



EXHIBITION COPY Playground Upgrade Plan

Prepared by Ballina Shire Council

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE:
Wednesday 3 June 2015

Playground Upgrade Plan

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How to provide feedback:

Submissions are welcome from all members of the public and can be provided in the following ways:

- Complete the **DOCUMENTS ON EXHIBITION FEEDBACK FORM** at one of Ballina Shire Libraries or Council's Customer Service Centre.
- **EMAIL** council@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online **ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM** at ballina.nsw.gov.au >> *quicklinks* >> *noticeboard* >> *documents on exhibition*
- Make a **WRITTEN SUBMISSION** to Ballina Shire Council, PO Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION** telephone Council's Customer Service Centre on 6686 4444.

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE Wednesday 3 June 2015.

Please note: your feedback will be treated as a public document and may be printed in Council's meeting agendas and made available to the public. If you want your feedback to remain confidential, you will need to provide reasons for doing so.

PLAYGROUND UPGRADE PLAN

Council currently manages 47 playgrounds in accordance with relevant Australian Standards for the benefit of the community. Playgrounds provide an opportunity for both active and passive play for primarily younger children, and children of all ages, in both a supervised and unsupervised setting.

Council has previously managed the provision of playgrounds through the adopted 2007 Playground Equipment and Installation Program and draft 2013 Playground Upgrade and Improvement Program.

The **2015 Playground Upgrade Plan** (exhibited) has been developed following an assessment of the progress to implement the previous plans and information contained in a recent audit of our playground assets.

The revised plan aims to clearly highlight the adopted hierarchy and playground catchment area, ensure the community has reasonable access to quality playgrounds and provide a framework for the upgrade and replacement of equipment.

Council has three levels within its playground hierarchy being local, district and regional. These levels support different catchment sizes and the type of equipment needed for each playground is determined by this hierarchy.

Plans of Playground Equipment at various locations in the Ballina Shire are illustrated on the following pages.

Further to these plans the following summary is provided of its key changes.

Existing sites identified for **upgrade**:

- Pop Dennison Park, East Ballina
- Geoff Watt Oval, Alstonville
- Ross Park, Lennox Head

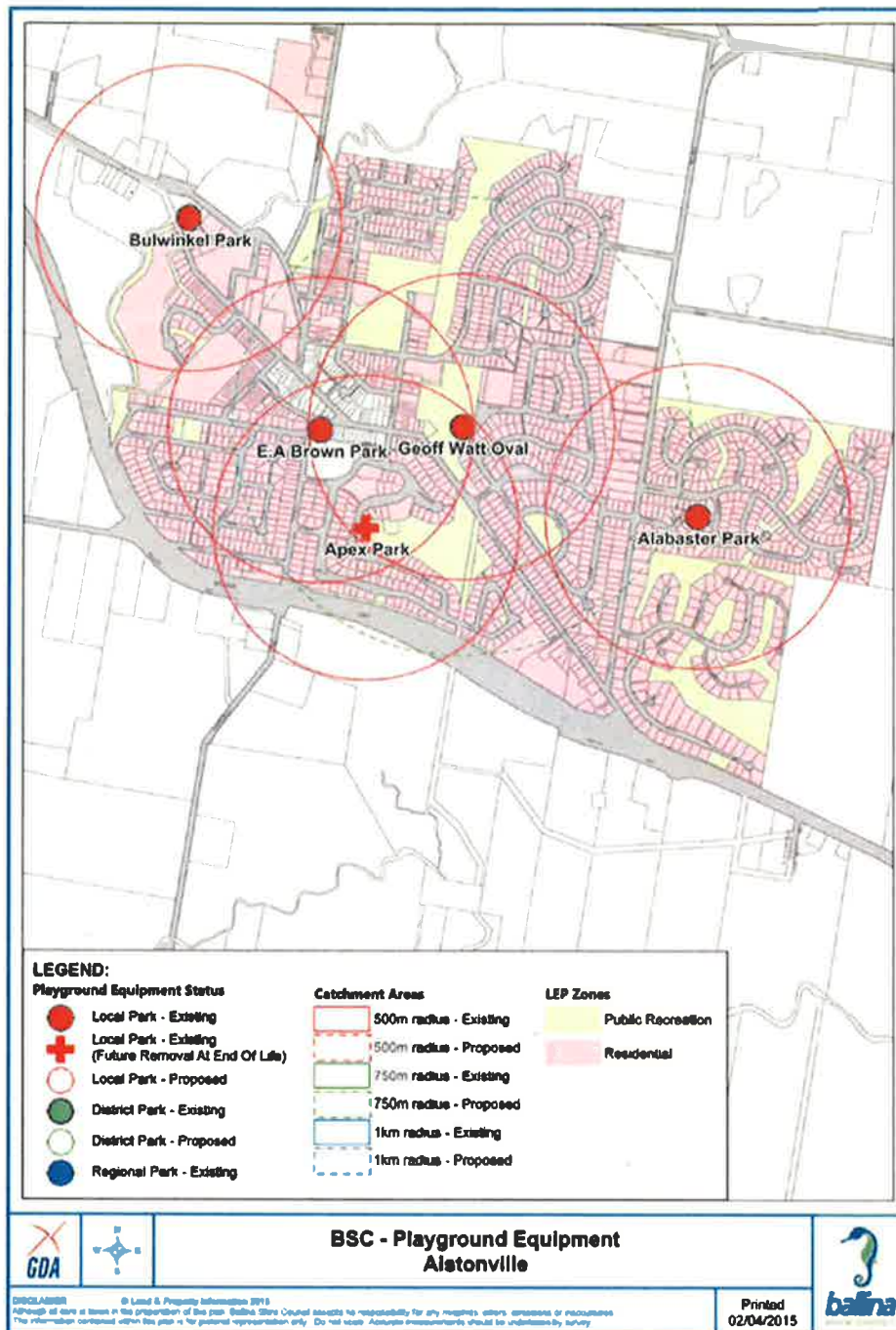
New sites for **installation**:

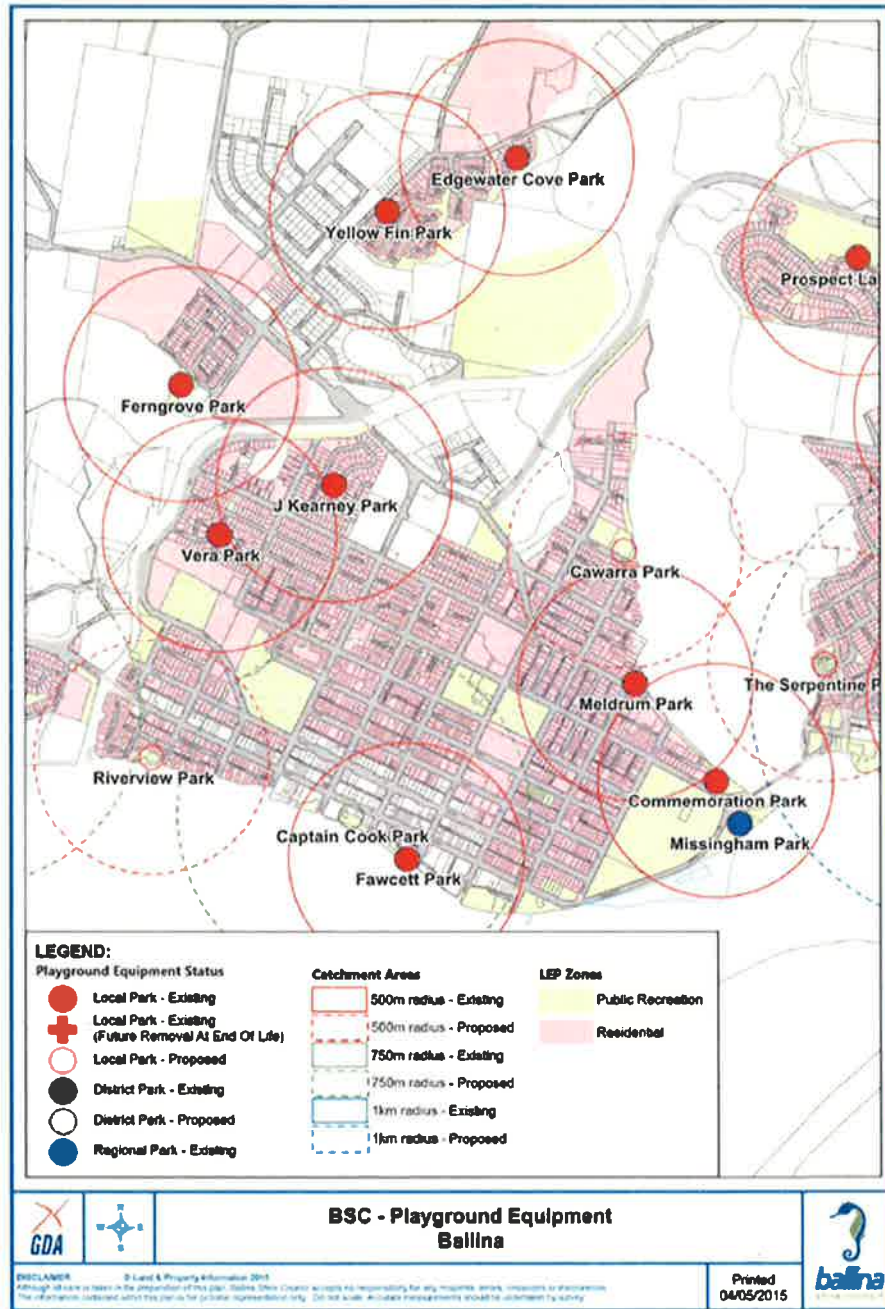
- Kings Park, Lennox Head
- Porter Park, West Ballina
- Captain Cook Park, Ballina
- Cawarra Park, Ballina
- Serpentine Park, East Ballina
- Faulks Reserve, West Ballina.

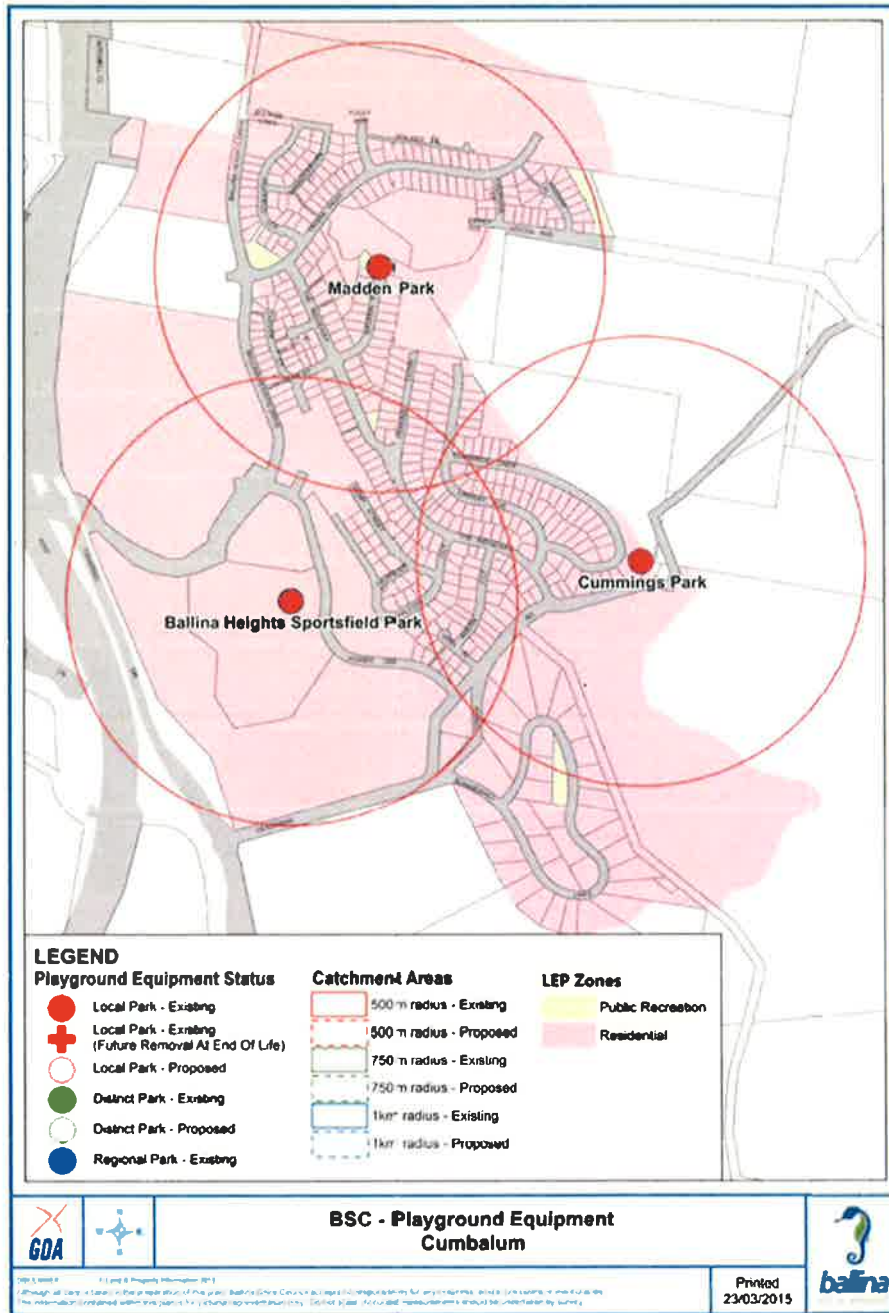
Existing sites identified for **playground removal** (at the expiry of the current equipment's economic life):

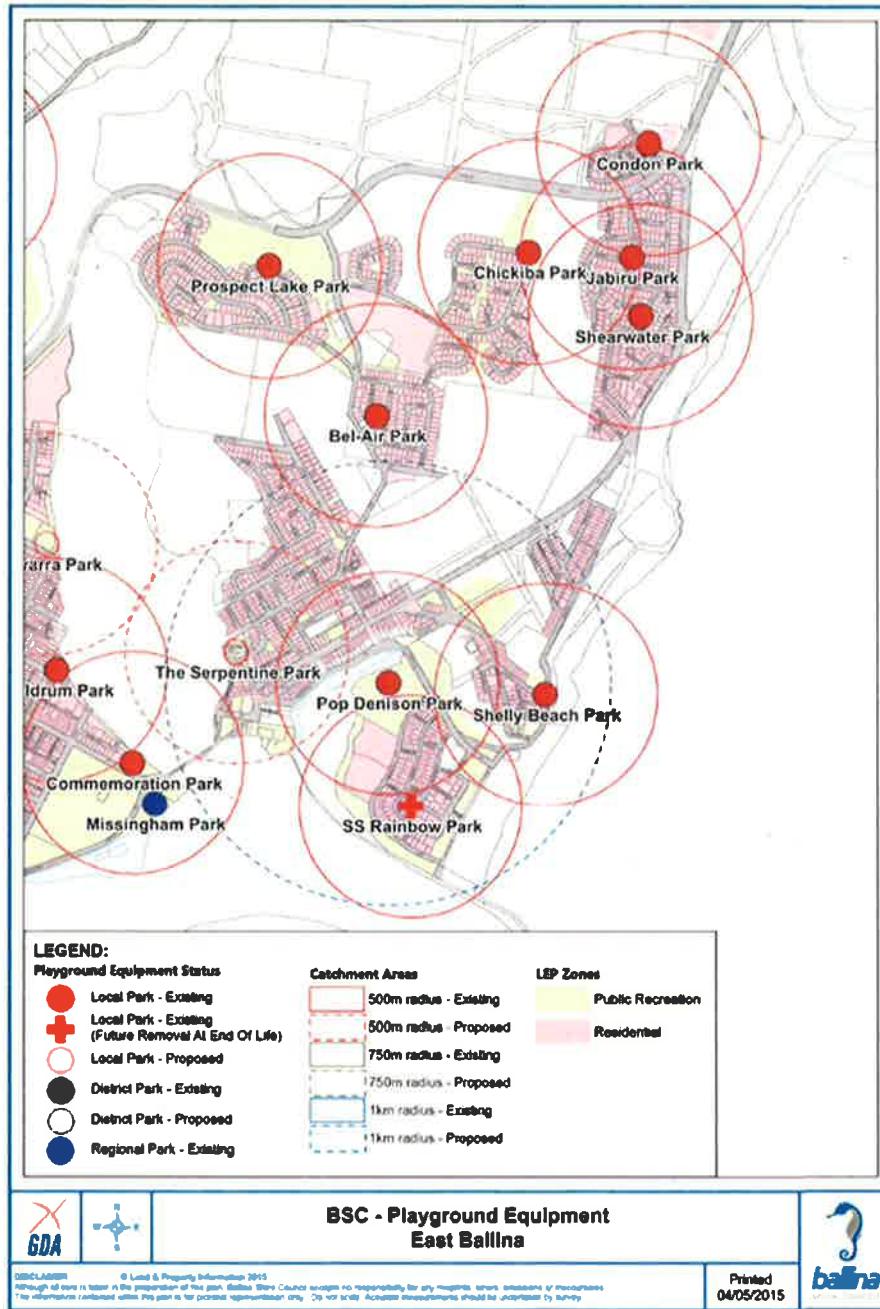
- Victor Place, Lennox Head
- Weerama Park, West Ballina
- SS Rainbow, East Ballina
- Montwood Park, Lennox Head
- Campbell Park, Wollongbar
- Apex Park, Alstonville.

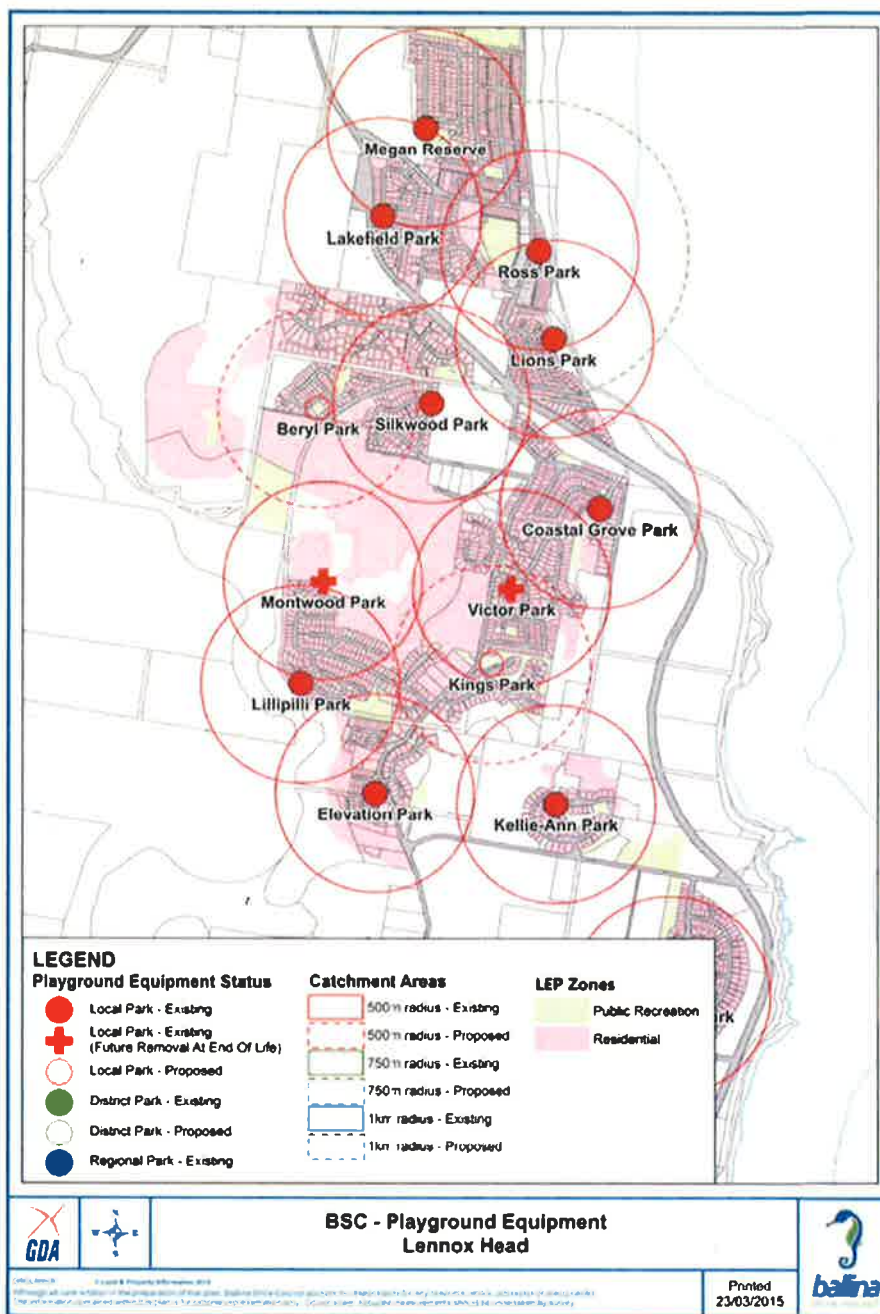
An action plan has been prepared. The works in the action plan are the highest priority recommended in a recent audit. This process is important to ensure Council meets its duty of care with its management of playgrounds. Our objective is to ensure our parks comply with the relevant standards.



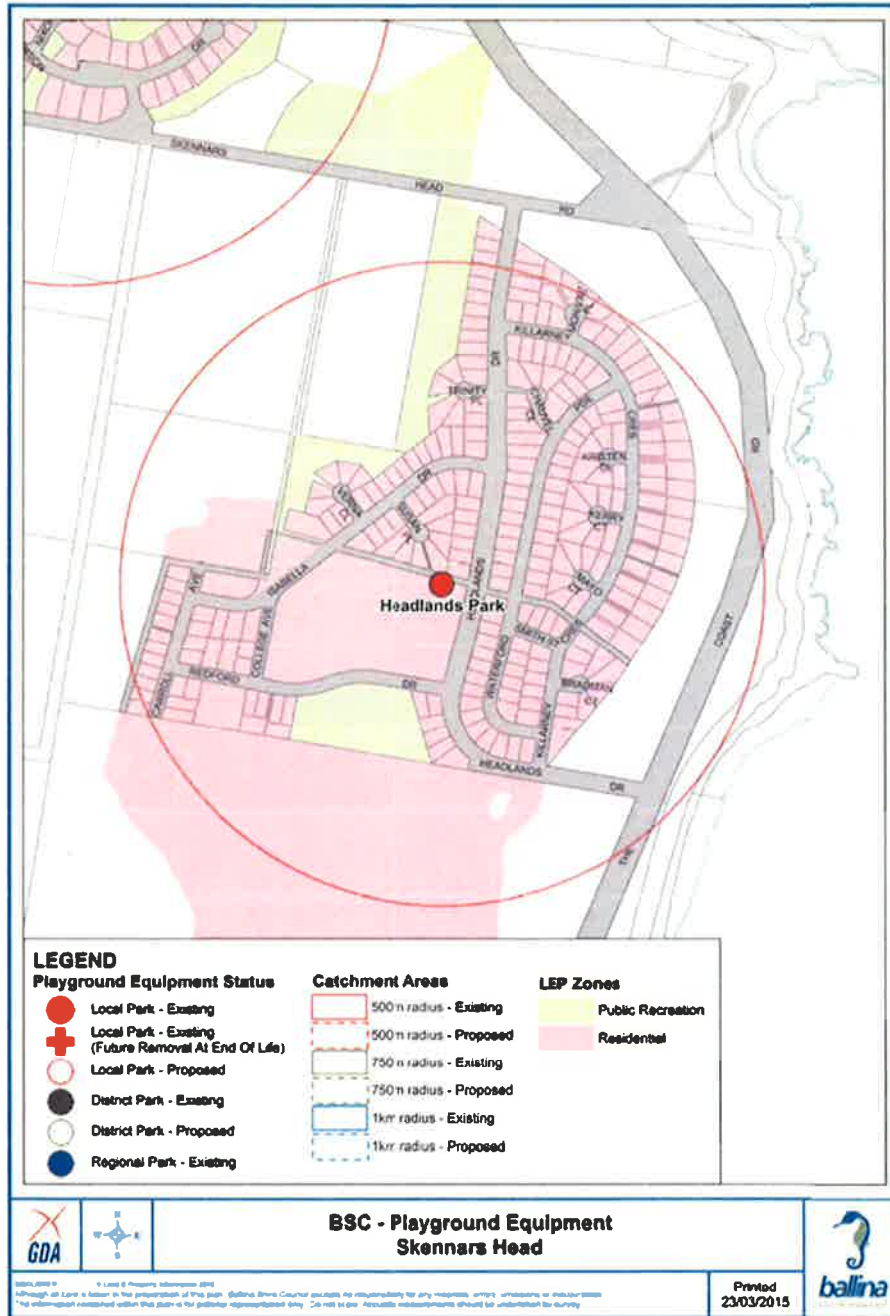


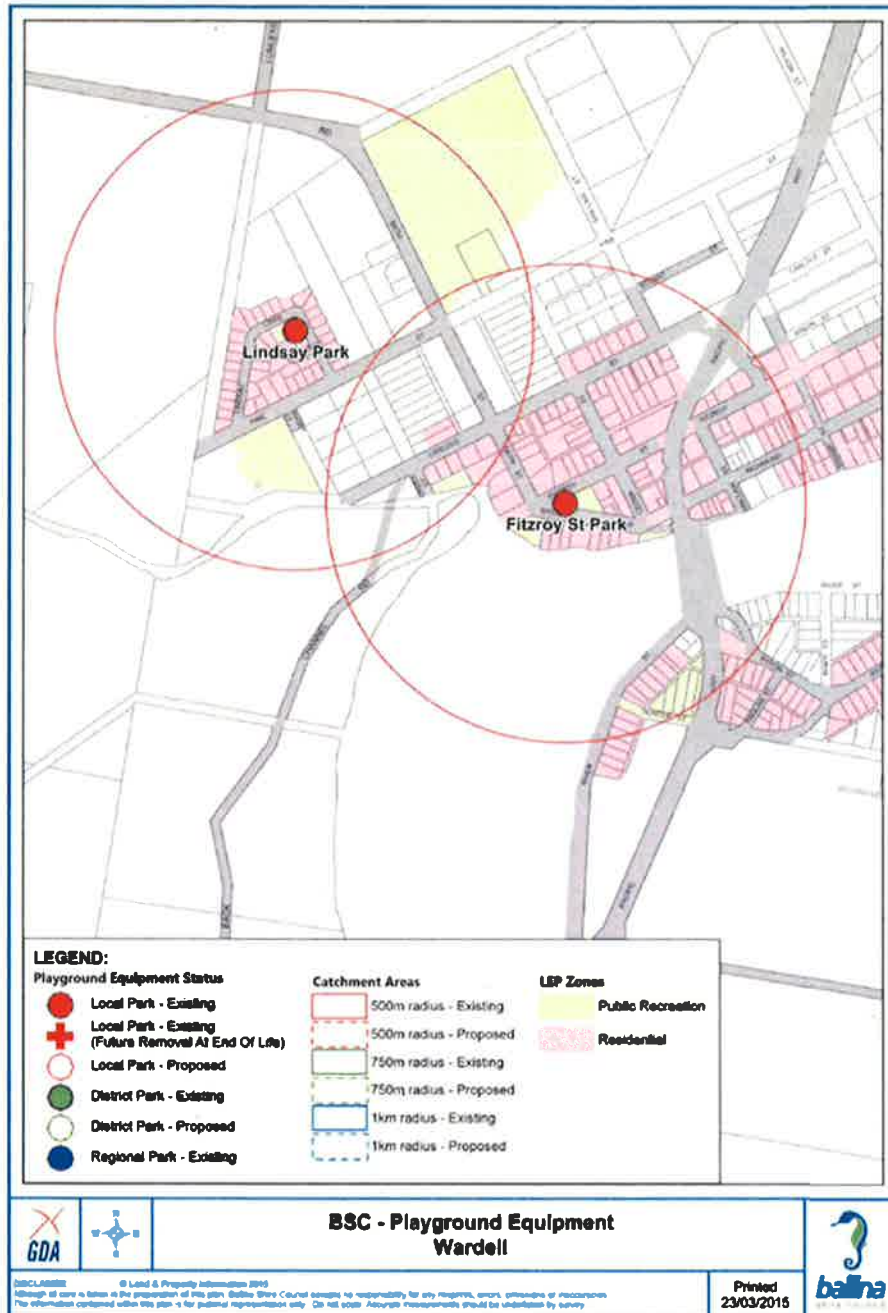


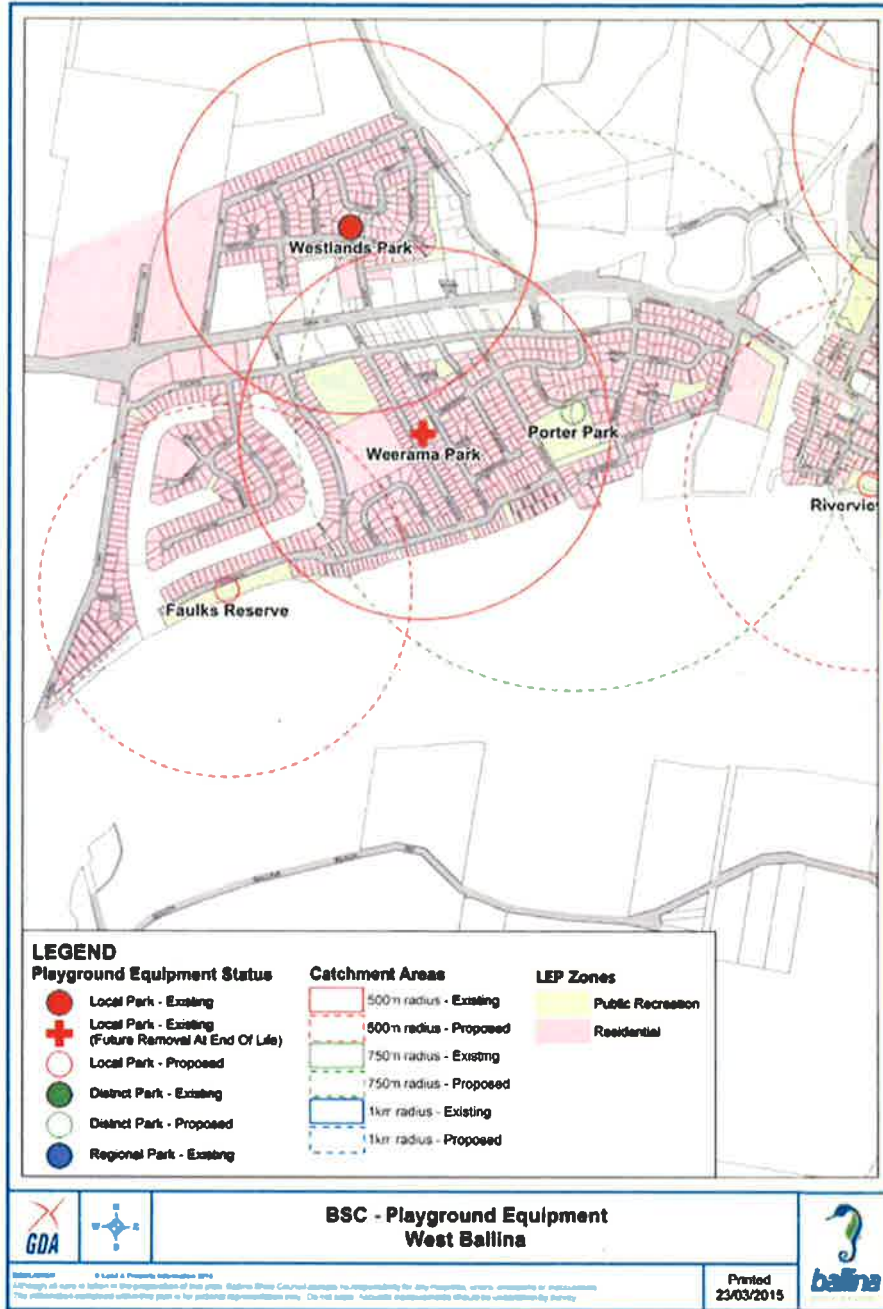


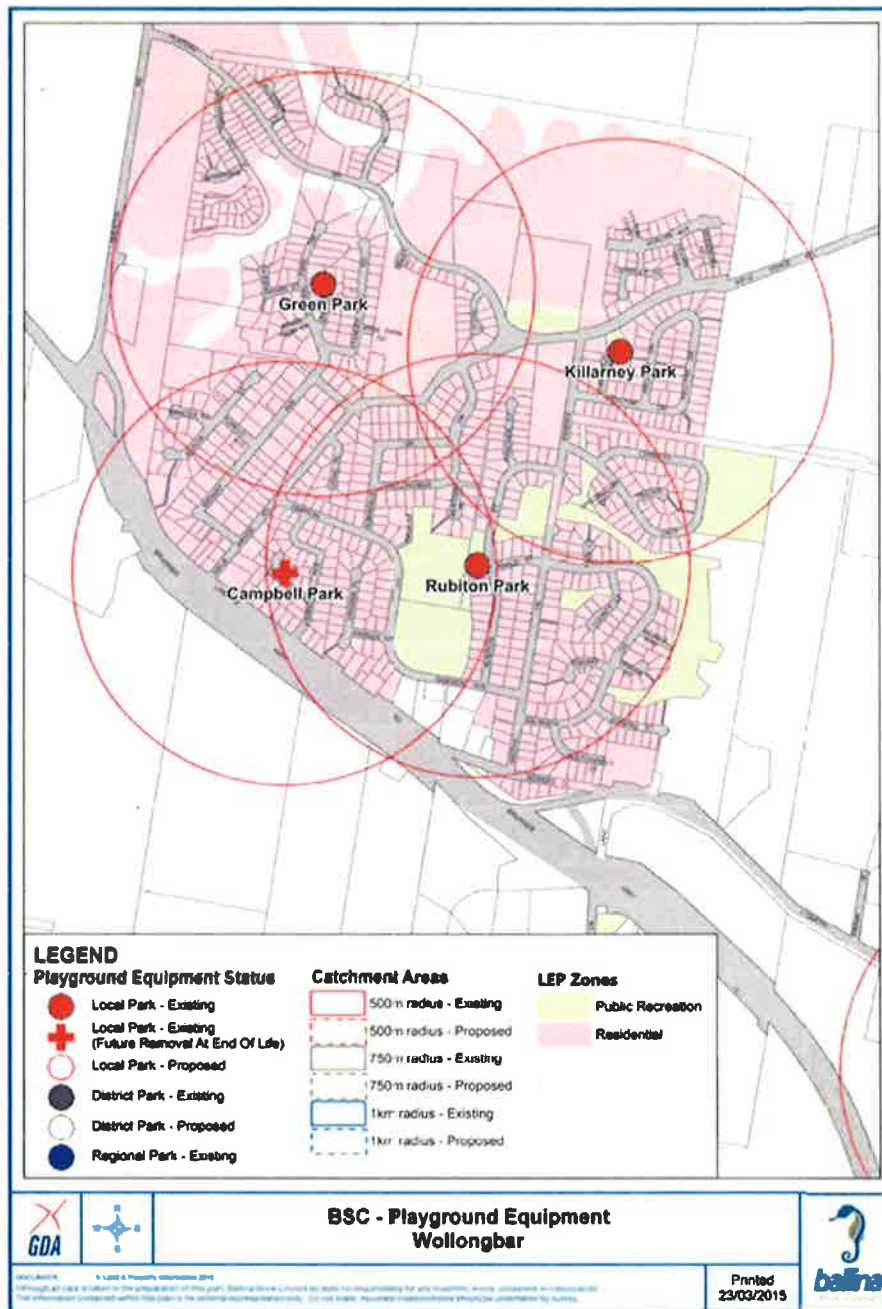


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ballina shire council playground upgrade plan



ballina
shire council

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Diana McNabb

From: Daria Westerman <daria.westerman@northcott.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2015 1:58 PM
Subject: Official Submission Playground Update

Dear Ballina Council,

I am concerned that your plan for upgrading playgrounds in Ballina Shire has not adequately accounted for the accessibility issues faced by children with disabilities. Every new structure and public service that is provided for recreation in our community needs to be designed in such a way that promotes the engagement of all community members.

I direct you to the principals of universal design to guide this process:
<http://universaldesign.ie/What-is-Universal-Design/The-7-Principles/>

I trust these playground updates will make adequate considerations for young people with disabilities.

Kind regards,

Daria Westerman



Daria Westerman - Occupational Therapist - Client Services - Ballina
Northcott - 64 Crane street, Ballina NSW 2478
P: 02 8620 6600 **M:** F: 02 6686 5891
Email: daria.westerman@northcott.com.au **Website:** www.northcott.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Northcottcommunity
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I acknowledge and respect the traditional owners of the land that I work on

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender immediately by e-mail and delete this e-mail from your system.

Which path will you choose?

Diana McNabb

From: Heidi Craig <ballinaoccupationaltherapy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2015 1:54 PM
Subject: Submission re: 2015 Playground Upgrade Plan
Attachments: Craig, Heidi_Letter to BSC re promenade [03 Oct 2014].doc; BSC response to safety concerns at Fawcett Park_19 Jan 2015 p1of2.jpg; BSC response to safety concerns at Fawcett Park_19 Jan 2015 p2of2.jpg

Dear Ballina Council

Thank you for providing the community with the opportunity to lodge a submission into the 2015 Playground Upgrade Plan.

Stated in the web version is that the new and upgraded playgrounds will be in "accordance with relevant Australian Standards for the benefit of the community. Playgrounds provide an opportunity for both active and passive play for primarily younger children, and children of all ages, in both a supervised and unsupervised setting."

Stating "relevant AS" should make reference to at least, but not exclusive to the following:

AS4685:2014 Playground Equipment and Surfacing that encompasses safety and design related to UV, moveable equipment and height regulations for upper body equipment

AS 1428.1 - 2001 Design for access and mobility Part 1: General requirements for access New building work

AS 1428.2 Part 2: Enhanced and additional requirements - Buildings and facilities

AS 1428.3 Part 3: Requirements for children and adolescents with physical disabilities

AS 1428.4 Part 4: Tactile ground surface indicators for orientation of people with vision impairment

It may have been an oversight that specific reference was not made to children and/or parents with a disability using the playground areas in the Document on Exhibition. Consideration must be given in this planning phase so that the safety concerns at and around the Fawcett Street playground area are not repeated. I attach my correspondence with BSC and reply with the expectation that now is "an opportunity for improvement".

Regards,
Heidi

Heidi Craig
Ballina Occupational Therapy
1D / 99 Tamar Street
Ballina 2478

Ph: 02 6686 7682
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DAILY LIVING INDEPENDENCE
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The General Manager
Ballina Shire Council
PO Box 450
Ballina
NSW 2478

03/10/2014

Dear Sir

I would like to bring your attention to the pathway along the Richmond River from the RSL Club to Martin Street.

I reviewed this path as part of a community access for a client and bring to your attention the following issues of safety:

1. TACTILE GROUND SURFACE INDICATORS are on the edge adjacent to the river are incorrectly positioned. Tactile ground surface indicators [TGSI] must be placed in accordance with AS/NZS 1428.4.1:2009 to warn people with vision impairment of a hazard [def: 1.4.10]. Placement, described in 2.3.3.(c), shall be 300+/- 10mm from the edge of the hazard [this area is not a wharf].



This area is deemed to be high risk, 1C [see attached], that a fall is probable with very serious consequences. Someone using the TGSIs and sweeping a cane is required to walk too close to the edge of the path and a fall could be potentially fatal due to impact on the rocks below or due to drowning.

2. PLAYGROUND FENCING juts out into the path at an acute angle. There are no TGSIs to warn pedestrians that the fence demarcating the children's playground.



3. PICNIC TABLE is set on a concrete plinth. This prohibits any person in a wheelchair from sitting close enough at the end of the table. This could be easily rectified by levelling the surrounding fill to the same level as the plinth.

11.4 Playground Upgrade Plan.DOC

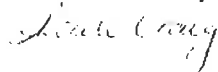
4. PATHWAY EDGE is potentially dangerous for people using a wheelchair or mobility scooter as there is no kerb or barrier, to mitigate people "driving off the edge". AS 1428.1-2009 , although describing AS for walkways rather than shared pathways, defines a kerb to be "a side barrier trafficable...pedestrian surface".

A kerb could be incorporated along this section of the Richmond River in a creative and attractive design. Other councils have addressed this problem in high pedestrian areas in various ways without detracting from the ambience of the area. Some examples that may be considered by the Ballina LGA community are attached as Appendix 2.



Kindly advise me of your receipt of this letter and the expected time frame for a response to my concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Heidi Craig
Bach of Applied Science [Occupational Therapy]

03/10/2014

11.4 Playground Upgrade Plan.DOC

APPENDIX ONE: RISK SEVERITY ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Risk is the chance of something happening that will have an impact on people or an organisation. Risk is calculated by the likelihood of an event occurring against the potential or actual consequences.

1A is greatest risk and 4Y is the least risk score.

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE				
	Serious	Major	Moderate	Minor	Minimum
Frequent [Almost Certain]	1A	1B	2J	3P	3S
Likely [Probable]	1C	1D	2K	3Q	4T
Possible [Occasional]	1E	2H	2L	3R	4U
Unlikely [Uncommon]	1F	2I	3N	4V	4X
Rare [Remote]	2G	3M	3O	4W	4Y

APPENDIX TWO: 'KERBS' ALONG WATERFRONT



Cockle Bay- old timbers from wharf doubles as seating, illumination of edge





The Rocks, Sydney



Man of War Steps, Bennelong Point [not recommended as light post and timber corner hazards]



Bennelong Point foreshore



Botanical Gardens, Sydney- stone wall [note no skateboard damage on capping]

Paul Busmanis

Trim: 14/69971

19 January 2015

Ms Heidi Craig
Ballina Occupational Therapy
Suit 1D / 99 Tamar Street
BALLINA NSW 2478



Dear Ms Craig

Re: Fawcett Park, Ballina

Thank you for your letter dated 3 October 2014 regarding facilities at Fawcett Park, Ballina. A review of records has shown that an acknowledgement letter was sent, however a reply to your inquiries has not occurred. I apologise for the delay in this response.

Regarding your inquiries I make the following comments relating to the issues you have raised:

1. Tactile Ground Surface Indicators

Council completed the installation of the Fawcett Park riverside footpath during 2003. The installation followed plans and specifications which were prepared by a consultant landscape architect and civil engineering firm.

I note your advice regarding the current Australian Standard which has nominated a setback for the Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSI). At the time of installation (2003) this setback was not specified and TGSI's were installed according to design.

Council is always placed in a difficult situation to appropriately manage financial resources for operations, maintenance, upgrade and renewal of public infrastructure. The above situation, which comprises a change of standards, occurs regularly across many facilities and infrastructure assets. It is generally unaffordable for Council to retrofit to contemporary standards "across the board" when changes are identified. Accordingly, the application of contemporary standards is usually identified and incorporated with new design and installation work.

2. Playground Fencing

Thank you for your advice about the fencing at the children's playground. The fencing was installed after opening of Fawcett Park to address supervision concerns at the children's playground. The fencing was not part of the original design and therefore TGSI's were not installed within the original concrete.

Council does not have any records regarding issues with the fence following its installation. Council will monitor the situation and consider opportunities for improvement when maintenance may be required.

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Ballina Occupational Therapy
19 January 2015

3. Picnic Table

Again, thank you for your advice about the concrete pads supporting the picnic tables at the eastern end of Fawcett Park. The original design considered the surrounding levels, drainage and landscaped areas. Accordingly, two of the tables provide for wheelchair access. I understand the concern presented by a concrete edge, and Council will consider opportunities for improvement when maintenance may be required.

4. Pathway Edge

The desirability of a pathway edge (fence or barrier) has previously been presented to Council. This occurred during the development of the Fawcett Park masterplan/design process (2002), and more recently during the investigation of Ballina's shared path network through the CBD (2010).

The outcome of the above processes has seen the support for a Fawcett Park design without barriers or fencing, and this also being consistent with other riverside reserves. The Fawcett Park promenade remains as a pedestrian only path (not a shared path facility).

Should you wish to discuss these matters further please contact me on 6686 1241.

Yours faithfully



Paul Busmanis
Engineering Works Manager
Civil Services Group