



SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

**Greater Penrith to Eastern Creek
Investigation Area**
Dharug Land

Prepared for NSW Department of Planning and
Environment
30 May 2023

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We acknowledge the Traditional owners and Custodians of the Blacktown and Penrith area, the Darug people.
We acknowledge their continuing connection to the land through culture and community and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION



1.1 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this study

This Social Infrastructure and Open Space Needs Assessment Report has been prepared by Urbis Pty Ltd (Urbis) on behalf of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to inform strategic investigations for the Greater Penrith to Eastern Creek (GPEC) Investigation Area (the 'GPEC area'). The overall purpose of the assessment is to identify the regional and district social infrastructure and open space requirements for the GPEC area that will be required to meet the needs of the future population. This assessment will also determine an approach and recommendations for social infrastructure and open space provision.

Approach to assessment

Planning for social infrastructure, whether in new or established communities, is a complex task. This assessment takes a best practice approach to identifying social infrastructure and open space requirements of the future GPEC population by:

- Understanding the strategic policies and plans that are guiding future planning decisions
- Assessing existing provision of social infrastructure and open space and identifying key capacity or gaps in provision
- Consulting with key stakeholders to identify needs, challenges and opportunities
- Considering the size and likely characteristics of the future population to understand future extent and types of need, and demands for social infrastructure and open space
- Determining an approach to social infrastructure and open space provision, including guiding principles
- Providing directions for district and regional social infrastructure and open space provision within the GPEC area to meet projected population needs.

Figure 1: Approach to assessment



Source: Urbis 2022

1.2 ABOUT THE GPEC INVESTIGATION AREA

Project background

The GPEC area is located on the traditional lands of the Dharug people.

The GPEC area spans the Penrith and Blacktown Local Government Areas (LGAs) and includes some 19,000 hectares of urban land. It is bounded by the Nepean River to the west, Castlereagh Connection to the north, the M7 Motorway to the east and the boundary of the Warragamba to Prospect Pipelines corridor to the south.

The GPEC area was identified in 2018 in the Western Sydney City Deal, Greater Sydney Region Plan, Western City District Plan and Central City District Plan, as a suitable location for urban growth.

As part of the Western Sydney City Deal, DPE has lead the preparation of a Strategic Framework to deliver place outcomes for key precincts within the GPEC area. The Strategic Framework is informed by a suite of technical assessments and will guide future land use and strategic infrastructure planning on a regional scale over the next 20 to 30 years. It will also build on significant work undertaken as part of Penrith and Blacktown City Councils' Local Strategic Planning Statements and supporting strategies, NSW Government's Place-based Infrastructure Compact and other strategic planning documents.

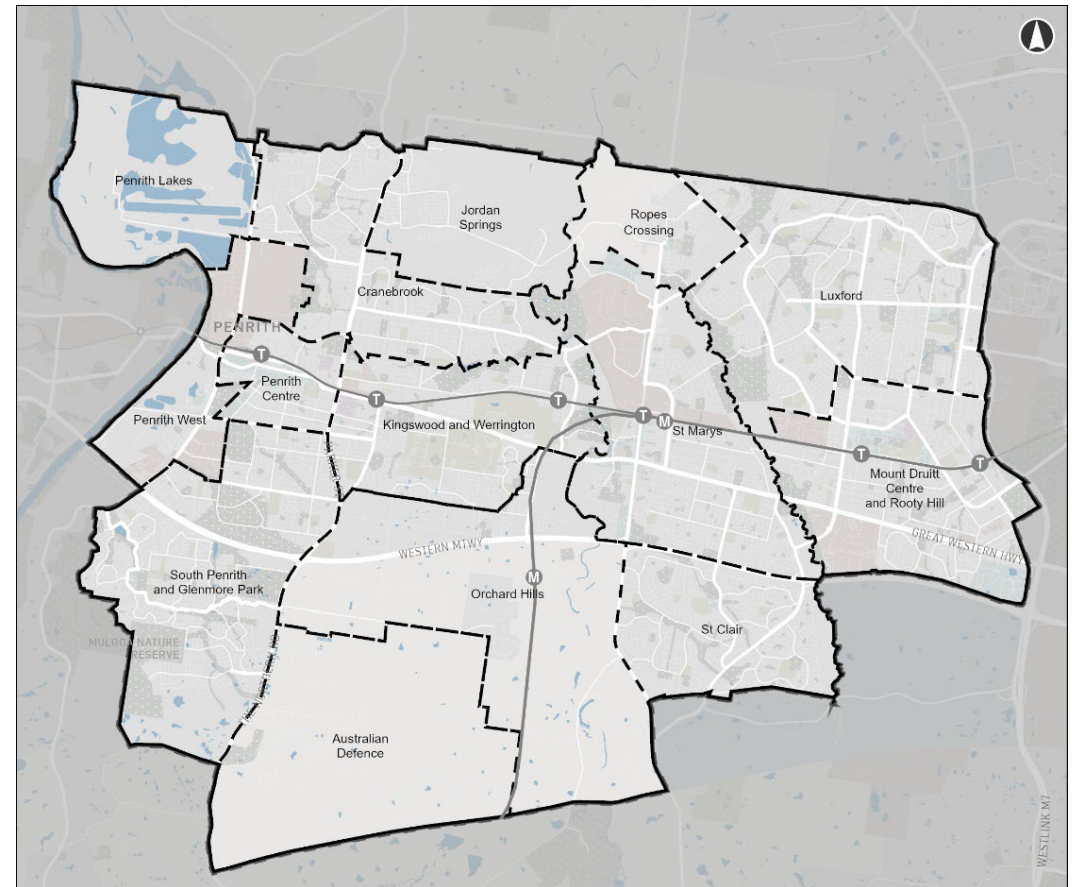
As shown in Figure 2, the GPEC area comprises 14 precincts. Based on initial studies, growth and change within the GPEC area will be focused within the following key precincts, over a range of time periods:

- Kingswood and Werrington
- Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill
- Penrith Centre
- Orchard Hills
- St Marys.

In addition, the draft Strategic Framework identifies Orchard Hills as a 'priority urban release area' and St Marys Centre as a 'priority urban renewal area'.

The Draft GPEC Structure Plan, which provides an overview of the proposed centre hierarchy, land uses, and transport infrastructure, is shown in Figure 3 overleaf.

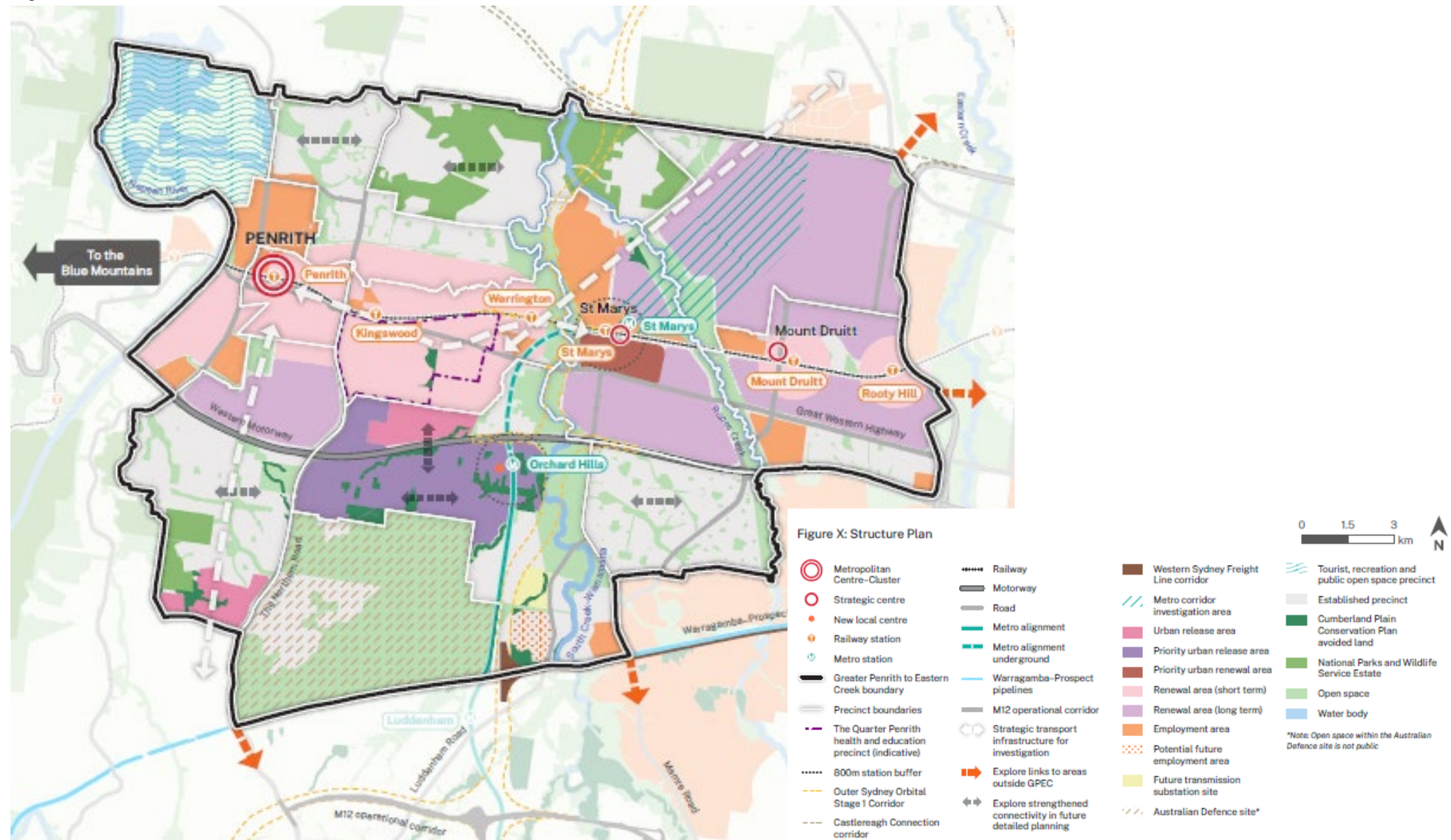
Figure 2: GPEC precincts



Source: DPE, Urbis 2022

1.2 ABOUT THE GPEC INVESTIGATION AREA [CONTINUED]

Figure 3: GPEC Structure Plan



Source: DPE 2023

1.3 THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE

The role of social infrastructure and open space

Social infrastructure includes the buildings, facilities and spaces ('hard' infrastructure) and the community programs, activities and services ('soft' infrastructure) that support the health and wellbeing of communities. The types of social infrastructure and open space considered in this assessment are shown in Figure 4.

Social infrastructure such as hospitals and medical facilities, schools and early education and care facilities support the health and education needs of a community. Other forms of social infrastructure such as community facilities, libraries and cultural centres also play a role in supporting community health and wellbeing by providing places to exercise, learn, celebrate and create, and places to gain help and support when needed.

Social infrastructure can provide opportunities for people to participate in, and to feel part of, their communities. It can also play a role in developing and strengthening social connections, and can contribute to combatting social isolation and loneliness. This is particularly important in growth areas, where many residents may be new to an area and potentially less likely to have local connections or support. Through this facilitation of social connections and networks, social infrastructure can also contribute more broadly to strengthening community cohesion.

Open space also plays a critical role in supporting the health and wellbeing of communities. Like social infrastructure, open space provides places for the community to recreate, meet and form social connections. Open space can provide other important health benefits. There is a growing bank of evidence indicating that interacting with green and natural areas can provide significant mental and physical health benefits. The provision of adequate green open spaces, particularly in urban areas, is therefore extremely important.

Importance of a strong evidence base and proactive, early planning

This assessment seeks to identify the type and extent of need for social infrastructure and open space and provide a robust evidence base to inform planning for the GPEC area.

This assessment takes a proactive approach to the planning of social infrastructure and open space for the GPEC area. It is important that social infrastructure and open space is based on evidence of need and is provided in a timely manner, so the needs of a community do not go unmet as the population grows and changes.

The retrofitting of social infrastructure and open space can be time consuming and costly. Early planning enables the exploration of options and opportunities for funding and delivery and allows time for careful and considered planning, that will ultimately lead to a better outcome and greater community benefits.

Figure 4: Social infrastructure and open space assessed



“Early coordination of social infrastructure planning is likely to result in more connected, well used and efficient infrastructure”

Queensland Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, 2019

2.0 STRATEGIC CONTEXT



2.1 POLICY CONTEXT

Policy framework

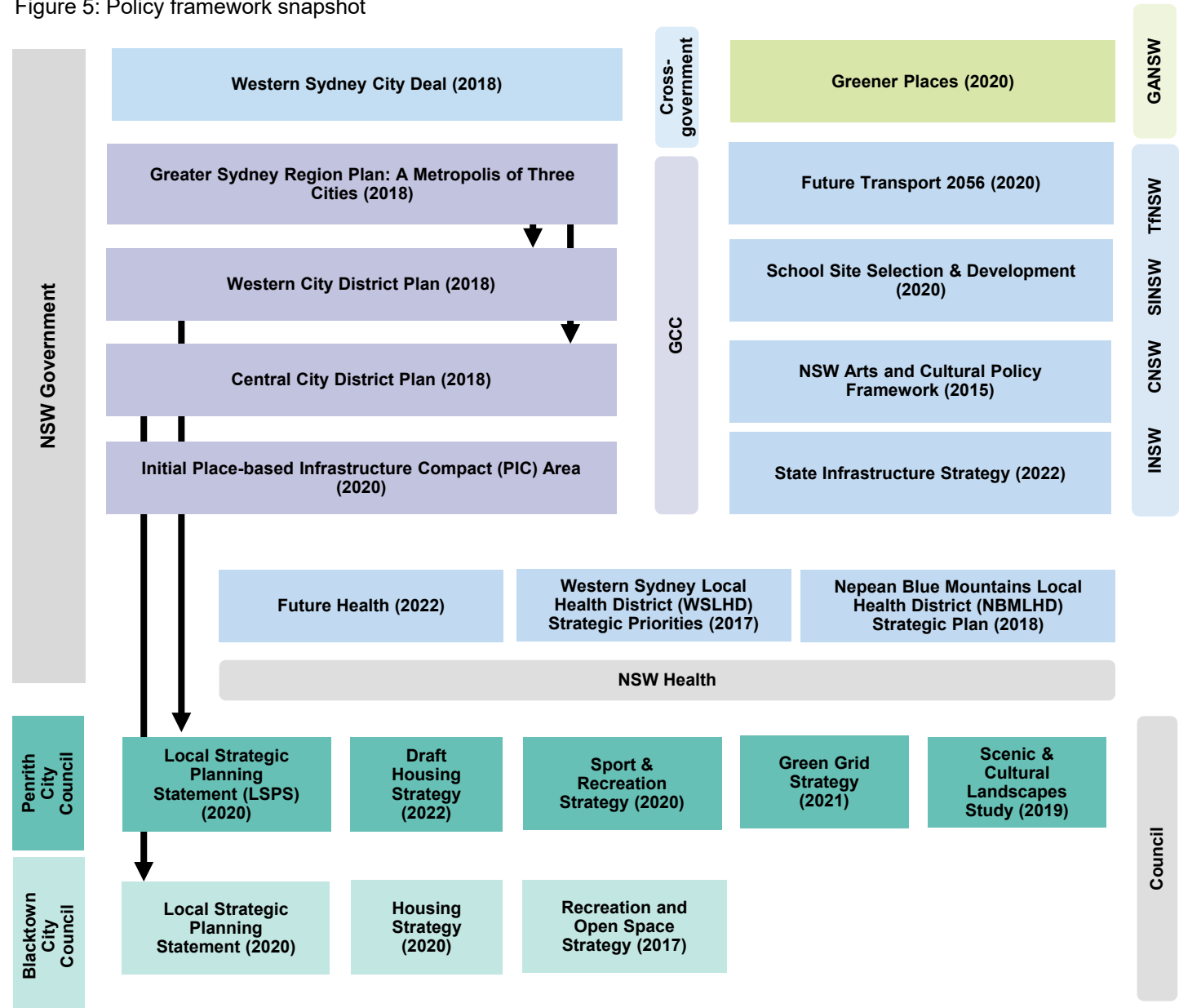
With a major focus on planning for growth in Western Sydney, there are several state, regional and district strategic planning documents relevant to the planning of the GPEC area.

As the GPEC area spans two LGAs, there are also several local strategic documents that provide guidance on the planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space.

Figure 5 summarises the policy context and outlines the key documents reviewed to inform this assessment.

Further detail on each policy and implications for this assessment are provided on the following pages.

Figure 5: Policy framework snapshot



SINSW – Schools Infrastructure NSW

TfNSW – Transport for NSW

GANSW – Government Architect NSW

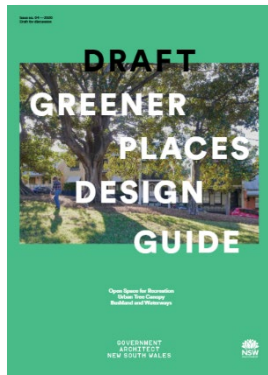
CNSW – CreateNSW

INSW – Infrastructure NSW

GCC – Greater Cities Commission

DPE – NSW Department of Planning and Environment

2.2 STATE POLICY DIRECTIONS



Draft Greener Places Design Guide

The Guide contains six core performance criteria for planning of open space and recreation in local precincts. These are: accessibility and connectivity; distribution; size and shape; quantity and diversity.



Future Transport Strategy 2056

The Strategy outlines the role of transport to enhance successful places and enable communities to access services, wherever they live and whatever their age, ability or personal circumstances.



School Site Selection and Development

The Guideline provides criteria for the appropriate selection of sites for new schools that consider suitability of context, site constraints, required size and capacity.

The criteria includes standards for accessibility, open space and safety by design.



NSW Arts and Cultural Policy Framework

The Framework provides directions on how to effectively invest NSW Government's \$300 million annual funding for enhancing arts and culture throughout the NSW.

The Framework also provides actions to support Western Sydney's arts and cultural sector.



Staying Ahead: State Infrastructure Strategy

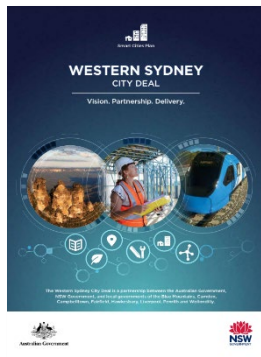
The Strategy sets out Infrastructure NSW's advice on the infrastructure needs and priorities of the State for the next 20 years.

The Strategy includes recommendations on the provision of social infrastructure across NSW.

Insights and implications of state policy directions for planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space

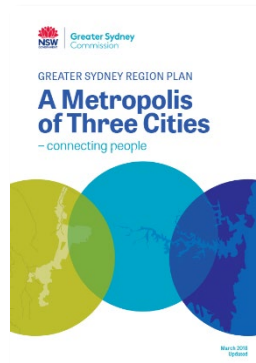
- There are opportunities to re-purpose and re-use non-operational and life-expired transport assets to deliver transport, community and economic benefits in metropolitan NSW.
- Four principles are proposed to guide the planning and provision of green infrastructure in NSW. These include integration, connectivity, multifunctionality and participation.
- Schools should provide open space that is easy to supervise and appropriate for use by various age groups.
- Expanding the arts and cultural facilities available to the people of Western Sydney is a key NSW Government priority.
- Western Sydney has opportunities for increased strategic investment into screen activity, including new infrastructure sought by filmmakers to further enable screen production and creative partnerships, including with Indigenous groups and artists, to enhance the District's arts and cultural sector.
- Improve efficiency and service quality in the social infrastructure sectors through co-location and divestment of legacy assets.
- Access to infrastructure that supports active and healthy lifestyles must be embedded in development approvals for new residential communities and for urban renewal projects.
- High density dwellings over 60 dwellings/ha should be located within 200m of open space and all dwellings should be located within 400m of open space. These spaces should be durable, multipurpose and accessible to a wide variety of users.

2.3 REGIONAL AND DISTRICT POLICY DIRECTIONS



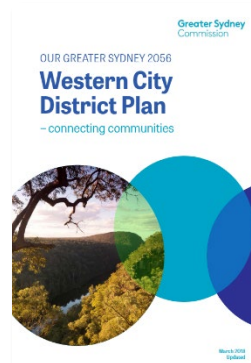
Western Sydney City Deal

The Deal is an agreement between all levels of government to unlock opportunities in education, business, and employment, in the Western Parkland City.



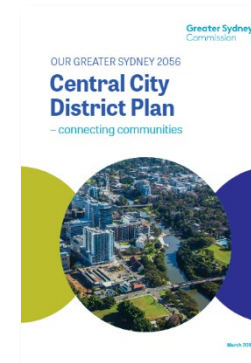
Greater Sydney Region Plan

The Plan outlines the strategic direction for land use planning and infrastructure delivery for Greater Sydney over the next 20 years.



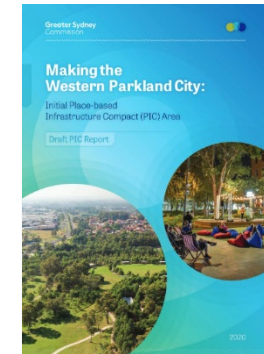
Western City District Plan

The Plan aims to enhance the Western Economic Corridor by developing the District's Metropolitan Centres across the Western Parkland City (including Greater Penrith) over the next 20 years.



Central City District Plan

The Plan aims to guide place-based outcomes around key infrastructure, particularly train stations and strategic centres, to support communities in accessing essential social infrastructure and open space.



Initial Place-based Infrastructure Compact (PIC) Area

The PIC program was established as part of the City Deal and spans the area from Penrith to Glenfield. It aims to assist the creation of great places by sequencing growth that is aligned with the provision of infrastructure.

Insights and implications of regional and district policy directions for planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space

- Penrith Lakes is identified as having world class sporting and recreational facilities.
- The Western City and Central City Districts both feature significant health and education precincts in Mount Druitt, Kingswood and Werrington, with opportunities for investment in innovation hubs.
- Linking parks, bushland, playgrounds and waterways through the Greater Sydney Green Grid, focused on the green spine of Wianamatta South Creek, and incorporating opportunities for safe walking and cycling paths, is a key priority.
- The Western Sydney City Deal identifies six commitments: connectivity; jobs for the future; skills and education; livability and environment; planning and housing; and implementation and governance.
- Social infrastructure should be clustered in metropolitan and strategic centres with public transport, so that people can easily access community facilities and services.
- Flexible designs and shared-use arrangements provide new opportunities for social infrastructure provision, including school sportsgrounds and community facilities.
- Tailored services and social infrastructure are required for people to age within their communities. Innovative approaches for delivery should be explored.
- There are opportunities to explore the repurposing of large privately owned open spaces, such as golf courses, into shared open space.
- A 30-minute city is a priority for all districts and LGAs, ensuring most residents can reach their nearest strategic centre within 30 minutes.
- The Western Parkland City is currently lacking arts and cultural facilities.

2.3 REGIONAL AND DISTRICT POLICY DIRECTIONS [CONTINUED]



Future Health: Guiding the next decade of care in NSW 2022-2032

The Strategy aims to guide the next decade of care in NSW and to provide safe, high quality, reliable healthcare that is delivered in a sustainable and personalised way, by introducing new service models to meet emerging health issues.



A Better West: Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) Strategic Priorities 2017-2021

The Strategy aims to provide modern, cutting-edge healthcare, as well as health facilities and programs that are future-fit for purpose, providing advanced health care for WSLHD communities.



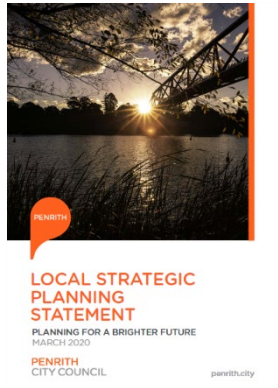
Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District (NBMLHD) Strategic Plan

The Strategy aims to drive innovation and excellence in health service delivery and provide safe, equitable, high quality, accessible, timely and efficient services that are responsive to the needs of patients and the community.

Insights and implications of regional and district policy directions for planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space

- NSW Health is embracing trends of delivering health services in the home, community and virtual settings. The Future Health strategy recognises that there is a high concentration of services in acute settings, which is not sustainable.
- NSW Health is also pursuing a Health Precincts Program. Health Precincts seek to deliver a coordinated approach to medical research, and to leverage health and medical research activity and assets.
- Priority health trends in Western Sydney communities include increasing rates of childhood obesity, diabetes, rising mental health issues, and conditions associated with ageing.
- Priority health concerns in Nepean Blue Mountains communities include mental health, hospital care, drug and alcohol issues, obesity, and the growing demand on services.
- The six strategic priorities in the WSLHD are: healthy people; integrated research; education and clinical care; patient matters; exceptional people; spending wisely; and information underpinning actions.
- The five strategic directions in the NBMLHD are: healthy people and communities; better patient and consumer experiences; talented, happy and engaged workforce; responsible governance and financial management; and hubs for research and innovation.
- An investment of \$550 million was committed to the redevelopment of the Nepean Hospital Stage 1 in 2016, with the project completed in April 2022. The hospital provides Penrith and its surrounding communities with contemporary, integrated clinical and community-based health services.
- The NSW Government has committed \$450 million to deliver Stage 2 of the Nepean Redevelopment with enabling works currently underway on the Nepean Hospital campus.
- The Penrith Health and Education Precinct ('The Quarter') is located in the GPEC area. Spanning over 400 hectares between Penrith and St Marys, The Quarter aims to become an international destination for health and education services. The Quarter will operate in partnership with the Nepean Hospital and will provide 6,000 new jobs, as well as new housing, green spaces, sporting facilities and cafes.
- There are opportunities to incorporate arts and health initiatives into Local Health District facilities and services.

2.4 LOCAL POLICY DIRECTIONS (PENRITH CITY COUNCIL)



Penrith Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)

The LSPS outlines the strategic directions for Penrith, with a focus on connecting communities. A priority is to ensure planning is guided by the green and blue grid, maintaining existing open space that is highly valued by the community.



Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy

The Strategy provides a roadmap for the future provision of sport, play, recreation and open space facilities over the next 15 years. The Strategy is guided by seven core objectives related to social, environmental and economic factors.



Penrith Local Housing Strategy

The Strategy provides a framework to guide housing provision and change over 20 years. The Strategy focuses on ensuring residential growth in key locations is supported by accessible district services, social infrastructure and open space.



Penrith Green Grid Strategy

The Strategy identifies the objectives and strategic directions for the implementation of the local Green Grid to create a more equitable and liveable city.



Penrith Scenic and Cultural Landscape Study

The Study identifies important regional vistas and view corridors, as well as priority landscapes to be protected to maintain Penrith's sense of community and connection to place.

Insights and implications of local policy directions for planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space

- The Nepean River is Penrith's greatest natural asset, envisioned as the catalyst for more active recreation opportunities, cafes and restaurants, and increased access for water-based activities along its banks.
- Sport and recreation tourism make Penrith an attractive location for large sporting events and opportunities for upgrading existing facilities.
- Walking and cycling are identified as the most popular forms of recreation by the Penrith LGA community, with increasing demand for well-maintained and lit walking and cycling tracks.
- There is a large gap in indoor sport facility provision across the Penrith LGA. Benchmark figures identify an immediate shortage of four courts, and the need for a future multipurpose ten court facility to accommodate future population growth.
- Social infrastructure and open space should be consolidated in locations which are accessible via public transport and/or shared pathway networks.
- Social recreation is an emerging trend, particularly unstructured activities. Smaller backyards in growth areas also increases the need for public spaces to undertake unstructured recreation activities.
- Key growth locations should be well serviced, high amenity mixed-use neighbourhoods, with proximity to public transport and convenient access to district services, social infrastructure and open space.
- Aspirations for a future 'City Park' located at the heart of the Penrith City centre to enhance access to open space, a night-time economy, and a space for civic and cultural events.
- Open space is to be appropriately sized, integrated, connected and multi-functional.
- Ensure appropriate provision of open space facilities and services to meet the needs of the future population in new release areas.

2.5 LOCAL POLICY DIRECTIONS (BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL)



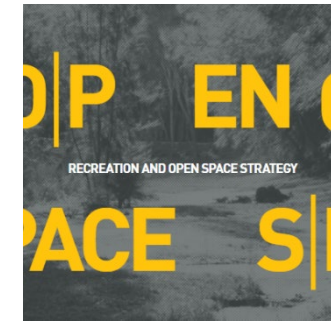
Blacktown Local Strategic Planning Statement

The Strategy provides a 20 year land use vision and directs how future growth and change will be managed. The Strategy envisions Blacktown as a city supported by essential infrastructure, efficient transport and equitable access to a vibrant, healthy lifestyle.



Blacktown Housing Strategy

The Strategy identifies a variety of housing forms and densities to promote housing choice and affordability. The Strategy provides opportunities to integrate housing and transport to create a more accessible and liveable city.



Blacktown Recreation and Open Space Strategy

The Strategy details how recreation and open space will be improved to meet the needs of Blacktown's growing and diverse community.

Insights and implications of local policy directions for planning and provision of social infrastructure and open space

- Blacktown LGA is home to five libraries and 40 community centres.
- It also has over 900 parks, 76 sportsgrounds and 212 sporting courts, with many more currently in Council's planning and delivery pipeline.
- There is an emerging sport and entertainment precinct in Rooty Hill that includes the Sydney Coliseum Theatre and Blacktown International Sports Park.
- Council has adopted a community hub model for planning and delivery of community facilities that consists of an integrated, multipurpose facility consolidating community services.
- Blacktown's Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) advocates for the joint and shared use of school facilities to maximise community recreation space.
- The delivery of new housing must be coordinated with infrastructure, such as public transport and services, to ensure residents can reach their closest strategic centre within 30 minutes.
- Open space is to be integrated, connected and multi-functional.
- Planning of two sportsgrounds per year should be undertaken to accommodate current and future sporting growth. (Note: the Strategy does not specify a timeframe for this direction).
- Blacktown Recreation and Open Space Strategy references a benchmark of 2.83ha of open space per 1,000 people as a starting point to determining open space needs but acknowledges the merits of this benchmark are widely debated.

3.0 FUTURE GPEC POPULATION



3.1 FUTURE POPULATION: PROJECTED SIZE

Table 1 shows the projected populations of precincts in the GPEC area, based on the draft Structure Plan. **These projections were developed based on a recalibration of the 2022 DPE Population Projections and are subject to review.**

The rows shaded light pink are the key precincts where growth and change are likely to be focused.

Over the 40 years between 2021 and 2056, the population of the GPEC area is projected to increase by approximately 136,000 people to almost 430,000 people in 2056.

The precincts projected to experience most of this growth to 2056 are the established precincts of Penrith Centre (growth of almost 13,000 people) and St Marys (growth of around 12,000 people) and the largely greenfields precinct of Orchard Hills (projected to grow by around 69,500 people). In addition, the established precinct of Kingswood and Werrington is projected to experience a population increase of approximately 10,000 people, while the three precincts surrounding Penrith Centre (Cranebrook, Penrith West and South Penrith and Glenmore Park) are projected to see total combined growth of a further 16,000 people.

In addition, longer-term growth and change could occur in the Luxford precinct in the event that a future metro line is constructed between St Marys and Tallawong.

The assessment in Section 5 will focus particularly on the social infrastructure and open space needed to support these predicted growth centres, as well as other precincts experiencing population increase.

There will also need to be consideration of the quality and diversity of social infrastructure and open space in precincts experiencing other forms of demographic change, as well as of the equity of provision across the GPEC area. This will be important to avoid a sense that the needs of established precincts are being overlooked, particularly where they are served by ageing facilities needing renewal.

Table 1: Projected population of precincts in the GPEC area (subject to review)

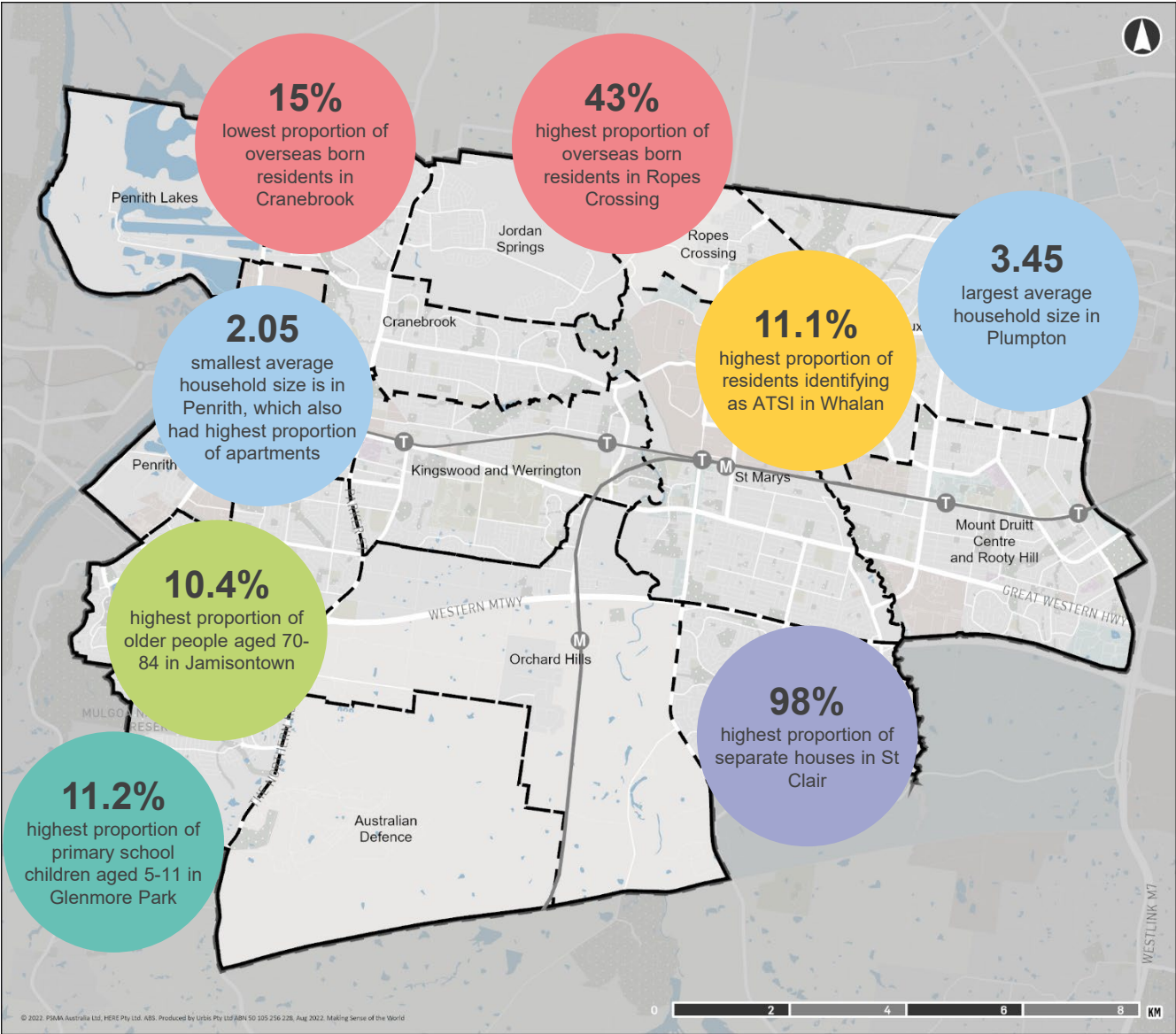
Precinct	Actual 2021	Projected 2036	Projected 2056
Penrith Lakes	1,631	1,720	1,777
Penrith West	4,330	4,803	5,602
South Penrith and Glenmore Park	37,482	39,966	46,426
Penrith Centre	11,486	16,486	24,384
Cranebrook	29,942	32,314	35,767
Kingswood and Werrington	20,936	24,628	31,057
Orchard Hills	13,260	32,525	82,846
Australian Defence	24	66	177
Jordan Springs	12,672	13,363	13,805
St Marys	30,167	33,452	42,246
Ropes Crossing	6,346	6,495	6,838
St Clair	26,033	26,295	26,908
Luxford	64,167	65,582	68,625
Mount Druitt Centre and Rooty Hill	35,036	37,889	43,449
GPEC area	293,512	335,584	429,907

Source: DPE, 2022

3.2 KEY COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS 2021

Figure 6 shows some key characteristics of suburbs within the GPEC area, based on data from the 2021 Census.

Figure 6: GPEC key community characteristics in 2021

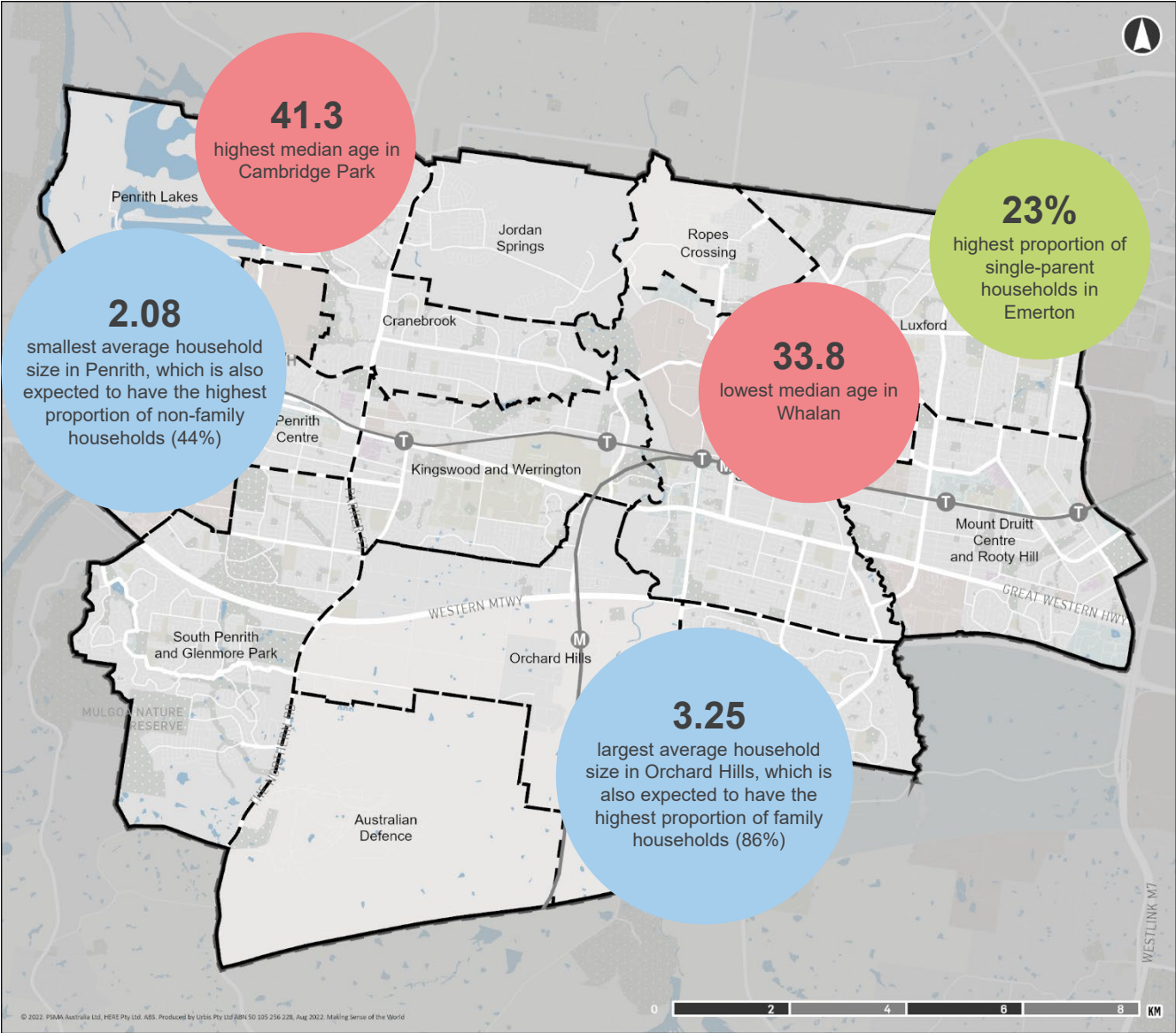


Source: 2021 Census data, Australian Bureau of Statistics 2022

3.3 KEY COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS 2036

Figure 7 shows key community characteristics within the GPEC area in 2036.

Figure 7: GPEC key community characteristics in 2036



Source: NSW population projections, DPE 2022

4.0 APPROACH



4.1 APPROACH TO SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Hierarchy

This assessment considers a broad range of regional and district social infrastructure and open spaces, from larger scale facilities that service the GPEC population and beyond, to smaller facilities serving one or several precincts or suburbs.

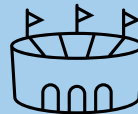
To determine the social infrastructure and open space required by the future GPEC population, this assessment adopts the hierarchy and associated population catchments shown in Figure 8.

Guiding principles

Principles to guide the planning and design of social infrastructure and open space provision across the GPEC area are shown in Figure 9 on the following page. The principles are informed by strategic policy direction and reflect trends in social infrastructure provision. The principles also respond to the current social, economic and environmental context. They recognise the various challenges and opportunities associated with the planning, funding, management, operations and maintenance of social infrastructure and open space faced by state and local governments.

Figure 8: Social infrastructure and open space hierarchy

Regional



Servicing the GPEC area or beyond
(Populations of 100,000+)

- Public and private hospitals
- Tertiary education institutions
- Cultural facilities – arts and cultural centres, theatres and performance facilities
- Central libraries
- Sports stadiums, specialist sports facilities and showgrounds
- Aquatic centres
- Regional open space

District



Servicing one or several GPEC precincts
(Populations of 20,000-50,000)

- Community health centres
- Schools - high schools, schools for specific purposes, network of primary schools
- Branch libraries
- Multipurpose community centres and hubs
- Creative spaces
- Indoor sport and recreation centres
- District parks and sportsfields

Local

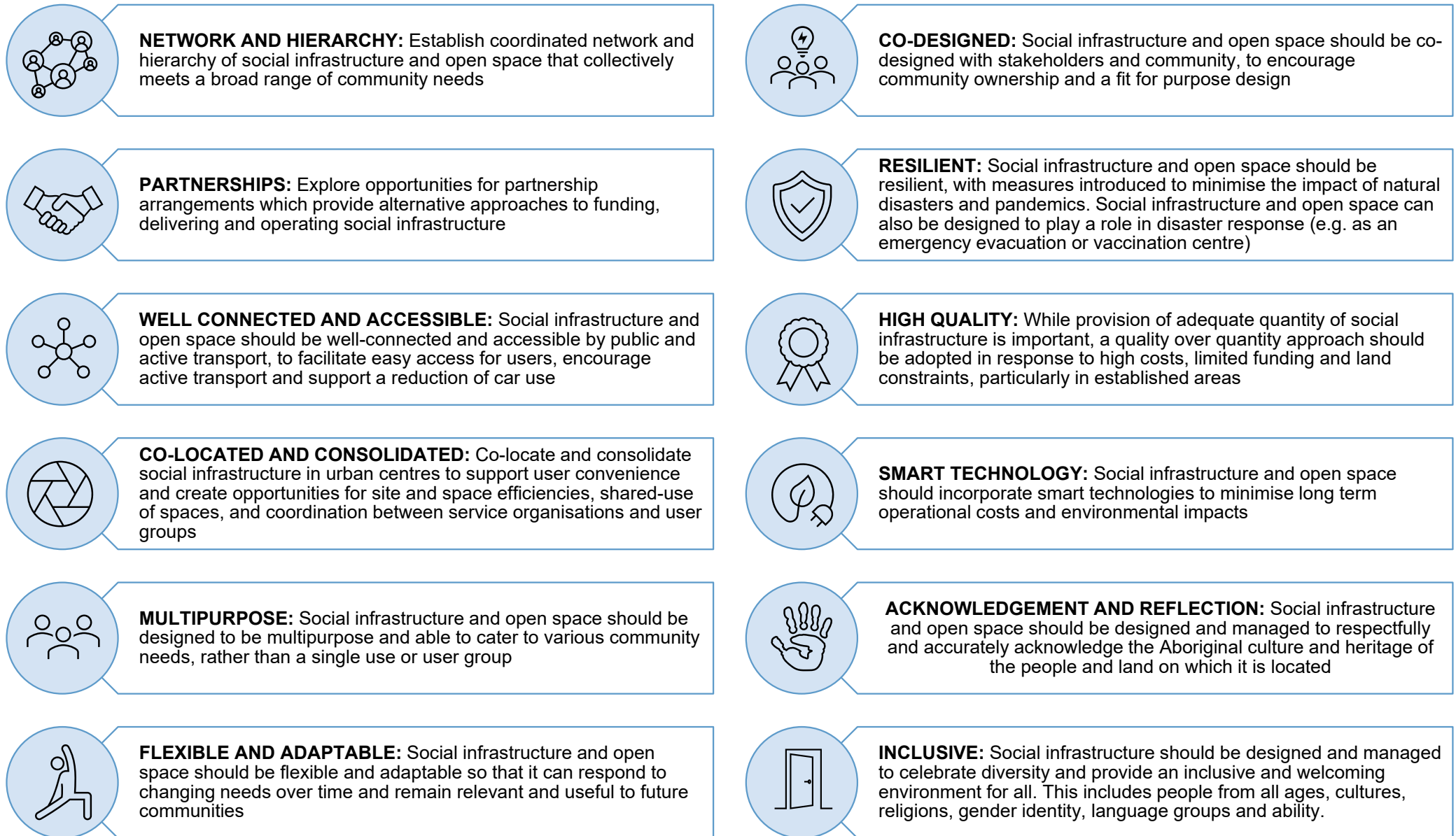


Serving one GPEC precinct or suburb or neighbourhood
(Populations of 2,000-20,000)

- Early education and care centres
- Local parks and sportsfields
- Local community centres
- Medical centres and General Practitioners (GPs)

4.2 PRINCIPLES FOR SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Figure 9: Principles guiding the planning and design of social infrastructure and open space



5.0 ASSESSMENT AND DIRECTIONS FOR SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE



OVERVIEW OF DIRECTIONS FOR SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE

Overview

The following sub-sections provide an assessment of existing regional and district social infrastructure and open space within, and servicing, the GPEC area. They also provide directions for future provision by infrastructure type. The infrastructure types considered are:

1. Health infrastructure
2. Education infrastructure
3. Community and cultural infrastructure
4. Sport and recreation infrastructure
5. Open space.

Directions have been informed by the assessment of existing provision, challenges and opportunities, identified through the:

- Strategic policy review
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Leading practice standards and provision trends
- Proposed principles
- Benchmarking assessment.

The benchmarking assessment for each facility type is based on the population projections provided in Section 3. As noted, these projections are based on the draft DPE Structure Plan and subject to review.

Each sub-section begins with analysis by infrastructure types and sub-types. Map/s of the distribution of regional and district infrastructure across the GPEC area contained at the end of each sub-section.

A note about benchmarking

Benchmarking is a tool that can be useful in assessing the quantity of social infrastructure and open space required by a population. While benchmarking provides a good starting point, it should not be solely relied upon in determining needs and requirements and the exact quantity of facilities or spaces required. Benchmarking does not take into account the quality, suitability and distribution of infrastructure and open space, or the individual needs of a community. Benchmarking instead is viewed as one input in determining needs and developing recommendations for social infrastructure and open space.

The benchmarking included in the following sub-sections should be read with this in mind.

5.1 DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

HOSPITALS (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Hospitals are planned to serve a regional community. They are the centre of the healthcare system providing primary care for a wide spectrum of health issues, as well as crucial 24 hour emergency care.
- Hospitals are generally located in metropolitan centres or designated health precincts so that they are co-located with other sub-acute and specialist health services.
- Hospitals must be well accessed by active transport methods at all hours of the day and night to ensure safe and easy access for patients and their families, as well as staff, as many are likely to be shift workers.

Existing provision

- The GPEC area is serviced by two LHDs: Western Sydney LHD (WSLHD) which incorporates the Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill, Luxford and Ropes Crossing GPEC precincts; and Nepean Blue Mountains LHD (NBMLHD) which incorporates all remaining GPEC precincts.
- The GPEC area community has good access to two centrally located public hospitals in Kingswood and Mount Druitt.
- Nepean Hospital is a teaching hospital for the University of Sydney and the tertiary referral hospital for the NBMLHD. It provides 24-hour emergency care and a wide range of hospital services from maternity, to intensive care, rehabilitation and mental health.
- Mount Druitt Hospital is a 200-bed hospital providing 24-hour emergency care, pediatrics, intensive care and operating theatres.
- There are also three private hospitals within the GPEC area: Nepean Private Hospital in Kingswood; Minchinbury Community Hospital in Rooty Hill; and the recently built Somerset Private Hospital in Kingswood.

Opportunities and challenges

- Nepean Private Hospital is undergoing a redevelopment, which is expected to be completed in early 2023. The private hospital will provide 90 beds, with a focus on maternity services, as well as other medical and surgical services.

Target provision



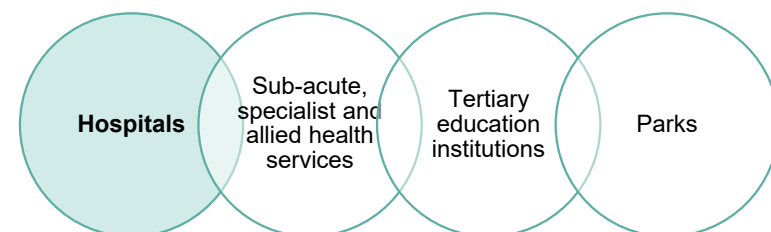
Contemporary planning for regional hospitals generally does not rely on population based benchmarks. Planning for hospitals is based on a comprehensive understanding of the community, current capacity analysis, response times, and is overseen by Local Health Districts (LHDs).

GPEC demand

The future GPEC community, as part of boarder population growth across Western Sydney, may place some pressure on public and private hospitals.

- Stage 1 of Nepean (public) Hospital's redevelopment recently opened with an expanded emergency department, new operating theatres and birthing suits and other services. Stage 2 has commenced and will provide expanded services such as an Intensive Care Unit and additional in-patient beds.
- NBMLHD plans for upgrades to Nepean Hospital and other health services have been based on 2019 DPE released population projections. Needs generated by additional population growth in the GPEC area have not therefore been accounted for in existing plans.
- Blacktown Council is partnering with the Australian Catholic University, Sydney West Sports Medicine, WentWest and sporting organisations to develop the Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub at Blacktown International Sportspark (immediately to the east of the GPEC area). The hub will include specialist health services, primarily focused on exercise and sports medicine.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Community health centres aim to improve the health and wellbeing of people by providing health treatment and care in community settings, away from hospitals.
- Designed to cater to the needs of diverse groups and particularly vulnerable cohorts.
- Provide children, adolescent and family services, maternal and child health check-ups, nutrition services, men's and women's health services, mental health services and/or vaccination clinics.
- Trends towards HealthOne centres, integrating primary and local health services in a single facility (see further information below), and providing community health services from a district multipurpose community centre, through shared outreach consulting spaces.

Target provision



As determined by Local Health District assessments and strategic planning

Guide: 1 integrated health centre for every 75,000-100,000 people

Source: Integrated Primary and Community Care Development Plans for the South West Growth Centre, South Western Sydney Local Health District (2012)

GPEC demand

6 centres (supported by adaptable outreach spaces within multipurpose community facilities as required)

Existing provision

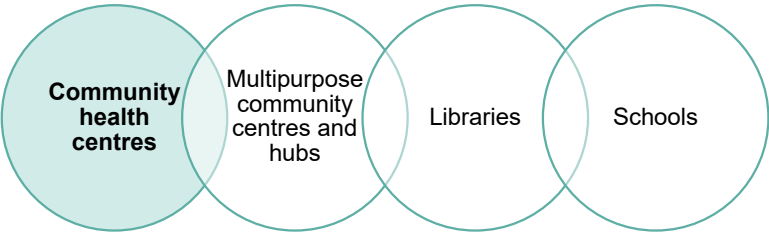
- The GPEC area community has access to six community health centres. Of these centres, three are HealthOne facilities, located in Mount Druitt, Cranebrook and St Clair.
- There are clusters of community health centres in Penrith and Mount Druitt, aligning with good practice principles to ensure these services are accessible.
- There are an additional three facilities providing a single service focus or offering, such as mental health or maternal and child health services. While these are crucial services, the provision of single service facilities limits people's ability to access a range of health services from a single location.

Opportunities and challenges

- NSW Health have been moving towards HealthOne facilities, which aim to create a stronger and more efficient primary health care system by bringing Commonwealth-funded general practice and state-funded primary and community health care services together. HealthOne facilities provide integrated, multidisciplinary care across a spectrum, within a facility that is designed to maintain flexibility to cater for different partners.

- The NSW Government has committed to providing a new community health facility for the NBMLHD. Health Infrastructure NSW is currently investigating suitable locations, which includes consideration of Orchard Hills.
- NBMLHD are investigating needs and opportunities for upgrades to existing community health centres. As noted in relation to hospitals, NBMLHD planning is based on 2019 DPE released projections and existing investigations and plans are based on these. Demand generated by additional population growth in the GPEC area will need to be considered.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



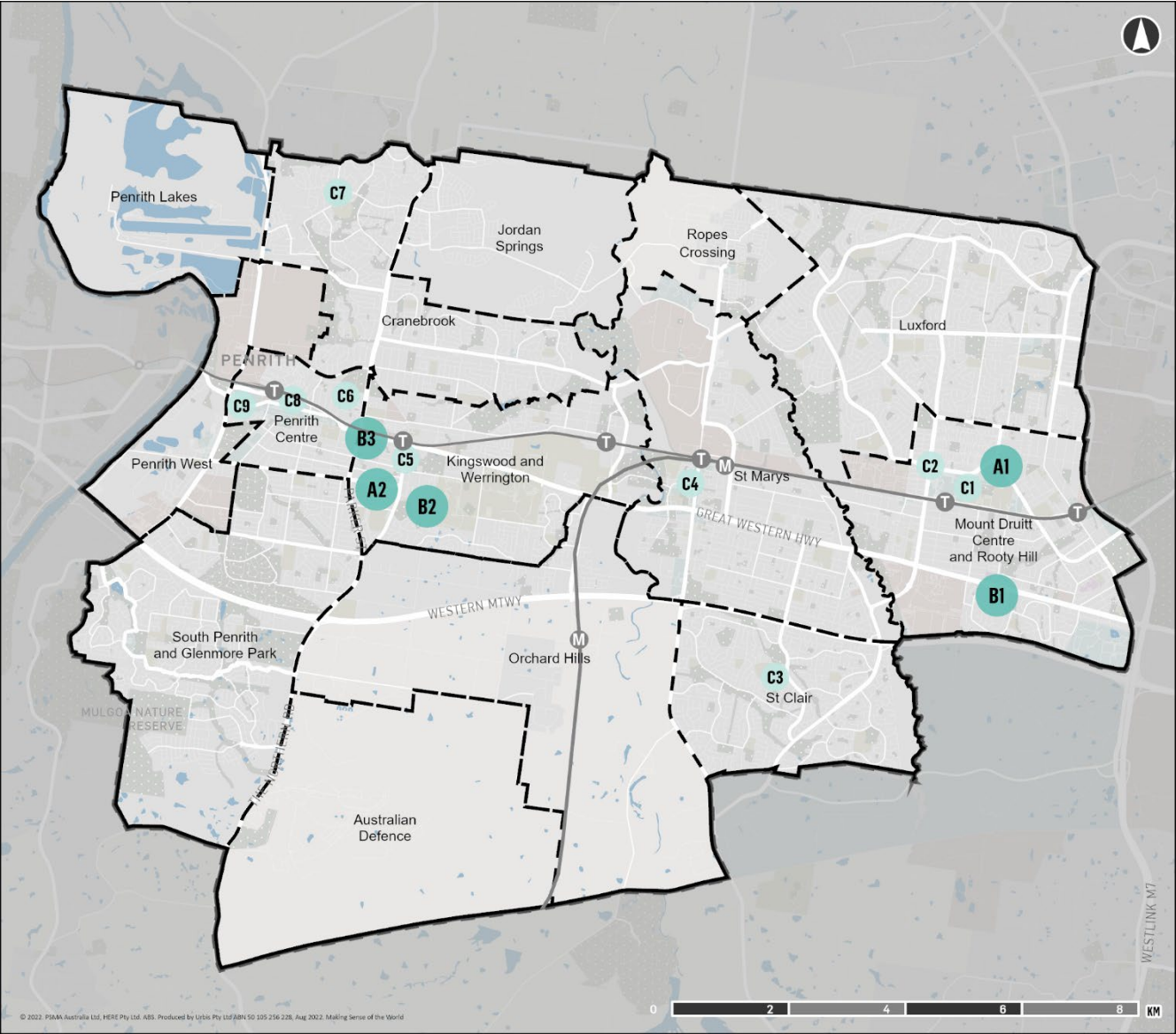
HOSPITALS (REGIONAL) AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES (DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

- Work with the LHDs to investigate whether the planned expansion of Nepean Hospital and the existing Mount Druitt Hospital will be able to accommodate the additional health needs generated by GPEC area population growth, and identify future requirements.
- Work with the LHDs to understand the current capacity of existing community health centres, particularly facilities in key growth areas, and identify requirements for facility upgrades and new facilities.
- Work with NBMLHD to progress plans for the Orchard Hills HealthOne facility, and ensure the facility is planned and designed to enable staged expansion to accommodate population growth over time.
- Consider providing health services within, or stand alone facilities co-located with, proposed new multipurpose community hubs in Penrith Centre, Kingswood and Werrington, and Luxford Precincts, and in the potential expansion of The Mount Druitt Hub (see section on multipurpose community centres).
- The Quarter development provides an opportunity to deliver a health precinct aligned to NSW Health strategic directions. It also provides an opportunity for a placed-based approach in which health services are integrated with other social infrastructure, employment and housing.

EXISTING HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Figure 10: Map of existing health infrastructure



- Public hospitals (regional)**
 - A1 Mount Druitt Hospital
 - A2 Nepean Hospital
- Private hospitals (regional)**
 - B1 Minchinbury Community Hospital
 - B2 Somerset Private Hospital
 - B3 Nepean Private Hospital
- Community health centres (district)**
 - C1 Headspace Mount Druitt
 - C2 Mount Druitt Community Health Centre
 - C3 St Clair Community Health Facility
 - C4 St Marys Community Health Facility
 - C5 Tresillian Family Care Centre Kingswood
 - C6 Lemongrove Community Health Facility
 - C7 Cranebrook Community Health Facility
 - C8 Penrith Community Health Facility
 - C9 Headspace Penrith

5.2 DIRECTIONS FOR EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

Emerging trends include:

- Incorporation of tertiary institutions within precincts accommodating other special uses (e.g. education and health or education and innovation precincts)
- Development of 'vertical campuses' in CBD locations to improve accessibility and connections to compatible uses. Vertical campuses can also incorporate spaces for professional industry hire and commercial office space
- A move to online learning has reduced the extent of need for physical learning spaces in some instances
- Shared institution and community use of university facilitates and open space.

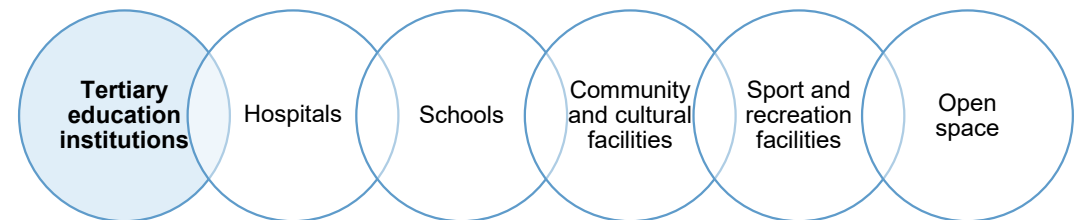
Target provision



University planning is undertaken by individual universities in alignment with their strategic plans

TAFE campus and service planning undertaken by TAFE NSW

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



Existing provision

- There are three TAFE colleges and two Western Sydney University (WSU) campuses within the GPEC area.
- Both university campuses and one TAFE college are located in the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct.

Opportunities and challenges

- WSU's strategic plans indicate a commitment to strengthen its prominence in the region.
- The Quarter Health and Education Precinct proposes world-class education, health and medical uses. The precinct includes WSU's Penrith and Werrington Campuses, providing the opportunity for significant expansion of WSU's educational offerings in the GPEC area. Plans for The Quarter also propose education partnerships with the University of Sydney medical faculty.
- TAFE NSW Nepean campus is also located in The Quarter. Plans for The Quarter include teaching partnerships with TAFE NSW.

- The Australian Catholic University will also have a future presence near the GPEC area through its involvement in the planned Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub at Blacktown International Sportspark, located immediately to the east of the GPEC area.

Directions for future provision

- The Quarter Health and Education Precinct, located in the centre of the GPEC area, provides an opportunity to significantly expand and improve access to tertiary education opportunities for future residents of the GPEC area and the broader Western Sydney community.
- Explore opportunities for provision of shared-use social infrastructure and open space within The Quarter that can meet the needs of students, health and education workers, residents and visitors.
- Undertake ongoing consultation with WSU to explore the opportunity and feasibility of a future vertical campus in the Penrith CBD in response to densification and population growth.

SCHOOLS (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Locate new primary and high schools, where possible, to promote shared use of facilities, open spaces and resources.
- Joint and shared community and school use arrangements of facilities and open space create efficiencies and support the provision, management and maintenance of high quality facilities.
- Maximise use of sites. Constrained sites in higher density areas can potentially incorporate vertical campuses and innovative open space configurations, including roof top recreation spaces.
- Include safe walking and cycling infrastructure, as well as open space connections to schools.
- Schools for specific purposes require a tailored approach to site planning and design, to cater to the specific needs of students and staff.

Existing provision

The data below is approximate and will be subject to confirmation with SINSW at detailed precinct planning stage:

- There are 59 primary schools (49 government and 10 non-government), 23 high schools (six government and 17 non-government), and 10 combined primary and high schools (non-government), in the GPEC area.
- There are nine schools for specific purposes in the GPEC area, seven of which are located in the Kingswood and Werrington, and Luxford Precincts.
- While several high schools in GPEC have experienced increased enrolments over recent years, many have experienced decreased enrolments.
- High schools in the GPEC area have overall experienced increased enrolments in recent years.

Standards for new schools

High schools: up to 2,000 student capacity.
Indicative site area: 2.5-4.0ha

Primary schools: up to 1,000 student capacity.
Indicative site area: 1.5-2ha

Source: School Site Selection and Development Guidelines (2020)

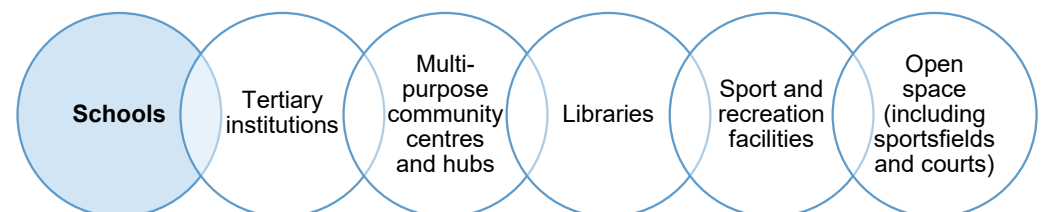
GPEC demand

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) uses a staged hierarchy of interventions to accommodate population growth and increasing demand for school places. This includes: monitoring enrolments and redesigning school intake areas to balance demand and capacity between schools; renewing assets to increase functionality and using temporary classrooms to increase capacity; upgrading and expanding schools; and building new schools. This hierarchy of interventions will be used to accommodate increased demand generated in the GPEC area.

Opportunities and challenges

- SINSW is investigating the potential for increased demand for government school places associated with population growth to be accommodated in existing school sites, in some cases with school upgrades and/or expansions.
- New primary schools and a high school will, however, be required to support the significant growth projected in Orchard Hills.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



SCHOOLS (DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

- New primary schools and a new high school are likely to be required to support the significant growth projected in Orchard Hills.
- Investigate whether upgrades and/or expansions of schools in the GPEC area are needed to accommodate existing and future students.
- Undertake detailed investigation of the potential for existing school sites to support population growth and the community in key centres and surrounding precincts including St Marys and Mount Druitt, and in particular Penrith in view of its role as a regional centre.
- Consider use of school facilities to increase usable open space, for example in planning for The Kingsway, and taking into account the future corridor of the Outer Sydney Orbital, including population growth in St Marys.
- Explore opportunities for co-location and shared community and school-use arrangements of social infrastructure and open space when planning for school upgrades and new schools. This may include the use of multipurpose halls, indoor sport and recreation facilities, sport fields and sports courts.
- Transport planning should be guided by the NSW Government's Movement and Place Framework (MAPF) and Built Environment Performance Indicators, based on qualities that contribute to walkability and public transport access in proximity to schools.

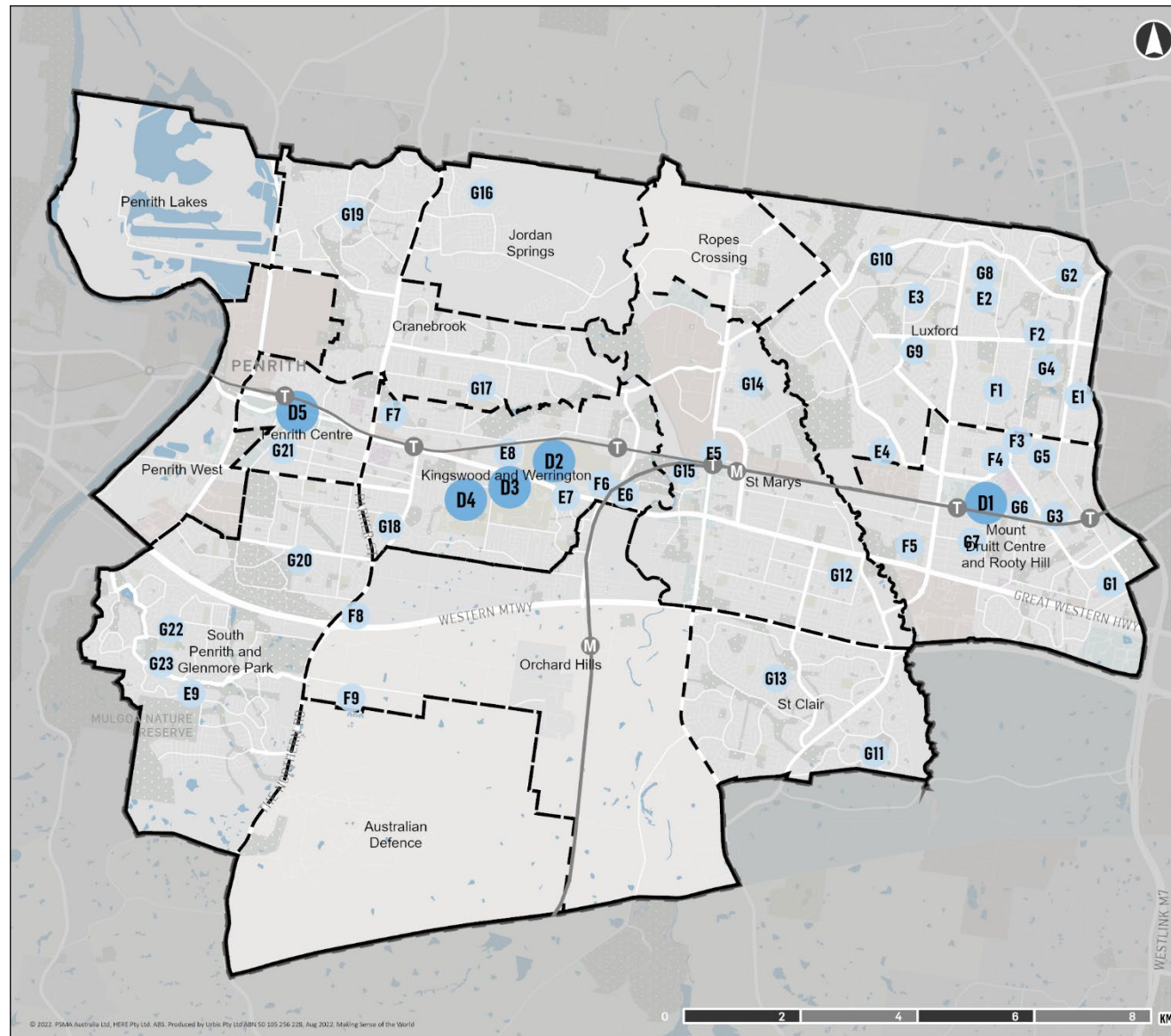
Figure 11: Bella Vista Public School in Sydney's North West Growth Area is an example of a school with shared school/community use of social infrastructure. The school includes a synthetic football field and a two-court indoor sports hall, all of which are open to the local community outside of school hours. These facilities were delivered under a joint-use arrangement between the NSW Department of Education and The Hills Shire Council.



Source: SINSW

EXISTING EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Figure 12: Map of existing education infrastructure (tertiary education institutions, schools for specific purposes, and high schools)



Tertiary education institutions (regional)

- D1 TAFE NSW Mount Drutt
- D2 Western Sydney University Werrington Campus
- D3 TAFE NSW Nepean - Kingswood Campus
- D4 Western Sydney University Penrith Campus
- D5 TAFE NSW Nepean - Penrith Campus

Schools for specific purposes (district)

- E1 Plumpton House School
- E2 Blacktown Youth College
- E3 Niland School
- E4 Halinda School
- E5 St Marys Flexible Learning Centre
- E6 Penrith Valley Learning Centre
- E7 Kurrambee School
- E8 Putland School
- E9 Fernhill School

Combined primary-high schools (district)

- F1 Western Grammar School
- F2 Richard Johnson Anglican School
- F3 Australian Islamic College of Sydney
- F4 St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College
- F5 Bethel Christian School
- F6 Wollemi College
- F7 St Dominic's College
- F8 Penrith Christian School
- F9 Penrith Anglican College

High schools (district)

- G1 St Agnes Catholic High School
- G2 St Clare's Catholic High School
- G3 Rooty Hill High School
- G4 Plumpton High School
- G5 Australian Islamic College of Sydney Senior School
- G6 Loyola Senior High School
- G7 Chifley College Senior Campus
- G8 Chifley College Bidwill Campus
- G9 Chifley College Mount Drutt Campus

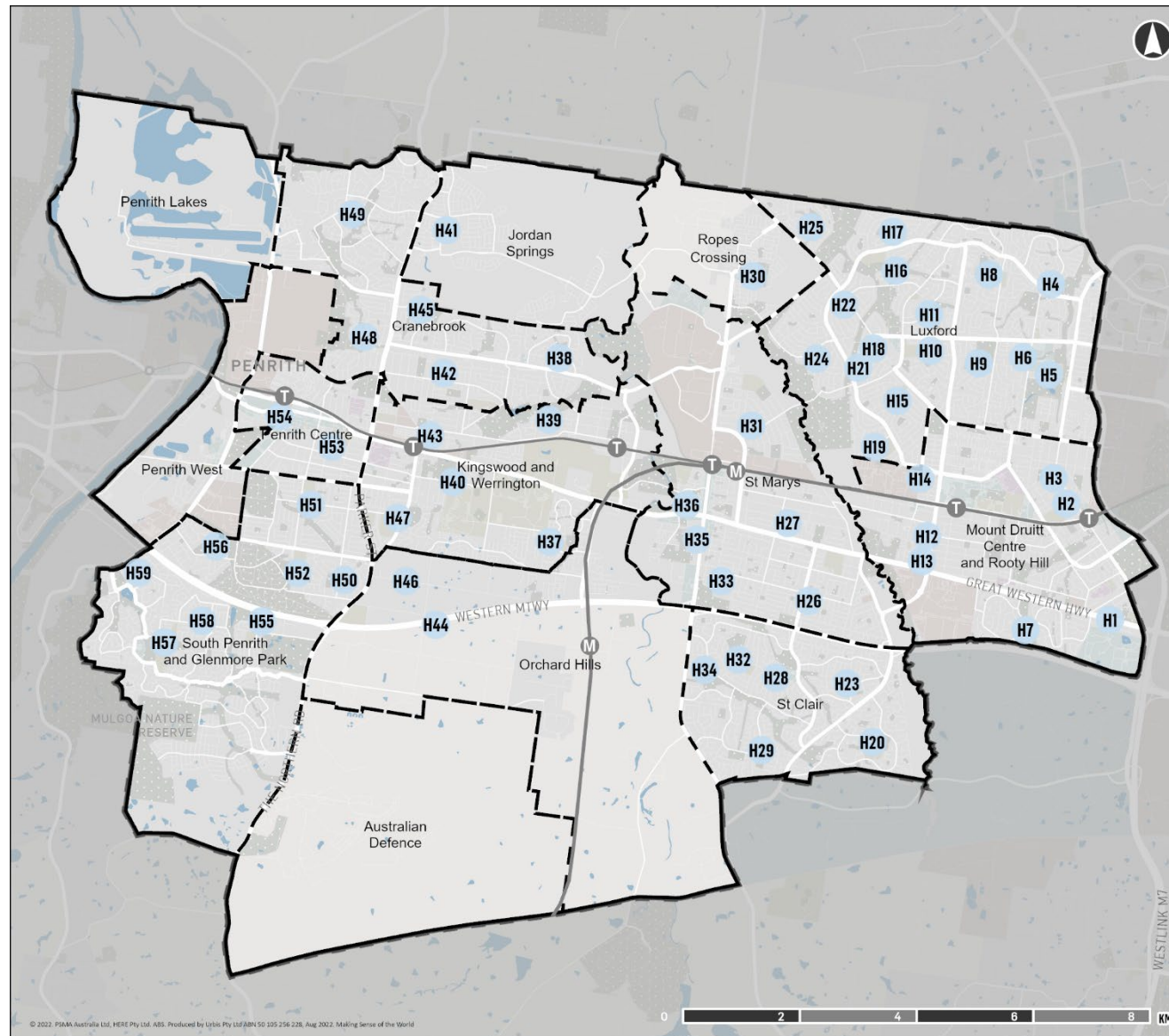
EXISTING EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

High schools (continued)

- G10 Chifley College Shalvey Campus
- G11 Erskine Park High School
- G12 Colyton High School
- G13 St Clair High School
- G14 Chifley College Dunheved Campus
- G15 St Marys Senior High School
- G16 Xavier College
- G17 Cambridge Park High School
- G18 Kingswood High School
- G19 Cranebrook High School
- G20 Jamison High School
- G21 Penrith High School
- G22 Caroline Chisholm College
- G23 Glenmore Park High School

EXISTING EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE [CONTINUED]

Figure 13: Map of existing education infrastructure (primary school)



Primary schools (district)

- H1 Eastern Creek Public School
- H2 Rooty Hill Public School
- H3 St Aidan's Primary School
- H4 Hassall Grove Public School
- H5 Plumpton Public School
- H6 Good Shepherd Primary School
- H7 Minchinbury Public School
- H8 Bidwill Public School
- H9 Hebersham Public School
- H10 Dawson Public School
- H11 Blackett Public School
- H12 Sacred Heart Primary School
- H13 Colyton Public School
- H14 Mount Druitt Public School
- H15 Whalan Public School
- H16 Noumea Public School
- H17 Shalvey Public School
- H18 Emerton Public School
- H19 Madang Avenue Public School
- H20 James Erskine Public School
- H21 Holy Family Primary School
- H22 Lethbridge Park Public School
- H23 Clairgate Public School
- H24 Tregear Public School
- H25 Willmot Public School
- H26 Bennett Road Public School
- H27 Oxley Park Public School
- H28 St Clair Public School
- H29 Blackwell Public School
- H30 Ropes Crossing Public School
- H31 St Marys North Public School
- H32 Holy Spirit Primary School
- H33 St Marys South Public School
- H34 Banks Public School
- H35 Our Lady Of The Rosary Primary School
- H36 St Marys Public School
- H37 Claremont Meadows Public School
- H38 Werrington County Public School


EXISTING EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE [CONTINUED]

Primary schools (continued)

H39 Werrington Public School
H40 Kingswood Public School
H41 Jordan Springs Public School
H42 Cambridge Park Public School
H43 St Joseph's Primary School
H44 Orchard Hills Public School
H45 Cambridge Gardens Public School
H46 Montgrove College
H47 Kingswood South Public School
H48 Kingswood Park Public School
H49 Braddock Public School
H50 St Mary Mackillop Primary School
H51 Penrith South Public School
H52 York Public School
H53 St Nicholas Of Myra Primary School
H54 Penrith Public School
H55 Surveyors Creek Public School
H56 Jamisontown Public School
H57 Bethany Catholic Primary School
H58 Glenmore Park Public School
H59 Regentville Public School

5.4 DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

CULTURAL FACILITIES – ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRES (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Arts and cultural centres are typically planned at a regional level and play an important role in activating large centres.
- Smaller facilities can be planned at a district or LGA level with a focus on local art, history or culture.
- Often there is a specific collection focus that centres on a particular art medium, time period, language or culture.
- Preferably located within historically significant buildings or in contemporary buildings that become iconic and play an important role in attracting visitors and creating a sense of place.
- Can also incorporate spaces for community-based art and creative activities (refer section ‘Creative spaces’).



Target provision

1 for every 150,000 to 250,000 people

Source: Guidelines for Community Infrastructure, Parks and Leisure Western Australia (2020)

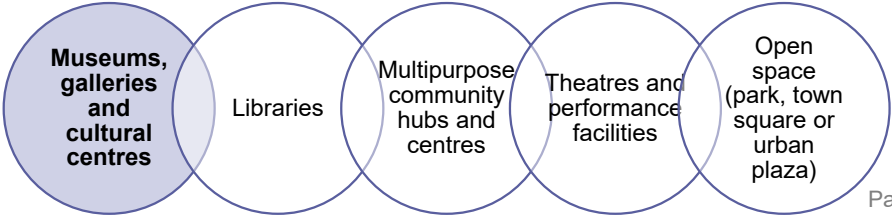
GPEC demand

Up to **3** regional arts and cultural facilities

Opportunities and challenges

- Blacktown City Council is considering the creation of a new purpose-built, multi-level arts centre in the Blacktown CBD (accommodating functions from the existing Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre). If this facility were realised, it would assist in serving the regional arts and cultural needs of precincts towards the east of the GPEC area.
- The PIC (2020) identified the need for a regional-level Aboriginal cultural facility in the Western Parkland City, Aboriginal cultural infrastructure in the Luxford Precinct, and an artist and creative industries precinct in the Penrith CBD.
- Blacktown City Council is working with community organisations to investigate the opportunity for a First Nations Cultural Centre at Mount Druitt, which would include dedicated spaces to deliver cultural programs and promote connectedness, wellbeing and support economic self-determination.
- The St Marys Structure Plan (2022) identifies opportunities for a First Nations facility or space within the St Marys Town Centre. It is expected this would be a district or local level facility.
- A new Aboriginal culture centre, to be used by the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council (DLALC) is planned in Cranebrook, just outside the GPEC area. The centre will serve a district/regional function.

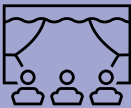
Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



Existing provision

- The primary art gallery serving the area is the Penrith Regional Gallery, which was the former home of two local artists and is located in Emu Plains, just outside the GPEC area. The location of the gallery, on the western side of the Nepean River, limits its accessibility and ability to contribute to Penrith’s role as GPEC’s main city centre.
- There are two specialist museums in the GPEC area: the Museum of Fire and the NSW State Archives Western Sydney Records Centre. The Museum of Fire celebrates the history of firefighters and fire service across Australia, with interactive exhibitions and a heritage collection. The NSW State Archives’ Western Sydney Records Centre holds the largest collection of records relating to the history of NSW. The centre offers tours and a reading room. While it serves an important State function, it provides a limited community function.
- While outside the GPEC area, the Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre is a large multi-arts hub operating from a former church in the Blacktown CBD. The centre includes two gallery spaces and a weaving garden.
- There is limited access to museums and art galleries in the centre and east of the GPEC area.
- Stakeholders have identified a gap in the provision of Aboriginal cultural facilities in the GPEC area.

CULTURAL FACILITIES – THEATRES AND PERFORMANCE FACILITIES (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Theatres and performance facilities are planned at a regional level and located in metropolitan and strategic centres, accessible by public and active transport.
- Theatres and performance facilities include one or more spaces that can be used for commercial concerts and performances, as well as community-based performing arts-related activities. They may also include studio spaces and spaces to hold community classes, meetings and other events.

Existing provision

- There are four theatres/performance facilities or spaces serving the GPEC area. These include two large performing arts centres with theatres to seat over 1,000 people: Sydney Coliseum Theatre in the Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill Precinct; and Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre in the Penrith Centre Precinct.
- There are also two smaller theatres: the Greater Western Sydney Performing Arts Centre located within Plumpton High School in the Luxford Precinct; and Henry Lawson Theatre in the Cranebrook Precinct.
- In addition, there is an entertainment centre within the Penrith Rugby League Club that seats up to 900 people.
- Penrith City Council has identified the need for additional rehearsal space and change room capacity in the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre.

Target provision



1 for every 150,000 people

Source: Guidelines for Community Infrastructure, Parks and Leisure Western Australia (2020)

GPEC demand

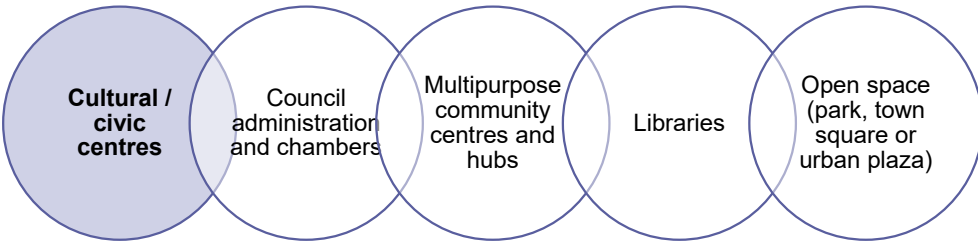
Up to 3

regional theatres/performance facilities

Opportunities and challenges

- Performance and event spaces can also be accommodated in multipurpose community hubs to meet the need of populations for community-based performances and events. These are typically large multipurpose spaces that include non-fixed moveable seating and stages).

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



CULTURAL FACILITIES (REGIONAL)

Directions for future provision

- The expected incoming population for GPEC will not generate need for additional large performance spaces as the existing number of major venues (Sydney Coliseum Theatre and Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre) is adequate to meet future needs.
- The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre however will require upgrades to improve functionality, including provision of rehearsal space and expanded change room amenities.
- The future GPEC community will generate need for additional regional arts and cultural centres. These needs could be met through:
 - The potential purpose-built arts and cultural facility in Blacktown. This centre would service the needs of the GPEC community in the east for regional purpose-built arts and gallery spaces.
 - The approved Aboriginal Community Centre in Cranebrook.
 - Working with Aboriginal stakeholders to create a purpose-built regional Aboriginal cultural facility in the eastern part of the GPEC area to support local Aboriginal culture and storytelling. Potential locations include Luxford, St Marys and Mt Druitt Precincts.
 - Improving public transport access between the Penrith Regional Gallery and the Penrith CBD, including the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre.
 - In the longer term, considering providing a new regional gallery in the Penrith CBD, with the existing gallery building hosting special exhibitions, artist studios or other cultural activities. Consider co-locating the gallery with the proposed community hub (refer Section 'Community centres and hubs').

Figure 14: The Granville Centre Art Gallery opened in 2020 and is an example of an art gallery co-located with an aquatic centre, library and community centre. The Gallery has rotating exhibitions, such as its inaugural 'Ngaliya Diyam' exhibition celebrating the resilience of Indigenous Australians.



Source: Cumberland City Council

CREATIVE SPACES (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Creative spaces are spaces that can be used by artists and creatives for creating and making and/or for community-based activities and programs.
- Creative spaces are best integrated within, or co-located with, multipurpose community centres or arts and cultural centres.
- Spaces should be designed to be flexible and adaptable to cater to different art and creative uses and user groups.
- Some spaces may also require specialist resources (e.g. music recording studios, artists in resident programs, digital art creation spaces, maker spaces).

Existing provision

- There is one arts and creative centres in the GPEC area: the St Marys Corner Arts and Craft Studio. This studio is occupied by the Nepean Potters Society and is co-located with a range of other community facilities including a community centre, senior citizens centre and hall.
- Representatives from Penrith City Council noted the arts and craft studio within St Marys Corner is currently at capacity and that additional spaces would be required to meet the needs of the growing population.
- The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre (located outside the GPEC area) includes two gallery spaces, performance and workshop studios and a weaving garden and hosts exhibitions and workshops for children and adults.

Opportunities and challenges

- Benchmarking indicates an existing shortage of creative spaces across the GPEC area and suggests there will be a significant future shortage.
- The PIC (2020) proposed an Aboriginal cultural facility in the Luxford Precinct. This could also include First Nations arts and creative spaces.
- There are opportunities across the GPEC area for increased strategic investment into creative partnerships, including with Aboriginal groups and artists, to enhance the area's arts and cultural sector.

Target provision



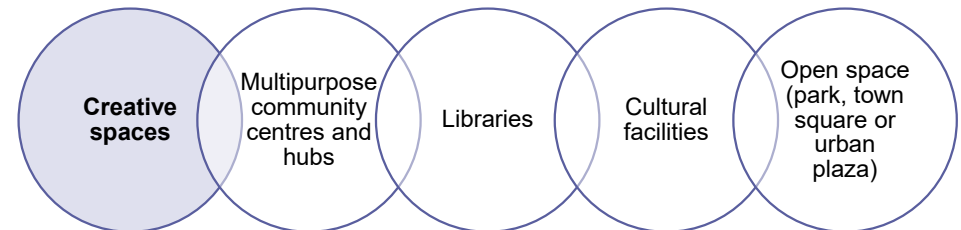
1 creative arts centre for every 50,000 to 150,000 people

Source: Guidelines for Community Infrastructure, Parks and Leisure Western Australia (2020)

GPEC demand

Up to **8** creative centres

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities




Directions for future provision

Directions for future provision of creative spaces focus on integrating new flexible and adaptable creative spaces within community hubs:

- Incorporate spaces that can accommodate arts, creative and cultural uses in the planning for new community hubs, including maker and creative spaces within the proposed hub in St Marys to address the need identified by Penrith City Council.
- Specialist spaces for some arts and creative uses (e.g. music production, graphic design, maker spaces, 3D printing) could also be provided in community hubs, but should be informed by robust needs assessments and based on identified local needs.
- Consider using existing underutilised community facilities for creative expression.

CENTRAL LIBRARIES (REGIONAL) AND BRANCH LIBRARIES (DISTRICT)




Key features and inclusions

- Central libraries are large facilities that typically cater to an LGA population. They include open areas for events and gathering, exhibition areas, collection spaces, meeting and training rooms, reading spaces, study spaces, children’s areas, youth spaces, public computers.
- May also include a special collection, such as a local history collection.
- Branch libraries cater to populations in several suburbs or a precinct. While typically smaller in scale, branch libraries include similar inclusions and offerings to central libraries.
- Libraries can also include a council customer service desk and functions.

Existing provision

- There is one central library (Penrith Central Library) located in the GPEC area. Communities in eastern precincts are also serviced by Blacktown City Council’s central library (Max Weber Library), located in the Blacktown CBD.
- Penrith Central Library is a large (3,000sqm) facility that provides the spaces, amenities and programs expected from a central library. There is an emerging shortage of meeting and study rooms in the library.
- There are three branch libraries in the GPEC area, all located in eastern precincts (Mount Druitt, St Clair and St Marys).
- The Mount Druitt Hub co-locates a library, community centre and other uses in a single facility in the town centre. This is a popular and well used facility.
- The Penrith Central Library and library in the Mount Druitt Hub are both contemporary, well located and well used facilities which require expansion to keep up with population growth and associated community demand.
- St Marys Library (750sqm) and St Clair Library (464sqm) are small facilities which are not fit for purpose. In particular, the St Marys Library is unlikely to serve the needs of the growing population.
- In addition to library facilities, councils also operate home library services for residents who are unable to visit libraries in person and online programs.

Target provision



1 central library / LGA

1 branch library / 50,000 people

Library floor area determined by People Places Population Based Calculator, State Library of NSW (2022)

GPEC demand

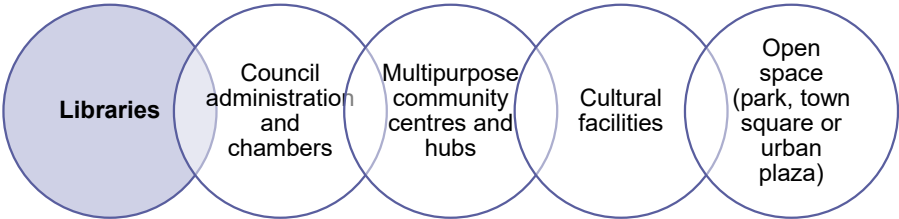
1-2 central libraries and 8 branch libraries

Approximately **6,155**sqm of library space

Opportunities and challenges

- There will be a significant deficit in the number of libraries and total library floor space in the GPEC area to support the future population.
- Penrith City Council has identified a location for a new library in St Marys town centre as part of a community hub in the ‘Civic Heart’ precinct (identified in the St Marys Town Centre Structure Plan).
- St Clair Library is located within a shopping centre, in a space leased by Council, limiting opportunities for expansion.
- Councils face significant challenges in funding the construction of new library buildings, as well as the ongoing costs associated with resourcing, operating and maintaining libraries.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities




CENTRAL LIBRARIES (REGIONAL) AND BRANCH LIBRARIES (DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

Directions for future provision of libraries focus on supporting existing council plans for library upgrades, as well as the provision of new libraries and library services to meet additional demand generated by population growth:

- Expand the Penrith Central Library to cater to increasing community needs, including the provision of additional meeting and study spaces and additional amenities and services identified through a needs assessment and master planning process.
- Provide a new community hub, incorporating a new library, as part of the master planning process for St Marys town centre. This will replace the existing library.
- Provide a branch library as part of a new multipurpose community hub in the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct.
- Investigate the opportunity to provide a library service within a new multipurpose community hub in the Luxford Precinct.
- Investigate the potential to provide satellite library services from the Glenmore Park Youth and Community Centre, including potential building modifications.
- Expand the Mount Druitt Community Hub to include provision of a larger library and increased spaces, amenities and offerings to cater to increasing community demand.
- Provide a new branch library as part of a multipurpose community hub in the future Orchard Hills town centre, close to the new metro station.

MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTRES AND HUBS (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Multipurpose community centres work well when co-located with other compatible uses in ‘community hubs’. This can include libraries, youth centres, early education and care facilities, arts and cultural facilities and urban parks or plazas.
- Centres should be staffed and/or programmed and include a variety of spaces of different sizes that can accommodate a broad range of community programs, activities and events, as well as the provision of community services.
- Rooms and spaces within centres should be flexible and adaptable to enable different configurations and uses.
- Unstructured spaces that facilitate meeting and gathering should also be incorporated. This can include foyers and lounge areas.

Target provision



1 for every 20,000 to 50,000 people

Floor area: Minimum 1,000sqm

Source: Blacktown City Council

GPEC demand

Up to **9** district multipurpose community centres

Existing provision

- There are currently six larger-sized community centres in the GPEC area and one specialist Aboriginal centre (Koolyangarra Aboriginal Child and Family Centre), operating as district-level facilities.
- Of the six larger centres, four align with good practice principles including provision of multiple and adaptable spaces and co-location with compatible social infrastructure. These include Glenmore Park Youth and Community Centre, The Mount Druitt Hub, Jordan Springs Community Hub and St Marys Corner.
- Representatives from Blacktown City Council identified The Mount Druitt Hub as a successful multipurpose community hub, however it is operating at capacity.
- Erskine Park Community Centre and Hall, Harold Corr Community Hall and Werrington Youth Centre, are older and slightly smaller centres and not suited to multipurpose use.
- While there are several local level centres, there are currently no multipurpose community centres in the Luxford, Ropes Crossing, Orchard Hills, Kingswood and Werrington and Penrith West Precincts.

- While benchmarks indicate the existing number of district community centres in the GPEC area is currently adequate, two or more new district centres will be required to meet the needs of the community in 2056. Some existing centres may also need to be upgraded to meet the needs of the growing population.
- There are also a significant number of smaller halls and centres within the GPEC area that provide a local-level function.
- Representatives from Penrith City Council identified a potential need for more spaces for community service providers to operate from and community activity space in Penrith (suburb).

Opportunities and challenges

- Penrith City Council aims to deliver a new community hub within a ‘Civic Heart’ precinct as part of the master planning process for the St Marys town centre. The hub, which will include community and cultural spaces (of 1,500-1,800sqm) and a library (minimum 2,000sqm), will be co-located with a new town park.
- Both councils face challenges with funding the construction of new multipurpose community centres, as well as maintaining and upgrading existing centres.

MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTRES AND HUBS (DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

Directions for future provision of multipurpose community centres focus on upgrading existing centres that are at capacity and providing new multipurpose community hubs in areas with current and future provision shortfalls.

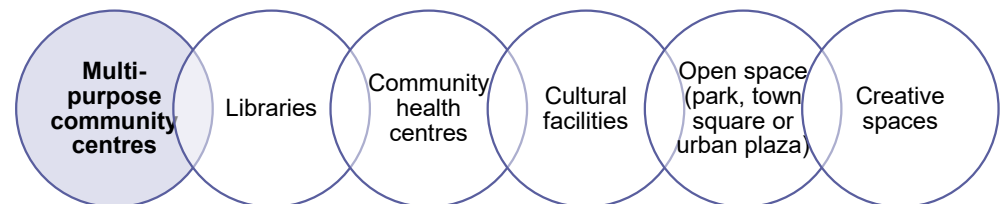
- Plan for a multipurpose community hub in the Penrith Centre. A potential location is the current Penrith Central Library site, and surrounds, which will require expansion to meet additional needs generated by population growth.
- Plan for the expansion of The Mount Druitt Hub to include additional meeting room space. Consider also integrating creative spaces.
- Progress plans for the provision of a new community hub (including a branch library) as part of the master planning process for the St Marys Town Centre.
- Plan for the provision of a new multipurpose community hub (including a branch library) in the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct. Consider this facility as part of the master planning process for The Quarter Education and Health Precinct and investigate the option to redevelop an existing facility (e.g. the Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre).
- Plan for the provision of a new community hub (including a branch library) in the southern area of the Orchard Hills precinct, in the town centre and close to the new metro station. The planning for this facility should allow for staged development or expansion to accommodate population growth beyond 2036.
- Investigate the opportunity to provide a new multipurpose community hub in the Luxford Precinct. Potential locations include Emerton, as part of a redevelopment of the Emerton Youth Centre or the Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre.
- The planning and design of each new community hub should incorporate a needs assessment to identify specific district catchment needs and determine inclusions, offerings and facility programming. It should also involve consideration of local facility provision, to avoid gaps or duplication, and assist to create a robust, integrated facility network.

Figure 15: The Mount Druitt Hub is a district-level community hub and contains meeting rooms, Mount Druitt Library, a senior citizens centre, office rooms and a staffed reception area. It is located within walking distance of Mount Druitt station, Mount Druitt Swimming Centre and Westfield Mount Druitt.



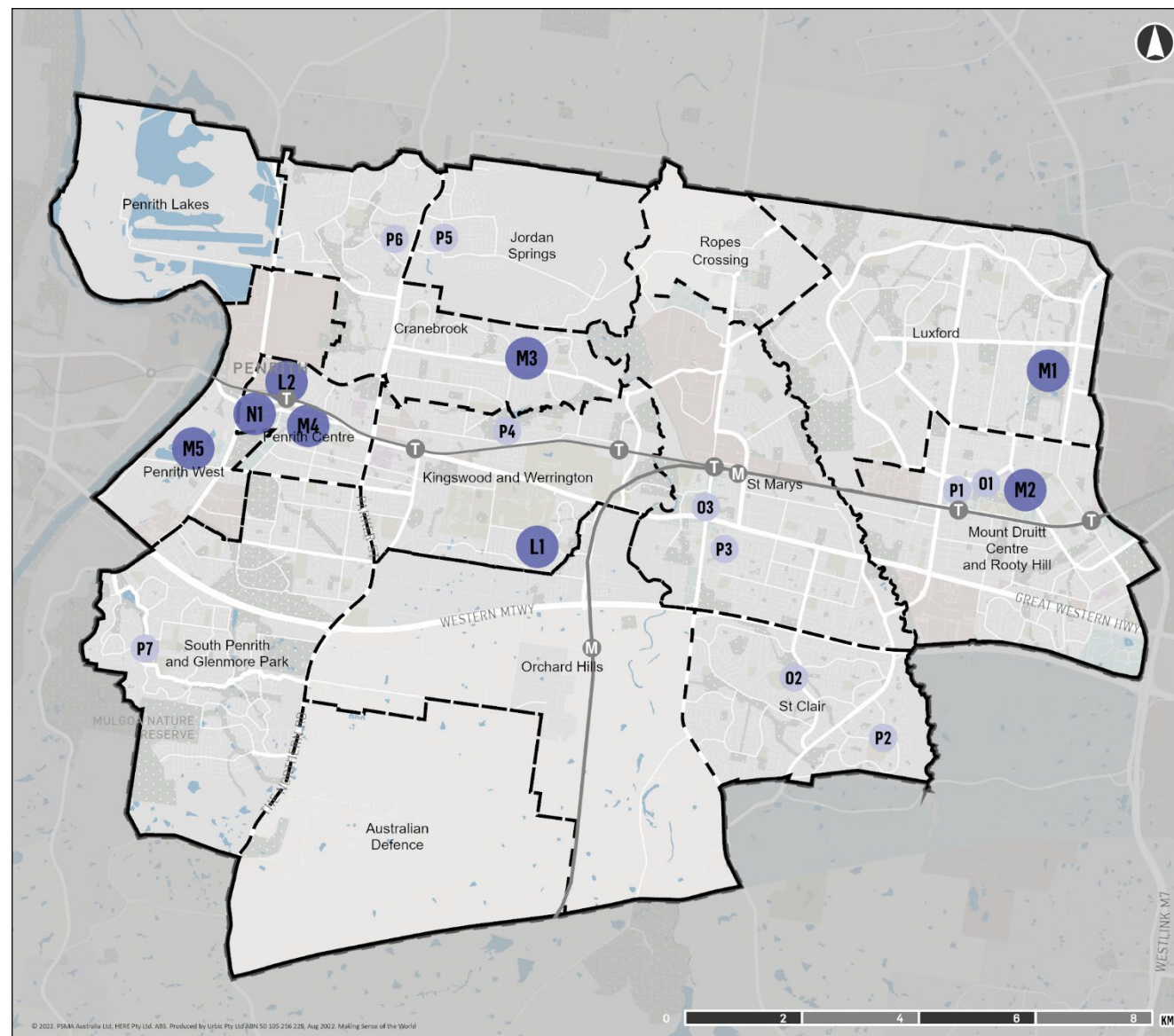
Source: Blacktown City Council

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



EXISTING COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Figure 16: Map of existing community and cultural infrastructure



Cultural facilities – Arts and cultural centres (regional)

- L1 NSW State Archives Western Sydney Records Centre
- L2 Museum of Fire

Cultural facilities – Theatres and performance facilities (regional)

- M1 Greater Western Sydney Performing Arts Centre
- M2 Sydney Coliseum Theatre
- M3 Henry Lawson Theatre
- M4 Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre
- M5 Evan Theatre

Central libraries (regional)

- N1 Penrith City Library

District libraries (district)

- O1 Mount Druitt Library
- O2 St Clair Library
- O3 St Marys Library

Community centres or hubs (district)

- P1 The Mount Druitt Hub
- P2 Erskine Park Community Centre and Hall
- P3 St Marys Corner
- P4 Harold Corr Hall and Werrington Youth Centre
- P5 Jordan Springs Community Hub
- P6 Koolyongarra Aboriginal Child and Family Centre
- P7 Glenmore Park Youth and Community Centre

Creative spaces (district)

- P3 St Marys Arts and Craft Studio (at St Marys Corner)

5.3 DIRECTIONS FOR SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

SPORTS STADIUMS, SPECIALIST SPORTS FACILITIES AND SHOWGROUNDS (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Sports stadiums, specialist sports facilities and showgrounds cater to the needs of a regional or metropolitan catchment.
- Sports stadiums are large facilities that host primarily elite sporting events and competitions, and also cater to the entertainment needs of the broader community.
- Specialist sports facilities typically cater to specific sports, including elite and/or community-based training and competition.
- Showgrounds provide places for large community events and festivals and may also be venues for sporting competitions.

Existing provision

- There are significant sports precincts located at the eastern and western ends of the GPEC area. Blacktown International Sportspark is located immediately east of the GPEC area. It contains specialist facilities for cricket, baseball, softball, athletics and soccer.
- Penrith Showground is located at the west of the GPEC area, close to the BlueBet Stadium, which caters to elite and regional level rugby league. There is also a smaller stadium catering to rugby league in the St Marys Precinct.
- There are two specialist facilities serving a metropolitan-wide function in the Penrith Lakes Precinct: Penrith Whitewater Stadium; and Sydney Regatta Centre.
- There are several smaller specialist sports facilities in the GPEC area. This includes a tennis centre and a BMX facility in South Creek Recreation Precinct (St Marys Precinct), hockey facilities at WSU Kingswood Campus, an archery field in Werrington and a synthetic athletics track at Harold Corr Oval (Kingswood and Werrington Precinct), and a Riding for the Disabled centre (Orchard Hills Precinct). There are also indoor sports venues catering specifically to basketball and gymnastics in the Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill Precinct and the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct (see Section 'Indoor sport and recreation facilities'). Weir Reserve and the Nepean River in the Penrith West Precinct is used by Rowing Australia as a National Training Centre for women's rowing.

Target provision



Typically planned by NSW Government, and in some cases local government, with a specialist sports, tourism and economic focus

GPEC demand

The growth of the GPEC community, as part of broader population growth across Western Sydney, will increase demand for regional-level specialist sports facilities and entertainment venues.

Opportunities and challenges

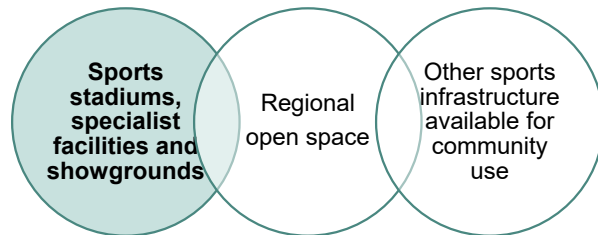
- The masterplan for the Blacktown International Sportspark aims to increase the capacity of the facility to meet the needs of the growing regional community. Council has advised the masterplan has not incorporated needs associated with additional GPEC growth. Masterplan works are currently unfunded.
- NSW Government is investigating opportunities to redevelop Penrith Showground as a new stadium for the Penrith Panthers. This presents an opportunity for broader transformation of the stadium and showground precinct into an entertainment hub, incorporating additional leisure, recreation and sporting infrastructure for community use.
- NSW Government is investigating opportunities to strengthen links to the Great River Walk along the Nepean River at Penrith Lakes, as part of an overall masterplan for the Penrith Lakes precinct.

SPORTS STADIUMS, SPECIALIST SPORTS FACILITIES AND SHOWGROUNDS (REGIONAL)

Directions for future provision

- Continue the development of Blacktown International Sportspark as the hub for specialist facilities for elite and community-based sports in the GPEC area and wider region.
- Redevelop Penrith Stadium and Showground as the GPEC area's premier entertainment, leisure and recreation precinct. This should include consideration of additional recreational opportunities as part of the redevelopment of Ripples Leisure Centre.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



AQUATIC CENTRES (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Large multipurpose facilities consolidating a range of aquatic offerings for recreation, lessons, training and competition. Aquatic facilities can also be important community meeting places. The importance and prominence of these facilities will continue to increase, particularly as temperatures rise and the community seek cool places to gather in summer months.
- Incorporation of a range of facilities and amenities in a single centre such as indoor and outdoor recreation, competition and lesson pools, water play areas and features, rehabilitation pools, gyms and fitness centres, change rooms and showers, and food outlets.
- Centres should provide a range of programs for people of all ages and abilities, with a focus on health and fitness as well as promoting social interaction and inclusion.
- Learn to swim programs are a key offering, providing a community service as well as an opportunity to generate income to contribute to the high operational costs of these facilities.

Existing provision

- Existing aquatic facilities are reasonably well distributed, with five aquatic centres within the GPEC area. This includes facilities in the three centres of Penrith, St Marys and Mount Druitt. While the quantity of facilities appears to be adequate, the condition, capacity offerings at some centres reduces their ability to meet community needs.
- Only two of the five centres (Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre and Ripples Leisure Centre in St Marys) are multipurpose facilities that can successfully cater to a range of interests and needs. However, both facilities are at capacity, with particularly high demand for the hydrotherapy pool at Ripples Leisure Centre. Mount Druitt Swimming Centre and Ripples Leisure Centre in Penrith are older facilities that do not enable year-round use or provide a range of programs.
- Sydney Gymnastics and Aquatic Centre includes an indoor pool suitable for lessons, fitness and programs but offers limited recreation opportunities.
- Initial NSW Office of Sport investigations indicate there is an existing shortage of aquatic facilities in Blacktown and Penrith LGAs, in particular deep-water pools that can cater to specialist sports such as diving, water polo and synchronised swimming.

Target provision



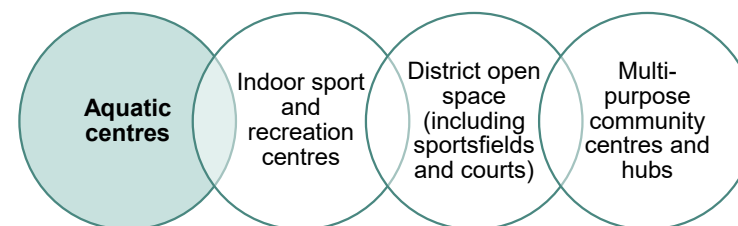
1 for every 100,000-150,000 people

Source: Indoor Aquatic and Recreation Facility Development Guidelines, Aquatics and Recreation Victoria (2011)

GPEC demand

4 multipurpose aquatic centres

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



Opportunities and challenges

- Blacktown City Council is planning a new aquatic and leisure facility in Marsden Park. While outside the GPEC area, Council representatives anticipate this facility will have a large catchment and cater to some needs in the north-eastern GPEC precincts.
- There are opportunities to redevelop the Ripples Leisure Centre in Penrith to become an inviting multipurpose aquatic and leisure facility which serves the needs of the rapidly growing population of the Penrith Centre Precinct. The provision of a high quality facility appealing to a range of ages, abilities and user groups would also support the growth of Penrith as a metropolitan centre.
- There is limited capacity on the site of the Ripples Leisure Centre in St Marys and surrounds to enable future expansion of pool facilities. Therefore, potential locations for future aquatic facilities will need to be investigated.
- There are also opportunities to redevelop the Mount Druitt Swimming Centre to create a large aquatic facility with indoor and outdoor facilities. Blacktown City Council has undertaken early planning for this project.

AQUATIC CENTRES (REGIONAL)

Directions for future provision

Directions for future provision of aquatic centres focus on the refurbishment, expansion and/or redevelopment of existing centres to provide multipurpose facilities that meet contemporary and diverse community needs.


- Redevelop Ripples Leisure Centre Penrith to provide a multipurpose aquatic centre servicing the western precincts of GPEC and beyond. The aquatic centre, together with redevelopment of the Penrith Stadium and Showground, will assist in creating a premier entertainment, leisure and recreation precinct in the west.
- Include future planning for the expansion or redevelopment of Ripples Leisure Centre in St Marys in master planning of South Creek Park in the St Marys Precinct, taking into account the future corridor of the Outer Sydney Orbital (see section 'Open space').
- Redevelop Mount Druitt Swimming Centre to meet growing and changing community needs.
- Redevelopment of the three centres at Penrith, St Marys and Mount Druitt should include refurbishment of existing 50 metre pools and creation of new indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities to cater to a range of structured and unstructured recreation activities. Work with the Office of Sport to plan for the incorporation of a deep-water pool of 25 metres at one or two of these upgrades to cater to specialist sports.
- Expand the hydrotherapy facilities at Ripples Leisure Centres St Marys and investigate incorporation of new hydrotherapy facilities at the Penrith and Mount Druitt centres to cater to increasing demand.
- Plan for one additional aquatic facility in the GPEC area to be provided after 2036, aligned with projected population growth. This facility could be co-located with the proposed new multipurpose indoor recreation centre in the Orchard Hills Precinct.
- In addition to considering emerging trends in sport, recreation, health and wellbeing in the redevelopment plans for aquatic centres, consideration should be given to the needs of culturally diverse communities. This should include considering design and programming that can cater for women-only swimming sessions.

Figure 17: Artist impression of the upgraded Waves Aquatic Centre Baulkham Hills (opened September 2022). An example of a contemporary multipurpose aquatic facility incorporating a broad range of indoor and outdoor spaces and facilities to meet a broad range of fitness, sports and recreation needs.



Source: The Hills Shire Council

INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRES (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Large multipurpose, multisport facilities catering to a range of indoor sports and fitness activities and programs. Used for training, competition and casual recreational use.
- Can include multipurpose courts suitable for a variety of sports (e.g. basketball, netball, futsal, volleyball, handball, badminton, tennis), gyms and fitness centres, training rooms and other flexible spaces for community activities and programs, as well as supporting amenities (toilets, change rooms and showers) and food outlets.
- While some existing centres include specialist spaces for specific sports (e.g. gymnastics), future provision for the GPEC area should focus on planning for multipurpose centres catering to a range of sports and uses.

Target provision



1 multipurpose centre for every 50,000-100,000 people

Source: Guidelines for Community Infrastructure, Parks and Leisure Western Australia (2020)

4 multipurpose courts per district facility (1.5ha)

8+ multipurpose courts per regional facility (2.4ha)

Source: NSW Office of Sport advice


GPEC demand

Up to **8** multipurpose indoor sport and recreation centres

Opportunities and challenges

- There will be a need for a new recreation centre to support the future community of the Orchard Hills Precinct and the additional future GPEC population.
- Penrith Council has received funding through WestInvest to develop a new 10 court multi-purpose indoor recreation centre at Putland Street, Claremont Meadows. The centre will service a citywide catchment and complement the soon to be developed Gipps Street Recreation Precinct, creating a major recreation hub. The site is approximately 1.6km from the Orchard Hills metro station. Consideration will need to be given to NSW Office of Sport direction in relation to locating indoor facilities close to transport hubs.
- Blacktown City Council is seeking to develop a new Western Sydney Basketball and Volleyball Western Hub at May Cowpe Reserve in Rooty Hill.
- Blacktown City Council is also expanding the existing Ken Betts Stadium in Mount Druitt from two to four courts. Council report there to be capacity for further expansion (by an additional four to eight courts) to meet additional demand.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



Indoor sport and recreation centres

Outdoor sportsfields and courts

Multi-purpose community centres and hubs

Aquatic facilities

High schools

INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRES (DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

Directions for future provision of indoor sport and recreation centres focus on upgrading existing facilities to create large multipurpose centres that meet existing and future contemporary and diverse community needs. Opportunities to consolidate smaller, single purpose facilities could also be explored, as well as joint use of school facilities, where appropriate and possible, to support the provision of larger multipurpose facilities:

- Expand the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre, as identified in the Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy, to meet the needs of the existing and future community for centrally located, high quality indoor courts.
- Consider the incorporation or co-location of multipurpose indoor sport and recreation centres as part of the proposed redevelopments of leisure centres across the GPEC area.
- Investigate opportunities to provide additional indoor sport and recreation opportunities in the Mount Druitt town centre. Options include: incorporation of a centre as part of the redevelopment of Mount Druitt Swimming Centre or further expansion of Kevin Betts Stadium.
- Investigate opportunities to provide a large multipurpose indoor recreation centre in the Luxford Precinct. Potential options include expansion and upgrade of the Emerton Youth and Recreation Centre, or expansion of the Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre.
- Noting the development of the indoor sports facility in Claremont Meadows, investigate the need for a new smaller multipurpose indoor sport and recreation centre in the south of the Orchard Hills Precinct, close to the future centre of population growth and the proposed metro station. This location will align with Office of Sport directions in relation to locating indoor facilities close to transport hubs. Consider opportunities for co-location with a potential new high school, and opportunities for shared school and community use. The planning for this facility should allow for staged development or expansion to accommodate growth beyond 2036. Consideration should also be given to the potential for this facility to include an aquatic centre.
- Work with the NSW Office of Sport and local government to identify sporting needs and requirements for each GPEC precinct and to inform the design and programming of indoor sport and recreation facilities.

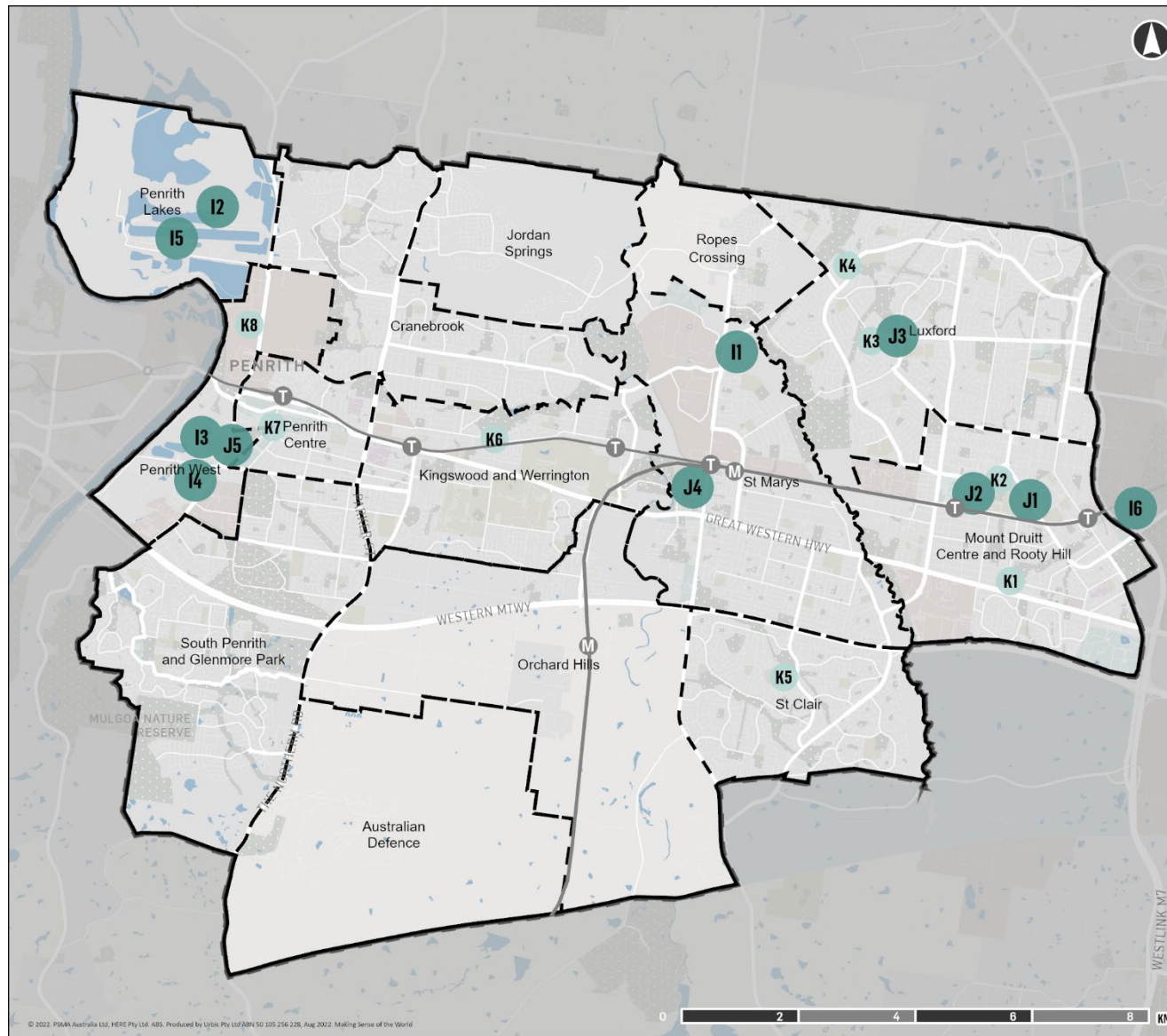
Figure 18: Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope is an example of a large multipurpose sport and recreation centre incorporating multiple facilities including indoor courts, library, aquatic facilities and tennis centre.



Source: Blacktown City Council

EXISTING SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Figure 19: Map of existing sport and recreation infrastructure



Sports stadiums, specialist sports facilities and showgrounds (regional)

- I1 St Marys Leagues Stadium
- I2 Penrith Whitewater Stadium
- I3 Penrith Showground
- I4 Panthers Stadium
- I5 Sydney International Regatta Centre
- I6 Blacktown International Sportspark

Aquatic centres (regional)

- J1 Sydney Gymnastics and Aquatic Centre
- J2 Mount Druitt Swimming Centre
- J3 Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre
- J4 Ripples Leisure Centre - St Marys
- J5 Ripples Leisure Centre - Penrith

Indoor sport and recreation centres (district)

- K1 Rooty Hill Leisure Centre
- K2 Kevin Betts Stadium
- K3 Emerton Youth And Recreation Centre
- K4 Mount Druitt PCYC
- K5 St Clair Leisure Centre
- K6 Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre
- K7 Penrith PCYC
- K8 Penrith Indoor Sports And Recreation
- J1 Sydney Gymnastics and Aquatic Centre
- J3 Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre

5.5 DIRECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE

OPEN SPACE PLANNING APPROACH

Approach to open space provision

This assessment proposes a multi-criteria approach to planning open space for the GPEC area. This includes:

- Adopting a hierarchy of provision for open space across the GPEC area, based on state and local standards.
- Considering performance-based criteria from the draft Greener Places Design Guide (refer to Table 6) and related standards.
- Exploring an appropriate approach to determining the required quantity of open space to inform future development within larger sites/precincts and greenfield areas. This is further explored on the following page.

The following sections apply this above approach and provide directions for future district and regional open space provision across the GPEC area.

Table 6: Open space performance criteria

Criteria	Description
Quantity	In low-and high-density areas, good provision of public open space is essential to compensate for the lack of private open space to support active living and contribute to a more liveable neighbourhood.
Accessibility and connectivity	Ease of access is critical for the community to be able to enjoy and use public open space and recreation facilities.
Size and shape	Size and shape of open space has a direct bearing on the capacity of that open space to meet and accommodate recreation activities and needs.
Quality	The quality of design and ongoing maintenance and management is critical to attracting use and activating the open space network.
Distribution	The ability of residents to gain access to public open space within an easy walk from home, workplaces, and schools is an important factor for quality of life. The geographic distribution of open space is a key access and equity issue for the community.
Diversity	The range of open space setting types within an urban area will determine the diversity of recreation opportunity for communities.

Source: NSW Government Architect (2020) Draft Greener Places Design Guide

OPEN SPACE QUANTITY BENCHMARKING

Determining a suitable approach to the planning of open space, and the quantity of open space required for a population, is a complex task. There is not currently a fully resolved and agreed approach in NSW.

There are two main approaches utilised by different agencies and in different jurisdictions:

1. By area per head of population (population-based approach)
2. By proportion of land area (proportion-based approach).

Population-based approach

Historically, NSW has taken an area-based approach. For example, the superseded Growth Centres Development Code (2006) contained a benchmark of 2.83ha per 1,000 people for 'open space and recreation'. While the benchmark is framed in the Code as a 'guiding threshold', and is caveated with a note stating 'May be refined through specific studies', the 2.83ha per 1,000 people benchmark has been widely used in open space planning in NSW. This benchmark is included in the Blacktown Recreation and Open Space Strategy. The Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy also uses a population-based benchmark. It specifies 2.6ha per 1,000 people, plus an additional 1.0ha per 1,000 people for contribution to city-wide and 1.0ha per 1,000 people for linear parks.

However, the 2.83ha per 1,000 people provision rate is based on patterns of recreation and from the UK over 100 years ago. There is no evidence base for the use of this rate as a default standard in 21st century Australia, despite its frequent use.

The Draft Greener Places Design Guide, Government Architect NSW (2020), is the principle guiding document for open space planning in NSW. It argues for a performance-based approach which moves away from the quantification of space altogether. It states:

"Planning that relies on a spatial standard such as 2.8ha/1,000 people is only effective with high levels of quality control and often works against opportunities for multiple use and innovative solutions. Equally, past approaches such as specifying a percentage of land did not have any direct link to the demand arising from a development, as densities can vary greatly yet the percentage stayed fixed." (2020; 11)

However, In submissions to the draft Greener Places Design Guide, a number of outer metropolitan councils suggested using a balance of performance based and qualitative spatial standards for open space (*Greener Places Design Guide Consultation Report 2021*; 8).

Proportion-based approach

The development of the draft DPE Urban Design Guideline aimed to find this balance and proposed a proportion-based approach, whereby 15% of net developable land (NDL) was set aside for open space. This was complemented by a range of performance-based criteria. The Guidelines were removed from exhibition in March 2022 alongside the draft SEPP for Design and Place.

Several other states in Australia however have adopted proportion-based approaches for open space provision for large development precincts and new release areas. For example:

- South Australia's offset scheme under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act (2016) requires large subdivisions to set aside 12.5% of land for open space.
- Victoria's Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines for New Communities in Victoria (2021) recommends 10% of net developable area (NDA) be set aside for local parks and sports fields, with 3-5% for local parks and 5-7% for sports fields.
- Western Australia's Development Control Policy 2.3 requires 10% gross subdividable area for open space, which may include regional open space.

The proportion-based approach is particularly relevant in metropolitan areas experiencing population growth, increased densification and significant constraints in relation to the availability, suitability and cost of land for new open spaces.

Potential quantity benchmarking approach for the GPEC area

Due to its metropolitan context, as the GPEC area develops, a proportion-based benchmark, such as setting aside 15% of NDL for open space, could present a suitable approach to determining the quantity of open space to be provided. This approach is primarily applicable to larger development sites and new release areas, where determining the NDL is clearcut. Its application in infill areas, such as the majority of GPEC precincts, is more complex and a more tailored, site-specific approach may be required.

Benchmarking however, should always be considered as just a starting point to determining open space needs. Emphasis should be placed on the provision of a high quality network of diverse spaces that collectively meet the needs of the community.

OPEN SPACE (REGIONAL)



Key features and inclusions

- Regional parks and parklands include a range of recreational opportunities and amenities such as picnic areas and barbeques, walking and cycling tracks, large play spaces, amphitheatres, public art, interpretive elements and green spaces.
- May also incorporate natural bushland areas, biodiversity areas and riparian corridors.
- Regional sports and recreation open spaces co-locate a range of outdoor sportsfields and/or courts, other recreation opportunities and supporting amenities.
- Should include amenities to support longer visitation including toilets and water, and may also include areas to accommodate food outlets or vans.

Target provision



Minimum size of 5ha (regional/citywide parks)

Minimum size of 20ha (regional/citywide sporting precincts)

5-10km from most homes, and up to 30 min travel time on public transport or by vehicle

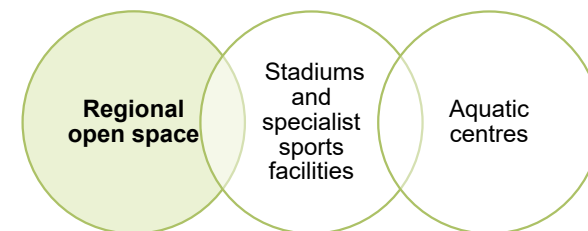
Source: Draft Greener Places Design Guide

Existing provision

- Wianamatta Regional Park in the north of the GPEC area and Mulgoa Nature Reserve in the south-west provide opportunities for walking and running within bushland reserves.
- Recreation opportunities provided in Wianamatta Regional Park and Mulgoa Nature Reserve are limited to linear recreation.
- Western Sydney Parklands is located immediately east of the GPEC area and provides over 5,000ha regional open space with a wide range of recreation opportunities.
- There are a number of regional-sized recreation precincts across the GPEC area, each of which provide a range of recreation opportunities, including multiple sportsfields. Examples include: Jamison Park in South Penrith and Glenmore Park Precinct; The Kingsway Sports Precinct in Kingswood and Werrington Precinct; Peter Van Hasselt Park in Luxford Precinct; and Whalan Reserve in St Marys Precinct.

- There are also several open spaces within the GPEC area containing facilities for specific sports and provide a regional function (see Section 'Sports stadiums, specialist sports facilities and showgrounds').

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



OPEN SPACE (REGIONAL)

Opportunities and challenges

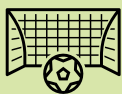
- Shanes Park to the north of the GPEC area is proposed to be designated a National Park and may provide future linear recreation opportunities.
- Penrith Lakes is being planned as a major regional open space in the north-west of the GPEC area, with a wide range of recreation uses.
- Penrith City Council is investing in new and improved multipurpose recreation precincts, such as creating the Gipps Street Recreation Precinct and upgrading The Kingsway Sports Precinct.
- The master plan for the Central Precinct in Jordan Springs proposes approximately 28 hectares of new open space. This will include play spaces, amenities and multipurpose fields accommodating four cricket ovals or six rectangular fields. An additional cricket oval, cricket practice facility, netball and multiuse courts, parking, and shared paths will also be provided. These open spaces will be close to existing regional open spaces of Wianamatta Regional Park (to the east) and South Creek (to the south and east).
- There are opportunities to increase the quality, functionality and diversity of uses offered in some recreation precincts in the area. For example, the draft St Marys Town Centre Structure Plan identifies opportunities to upgrade South Creek Park to a regional sports and recreation park.
- The planned Outer Sydney Orbital corridor runs along South Creek in viaduct, providing the opportunity for the acquisition and protection of open space (see Section 'Implications of Outer Sydney Orbital' on page 60). The challenge of integrating this infrastructure with usable open space, adjoining and beneath the viaduct, along this corridor will be explored in detailed design of the OSO and future master planning.

Figure 21: The 32-hectare Gipps Street Recreation Precinct in Claremont Meadows (Penrith LGA) is currently under construction. This regional outdoor sport and recreation facility will accommodate a range of structured and unstructured spaces, including five multipurpose fields, amenities building, inclusive play areas, skate park, pump track, netball courts, dog park and outdoor fitness equipment. Penrith City Council recently received funding to develop a new 10 court multipurpose indoor recreation centre adjacent to the Gipps Street Recreation Precinct site.



Source: Penrith City Council

OPEN SPACE (DISTRICT)



Key features and inclusions

- Provide unstructured or 'passive' recreational opportunities and structured or 'active' sport and recreational opportunities.
- Include clusters of a least two multipurpose sportsfields and/or groupings of outdoor multipurpose courts that can accommodate training and competitions for multiple sports, amenities, on-site parking, and set-backs or buffer zones.
- Include supporting amenities such as toilets and change rooms, canteen and barbeques, group meeting rooms and storage for different sporting groups.
- Include a range of offerings catering to different ages and interest groups, such as open grassed areas, playgrounds, skate parks, fitness stations, walking and cycling tracks, picnic shelters and toilets. Some district open spaces could also include dog parks.

Existing provision

- There are numerous district parks and local open spaces located in the South Creek and Ropes Creek corridors, and in other riparian corridors.
- While there are large areas of open space located on the edge of the Penrith CBD, there is limited district level open space.
- There are large areas of open space provided on WSU's Werrington and Kingswood Campuses, which are proposed to form part of The Quarter Health and Education Precinct.
- Initial NSW Office of Sport investigations indicate there is an existing shortage of sportsfields across the Blacktown and Penrith LGAs, in particular multipurpose fields that can accommodate different combinations of sport. Depending on future transport infrastructure and growth, the existing shortage of sportsfields in the Penrith LGA is expected to expand. There was also reported to be a shortage of hockey fields across both LGAs.

Opportunities and challenges

- A planned district open space in Jordan Springs will provide additional sporting fields, courts and amenities in the northern GPEC precincts.
- There are opportunities to support the growth of Penrith and St Marys with interconnected networks of high quality open spaces that provide diverse recreation opportunities.

Target provision



Between 2ha and 5ha in size (district parks)

Minimum 10ha (district sporting spaces)

2km from most homes, and 25 minutes walk

Source: Draft Greener Places Design Guide

Potential network gaps

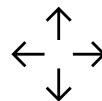
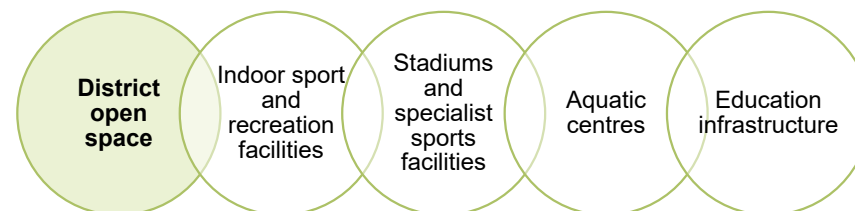


Figure 22 on page 63 shows 2km access catchments for district (and some regional) sports fields. It shows that most established parts of the GPEC area have good access to this form of open space, with the exception of Erskine Park, parts of Minchinbury and the area between Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill.

- There are opportunities to connect the open spaces located along riparian corridors, and to create additional east-west green links across the GPEC area.
- Large areas of open space within the WSU Kingswood and Werrington Campuses could potentially service the wider community.
- Existing open spaces could provide greater community benefits through reconfiguration, enhancement and embellishment.
- Work is currently being undertaken to explore shared-use arrangements with schools in the study area, and how to increase usage of facilities that are currently under-utilised.
- Open space within utility easement corridors provide opportunities for linear connections and unstructured recreational opportunities.

Compatible infrastructure / co-location opportunities



IMPLICATIONS OF OUTER SYDNEY ORBITAL

About the Outer Sydney Orbital

The proposed Outer Sydney Orbital (OSO) is a multi-modal corridor consisting of a possible motorway and freight rail. It aims to connect the Western Parkland City with the Central Coast and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven.

The corridor has been exhibited and confirmed by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in three stages. Stage 1 of the corridor runs between Sydney's North West and South West Growth Areas.

Implications on open space in the GPEC area

The proposed OSO Stage 1 corridor will be approximately 200m wide, with potentially wider areas to intersect with other major road and rail infrastructure. It is expected the proposed infrastructure will be elevated and require significant viaduct structures. This will aim to minimise impact on existing green space within the GPEC area, particularly along the South Creek corridor.

Table 2 summarises the key implications of OSO Stage 1 on key open space and recreation infrastructure within the GPEC area.

The future infrastructure that will comprise the OSO will need to be designed to consider open space. TfNSW will work with the community, local councils and other State Government agencies around the integration of the possible future motorway and freight rail line with existing open space.

Table 2: Summary of OSO implications on open space in the GPEC area

Open space name	Precinct	Summary of OSO implications
Wianamatta Regional Park	Ropes Crossing	The confirmed corridor traverses the Wianamatta Regional Park. Through agreement with National Parks and Wildlife Service the infrastructure will be on viaduct and follow an alignment that runs through a lower value area and allows for access under the viaduct and the provision of visitor facilities.
South Creek Recreation Precinct	St Marys	The confirmed corridor crosses existing areas of open space and recreation areas on the eastern side of South Creek. The proposed future infrastructure may impact open space and recreation infrastructure in this area, including Blair Oval, St Marys Tennis Centre and Penrith BMX Club. TfNSW are working with stakeholders to provide alternative recreational space.
The Kingsway Sporting Precinct	Kingswood and Werrington	The proposed future infrastructure may impact on 2-3 existing fields within the Kingsway Playing Field Precinct. Ongoing collaboration is required between state and local governments to provide alternative recreational space.
Samuel Marsden Reserve	Orchard Hills	The proposed future infrastructure may impact on two of the three existing baseball fields at Samuel Marsden Reserve. The third baseball field may also be impacted, however this would need to be investigated further during the detailed design of the OSO. Discussions have been held with Penrith City Council recognising the need to provide alternative recreational space.
Riding for the Disabled Nepean Centre	Orchard Hills	The proposed future infrastructure may impact the existing Riding for the Disabled Centre at Orchard Hills. Ongoing collaboration is needed between state and local government to provide alternative recreation space if required.

OPEN SPACE (REGIONAL AND DISTRICT)

Directions for future provision

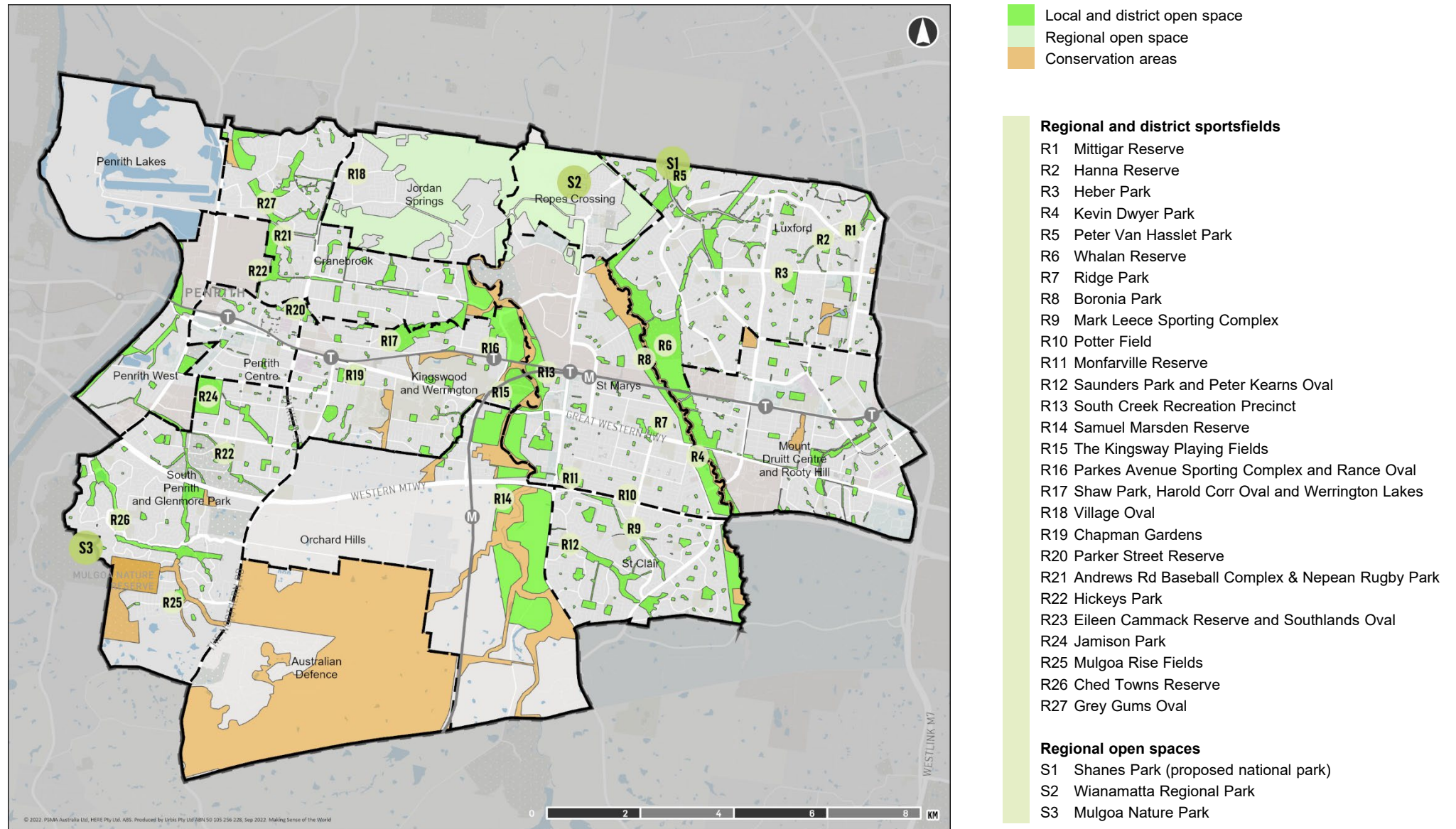
- Connect the large areas of open space located north-south along riparian corridors, as proposed in the Western Sydney Green Grid, and create additional east-west green links across the GPEC area.
- Investigate opportunities to increase unstructured recreation opportunities in Wianamatta Regional Park and Mulgoa Nature Reserve, as well as the future Shanes Park National Park (to the north of the GPEC area), without reducing their conservation functions.
- Prioritise implementation of recommendations for the Central precinct (Precinct 5) in the Penrith Green Grid Strategy to increase access to linear green space and support population growth in the CBD and surrounding suburbs.
- Maximise the quality, usability and diversity of uses offered in regional and district recreation precincts, including Peter Van Hasselt Park, Jamison Park, and Whalan Reserve (including better use of land to the south of the reserve).
- Investigate opportunities to reconfigure, enhance and embellish existing sportsfields and any opportunities for upgrades to, and shared-use of, school sportsfields.
- Work with WSU and its development partner Stockland to enhance and increase community access to open space on the Kingswood and Werrington Campuses and in surrounding development.
- Create as many opportunities as possible for shade and cooling in open space across the GPEC area, whether through green links, additional planting in existing areas of open space or use of water elements.
- Undertake studies to identify opportunities to provide unstructured recreation opportunities along utility easement corridors.
- Protect and enhance open space in town centres in particular to ensure adequate open space for population growth and increased densities in these locations (e.g. Bennett Park in St Marys).
- Work with the NSW Office of Sport to identify sporting needs and requirements for each GPEC precinct and to inform the design and programming of sports facilities within open spaces, including any specialist facilities for specific sports.
- While improving opportunities for recreation in open spaces is a key focus, this assessment also recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing open space with biodiversity value. High value natural areas make a substantial contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities, in addition to significant environmental benefits.

The following directions are provided to manage potential impacts on existing open space as a result of the future OSO:

- Work with Transport for NSW to consider the detailed design of the OSO to reduce impacts on regional and district open space and to identify potential unstructured recreation opportunities below the OSO viaducts.
- Master plan The Kingsway in the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct and South Creek Recreation Precinct (including Blair Oval, the Penrith BMX Club and St Marys Tennis Centre) in the St Marys precinct, to take into account the OSO corridor. This work should also consider future planning for St Marys Senior High School and Ripples Leisure Centre to meet the needs of the growing St Marys Precinct.
- Investigate opportunities to provide additional baseball fields in future district or regional open spaces to offset the future potential loss of these spaces at Samuel Marsden Reserve due to the OSO. Reconfigure the remaining open space at Samuel Marsden Reserve to maximise recreation potential.
- Work with Riding for the Disability to identify an alternative site for its existing centre in Orchard Hills. This could be within or outside the GPEC area.
- Identify locations for new district open spaces in the Orchard Hills precinct to offset open space impacted by the OSO.

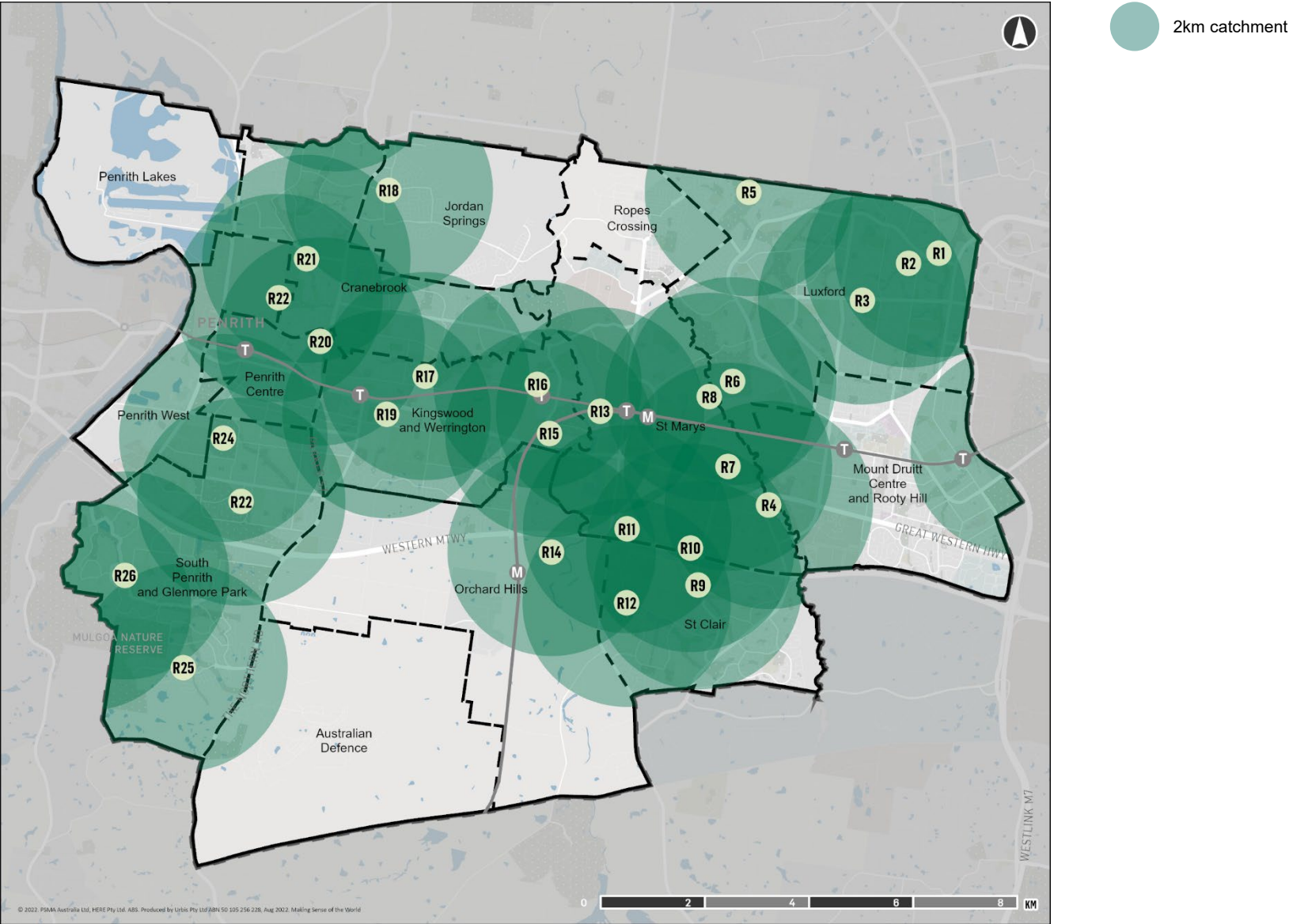
EXISTING OPEN SPACE

Figure 22: Map of existing local, district and regional open space



EXISTING OPEN SPACE ACCESS

Figure 23: Map of regional and district sportsfields with 2km catchments



6.0 SUMMARY OF PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE

A group of four students are sitting around a grey table in a library, engaged in a collaborative study session. On the left, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a white sleeveless top, smiles while looking at a tablet computer. Next to her, a young man with short brown hair, wearing a grey t-shirt, is also smiling and looking towards the right. Behind him, a young woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a black top with white polka dots, is looking at a laptop. On the far right, the back of a young woman's head and shoulders are visible as she looks towards the group. The table is cluttered with various items: an open book, a tablet on a stand, a laptop, and another open book. The background is filled with tall white bookshelves packed with books of various colors, creating a studious atmosphere.

6.1 SUMMARY OF PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE

This section provides a summary of recommended social infrastructure and open space identified in this report. The recommended facilities and spaces are shown spatially in Figure 22 on the following page.

Planning, design and delivery of the proposed works should be guided by the principles outlined in Section 4 and specific directions for future provision for each infrastructure type included throughout Section 5.

In addition to the regional and district level infrastructure items listed in this document, a significant number of local infrastructure items will be needed to support growth, such as local parks. Future detailed planning of urban release areas and urban renewal areas will identify these items.

The indicative timeframes and potential funding sources may evolve and require refinement to align with growth and future agency funding budgets over time.

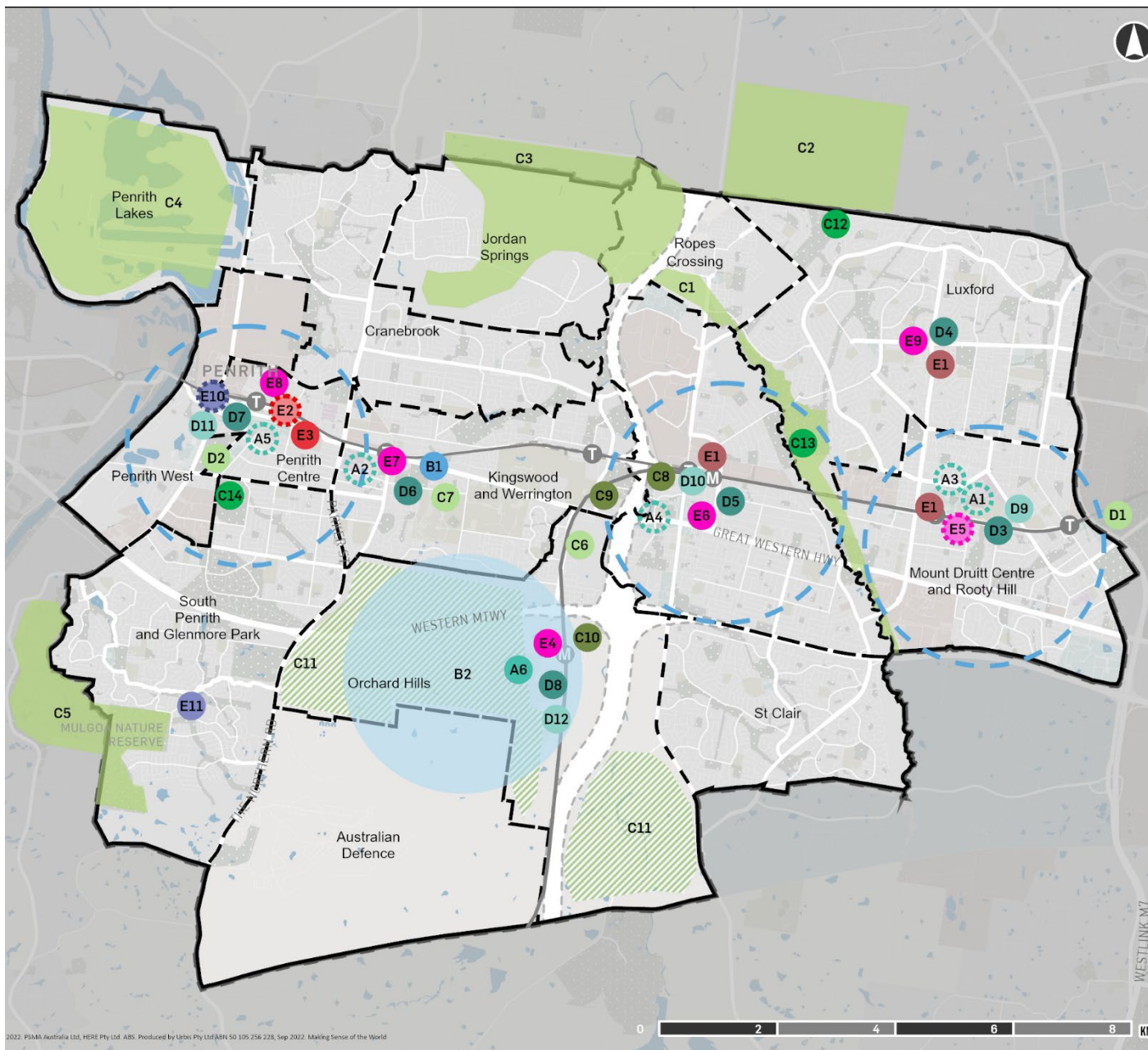
Each draft infrastructure item has been identified with the following:

- Timeframes for delivery, aligned to projected population growth
 - Short term – 1-5 years
 - Medium term – 5-10 years
 - Longer term – 10+ years.
- Function categorisation:
 - Enabling infrastructure – Required for development to progress
 - Supporting infrastructure – Supports proposed development, however development can continue without this infrastructure being provided upfront
 - Ongoing – elements required iteratively to meet growth demands.
- An indicative potential funding source (or sources)*. Resolution of funding sources for infrastructure delivery is subject to future planning, NSW budget allocations, and agencies due processes.

* State infrastructure contributions are referred to as one of the many sources of funding for growth infrastructure, collected via a charge on development to assist with the delivery of infrastructure in high growth areas, such as the GPEC area. They provide a mechanism to ensure the right infrastructure proposals are developed and delivered at the right time to support the development of liveable, productive, and sustainable communities.

Contributions collected within the GPEC area may help to deliver State and regional infrastructure such as transport, education, health, emergency services, open space, and biodiversity. The mechanism to collect State infrastructure contributions is being progressively reviewed to ensure it closely aligns with the infrastructure required to support growing communities.

Figure 24: Proposed social infrastructure and open space



HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

- Investigate requirement for infrastructure upgrades
- New HealthOne facility (committed)

EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Tertiary education precinct (expanded and enhanced)
- Investigate opportunities for new schools
- Investigate the potential of existing school sites in key growth centres to support population growth

OPEN SPACE

- Increased opportunities for recreation in regional open spaces
- Opportunities for new district open spaces
- Regional and district sport and recreation precincts (new and expanded or upgraded)
- Open space impacted by Outer Sydney Orbital (upgraded)
- Other key existing open space upgrades

INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Indoor sport and recreation facilities (new or expanded)
- Aquatic facilities (new or expanded)

COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Community hub (new)
- Community hub (expanded)
- Library service (new)
- Library (expanded)
- Aboriginal cultural centre (new)
- Cultural facility/gallery (new)
- Cultural centre (expanded)

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: HEALTH

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Nepean Hospital	Investigate need for upgrade	Work with the NBMLHD to investigate whether the planned expansion of Nepean Hospital will be able to accommodate the additional health needs generated by GPEC area and identify future requirements.	Supporting	Short term	Health Infrastructure NSW (HINSW)	Kingswood and Werrington	A2
Mount Druitt Hospital	Investigate need for upgrade	Work with the WSLHD to investigate whether the Mount Druitt Hospital will be able to accommodate the additional health needs generated by GPEC area associated population growth, and identify future requirements.	Supporting	Short to medium term	HINSW	Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill	A1
Existing community health centres – St Marys, Penrith and Mount Druitt	Investigate need for upgrades	Work with the LHDs to understand the current capacity of existing community health centres, in particular those in key growth areas, and identify requirements for facility upgrades.	Supporting	Short to medium term	HINSW State infrastructure contributions	St Marys, Penrith Centre, Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill	A4, A5, A3
New community health centres to accommodate growth	Investigate need for new facility	Work with the LHDs to identify potential needs for new community health facilities or spaces to accommodate existing needs and growth e.g. in the Kingswood and Werrington, and Luxford Precincts.	Supporting	Medium term	HINSW State infrastructure contributions	Kingswood and Werrington, Luxford	-
Orchard Hills HealthOne facility	New	Work with NBMLHD to progress plans for the Orchard Hills HealthOne facility, and ensure the facility is planned and designed to enable staged expansion to accommodate population growth over time.	Enabling	Medium term	HINSW	Orchard Hills	A6

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: EDUCATION

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Tertiary education opportunities	Upgrades and new	Work with WSU and TAFE NSW to investigate opportunities to expand education opportunities in the planning of The Quarter Education and Health Precinct and provision of other opportunities within the GPEC area (e.g. Penrith City Centre vertical campus).	Supporting	Medium to longer term	NSW Government Partners	Kingswood and Werrington, Penrith Centre	B1
New primary schools in the Orchard Hills Precinct	New	Plan for new primary schools to support population growth projected in the Orchard Hills Precinct.	Enabling	Short to medium term	NSW Government State VPA	Orchard Hills	B2
New high school in the Orchard Hills Precinct	New	Plan for a new high school in the Orchard Hills precinct, close to the planned metro station.	Enabling	Short to medium term	NSW Government State VPA	Orchard Hills	B2
Upgrades and expansions of existing schools	Investigate need for upgrades	Investigate whether upgrades and/or expansions of schools in the GPEC area are needed to accommodate existing and future students, particularly in key centres and surrounding precincts including Penrith, St Marys and Mount Druitt.	Supporting	Medium to longer term	NSW Government State VPA	Multiple	-

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Penrith Library	Upgrade	Expand the existing Penrith Central Library to provide additional meeting and study spaces, amenities and services.	Supporting	Short term	Council funding State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants	Penrith Centre	E10
The Mt Druitt Hub	Upgrade	Expand The Mount Druitt Hub to provide additional library, community centre spaces and new creative spaces.	Supporting	Short term	As above	Mt Druitt and Rooty Hill	E5
St Marys community hub	New	Provide a new multipurpose community hub as part of the master planning process for the St Marys Town Centre. The hub should include a library, community centre, creative spaces, and spaces for community service provision.	Supporting	Short to medium term	As above	St Marys	E6
Penrith Centre community hub	New	Provide a new multipurpose community hub in the Penrith Centre. A potential option is co-location with the existing library, though redevelopment of the existing library site.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	Penrith Centre	E8
Aboriginal Cultural Centre	New	Work with Aboriginal stakeholders to create a purpose-built regional Aboriginal cultural facility. Potential locations include Luxford, St Marys and Mt Druitt Precincts.	Supporting	Short to medium term	NSW Government State infrastructure contributions Grants	Mt Druitt and Rooty Hill, Luxford or St Marys	E1
Glenmore Park library services	New	Provide satellite library services from the Glenmore Park Youth and Community Centre. This may require building modifications.	Supporting	Short to medium term	Council funding Grants	South Penrith and Glenmore Park	E11

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Luxford community hub	New	Provide a new multipurpose community hub that includes a library or satellite library services, community centre, creative spaces, spaces for community service provision and/or community health services. Potential locations include in Emerton (as part of a redevelopment of the Emerton Youth Centre or the Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre).	Supporting	Medium term	Council funding State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants	Luxford	E9
Orchard Hills South community hub	New	Provide a new multipurpose community hub in the southern area of the Orchard Hills precinct, in the town centre and close to the new metro station. The hub should include a library or satellite library services, community centre, creative spaces, and spaces for community service provision. The planning for this facility should allow for staged development or expansion to accommodate population growth beyond 2036.	Enabling	Medium term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants	Orchard Hills	E4
Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre	Upgrade	Expand the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, including provision of rehearsal space and expanded change room amenities.	Supporting	Medium term	NSW Government State infrastructure contributions Grants	Penrith Centre	E2
Art gallery in Penrith Centre	New	Plan for a future new regional gallery in the Penrith CBD, potentially co-located or incorporated within the proposed new Penrith Centre community hub.	Supporting	Longer term	As above	Penrith Centre	E3
Kingswood community hub	New or upgrade	Provide a new multipurpose community hub that includes a library, community centre, creative spaces, spaces for community service provision and/or community health services. Consider this facility as part of the master planning process for The Quarter Education and Health Precinct and investigate the option to redevelop an existing facility (e.g. the Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre).	Supporting	Medium term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants Partners	Kingswood and Werrington	E7

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Luxford indoor sport and recreation facility	Upgrade	Create a district multipurpose indoor recreation centre in the Luxford Precinct through expansion of the Emerton Youth and Recreation Centre or of the Charlie Lowles Leisure Centre.	Supporting	Medium term	Council funding State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants	Luxford	D4
Mount Druitt Swimming Centre	Upgrade	Redevelop Mount Druitt Swimming Centre to create a multipurpose aquatic centre. The redevelopment could include refurbishment of existing 50 metre pool and creation of new indoor and outdoor facilities.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	Mount Druitt and Rooty Hill	D9
Ripples Leisure Centre St Marys	Upgrade	Redevelop Ripples Leisure Centre St Marys to expand existing offerings and the capacity of hydrotherapy facilities.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	St Marys	D10
Ripples Leisure Centre Penrith	Upgrade	Redevelop Ripples Leisure Centre Penrith to create a multipurpose aquatic centre. The redevelopment could include refurbishment of existing 50 metre pool, creation of new indoor and outdoor facilities and potential provision of hydrotherapy and deep water sports facilities.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	Penrith Centre	D11
Mount Druitt indoor sport and recreation facility	New or upgrade existing facility	Provide a new multipurpose indoor sport and recreation centre in the Mount Druitt Town Centre, as part of the redevelopment of Mount Druitt Swimming Centre or further expansion of Kevin Betts Stadium.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	Mount Druitt	D3
St Marys indoor sport and recreation facility	New	Investigate a new multipurpose indoor recreation centre in St Marys, potentially as part of the redevelopment of Ripples Leisure Centre St Marys.	Supporting	Medium term	As above	St Marys	D5
Kingswood/ Werrington indoor sport and recreation facility	New	Provide a new multipurpose indoor recreation centre in the Kingswood and Werrington Precinct. Consider this facility as part of the master planning process for The Quarter Education and Health Precinct.	Supporting	Medium term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants Partners	Kingswood and Werrington	D6

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Penrith Centre indoor sport and recreation facility	New	Provide a new multipurpose indoor recreation centre in Penrith, potentially as part of the redevelopment of Ripples Leisure Centre Penrith.	Supporting	Medium term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions Grants	Penrith Centre	D7
Orchard Hills South indoor sport and recreation facility	New	Investigate the need for a new multipurpose indoor sport and recreation centre in the south of the Orchard Hills Precinct, close to the future centre of population growth and the proposed metro station, noting that Penrith City Council will develop a new indoor sport facility at Claremont Meadows.	Enabling	Medium term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions	Orchard Hills	D8
Orchard Hills South multipurpose aquatic centre	New	Plan for one additional aquatic facility in the GPEC area to be provided after 2036, aligned with projected population growth. This facility could be co-located with a new multipurpose indoor recreation centre. Potential locations for this include Orchard Hills and the new facility in Claremont Meadows.	Enabling	Longer term	State infrastructure contributions Local development contributions	Orchard Hills	D12

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: OPEN SPACE

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Green links	Investigate	Prepare a detailed and costed plan to connect large north-south open space areas along riparian corridors, as proposed in the Western Sydney Green Grid, and create more east-west green links. Location of new links to consider future dwellings, evacuation routes.	Supporting	Short term	NSW Government State infrastructure contributions	Multiple	-
Acquisition and protection of South Creek	Investigate and resolve	Work with Transport for NSW to secure the acquisition of private land for both the Outer Sydney Orbital and the adjoining open space to enable regional connectivity along and across South Creek.	Enabling	Short term	NSW Government	Multiple	-
Green space in and around the OSO	Investigate and resolve	Work with Transport for NSW to consider the detailed design of the OSO to reduce impacts on regional and district open space and to identify potential unstructured recreation opportunities below the OSO viaducts.	Enabling	Short term	NSW Government	Multiple	-
Specific spaces impacted by OSO	Investigate and resolve	Investigate and resolve the approach to replacing spaces and relocating facilities impacted by the OSO, including baseball fields at Samuel Marsden Reserve and Riding for the Disabled.	Supporting	Short to medium term	NSW Government	Multiple	-
South Creek Park and The Kingsway Sporting Precinct	Upgrade	Master plan The Kingsway South Creek Recreation Precinct to take into account the open space and recreation infrastructure lost at these sites due to OSO infrastructure.	Enabling	Short term	State infrastructure contributions	Kingswood and Werrington	C9
Orchard Hills district open spaces	New	Identify locations for new district open spaces in the Orchard Hills precinct to offset open space impacted by the OSO.	Enabling	Short term	Local development contributions	Orchard Hills	C11
Existing sportsfields	Investigate upgrades	Investigate opportunities to reconfigure, enhance and embellish existing sportsfields and any opportunities for upgrades to, and shared-use of, existing school sportsfields.	Supporting	Short term	Local development contributions NSW Government	All precincts	-

6.1 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE: OPEN SPACE

Infrastructure	Category of work	Description	Function	Timing	Funding options	Precinct	Map ref.
Easement corridors	Investigate	Investigate opportunities to provide unstructured recreation opportunities along utility easement corridors.	Supporting	Short term	State infrastructure contributions Council funding	All precincts	-
Peter Van Hasselt Park	Upgrade	Maximise the quality, usability and diversity of uses.	Supporting	Medium term	Local development contributions	Luxford	C12
Whalan Reserve	Upgrade	Maximise the quality, usability and diversity of uses.	Supporting	Medium term	Local development contributions	Luxford	C13
Jamison Park	Upgrade	Maximise the quality, usability and diversity of uses, including upgrading of facilities to maximise capacity and meet contemporary participation needs.	Supporting	Medium term	Local development contributions	South Penrith and Glenmore Park	C14
WSU Kingswood and Werrington Campus open space	Partner and enhance	Work with WSU and its development partner Stockland to enhance and increase community access to open space on the Kingswood and Werrington Campuses and surrounding development.	Supporting	Medium term	Local development contributions Partners	Kingswood and Werrington	C7
Wianamatta Regional Park	Investigate enhancement	Investigate opportunities to increase unstructured recreation opportunities.	Supporting	Medium to longer term	State infrastructure contributions	Ropes Crossing, Jordan Springs	C3
Mulgoa Nature Reserve	Investigate enhancement	Investigate opportunities to increase unstructured recreation opportunities.	Supporting	Medium to longer term	As above	South Penrith and Glenmore Park	C5
Shanes Park	Investigate enhancement	Investigate opportunities to increase unstructured recreation opportunities.	Supporting	Medium to longer term	As above	Outside GPEC area	C2

