



Playgrounds Strategy Report

June 2006



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of the Strategy

The Playgrounds Strategy will provide a longer term strategic direction for the future provision and management of playgrounds in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters. It will assist Council to plan for innovative and diverse playgrounds and provide a framework for future priorities and actions.

Basis of the Strategy

A consultative and 'field based' approach has been adopted in developing the Playgrounds Strategy. Children, parents, carers and Council staff have been consulted and a detailed analysis of existing playgrounds and playground distribution has been undertaken.

In addition, research on innovations and good practice has been undertaken and consideration has been given to broader planning principles and community expectations. The directions in the Playgrounds Strategy reflect the consultation, site analysis findings and research undertaken in the study.



Dunstan Adventure Playground



Payneham Oval Junior Playground

The Main Findings

The City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters has a large number of playgrounds compared to the number of children in the local government area, i.e. 27 Council playgrounds, which represents one playground for every one hundred and fifteen (115) 0-9 year olds. Whilst this may appear to be an over supply, it is not recommended that the number of playgrounds is decreased for the following reasons:

- The playgrounds contribute to the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters being a quality place for families to live. The high level of playground and park provision differentiates the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters from other local government areas.
- Although there is not a large number of children across the local government area, there is:
 - A large proportion of young adults, who could have children in the future.
 - A large proportion of older people, who could care for grandchildren and subsequently use parks with playgrounds.
 - A number of suburbs with larger proportions and numbers of children as shown below.
 - A number of suburbs that are medium density where dwellings have small or no backyards. The need for parks and playgrounds in these areas is likely to be higher.

Suburbs with larger proportions of children are listed below showing a comparison with the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters and the Adelaide Statistical Division.

Proportion of Children, as at 2001

Source: ABS CData, 2001

Larger Proportion 0-4 years	Larger Proportion 5-9 years	Larger Proportion 10-14 years
- Trinity Gardens (8.5%)	- Heathpool (8.7%)	- Heathpool (10.4%)
- St Morris (6.5%)	- Trinity Gardens (7.3%)	- College Park (8.7%)
- Payneham South (6.5%)	- Joslin (7.0%)	- Joslin (8.0%)
- Evandale (6.3%)	- St Peters (6.7%)	- Hackney (6.9%)
- Firlie (5.6%)	- Maylands (6.6%)	- St Peters (6.8%)
- Maylands (5.6%)	- Royston Park (6.5%)	- Marryatville (6.5%)
- St Peters (5.6%)	- St Morris (5.9%)	- Royston Park (6.2%)
	- College Park (5.6%)	
	- Payneham South (5.5%)	
<i>Comparison:</i> City of NPSP 4.6%	<i>Comparison:</i> City of NPSP 4.6%	<i>Comparison:</i> City of NPSP 4.7%
Adelaide SD 5.9%	Adelaide SD 6.4%	Adelaide SD 6.5%



Maurice Clayton Reserve Playground



Drage Reserve Playground and Linear Park Path



Burchell Reserve Playground and Courts

Generally, the existing playgrounds are in good condition, although some are not well located and there is a lack of innovation in most playgrounds. Although the playgrounds are well maintained, there are some issues relating to the design of playgrounds and risk management including trees, dogs, fencing and safety.

In addition, there are some gaps in provision, i.e. where there are few playgrounds and larger numbers of children, and the majority of playgrounds cater for the 5-9 year age group. Very young children and older children are less well catered for.

Overall, there is potential to improve the existing playground provision and in particular, create greater diversity and innovation in providing play opportunities.

The Strategy

The Strategy includes:

- An Overriding Strategy for:
 - Hierarchy Framework
 - Playground Provision
 - Innovation
 - Diversity
 - Design
 - Accessibility
 - Risk Management
- Specific directions for each of the above strategies
- Suggested directions for each existing playground
- An Action Plan for Specific Playgrounds

The Overriding Strategy is outlined below and the specific directions are outlined in the report.

Hierarchy Framework

- Develop and manage playgrounds within a hierarchy framework, to achieve different levels of provision and the best use of resources.

Playground Provision

- Only remove a playground where there is an over supply and risk management, maintenance or location issues, or there is an opportunity to better locate or replace a playground.
- Consider providing additional playgrounds only where there is a gap in provision and high demand.

Innovation

- Provide a number of playgrounds that are more innovative and distinctive and offer broader experiences and challenges.

Diversity

- Broaden the age groups that are catered for by playgrounds where appropriate and connected to demographics.

Design

- Improve the design of playgrounds and surrounds, where issues occur. This includes shade, seating, softfall and equipment provision and design.

Accessibility

- Improve the accessibility of playgrounds and surrounding parks for children and carers with a disability.

Risk Management

- Address risk management where issues occur, including risks relating to tree management, dogs, fencing, and playground construction.

Hierarchy Framework

It is recommended that each playground be allocated a hierarchy and the level of development and quality will reflect that hierarchy level. Four hierarchy levels are proposed as follows:

- **Level 1 Playground (Regional)**
High quality, unique features and characteristics and a range of equipment and activity opportunities. Will potentially draw people from across and beyond the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters.
- **Level 2 Playground (District although could have a City-wide attraction)**
High quality and unique features, but size and location less substantial than a level 1 playground. Could draw people from across the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters, but primary intention is to cater for surrounding district.
- **Level 3 Playground (Neighbourhood)**
Good quality and could include equipment for different age groups. However, will generally include standard rather than unique equipment and surrounds, and cater for neighbourhoods (linked to a neighbourhood park).
- **Level 4 Playground (Local)**
Good quality but generally a small playground that may only cater for one age group. Will include standard rather than unique equipment and surrounds and cater for the surrounding local area.

Definitions of catchments are included in the report.

The following chart recommends a hierarchy level for each existing playground in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters, giving consideration to the potential of the playground.

Level 1 Regional	Level 2 District	Level 3 Neighbourhood	Level 4 Local
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dunstan Adventure Playground ▪ James Coke Park (potential) ▪ Linde Reserve (potential) ▪ Payneham Oval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adey Reserve (potential) ▪ Drage Reserve (or alternative River Torrens location) ▪ Koster Reserve (Disability focus) ▪ Payneham Community Centre (relocated in the park) ▪ Richards Park ▪ Twelfree Reserve (potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Borthwick Park, Kensington ▪ Burchell Reserve ▪ Cruickshank Reserve ▪ Church Street ▪ Hannaford Reserve ▪ Joslin Reserve ▪ Payneham Library ▪ St Morris (potential) ▪ Syd Jones Reserve (potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bridge Street ▪ Broad Street ▪ Hutchinson Reserve ▪ Manning Reserve ▪ Maurice Clayton Reserve ▪ Memorial Gardens Borthwick Reserve ▪ Scott Reserve ▪ Stacey Reserve

Innovative Playgrounds

Five 'Innovative Playgrounds' are recommended, where the playgrounds are unique and higher standard, and have a particular theme or character.

These playgrounds could include:

- Themes that are consistent with the surrounds and support creative play.
- Unique pieces of equipment and features.
- Challenging equipment that provides a sense of adventure.
- Educational components.
- Integrated landscaping that contributes to the distinctive character of the playground. This could include water features.
- Art work and creative design.

The innovative playgrounds should be either Level 1 or Level 2 playgrounds.

The suggested innovative playgrounds are:

Reserve	Hierarchy	Potential Theme
Adey Reserve	Level 2 Playground	Nature
Dunstan Adventure Playground	Level 1 Playground	Adventure
James Coke Reserve	Level 1 Playground	Creative Fun
Linde Reserve	Level 1 Playground	Culture and Arts
Payneham Oval	Level 1 Playground	Action

The reasoning for selecting each playground is included in the report.



Payneham Oval Playgrounds



James Coke Reserve Playground

The Priorities

The overall recommended priorities are as follows:

1. Tree management issues, where a large Eucalypt overhangs or is near play equipment and associated grassed areas and seating.
2. Edging around playgrounds, with particular emphasis on addressing raised joins and sharp edges near play equipment.
3. Playground equipment issues, including the existence of treated pine in the equipment and ageing or damaged equipment and where there is a hazard.
4. Planning for and developing or improving the five innovative playgrounds suggested in the Strategy, i.e. at Adey Reserve, Dunstan Adventure Playground, James Coke Park, Linde Reserve and Payneham Oval.
5. Establishing playgrounds with settings and equipment that are accessible to children with a disability, e.g. at James Coke Park, Linde Reserve, Payneham Oval and improved access at Kusters Reserve.
6. Establishing additional playgrounds for toddlers, with Adey Reserve, James Coke Park and Twelftree Reserve possibly being higher priorities due to the larger numbers of children in the area or using the park.



Borthwick Park Tree Management

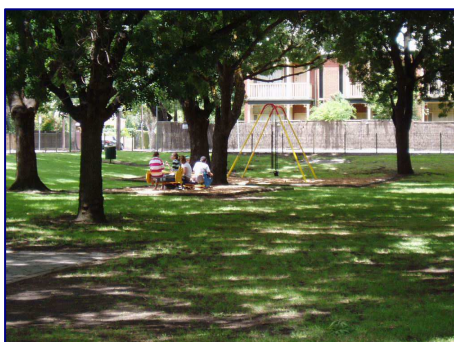


Linde Reserve Potential Playground

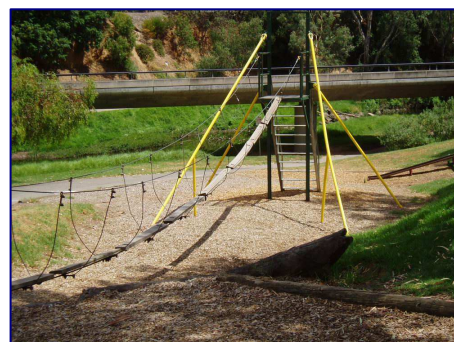
The criteria for determining the priorities are included in the report. Specific action priorities are included in the Action Plan for Specific Playgrounds in the report.

Playgrounds that are considered to be a particular priority are outlined below, together with the reasoning.

Playground	Basis for Priority
Adey Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Substantial recreation park not currently contributed to by the playground ▪ Area has larger proportions of children ▪ Level 2 playground ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with unique 'nature' focus
Borthwick Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only playground in the Kensington area and important to the community ▪ Although Level 3 playground, Borthwick Park is a quality park with high neighbourhood value
Dunstan Adventure Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safety issues with some equipment ▪ High profile and well used playground ▪ Level 1 playground ▪ Identified innovative playground with adventure focus
James Coke Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile site with connection to the Parade ▪ Proposed Master Plan for the park and potential review ▪ Existing and potential high use ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with 'creative fun' focus
Linde Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile site and relatively central to the western half of the Council area ▪ Car parking and good access ideal for significant playground ▪ Proposed Master Plan for the park and potential new playground ▪ Connection to other facilities (community buildings, outdoor recreation) ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with 'cultural and arts' focus
Payneham Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Already a significant playground, but needs enhancing to be of full value ▪ Potential access to children with a disability ▪ Identified innovative playground with 'action' focus
Twelftree Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High need in area for fenced play area with good equipment and design ▪ Link to caravan park ▪ Potential high use



Twelftree Reserve Playground



Dunstan Adventure Playground

Implementing the Playgrounds Strategy

The strategies and priorities in the Playgrounds Strategy will require endorsement by Council to enable implementation over the next 10 years. Strategies and actions should then be reflected in works programs and implemented through operations and capital works over time.

A number of the suggested actions can be addressed within existing budgets, including the annual funding allocated to playground maintenance. Others, such as the upgrade, replacement or relocation of playgrounds will require a commitment of additional capital funding. It is recommended that projects are submitted for capital funding each year based on priorities identified in the Playgrounds Strategy. Grant funding can also be sought to contribute to achieving projects.

It is important to note that the Playgrounds Strategy does not commit Council to implementing all suggested actions. However, the Strategy will guide Council in improving playgrounds and better servicing the community as resources become available.

Further detailed planning and consultation will be required to determine the appropriate design and location of a number of new and relocated playgrounds. It is recommended that children, parents and carers are involved in this planning process and that community projects are integrated in the playground design.

The implementation of the Playgrounds Strategy will occur over time and directions will require ongoing review. An annual review is suggested for the playground actions and priorities and a review of the broader strategies and priorities is suggested at least every three years to ensure the Playground Strategy remains a relevant and achievable planning tool.

BACKGROUND

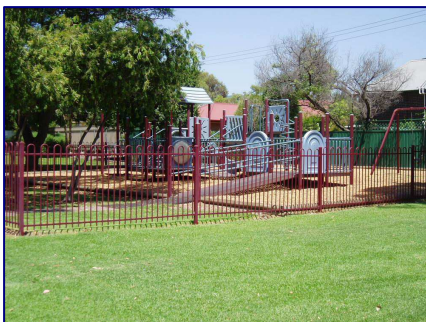
Purpose of the Strategy

The Playgrounds Strategy has been developed to provide a longer term strategic direction for the future provision and management of playgrounds in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters.

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters has a number of playgrounds that are well maintained, generally good quality and of value to the community. However, there is a lack of innovative playgrounds and potential to enhance existing playgrounds and play opportunities.

The Playgrounds Strategy provides strategic and specific directions that will guide the future provision and upgrade of playgrounds. It includes broad directions through strategies, specific actions through an Action Plan and suggested priorities.

The Playgrounds Strategy will assist the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters to increase the value of its playgrounds and broaden play opportunities over the next 10 years.



Koster Reserve Playground (Disability Access)



Hutchinson Reserve Playground



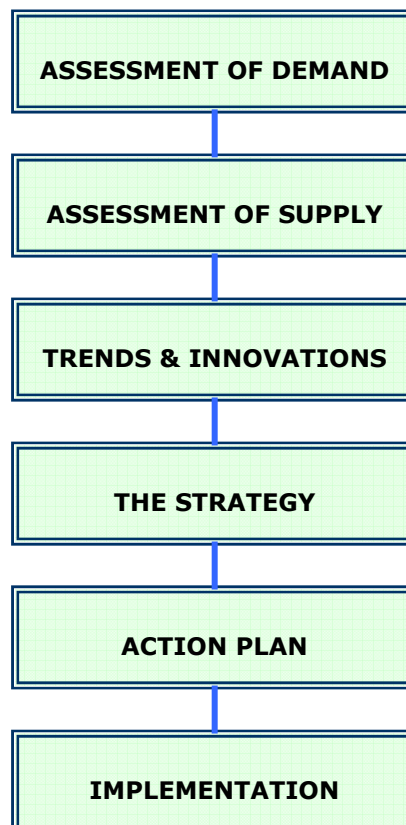
St Morris Reserve Playground

The Strategy Focus

The Playgrounds Strategy is based on an assessment of the needs of the community (demand), the adequacy of existing playgrounds (supply) and broader trends and innovations in playground design (potential supply). From this assessment, strategies have been developed for playground provision and management and actions are recommended for each existing playground.

The Strategy components are outlined below.

Strategy Components



Specific directions are provided for:

- A hierarchy framework
- Playground provision
- Innovation
- Diversity
- Design
- Accessibility
- Risk management
- Specific playgrounds

An Action Plan chart summarises the actions suggested for specific playgrounds.

The Study Approach

The Playgrounds Strategy has involved a consultative and 'field oriented' approach. This includes consultations with Council staff, parents, carers and children and site visits to existing playgrounds to understand the issues and opportunities.

The specific tasks undertaken in the study include:

- A review of relevant Council studies and information
- Meetings with Council staff (recreation, planning and operations)
- A broad assessment of playground distribution and gaps
- Site visits and assessments of all existing Council playgrounds
- A demographic analysis of each suburb using Australian Bureau of Statistics CData 2001
- Community surveys on Council's web site for adults and children (9 adult and 9 children's responses)
- Consultations with two playgroups (33 parents and carers of young children)
- Consultations with children in two schools (38 students from Norwood Primary School and East Adelaide Primary School)
- Research of innovative playgrounds and trends
- An analysis of the supply, demand and research findings
- Development of an Initial Findings Report to enable Council staff feedback
- Development of a Draft Strategy to enable Council staff feedback
- Preparation of the Playgrounds Strategy Report

ASSESSMENT OF DEMAND

Demographic Analysis

City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters has relatively small proportions of children compared to the Adelaide Statistical Division as shown below.

Proportion of Children Compared to Adelaide Statistical Division

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, CData, 2001

Age Group	City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters	Adelaide Statistical Division
0-4 years	4.6%	5.9%
5-9 years	4.6%	6.4%
10-14 years	4.7%	6.5%

However:

- A main reason for the smaller proportions of children is the large proportion of older people living in the Local Government Area (19.1% compared to 14.5% for the ASD)
- The Local Government Area has large proportions of young adults as shown below and this could result in an increase in the number and proportion of children in the future (if young people have children and remain in the area).
- With an increasing number of households with both parents in the workforce, grandparents are tending to take on the role of carers and require local parks and playgrounds to take grandchildren

Proportion of Young Adults Compared to Adelaide Statistical Division

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, CData, 2001

Age Group	City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters	Adelaide Statistical Division
20-24 years	8.2%	6.7%
25-29 years	8.8%	6.7%
30-34 years	7.9%	7.2%

As at 2001, the Local Government Area had:

- 1,489 0-4 year olds
- 1,499 5-9 year olds
- 1,519 10-14 year olds

These numbers are quite small for the number of playgrounds provided as discussed under 'supply assessment'.

Character of Suburbs

Some suburbs have larger proportions of children and as a result are likely to have higher demand for playgrounds as shown below. A comparison is provided with the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters and the Adelaide Statistical Division

Suburbs with larger proportions of very young children (0-4 years)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics CData, 2001

Suburb	Proportion of 0-4 year olds
Evandale	6.3%
Firle	5.6%
Maylands	5.6%
Payneham South	6.5%
St Morris	6.5%
St Peters	5.6%
Trinity Gardens	8.5%
City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters	4.6%
Adelaide Statistical Division	5.9%

Suburbs with larger proportions of young children (5-9 years)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics CData, 2001

Suburb	Proportion of 5-9 year olds
College Park	5.6%
Heathpool	8.7%
Joslin	7.0%
Maylands	6.6%
Payneham South	5.5%
Royston Park	6.5%
St Morris	5.9%
St Peters	6.7%
Trinity Gardens	7.3%
City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters	4.6%
Adelaide Statistical Division	6.4%

Suburbs with larger proportions of older children (10-14 years)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics CData, 2001

Suburb	Proportion of 10-14 year olds
College Park	8.7%
Hackney	6.9%
Heathpool	10.4%
Joslin	8.0%
Marryatville	6.5%
Royston Park	6.2%
St Peters	6.8%
City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters	4.7%
Adelaide Statistical Division	6.5%

Suburbs that have a larger proportion of families with children and as such a possible higher demand for playgrounds are listed below to reinforce the data on the previous page.

Suburbs with larger proportions of families

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics CData, 2001

Suburb	% Families with Children	% One Parent Families	% Families without Children
College Park	52.4%	11.9%	34.1%
Heathpool	58.1%	13.2%	26.5%
Joslin	57.3%	10.9%	29.5%
Payneham South	42.9%	17.1%	38.7%
Royston Park	46.1%	12.5%	39.5%
St Peters	51.5%	11.6%	34.7%
Trinity Gardens	52.5%	11.8%	32.2%

Suburbs with small proportions of families with children and as such could have less demand for playgrounds are listed below.

Suburbs with smaller proportions of families

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics CData, 2001

Suburb	% Families with Children	% One Parent Families	% Families without Children
Glynde	29.2%	16.4%	52.1%
Hackney	29.3%	16.4%	50.9%
Kent Town	18.9%	19.7%	54.9%
Norwood	28.6%	15.7%	50.3%
Stepney	32.9%	13.6%	50.0%

The suburb of Kensington has a small proportion of families with children (28.2%) but a very large proportion of one parent families (26.1%).

The proportion of one parent families, who could have time or income constraints to pursuing recreation for children, is quite high in a number of areas, including:

- Kensington (26.1%)
- Marryatville (21.2%)
- Kent Town (19.7%)
- Payneham (18.4%)
- Marden (17.9%)
- Maylands (17.5%)
- Payneham South (17.1%)

The rate for the Adelaide Statistical Division is 16.6%.

However, income levels are relatively high in all suburbs compared to the Adelaide Statistical Division, suggesting that income for recreation should not be a major issue.

The Implications of Demographics

The demographic data highlights particular demands in each suburb as shown below.

Potential Demand for Playgrounds

Suburb	Potential Higher Demand for Playground	Potential Demand for Toddler Equipment (0-4 years)	Potential Demand for Young Children's Equipment (5-9 years)	Potential Demand for Older Children's Equipment (10-12 years)
College Park	◆			◆
Evandale		◆		
Felixstow				
Firle				
Glynde				
Hackney				◆
Heathpool	◆		◆	◆
Joslin	◆		◆	◆
Kensington				
Kent Town				
Marden				
Marryatville				
Maylands			◆	
Norwood				
Payneham South	◆	◆		
Payneham				
Royston Park	◆		◆	
St Morris		◆		
St Peters	◆		◆	◆
Stepney				
Trinity Gardens	◆	◆	◆	

A number of areas are medium density with smaller backyards such as Norwood, Kent Town, Hackney and Kensington, and the demand for parks and playgrounds could be higher in these areas as a result. In addition, the above analysis does not consider indirect demand through grandparents. A number of areas with larger proportions of older people such as Glynde, Payneham and Payneham South, Felixstow and Firle could have demand for local parks and playgrounds for grandchildren.

Children with Disabilities

Council's Draft Disability Policy highlights the need to provide accessible environments for children with a disability, including accessible playgrounds. The Policy also highlights that a relatively large number of children could have a disability.

The data is outlined below.

Potential Disability Numbers

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Disability, Australia, 2003

Age Group	Disability		Profound Core Activity Limitation	
	Percentage	Potential Number	Percentage	Potential Number
0-4 years	4.3%	64	2.8%	42
5-14 years	10.0%	302	4.9%	148

Community Consultation

The following community consultations have been undertaken as part of the Playgrounds Strategy study.

- A survey of adults and a survey of children on Council's web site
- Sessions with two playgroups (33 parents and carers of young children)
- Sessions with two groups of primary school students (38 year 4-7 students)

The main findings are outlined below.

Consultations with Children

- All children consulted use playgrounds (including through to 12 years)
- Adventurous playgrounds are most appealing
- The Dunstan Adventure Playground is known and liked a lot
- Most children have a bike and like to ride their bike in the park
- Special themes are considered to be a good idea
- All children dislike bark chips
- The types of equipment that appeal most to children are:
 - Flying Fox (long one)
 - Long slippery dip
 - Rope bridge
 - Spider web
 - Twirling poles
 - Swings (bigger)
 - Sea saw
 - Spinning platform
 - Tyre swing
 - Monkey bars
 - Donut Whirly (spin)
 - Tree house with sand pit
 - Maze
 - Rock wall
 - Spinner (e.g. Kensington Park)
 - Big hill with tunnels (e.g. Belair National Park Adventure Fort)
 - Coloured rubber matting
- Children also appreciate other features in parks such as:
 - Bike path
 - Trees and shade
 - Large grassed areas
 - Pond/ water feature
 - Flowers and colour
 - Basketball courts
 - Sports facilities, e.g. tennis courts, soccer area
 - BMX track
 - Barbecue
 - Seating
 - Clean toilets
 - Drink fountains

Consultation with Parents and Carers

- Desire for play equipment for toddlers as well as young children
- Need for trees, shade, grass and seating around playgrounds
- Fencing of some playgrounds desired, particularly for young children
- Adventure and innovative equipment suggested for young children
- Need for some unique playgrounds (something different)
- Equipment needs to be safe and fun
- Need for clean toilets and water fountains
- Barks chips are not considered to be ideal (seen as an unforgiving surface)
- Types of equipment and features suggested include:
 - Swings
 - Slipper dips (in the shade)
 - Climbers
 - Spider web
 - Sand pits
 - Water fountains
 - Maze
 - Cubby house equipment
 - Sensory features

Survey Response from Children

- Local park playgrounds are used as well as more substantial playgrounds in larger parks (that people travel to)
- Use of school playgrounds
- Most children visited the playground 'with an adult and other children' or 'with an adult'
- The reasons for using playgrounds are various (something to do, to be outdoors, for fun, for exercise, for adventure, to play with friends)
- Equipment not in the shade (too hot) and bark chips are issues
- Four children highlighted the need for play opportunities for children with a disability
- Favourite playgrounds would have a number of features and equipment items including
 - Swings
 - Climbers
 - Flying fox
 - Bouncers
 - Sand pit
 - Trees and shade
 - Paths
 - Seating
 - Toilets nearby
- Most children selected more adventurous equipment in their 'favourite playground', including flying fox, ropes course, other adventure equipment
- The idea of a water course and stepping stones was raised

Survey Response from Adults

- Adults visited playgrounds with their own children, other friends and children, and grandchildren
- A number of the respondents visited playgrounds with young children aged 0-4 years
- Adults appreciate convenient local playgrounds as well as larger and unique playgrounds that they travel to
- People travel to other playgrounds. Le Fevre Terrace and Kensington Park playgrounds are popular
- People travel to playgrounds that have lots of equipment, unique equipment, toilets, shade and are exciting for children but safe
- The experience sought from playgrounds is varied and mainly focused on the children's experience, including safety, fun, excitement, adventure, exercise, outdoor experience, learning and interaction for children
- The need for swings, equipment and settings for children with a disability was raised as a high priority by a parent with a child with a disability
- The value of playgrounds in fostering the development of children and providing a fun activity opportunity was raised
- Issues with the quality of some toilets linked to playgrounds
- Dogs in playgrounds was raised as an issue
- Ideal playgrounds include a range of equipment and supportive settings such as natural shade, seating, picnic settings, fencing of equipment, links to pathways and links to toilets
- Desire for playgrounds for toddlers (0-4 years) as well as young children (5-8 years)
- People will travel at least 1km to their ideal playground, with one person selecting 3-5 kms
- It was highlighted that although playgrounds are well maintained, there is a need for unique features including for children with a disability

Previous Planning Consultations

Previous planning and consultations for open space and playground facilities undertaken by Suter & Associates Leisure & Tourism Planners has highlighted the following main priorities:

- Larger and unique playgrounds linked to unique settings such as coastal, lake and natural settings
- Local good quality playgrounds for convenient access (in addition to larger playgrounds)
- Playgrounds for toddlers and older children as well as the 5-9 year age group
- Playgrounds that support children with a disability
- Safe and good quality equipment
- Adventurous features, particularly for 5 years + age groups
- Shade around playgrounds (ideally natural)
- Appealing settings, including shade, landscaping, seating, picnic settings, link to toilets
- Fencing around playgrounds where there is a risk or as part of a focused playspace
- Links to pathways and good access

Source: City of Port Adelaide Enfield Open Space Plan 2004, Wollongong *Planning People Places* 2005

ASSESSMENT OF SUPPLY

Provision and Distribution

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters currently has 27 Council owned and managed playgrounds. This represents one playground for every 58 5-9 year olds, which is a very high ratio compared to broad planning benchmarks. Playground benchmarks vary, but are generally one playground for 200-300 5-9 year olds, depending on the hierarchy of playgrounds provided.

Given that playgrounds can also cater for very young children, the ratio of provision could be seen as one playground for every 115 0-9 year olds.

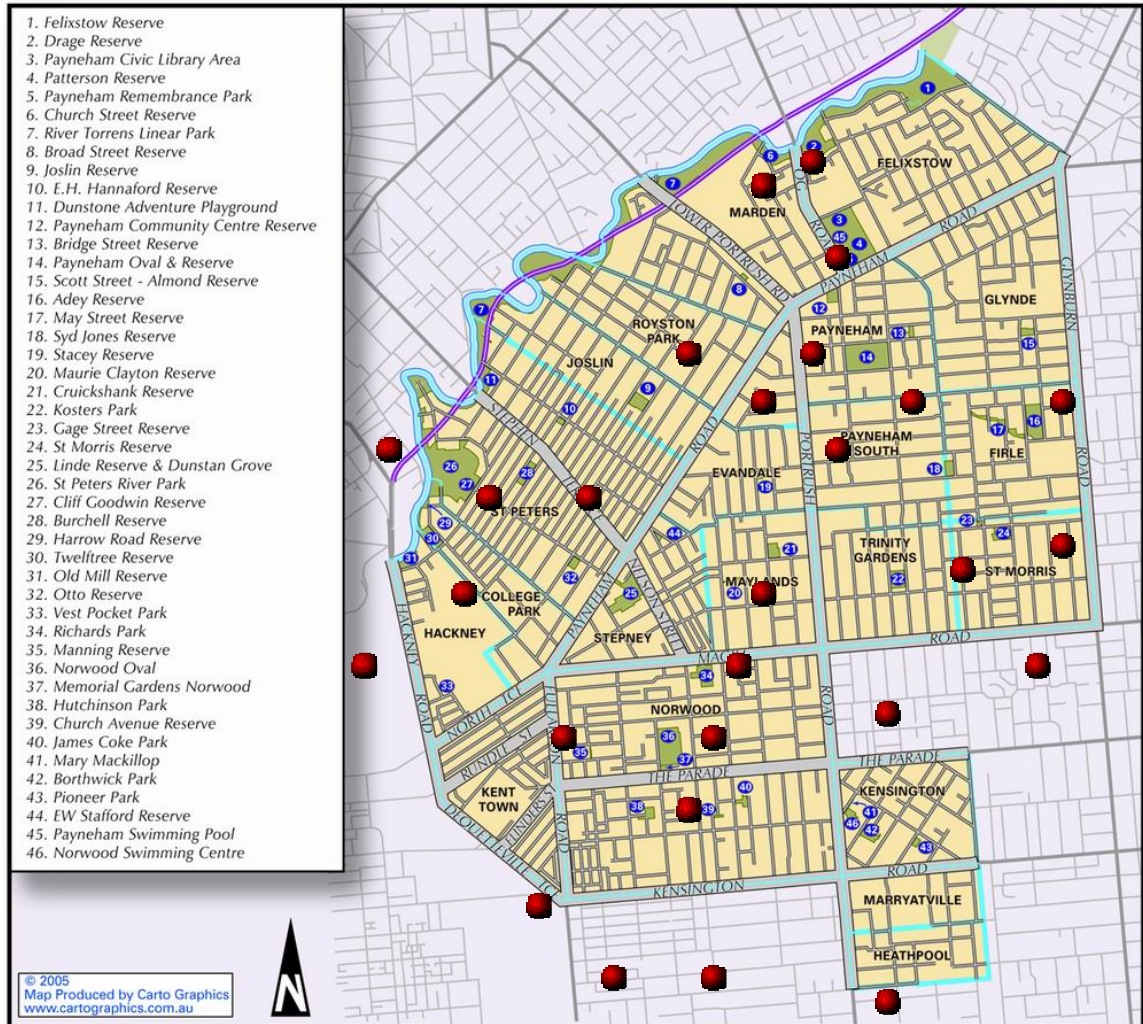
In addition, the Council contributed to the development of a playground at Norwood Primary School. Due to the high level of playground provision in the local government area, the future contribution to school playgrounds is not considered to be essential.

As shown on the map on the following page, most suburbs have good access to playgrounds. Suburbs that are less well catered for are listed below with an indication of the distance from playgrounds.

Gaps in Provision

Suburb/ Area	Indicative Distance from Playground
College Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South eastern area of suburb is around 800m from a playground (although this part of the suburb is not highly residential) Closest playgrounds in the area are Twelftree Park and Burchell Reserve in St Peters
Hackney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern part is around 1km from a playground Closest playgrounds are Twelftree Park and Linde Reserve Proximity to the Adelaide Parklands helps to address the gap
Kent Town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 400m to 800m from a playground The closest playgrounds are in Manning Reserve (a very small playground in a laneway) and Hutchinson Reserve (small playground in pleasant park). Both of these playgrounds require the crossing of Fullarton Road Proximity to the Adelaide Parklands helps to address the g
The area north of the Payneham Road and Stephen Terrace intersection in St Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furthest point is around 800m from Joslin Reserve The area is relatively close to Linde Reserve playground, and a quality playground at that reserve would help to address the gap (a main road crossing is the greatest issue)
The northern part of Royston Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern point is around 700m from Broad Street Reserve Other areas along the Linear park are around 600m from a playground (Hannaford Reserve and Joslin Reserve)
The north eastern part of Felixstow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern areas are around 1km from Drage Reserve Eastern areas are around 1km from Payneham Library playground A small playground is located just to the east (in Poplar Crescent) in the City of Campbelltown
Marryatville and Heathpool (south of Kensington Road although only a small proportion of Heathpool is in the Local Government Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern areas are around 800m from Borthwick Park Tusmore Park in the City of Burnside services this area and provides a valuable activity resource. The furthest distance from Tusmore Park is 600m

City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters Playgrounds



1. Felixstow Reserve
2. Drage Reserve
3. Payneham Civic Library Area
4. Patterson Reserve
5. Payneham Remembrance Park
6. Church Street Reserve
7. River Torrens Linear Park
8. Broad Street Reserve
9. Joslin Reserve
10. E.H. Hannaford Reserve
11. Dunstone Adventure Playground
12. Payneham Community Centre Reserve
13. Bridge Street Reserve
14. Payneham Oval & Reserve
15. Scott Street - Almond Reserve
16. Adey Reserve
17. May Street Reserve
18. Syd Jones Reserve
19. Stacey Reserve
20. Maurie Clayton Reserve
21. Cruickshank Reserve
22. Kosters Park
23. Gage Street Reserve
24. St Morris Reserve
25. Linde Reserve & Dunstan Grove
26. St Peters River Park
27. Cliff Goodwin Reserve
28. Burchell Reserve
29. Harrow Road Reserve
30. Tweltree Reserve
31. Old Mill Reserve
32. Otto Reserve
33. Vest Pocket Park
34. Richards Park
35. Manning Reserve
36. Norwood Oval
37. Memorial Gardens Norwood
38. Hutchinson Park
39. Church Avenue Reserve
40. James Coke Park
41. Mary Mackillop
42. Borthwick Park
43. Pioneer Park
44. EW Stafford Reserve
45. Payneham Swimming Pool
46. Norwood Swimming Centre

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Map Produced by Carto Graphics
www.cartographics.com.au

 Existing Playgrounds

Map Source: City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters, April 2006

Demand Compared to Supply

A comparison of demand and supply is provided below. The chart highlights that will be difficult to remove playgrounds given that higher levels of provision are generally in areas that have higher or average demand. Some areas have potentially high demand and a lack of playgrounds. However, as outlined under 'Gaps in Provision' most of these areas are catered for by parks and playgrounds just outside the area.

Suburb	Areas with Potential Higher Demand for Playground	Areas with Potential Lower Demand for Playground	Areas Lacking Playground	Areas with Higher Provision
College Park	◆		◆	
Evandale				
Felixstow			◆	
Firle				◆
Glynde		◆		
Hackney		◆	◆	
Heathpool	◆		◆	
Joslin	◆			◆
Kensington				
Kent Town		◆	◆	
Marden				
Marryatville			◆	
Maylands				◆
Norwood		◆		◆
Payneham South	◆			
Payneham				◆
Royston Park	◆		◆	
St Morris				
St Peters	◆		◆	
Stepney		◆		
Trinity Gardens	◆			

Playground Priorities

Priorities identified through the site visits and research undertaken in this study and requiring a direction in the Playgrounds Strategy are outlined below.

Quality

All of Council's playgrounds are maintained to a high standard. It is evident that equipment and softfall are regularly checked and issues are addressed promptly. The playground surrounds are also generally well maintained, e.g. grassed areas mown, landscaping maintained, and benches and tables in good condition. The quality of toilet facilities is the greatest issue, with a number of toilets ageing and in declining condition.

Design

Most playgrounds are functional in their design and have good connection between pieces of equipment. However, some playgrounds are spread across the park which impacts on the connection between equipment and the function of the park. Playgrounds that are a particular issue are Twelftree Reserve and Joslin Reserve.

Some other playgrounds have separate sections of equipment that could be reviewed such as Borthwick Park, Stacey Reserve and Syd Jones Reserve. Although the equipment is not spread across the park, the splitting of the equipment is not always ideal for the function of the park. Payneham Oval has a number of play areas, but this is to create areas for different aged children and the Dunstan Adventure Playground is spread across an area, but this also differentiates age abilities and is suitable for the topography of the site.

Innovation

Although playgrounds in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters are good quality, they tend to lack innovation with the exception of the Dunstan Adventure Playground. Most play equipment is standard and includes swings, climbers, slides and bouncers. With the exception of the Dunstan Adventure Playground, no other playground has a unique theme or setting that is likely to draw people to a park from a wide catchment.

Diversity

Whilst some playgrounds include equipment for toddlers, the range of equipment is limited to swings, small climbers, small slides and bouncers. The larger majority of playgrounds are targeted at the 5-9 year age group. The Dunstan Adventure Playground and the Payneham Oval playground are the only playgrounds that cater for older children (aged 10 years and over). As such, the diversity in catering for different age groups is limited.

Risk Management

Due to Council maintaining playground equipment to a high standard, the risk of injury is reduced. However, there are some risk management issues that should be addressed, including:

- The condition and risk of edging around playgrounds, with raised joins and potential splintering
- The use of treated pine around playgrounds (edging, retaining 'walls', posts)
- Whether there is a need for fencing around some playgrounds that are close to main roads, cycle pathways and water bodies
- Large Eucalypt trees close to some playgrounds, with branches overhanging equipment and seating in some instances

Accessibility

Only Kesters Park playground is designed to be accessible to children with a disability. All other playgrounds have access issues with the main issues relating to:

- Bark chips for softfall (instead of matting)
- Steps at entrance points and raised edges
- Play equipment that is not designed for access

Even the Kesters Park playground has limited matting and accessibility and the toilets at this playground are not accessible for wheelchairs.

Appealing Settings

Most of the playground parks are good quality and appealing with large trees, shade and grassed areas. Links with other facilities such as tennis courts, cricket nets and picnic settings have been established at a number of the playgrounds. However, some parks and related facilities could be improved in quality such as at Burchell Reserve (declining tennis courts), Syd Jones Reserve (proposed removal of courts and potential for redesign of the park) and St Morris Reserve (potential for additional shade and improved access).



Borthwick Park Playground

Playground Assessment

Assessment Focus

The main findings of site visits for each playground are summarised on the following pages for:

- Quality and Design
- Innovation and Diversity
- Risk Management
- Accessibility
- Appealing Settings

The playgrounds assessed include:

- Adey Reserve, Firle
- Borthwick Park, Kensington
- Bridge Road Reserve, Payneham
- Broad Street Reserve, Royston Park
- Burchell Reserve, St Peters
- Cruikshank Reserve, Maylands
- Church Street Reserve, Marden
- Drag Reserve, Felixstow
- Dunstan Adventure Playground, Joslin
- James Coke Park, Norwood
- Joslin Avenue Reserve, Joslin
- Kusters Park, Trinity Gardens
- Hannaford Reserve, Joslin
- Hutchinson Reserve, Norwood
- Linde Reserve, Stepney
- Manning Reserve, Norwood
- Maurice Clayton Reserve, Maylands
- Memorial Gardens, Payneham
- Payneham Civic Centre, Felixstow
- Payneham Community Centre, Payneham
- Payneham Oval, Payneham
- Richards Park, Norwood
- Scott Street Reserve, Glynde
- Stacey Reserve, Evandale
- St Morris Reserve, St Morris
- Syd Jones Reserve, Firle
- Twelftree Reserve, College Park

Main Issues and Findings

Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Adey Reserve	<p>Poor quality and design for such a substantial recreation park</p> <p>Playground is located close to housing and amenity and away from other park facilities (poor position)</p>	<p>Limited equipment (climber with slide and ramp) and bouncers</p> <p>Standard equipment design (no innovation)</p>	Fenced playground	Poor disability access (bark chips, equipment)	<p>Large recreation reserve recently developed</p> <p>Lack of integration in the park design</p> <p>Landscaping issues (low shrubs create safety issues)</p>
Borthwick Park	<p>Graffiti on climber</p> <p>Two areas of equipment (although connected by path)</p> <p>Natural shade</p>	<p>Limited equipment in one play area (small climber and bouncers)</p> <p>Standard play equipment design</p> <p>Caters for different age groups (although not older children)</p>	<p>Large eucalypt and pine tree overhanging play equipment</p> <p>Sharp edging (brick paving)</p> <p>Raised sleepers and sharp brackets</p> <p>Not high traffic area (fencing unlikely to be required)</p>	<p>Need for playground in area (higher density and apartments)</p> <p>Poor disability access (bark chips, steps, equipment)</p>	<p>Pleasant park</p> <p>BBQ's, seating and pathway link</p> <p>No toilet</p>
Bridge Road Reserve	<p>Playground dominates south west corner of park</p> <p>Good natural shade to the west</p> <p>Dark colour of equipment appears dated and less appealing</p> <p>Play area dominated by large area of bark chips</p> <p>Limited seating (1 bench)</p>	<p>Small children's focus</p> <p>Standard equipment (not innovative)</p>	High treated pine edging is potential trip hazard	<p>Path through park is too narrow (about 500mm)</p> <p>Poor disability access (bark chips, equipment)</p>	<p>Small local park</p> <p>Close proximity to Payneham Oval playground</p>



Adey Reserve Playground



Church Street Reserve Playground



Payneham Library Playground

Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Broad Street Reserve	Surface on playground climber platform peeling off Some rust on chains on climber Dark colour of equipment appears dated and less appealing	Standard equipment and lacking innovation	Pine post fencing along street (creates barrier to access but not safety fencing) Raised sleeper edges Tree is close to play equipment but not directly over (potential risk)	No path to playground Poor disability access (bark chips, equipment)	Small park with limitations due to size and location
Burchell Reserve	Generally good quality equipment Shade over playground (deciduous Ash) Access to courts is through playground Tight location next to tennis courts (given large park not well located) Play equipment spread across width of park Potential longer term relocation of playground if park redesign	Some older style equipment (spider) Caters for different age groups (although not older children)	Raised section of treated pine edging Fenced park (creates safer play space)	Poor disability access (bark chips, no path equipment) Access from street for prams and small children is furthest end from playground	Good sized and treed park Tennis courts in poor condition Toilets not in great condition
Church Street Reserve	Good quality equipment A little close to pathway (ideally would have been away from path and closer to natural shade)	Standard equipment (no innovation)	Treated pine edging with raised and sharp sections Next to cycle track without any barrier	Poor disability access (bark, raised edges, equipment)	Pleasant setting with trees, barbecues, seating and tables
Payneham Library Playground	Good quality equipment with shade structure Small play area (fenced). Ideally would be larger space and some grass within the fenced area	Standard equipment (no innovation) Small children focus	Fenced playground (required due to proximity to car park) Concrete edging	Poor disability access (bark, equipment)	Near swimming pool, library and community space (but not good connection) Car parking for 80+ cars

Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Cruikshank Reserve	<p>Generally good quality equipment</p> <p>Benches face away from playground</p> <p>Lack of natural shade to the west of playground</p>	Standard equipment (no innovation)	Raised concrete edging	<p>Path through park</p> <p>Poor disability access (bark, raised edges, equipment)</p>	<p>Attractive and treed park</p> <p>Toilet near playground linked to tennis and netball courts (not high quality though)</p> <p>Could better connect picnic setting</p>
Drage Reserve	<p>Generally good quality equipment, although paint peeling off large climber and tyre swing</p> <p>Some weeds and grass in bark chips</p> <p>Lack of natural shade (trees some distance from play area)</p> <p>Tight site</p> <p>Limited seating (1 bench)</p>	Range of equipment (although standard in design)	Next to cycle pathway, although some protection through half length fencing	Poor disability access (bark, equipment)	<p>Toilets nearby along River Torrens Linear Park</p> <p>Due to location, playground does not capitalise on the appealing Linear Park setting</p>
Dunstan Adventure Playground	<p>A number of good quality and new pieces of equipment, combined with some older equipment</p> <p>Quality issues with some equipment</p> <p>Lack of shade on western side of flying fox</p>	Range of equipment, with a number of unique items (long slide, hanging tyre, swirl poles, small flying fox)	<p>Platform on slide is treated pine</p> <p>Worn and sharp sections on steps along edge of slide</p> <p>Eroded soil on hill alongside slide</p> <p>Treated pine log edging with some raised joints</p> <p>Some rusting and movement of joints in slide</p> <p>Tilted planks on 'bridge' creates higher risk</p>	Poor disability access (bark, raised edges, equipment)	<p>Link to River Torrens Linear Park and pathway</p> <p>Small car park (around 12 cars)</p> <p>No toilets (an issue given range of equipment and potential wider catchment, yet location options limited and potential security risks)</p>



Cruikshank Reserve Picnic Area



Drage Reserve Playground

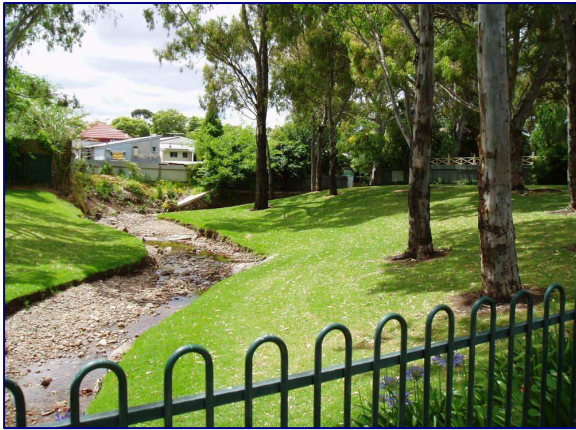


Dunstan Avenue Playground

Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Hannaford Reserve	<p>Some older equipment</p> <p>Paint worn off swings and slippery dip poles</p> <p>Positioned close to fence and road</p>	<p>Limited and standard play equipment</p>	<p>Young eucalypt planted near playground could be an issue in the future</p> <p>Raised uneven log edging</p> <p>Mesh fencing around park (safe play setting)</p> <p>Safety of older style metal swing uncertain</p>	<p>Poor disability access (no path, bark, raised edges, equipment)</p>	<p>Link to grassed area with cricket pitch</p> <p>No toilet</p>
Hutchinson Park	<p>Paint peeling off equipment</p> <p>Playground 'tucked' in corner near backyards (hidden location)</p> <p>Natural shade</p>	<p>Limited equipment (climber and swings)</p> <p>Standard play equipment</p> <p>Limited age focus (5-9 years)</p>	<p>Splintered treated pine edging</p>	<p>Path to playground</p> <p>Poor disability access (bark chips and equipment)</p>	<p>Pleasant creekline setting</p> <p>Overgrown plants behind playground (along fencing)</p> <p>No toilet (small park would not justify)</p>
James Coke Park	<p>Good quality equipment</p> <p>Located nearer development and car parking which reduces park setting value</p>	<p>Standard equipment (no innovation)</p> <p>Children use 'cage' around tree to play games ('animals' in the cage)</p> <p>More for smaller children</p>	<p>Large eucalypt overhanging play area</p> <p>Raised edging</p> <p>Bark chips over pathway</p> <p>Not high traffic area due to no through street (fencing unlikely to be required)</p> <p>Use of treated pine for retainer wall, which children climb on</p>	<p>Poor disability access (bark chips and equipment)</p>	<p>Link to The Parade retail (with toilets)</p> <p>Could be more shade in the park (young trees)</p>
Joslin Reserve	<p>Playground is spread around a large area in the park (dominates the park with large areas of bark chips)</p> <p>Two sets of swings are near toilets and fence with no shade</p>	<p>Playground has a number of pieces of equipment</p> <p>Standard play equipment (no innovation)</p>	<p>High treated pine log edging with some raised sections</p> <p>Old pipes have rough and sharp edges</p>	<p>Poor disability access (bark chips, raised edging and equipment)</p>	<p>Large park with tennis courts</p> <p>Pathway through the park</p>



Hannaford Reserve Playground



Hutchinson Reserve Creekline



Joslin Reserve Playground

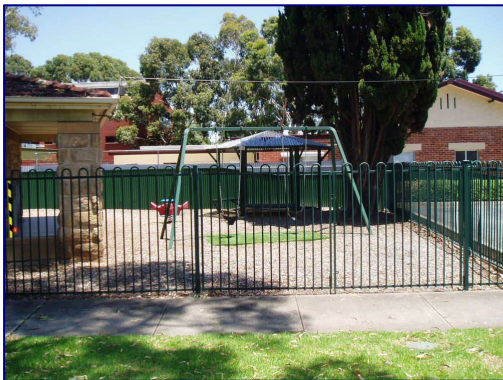
Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Koster Reserve	<p>Good quality equipment</p> <p>Dark colour of equipment appears dated and less appealing</p> <p>BBQ and shelter located away from playground</p> <p>Lack of shade on western side</p>	<p>Range of equipment</p> <p>Based on standard equipment design</p> <p>Caters for children with a disability</p>	<p>Fenced playground (creates safer setting although not high traffic area)</p> <p>Eucalypt with long spindly branches in play setting</p> <p>Double treated pine edging (although ramp provided)</p>	<p>Disability accessible equipment</p>	<p>Pleasant landscaped park setting with heritage feature</p> <p>Toilet facility</p>
Linde Reserve	<p>Located next to creek line (appeal and safety issues)</p> <p>Should consider relocation of playground</p>	<p>Standard equipment (no innovation despite cultural character of reserve)</p> <p>Caters for young children</p>	<p>Fence along drainage line is less than 1m in height</p> <p>Raised sections of edging</p>	<p>Sign deters use by 14 years and over</p> <p>No pathway</p> <p>Poor disability access (no path, bark chips, raised edges, equipment)</p>	<p>Potential redevelopment of the park</p> <p>Toilets although in poor condition and no disability access</p>
Manning Reserve	<p>Good quality equipment</p> <p>Located in a narrow laneway approx 8m wide (low profile and limitations)</p> <p>Ideally would be in a larger park</p>	<p>Very limited equipment (small playground with slippery dip and bouncers)</p>	<p>Eucalypt tree branch overhanging equipment</p>	<p>Path supports access but bark chips and equipment are not accessible</p>	<p>No landscaping around playground</p> <p>Lack of parking around park</p> <p>No toilet (small park would not justify)</p>
Maurice Clayton Reserve	<p>Generally good quality equipment (except bouncer)</p>	<p>Small playground with limited equipment</p>	<p>Ageing equipment (bouncer)</p>	<p>Poor disability access (bark chips, raised edges, equipment)</p>	<p>Good sized local park with trees and shade</p> <p>No toilet</p>
Memorial Gardens	<p>Small fenced playground next to building that is used for playgroup</p>	<p>Limited equipment (swings and bouncer)</p> <p>Small children focus</p>	<p>Busy intersection site not ideal for park for children</p>	<p>Difficult to access park due to busy intersection</p> <p>Appears constraint to general community access</p>	<p>Not appealing setting (busy intersection)</p> <p>Playgroup link (although question appropriateness of site and facility for playgroup)</p>



Koster Reserve



Manning Reserve Playground



Memorial Gardens (Borthwick Park) Playground



Linde Reserve Playground

Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Payneham Community Centre	<p>Equipment is aging</p> <p>Compacted into small area</p> <p>Could consider relocation and better link to park</p>	<p>Caters for toddlers and young children age groups (although linked together in one area)</p>	<p>Fenced due to car park connection</p> <p>Treated pine poles for swings</p> <p>Limited natural shade from west (bench in playground is in full sun)</p> <p>Small eucalypt overhanging swings</p>	<p>Poor disability access (fence, step, bark, equipment)</p>	<p>Adjoins car park (visual impact)</p> <p>Bins lined up along playground fence (not attractive)</p> <p>Benches in park face away from playground</p> <p>Small and aging BBQ</p>
Payneham Oval	<p>Spread across grassed area (dominates the site a little)</p> <p>Pool style fencing around small children's playground could be more attractive</p> <p>Shade is lacking around two playground areas</p> <p>Lack seating around play equipment</p>	<p>Four defined areas catering for different age groups and interests</p> <p>Although there is a large amount of equipment, the design is relatively standard and there is no unique theme or activity</p>	<p>Treated pine edging with uneven joints</p> <p>Path is uneven in places (trip hazards)</p>	<p>Poor disability access (bark, raised edges)</p>	<p>Major sportsground and recreation area</p> <p>Linked to good sized grass area with pathway</p>
Richards Park	<p>Generally good quality equipment</p> <p>Natural shade</p>	<p>Mainly caters for 5-9 years</p> <p>Standard play equipment (no innovation)</p>	<p>Treated pine posts around edges</p> <p>One eucalypt with aging branches overhanging bench</p>	<p>Access to park is difficult (main road and limited parking)</p> <p>Disability access along path is difficult (due to sharp corners and raised path)</p> <p>Poor disability access to playground (bark chips, raised edges, equipment)</p>	<p>Substantial treed park (pleasant setting)</p> <p>Picnic settings</p> <p>Poor quality and 'hidden' location toilet</p>
Scott Street Reserve	<p>Generally good quality</p> <p>Play equipment at eastern end fading</p> <p>Old damaged bench in bushes</p>	<p>Boat shaped equipment is different</p> <p>Old tractor is unique</p>	<p>Eucalypt trees over play equipment on eastern end</p> <p>Raised joins in edging</p> <p>Hazards on tractor (sharp edges, protruding screws)</p> <p>Tractor close to road</p>	<p>No path through the park or between play equipment</p>	<p>Lack of shade around playground at western end</p> <p>Pleasant and well maintained park</p> <p>Potential for extra seating, particularly western end playground</p> <p>No toilet (and not appropriate)</p>



Payneham Community Centre Playground



Richards Park Playground



Scott Street Reserve Playground

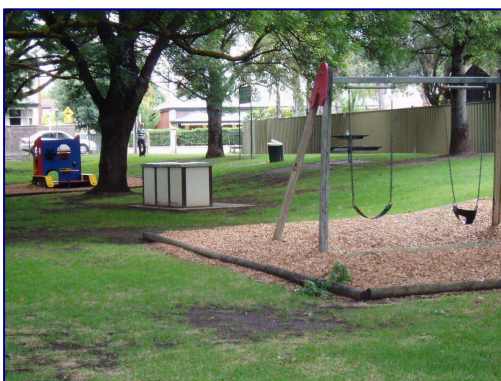
Playground	Quality & Design	Innovation & Diversity	Risk Management	Accessibility	Setting
Stacey Reserve	Two playground sections (north east and south east corners) Natural shade (although section of playground located out of shade) Only one bench	Poor connection of equipment levels (small children's linked to older children's equipment) Standard play equipment	Uneven treated pine edges Small bouncer ageing One eucalypt with branch towards swings	Poor disability access (no path, bark chips, raised edges, equipment)	Small local park No toilets
St Morris Reserve	Weeds in bark chips Lacking shade on western side of playground Poor landscaping	Range of equipment Standard design equipment	Fenced reserve Benches in full sun	Access into reserve some distance from playground Poor disability access (bark chips, raised edges, equipment)	Large local park with grassed area and half court
Syd Jones Reserve	Playground equipment spread across three sections (dominates grassed area of park) Toilets relatively poor standard Limited seating Limited shade around seating and equipment	Sections cater for different age groups	Treated pine edging around sand pit Uneven joins in treated pine edging Dogs running around park and playground at time of visit Lack of shade	Poor disability access (no path, bark chips, raised edges, equipment)	Small park but has a lot of facilities (over developed) Tennis courts in poor condition Potential redevelopment of the park
Twelftree Reserve	Paint worn on some equipment (car, swings, bouncer) Playground is spread across half the park (individual pieces with large areas of bark dominate the site) Should consider consolidation of equipment	Generally standard equipment with exception of play car Lacking innovation in equipment and design	Richmond Road is high traffic area Raised treated pine edging Treated pine wooden posts on swings	Poor disability access (bark chips, raised edges, equipment) Sign deters use by 14 years and over	Treed park (pleasant setting) Link to corner Delicatessen No toilet



Stacey Reserve Playground



St Morris Reserve Playground



Twelftree Reserve Playground

TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS

Playground Hierarchy

For some years there has been recognition of the need for a hierarchy of playgrounds, including playgrounds that provide innovative, unique or higher standard settings for regions and districts, as well as neighbourhood and local play opportunities. People seek diversity and unique experiences to support play and development opportunities for their children and are prepared to travel to substantial and innovative playgrounds. They also seek convenient play opportunities close to home and linked to the local park.

Diverse Age Groups

There is increasing demand for unique and creative equipment and setting for toddlers (0-4 years) and an emphasis on including toddler equipment in substantial playgrounds.

There is also increasing demand for play equipment and settings that support older children and particularly opportunities for adventure and challenge for the 9-12 year age group. Specialised and integrated play opportunities are being considered and linked to substantial parks and playgrounds.

Innovative Play

Substantial playgrounds are becoming more innovative and theme based as highlighted in the award winning playgrounds researched through this study.

The Burnside Adventure Park in South Australia, which received various awards in 2005, is an excellent example of an innovative playspace. The playground has a strong connection to the natural environment, artistic elements and interesting play opportunities. The emphasis of the playground is on providing creative and stimulating play opportunities with a 'giant' theme (giant's swings, giant's platform).

Other innovations in award winning playgrounds include:

- Challenging equipment and features such as climbing webs, climbing walls, tree houses, climbing tunnels, climbing fortresses, bridges
- Fauna and nature themes, including sensory and interpretative features
- Large pieces of equipment such as long slippery dips along embankments
- Art works, such as a painted truck on a fence or totem poles
- Water features, such as ponds, fountains and water walls

Accessible Play

There is increasing recognition of the need to provide playgrounds that support children with a disability as well as other children (supporting the concept of integration). This is generally achieved through rubber matting for softfall, ramps, platforms that support wheelchair access and specialised equipment.

Some examples are as follows:

- The Burnside Adventure Park in South Australia, which has features for children with a disability including various sensory elements.
- The Belmore School Playspace in Victoria, with pathways and decking, sensory plantings and elements, and accessible play equipment and space. Colour schemes, artistic elements and unique accessible features such as an accessible water wall make the playground unique.
- Maroondah Federation Estate in Victoria, which includes natural features in the form of native landscaping, a maze, pathways, artistic elements, sensory and exploratory elements and the concept of 'earth, fire, wind and water'. The emphasis is on uniqueness and colour and there is little traditional play equipment in the playground.

Connection to the Environment

As part of the concept of themes, there is an emphasis on creating play environments that are strongly connected to the natural environment and the park setting.

Some examples include:

- The Lynette Avenue Playspace in Manningham Victoria, which has an 'Indigenous' and 'Australian bush' theme with a serpent snake, painted poles and other art works.
- The Lake Guthridge/ Guyatt Environmental Playspace Development in Victoria. This play space has an interactive focus incorporating a strong environmental message through interpretative play opportunities such as a nature trail, board walk around a water feature and play area. Some unique features include an aboriginal dugout canoe set into a dry creek bed, carved art pieces of fauna along the banks of the creek, timber footbridges, a children's maze, carved totem poles, an interactive sun dial and a Casuarina forest.

THE STRATEGY

The Overriding Strategy

The overriding strategy for playgrounds based on the main findings is outlined below. This strategy is built on in The Strategy, with specific directions and recommendations provided for each item.

Hierarchy Framework

- Develop and manage playgrounds within a hierarchy framework, to achieve different levels of provision and the best use of resources.

Playground Provision

- Only remove a playground where there is an over supply and risk management, maintenance or location issues, or there is an opportunity to better locate or replace a playground.
- Consider providing additional playgrounds only where there is a gap in provision and high demand.

Innovation

- Provide a number of playgrounds that are more innovative and distinctive and offer broader experiences and challenges.

Diversity

- Broaden the age groups that are catered for by playgrounds where appropriate and connected to demographics.

Design

- Improve the design of playgrounds and surrounds, where issues occur. This includes shade, seating, softfall and equipment provision and design.

Accessibility

- Improve the accessibility of playgrounds and surrounding parks for children and carers with a disability.

Risk Management

- Address risk management where issues occur, including risks relating to tree management, dogs, fencing, and playground construction.

Hierarchy Framework

Framework Strategy

Develop and manage playgrounds within a hierarchy framework, to achieve different levels of provision and the best use of resources.

Catchment Definitions

Catchment definitions referred to in the hierarchy are outlined below.

Regional:

- The whole of the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters and the wider area, for example all or part of the City of Burnside, City of Campbelltown and Walkerville Council area.

District:

- Groups of suburbs defined by main roads, for example Joslin, Royston Park and the northern part of St Peters defined by Stephen Terrace, Payneham Road and Lower Portrush Road.

Neighbourhood:

- The whole of a suburb and often within walking distance, for example, Kensington or St Morris.

Local:

- Part of a suburb and within walking distance, for example the western part of Norwood.

Playground Levels

Establish a hierarchy of playgrounds with four different levels as outlined below:

- Level 1 Playground (Regional)

A Level 1 Playground is substantial in size and quality compared to other playgrounds. It is high quality, has unique features and characteristics and includes a range of equipment and activity opportunities.

Examples of unique features include accessible design and equipment for children with a disability, uniquely designed equipment, integrated landscaping or art work. A Level 1 Playground will generally cater for different age groups through different types of equipment and design features.

A Level 1 Playground will generally be linked to a reserve that has regional or city-wide value and unique features or settings. The uniqueness and quality of the playground will potentially draw people from across and beyond the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters.

- Level 2 Playground (District although could have a City-wide attraction)

A Level 2 Playground is high quality and includes unique features such as access for children with a disability or integrated landscaping. The quality and uniqueness of the playground could be as significant as a Level 1 Playground. A Level 2 Playground could also cater for various age groups. However, a Level 2 Playground is generally smaller in size and could be linked to a less substantial park or location.

A Level 2 Playground could potentially draw people from across the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters due to its unique features. However, the primary intention of a Level 2 Playground is to cater for the surrounding district.

- Level 3 Playground (Neighbourhood)

A Level 3 Playground is good quality and could include a number of pieces of equipment that cater for different age groups. However, the playground will generally include standard rather than unique equipment and surrounds.

A Level 3 Playground will generally cater for neighbourhoods and be linked to a neighbourhood standard park.

- Level 4 Playground (Local)

A Level 4 Playground is good quality but is generally a small playground that may only cater for one age group (e.g. toddlers 0-4 years or 5-8 year olds). The playground will include standard rather than unique equipment and surrounds. It will generally be located in a local park and aim to cater for the surrounding local area.

Suggested Hierarchy Allocation

The following chart allocates a hierarchy level to each existing playground in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters, giving consideration to the potential of the playground. This allocation can evolve over time, depending on community needs and available resources.

Level 1 Regional and City-wide	Level 2 District and City-wide	Level 3 Neighbourhood	Level 4 Local
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dunstan Adventure Playground ▪ James Coke Park (potential) ▪ Linde Reserve (potential) ▪ Payneham Oval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adey Reserve (potential) ▪ Drage Reserve (or alternative River Torrens location) ▪ Koster Reserve (Disability focus) ▪ Payneham Community Centre (relocated in the park) ▪ Richards Park (future regional park) ▪ Twelftree Reserve (potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Borthwick Park, Kensington ▪ Burchell Reserve ▪ Cruickshank Reserve ▪ Church Street (or alternative location on River Torrens) ▪ Hannaford Reserve ▪ Joslin Reserve ▪ Payneham Library ▪ St Morris (potential) ▪ Syd Jones Reserve (potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bridge Street ▪ Broad Street ▪ Hutchinson Reserve ▪ Manning Reserve ▪ Maurice Clayton Reserve ▪ Memorial Gardens Borthwick Reserve ▪ Scott Street Reserve ▪ Stacey Reserve

Playground Provision

Strategy for Playground Removal

Only remove a playground **where there is an over supply and risk management, maintenance or location issues**, or there is an opportunity to better locate or replace a playground.

It is recommended that most existing playgrounds are retained due to the value of playgrounds, even though the overall provision is high.

The removal of a playground should only be considered where a number of the following factors are relevant:

- The playground is in poor condition
- The location of the playground is poor (difficult to access and unappealing)
- The playground is close to another playground (within 200m)
- The use of the playground is low
- The playground is found, in the future, to pose a significant risk to safety of the children/public and steps to otherwise alleviate, minimize or warn of the risk are not appropriate or possible

The only playground that has been identified as a possibility for removal (without replacement) in this study is Memorial Gardens Borthwick Reserve in Payneham. This is a very small playground linked to a small building and located in a park surrounded by busy roads. However, a playgroup currently uses the building and the playground would only be removed if the building use changes in the future.

Strategy for Relocating Playgrounds

Only remove a playground where there is an over supply and risk management and safety issues, **or there is an opportunity to better locate or replace a playground.**

A number of playgrounds have been identified for possible replacement or relocation due to issues with the existing location and to improve the value and accessibility of the playground. The relocation of playgrounds could occur over a period of time and towards the end of the life of the existing playground if required (providing safety does not become an issue). Relocating a playground will generally involve removing the existing equipment and replacing the equipment with new equipment at another location. The risk of equipment becoming unstable due to movement would limit the potential to re-use equipment (in accordance with Australian Standards).

Consultation with potential user groups including the wider community would be required prior to the relocation to discuss the reasoning and the opportunities. Suggestions for relocating and replacing playgrounds are listed below, together with the basis.

Recommendation	Basis
<p><i>Adey Reserve</i> Relocate the playground to link to the grassed area and integrate with other recreation facilities in the Reserve, e.g. cricket nets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low standard playground for the reserve standard - Located away from other activity opportunities and close to housing
<p><i>Church Street Reserve</i> Consider relocating the Church Street playground along the River Torrens Linear Park in the Marden area connected to a larger grassed area, or away from the path in the existing location</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Too close to the pathway - Other locations along the Linear Park could be more suitable for 'stop off'
<p><i>Drage Reserve</i> Consider relocating the playground north east along the River Torrens Linear Park where there is a larger grassed area and potentially better integration with the setting (giving consideration to Felixstow Reserve)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close to Church Street - Too close to pathway - Topography not ideal for play area
<p><i>Linde Reserve</i> Relocate and establish a higher standard playground as part of the redevelopment of the reserve. The location should be determined in the Master Plan process that is proposed for the Reserve, with links to other community or recreation facilities and landscaping.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playground in poor condition with limited play opportunities - High profile site and link to community facilities - Too close to creekline - Potential redesign of the park and improved connection with other facilities
<p><i>Manning Reserve</i> Consider acquiring a larger parcel of land for a park in the area and establishing an improved local playground. The affordability of land will be the main constraint to this direction. However, the lack of open space in the area could justify a strategic land acquisition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Narrow laneway and limited equipment or play potential as a result - Vandalism and security issues due to laneway setting
<p><i>Payneham Community Centre Playground</i> Relocate the playground to the grassed area at the same reserve. This action would require lighting of the park, as young people use the playground at night as part of a program at the Payneham Community Centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playground in declining condition - Tight site and adjoins car park - Unappealing setting and lack of shade - Potential link to grassed area, and picnic facilities

Strategy for Additional Playgrounds

Consider providing additional playgrounds only where there is a gap in provision and high demand.

Council's Open Space Strategy (2002) proposed the development of five additional playgrounds. Whilst consideration has been given to providing additional playgrounds, it is not recommended that any be established at this time. Existing playgrounds are spread across the local government area and areas that are lacking playgrounds generally do not have high demand or can be serviced by other areas.

There is only one new playground that is suggested and this could be the relocation of an existing playground, i.e.:

- Consider relocating Drage Reserve playground to Felixstow Reserve (as part of an upgrade of that reserve). The existing Drage Reserve playground is in a tight location too close to the pathway and relatively close to the Payneham Library playground.

The local community would need to be consulted on this option.

An analysis of demand and supply where playgrounds are lacking is provided as Attachment 1.

Innovation

Strategy for Innovation

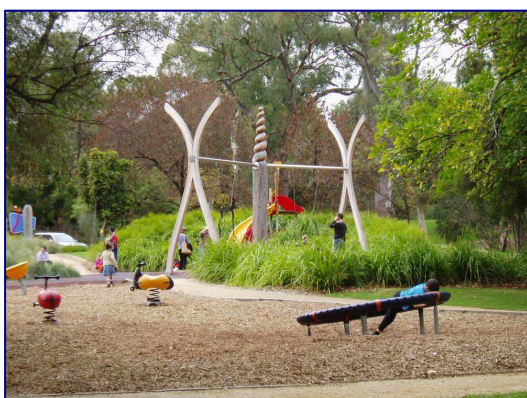
Provide a number of playgrounds that are more innovative and distinctive and offer broader experiences and challenges.

Playgrounds in the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters are good quality and appealing. The community is generally satisfied with the condition and standard of the playgrounds. However, the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters lacks playgrounds that provide innovative and distinctive play experiences for children. Although good quality, most playgrounds have the same standard equipment and little opportunity for creativity.

It is recommended that the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters establish five strategically located innovative playgrounds. These playgrounds could include:

- Themes that are consistent with the surrounds and support creative play.
- Unique pieces of equipment and features.
- Challenging equipment that provides a sense of adventure.
- Educational components.
- Integrated landscaping that contributes to the distinctive character of the playground. This could include water features.
- Art work and creative design.

It is recommended that the innovative playgrounds are connected to the hierarchy framework and are Level 1 or Level 2 playgrounds that cater for people across the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters.



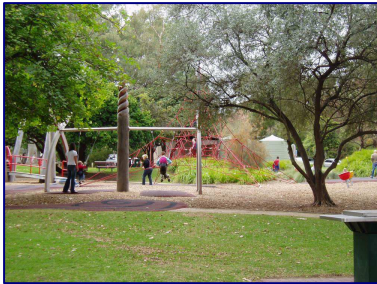
Burnside Adventure Playground, Kensington Park



Le Fevre Tce Playground, North Adelaide

Innovative Playground Examples

Burnside Adventure Playground



Adelaide Aquatic Centre Playground



Le Fevre Tce Playground



Suggestions for Specific Innovative Playgrounds

The recommended five innovative playgrounds are outlined below with suggestions for their character and a basis for the selection.

Reserve	Theme	Ideas	Basis for Selection
Adey Reserve Level 2 Playground	Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Replace and relocate existing playground to connect with grassed area and other activities (cricket nets, court) ▪ Consider nature theme to be consistent with reserve landscaping and to 'soften' impact of playground and other recreation facilities ▪ Include unique landscape components as part of the play and learning experience (integrating sensory components) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large higher standard park (recently developed) ▪ Recommended replace and relocate existing playground and this provides opportunity for innovation ▪ Contributes to a balanced spread of innovative playgrounds
Dunstan Adventure Playground Level 1 Playground	Adventure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upgrade the existing equipment and incorporate other adventure based innovations (within safety requirements) ▪ Maintain and strengthen adventure theme ▪ Further integrate shade and landscaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existing substantial adventure playground ▪ High demand for adventure components ▪ Caters for young and older children
James Coke Reserve Level 1 Playground	Creative fun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain existing 'well loved' features such as hill and stepped retaining wall ▪ Add additional features with focus on challenge, learning and fun ▪ Maintain a relatively small playground but increase its quality (ensuring the playground does not dominate the park) ▪ Consider a creative theme, with the emphasis on children creating their own experience and fun ▪ Include unique landscape components as part of the play experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile location with connection to The Parade retail area ▪ Existing and potential well used playground by surrounding community and retail users ▪ Proposed Master Plan for the Park and The Parade and Magill Rd Precinct Strategic Plan provide opportunity to consider innovation

Reserve	Theme	Ideas	Basis for Selection
Linde Reserve Level 1 Playground	Culture and arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Replace and relocate existing playground to connect with other activity opportunities (as part of reserve redesign) ▪ Consider cultural theme to be consistent with cultural focus of the reserve (reflect arts, culture, learning). ▪ Include an accessible and sensory playground component to respond to disability needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reserve is proposed for Master Plan and redevelopment ▪ Link to large park and other opportunities (recreation area, community and cultural buildings) ▪ High profile site and good car parking ▪ Relatively central location ▪ Contributes to a balanced spread of innovative playgrounds
Payneham Oval Level 1 Playground	Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain existing playgrounds, although incorporate some additional challenging and interesting equipment (particularly for toddlers and young children) ▪ Consider an 'action' theme, with the focus on activity, climbing and challenge (to be consistent with the existing equipment and the sports theme of the setting) ▪ Include additional landscaping around the playgrounds and as part of the play experience, including possible water features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existing large playground, catering for a number of age groups ▪ Connection to recreation and sport activities ▪ Services area with larger proportions of children (Payneham South) ▪ Contributes to a balanced spread of innovative playgrounds

Diversity

Diversity Strategy

Broaden the age groups that are catered for by playgrounds where appropriate and connected to demographics.

Age Group Play Focus

The types of equipment and settings that could be considered for different age groups include:

- Toddlers: Equipment and settings designed to cater for the 2-4 year age group, e.g. small swings, small slides, low climbers, bouncers. Toddler equipment could have an adventure focus, provided the level of adventure is safe for the age group.
- Young children: Equipment and settings that are fun but safe for the 5-9 year age group, e.g. climbers, swings, slides, ropes.
- Older children: Equipment and settings that are challenging and robust enough for the 10-14 year age group, e.g. rope course, flying fox, larger swings, larger slides, exercise areas.

Ideally there would be a separation between clusters of equipment for different age groups, although the equipment should be close enough for people with children of different age groups to supervise the children at the same time, e.g. toddler equipment being defined but reasonably close to the equipment for young children.

Achieving Diversity

To achieve greater diversity it is recommended that different age group equipment is provided at playgrounds. However, not all playgrounds can or should cater for all age groups. Suggestions for age groups at each existing playground and the basis are provided below.

Playground Reserve	Age Group Focus	Basis
Adey Reserve	Toddlers Young Children Older children	- Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children - All other playgrounds in the area are proposed for toddlers and young children (need some focus for older children)
Borthwick Park, Kensington	Toddlers Young Children Older children (some equipment)	- Area is contained by main roads and park should cater for different age groups - Already includes two playgrounds catering for different age groups - Neighbourhood focus does not justify substantial equipment for older children
Bridge Road Reserve	Young children	- Payneham Oval nearby caters for toddlers and older children
Broad Street Reserve	Young children	- Local park can not justify a range of equipment - Joslin Reserve nearby can cater for toddlers and older children
Burchell Reserve	Toddlers Young Children	- Larger proportions of all age groups in the area - Twelftree suggested as playground for older children

Achieving Diversity (continued)

Playground Reserve	Age Group Focus	Basis
Church Street Reserve	Young children (existing focus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area does not have large proportions of children - Local park can not justify a range of equipment
Cruikshank Reserve	Toddlers Young children (existing) Older children (some equipment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children - Tennis and netball court link with older children
Drage Reserve	Toddlers (if relocated) Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If relocated to Felixstow Reserve could attract families with different age groups - Existing equipment is young children
Dunstan Adventure Playground	Young children Older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adventure focus suitable for young and older children - Area has larger proportions of young and older children
Hannaford Reserve	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportions of young and older children - Dunstan Adventure Playground caters for older children - Joslin Reserve would be more suitable for toddlers
Hutchinson Park	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area does not have large proportions of children - Grandparents could be more likely to take young children to a playground - James Coke is more suitable for toddlers
James Coke Park	Toddlers Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Substantial park in key location justified different age groups - People with toddlers and children who are shopping could seek place for lunch and play
Joslin Reserve	Toddlers Young children Older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Larger park that can support different age groups - Area has larger proportions of young and older children - Tennis courts could attract different age groups (including parents with toddlers)
Koster Reserve	Toddlers Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing focus of playground - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children
Linde Reserve	Toddlers Young children Older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a substantial playground (proposed), there is potential to cater for different age groups - Surrounding areas have larger proportions of all age groups
Manning Reserve	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area does not have large proportions of children - Local park and laneway location does not justify a range of equipment
Maurice Clayton Reserve	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children
Memorial Gardens (Borthwick Reserve)	Toddlers (existing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location does not justify a range of equipment - Playgroup link
Payneham Community Centre	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Payneham Oval is nearby with equipment for toddlers and older children
Payneham Library	Toddlers (existing) Young children (existing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Size of site can not sustain additional equipment
Payneham Oval	Toddlers Young children Older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing focus of equipment - Substantial park with a range of user groups who could have different aged children

Achieving Diversity (continued)

Playground Reserve	Age Group Focus	Basis
Richards Park	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area does not have large proportions of children - Grandparents could take young children to the park
Scott Reserve	Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area does not have large proportions of children - Grandparents could take young children to the park
Stacey Reserve	Toddlers Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children
St Morris Reserve	Toddlers Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children
Syd Jones Reserve	Toddlers Young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area has larger proportion of toddlers and young children
Twelftree Reserve	Toddlers Young Children Older children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Larger proportions of all age groups in the area - Link to River Torrens Linear Park and good access for older children on bikes



Toddlers Playground, Payneham Oval

Design

Strategy for Design

Improve the design of playgrounds and surrounds, where issues occur. This includes shade, seating, softfall and equipment provision and design.

Overall, an emphasis should be placed on:

- Linking playgrounds to natural shade, whilst minimizing the risk of branches and debris falling onto playgrounds.
- Providing seating and picnic settings around playgrounds for carers.
- Improving the quality of softfall, particularly for Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds. All playgrounds have bark chips for softfall, which are not ideal and disliked by children and parents due to the rough edges of bark. Improved softfall could include:
 - Full or part rubber matting softfall at a number of in Level 1 and higher profile Level 2 playgrounds
 - Coloured matting integrated as a design feature
 - The integration of landscaping
 - Other softfall that is consistent with Australian Standards
- Locating equipment in the attractive part of a reserve and linked to other recreation facilities.
- All playground designs must include risk management assessments with particular attention paid to proposed water features and natural settings.

In addition:

- Playgrounds should be visible from within and beyond a reserve and surrounding landscaping and other structures should be designed to limit 'hiding places' and create an open and safe setting.
- Shelters should be provided near Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds, to provide shade and shelter from the weather, as well as a focus for picnics.
- Picnic areas, including barbecues and table settings, should be linked to some Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds.
- Some Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds would ideally have access to toilet facilities. This could include access to toilets in community buildings and would reflect Council's management of toilet facilities.

Suggestions for improving the design of specific playgrounds are included in 'Directions for Specific Playgrounds'.

Accessibility

Strategy for Accessibility

Improve the accessibility of playgrounds and surrounding parks for children and carers with a disability.

Disability access is a high priority as identified in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters Disability Policy. Only one existing playground is accessible to children with a disability (Koster Reserve).

Recommendations for improving disability access are as follows:

- Establish additional playgrounds where the equipment is designed to be accessible to children in a wheelchair and other features are included, e.g. unique sounds or objects for children with sight impairments. Suggested options include:
 - Linde Reserve, as part of the development of an innovative Level 1 playground and the connection to community services for children with a disability
 - Payneham Oval, with an emphasis on activity for children with a disability
 - Adey Reserve, with a focus on a sensory playground as part of a nature theme
 - James Coke Reserve, given the high profile of the site and the connection to retail (parents with children with a disability using the playground as part of The Parade experience)
- Enhance the disability focus at the existing accessible playground at Koster Reserve, including disability access to the toilets.
- Improve disability access to all Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 playgrounds through:
 - Accessible pathways to the playground equipment, seating and shelters
 - Kerbs and paths in streets connecting to the playground
 - Managed vegetation around paths and the playgrounds



Kosters Reserve Playground

Risk Management

Strategy for Risk Management

Address risk management where issues occur, including risks relating to tree management, dogs, fencing, and playground safety.

Directions for each of the risk management issues identified in the strategy are provided below.

Tree Management

It is recommended that trees are managed around playgrounds and that Eucalypt tree branches do not overhang playground equipment.

Where large trees do exist around playgrounds, the following approach is suggested:

- The stability of the tree and the risk of branches falling should be assessed (involving specialist expertise where required).
- At risk branches overhanging playground equipment should be removed, unless this impacts on the significance of the tree.
- If branches can not be removed and/ or there is still a risk of branches falling on or near the playground, the equipment should be relocated.
- Significant trees should only be removed if there are broader issues with the safety and health of the tree in accordance with government legislation.

Playgrounds with potential tree management issues are identified in the 'Directions for Specific Playgrounds'.



Dunstan Adventure Playground



Stacey Avenue Reserve Playground

Fencing (including Dog Management)

- In general, playgrounds should be considered for fencing if:
 - The playground is located close to a busy road and there is no fence around the reserve
 - The playground is close to a busy car park
 - The playground is near a permanent or potential water body (alternatively there could be a barrier around the water body)
 - The playground is on a reserve that is used as a formalised off leash dog area (in accordance with Council's Urban Animal Management Plan)
 - There is a need to separate the playground from other activities, e.g. an active sports field
 - There is demand for a dedicated enclosure for children and families, e.g. a playground for toddlers where fencing and the subsequent safety of children is a desired feature
- Part fencing could be appropriate for some playgrounds, e.g. a half fence closer to a road or car park to define or partly separate the playground.
- Some Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds should be considered for fencing to provide defined safe settings for play, particularly for toddlers and young children.

Playgrounds that are considered to be suitable for fencing are identified in the 'Directions for Specific Playgrounds'.



Payneham Community Centre Playground

Playground Safety

Regarding playground equipment safety, it is recommended that Council:

- Replace all treated pine and metal play equipment.
- Replace ageing or damaged playground equipment, using the following Australian Standards as a guide:
 - AS/NZS 4486.1:1997: Playgrounds and playground equipment – Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation
 - AS 4685.1-2004: Playground equipment – General safety requirements and test methods
 - AS 4685.3-2004: Playground equipment – Particular safety requirements and test methods for slides
 - AS 4685.2-2004: Playground equipment – Particular safety requirements and test methods for swings
 - AS 4685.4-2004: Playground equipment – Particular safety requirements and test methods for runways
 - AS 4685.5-2004: Playground equipment – Particular safety requirements and test methods for carousels
 - AS 4685.6-2004: Playground equipment – Particular safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment
- Remodel or replace edging around playground equipment that has sharp hazardous edges following assessment from Council, e.g. sharp concrete edging, logs or sleepers with uneven and raised joins.
- Review bark chip softfall over time, using the following Australian Standard as a guide:
 - AS/NZS 4422: 1996: Playground surfacing – Specifications, requirements and test method

Overall:

- Playground equipment should be designed to be fun, but sturdy and safe. This will require an ongoing assessment of available products.
- Playgrounds and the safety of equipment should be assessed as part of day to day operations and reserve maintenance. Particular consideration should be given to damaged equipment, edging and graffiti.

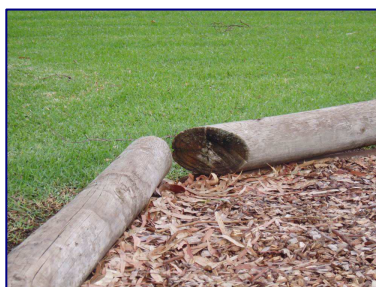
Specific directions for existing playgrounds are included in the 'Directions for Specific Playgrounds'.



Burchell Reserve Playground Edging



Borthwick Park Steps into Playground



Scott Street Reserve Playground Edging

Directions for Specific Playgrounds

Directions for existing playgrounds are outlined below. The hierarchy and age group focus of each playground is included in the broader strategies and not restated in this listing, unless additional equipment is required as a result.

Playground Reserve	Direction	Basis
Adey Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocate playground and link to grassed area and other park facilities - Locate towards centre of park away from roads (near cricket net and half court) - Create nature focus and landscape around the playground (including natural play features) - Ideally do not fence the playground once it is relocated as this will impact on the connection with other facilities and the flow of the park - If the park is an off leash dog area and requires fencing, the fencing design should be sensitive to the less developed park setting and softened through appealing and safe landscaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor condition for the size and quality of the reserve - Located near housing and away from other facilities - Level 2 playground justified high quality and distinctive playground - The park design is large and open and ideally a play area would flow onto the wider space
Borthwick Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the Eucalypt tree over the smaller children's playground and possibly relocate some equipment away from the tree - Add equipment for toddlers and older children - Remove graffiti - Address edging (uneven sleeper joins and sharp brackets) - Sensitive fence the playground equipment if the park becomes off leash (maintaining a connection with the wider park, and using sensitive design and materials) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited equipment for toddlers and older children - Large Eucalypt tree over playground - Safety issues with edging
Bridge Road Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider whether should retain at the end of the life of the existing equipment - Add equipment for young children if retain - Add seating - Address sharp edges and uneven joins of edging - Widen pathway through the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given Payneham Oval is nearby and there is a gap in Glynde, required provision needs to be further assessed (in consultation with the community) - Lacking seating, raised edging and narrow pathway are issues
Broad Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade existing equipment - Assess tree near play equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paint peeling and rusting of equipment - Tree near playground could be a risk - Level 4 playground does not justify major upgrade

Playground Reserve	Direction	Basis
Burchell Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review design of playground and location of equipment pieces - Broaden equipment for age groups (see diversity) - Consider relocation in longer term and improve link between playground and rest of the reserve - Review the playground location as part of a redesign of the reserve linked to the Tennis Strategy directions - Retain fencing around the reserve and do not fence the play area (this park should not be an off leash area for dogs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Too close to tennis courts and does not utilise potential of reserve - Potential for more appropriate location as part of reserve redesign in the future - Links to Tennis Strategy
Church Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocate playground in the River Torrens Linear Park or move some equipment away from pathway - Consider fencing the playground if not relocated elsewhere along the linear park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close to pathway and road
Cruikshank Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade existing equipment - Broaden equipment to also cater for toddlers and older children - Add natural shade to the west - Improve connection to picnic setting - Review concrete edging (sharp edges) - Consider fencing the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paint peeling - Lack of shade to the west - BBQ not well connected - Busy road and playground was previously fenced
Drage Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider relocate to Felixstow Reserve If retain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade existing equipment - Maintain soffall - Provide natural shade - Increase seating - Consider full fencing of play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tight site that does not capitalise on River Torrens setting - Issues with paint peeling, weeds in soffall, lack of shade, next to cycleway
Dunstan Adventure Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address equipment quality issues (rusting) - Address safety issues (worn and sharp sections on steps) - Replace equipment with treated pine - Add natural shade around flying fox - Improve signage and promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality and safety issues (relating to ageing equipment and setting)
Hannaford Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade existing equipment - In future (as equipment ages and is replaced) locate equipment away from the road - Retain fencing of reserve and fence play area if reserve becomes off leash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues with equipment (paint worn) - Close to road (does not benefit from or connect to the rest of the reserve)
Hutchinson Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade existing equipment - Consider relocating the equipment to the northern side of the creekline if Council reviews the park design and bridge construction - Address sharp edges and raised joins on edging - Review landscaping (overgrown area behind playground) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues with equipment (paint peeling) - Level 4 playground does not justify major upgrade

Playground Reserve	Direction	Basis
James Coke Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade as part of park redevelopment. A Master Plan is being developed for the park and this along with The Parade and Magill Road Precinct Strategy should be considered in relation to potential playground improvements - Create innovative and high quality playground (see Innovation) - Locate play area away from large Eucalypt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High profile location (link to The Parade) - Tree branch overhanging play area
Joslin Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidate equipment - Remove pipes - Relocate swings to shady area that better connects to other equipment - Review sharp edges and uneven joins in edging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment spread around the park - Swings in full sun and near toilets - Safety issue with pipes - Raised edging
Koster Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase natural shade on western side - Increase the rubber matting around the playground (instead of bark chips) to strengthen the disability access focus of the playground - Consider additional equipment and sensory components that support children with a disability, i.e. strengthen the disability focus - Review the accessibility of the toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good quality playground that caters for children with a disability. However, the scope of activity for children with a disability is limited - Toilets near a playground designed for children with a disability should have disabled toilets
Linde Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan for a new playground as part of the proposed Master Plan for the park. The playground should be a key feature of the redesign and integrated with other facilities and the landscape - Create innovative and high quality playground (see Innovation) - Provide disability access through a rubber matting surface and accessible equipment - Fence the playground due to the busy roads nearby, the car park and the creekline. However, include a grassed area, landscaping and picnic facilities within the fencing to provide an integrated and inclusive space - Ideally the park would not be off leash for dogs given the potential major park status of the park and the preference for children and parents to be able to safely move between facilities in the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor condition playground and poorly located - Poor access in high profile location - The park is used by disability groups, including children in wheelchairs - Car park, busy roads and creekline create risks
Manning Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider acquiring land for a small park in the area and relocating the playground to this park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tight site and limited equipment
Maurice Clayton Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade some existing equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ageing bouncer - Level 4 playground does not justify major upgrade
Memorial Gardens (Borthwick Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review whether playground should be retained and use of building for playgroups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location and level 4 playground does not justify major upgrade

Playground Reserve	Direction	Basis
Payneham Community Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove existing playground and relocate to the park - Establish quality playground with landscaping and natural shade - Link to picnic facilities and shelter, with pathway to car park and community centre - Fence the playground or the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor condition playground and lacking shade - Connection to Community Centre and range of users - Close to car park and busy roads
Payneham Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Widen and 'soften' the area around the playground, i.e. extend the fencing to include a good sized grassed area and landscaping within the play area - Include seating in the fenced area - In the longer term, consider whether a playground would be better linked to Patterson Reserve and other sport and recreation facilities (this could be in addition to the library playground if there is demand for both) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fencing of playground is too close to the equipment (need some grassed area for children to also play on) - Setting around playground is stark - Close to car park - Playground is isolated from other outdoor activity opportunities
Payneham Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a more innovative play setting (see Innovation) - Make the playground accessible to children with a disability - Add trees and landscaping around the playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment is standard - Play settings are dominated by equipment structures
Richards Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve toilets - As equipment ages, consider reducing the dominance of the equipment on the park and possibly relocate the playground away from the centre of the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good quality playground - The park is a little over dominated by the playground due to the size and location of the equipment - A review of the park is to be undertaken in accordance with The Parade and Magill Road Precinct Strategy. If it is found that the park has other key roles (besides play for children) such as picnics and weddings, then the playground area could be redesigned and relocated to support this
Scott Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove old bench (in bushes) - Tree management (eastern end playground) - Increase shade (western end) - Increase seating (western end) - Review uneven joins in edging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good park and playground, but a few risk and amenity items that need to be addressed - Eucalypt tree branches over eastern end playground require checking and possible branch removal (ideally would retain playground due to pleasant treed setting)
Stacey Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidate equipment - Upgrade equipment - Provide additional seating - Tree management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment in two sections (one being away from shade) - Lack of seating - Eucalypt branch overhanging play area

Playground Reserve	Direction	Basis
St Morris Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase trees and shade (particularly western side) - Review softfall maintenance - Improve landscaping (additional trees and upgrade of landscaped areas) - Provide park entrance closer to play area - Retain fencing around the playground if off leash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of shade around play equipment and seating - Park is fenced and entrance point is away from playground
Syd Jones Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade and consolidate equipment, as part of redevelopment of the reserve - Increase seating - Increase shade and landscaping - Review toilets (whether should be retained) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment spread across the reserve - Issues include lack of shade and seating - Toilets in poor condition and may not be required if tennis courts removed
Twelftree Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade and consolidate equipment - Consider two play areas (one to cater for young and older children and one to cater for toddlers) - Locate playgrounds within trees - Replace equipment that has treated pine - Address edging (raised joins) - Review fencing adjoining the caravan park (currently has barbed wire) - Fence the play areas if the park is off leash and at least fence along roads. At least one third of the park should be allocated as a play space with space and trees around the equipment - Improve disability access - Establish directional signage from the linear park and the Caravan Park - Consider providing a toilet in the reserve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment spread across the reserve - Some poor condition equipment (paint worn) - Attractive environment that should be integrated with the play setting - Busy roads around the park - Link to River Torrens Linear Park and good access

PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

The Priorities

All of the directions in the Playgrounds Strategy are important as they improve the quality, safety, appeal and value of playgrounds across the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters. However, Council will not have the resources to undertake all improvements immediately and a priority listing will be required to assist Council to plan its budget allocation over time. The Playgrounds Strategy could require 10 years or longer to fully implement.

Priorities have been determined using the following assessment criteria.

1. Safety and risk management, with items that raise safety issues being the number one priority, such as tree management, damaged equipment, raised edges and the need for fencing near roads and creeklines.
2. The hierarchy level of the playground, with higher priority generally being given to Level 1 and Level 2 playgrounds on the basis that these playgrounds should draw from a wider catchment and benefit a larger number of people in the community.
3. Accessibility, with the need to provide equitable access to children with a disability at a number of playgrounds, in line with Council's Disability Policy.
4. The need to address gaps in provision, such as a lack of innovative playgrounds or playgrounds for age groups that are currently not well catered for.
5. The value and use of the park or reserve in which the playground is located, with higher priority generally being given to parks and reserves that attract or have the potential to attract larger numbers of users.

Based on the above criteria, overall priorities are considered to be:

1. Tree management issues, where a large Eucalypt overhangs or is near play equipment and associated grassed areas and seating.
2. Edging around playgrounds, with particular emphasis on addressing raised joins and sharp edges near play equipment.
3. Playground equipment issues, including the existence of treated pine in the equipment and ageing or damaged equipment and where there is a hazard.
4. Planning for and developing or improving the five innovative playgrounds suggested in the Strategy, i.e. at Adey Reserve, Dunstan Adventure Playground, James Coke Park, Linde Reserve and Payneham Oval.
5. Establishing 2-3 playgrounds with settings and equipment that are accessible to children with a disability, e.g. at James Coke Park, Linde Reserve, Payneham Oval and improved access at Kusters Reserve.
6. Establishing additional playgrounds for toddlers, with Adey Reserve, James Coke Park and Twelftree Reserve possibly being higher priorities due to the larger numbers of children in the area or using the park.

Specific playgrounds that are considered to be a higher priority are outlined below (in alphabetical priority), together with the reasoning.

Playground	Basis for Priority
Adey Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Substantial recreation park not currently contributed to by the playground ▪ Area has larger proportions of children ▪ Level 2 playground ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with unique 'nature' focus
Borthwick Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only playground in the Kensington area and important to the community ▪ Although Level 3 playground, Borthwick Park is a quality park with high neighbourhood value
Dunstan Adventure Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safety issues with some equipment ▪ High profile and well used playground ▪ Level 1 playground ▪ Identified innovative playground with adventure focus
James Coke Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile site with connection to the Parade ▪ Proposed Master Plan for the park and potential review considering The Parade and Magill Road Precinct Strategy ▪ Existing and potential high use ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with 'creative fun' focus
Linde Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile site and relatively central to the western half of the Council area ▪ Car parking and good access ideal for significant playground ▪ Proposed Master Plan for the park and potential review and new playground ▪ Connection to other facilities (community buildings, outdoor recreation) ▪ Identified potential innovative playground with 'cultural and arts' focus
Payneham Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Already a significant playground, but needs enhancing to be of full value ▪ Potential access to children with a disability ▪ Identified innovative playground with 'action' focus
Twelftree Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High need in area for fenced play area with good equipment and design ▪ Link to caravan park ▪ Potential high use



Adey Reserve (Potential Play Area)



Linde Reserve (Potential)

Action Plan for Specific Playgrounds

A summary of the directions for specific playgrounds is provided below, highlighting the focus and priority of the action.

The suggested priority timeframe is as follows:

Priority	Timing
High	Less than 3 years
Medium	3-7 years
Lower	More than 7 years

Tree management and risk management items should receive immediate action, i.e. with 6 months and reflecting the level of risk.

Playground Reserve	Suggested Action	Play Equipment			Other Items			Priority
		Upgrade/ Replace	Relocate/ Remove	New	Tree Mgt	Risk	Appeal/ Access	
Adey Reserve	Relocate playground and link to grassed area and other park facilities (create nature focus and landscape)		◆					High
Borthwick Park	Assess tree over the smaller children's playground and possibly relocate some equipment				◆			High
	Add equipment for toddlers and older children			◆				Medium
	Remove graffiti						◆	High
	Address edging (uneven sleeper joins and sharp brackets)					◆		High
Bridge Road Reserve	Review whether should retain at the end of the life of existing equipment		◆					Lower
	Widen pathway through the park						◆	High
	Add seating						◆	Medium
	Address sharp edges and uneven joins of edging					◆		High
	Add equipment for young children if retain			◆				Medium
Broad Street Reserve	Upgrade existing equipment	◆						Medium
	Assess tree near play equipment				◆			High
Burchell Reserve	Review design and location of playground		◆					High – Medium
	Add toddlers equipment			◆				Medium
Church Street Reserve	Relocate playground in the River Torrens Linear Park or move some equipment away from pathway		◆					High
	Consider fencing around the playground if not relocated elsewhere along the linear park					◆		High

Playground Reserve	Suggested Action	Play Equipment			Other Items			Priority
		Upgrade/Replace	Relocate/Remove	New	Tree Mgt	Risk	Appeal/Access	
Cruikshank Reserve	Upgrade existing equipment	◆						High
	Add equipment for toddlers and older children			◆				Medium
	Add natural shade to the west						◆	High
	Improve connection to picnic setting						◆	Medium
	Review concrete edging (sharp edges)					◆		High
	Consider fencing the park					◆		High
Drage Reserve	Consider relocate to Felixstow Reserve		◆					Medium
	If retain the playground: - Upgrade existing equipment - Maintain softfall - Provide natural shade - Increase seating - Consider full fencing of play area	◆				◆	◆	High - Medium
Dunstan Adventure Playground	Replace equipment that is rusting	◆						High
	Address worn and sharp sections on steps along slide					◆		High
	Replace equipment that includes treated pine	◆						High
	Add natural shade around flying fox						◆	High
	Add additional adventure based innovations (equipment and landscaping)			◆			◆	Medium
	Improve signage and promotion						◆	Medium
Hannaford Reserve	Upgrade existing equipment	◆						Medium
	In future (as equipment ages and is replaced) locate equipment away from the road		◆					Medium
Hutchinson Park	Upgrade existing equipment	◆						Medium
	Consider relocating the equipment to the northern side of the creekline if Council reviews the park design		◆					Medium
	Address sharp edges and raised joins on edging					◆		High
	Review landscaping (overgrown area behind playground)						◆	High
James Coke Park	Upgrade as part of Master Plan development (create innovative and high quality playground) and considering The Parade and Magill Road Precinct Strategy	◆						High
	Locate play area away from large Eucalypt				◆			High

Playground Reserve	Suggested Action	Play Equipment			Other Items			Priority
		Upgrade/ Replace	Relocate/ Remove	New	Tree Mgt	Risk	Appeal/ Access	
Joslin Reserve	Consolidate equipment		◆					High
	Remove pipes		◆					High
	Relocate swings to shady area that better connects to other equipment		◆					High
	Review sharp edges and uneven joins in edging					◆		High
Koster Reserve	Increase natural shade on western side						◆	High
	Increase the rubber matting around the playground (instead of bark chips)						◆	High
	Consider additional equipment and sensory components			◆				Medium
	Review the accessibility of the toilets						◆	High
Linde Reserve	Plan for a new playground as part of the proposed Master Plan for the park (create innovative and high quality playground, with disability access in an appropriate location)		◆					High
	Fence the playground due to the busy roads nearby, the car park and the creekline					◆		High (new play ground)
Manning Reserve	In the future, investigate acquiring land for a small park in the area and relocating the playground to this park			◆				Medium – Lower
Maurice Clayton Reserve	Upgrade some existing equipment	◆						Medium
Memorial Gardens (Borthwick Reserve)	Review whether playground should be retained and use of building for playgroups		◆					Medium
Payneham Community Centre	Remove existing playground and relocate in the park (establish quality playground with landscaping and natural shade, and link to picnic facilities and shelter)		◆					Medium
	Fence the playground or the park					◆		Medium (new Play ground)
Payneham Library	Extend the fencing around the playground to included a good sized grassed area, landscaping and seating						◆	High
	In the longer term, investigate whether a playground would be better linked to Patterson Reserve and other sport and recreation facilities		◆					Lower
Payneham Oval	Upgrade the playground to create a more innovative play setting, with landscaping and disability access	◆						High – medium

Playground Reserve	Suggested Action	Play Equipment			Other Items			Priority
		Upgrade/ Replace	Relocate/ Remove	New	Tree Mgt	Risk	Appeal/ Access	
Richards Park	Plan for improved toilets and park redesign in line with The Parade and Magill Road Precinct Strategy						◆	High
	As equipment ages, reduce the dominance of the equipment on the park and possibly relocate the playground away from the centre of the park		◆					Medium
Scott Street Reserve	Remove old bench (in bushes)						◆	High
	Tree management (eastern end playground)				◆			High
	Increase shade and seating (western end)						◆	Medium
	Review uneven joins in edging					◆		High
Stacey Reserve	Consolidate and upgrade equipment		◆					Medium
	Provide additional seating						◆	Medium
	Tree management				◆			High
St Morris Reserve	Increase trees and shade (particularly western side)						◆	High
	Review softfall condition and maintenance						◆	High
	Improve landscaping (additional trees and upgrade of landscaped areas)						◆	High
	Provide park entrance closer to play area						◆	Medium
Syd Jones Reserve	Upgrade and consolidate equipment, as part of redevelopment of the reserve	◆						Medium
	Improve amenity, including seating, shade and landscaping						◆	Medium
	Review toilets (whether should be retained)						◆	Medium
Twelftree Reserve	Upgrade and consolidate equipment, giving consideration to two play areas (young/ older children and toddlers)	◆						High
	Replace equipment that incorporates treated pine	◆						High
	Address edging (raised joins)					◆		High
	Review fencing adjoining the caravan park (currently has barbed wire)					◆		Medium
	Improve disability access						◆	High
	Establish directional signage from the linear park and the Caravan Park						◆	Medium
	Fence the section of the reserve with the play area, at least along the main roads					◆		High (new Play ground)
Consider providing a toilet in the reserve						◆	Lower	

IMPLEMENTING THE PLAYGROUNDS STRATEGY

Endorsement by Council

The Playgrounds Strategy will require Council endorsement to be implemented over the next 10 years. However, this does not involve endorsing every action at every playground. The required endorsement is for the strategies and priorities in the Playgrounds Strategy, and the actions for each playground can then be assessed and implemented at an operational level over time.

Overall, the Playgrounds Strategy does not commit Council to resourcing all suggested directions and actions. The Playgrounds Strategy is a guide that will assist Council in its future decision making regarding the provision and enhancement of playgrounds, as resources become available.

Resourcing the Strategy

A number of the suggested actions for specific playgrounds summarised in the Action Plan are operational in nature and should be considered as part of existing and future operational budgets. In particular, tree management and risk management items should be included in operations budgets, and addressed in the next financial year (2006/2007) if not beforehand.

Council currently allocates \$15,000 per annum for the maintenance of playgrounds and some of the actions could be addressed within this budget.

Other recommendations such as the upgrade, replacement or relocation of playgrounds or the provision of additional equipment, are likely to require a commitment of additional capital funding and will therefore require implementation over a period of time. Each year, it is recommended that projects are submitted for capital funding, based on priorities identified in the Playgrounds Strategy.

In addition to Council funds, grant funding for playground upgrade should be sought through state government, including Planning SA, the Office for Recreation and Sport and arts funding.

Further Planning and Consultations

New playgrounds such as the development of five innovative playgrounds across the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters and relocated playgrounds will require further detailed planning to ensure the playgrounds are appropriately located and designed to meet the needs of children and parents and carers. This further planning should involve the community and in particular involve children in the design. Sessions with two groups of Primary school students have been held in this study, and these and other schools could be further involved by giving ideas for equipment and the design of play spaces. Parents could also become involved through playgroups and schools.

In addition, schools, local children and neighbourhoods could be involved in projects relating to playgrounds, such as art projects and landscaping around playgrounds. Overall, there is an opportunity to involve the community and generate community interest in playground projects undertaken by Council to strengthen the sense of community pride and participation in the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters.

Reviewing the Strategy

The directions and actions in the Playgrounds Strategy could change over time according to changing community needs and issues with specific playgrounds. The recommendations are based on an assessment at the time of the study and circumstances could alter. In addition, the availability of resources and changing Council priorities could affect the findings and directions in the Playgrounds Strategy.

An annual review of the suggested actions and priorities for specific playgrounds is recommended and a review of the strategies and broad priorities is suggested at least every 3 years to ensure that broader Council strategic directions and priorities are reflected in the Playgrounds Strategy. This will ensure that the Playgrounds Strategy remains a relevant planning tool that is implemented.

Attachment 1

Additional Playground Analysis

A summary analysis of the areas that are lacking playgrounds is provided below.

Area	Analysis of Demand and Supply
The northern part of Felixstow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Larger proportions of young children (5-9 years and older children 10-14 years)- Northern area is around 700m from a playground- Ideally there would be a playground in the northern area- Potential link to River Torrens Linear Park (possibly Felixstow Reserve)- Potential relocation of Drage Reserve playground, given that site is tight
College Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Larger proportions of young children (5-9 years and older children 10-14 years)- Southern residential area is around 700m from playgrounds in Burchell and Twelftree reserves, but relatively close to Linde Reserve (although main road crossing)- Playgrounds in the area are potentially good quality- An additional playground is not recommended due to quality of playgrounds and potential to use Linde Reserve
Hackney	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Larger proportion of older children (10-14 years)- Southern area is around 1km from a playground- Close proximity to Adelaide Parklands (although main road crossing)- Small pockets of residential areas, closer to the parklands- Recommend do not establish a playground due to population character and link to parklands
Heathpool and Marryatville	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Heathpool has larger proportions of young children (5-9 years and older children 10-14 years) and Marryatville has a larger proportion of older children (10-14 years)- Tusmore park is nearby- Recommend do not establish a playground due to proximity to Tusmore Park
Kent Town	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Does not have larger proportions of children.- 400m to 800m from a playground- Close proximity to Adelaide Parklands (although main road crossing)- No open space in the area- Recommend do not establish a playground due to population character, lack of open space and link to parklands
The northern part of St Peters (north of Stephen Terrace and Payneham Road intersection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Larger proportions of all aged children (0-4 years, 5-9 years and 10-14 years)- Intersection is around 800m from Joslin Reserve- Area is relatively close to Linde Reserve, although main road crossing- Recommend do not establish a playground due to good playgrounds in the area and potential use of Linde Reserve



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters

Contact Details:

City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
175 The Parade Norwood SA 5067

p 8366 4555

f 8332 6338

w www.npsp.sa.gov.au



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