

This plan will support the ongoing management and development of Council's parks, reserves and sportsgrounds

# Plan of Management for Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds 2020-2025

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# Plan of Management - Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds

## 1. Introduction

### Plan of Management Requirements

Plans of Management are required to be prepared by Council in consultation with the community, for all public land classified as community land. A **Plan of Management (PoM)** is a long-term land management document describing the characteristics of the applicable land, requirements for its management, and permissible uses both now and into the future.

**Community land** is categorised as **Park, Sportsground, Reserve, Natural Area, General Community Use** or an **Area of Cultural Significance**. The guidelines for these categorisations, as follow:

- **Park** - non-sporting community land which is mainly to be used for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits
- **Sportsground** - community land which is predominantly to be used for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games
- **Reserve** – identified area such as the Town Common
- **Natural Area** - bushland, wetland, watercourse, or another category prescribed by the Department Natural Resources Mines and Energy
- **General Community Use** - land which may be made available for use by the public, and does not satisfy the guidelines for any of the other categories
- **Area of Cultural Significance** - an area of Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research, or social significance (*QLD Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*)

A PoM may be Generic, relating to all land of a particular type, or Specific to a particular area. A specific Plan of Management may be required for some; e.g. **Reserves, Natural Areas or Areas of Cultural Significance**.

Areas of Cultural Significance or Natural Areas within the Boulia Local Government Area (LGA) are identified within the Town Planning Scheme: Waddi Tree, Min Min Hotel ruins, Urandangi Cemetery, Hamilton Hotel ruins, Boulia Cemetery, Native Police Barracks.

Council has allocated a reserve called 'The Town Common' which is used for hobby agricultural purposes and this area will be subject to a specific PoM in the future.

## 2. Scope

Table 1 lists criteria which provides a legal framework to guide the Council in their responsibility for the management, improvement and development of land classified as community land.

**Table 1:**

<b>Identification of minimum requirements</b>	<b>Section where this PoM addresses these requirements</b>
Categorise the land	<a href="#">5.0 The Sportsgrounds in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds</a>
Objectives and performance targets for the land	<a href="#">8.0. Action Plan</a>
Means by which Council will achieve the objectives and performance targets	<a href="#">8.0. Action Plan</a>
Manner in which Council will assess its performance	<a href="#">8.0. Action Plan</a>
Public consultation of Draft PoM	<a href="#">3. General PoM Implementation Process</a>
Public exhibition of Draft PoM	3. <a href="#">General PoM Implementation Process</a>
<b>Additional inclusions</b>	
Description of the condition of the land and any buildings or improvements on the land	<a href="#">12. Specific Management Information</a>
General schedule of maintenance	<a href="#">8.2. General Schedule of Maintenance</a>
Proposed capital works & improvements	<a href="#">8.3. Proposed Capital Works Priority Table</a>

### 3. General PoM Implementation Process

The general process for the implementation of the Draft Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds Plan of Management (PoM) is as follows:

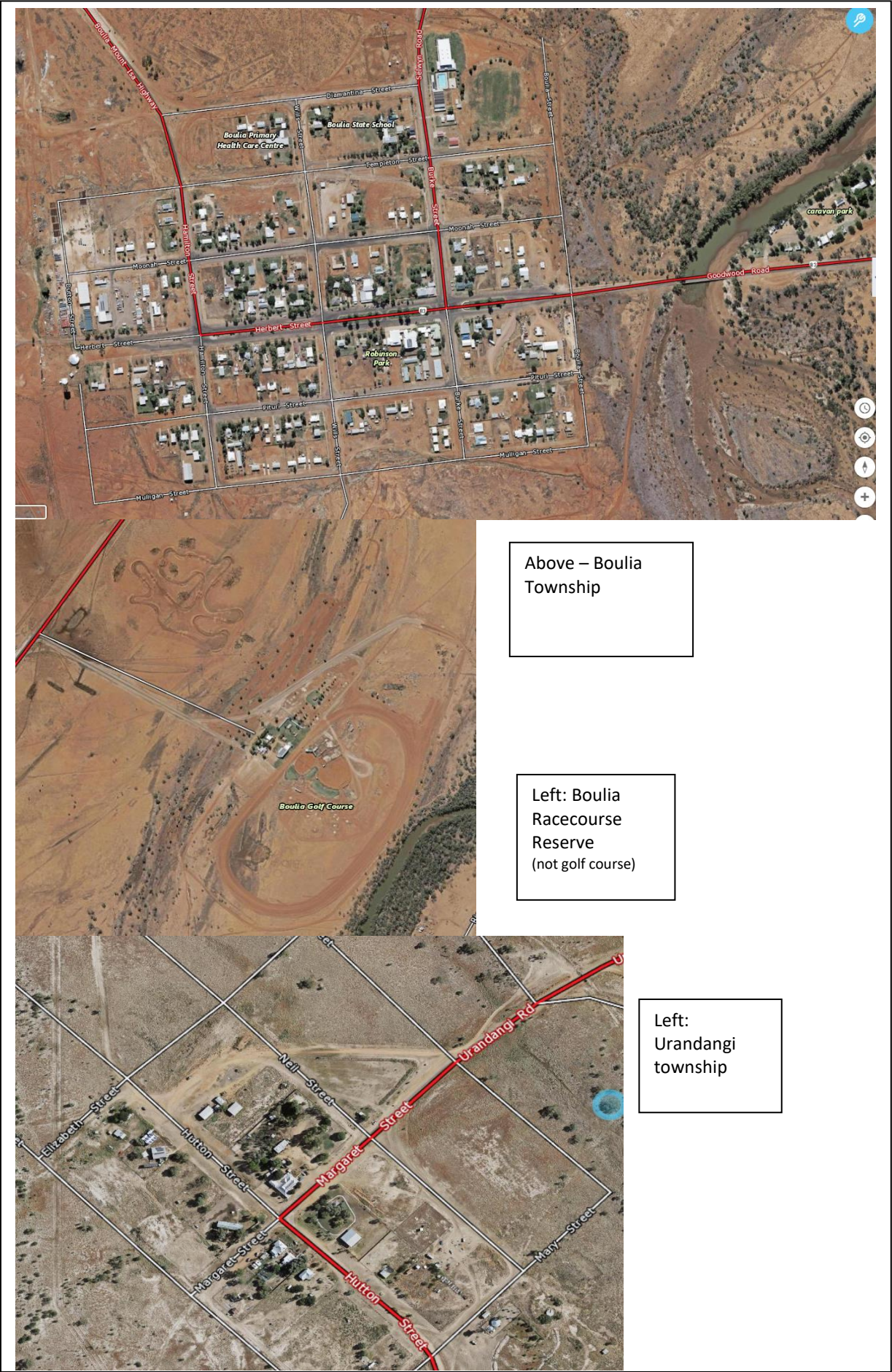
- Consultation with the community for suggestions and ideas.
- Preparation of the document.
- Draft PoM presented to Council for approval for public exhibition.
- In accordance with the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy, community consultation must be held if Community Land is proposed to be categorised or re-categorised.
- Draft PoM is placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days, with written submissions taken for at least 42 days from the first day of public exhibition.
- Council staff review comments received, and make changes to the Draft PoM accordingly.
- Revised Draft PoM presented to Council for adoption.
- Final Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds PoM is adopted, implemented and made available for public view on Council's website, in the Boulia Library, and at Council's Administration Office.

### 4. Review

This PoM will be reviewed in accordance with the requirements of Council procedures. The schedule for this review is every five years from the date of adoption of this PoM.

## Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds

The Boulia LGA covers approximately 63,000 square kilometres. There are 4 parks/open space areas and 1 categorised sportsgrounds. Map 1 below shows all of Boulia Council's sportsgrounds in the context of other parks and open space in the Boulia LGA.



Above – Boulia Township

Left: Boulia Racecourse Reserve (not golf course)

Left: Urandangi township

Map 1. Sportsgrounds, other parks and open space in the Boulia LGA

## 5. Boulia's Sportsgrounds, Parks, Reserves, Recreation areas and Open Spaces

The formation of new sportsgrounds, parks and open spaces is limited by the availability of suitable public-owned land. Accordingly, there is pressure to ensure that the existing parks and sportsgrounds meet the needs of users and serve multiple purposes. Therefore, Council's focus is on improving the appeal, useability and quality, of the existing sportsgrounds, parks and open spaces across the Boulia LGA through responsible and ongoing management.

Table 2 below details the category and ownership of Boulia Council's Parks and Sportsgrounds.

**Table 2: Boulia Council's Parks, Reserves, Recreation areas and Sportsgrounds**

Park/Land	Category	Land Owner
Robinson Park	Park	Council/Crown
Boulia Aquatic Centre (Tennis Courts)	Sportsground	Council/Crown
Boulia Sportsground	Sportsground	Council/Crown
Boulia Racecourse Reserve	Reserve	Council/Crown
Town Common	Reserve	Council/Crown
Urandangi Park	Park	Council/Crown

Council owns and manages some landscaped open space areas which are part of reserves. These open space areas are managed under Boulia Council's Parks and Gardens schedule.

## 6. The Sportsgrounds in Boulia Shire Council LGA

### Location Description and Land Categorisation

Boulia Shire Council sportsground and aquatic centre are located on the northern side of the Burke River in the Boulia LGA. The sportsground and aquatic centre fronts onto Burke Street with vehicular access from Templeton Street. The Herbert Street bicycle and pedestrian path provides linkages between Boulia township and the Boulia Caravan Park and open spaces along the Burke River. The Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds are used for cricket and football games and are also enjoyed by the community for passive recreation and informal ball games. Boulia Shire Council sportsground is located on the northern side (Lots 17 in B2674) which is used for organised sports and active recreation.

### Objectives

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a **sportsground** are:

- *to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and*
- *to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.*

### Zoning - Boulia Town Planning Scheme

Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds - are zoned Recreation and Public Open Spaces. The objectives of this zoning are:

- *To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes.*
- *To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses.*
- *To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.*

## 7. General Objectives of the Plan of Management for Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds

The general objectives for the management of Boulia Shire Council parks, reserve's and Sportsgrounds are to:

- Ensure the adequacy, quality, safety, accessibility, cleanliness, aesthetics, and maintenance standard of the facilities provided to the community in sportsgrounds.
- Provide an Asset Management approach to proactively implement schedules of monitoring, audits, maintenance, repair, replacement, improvement of facilities, with available funding and staff to provide optimal community open space compatible with community requirements.
- Consider the community in the provision of facilities and areas in terms of accessibility, values, health and safety, security, heritage, and avoiding damage or nuisance to neighbouring residences.
- Protect and improve the natural and urban environment, both locally and broadly, in accordance with ecologically sustainable development principles, including vegetation, soil, waterways, air and biodiversity, and minimising resource use in the management of parks, reserves and sportsgrounds, including water, energy, transport and waste.
- Provide a rationale for the prioritisation of funding opportunities in support of capital works, from external sources.
- Consider sale/disposal of Community Land which is under-utilised or unsuitable as public land, if required.

The Strategic Corporate Plan 2019-2024 involved extensive community consultation and analysis of Council's role, with the outcome of a set of key themes which articulate the values of the community and provide the basis for the development of Council's future strategic goals and actions. The key themes are:

- Key Priority 1: A strong supportive community environment
- Key Priority 2: Building and maintaining quality infrastructure
- Key Priority 3: Economic Development - A sustainable local economy
- Key Priority 4: Caring for the environment
- Key Priority 5: Robust Governance
- Key Priority 6: Supporting local services and facilities
- Key Priority 7: Valuing our greatest asset - people
- Key Priority 8: Proactive and responsible leadership

The community's values as compiled through the Strategic Corporate Plan 2019-2024, and the goals of those strategies, have informed the objectives of this PoM. In particular the following Strategic Goals extracted from Key priorities 1, 3 and 4 of the Strategic Corporate Plan 2019-2024 have contributed to the development of the objectives of this PoM. These values will be considered in the ongoing management of Boulia's open space recreational areas.

### **Maintain a high quality of life by providing facilities and resources that encourage a secure, interactive and progressive community lifestyle**

- Maintain clean and attractive streets and public spaces
- Promotion and support for community celebrations which are able to be held in Council facilities: Burke Hall, Shire Hall, Racecourse Reserve, Sports Centre

### **Well managed environmental resources which supports our future growth**

- Facilitate land and infrastructure planning and development that meets the needs of the community.
- Provide a safe and pleasant environment for families to live and work.

### **A sense of community pride**

- Preserve Boulia's diverse heritage and provide information on the history of the area

### **Maintain and enhance open spaces and streetscapes**

- Provide adequate funding to maintain open space areas
- Ensure all public parks and open spaces are accessible, maintained and well managed to meet the current and future recreation needs of the community

### **Accessible services and facilities that are well utilised**

- Explore options for upgrading old facilities
- Improve accessibility of Council owned community facilities

### **Safe facilities and services**

- Design footpaths to increase pedestrian only spaces for improved pedestrian access and safety
- Improve street lighting and lighting in public places

### **Land Uses and Development**

Approval of uses and developments is dependent on various factors including site conditions within and surrounding particular areas, the community's needs, and availability of resources. Some uses and developments will require development consent, including the associated community consultation process.

The following development is permitted with consent: building identification signs; business identification signs; community facilities; emergency services facilities; recreation areas; recreation facilities (indoor); recreation facilities (outdoor); and hotels, motels, caravan parks restaurants or cafes.

### **Supported Developments**

Apart from those uses and developments regulated by legislation, this PoM provides the following guidance around the types of activities which will be supported and prohibited within Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds.

The currently supported developments in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds are listed below.

- Sporting facilities
- Hard and soft landscape
- Amenities
- Access paths
- BBQs
- Lighting
- Café/kiosk
- Community gardens
- Recreational facilities
- Playground equipment and shade structures
- Improvement of access, amenity and aesthetics of a park/sportsground
- Council park provisions signage

### **Supported Uses**

- Amenities to facilitate recreational use such as toilets, change rooms
- Fitness circuit equipment
- Water refilling stations
- Park seating
- Picnic tables/seating/shelters
- Recreational equipment e.g. bocce court



- Public toilets
- Gazebo
- Rotunda/Bandstand
- Bicycle racks
- Cycle/walking pathways
- Parks operations depot buildings

The currently approved uses in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds are listed below:

- Passive and active recreation public accessibility
- Storage for equipment associated with maintenance or management
- Service areas associated with maintenance or management
- On-leash dog walking
- Council and Community events
- Personal training
- Picnics
- Formal sporting activities, games and training
- Informal games, sports & activities
- Children's play
- Exercise
- Walking
- Cycling
- Informal group recreational gatherings

### **Prohibited Uses**

The following activities (but not limited to) are prohibited within Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds:

- Motor bikes\*
- Horses (unless in an authorised location)
- Open fires (unless in an authorised location)
- Camping
- Golf (unless on the Golf Course Reserve)
- Motorised hobby articles (including but not limited to motor vehicles, aeroplanes and bikes)
- Dumping of rubbish
- Off-leash dog walking

\* An application may be made to Council to request approval to use a motor bike within a nominated Boulia Shire Council Park, Reserve or Sportsground for a specific event and time frame.

### **Public Art**

Council has a strong commitment to accessible public art in shared community spaces such as Parks and Reserves. Proposed artworks should complement the natural and cultural heritage of the Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds. The placement and installation of public art in or around the shire will be considered on a case by case basis approved by resolution of Council.

Council responds to graffiti damage promptly and regular patrols are conducted by staff. Offenders of malicious damage to Council property will be prosecuted.

### **Leases, Licences and Easements**

The Council is able to grant leases, licences and other estates over all or part of community land. Leases and licences are a method of formalising the use of land and facilities. Leases and licences can be held by groups such as community organisations, schools, commercial organisations, or individuals providing facilities and/or services for profit.

**A lease** is a contract between a land owner and another entity, granting that entity a right to occupy an area for a specified period of time. Council will consider leasing areas of the land covered by this PoM under the following circumstances:

- that there is a clear reason for granting a lease, and the lease is consistent with the intended use of the land.
- there is a demonstrated link between the nature of the asset and the proposed tenant consistent with the objectives of the PoM.

**Licences** allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A licence may be required where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of the area is proposed. A number of licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest. A licence allows occupation and a clear and transparent way of identifying the permitted activity. The main difference between a lease and licence is that a licence does not permit the sole, or exclusive, use of the area. Licences may be granted to formally recognise and endorse shared uses. For example, an area may be licensed for use by a commercial photographer at a particular time, and family gatherings at other times. Short term licences and bookings may be used to allow Council to program different uses at different times, allowing the best overall use.

Easements or other rights over land for public utilities (electricity, telecommunications, water, drainage, sewerage, gas etc) may be granted by Bouliia Shire Council following application and approval by Council. Where possible, Council will coordinate to minimise the disruption to public use of the Parks or Reserves.

#### **Licences Applicable to Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds**

Under the conditions outlined above, this PoM expressly authorises the granting of short-term licences in Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds that fall within the following categories:

- Markets
- Concerts and performances
- Delivering a public address
- Commercial photographic sessions
- Picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings
- Filming for cinema, television and other media
- Community, educational and/or sporting activities/uses for single one-off events
- Personal training sessions

In regard to granting such a licence, Council must take into consideration whether:

- The use/activity is in the public interest
- The use/activity would not cause any significant detrimental impact on the facility/area or on the local community

No permanent buildings or structures are to be erected as part of a Licence.

#### **Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds hire**

Hire of Bouliia Shire Council Parks and Reserves or Sportsgrounds requires a Hire/Event Application form to be completed and submitted to Council. Bookings may be one-off or seasonal dependent on availability and the applicant complying with the conditions of the hire including appropriate insurance, risk management and other requirements listed on the application form. Confirmation from Council of a booking is required prior to the applicant occupying the area on the booking date from Council's Administration office.

#### **Telecommunications**

Council may consider the granting of a lease or licence for the erection and use of "low impact" telecommunications towers as defined by the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

## Pipelines

An agreement between Boulia Shire Council and any proposed company would need to be reached prior to easements being granted in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds. Any future pipelines will be subject to payment of an annual rental. All proposed works in the vicinity of the easements require prior coordination with Council's Engineer. Pipeline easements in Boulia Shire Council Reserves are beyond the scope of this Plan of Management. However, this information has been included in the interest of protecting the environment.

## Compliance

Provision signage is placed in each sportsground to inform all users of prohibited activities. Sportsground users are encouraged to report any breaches of the Sportsground and Park provisions to Council.

## Alcohol in public parks/sportsgrounds

Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds are not currently governed by Alcohol Prohibited Area provisions. However, Council has the authority to declare a park or section of a park as an Alcohol Prohibited Area if such conditions are required to control alcohol related behaviour. Any such declaration may occur for a specific period of time by order of Council and such declaration will result in signage being installed in the relevant section of the park.

## Smoking in public parks, sportsgrounds and reserves

This PoM acknowledges and references Boulia Shire Council's *Smoke-Free Environments Policy*. Under this policy, smoking is currently banned within 10 metres of children's and young people's activities and play equipment, and all Council owned and managed buildings.

## Car Parking

While Boulia Sportsground and Racecourse Reserve contain car parking for users, generally it is considered that parks will be used by local residents, and that recreation rather than parking makes better use of community land. There are some parking spaces on Templeton Street for users of the sportsground and in the Racecourse Reserve. Parking of a vehicle within a sportsground or Racecourse Reserve is only allowed in signed areas.

## Facilities

Facilities are the physical fabric of sportsgrounds which Council provides and manages for community use. All Council owned facilities are managed under Council's Assets Management Plan.

## Play Equipment

Boulia Shire Council recognises the value of playgrounds to contribute to the quality of community life and support the recreational and developmental needs of children of all ages and abilities. Boulia's playgrounds will be routinely inspected and maintained. Council has identified a playground replacement strategy for all existing playgrounds to consider the following:

- Estimated life expectancy of the play equipment
- Warranty of the play equipment
- Availability of replacement parts
- Compliance with all relevant Australian Standards for Play Equipment and Surfacing
- Development of new play equipment styles
- Play equipment will be installed and/or replaced and scheduled according to yearly Capital Works programs
- Council will undertake the appropriate community consultation process

## Sporting and Recreational Facilities

Council aims to provide a wide range of recreational facilities and opportunities, contributing to the health and social life of the community. Cycle paths are planned to link some parks and sportsgrounds around the local area. Council has created a Cycle Map – 'Boulia LGA Cycle Network' which is available on the Council website.

### **Sportsgrounds**

Bouliia Shire Council Sportsground contains one (1) football field. Near to the Burke Street frontage are public toilets.

The hire of the Sportsground and associated facilities are administered by Council's Administration Office. The normal practice is to give preference to local sporting organisations. A Sportsground hire fee is payable for the use of facility with extra payment for amenities and other special services.

The sportsground and associated facilities are available on a casual basis to the general public.

### **Buildings and Structures**

Where buildings and structures are provided within the sportsground, they are to be in keeping with the character and intended use of the land, and repaired and maintained to facilitate continued use. Toilets, change rooms and other buildings may be provided depending on levels and types of usage.

### **Park Furniture**

The Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds may have provisions for park furniture, such as seating, picnic tables, drinking water refilling stations and dog waste bins. Inclusion of other park elements will consider size, purpose, and usage rates of the facilities, durability of materials, minimisation of vandalism by design and maintenance availability. Placement of seating should be comfortable, convenient and accessible. Seating should consider shade/solar access, views, visual surveillance and social interaction.

### **Park Infrastructure**

Infrastructure which supports the use of a sportsground such as lighting, drainage, services, and irrigation are provided at the facilities. All Council owned infrastructure is managed under Council's Assets Management Plan.

### **Dog Off-leash Areas**

Council is committed to providing dog off-leash areas, consistent with the *Companion Animal Management Plan*. There are currently no unfenced dog off-leash areas within Bouliia LGA, however it is proposed that one fenced dog off-leash area be located in the vacant block adjacent to the rear of Robinson Park. This location is central to the Bouliia township for the convenience of both local residents and visitors and would be open for use 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

Dog owners using this area will be required to supervise their animal, and have full control of their animal (i.e. at a minimum voice control), at all times. Owners should carry their leads at all times when using the off-leash area to ensure their dog can be quickly clipped back onto their lead if required. Female dogs in season, declared menacing, dangerous or restricted dogs are not permitted in the area.

The Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds do not have dog off-leash areas. The objectives of sportsgrounds are generally incompatible with dog off-leash areas.

### **Asset Management**

Asset Management refers to the whole of life cycle approach to Bouliia's facilities, from planning through to maintenance and monitoring, to replacement and disposal of assets.

### **Asset Management Plan**

Council owned park assets are managed according to the principles prescribed by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Limited 'National Asset Management System' (NAMS Plus).

The Asset Register catalogues all Council owned equipment and infrastructure in Council's parks and sportsgrounds. It contains key data to assist with the management of future repairs, maintenance and replacement of sportsground and park assets. Additionally, it assists Council in establishing and maintaining appropriate park management budgets.

The replacement of Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsground assets may be included in the yearly Capital Works Program. Day to day maintenance and replacement of assets are included in the yearly park maintenance budget.

The Asset Register also informs the strategy for playground management by detailing the locations, estimated cost, and proposed dates for existing play equipment to be replaced. This strategy will ensure that the community is well provided with playground facilities and will assist Council to better understand the community's needs for the future development and maintenance of play facilities in parks and sportsgrounds.

A key objective, from a risk and insurance perspective, is the reduction and prevention of injuries and damages claims that may have been caused by Council's parks and reserves assets. This will be achieved by the provision of well-maintained assets and playground equipment, compliant with Australian Standards.

### **Maintenance**

Council aims to provide efficient and effective maintenance of its sportsgrounds to meet the needs of the community. Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds require ongoing scheduling for cleaning, maintenance, repair and replacement of assets. Monitoring of parks, sportsgrounds and their assets is carried out as part of the maintenance process, to identify inadequate or faulty assets.

### **Maintenance of Parks Signage**

General Park provisions signage is provided in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds. Signage is maintained, repaired and replaced or revised on an ongoing basis as required.

### **Capital Improvements**

Capital improvements are systematically planned, managed and prioritised. New facilities are budgeted for and scheduled for installation as required and may involve community consultation and other feasibility studies.

### **Racecourse Reserve User Committee**

The Racecourse Reserve User Committee was formed in July 2020 consisting of members of various user groups within Boulia. The alliance aims to achieve a sustainable plan for the future of the Boulia Racecourse Reserve. The plan will include a snapshot of the existing infrastructure, future use of the facility and improvements covering the next 10 years.

### **Future Planning**

Council aims to improve the use of and access to parks, reserves and sportsgrounds. The ongoing planning and management of Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds will be in accordance with the objectives of this PoM.

### **Community**

This section addresses the principles which advance and promote community use of facilities.

### **Equal Access**

Access is to be provided to enable equitable use and enjoyment of community facilities. Consideration is given not only to the items within Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds but the entryways and footpaths.

Under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) public places must be accessible to people with a disability. Access includes paths of travel between and through spaces to ensure people with disabilities can enjoy and utilise all areas of Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds and move between activities.

Accessibility will be considered during improvement of Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds including features such as play equipment, drinking water refilling stations and picnic tables. Fencing, signage and delineation of boundaries also improve the usability of the facility.

## Values

The community values from 'Your Vision, Your Plan, Our Future; 2019-2024' which are addressed in this PoM are a sense of community, a sustainable natural environment and accessible services and facilities.

## Health, Safety and Security

Bouliia Shire Council has an ongoing commitment to minimise risks by designing and improving open spaces as necessary to improve the safety of the community. Council has a duty of care to provide public spaces which comply with the relevant Australian Standards and Building Codes.

## Community Engagement

Refer to the *Bouliia Community Engagement Strategy*.

## Heritage

Bouliia Shire Council aims to maintain and protect any heritage features in its reserves. Interpretive signage and/or design features will be utilised where appropriate to protect and increase awareness and appreciation of heritage values.

## Environment and Sustainability

Council is committed to addressing the environmental considerations and responsibilities involved in managing and maintaining Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds.

## Environment

To protect and enhance the natural and urban environment of Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds, consideration will be given to the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Design during maintenance and management. Particular attention will be given to:

- Vegetation
- Soil
- Waterways
- Air
- Biodiversity
- Waste management

and minimising resource use including:

- Water
- Energy
- Transport

## Trees

Trees are valuable community assets within the complex public infrastructure system, and are worthy of retention and protection to contribute to the 'Urban Forest'. Council acknowledges the many economic, social, environmental and ecological benefits that trees provide to our urban environment. Some notable examples are:

- Reduction in stormwater runoff
- Improving soil health
- Temperature regulation
- Biodiversity, and
- Improved community life

The 'Urban Forest', including trees in and around the Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds, are managed and maintained in accordance with industry best practice. The trees in and around the Bouliia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds are periodically pruned by Council's Park and Gardens team for dead wood, storm damaged branches, crown lifting and selective pruning as determined by Council's Officers.

Trees will only be removed when they are dead, dying, structurally defective or adversely interacting with structures where there are no repair alternatives available. Trees are not pruned or removed due to complaints regarding:

- Dropping of leaves, flowers, fruit, cones, bark, twigs or other debris
- Bird droppings
- Insects
- Shading
- Loss of views

Insurance claims regarding property damage from trees located in parks are referred to Council's insurer for determination. Tree planting is carried out in parks as budget and resources allow, with species chosen according to the constraints and opportunities of the site.

## 8. Action Plan

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Landscape elements/aesthetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain high quality visual character</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape to suit/improve character</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed to achieve and support the other objectives and functions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage community in planting projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of plant health and landscape condition</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean and well maintained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent palette of landscape materials</li> <li>• Maintain healthy plants and control weeds</li> </ul>	
Play equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet Australian Standards and the needs of the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule playground replacement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaced &amp; fenced as per Playground Replacement Strategy</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fenced as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular inspections and repair of faults</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audits and quarterly inspections</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shade structure installation as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify needs for additional play equipment &amp; fences as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community feedback</li> <li>• No faulty play equipment</li> <li>• No incidents reported</li> </ul>
Provision of facilities, signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain facilities in good clean condition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility inspections and audits</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repairs as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amenities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate multiple uses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage replaced as required</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate signage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinated signage strategy, regular inspections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All signs free of faults and graffiti</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility</li> </ul>		
Furniture (seating, fencing, lighting, drinking water refilling stations, BBQs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintained in safe and clean working condition – adequate and appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide, monitor, maintain, repair, replace as whole life cycle approach and as per Maintenance Schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checks and feedback</li> <li>• Asset Register</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective stormwater management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and designing for stormwater requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced stormwater flood incidents</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Sensitive</li> <li>• Urban Design consideration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reuse of water</li> </ul>		
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficient use of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor irrigation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular inspections</li> </ul>

	irrigation as required to maintain use of sportsgrounds	needs and adjust, repair as required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
Rubbish bins and litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate bins provided for waste management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling bins where appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste collected regularly</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise litter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular waste and litter collection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>



Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Toilets and change rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide in clean, safe, working condition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleaning and inspections as per General Schedule of Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
Provision of sporting facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High quality sporting facilities compatible with community requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital works for improvements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed Capital works</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimise recreation facility usage across the LGA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Line marking and seasonal setup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
Buildings and structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suit the character of the locality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design considers existing character, expected use and the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided in good condition, safe and well maintained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular maintenance, monitoring and repairs as per Capital Works Program and Maintenance Schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections, audits and checks</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to park amenity and use</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased/maintained sportsground bookings and use</li> </ul>

## 9. Asset Management

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well maintained sportsgrounds/facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance as per General Schedule of Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing planting as required to replace or improve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure monitored for condition and cleanliness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement program of monitoring, as part of maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring program implemented successfully</li> </ul>
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate funding to maintain and upgrade facilities as needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore various funding opportunities including grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful funding sourced, projects completed</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Budget</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance budget adequate</li> </ul>
Capital Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets replaced according to the Asset Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to Asset Register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Checks and audits</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record keeping of Asset Register</li> </ul>

<b>Management Principle</b>	<b>Objectives and Performance Targets</b>	<b>Means of Achieving Objectives</b>	<b>Manner of Assessing Performance</b>
Permissible uses and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compatible with community requirements, benefits the community &amp; in accordance with this PoM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community consultation</li> <li>Provide facilities for permissible uses as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased use of sportsgrounds measured by survey and observation</li> <li>Appropriate development completed</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encroachments and breaches identified and rectified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due diligence checks for leasing arrangements and new developments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced breaches of park provisions</li> </ul>
Future planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sporting needs of community identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community consultation</li> <li>Maintain ownership of Sportsgrounds for maximum community benefit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased use of facilities measured by survey and observation</li> <li>Maintain or increase community</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide appropriate facilities for community use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve accessibility where possible</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stormwater strategy/ Water Sensitive Urban Design considered and integrated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development works meet relevant development controls/guidelines</li> </ul>	
Leases, licences and other estates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ownership and permitted use arrangements allow the wider community access to Sportsgrounds that are compatible with recreational, sporting, community and other activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess leases and uses against the principles in this PoM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type and extent of licensing as measured by survey and observation of uses</li> </ul>

## 10. Community

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Access and circulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining pathways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate paths measured by feedback and observation</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paths, ramps, pedestrian and cycle access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding or upgrading paths as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear boundary markings</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boundary definition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boundaries clearly defined and signed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased sportsground use</li> </ul>
Traffic and parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse interactions between cars and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor parking requirements and consider new parking where appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced user conflicts and increased public safety by utilising best practice design standards</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design to clearly define vehicle and pedestrian spaces</li> </ul>	
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider community values in planning and design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community consultation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community feedback</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate Council's objectives to the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimise neighbour complaints</li> </ul>
Health, safety, risk management, security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security, safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) consultations, design and manage open space for security and safety including lighting, anti-vandal devices etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works in accordance with Australian Standards</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shaded areas, especially playgrounds, paths, entryways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of shade, via tree planting, or shade structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular inspections, audits of risks, incident</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate fencing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular schedule for inspection, repairs, tree maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourage vandalism, graffiti, littering, dumping</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards minimised</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risks from Council assets minimised</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced incidence of vandalism, graffiti, rubbish dumping</li> </ul>

## 11. Environment and Sustainability

Management Principle	Objectives and Performance Targets	Means of Achieving Objectives	Manner of Assessing Performance
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and improve biodiversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant suitable tree species including natives for native fauna habitat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stable or improved tree &amp; vegetation health</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage and control noxious weeds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor native vegetation and habitat</li> </ul>
Soil, water, and air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect waterways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design to minimise chemical use and avoid environmental impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular inspections and audits</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid soil, water &amp; air pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemical use limited and used in accordance with legislation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise soil erosion, compaction, sedimentation and degradation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water interceptor devices where appropriate</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean and tidy sportsgrounds</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage runoff water</li> </ul>		
Resource use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water saving initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure adequate supply of litter and recycling bins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in consumption of energy and potable water in Sportsgrounds</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy saving initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage waste collections from site</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste reduction and management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider introduction of water and energy saving initiatives over time</li> </ul>	
Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage and inform the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide educational signage about environmental features</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate signage</li> </ul>
Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain, preserve, protect and improve the health of trees and increase the 'Urban Forest'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimise tree planting opportunities, Species selection and planting locations to consider future issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health of trees maintained</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting of site appropriate replacement trees and new trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protective measures to reduce ongoing damage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased quantity of trees over time</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote trees for carbon sequestration, solar access and shade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pruning or removal of trees where defects or adverse interactions exist with no repair alternatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced damage claims regarding trees</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise adverse interactions between trees and people or property</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular tree inspections</li> <li>Community feedback</li> </ul>

## 12. Specific Management Information

This section provides detailed information on the Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds including the condition and improvements of the land and buildings. This section also includes a general schedule of seasonal maintenance and the proposed Capital Works for the years 2020 to 2025.



**Map 3. Plan of Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds land titles and sportsground area**

<b>Location</b>	Boulia Sportsground - Burke Street, Boulia
<b>Approximate Park area</b>	13,500m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Approximate Land area</b>	44,616m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Land Owner</b>	Boulia Shire Council
<b>Zoning</b>	RE1 – Public Recreation
<b>Categorisation</b>	Park/Sportsground
<b>Property Type</b>	Passive and active recreation open space with sports field
<b>Condition of land and structures</b>	Assets in Boulia Sportsgrounds and the amenities have a condition rating of 3. The below criteria determines condition rating:
	1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition
	2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only
	3. Average – maintained but in need of repair
	4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal
	5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading require

	Park not heritage listed	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 x Football fields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irrigation (field)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drinking water refilling stations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Picnic table
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seats	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rubbish bins	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change rooms / toilets	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Playground	
<b>Legal Description</b>	Lot 17 in B2674 which contains a bore	

### General Schedule of Maintenance Table

<b>Maintenance Task</b>	<b>Service Level</b>	<b>Schedule Interval</b>
<b>Turf maintenance</b>	Mown turf at acceptable length	1-4wks depending on season in active areas 2-4wks depending on season in passive areas
	Minimise weeds in turf	Weed spraying in spring and as required
	<b>Sports field maintenance</b>	Football field review
	Line marking (seasonal)	When required
	Soil test	When required
	Aerate and fertilise fields	In spring and as required
	Returf and top dress fields	In spring and as required
	Over sow high traffic areas	In autumn or as required
	Irrigation where provided	As required
<b>Waste collection</b>	Adequate emptying of bins	3 times/wk active areas
	Regular litter pick up	3 times/wk active areas
<b>Amenities maintenance (where provided)</b>	Toilets clean	Cleaned min. 3 times/wk
	Amenities building maintained	As required
	Toilets open	By arrangement with Council at other times.
	Seats, picnic shelters, drinking water refilling stations, bins, fences, signs, lights - clean and maintained	Clean and repair as required
<b>Gardens and trees</b>	Trees maintained	Pruning of defects as required
		Pest-disease treatment as required
	Removal of dead or dangerous trees	As assessed and required
	Mulched garden beds and tree surrounds	Mulch applied as required
	Control weeds in gardens	As required
<b>Playgrounds</b>	Inspected regularly for safety, cleanliness, damage	Weekly checks, quarterly comprehensive inspections
		Repair, clean as required
<b>Access</b>	Report illegal access, or prohibited use	As required
	Provide access for services	As required
	Paths clear of obstructions & trip points	Clear and repair as required

## Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds Proposed Capital Works Priority Table

<b>Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds Proposed Capital Works for years 2020 to 2025</b>	<b>Priority Rating</b>
Build new caretakers house	High
Replace post and rail fence at racecourse	High
Install park/sportsground name signage	High
Install park/sportsground facility provision signage	High
Install equal access requirements for the facilities	High
Repair/replace floodlighting over the active areas	High
Install shade structure over the existing play equipment	Medium
Playing field upgrade include grassing, drainage and irrigation	Medium
Replace existing bubblers	Medium
Install barbecue and picnic shelters	Medium
Install sealed pathway link from pavilion to park amenities block	Medium
Replace existing goal posts	Low
Replace post and rail fence along the Templeton Street frontage	Low
Replace existing irrigation system	Low

### Play Equipment Maintenance and Replacement

Council repairs and maintains the play equipment in Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds under the recommendations of Council's contracted WH&S Officer and Council staff to ensure compliance with Australian Playground Standards. If this is not possible the play equipment will be removed and replaced following community consultation as appropriate.

The play equipment in the Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds area was installed in 2017. At the time of the adoption of this Plan of Management the playground was well maintained and in good condition. Accordingly, there is low priority for replacement of the play equipment in the Boulia Shire Council Parks, Reserves and Sportsgrounds.







Boulia Motor Bike Track/Racecourse Reserve - activities allowed (within the coloured area only) without having to request Council permission:



Motorbike riding



Dog off leash area



Helicopter landing

Activities outside the scope listed or outside of the coloured area require a written request to Council for permission.



The below activities are permitted in the coloured areas indicated only. Activities outside the scope listed or outside of the coloured areas require a written request to Council for permission.

- Orange - Camping - fires permitted
- Green - horses and camels permitted
- Red - authorised vehicles only

Please note motorbike events within the Racecourse Reserve grounds require written permission from Council.