a minimum of 9 hectares of useable recreation open space per 1,000 people.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 1</p> <p>Redevelopment of sporting grounds and district level sport and recreation facilities should be based on sound master planning to provide an overall strategic long term direction.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 1</p> <p>Provide entry statements at the gateway to each significant township within the region on a scale relative to its size. These should be attractive areas that are in keeping with the character of the town or settlement, low maintenance and use landscaping and tree planting where practical.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 2</p> <p>Implement the recommended classification system of Local through to Regional open space and ensure areas of higher classifications meet the needs of the lesser classifications to avoid duplication and ensure suitable provision.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 2</p> <p>Consolidate sport and recreation infrastructure on district classification land parcels within each township to ensure a consolidated approach for quality infrastructure and shared resources.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 2</p> <p>Reduce on street car parking numbers at key locations along Main Streets to allow space for more people oriented activities on the footpath such as outdoor dining, safe pedestrian crossings, meeting places, seating and shade.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 3</p> <p>Design open space according to its classification & design criteria.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 3</p> <p>Ensure a full range of opportunity is provided within sports hubs by designing active and passive, and structured and unstructured elements into all precincts.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 3</p> <p>Reduce traffic speed in Main Streets by a combination of design treatments and earlier speed limit reductions – speed limits could also be reduce to 40km/h in some towns (or parts of towns).</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 4</p> <p>Review all council land holdings and determine the most appropriate classifications for each parcel of land – community land, operational land or road reserve.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 4</p> <p>Playspace supply and design should be based on the hierarchy presented in this strategy. Natural or manufactured shading should be considered in all parks and only district or regional level playgrounds should be considered for fencing, or where there is a genuine safety concern.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 4</p> <p>Create destinations that appeal to the community (young children through to the elderly) and support socialisation and activity in the public realm. Many attractive active recreation spaces can be better integrated with places for play, exercise / fitness, walking and cycling, informal sporting activities, picnicking, community events and improved landscape amenity.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 5</p> <p>Monitor the region's growth and respond to open space provision in line with the principles in this strategy to ensure the community has access to appropriate amounts and quality of open space.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 5</p> <p>In towns with a population of over 2,000 residents, provide a playspace for every 825 residents.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 5</p> <p>Consider increasing street tree planting numbers and shade in Main Streets and around areas of passive recreation. Consider indigenous planting palettes to reinforce township character and that of the surrounding natural landscape and improve habitat / biodiversity opportunities.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 6</p> <p>In areas of undersupply, acquire land where practical and develop parks so that the community members have access to green space within walking distance of their own home (about 500 metres).</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 6</p> <p>Provide consistent and equitable pricing policies for use of all council owned recreation and sport facilities to include clear maintenance and asset replacement responsibilities.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 6</p> <p>Consider hard surface materials, footpath widths, linking pram ramps and logical routes to and through open space.</p>

Regional Strategies

Open Space	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>ROS Strategy 7</p> <p>In all new residential developments, ensure that where open space is allocated, it is readily accessible to residents (within walking distance of each home), its design is highly functional and it meets the needs of the local community and classification requirements of the hierarchy.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 7</p> <p>Provide standardised tenancy agreements for all users of council owned recreation and sport facilities.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 7</p> <p>Reflect the authentic character of townships through thoughtful entrance signage and local artwork / sculpture and local material selection. Consider the scale of installations and planting so they are relevant. Celebrate the influence of other all cultures (both past and present).</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 8</p> <p>The primary purpose of recreation open space is for passive and active community use. Supplementary and Ancillary Open Space for utility or other purposes should not be included or accepted by councils within the 12.5% open space developer contribution in new residential developments.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 8</p> <p>Support and encourage the development and negotiation of partnerships between councils and State Government and private organisations for the provision of recreation and sports facilities.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 8</p> <p>Consider the natural landscape and reflect its characteristics in towns through design installations, particularly along Main Streets.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 9</p> <p>Dual use of open space for storm water should be capped to a maximum of 40% in any reserve and no more than 20% of the overall open space allocation of a new residential development.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 9</p> <p>Encourage and support tourism operators to create and maintain landscaped grounds that reflect the topography, character and amenity of the surrounding area and attract visitors to the region.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 9</p> <p>Provide visible and well signed links to areas of interest outside towns and consider accessibility by modes other than just car.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 10</p> <p>In townships of 500 people or more, a minimum supply of open space should be a district level facility that includes playing fields, hard courts and passive areas such as BBQs and a playspace.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 10</p> <p>When planning open space, consider the design and development of areas that are capable of hosting local and regional level tourism functions and activities.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 10</p> <p>Enhance views and vistas beyond the townscape towards the hills escarpment, coast or agricultural landscape.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 11</p> <p>Continue developing partnerships with Government & private owners of open space including schools, universities, reservoirs and forestry land to optimise community use and access including playgrounds and to ensure provision is not duplicated.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 11</p> <p>Design and develop open space along tourism routes that encourages travellers to stop and spend time in an area.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 11</p> <p>New improvements should always be maintainable and sustainable by the council. All features should be robust enough to suit the environment and level of maintenance envisaged.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 12</p> <p>Access to open space and recreation facilities should be supported through high quality pedestrian links and pathways.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 12</p> <p>Continue to identify opportunities to attract local and state level sports tourism events and activities including cycling, running and walking.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 12</p> <p>Upgrading infrastructure in public places should focus on supporting existing uses (and carefully consider future growth) and business owners should be encouraged to think about the space outside their buildings differently. All people need to be catered for as they all contribute to the life and character of a town. The more people using the public realm, the more are attracted to that space, even if just to watch other people.</p>

Regional Strategies

Open Space	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>ROS Strategy 13 Provide appealing low maintenance buffer zones through landscaping and tree plantings in areas of competing land use</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 13 Promote opportunities for eco and adventure based tourism within the region and particularly along the pristine coastal areas.</p>	<p>RPR Strategy 13 Encourage business owners to think about the spaces outside their buildings so as to attract more people to use the public realm.</p>
<p>ROS Strategy 14 Consider cemeteries to be within the open space classification system as peaceful areas for reflection. Design and develop them accordingly to support visitations through passive use.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 14 Continue to develop a safe and interconnected network of trails that provide strong linkages to key destinations including tourism destinations, townships, parks and playing fields.</p>	
<p>ROS Strategy 15 Each council should establish an Open Space Reserves Fund with proceeds from the sale of existing open space and any developer contributions directed to the upgrading of existing open space or the acquisition of new open space land parcels.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 15 Identify opportunities to develop disused and existing railway corridors as trails and pathways that link towns and connect to destination points and other trail networks</p>	
<p>ROS Strategy 16 Where open space is set aside for conservation purposes, enhancing conservation values and reducing potential threats to biodiversity should be a priority.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 16 Identify opportunities throughout the region to establish new or enhance existing trails for cycling and mountain biking – including State Government owned land.</p>	
<p>ROS Strategy 17 When planning for open space and individual parcels, consider the cultural, heritage and environmental aspects of the land.</p>	<p>RRS Strategy 17 Consider the development of Regional Open Space that provides opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of communities</p>	

4.4 Local Strategies

The Local Strategies have been identified and listed within a separate table for each council and have been grouped within the same categories as the strategies to ensure flow and consistency - Open Space and Trails, Recreation and Sport, and Public Realm.

These strategies identify and individually address issues that are:

- relative to the council's region or area,
- general to individual towns and settlements, and also to
- site specific areas within towns and settlements.

There is a significant amount of policy and project work identified with the regional and local strategies and it is reasonable to expect that this will be undertaken over a number of years.

The implementation of these specific local level strategies has not been prioritised, costed or allocated timelines. This is due to a combination of factors including individual council's overall community and corporate strategic directions, their available resources and external funding opportunities from State and Federal Governments and any other relevant bodies.

While the overall strategic document is prepared with 2036 as the timeframe and the 30-Year Plan as a key to its timing and development, it would be appropriate that there are regular reviews conducted and realignments made in accordance with the political, social and economic climate of the day, and the actions and strategies implemented from the document.

Barossa Council - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>BOS 1 The Barossa's predicted growth to 2036 will require an additional 89ha of open space to meet the 9ha/1000 benchmark. Applying the 30% Local & Neighbourhood / 70% District distribution, 27 ha should be passive and 62 ha structured.</p>	<p>BRS 1 Investigate the development of a sporting precinct in Tanunda to consolidate sporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>BPR 1 Reduce on street car parking numbers to allow space for people oriented activities on footpaths such as outdoor dining, safe pedestrian crossings and local parks, meeting places, seating and shade on Main Streets in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanunda - Angaston - Springton - Mount Pleasant
<p>BOS 2 Investigate access agreements for state land, forestry and water bodies for local and regional tourism opportunities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Warren Reservoir - Whispering Wall - Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park - Develop cycle path through to Gawler 	<p>BRS 2 Create appealing destinations that support socialisation and activity by integrating active recreation spaces that include places for play, exercise, fitness, walking and cycling, informal sporting activities, picnicking, community events and improved landscape amenity at :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanunda: Recreation Reserve and Heinemann Park - Angaston Recreation Reserve - Springton: Miller Street Reserve - Mount Pleasant: Pioneer Settler Site, Main Street and Recreation Area/Oval 	<p>BPR 2 Reduce the speed of traffic travelling on main streets in Tanunda, Nuriootpa, Angaston, Eden Valley, Springton, Mount Pleasant and the Herbig Pullover through a combination of design treatments and earlier speed limit reductions plus reduce the speed to 40km/h in some towns (or parts of towns)</p>
<p>Nuriootpa BOS 3 Improve linear open space between the western section of town and Murray Street.</p>	<p>BRS 3 Develop an equitable fees and charges policy for all community land and assets.</p>	<p>BPR 3 Increase street tree planting numbers and shade in Main Streets and around areas of passive recreation / picnicking in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kapunda -Davidson Reserve, - Tanunda - Recreation Reserve, Main Street and Heinemann Park, - Angaston, Eden Valley and Mount Pleasant Main Streets.
<p>Angaston BOS 4 Improve O/S along eastern section of township.</p>	<p>Nuriootpa BRS 4 Master Plan Coulthard Reserve to regional level precinct. BRS 5 Master Plan Tolley Reserve to a regional level play space BRS 6 Play space required in newly developed section of town.</p>	<p>BPR 4 Use indigenous planting palettes to reinforce township character and that of the surrounding natural landscape and improve habitat / biodiversity opportunities in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kapunda: Davidson Reserve, - Tanunda: Recreation Reserve, Main Street and Heinemann Park, - Angaston, Eden Valley and Mount Pleasant Main Streets.
<p>Tanunda BOS 5 Improve local open space in the southern area of township.</p>	<p>Angaston BRS 7 Develop Dean Street Reserve into family recreation area.</p>	<p>BPR 5 Reflect authentic township character through thoughtful entrance signage, local artwork and local material selection suitable for a moving car or for a pedestrian to walk up to and read.</p>
<p>Lyndoch BOS 6 Secure additional open space around housing development.</p>	<p>Tanunda BRS 8 Improve access for south eastern residents to district level facilities. BRS 9 Considerations for growth and potential gaps in play facilities in the north east and south east sections of township.</p>	<p>BPR 6 Consider hard surface materials, footpath widths, linking pram ramps and logical routes to and through open space at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greenock Recreation Park, - Tanunda Recreation Reserve and Heinemann Park, - Nuriootpa: Bush Gardens, - Angaston: Main Street and Recreation Reserve, - Springton: Miller Street Reserve and Herbig Pullover, - Mount Pleasant: Main Street, - Lyndoch: Recreation Park

Barossa Council - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>Williamstown BOS 7 Improve walking accessibility to district precinct.</p>	<p>Lyndoch BRS 10 Play facility needed in the western area of township.</p>	<p>BPR 7 Enliven public realm by building on established community practises such as markets by providing space, power and shelter in retail areas for stalls to encourage activity and that complement existing businesses in main streets of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greenock, - Tanunda, - Eden Valley and - Springton.
<p>Eden Valley BOS 8 Local O/S area or public realm improvement required.</p>	<p>Williamstown BRS 11 Master plan for district sports precinct. BRS 12 Playground along Victoria Terrace or Memorial Drive.</p>	<p>BPR 8 Upgrade and provide ongoing maintenance for interesting activities, trails, spaces and places including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greenock Recreation Park, - Tanunda Recreation Reserve and Heinemann Park, - Nuriootpa Bush Gardens, - Angaston Main Street, Springton Main Street and Herbig Pullover, - Mount Pleasant – Pioneer Settler Site and Main Street
<p>Mount Pleasant BOS 9 Local O/S required east of main road in residential development</p>	<p>Springton BRS 13 Upgrading of play spaces at the district sports ground.</p>	<p>Nuriootpa BPR 9 Investigate development of a town square in Nuriootpa</p>
	<p>Stockwell BRS 14 Another play space and seating/shade area should be provided at the centrally located open space.</p>	<p>Eden Valley BPR 10 Small local space required in proximity to general store and hotel.</p>
		<p>Springton BPR 11 Upgrade visitor area at Herbig Family Tree</p>
		<p>Mount Pleasant BPR 12 Master plan Talunga Park Road Facility.</p>

Light Regional Council - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>LOS 1 Light's predicted growth to 2036 will require an additional 405ha of open space to meet the 9ha/1000 benchmark. Applying the 30% Local & Neighbourhood / 70% District distribution, 121 ha should be passive and 284 ha structured.</p>	<p>Roseworthy LRS1 Develop a regional sports precinct in Roseworthy as per the structure plan LRS2 Investigate a state equestrian centre in conjunction with Adelaide University at, Roseworthy Campus LRS3 Establish indoor recreation facilities at Roseworthy in line with residential development and population growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 x category 5-7 facility - 2 x category 3-4 facilities 	<p>LPR1 Reduce on street car parking to allow space for people oriented activities on the footpath such as outdoor dining, safe pedestrian crossings, installation of small parks, meeting places, seating and shade in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roseworthy Recreation Park - along main roads in Wasleys and Freeling
<p>LOS 2 Create appealing destinations that support socialisation and activity by integrating active recreation spaces that include places for play, exercise, fitness, walking and cycling, informal sporting activities, picnicking, community events and improved landscape amenity at Roseworthy Recreation Park and Freeling.</p>	<p>Wasleys LRS 4 Upgrade district sports ground and facilities.</p>	<p>LPR2 Reduce the speed of traffic travelling on main street in Wasleys and near Roseworthy Recreation Park through a combination of design treatments and earlier speed limit reductions plus reduce the speed to 40km/h in some towns (or parts of towns)</p>
<p>LOS 3 Develop trails within townships linking key areas.</p>	<p>Hewett LRS 5 Develop further play spaces along North Para River.</p>	<p>LPR3 Increase street tree planting numbers and shade in Main Streets and around areas of passive recreation / picnicking in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roseworthy Recreation Park, - Wasleys Main Street
<p>Kapunda LOS 4 Explore opportunities to develop local or neighbourhood open space on the eastern side of Adelaide Road/Main Street in the Kapunda LOS 5 Develop a linear trail within Kapunda along the disused railway line with potential to extend to Freeling. LOS 6 Revitalise the Kapunda Historic Mine Site. LOS 7 Explore opportunities to enhance the facilities available at the Pines Conservation Reserve</p>	<p>Kapunda LRS 6 Co-locate sporting activities at Dutton Park as opportunities arise. LRS 7 Explore opportunities to enhance equine facilities at Dutton Park</p>	<p>LPR4 Use indigenous planting palettes to reinforce township character and that of the natural landscape and improve habitat / biodiversity opportunities in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roseworthy Recreation Park and the - Wasleys Main Street.
<p>Greenock LOS 8 Develop local open space on western side of Kapunda Road</p>	<p>Freeling LRS 8 Investigate the development of a category 2 indoor recreation facility</p>	<p>LPR5 Consider hard surface materials, footpath widths, linking pram ramps and logical routes to and through open space at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roseworthy Recreation Park and - Wasleys Main Street.
<p>Wasleys LOS 9 Develop passive space at the district sports ground.</p>		<p>LPR6 Reflect authentic township character through thoughtful entrance signage, local artwork and local material selection suitable for a moving car or for a pedestrian to walk up to and read/interpret.</p>
<p>Roseworthy LOS 10 Ensure sound policy is in place to cater for the Open Space needs of the expected population growth.</p>		<p>LPR7 Celebrate not just European heritage but the influence of other cultures (both past and present).</p>

Light Regional Council - Local Strategies		
Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
Hewett LOS 11 Investigate opportunities for additional facilities in the North Para Linear Park area.		LPR8 Develop entry statements at the gateway of each community.
Freeling LOS 12 Ensure sound policy is in place to cater for the open space needs of any future population growth. LOS 13 Develop local play space in the north of the township. LOS 14 Develop a linear trail within Freeling along the disused railway line with potential to extend to Kapunda and later potentially to Roseworthy.		LPR9 Enliven the public realm by building on established community practises such as markets by providing space, power and shelter in retail areas for stalls to encourage activity and that complement existing businesses in the main streets of Kapunda, Greenock, Wasleys and Freeling.
		LPR10 Provide visible and well sign posted links to key areas of interest outside towns and consider accessibility by modes other than just via car.
		LPR11 Enhance views and vistas beyond the townscape towards the hills escarpment, coast or agricultural landscape.
		LPR12 Undertake Council works upgrades that focus on supporting existing public realm uses and carefully consider future growth.
		LPR13 Encourage business owners to think about the spaces outside their buildings so as to attract more people to use the public realm.
		LPR14 Enhance interpretive signage within townships in regard to heritage.

District Council of Mallala - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>MOS 1 Create appealing destinations that support socialisation and activity by integrating active recreation spaces that include places for play, exercise, fitness, walking and cycling, informal sporting activities, picnicking, community events and improved landscape amenity at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Wells Oval Complex, Hart Reserve, Two Wells Reserve and Memorial Park, - Mallala Oval and Lions Park, - Parham 	<p>Two Wells MRS 1 Master plan the district level playing fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West of Old Port Wakefield Road and the - Two Wells Oval Complex <p>MRS 2 Develop a play space in the Two Wells Oval Complex</p> <p>MRS 3 Investigate a category 2-4 indoor facility in Two Wells</p>	<p>MPR 1 Reduce on street car parking numbers to allow space for people oriented activities on the footpath such as outdoor dining, safe pedestrian crossings, installation of parks, meeting places, seating and shade along main roads in Two Wells and Mallala</p>
<p>MOS 2 Enhance access to beaches for boat launching at Middle Beach, Thompson Beach and Parham Beach</p>	<p>Dublin MRS 4 Provide play facilities at existing local open space parcel adjacent Port Wakefield Road.</p>	<p>MPR 2 Reduce the speed of traffic travelling on main streets in Mallala and Dublin through a combination of design treatments and earlier speed limit reductions plus reduce the speed to 40km/h in some towns (or parts of towns)</p>
<p>MOS 3 Formalise Gawler River trails network including investigation of the development of a linear park along the Gawler River from Gawler to the coast.</p>	<p>Lewiston MRS 5 Develop Ham Park for passive recreation and consider opportunities for dog obedience/training and horse/trotting</p> <p>MRS 6 Prepare master plans for the Lewiston Sports Precinct and Hams Park</p>	<p>MPR 3 Increase street tree planting and shade in and around areas of passive recreation / picnicking in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parham and - Main streets of Mallala and Dublin.
<p>Two Wells MOS 4 Ensure sound policy is in place to cater for the open space needs of the expected population growth.</p>		<p>MPR 4 Use indigenous planting palettes to reinforce township character and that of the surrounding natural landscape and improve habitat / biodiversity opportunities in Parham and main streets of Mallala and Dublin</p>
<p>Mallala MOS 5 Develop a local park in the southern section of township.</p>		<p>MPR 5 Consider hard surface materials, footpath widths, linking pram ramps and logical routes to and through open space at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Wells Oval /BMX Park, - Mallala Oval and Lions Park, - Dublin Lions Park, and - Parham.
<p>Lewiston MOS 6 Develop natural play infrastructure throughout trails network.</p>		<p>MPR 6 Reflect authentic township character through thoughtful entrance signage, local artwork and local material selection suitable for a moving car or for a pedestrian to walk up to and read.</p>
		<p>MPR 7 Celebrate not just European heritage but the influence of other cultures (both past and present).</p>
		<p>MPR 8 Enliven the public realm by building on established community practises such as markets by providing space, power and shelter in retail areas for stalls to encourage activity and that complement existing businesses in the main streets of Mallala and Dublin.</p>

District Council of Mallala - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
		<p>MPR 9 Upgrade and provide ongoing maintenance for interesting activities, trails, spaces and places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Wells Oval /BMX Park, Memorial Park and Heritage Walk, - Mallala Oval and Lions Park, and at - Parham.
		<p>MPR 10 Provide visible and well sign posted links to key areas of interest outside towns and consider accessibility by modes other than just via car.</p>
		<p>MPR 11 Enhance views and vistas beyond the townscape towards the hills escarpment, coast and agricultural landscape.</p>
		<p>MPR 12 Undertake Council works upgrades that focus on supporting existing public realm uses and carefully consider future growth.</p>
		<p>MPR 13 Encourage business owners to think about the spaces outside their buildings so as to attract more people to use the public realm.</p>
		<p>MPR 14 Prepare a master plan for the central intersection of Mallala.</p>

Town of Gawler - Local Strategies

Open Space & Trails	Recreation and Sport	Public Realm
<p>GOS 1 Gawler's predicted growth to 2036 will require an additional 188 ha of open space to meet the 9ha/1000 benchmark. Applying the 30% Local & Neighbourhood / 70% District distribution, 56 ha should be passive and 132 ha structured.</p>	<p>GRS 1 Investigate need for an indoor wet and dry recreation facility at the Gawler Oval complex.</p>	<p>GPR 1 Reflect authentic township character through thoughtful entrance signage, local artwork and local material selection suitable for a moving car or for a pedestrian to walk up to and read.</p>
<p>GOS 2 Further develop and promote the family recreation areas and hubs along the Gawler river including Dead Man's Pass – consider opportunities to partner with the neighbouring Light Council.</p>	<p>GRS 2 Prepare master plans for all major sporting facilities within the Town of Gawler</p>	<p>GPR 2 Celebrate not just European heritage but the influence of other cultures (both past and present).</p>
<p>GOS 3 Increase local and neighbourhood open space for the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North eastern section, north of the Barossa valley highway - Inner south eastern section - Outer lying areas to the west. 	<p>GRS 3 Liaise with State Sporting Associations and other peak bodies to develop and enhance regional opportunities in Gawler for sports</p>	<p>GPR 3 Provide visible and well sign posted links to key areas of interest outside towns and consider accessibility by modes other than just via car.</p>
<p>GOS 4 Review and update master plan for the Gawler linear park.</p>	<p>GRS 4 Prepare a Needs Analysis and regional sport hub feasibility study for the town.</p>	<p>GPR 4 Enhance views and vistas beyond the townscape towards the hills escarpment and agricultural landscape.</p>
<p>GOS 5 Identify connections between the town centre & adjacent open space.</p>	<p>GRS5 Promote Gawler as a centre for walking and cycling tourism.</p>	<p>GPR 5 Undertake council works upgrades that focus on supporting existing public realm uses and carefully consider future growth.</p>
<p>GOS 6 Investigate trails to Kapunda / Roseworthy / Wasleys / Adelaide.</p>		<p>GPR 6 Encourage business owners to think about the spaces outside their buildings so as to attract more people to use the public realm.</p>
<p>GOS 7 Explore options to create and improve linkages between the Bobridge, Tapa Pariara, O'Grady and Hewett path networks.</p>		
<p>GOS 8 Investigate development of a linear park along the Gawler River from Gawler to the coast.</p>		
<p>GOS 9 Prepare a water sensitive urban design framework to direct the design, function and maintenance of open spaces.</p>		
<p>GOS 10 Install a minimum of an additional 5 play spaces at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gawler River at suitable sites along the linear path. - North of the Barossa Valley Highway in the north eastern section at the Powell Drive Reserve and Berret Road Park - East of Murray Street and south of Calton Road, and at other reserves as they are developed in that area - Gawler West, north and south of Ryde Street - Evanston Gardens, Evanston Park and Evanston South, by the playing fields next to the Gawler Squash Courts. 		
<p>GOS 11 Investigate the upgrading Haines Street Reserve</p>		

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