

Nowra Showground Master Plan



Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Background	2
Purpose of the Master Plan	3
Existing site plan	5
Landscape and trees	5
Showground management process	7
Plans	8
Heritage significance.....	8
Circulation plan	9
Camping plan	11
Dog management plan.....	12
Proposed use plan	13
Proposed use – Show plan	14
Precinct identification plan	15
Precinct 1 – Agricultural area	16
Precinct 2 – Main oval.....	18
Precinct 3 – Camping.....	20
Precinct 4 – Lookout and Picnic.....	22
Precinct 5 – Community hub.....	24
Precinct 6 – Memorial and clubs.....	26
Precinct 7 – Sports fields and Dog fenced off leash areas	28
Appendix 1 – Plans	0
Appendix 2 – External Paint Colour Palette and Finishes	18
Appendix 3 – Community Engagement Report.....	33

Introduction

Background

Public land provides the community with a variety of facilities and spaces, including local and regional parks, showgrounds, community halls, picnic areas, natural bushland, caravan parks and camping grounds. The system has developed since the 1850s in recognition of the basic needs of all members of our community to access open spaces for physical, emotional, and spiritual development and well-being.

Some public land is State owned and is managed by the New South Wales Government (e.g., Crown land managed by Department (Dept) of Lands or National Park managed by Dept of Environment and Conservation [NPWS]). However, there are also large areas of State-owned Crown land that are managed by local councils, either as reserve trust manager appointed under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, or because the land has devolved to them under section 48 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Another type of public land is actually owned by councils and may be managed as community land or operational land under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Nowra Showground is on public land on the western edge of the township of Nowra in the City of Shoalhaven (see Figure 1). The Showground is a mixture of Council owned community land and Crown land, for which Shoalhaven City (Council) is trust manager.

Nowra is the largest of the Shoalhaven's four showgrounds. It is located on high ground overlooking the Shoalhaven River with views to the Cambewarra Range in the north and west, and across the floodplain to Coolangatta Mountain in the east. The Showground has a range of significant buildings and other facilities, including several with important heritage values.

The Nowra Showground is an important public space used by many people, both Shoalhaven residents and visitors, with flow-on social and commercial benefits to the local community. This multi-functional site, a major recreational centre in Nowra, is of high social value for past and present generations and a reminder of the enterprise of

volunteer labour in providing facilities for the district. It contains a number of built structures which reflect changing community needs and interests in the district.

Nowra is the largest town in the City of Shoalhaven. It is the main commercial and administrative centre of the city and lies immediately to the south of the Shoalhaven River, approximately 160 kilometres south of Sydney.

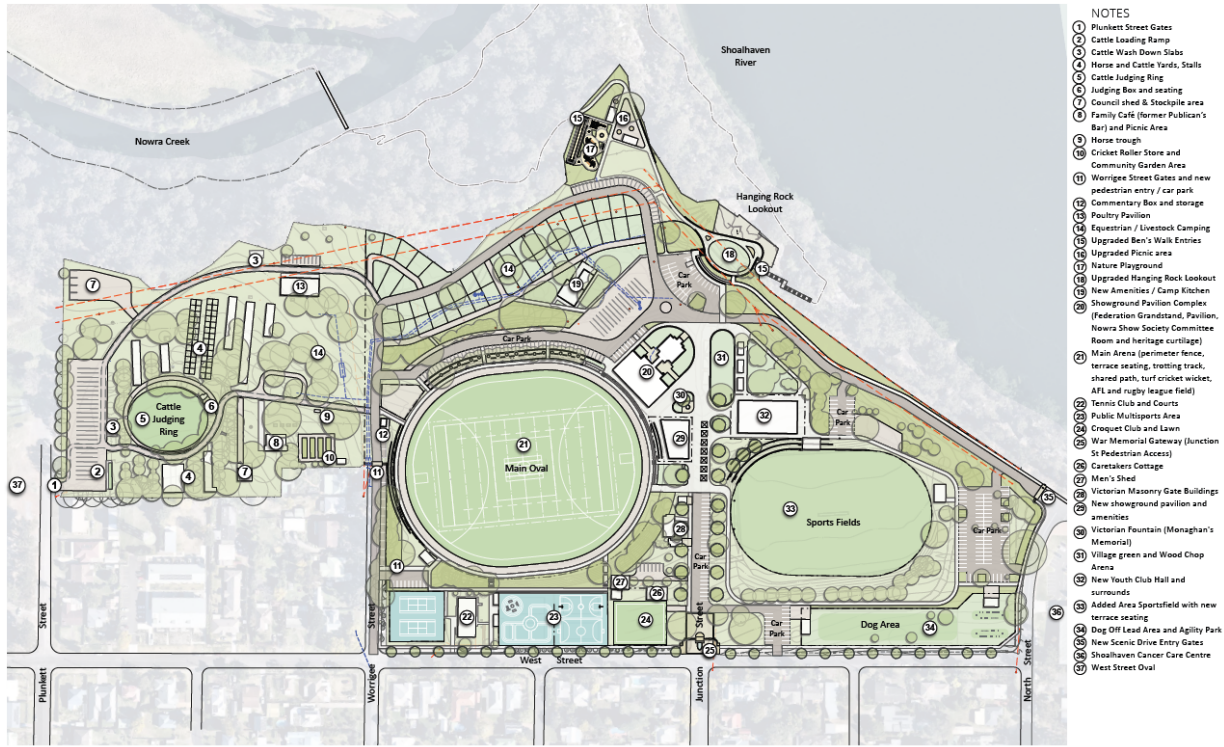
The Nowra Showground is on the western edge of the main town street grid, near the highest point in town. The site offers spectacular views over the river to the north and west with parallel views of the town and coastal land to the east.

The Showground forms part of a corridor of public land that extends along the Shoalhaven River and the lower section of Nowra Creek. This open space is within walking distance of the old centre of town and forms an important passive recreation area, as well as providing for various active recreational pursuits and sports.

Purpose of the Master Plan

The Master Plan (MP) will provide information to community regarding the Nowra Showground – its past, current works and works in the future. This MP is informed by extensive internal and external consultation with community (please see Appendix 1 – Consultation Report). The integrated approach considers the needs of all regular user groups, as well as the wider community and tourists that visit the reserve. It is anticipated that the needs of all user groups will be met and, subsequently, well managed.

This Master Plan identifies works that have recently been completed and proposed works for the future. All of the proposed works within the Master Plan provides direction for the Asset Custodian to request Council funding and apply for grants for various precincts. Prior to delivery of any works identified in the MP, Council staff will undertake Community consultation, concept design, and Council endorsement. Although the items have been identified in the MP, a necessary process of further site investigation will further inform the concept design in line with Community needs at the time.



Master Plan

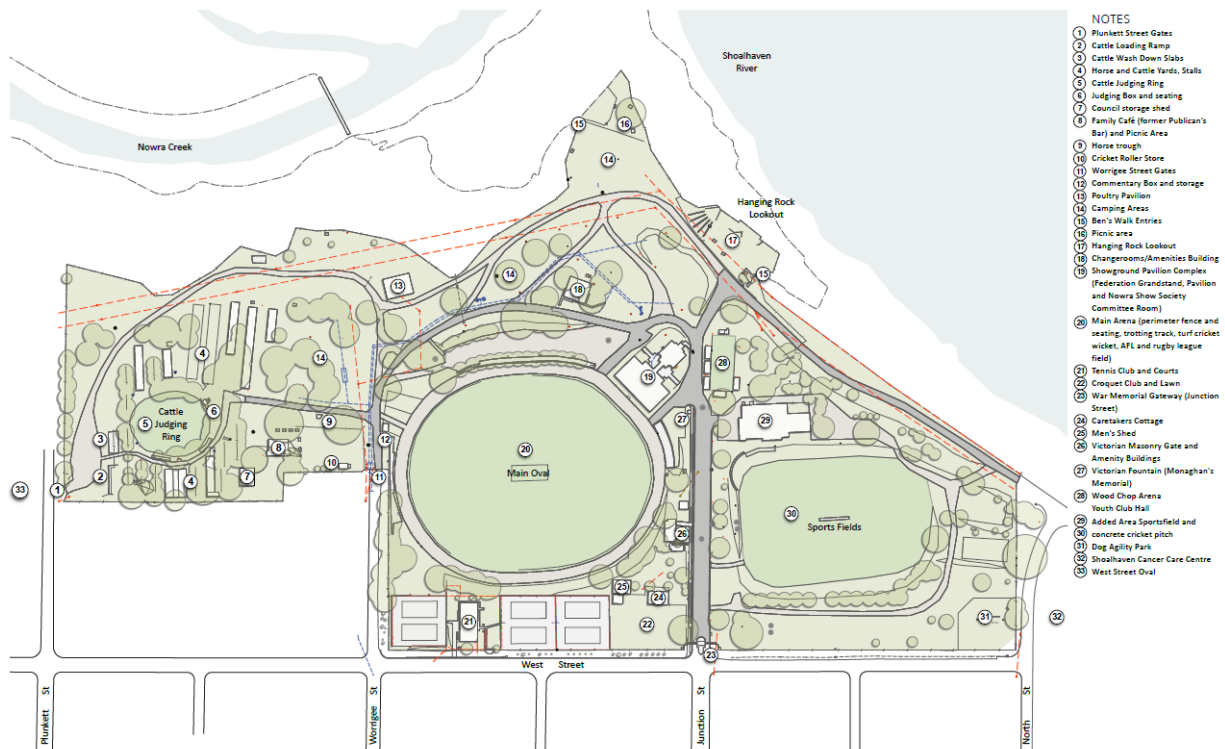
Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3

Figure 1. Master Plan

Please note, all plans referenced are available in full size in [Appendix 1](#).

Existing site plan

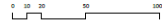


Existing Site Plan

Figure 2. Existing Site Plan

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3



The existing Site Plan (Figure 2 above) provides an overview of the existing site, inclusive of the road network, sporting fields, croquet court, buildings, parking areas and natural features. Further information regarding landscape and built elements is available in [Proposed Use Plan](#) section.

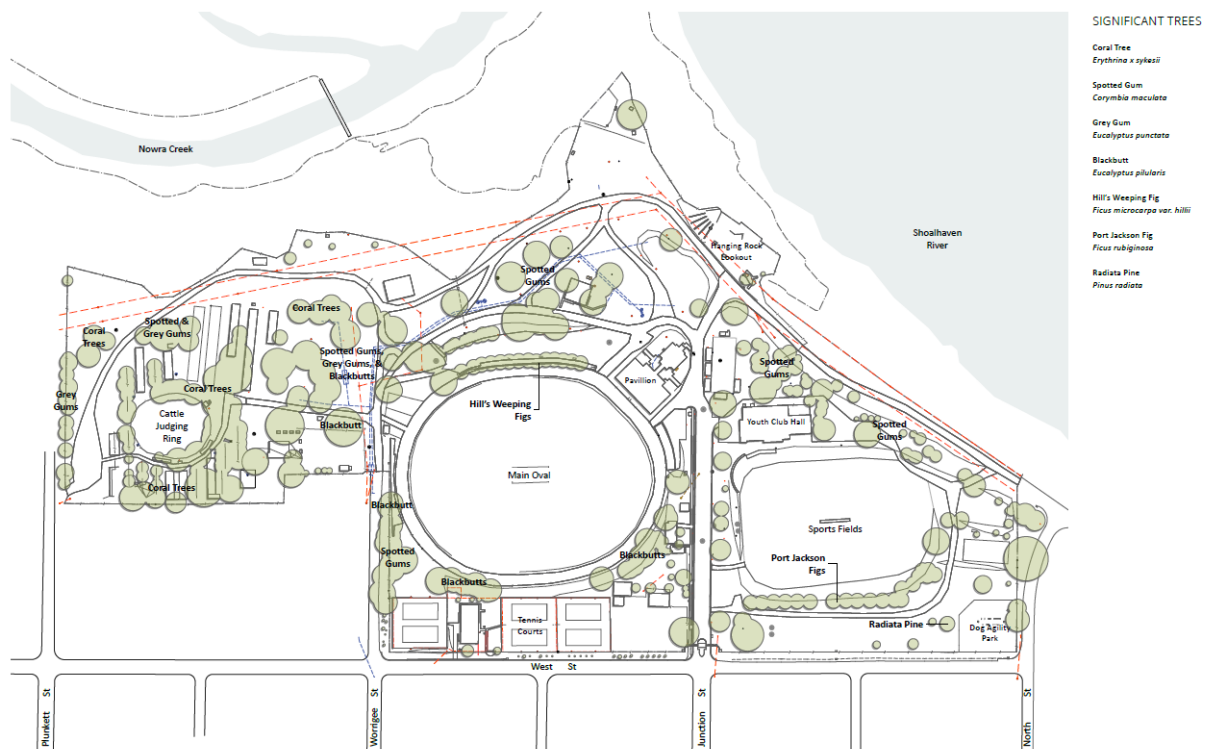
Landscape and trees

In most areas there are substantial groves of trees. The Showground provides an exceptional opportunity for retaining a large number of trees, including some very large trees in an urban setting. There are over 400 trees at the Showground.

Trees at the Nowra Showground are significant due to their outstanding aesthetic quality, size / age, provision of shade, contribution to the townscape, association with the local people, and historical associations (commemorative trees).

Figure 3 below shows the distribution of existing trees at the Showground. In addition to the value of individual trees, some group plantings have been identified as significant to the overall settings. An example of this is the fig trees around the main show ring to the south of the Pavilion and to the east of the Added Area sports field. At least two of these trees were ceremonially planted during the Empire Day celebrations in 1906 and 1912. There is also an anecdotal report that some were planted as memorials to soldiers who served in the First World War (letter from Shoalhaven Historical Society to Nowra Croquet Club on 9 December 2004).

Around the Cattle Judging Ring coral trees were introduced and provide shade, a distinctive character to the area, and they are reported to have been planted in 1939. They are of heritage significance because they are representative of a historic period of planting. Coral trees are significant to the area as typical rural plantings to shade cattle. They are purposeful for shade and aesthetics and an important feature of rural life for both residents and visitors.



Distribution of Existing Trees

Figure 3. Distribution of existing trees

Nowra Showground Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3

Showground management process

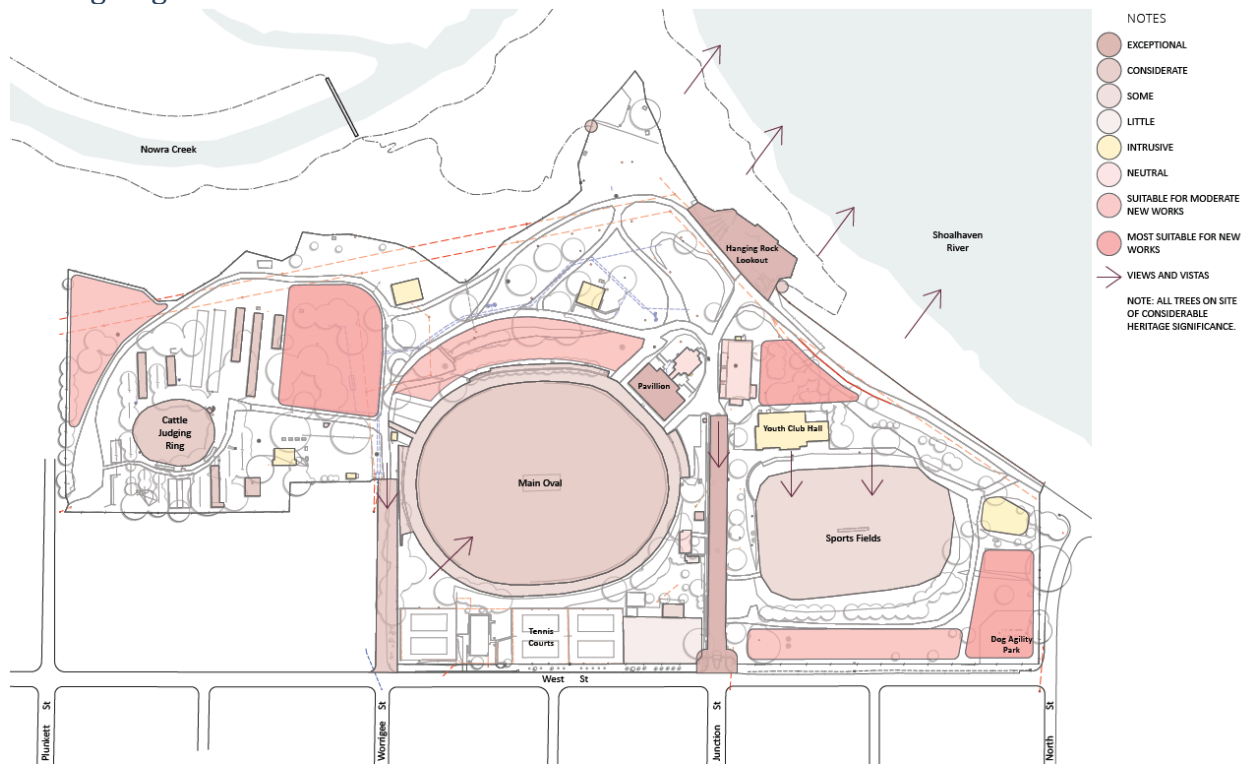
The Nowra Showground consists of both Council owned community land and Crown Land. Council is responsible for routine maintenance and the grounds are upkept by the Groundskeeper. This is a full-time position with the responsibility of upkeeping the site, providing surveillance, and working with Community and stakeholders to ensure the site is well maintained and running properly.

Council works with the Nowra Show Society, other site stakeholders, and Community to ensure development and upkeep that preserves its heritage character, meets current and anticipated Community needs. In particular, the Nowra Show Society is an important consultative body Council is continually collaborating with for various aspects of project concept / detail designs and delivery of works and programs.

This form of management allows for the facilities to be managed to their full potential and gives the local Community opportunities for developing skills, local ownership, and pride in achievement it is also cost effective for Council. Perhaps more importantly, this form of management greatly values the voluntary efforts of the Community minded citizens who contribute their time and energy in managing and maintaining the facilities.

Plans

Heritage significance



Heritage Significance

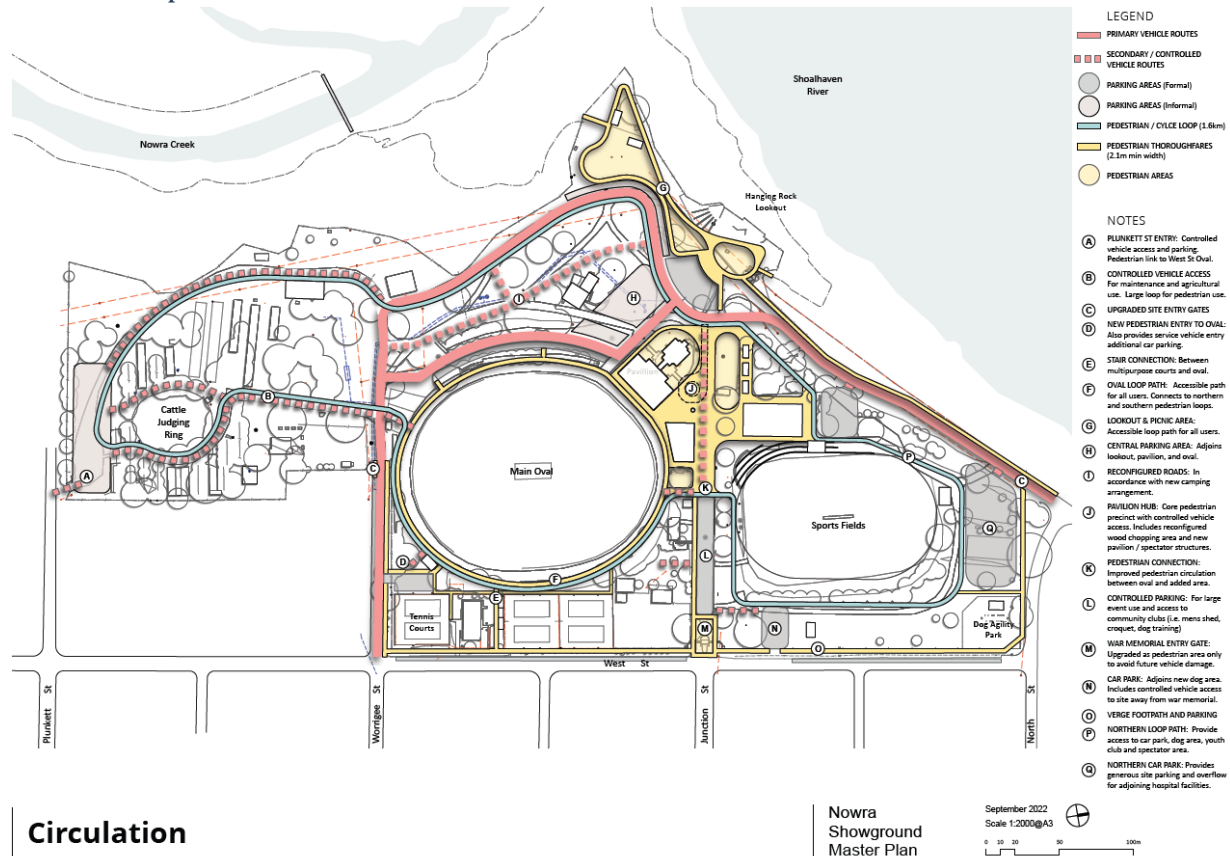
Figure 4. Heritage significance plan

Nowra Showground Master Plan
September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3
0 10 20 30m

A detailed heritage report is available in the [Conservation Management Plan Nowra Showground](#) written by Otto Scherhalmi & Partners in 2003. This report has in depth information of the site and provides further guidance to Council and Community for conserving the site’s heritage.

Section 7.5 within the Conservation Management Plan – Nowra Showground recommends procedures regarding various elements and items of the showground that represent heritage. These items have been assessed and graded for the purpose of enabling decisions on the future conservation and development of the place. The grading categories are defined as follows; Exceptional; considerable; some; little; intrusive; and neutral.

Circulation plan



Circulation

Figure 5. Circulation plan

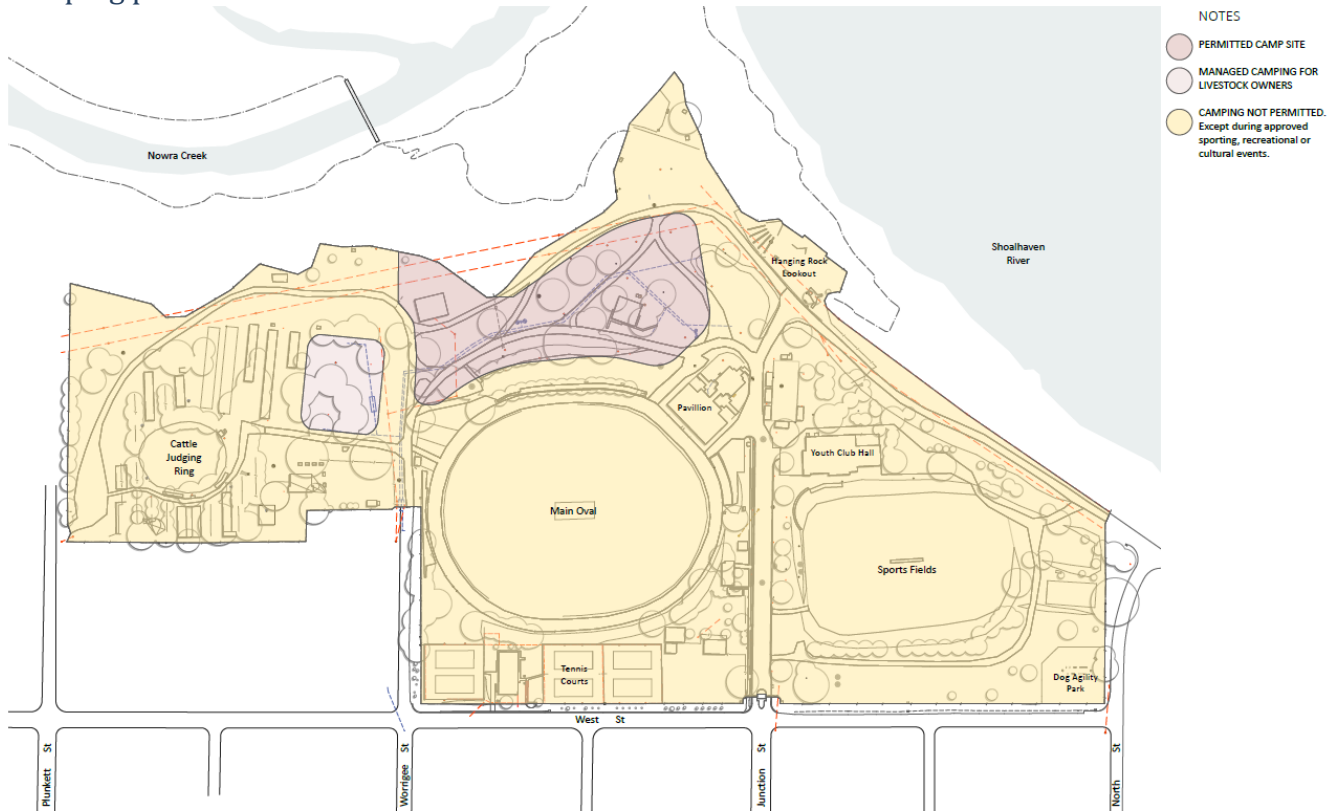
The Circulation Plan is a proposal of the arterial and sub-arterial roadways within the Showground. The plan above indicated primary and secondary (controlled) vehicle routes, parking areas (formal and informal), pedestrian and cycle loop, and pedestrian thoroughfares (2.1m minimum width). The light green line denotes a circuitous path around majority of the Showground which provides users the opportunity for safe and accessible fitness.

Below is a list of notes further explaining the areas indicated in the plan above.

- A. Plunkett Street entry will have controlled vehicle access and parking. This area will also have a pedestrian link to the West Street Oval.
- B. Controlled vehicle access for maintenance and agricultural use.
- C. Worrigeer Street – upgraded site entry.
- D. New pedestrian entry to oval – will also provide service vehicle entry and additional car parking opportunities.

- E. Stair connections between multipurpose courts and oval. Further accessible features to be reviewed upon detail design.
- F. Oval loop path – accessible path for all users. Connects to northern and southern pedestrian loops.
- G. Lookout and picnic area – alternative looped path for pedestrians.
- H. Central parking area – adjoins lookout, pavilion, and oval.
- I. Reconfigured roads in accordance with new Camping Plan, design considerations, and traffic committee review.
- J. Pavilion hub – core pedestrian precinct with controlled vehicle access. Includes reconfigured wood chopping area and new pavilion / spectator structures.
- K. Pedestrian connection – improved pedestrian circulation between oval and added area.
- L. Controlled parking – for large event use and access to community clubs (ie men’s shed, croquet, dog training).
- M. War memorial entry gate – upgraded as pedestrian area only to avoid future damage to the gates. In line with RSL request.
- N. Car park – adjoins new dog off leash area. Includes controlled vehicle access to site away from war memorial.
- O. Verge footpath and parking.
- P. Northern loop path – provide access to car park, dog area, youth club, and spectator area.
- Q. Northern car park – provides generous site parking and overflow for adjoining hospital facilities.

Camping plan



Camping Plan

Figure 6. Camping Plan

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

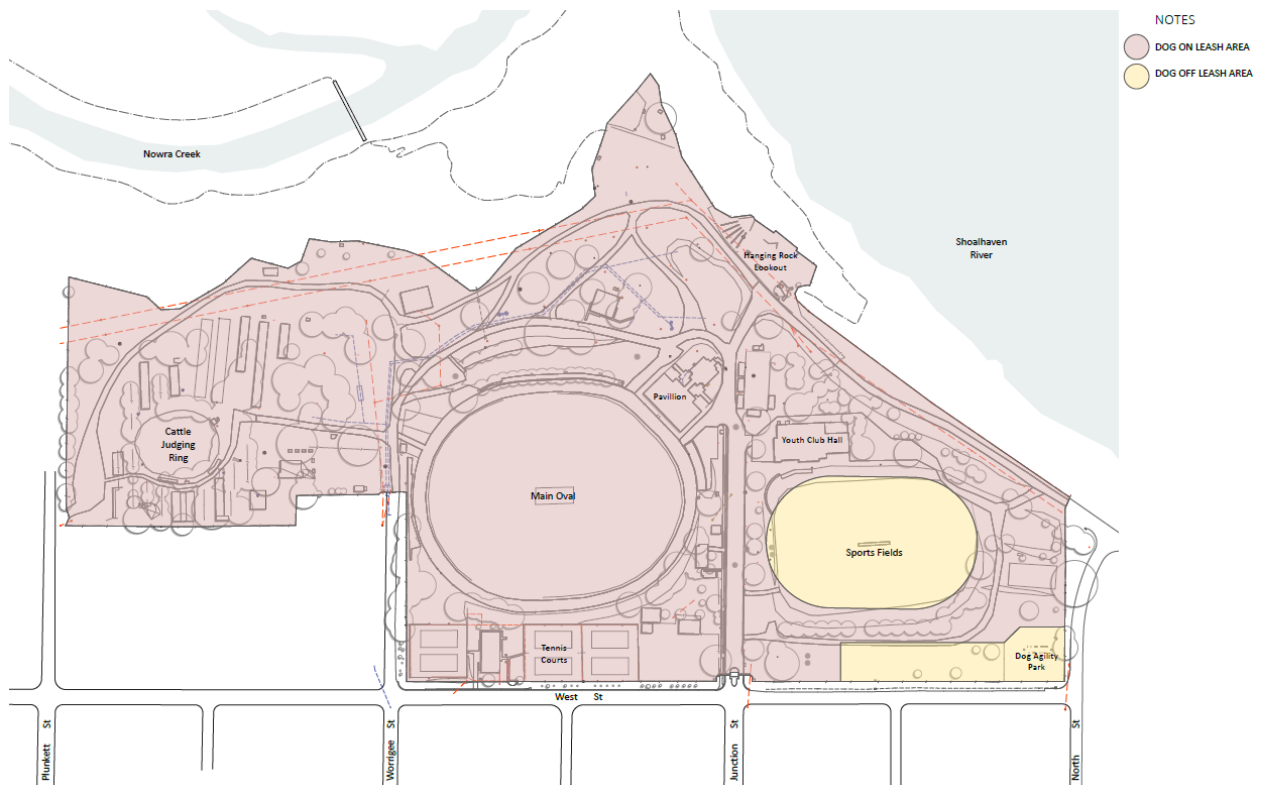
September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3

The Camping Plan above in Figure 6 will offer the showground an opportunity to host visitors that will be drawn to stunning views, amenities, power, and dumping facilities.

The camping area will be designated as a Caravan Park under the *Location Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021*. This designation will allow further site development to enhance the camping experience at Nowra Showground.

The rectangular area shown in light pink will be utilised at showtime only by the equestrian community in order to service their horses and to ensure they are safe and well-tended to.

Dog management plan



Dog Management Plan

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3

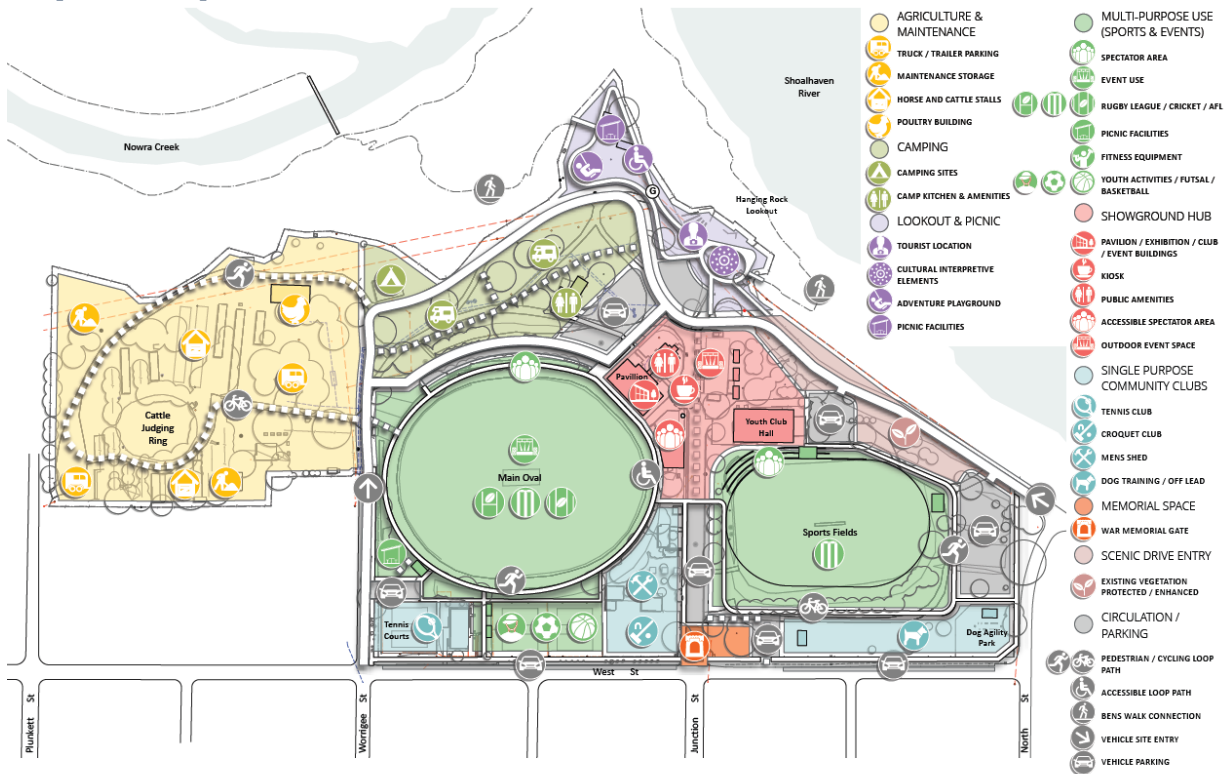
Figure 7. Dog Management Plan

The management of dogs and the safety of users, pet owners and pets has been thoroughly discussed with Community over the many years. There is a strong contingent of dog owners that enjoy the beauty of the Showground for both pet exercise as well as for casual meetings. These meetings have multiple health benefits – mental, physical, and emotional. Figure 7 above shows an extended dog run that will provide dogs with an opportunity to exercise freely with other dogs, and the dog agility zone will also be maintained for those dogs that enjoy the equipment. Water facilities and rubbish bins will be provided for users. This area is available for dog access 24 / 7.

To complement the extended run, the Added Area oval will be another off-leash area at the showground. The whole added area is proposed to be fenced to ensure that dogs can run freely. This area will be available for use 24/7 but will access might be restricted in the occurrence of a sporting or showground event.

The remaining pink area shown above will be on leash.

Proposed use plan



Proposed Use Plan - General

Figure 8. Proposed use plan – General

Nowra Showground Master Plan
 September 2022
 Scale 1:2000@A3
 0 30 60 90 120m

The general use plan shows the Nowra Showground as a place with opportunity for physical activity, sport, agricultural activity, outdoor natural recreation, and community gathering. Further discussion below provides details and uses of each of the individual precincts.

Nowra Showground is dedicated Crown Land and the objectives of the Nowra Show Society are to promote the development of agricultural, horticultural, and industrial resources of Nowra and the surrounding districts. This is achieved by holding exhibitions for the display of livestock, horticultural and agricultural produce of all kinds, together with other such objects of manufactured products or the arts as may be determined and to provide entertainment from its patrons.

The Nowra Show Society and Council have worked together over many to ensure the continuation of the Nowra Show as a significant social, cultural, and economic event in the town of Nowra. Each party recognises the need for a close of co-operation between

them to ensure the smooth running of the Show and the improvement of showground facilities in the future.

Proposed use – Show plan

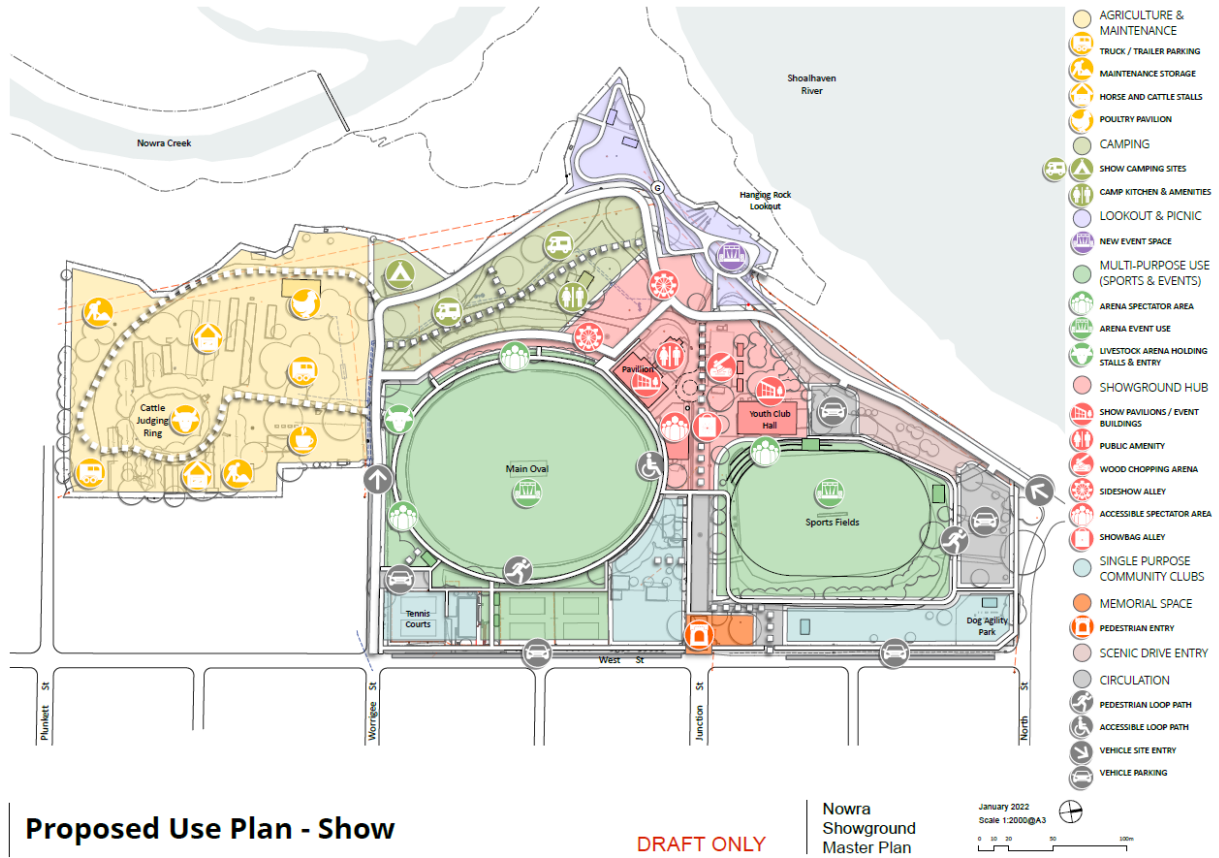
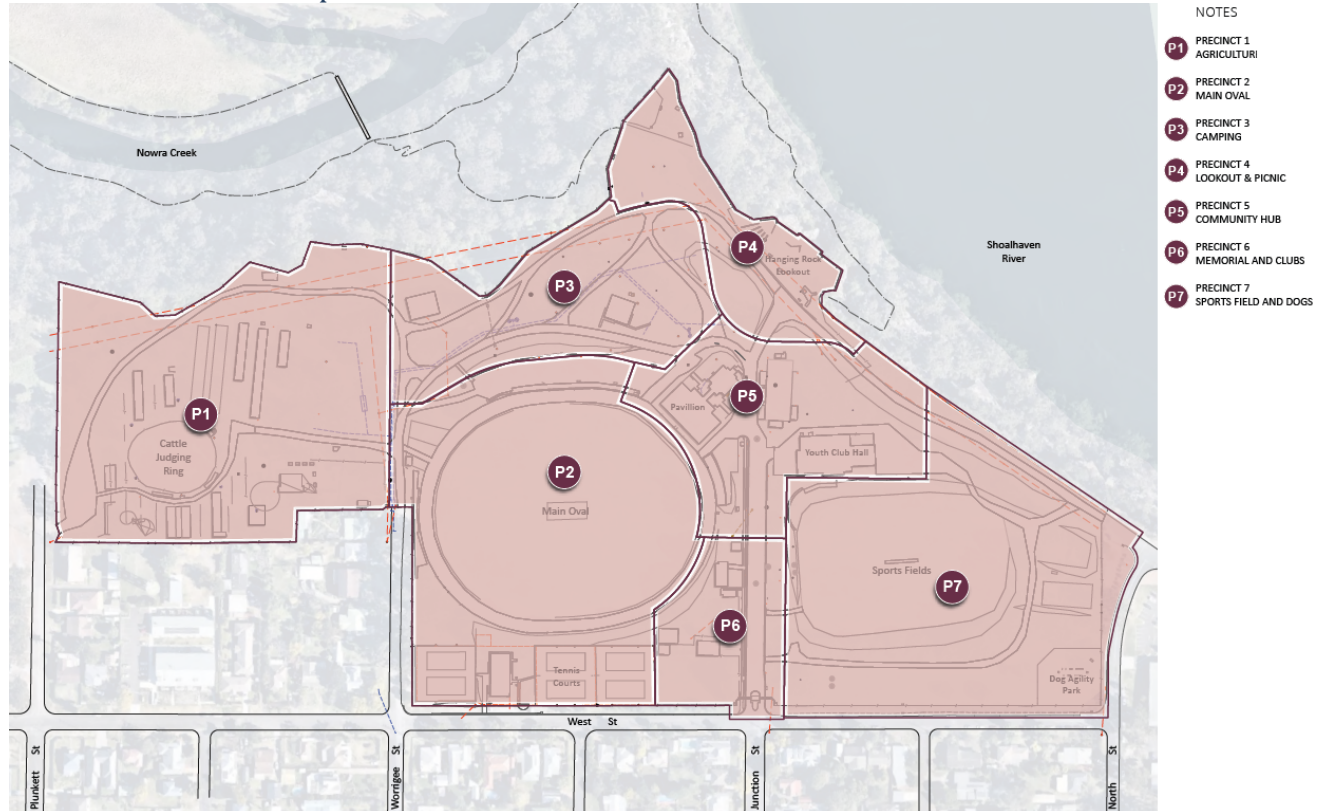


Figure 9. Proposed use plan – Show

The Nowra Show is an integral part of the Nowra Showground as well as a strong community event within the Shoalhaven. The Nowra Showground Reserve was dedicated for Public Recreation and Showground purposes in January 1884. Trustees were appointed by the NSW Government as the “Nowra Showground Trust” under the provisions of the Public Trusts Act (now revoked) to manage this portion of land (the original 17 acres between Worrigee and Junction Streets).

At the time this document was written, Council and the Nowra Showground Committee share a strong collaboration in all aspects of Showground development – strategic planning, upgrades, new infrastructure, and maintenance.

Precinct identification plan



Precinct Identification Plan

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3
0 10 20 30 40 50 100m

Figure 10. Precinct identification plan

The Showground has been divided into seven precinct plans that provide in-depth principles and actions associated with each precinct.

The seven precincts are as follows:

Precinct 1: Agriculture

Precinct 2: Main Oval

Precinct 3: Camping

Precinct 4: Lookout and Picnic

Precinct 5: Community hub

Precinct 6: Memorial and Clubs

Precinct 7: Sports field and Dog off leash areas

Precinct 1 – Agricultural area



Precinct 1

Figure 11. Precinct 1

Design Principles and Actions

1. Retain existing unsealed road for authorised use only. Long term option to further define loop as a pedestrian / cycle thoroughfare with signage, sealed surface and linemarking.
2. Remove weeds and undertake bush regeneration outside boundary fence. At end-of-life, fence to be replaced with black chain wire mesh.
3. Improve road near Family Café building and provide truck turning area.
4. Install a post and rail fence along extension of Worrige St to restrict unauthorised vehicle access to horse and cattle area. Provide year-round pedestrian / cycle access.
5. Retain service access to water tower.

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:800 (A3)



6. Consolidate southwestern corner to designated maintenance stockpile area. Relocate other material stockpiles to this location.

7. Retain stand of Coral trees, including significant layout of planting rows between the cattle stands. Maintain trees to ensure safety for Showground users – remove dangerous branches and prune regularly.

(Precinct 1 continued)

8. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder coated, security fence. Plant additional trees to define edge of showground.

9. Family kiosk upgraded for safer and more functional show and daily use. Includes amenities, cafe facility, and access improvements.

10. Existing horse stables and cattle stalls to be retained and maintained as required.

11. Formalised long vehicle parking and set down area. (2400m²)

12. Upgrade southern pedestrian access from Plunkett St. Provide Showground entry signage and possible defined shared path linking to precinct loop.

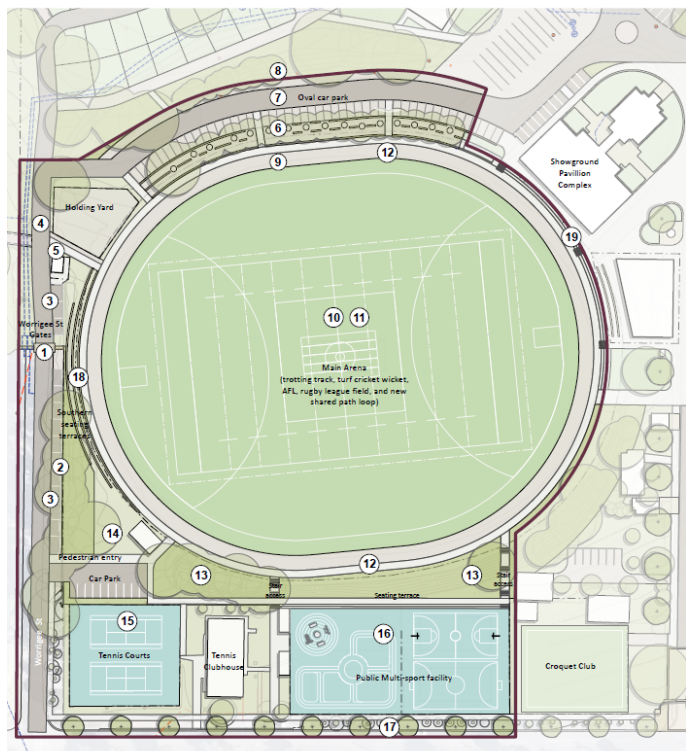
13. Continue upgrade of cattle ring, including covered spectator seating and improved field surface. Investigate potential for cattle ring to be used as outdoor venue or for small events (eg: wedding ceremony) associated with upgraded family café facilities.

14. New poultry pavilion located within the agricultural precinct. Includes provision for parking (10 bays shown).

15. Potential for more agriculturally based community use within this precinct such as a community garden associated with upgraded family café facilities.

16. Managed camping area for livestock owners particularly during equestrian and Show events.

Precinct 2 – Main oval



CONTINUE SHOWGROUND USE



SHARED PATH OVAL LOOP



SANDSTONE SEATING TERRACE



HISTORICAL PAVILION VIEW



MULTI-SPORT USE

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Upgrade and formalise Worrigeer St entry for shared pedestrian footpath and vehicular access to site year-round. Create a grand entry to welcome guests to the Nowra Showground. Design to utilise existing heritage pillars and be sympathetic to both heritage and existing infrastructure styles (eg: sandstone rubble strip and piers matching character of Junction St memorial entry).
2. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence.
3. Formalise parking spaces on Worrigeer St near entry gate. Approx 15 parking bays.
4. Upgrade bitumen seal road surface, including new alignment. Include rollover kerb and speed control measures.
5. Upgrade or replace commentary box. Provide shared path connection from oval to southern site loop for pedestrians and cyclists.
6. Mulch and aerate under existing figs to improve vigour. Spectator area extended to south and upgraded with compacted gravel pavement / mulch retained by sandstone kerb edge. Perimeter seating replaced with placed sandstone blocks as a simple robust seating element. Accessible pathways connect car park to oval.
7. Upgrade parking area, providing surface suitable for heavy vehicles and side shows (eg: bitumen seal to road and permeable gravel to parking bays). Show Society to be involved with assisting to identify further solutions that will protect the fig tree roots from side shows during show time. Approx 47 parking bays and parallel parking / bus setdown on western side.
8. Mulch embankment and provide additional native understorey planting to reduce compaction and erosion. Upgrade stairs.
9. Retain trotting track for use during shows, events and informal exercise by community.
10. Maintain high quality grass for field. Retain turf cricket pitch. Slightly reconfigure orientation of oval to suit new layout. (130 x 160m minimum size suitable for cricket, AFL and League).
11. Install signage prohibiting dog use on main field at appropriate entry locations-- redirection to enhanced Fenced Off Leash Area (FOLA) in Precinct 5 (North St). Allow for walking around upgraded pathway (12) on leash.
12. Provide a shared and accessible pathway around perimeter of oval suitable for pedestrians and cyclists. Loop path to improve accessibility and use of oval whilst also connecting to adjoining facilities and broader site pedestrian/cycling loop to the north and south.
13. Retain canopy trees and provide additional native understorey planting. Remove vegetation for path clearing where necessary.
14. Retain clear access for service and emergency vehicle use. Upgrade existing gate and thoroughfare as a new pedestrian entry point and car park to service tennis courts. Provide associated entry signage, shelter and furniture as recreational space located to maximise the heritage view of the showground pavilion.
15. Tennis clubhouse and two tennis courts part of long term lease. New car park off Worrigeer St to service tennis courts and multi-sport facility.
16. Four tennis courts upgraded as a public multi sport facility. Includes line marking and equipment for basketball, futsal, tennis, learn to ride, fitness station, shade structure etc. Western wall and fencing replaced with a seating terrace and gated stairway connections to Showground oval for improved site connectivity.
17. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence. Replace existing Cypress trees with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush box) to reinforce streetscape in West Street.
18. Southern spectator seating area and retaining wall replaced with sandstone block and turf seating terrace for improved character, multipurpose use, accessibility and longevity.
19. Northern retaining wall replaced with concrete spectator seating terrace. Refer Precinct 7 plan.

Precinct 2

Figure 12. Precinct 2

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Upgrade and formalise Worrigeer Street entry for shared pedestrian footpath and vehicular access to site year-round. Create a grand entry to welcome guests to the Nowra Showground. Design to utilise existing heritage pillars and be sympathetic to both heritage and existing infrastructure styles (eg: sandstone rubble strip and piers matching character of Junction St memorial entry).
2. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence.
3. Formalise parking spaces on Worrigeer Street near entry gate. Approx 15 parking bays.
4. Upgrade bitumen seal road surface, including new alignment. Include rollover kerb and speed control measures.
5. Upgrade or replace commentary box. Provide shared path connection from oval to southern site loop for pedestrians and cyclists.

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:1000@A3



(Precinct 2 continued)

6. Mulch and aerate under existing figs to improve vigour. Spectator area extended to south and upgraded with compacted gravel pavement / mulch retained by sandstone kerb edge. Perimeter seating replaced with placed sandstone blocks as a simple robust seating element. Accessible pathways to connect car park to oval.
7. Upgrade parking area, providing surface suitable for heavy vehicles and side shows (eg: bitumen seal to road and permeable gravel to parking bays). Show Society to be involved with assisting to identify further solutions that will protect the fig tree roots from sideshows during show time. Approximately 47 parking bays and parallel parking / bus set down on western side.
8. Mulch embankment and provide additional native understory planting to reduce compaction and erosion. Upgrade stairs.
9. Retain trotting track for use during shows, events and informal exercise by community.
10. Maintain high quality grass for field. Retain turf cricket pitch. Slightly reconfigure orientation of oval to suit new layout. (130 x 160m minimum size suitable for cricket, AFL, and League).
11. Install signage prohibiting dog use on main field at appropriate entry locations—redirection to enhanced Fenced Off Leash Area (FOLA) in Precinct 5 (North St). Allow for walking around upgraded pathway (12) on leash.
12. Provide a shared and accessible pathway around perimeter of oval suitable for pedestrians and cyclists. Loop path to improve accessibility and use of oval whilst also connecting to adjoining facilities and broader site pedestrian/cycling loop to the north and south.
13. Retain canopy trees and provide additional native understory planting. Remove vegetation for path clearing where necessary.
14. Retain clear access for service and emergency vehicle use. Upgrade existing gate and thoroughfare as a new pedestrian entry point and car park to service tennis courts. Provide associated entry signage, shelter and furniture as recreational space located to maximise the heritage view of the showground pavilion.
15. Tennis clubhouse and two tennis courts part of long-term lease. New car park off Worrigeer Street to service tennis courts and multi-sport facility.
16. Four tennis courts upgraded as a public multi-sport facility. Includes line marking and equipment for basketball, futsal, tennis, learn to ride, fitness station, shade

structure etc. Western wall and fencing replaced with a seating terrace and gated stairway connections to showground oval for improved site connectivity.

17. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence. Replace existing Cypress trees with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush box) to reinforce streetscape in West Street.

18. Southern spectator seating area and retaining wall replaced with sandstone block and turf seating terrace for improved character, multipurpose use, accessibility and longevity.

19. Northern retaining wall replaced with concrete spectator seating terrace. Refer to Precinct 7 plan.

Precinct 3 – Camping



Precinct 3

Nowra Showground Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:600@A3

Figure 13. Precinct 3

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Re-grade camping area to increase area of level ground and improve grass cover. Allow vehicle access for show activities, event parking and for campers. Ensure grass surface capable of supporting authorised heavy vehicles.

2. Reconfigure road alignment as indicated to simplify and control vehicle circulation and define a clear camping area with consistently sized sites (Approx 45 sites shown 10 x 15m). Provide a bitumen seal to perimeter road and narrower unsealed secondary internal roads for campers access only.

3. Install new power outlets on western side of road for use during events, so that power leads do not have to be laid across roads. Installation of poles above power boxes to suspend power leads.

4. Provide poles above power boxes to allow for suspension of leads off the ground.

(Precinct 3 continued)

5. Consider under- grounding high voltage overhead powerlines to improve views if the opportunities arise.

6. Update amenities building to have four changerooms, Coordinator's office, camp kitchen, camping showers, toilets, covered outdoor areas and dump point. Also provide new access path along current road alignment.

7. Relocate poultry pavilion to Precinct 1 to align with agricultural use. Utilise cleared area for additional camping sites.

8. Mulch embankment and provide additional native understory planting to reduce compaction and erosion. Upgrade stairs.

9. Gravel informal parking area suitable for showground and event use, along with general long vehicle parking. Approx 1500m².

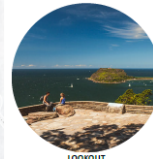
10. Approved fire services (supply and hydrants). Reconfigure to new road alignment as required.

Precinct 4 – Lookout and Picnic



DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. New road alignment. Existing perimeter road realigned to the east to control vehicle conflict with pedestrian use at the lookout. New road alignment integrates and simplifies existing showground roads, defining use precincts into more legible zones. New alignment maintains connection to entry streets (Worrige Street & Scenic Drive).
2. Lookout Car Park and surrounds. Existing informal gravel terrace partly formalised to maximise car parking bays with lookout river views whilst maintaining space for showground and event use. View lines from committee room maintained along with new compliant paths linking upper hub with lookout. Approx 32 parking bays (inc 2 accessible).
3. Hanging Rock Lookout. Upgraded lookout area with improved access, safety, function and views. Design includes multipurpose turf area, accessibility to best vantage point, cultural elements, interpretive/wayfinding signs, seating, and barriers. Organic configuration is sympathetic to natural sandstone footprint, maximises views and integrates as a component of the Ben's Walk - short loop.
4. Ben's walk extension path. New pathway connecting existing Ben's Walk entry points, the Hanging Rock lookout and the picnic area. Pathway is accessible, optimising panoramic river views and the natural ridge line. Includes interpretive signage and balustrade fencing.
5. Ben's walk picnic area. Upgrade barbecues and picnic facilities. Include shelters, additional furniture and accessible path connections.
6. Nature playground. Nature play space associated with picnic area. Includes play elements interpreting the natural surrounds and cultural stories.
7. Ben's Walk South and North Entrances. Upgrade walking track entryway using similar palette of materials as all other gateways. Southern entry to have new alignment utilising existing ridge line. Northern stair entry to be upgraded with improved access to split rock. Improve interpretive signage.
8. Improve grass cover to expand picnic area by preparing and implementing turf management plan (decompaction, soil preparation, turf variety, maintenance).
9. Provide roadside parking for picnickers. Landscape edge of road/car park to restrict general vehicle access. Allow vehicle access for show activities (removable bollards). Approx 26 parking bays.
10. Significant views to river and beyond.
11. Consider under-grounding high voltage overhead powerlines to improve views if the opportunities arise.



LOOKOUT



PICNIC FACILITIES



NATURE PLAY



SIGNAGE



INTERPRETIVE



BEN'S WALK ENTRY

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:700@A3



Precinct 4

Figure 14. Precinct 4

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. New road alignment. Existing perimeter road realigned to the east to control vehicle conflict with pedestrian use at the lookout. New road alignment integrates and simplifies existing showground roads, defining use precincts into more legible zones. New alignment maintains connection to entry streets (Worrige Street & Scenic Drive).

2. Lookout Car Park and surrounds. Existing informal gravel terrace partly formalised to maximise car parking bays with lookout river views whilst maintaining space for showground and event use. View lines from committee room maintained along with new compliant paths linking upper hub with lookout. Approx 32 parking bays (includes 2 accessible).

3. Hanging Rock Lookout. Upgraded lookout area with improved access, safety, function and views. Design includes multipurpose turf area, accessibility to best vantage point, cultural elements, interpretive/wayfinding signs, seating, and barriers. Organic configuration is sympathetic to natural sandstone footprint, maximises views and integrates as a component of the Ben's Walk - short loop.

4. Ben's walk extension path. New pathway connecting existing Ben's Walk entry points, the Hanging Rock lookout and the picnic area. Pathway is accessible, optimising panoramic river views and the natural ridge line. Includes interpretive

signage and balustrade fencing.

5. Ben's walk picnic area picnic area. Upgrade barbecues and picnic facilities and include shelters, additional furniture, and accessible path connections.

6. Nature playground. Nature play space associated with picnic area. Includes play elements interpreting the natural surrounds and cultural stories.

7. Ben's Walk South and North entrances. Upgrade walking track entryway using similar palette of materials as all other gateways. Southern entry to have new alignment utilising existing ridgeline. Northern stair entry to be upgraded with improved access to split rock. Improve interpretive signage.

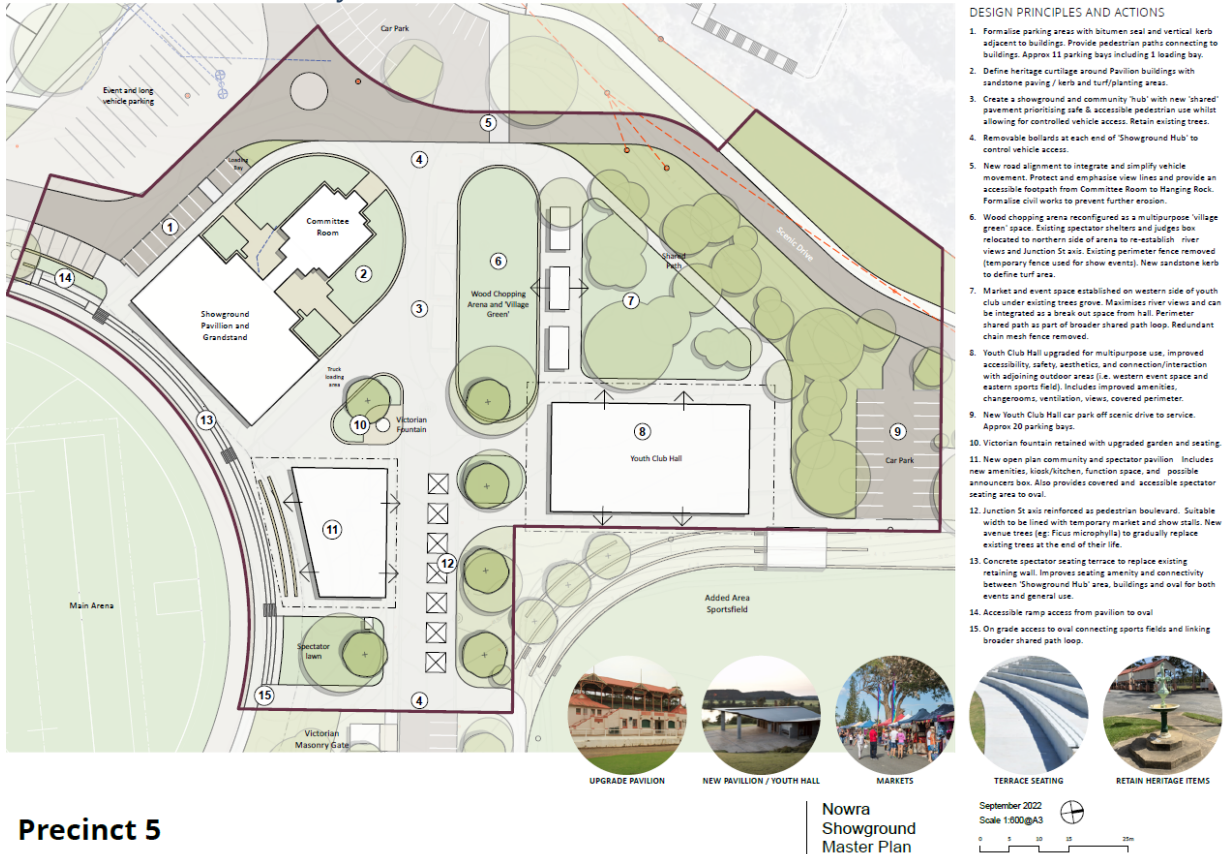
8. Improve grass cover to expand picnic area by preparing and implementing turf management plan (decompaction, soil preparation, turf variety, maintenance).

9. Provide roadside parking for picnickers. Landscape edge of road/car park to restrict general vehicle access. Allow vehicle access for Show activities (removable bollards). Approx. 26 parking bays.

10. Significant views to river and beyond.

11. Consider under- grounding high voltage overhead powerlines to improve views if the opportunities arise.

Precinct 5 – Community hub



Precinct 5

Figure 15. Precinct 5

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Formalise parking areas with bitumen seal and vertical kerb adjacent to buildings. Provide pedestrian paths connecting to buildings. Approx 11 parking bays.
2. Define heritage curtilage around Pavilion buildings with sandstone paving / kerb and turf/planting areas.
3. Create a Showground and community 'hub' with new 'shared' pavement prioritising safe & accessible pedestrian use whilst allowing for controlled vehicle access. Retain existing trees.
4. Removable bollards at each end of 'Showground Hub' to control vehicle access.
5. New road alignment to integrate and simplify vehicle movement. Protect and emphasise view lines and provide an accessible footpath from Committee Room to Hanging Rock. Formalise civil works to prevent further erosion.
6. Wood chopping arena reconfigured as a multipurpose 'village green' space. Existing spectator shelters and judges box relocated to northern side of arena to re-establish river views and Junction Street axis. Existing perimeter fence removed (temporary fence used for Show events). New sandstone kerb to define turf area.

(Precinct 5 continued)

7. Market and event space established on western side of youth club under existing trees grove. Maximises river views and can be integrated as a breakout space from hall. Perimeter shared path as part of broader shared path loop. Redundant chain mesh fence removed.

8. Youth Club Hall to be upgraded for multipurpose use, improved accessibility, safety, aesthetics, and connection/interaction with adjoining outdoor areas (i.e. western event space and eastern sports field). Includes improved amenities, changerooms, ventilation, views, covered perimeter.

9. New Youth Club Hall car park off scenic drive to service. Approx 20 parking bays.

10. Victorian fountain retained with upgraded garden and seating.

11. New open plan community and spectator pavilion Includes new amenities, kiosk/kitchen, function space, and possible announcer's box. Also provides covered and accessible spectator seating area to oval.

12. Junction St axis reinforced as pedestrian boulevard. Suitable width to be lined with temporary market and show stalls. New avenue trees (eg: Ficus microphylla) to gradually replace existing trees at the end of their life.

13. Concrete spectator seating terrace to replace existing retaining wall. Improves seating amenity and connectivity between 'Showground Hub' area, buildings and oval for both events and general use.

14. Accessible ramp access from pavilion to oval.

15. On grade access to oval connecting sports fields and linking broader shared path loop.

Precinct 6 – Memorial and clubs



PROTECT MEMORIAL GATES



PEDESTRIAN ACCESS



MAINTAIN SINGLE USE CLUBS



HERITAGE SIGNS

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder-coated, security fence. Replace existing trees all at once with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) to reinforce streetscape in West St. Provide perimeter concrete footpath.
2. Croquet court to be retained as existing use. If Croquet Club vacates in long term consider best use of site possibly as a pocket park transitioning between memorial and multi-sports facility.
3. Memorial gates to be retained as the primary pedestrian gateway to the showground. Design palette for all other gates to be in sympathy with this gateway. Paint metal gates black to match proposed perimeter fencing. No vehicular access – entry permanently closed due to ongoing damage from vehicles vibration to the Memorial Gates. Existing bitumen pavement replaced with 'heritage pedestrian pavement' to match treatment around pavilion complex (eg: sandstone kerbing and pavers).
4. Emphasise avenue treatment by progressively replacing existing trees at end of their life with long lived, stately trees such as *Ficus microphylla* (Fig tree, small leafed variety). Inform regular users to stop regularly driving/parking on nature strip. Repair worn turf. When necessary replace street lights with more ecologically sustainable design.
5. Removable bollards at kerb layback to restrict unauthorised vehicles from driving on sports field. Landscape treatments to create pedestrian friendly area.
6. Formalise car park at Men's Shed (7 bays shown).
7. Formalise street parking / shared pedestrian way. Create seating opportunities along pathway. 28 angled parking bays shown.
8. Improve external appearance of dog training club building in sympathy with Federation Pavilion and McKenzies Gate.
9. Heritage pavement and signage at significant heritage items such as Victorian Masonry Gate Amenity Buildings. Reinststate Heritage Amenity Building to former historical use as the McKenzies Ticket Gate. Remove toilet, open both ends and reconfigure to enable a walk-through display of historic show memorabilia to respectfully restore the reason for the building's construction, which is the oldest building on the Showground.
10. Controlled vehicle access from West St for approved event parking and access to single use clubs (i.e. croquet, mens shed, dog club).
11. Removable bollards at each end of 'Showground Hub' to control vehicle access.

Precinct 6

Figure 16. Precinct 6

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder-coated, security fence. Replace existing trees all at once with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) to reinforce streetscape in West Street Provide perimeter concrete footpath.

2. Croquet court to be retained as existing use. If Croquet Club vacates in long term consider best use of site possibly as a pocket park transitioning between memorial and multi-sports facility.

3. Memorial gates to be retained as the primary pedestrian gateway to the showground. Design palette for all other gates to be in sympathy with this gateway. Paint metal gates black to match proposed perimeter fencing. No vehicular access – entry permanently closed due to ongoing damage from vehicles vibration to the Memorial Gates. Existing bitumen pavement replaced with 'heritage pedestrian pavement' to match treatment around pavilion complex (eg: sandstone kerbing and pavers).

4. Emphasise avenue treatment by progressively replacing existing trees at end of their life with long lived, stately trees such as *Ficus microphylla* (Fig tree, small leafed variety). Inform regular users to stop regularly driving/parking on nature strip. Repair worn turf. When necessary replace street lights with more ecologically sustainable design.

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:500@A3



(Precinct 6 continued)

5. Removable bollards at kerb layback to restrict unauthorised vehicles from driving on sports field. Landscape treatments to create pedestrian friendly area.
6. Formalise car park at Men's Shed (7 bays shown).
7. Formalise street parking / shared pedestrian way. Create seating opportunities along pathway. 28 angled parking bays shown.
8. Improve external appearance of dog training club building in sympathy with Federation Pavilion and McKenzie's Gate.
9. Heritage pavement and signage at significant heritage items such as Victorian Masonry Gate Amenity Buildings. Reinstate Heritage Amenity Building to former historical use as the McKenzie Ticket Gate. Remove toilet, open both ends and reconfigure to enable a walk-through display of historic show memorabilia to respectfully restore the reason for the building's construction, which is the oldest building on the Showground.
10. Controlled vehicle access from West Street for approved event parking and access to single use clubs (i.e. croquet, mens shed, dog club).
11. Removable bollards at each end of 'Showground Hub' to control vehicle access.

Precinct 7 – Sports fields and Dog fenced off leash areas

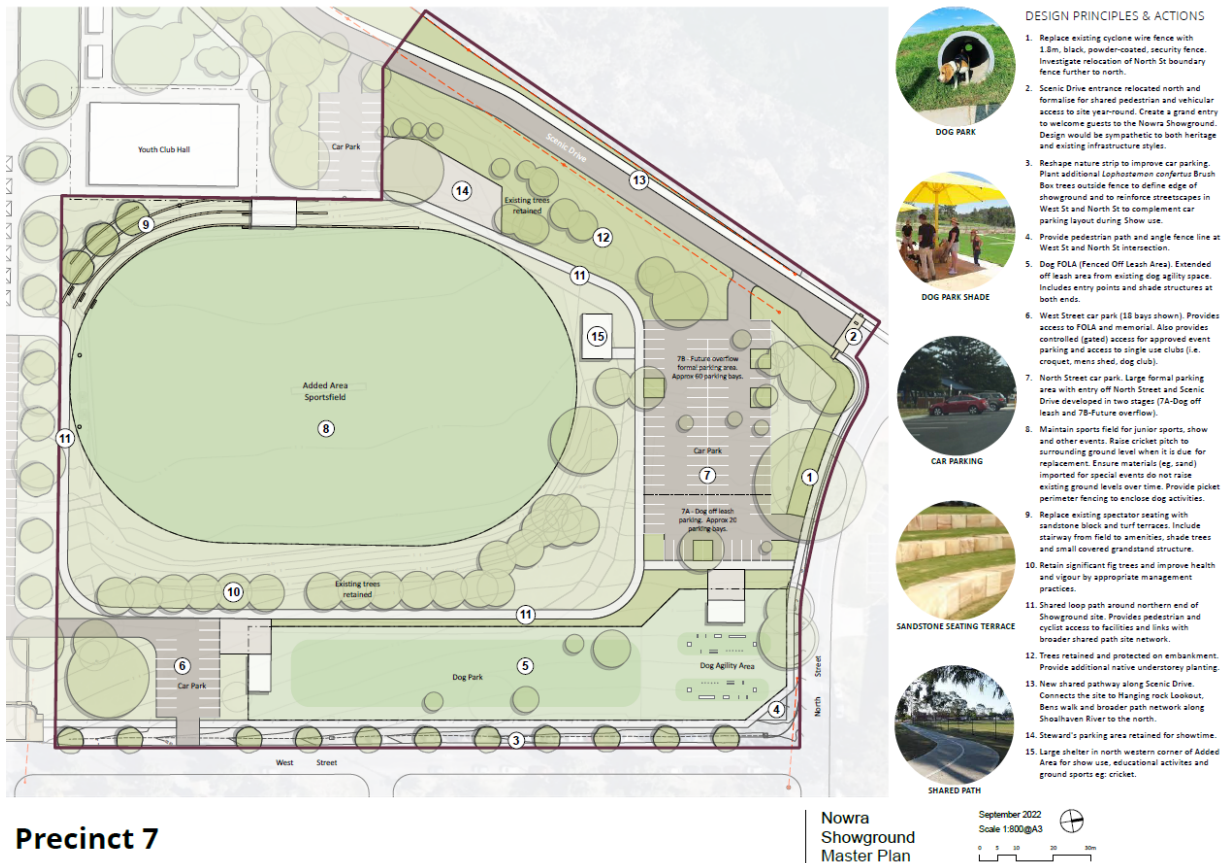


Figure 17. Precinct 7

DESIGN PRINCIPLES & ACTIONS

1. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder-coated, security fence. Investigate relocation of North Street boundary fence further to north.
2. Scenic Drive entrance relocated north and formalise for shared pedestrian and vehicular access to site year-round. Create a grand entry to welcome guests to the Nowra Showground. Design would be sympathetic to both heritage and existing infrastructure styles.
3. Reshape nature strip to improve car parking. Plant additional *Lophostemon confertus* Brush Box trees outside fence to define edge of showground and to reinforce streetscapes in West St and North St to complement car parking layout during Show use.
4. Provide pedestrian path and angle fence line at West Street and North Street intersection.
5. Dog FOLA (Fenced Off Leash Area). Extended off leash area from existing dog agility space. Includes entry points and shade structures at both ends.
6. West Street car park (18 bays shown). Provides access to FOLA and memorial. Also provides controlled (gated) access for approved event parking and access to single use clubs (i.e. croquet, Men's Shed, dog club).
7. North Street car park. Large formal parking area with entry off North Street and Scenic Drive. Provides generous site parking and overflow for adjoining hospital facilities. Approx 80 parking bays

(Precinct 7 continued)

8. Maintain sports field for junior sports, show and other events. Raise cricket pitch to surrounding ground level when it is due for replacement. Ensure materials (eg, sand) imported for special events do not raise existing ground levels over time. Provide picket perimeter fencing to enclose dog activities.

9. Replace existing spectator seating with sandstone block and turf terraces. Include stairway from field to amenities, shade trees and small covered grandstand structure.

10. Retain significant fig trees and improve health and vigour by appropriate management practices.

11. Shared loop path around northern end of Showground site. Provides pedestrian and cyclist access to facilities and links with broader shared path site network.

12. Trees retained and protected on embankment. Provide additional native understorey planting.

13. New shared pathway along Scenic Drive. Connects the site to Hanging rock Lookout, Ben's walk and broader path network along Shoalhaven River to the north.

14. Steward's parking area retained for showtime.

15. Large shelter in north-western corner of Added Area for show use, educational activities, and ground sports eg: cricket.

Appendix 1 – Plans



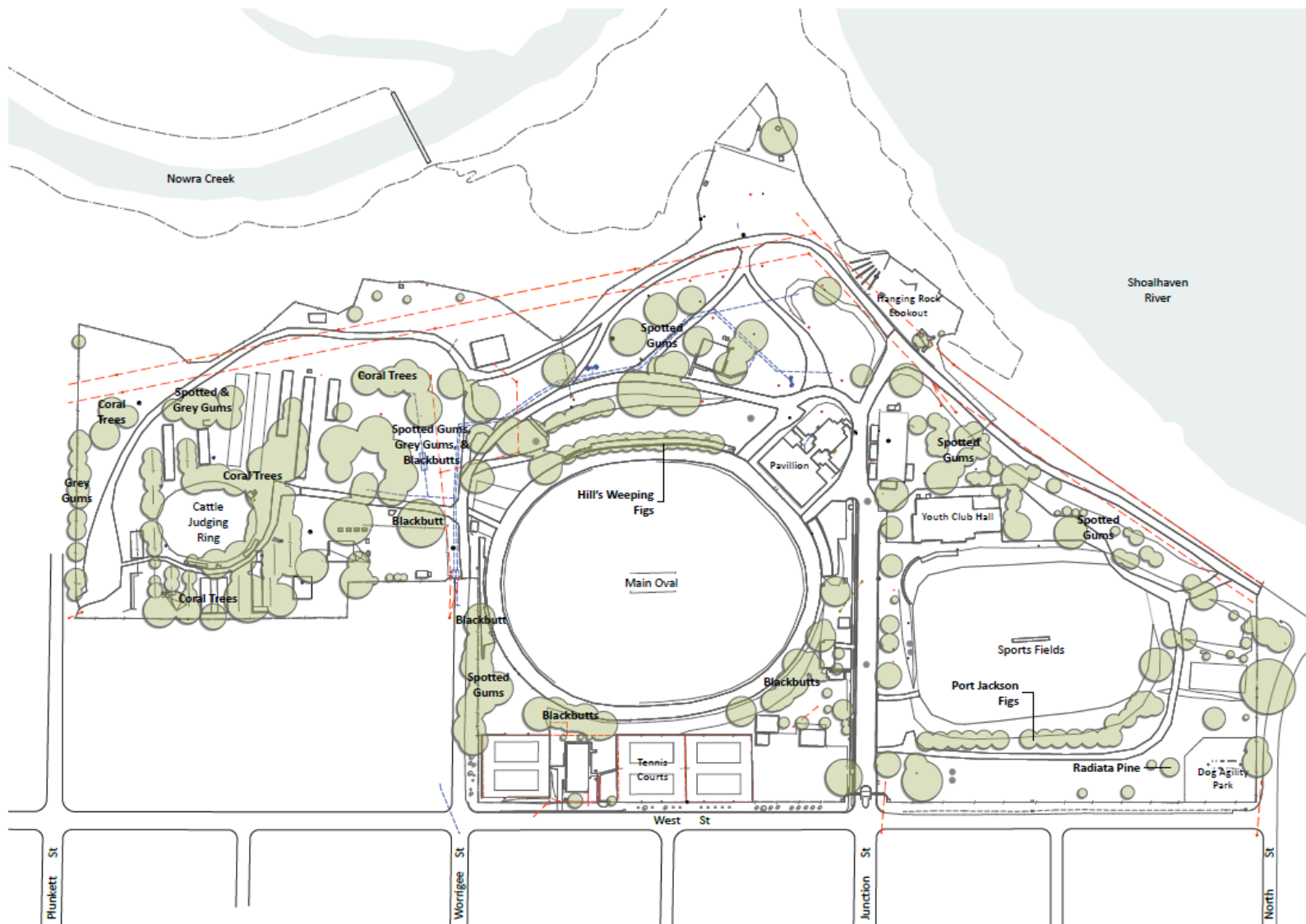
NOTES

- 1 Plunkett Street Gates
- 2 Cattle Loading Ramp
- 3 Cattle Wash Down Slabs
- 4 Horse and Cattle Yards, Stalls
- 5 Cattle Judging Ring
- 6 Judging Box and seating
- 7 Council shed & Stockpile area
- 8 Family Café (former Publican's Bar) and Picnic Area
- 9 Horse trough
- 10 Cricket Roller Store and Community Garden Area
- 11 Worrigee Street Gates and new pedestrian entry / car park
- 12 Commentary Box and storage
- 13 Poultry Pavilion
- 14 Equestrian / Livestock Camping
- 15 Upgraded Ben's Walk Entries
- 16 Upgraded Picnic area
- 17 Nature Playground
- 18 Upgraded Hanging Rock Lookout
- 19 New Amenities / Camp Kitchen
- 20 Showground Pavilion Complex (Federation Grandstand, Pavilion, Nowra Show Society Committee Room and heritage curtilage)
- 21 Main Arena (perimeter fence, terrace seating, trotting track, shared path, turf cricket wicket, AFL and rugby league field)
- 22 Tennis Club and Courts
- 23 Public Multipsports Area
- 24 Croquet Club and Lawn
- 25 War Memorial Gateway (Junction St Pedestrian Access)
- 26 Caretakers Cottage
- 27 Men's Shed
- 28 Victorian Masonry Gate Buildings
- 29 New showground pavilion and amenities
- 30 Victorian Fountain (Monaghan's Memorial)
- 31 Village green and Wood Chop Arena
- 32 New Youth Club Hall and surrounds
- 33 Added Area Sportsfield with new terrace seating
- 34 Dog Off Lead Area and Agility Park
- 35 New Scenic Drive Entry Gates
- 36 Shoalhaven Cancer Care Centre
- 37 West Street Oval

Master Plan

Nowra Showground Master Plan

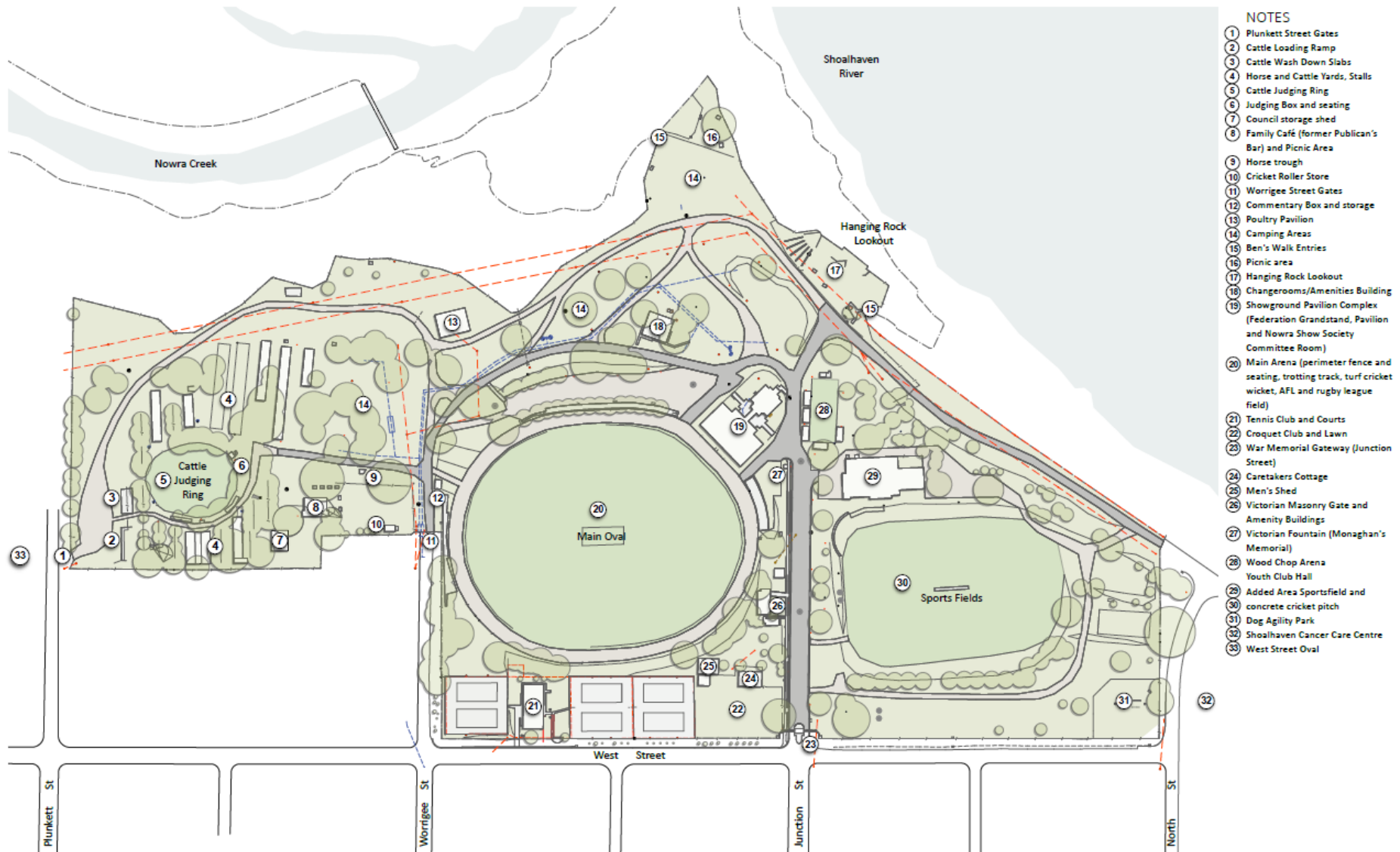
September 2022
 Scale 1:2000@A3



SIGNIFICANT TREES

- Coral Tree**
Erythrina x sylkesii
- Spotted Gum**
Corymbia maculata
- Grey Gum**
Eucalyptus punctata
- Blackbutt**
Eucalyptus pilularis
- Hill's Weeping Fig**
Ficus microcarpa var. hillii
- Port Jackson Fig**
Ficus rubiginosa
- Radiata Pine**
Pinus radiata

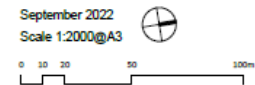
Distribution of Existing Trees

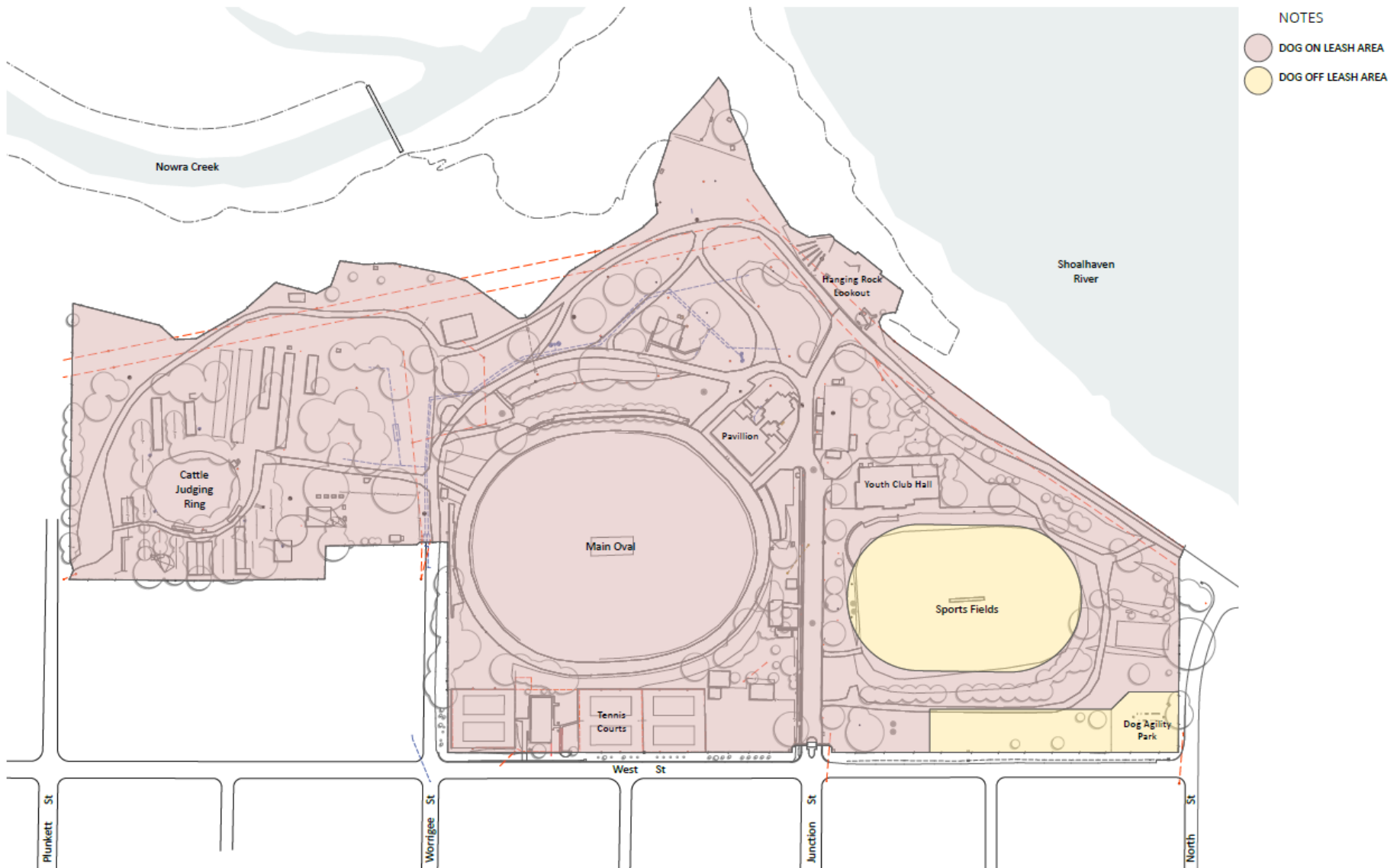


- NOTES**
- 1 Plunkett Street Gates
 - 2 Cattle Loading Ramp
 - 3 Cattle Wash Down Slabs
 - 4 Horse and Cattle Yards, Stalls
 - 5 Cattle Judging Ring
 - 6 Judging Box and seating
 - 7 Council storage shed
 - 8 Family Café (former Publican's Bar) and Picnic Area
 - 9 Horse trough
 - 10 Cricket Roller Store
 - 11 Worrigei Street Gates
 - 12 Commentary Box and storage
 - 13 Poultry Pavilion
 - 14 Camping Areas
 - 15 Ben's Walk Entries
 - 16 Picnic area
 - 17 Hanging Rock Lookout
 - 18 Changerooms/Amenities Building
 - 19 Showground Pavilion Complex (Federation Grandstand, Pavilion and Nowra Show Society Committee Room)
 - 20 Main Arena (perimeter fence and seating, trotting track, turf cricket wicket, AFL and rugby league field)
 - 21 Tennis Club and Courts
 - 22 Croquet Club and Lawn
 - 23 War Memorial Gateway (Junction Street)
 - 24 Caretakers Cottage
 - 25 Men's Shed
 - 26 Victorian Masonry Gate and Amenity Buildings
 - 27 Victorian Fountain (Monaghan's Memorial)
 - 28 Wood Chop Arena Youth Club Hall
 - 29 Added Area Sportsfield and concrete cricket pitch
 - 30 Dog Agility Park
 - 31 Shoalhaven Cancer Care Centre
 - 32 West Street Oval

Existing Site Plan

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

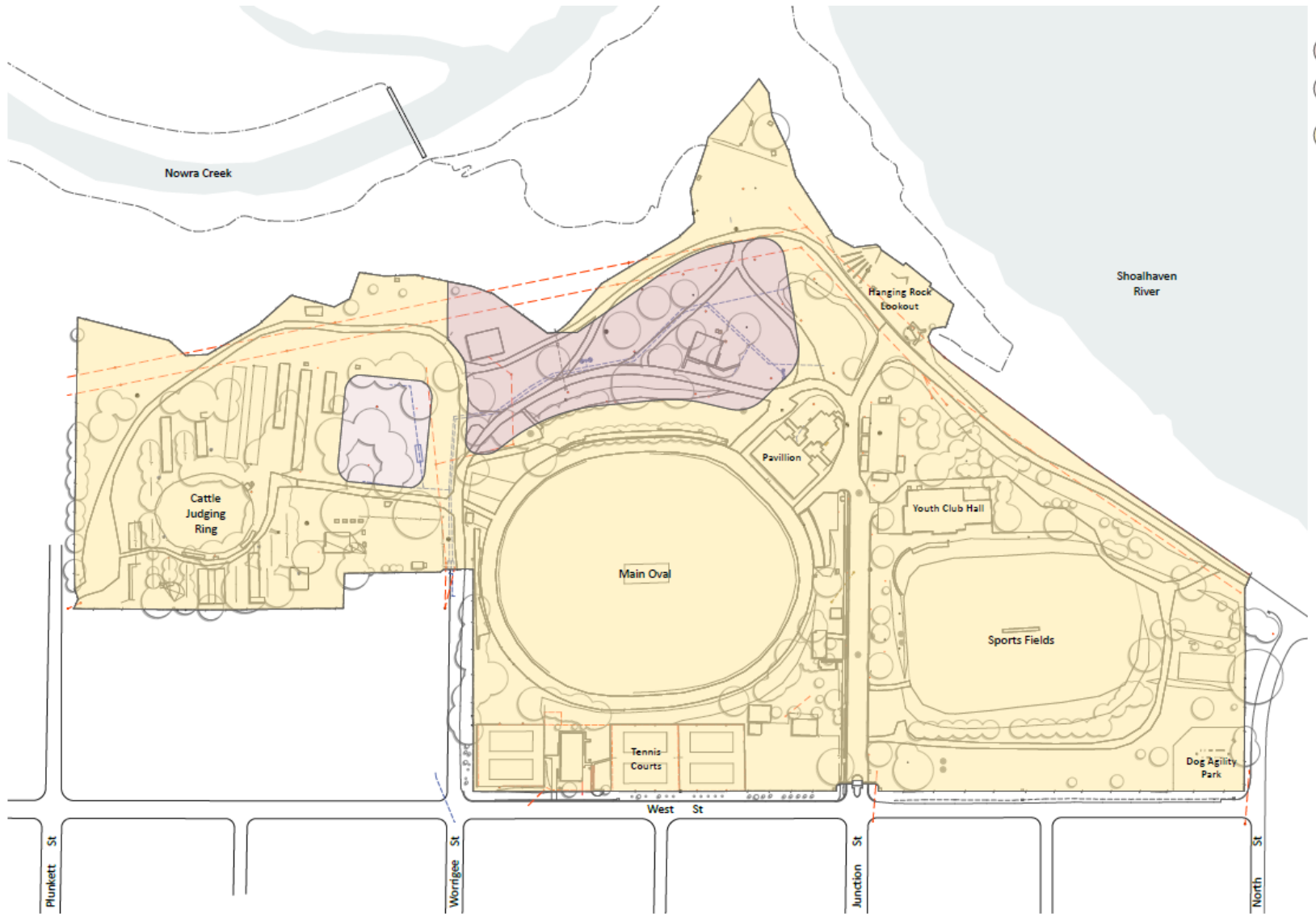




Dog Management Plan

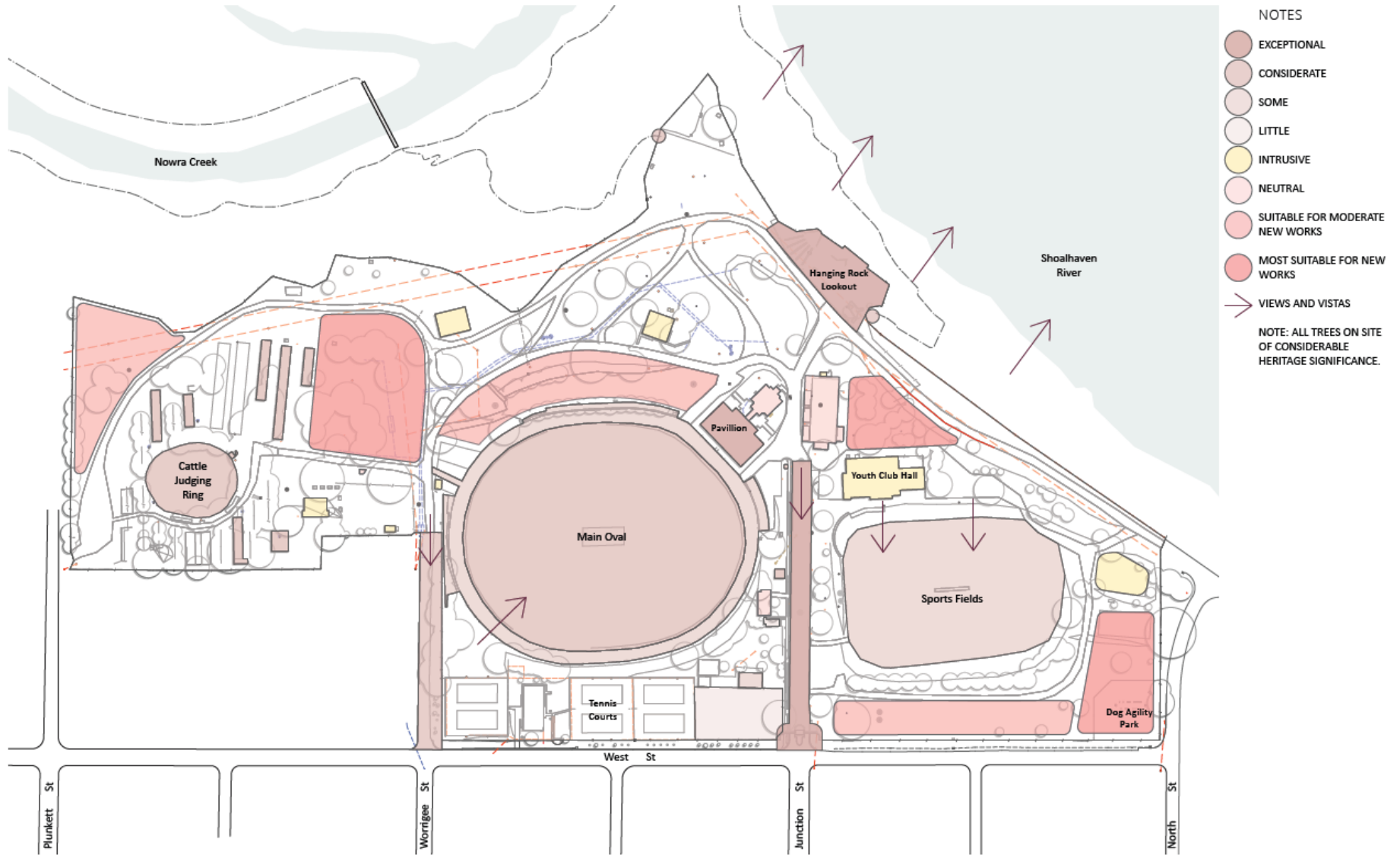
Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3

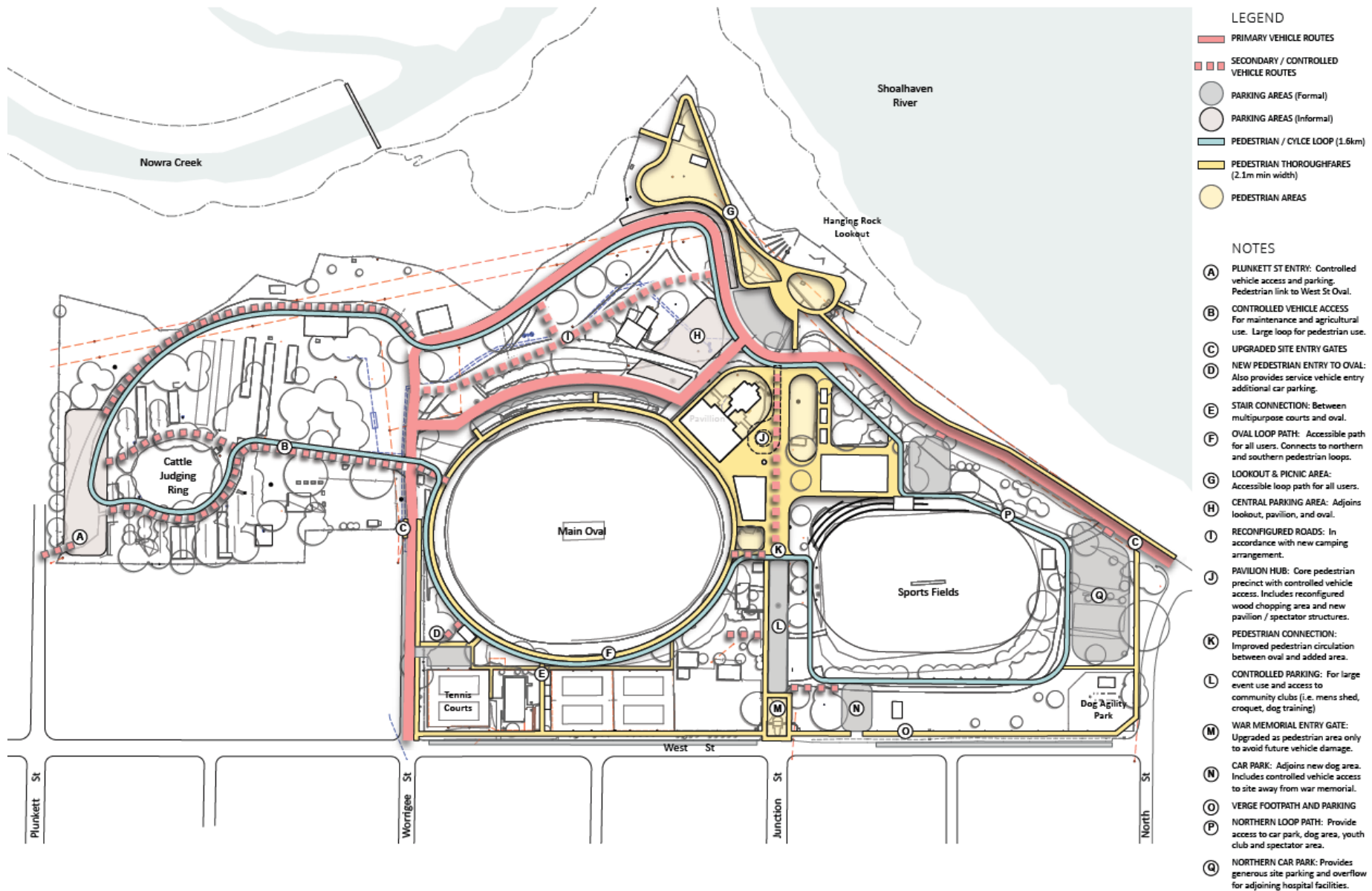


- NOTES**
- PERMITTED CAMP SITE
 - MANAGED CAMPING FOR LIVESTOCK OWNERS
 - CAMPING NOT PERMITTED. Except during approved sporting, recreational or cultural events.

Camping Plan



Heritage Significance



- LEGEND**
- PRIMARY VEHICLE ROUTES
 - - - SECONDARY / CONTROLLED VEHICLE ROUTES
 - PARKING AREAS (Formal)
 - PARKING AREAS (Informal)
 - PEDESTRIAN / CYLCE LOOP (1.6km)
 - PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARES (2.1m min width)
 - PEDESTRIAN AREAS

- NOTES**
- (A)** PLUNKETT ST ENTRY: Controlled vehicle access and parking. Pedestrian link to West St Oval.
 - (B)** CONTROLLED VEHICLE ACCESS: For maintenance and agricultural use. Large loop for pedestrian use.
 - (C)** UPGRADED SITE ENTRY GATES
 - (D)** NEW PEDESTRIAN ENTRY TO OVAL: Also provides service vehicle entry additional car parking.
 - (E)** STAIR CONNECTION: Between multipurpose courts and oval.
 - (F)** OVAL LOOP PATH: Accessible path for all users. Connects to northern and southern pedestrian loops.
 - (G)** LOOKOUT & PICNIC AREA: Accessible loop path for all users.
 - (H)** CENTRAL PARKING AREA: Adjoins lookout, pavilion, and oval.
 - (I)** RECONFIGURED ROADS: In accordance with new camping arrangement.
 - (J)** PAVILION HUB: Core pedestrian precinct with controlled vehicle access. Includes reconfigured wood chopping area and new pavilion / spectator structures.
 - (K)** PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION: Improved pedestrian circulation between oval and added area.
 - (L)** CONTROLLED PARKING: For large event use and access to community clubs (i.e. mens shed, croquet, dog training)
 - (M)** WAR MEMORIAL ENTRY GATE: Upgraded as pedestrian area only to avoid future vehicle damage.
 - (N)** CAR PARK: Adjoins new dog area. Includes controlled vehicle access to site away from war memorial.
 - (O)** VERGE FOOTPATH AND PARKING
 - (P)** NORTHERN LOOP PATH: Provide access to car park, dog area, youth club and spectator area.
 - (Q)** NORTHERN CAR PARK: Provides generous site parking and overflow for adjoining hospital facilities.

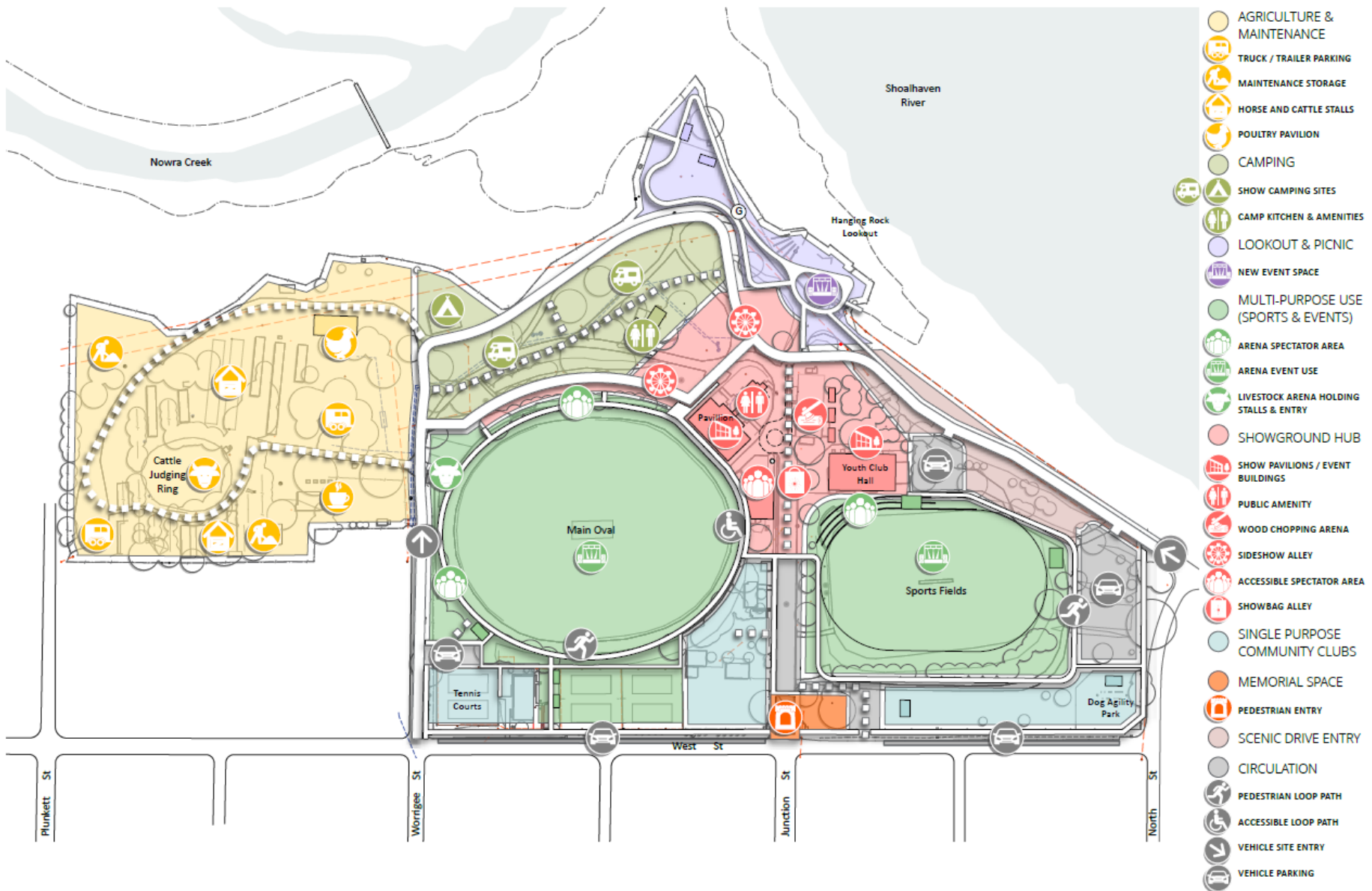
Circulation



Proposed Use Plan - General

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

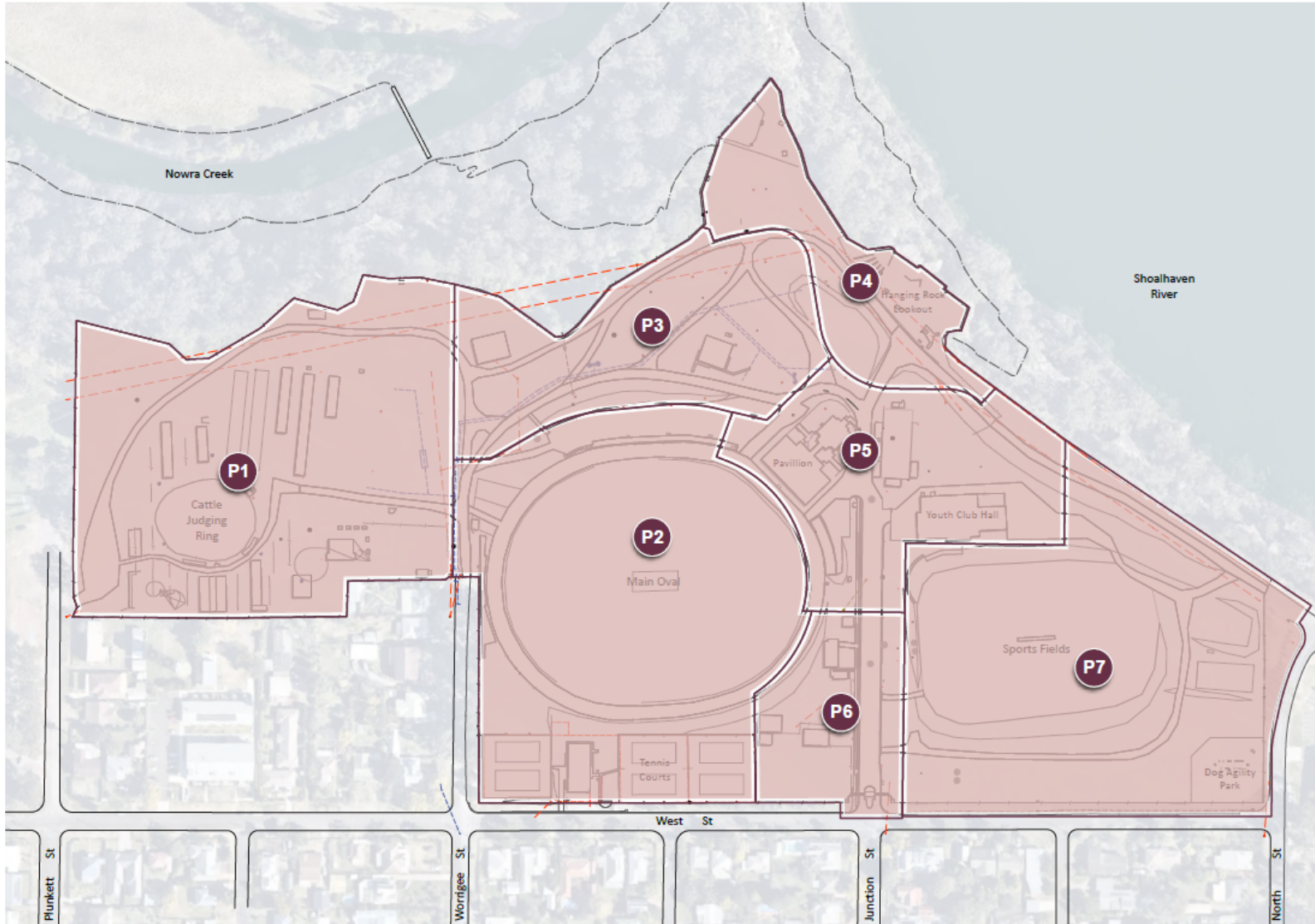
September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3



Proposed Use Plan - Show

Nowra
Showground
Master Plan

September 2022
Scale 1:2000@A3
0 10 20 50 100m



NOTES

- P1** PRECINCT 1
AGRICULTURE
- P2** PRECINCT 2
MAIN OVAL
- P3** PRECINCT 3
CAMPING
- P4** PRECINCT 4
LOOKOUT & PICNIC
- P5** PRECINCT 5
COMMUNITY HUB
- P6** PRECINCT 6
MEMORIAL AND CLUBS
- P7** PRECINCT 7
SPORTS FIELD AND DOGS

Precinct Identification Plan



DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS



MAINTENANCE STOCKPILE AREA



HORSE STABLES AND STALLS



UPGRADED CATTLE RING



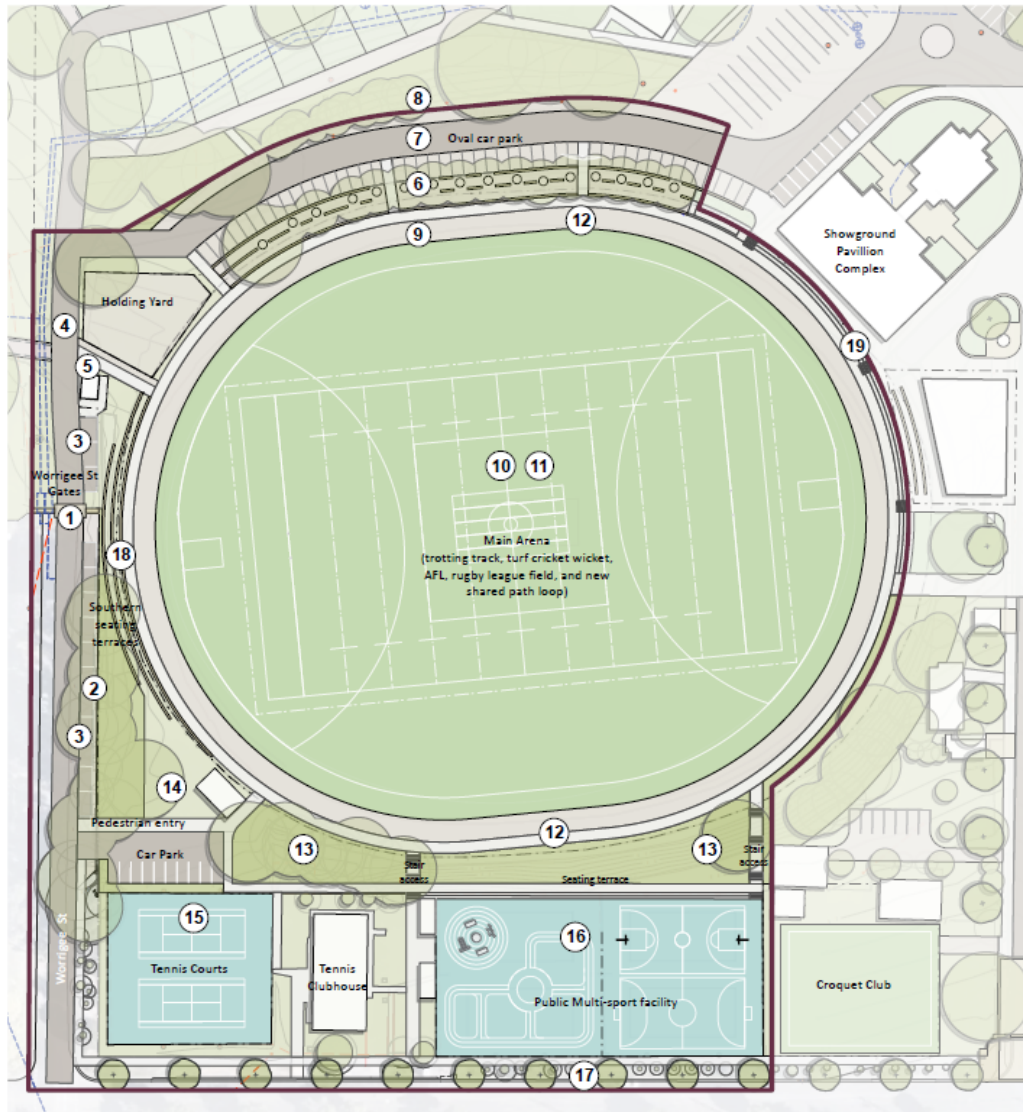
NEW POULTRY PAVILION



COMMUNITY GARDEN

1. Retain existing unsealed road for authorised use only. Long term option to further define loop as a pedestrian/cycle thoroughfare with signage, sealed surface and linemarking.
2. Remove weeds and undertake bush regeneration outside boundary fence. At end-of-life, fence to be replaced with black chain wire mesh.
3. Improve road near Family Café building and provide truck turning area.
4. Install a post and rail fence along extension of Worrige St to restrict unauthorised vehicle access to horse and cattle area. Provide year-round pedestrian / cycle openings.
5. Retain service access to water tower.
6. Consolidate southwestern corner designated maintenance stockpile area. Relocate other material stockpiles to this location.
7. Retain stand of Coral trees, including significant layout of planting rows between the cattle stands. Maintain trees to keep safe – remove dangerous branches and prune regularly.
8. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder coated, security fence. Plant additional trees to define edge of showground.
9. Family kiosk upgraded for safer and more functional show and daily use. Includes amenities, cafe facility, and access improvements.
10. Existing horse stables and cattle stalls to be retained and maintained as required.
11. Formalised long vehicle parking and setdown area. (2400m²)
12. Upgrade southern pedestrian access from Plunkett St. Provide Showground entry signage and possible defined shared path linking to precinct loop.
13. Continue upgrade of cattle ring, including covered spectator seating and improved field surface. Investigate potential of cattle ring to be used as outdoor venue or small event (eg: wedding ceremony) associated with upgraded family cafe facilities.
14. New poultry pavilion located within the agricultural precinct. Includes provision for parking (10 bays shown).
15. Potential for more agricultural based community use within this precinct such as a community garden associated with upgraded family cafe facilities.
16. Managed camping area for livestock owners particularly during equestrian and show events.

Precinct 1



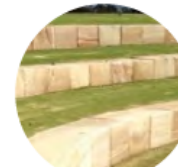
DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS



CONTINUE SHOWGROUND USE



SHARED PATH OVAL LOOP



SANDSTONE SEATING TERRACE



HISTORICAL PAVILION VIEW



MULTI-SPORT USE

- Upgrade and formalise Worrigea St entry for shared pedestrian footpath and vehicular access to site year-round. Create a grand entry to welcome guests to the Nowra Showground. Design to utilise existing heritage pillars and be sympathetic to both heritage and existing infrastructure styles (eg: sandstone rubble strip and piers matching character of Junction St memorial entry).
- Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence.
- Formalise parking spaces on Worrigea St near entry gate. Approx 15 parking bays.
- Upgrade bitumen seal road surface, including new alignment. Include rollover kerb and speed control measures.
- Upgrade or replace commentary box. Provide shared path connection from oval to southern site loop for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Mulch and aerate under existing figs to improve vigour. Spectator area extended to south and upgraded with compacted gravel pavement / mulch retained by sandstone kerb edge. Perimeter seating replaced with placed sandstone blocks as a simple robust seating element. Accessible pathways connect car park to oval.
- Upgrade parking area, providing surface suitable for heavy vehicles and side shows (eg: bitumen seal to road and permeable gravel to parking bays). Show Society to be involved with assisting to identify further solutions that will protect the fig tree roots from sideshows during show time. Approx 47 parking bays and parallel parking / bus setdown on western side.
- Mulch embankment and provide additional native understory planting to reduce compaction and erosion. Upgrade stairs.
- Retain trotting track for use during shows, events and informal exercise by community.
- Maintain high quality grass for field. Retain turf cricket pitch. Slightly reconfigure orientation of oval to suit new layout. (130 x 160m minimum size suitable for cricket, AFL, and League).
- Install signage prohibiting dog use on main field at appropriate entry locations—redirection to enhanced Fenced Off Leash Area (FOLA) in Precinct 5 (North St). Allow for walking around upgraded pathway (12) on leash.
- Provide a shared and accessible pathway around perimeter of oval suitable for pedestrians and cyclists. Loop path to improve accessibility and use of oval whilst also connecting to adjoining facilities and broader site pedestrian/cycling loop to the north and south.
- Retain canopy trees and provide additional native understory planting. Remove vegetation for path clearing where necessary.
- Retain clear access for service and emergency vehicle use. Upgrade existing gate and thoroughfare as a new pedestrian entry point and car park to service tennis courts. Provide associated entry signage, shelter and furniture as recreational space located to maximise the heritage view of the showground pavilion.
- Tennis clubhouse and two tennis courts part of long term lease. New car park off Worrigea St to service tennis courts and multi-sport facility.
- Four tennis courts upgraded as a public multi sport facility. Includes linemarking and equipment for basketball, futsal, tennis, learn to ride, fitness station, shade structure etc. Western wall and fencing replaced with a seating terrace and gated stairway connections to showground oval for improved site connectivity.
- Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m black, powder coated security fence. Replace existing Cypress trees with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush box) to reinforce streetscape in West Street.
- Southern spectator seating area and retaining wall replaced with sandstone block and turf seating terrace for improved character, multipurpose use, accessibility and longevity.
- Northern retaining wall replaced with concrete spectator seating terrace. Refer Precinct 7 plan.



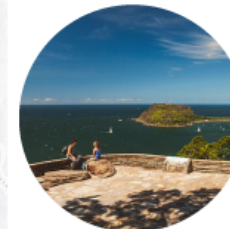
DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Re-grade camping area to increase area of level ground. Improve grass cover. Allow vehicle access for show activities, event parking and for campers. Ensure grass surface capable of supporting authorised heavy vehicles.
2. Reconfigure road alignment as indicated to simplify and control vehicle circulation and define a clear camping area with consistently sized sites (Approx 45 sites shown 10 x 15m). Provide a bitumen seal to perimeter road and narrower unsealed secondary internal roads for campers access only.
3. Install new power outlets on western side of road for use during events, so that power leads do not have to be laid across roads. Also install poles above power boxes to suspend power leads.
4. Provide poles above power boxes to allow for suspension of leads off the ground.
5. Consider under-grounding high voltage overhead powerlines to improve views if the opportunities arise.
6. Update amenities building to have four changerooms, Coordinator's office, camp kitchen, camping showers, toilets, covered outdoor areas and dump point. Also provide new access path along current road alignment.
7. Relocate poultry pavilion to Precinct 1 to align with agricultural use. Utilise cleared area for additional camping sites.
8. Mulch embankment and provide additional native understorey planting to reduce compaction and erosion. Upgrade stairs.
9. Gravel informal parking area suitable for showground and event use, along with general long vehicle parking. Approx 1500m².
10. Approved fire services (supply and hydrants). Reconfigure to new road alignment as required.



DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. New road alignment. Existing perimeter road realigned to the east to control vehicle conflict with pedestrian use at the lookout. New road alignment integrates and simplifies existing showground roads, defining use precincts into more legible zones. New alignment maintains connection to entry streets (Worrige St & Scenic Drive).
2. Lookout Car Park and surrounds. Existing informal gravel terrace partly formalised to maximise car parking bays with lookout river views whilst maintaining space for showground and event use. View lines from committee room maintained along with new compliant paths linking upper hub with lookout. Approx 32 parking bays (inc 2 accessible).
3. Hanging Rock Lookout. Upgraded lookout area with improved access, safety, function and views. Design includes multipurpose turf area, accessibility to best vantage point, cultural elements, interpretive/wayfinding signs, seating, and barriers. Organic configuration is sympathetic to natural sandstone footprint, maximises views and integrates as a component of the Bens Walk - short loop.
4. Ben's walk extension path. New pathway connecting existing Bens Walk entry points, the Hanging Rock lookout and the picnic area. Pathway is accessible, optimising panoramic river views and the natural ridge line. Includes interpretive signage and balustrade fencing.
5. Ben's walk picnic area. Upgrade barbecues and picnic facilities. Include shelters, additional furniture and accessible path connections.
6. Nature playground. Nature play space associated with picnic area. Includes play elements interpreting the natural surrounds and cultural stories.
7. Ben's Walk South and North Entrances. Upgrade walking track entryway using similar palette of materials as all other gateways. Southern entry to have new alignment utilising existing ridgeline. Northern stair entry to be upgraded with improved access to split rock. Improve interpretive signage.
8. Improve grass cover to expand picnic area by preparing and implementing turf management plan (decompaction, soil preparation, turf variety, maintenance).
9. Provide roadside parking for picnickers. Landscape edge of road/car park to restrict general vehicle access. Allow vehicle access for show activities (removable bollards). Approx 26 parking bays.
10. Significant views to river and beyond.
11. Consider under-grounding high voltage overhead powerlines to improve views if the opportunities arise.



LOOKOUT



PICNIC FACILITIES



NATURE PLAY



SIGNAGE



INTERPRETIVE



BENS WALK ENTRY



DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. Formalise parking areas with bitumen seal and vertical kerb adjacent to buildings. Provide pedestrian paths connecting to buildings. Approx 11 parking bays including 1 loading bay.
2. Define heritage curtilage around Pavilion buildings with sandstone paving / kerb and turf/planting areas.
3. Create a showground and community 'hub' with new 'shared' pavement prioritising safe & accessible pedestrian use whilst allowing for controlled vehicle access. Retain existing trees.
4. Removable bollards at each end of 'Showground Hub' to control vehicle access.
5. New road alignment to integrate and simplify vehicle movement. Protect and emphasise view lines and provide an accessible footpath from Committee Room to Hanging Rock. Formalise civil works to prevent further erosion.
6. Wood chopping arena reconfigured as a multipurpose 'village green' space. Existing spectator shelters and judges box relocated to northern side of arena to re-establish river views and Junction St axis. Existing perimeter fence removed (temporary fence used for show events). New sandstone kerb to define turf area.
7. Market and event space established on western side of youth club under existing trees grove. Maximises river views and can be integrated as a break out space from hall. Perimeter shared path as part of broader shared path loop. Redundant chain mesh fence removed.
8. Youth Club Hall upgraded for multipurpose use, improved accessibility, safety, aesthetics, and connection/interaction with adjoining outdoor areas (i.e. western event space and eastern sports field). Includes improved amenities, changerooms, ventilation, views, covered perimeter.
9. New Youth Club Hall car park off scenic drive to service. Approx 20 parking bays.
10. Victorian fountain retained with upgraded garden and seating.
11. New open plan community and spectator pavilion. Includes new amenities, kiosk/kitchen, function space, and possible announcers box. Also provides covered and accessible spectator seating area to oval.
12. Junction St axis reinforced as pedestrian boulevard. Suitable width to be lined with temporary market and show stalls. New avenue trees (eg: Ficus microphylla) to gradually replace existing trees at the end of their life.
13. Concrete spectator seating terrace to replace existing retaining wall. Improves seating amenity and connectivity between 'Showground Hub' area, buildings and oval for both events and general use.
14. Accessible ramp access from pavilion to oval
15. On grade access to oval connecting sports fields and linking broader shared path loop.



UPGRADE PAVILION



NEW PAVILION / YOUTH HALL



MARKETS



TERRACE SEATING



RETAIN HERITAGE ITEMS



DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS



PROTECT MEMORIAL GATES



PEDESTRIAN ACCESS



MAINTAIN SINGLE USE CLUBS



HERITAGE SIGNS

1. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder-coated, security fence. Replace existing trees all at once with *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box) to reinforce streetscape in West St. Provide perimeter concrete footpath.
2. Croquet court to be retained as existing use. If Croquet Club vacates in long term consider best use of site possibly as a pocket park transitioning between memorial and multi-sports facility.
3. Memorial gates to be retained as the primary pedestrian gateway to the showground. Design palette for all other gates to be in sympathy with this gateway. Paint metal gates black to match proposed perimeter fencing. No vehicular access – entry permanently closed due to ongoing damage from vehicles vibration to the Memorial Gates. Existing bitumen pavement replaced with 'heritage pedestrian pavement' to match treatment around pavilion complex (eg: sandstone kerbing and pavers).
4. Emphasise avenue treatment by progressively replacing existing trees at end of their life with long lived, stately trees such as *Ficus microphylla* (Fig tree, small leafed variety). Inform regular users to stop regularly driving/parking on nature strip. Repair worn turf. When necessary replace street lights with more ecologically sustainable design.
5. Removable bollards at kerb layback to restrict unauthorized vehicles from driving on sports field. Landscape treatments to create pedestrian friendly area.
6. Formalise car park at Men's Shed (7 bays shown).
7. Formalise street parking / shared pedestrian way. Create seating opportunities along pathway. 20 angled parking bays shown.
8. Improve external appearance of dog training club building in sympathy with Federation Pavilion and McKenzie's Gate.
9. Heritage pavement and signage at significant heritage items such as Victorian Masonry Gate Amenity Buildings. Reinstatate Heritage Amenity Building to former historical use as the McKenzie Ticket Gate. Remove toilet, open both ends and reconfigure to enable a walk-through display of historic show memorabilia to respectfully restore the reason for the building's construction, which is the oldest building on the Showground.
10. Controlled vehicle access from West St for approved event parking and access to single use clubs (i.e. croquet, mens shed, dog club).
11. Removable bollards at each end of 'Showground Hub' to control vehicle access.



DESIGN PRINCIPLES & ACTIONS



DOG PARK



DOG PARK SHADE



CAR PARKING



SANDSTONE SEATING TERRACE










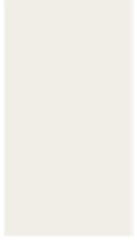

SHARED PATH


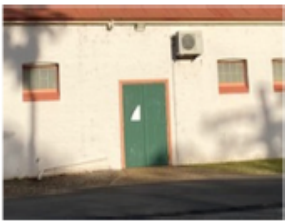




1. Replace existing cyclone wire fence with 1.8m, black, powder-coated, security fence. Investigate relocation of North St boundary fence further to north.
2. Scenic Drive entrance relocated north and formalize for shared pedestrian and vehicular access to site year-round. Create a grand entry to welcome guests to the Nowra Showground. Design would be sympathetic to both heritage and existing infrastructure styles.
3. Reshape nature strip to improve car parking. Plant additional *Lophostemon confertus* Brush Box trees outside fence to define edge of showground and to reinforce streetscapes in West St and North St to complement car parking layout during Show use.
4. Provide pedestrian path and angle fence line at West St and North St intersection.
5. Dog FOLA (Fenced Off Leash Area). Extended off leash area from existing dog agility space. Includes entry points and shade structures at both ends.
6. West Street car park (18 bays shown). Provides access to FOLA and memorial. Also provides controlled (gated) access for approved event parking and access to single use clubs (i.e. croquet, mens shed, dog club).
7. North Street car park. Large formal parking area with entry off North Street and Scenic Drive developed in two stages (7A-Dog off leash and 7B-Future overflow).
8. Maintain sports field for junior sports, show and other events. Raise cricket pitch to surrounding ground level when it is due for replacement. Ensure materials (eg. sand) imported for special events do not raise existing ground levels over time. Provide picket perimeter fencing to enclose dog activities.
9. Replace existing spectator seating with sandstone block and turf terraces. Include stairway from field to amenities, shade trees and small covered grandstand structure.
10. Retain significant fig trees and improve health and vigour by appropriate management practices.
11. Shared loop path around northern end of Showground site. Provides pedestrian and cyclist access to facilities and links with broader shared path site network.
12. Trees retained and protected on embankment. Provide additional native understorey planting.
13. New shared pathway along Scenic Drive. Connects the site to Hanging rock Lookout, Bens walk and broader path network along Shoalhaven River to the north.
14. Steward's parking area retained for showtime.
15. Large shelter in north western corner of Added Area for show use, educational activities and ground sports eg: cricket.


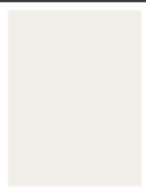















Appendix 2 – External Paint Colour Palette and Finishes











FEDERATION PAVILION				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Pavilion Roofing	Colorbond Manor Red		Colorbond Classic Range	
Pavilion Guttering	Colorbond Manor Red		Colorbond Classic Range Satin	
Pavilion Downpipes	Colorbond for new downpipes Manor Red & Dulux Exterior High Gloss Manor Red TR/EB/C21 for PVC downpipes		Colorbond® and/or Dulux - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Handrail to Steps	Dulux Georgian Brick - 87345		Colorbond® Dulux - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Gate at Northern & Southern Steps	Dulux Regency White - GI		Traditional - Exterior Professional High Gloss	
Pavilion Mesh		As is	no change	

Pavilion Finial x 3	Dulux Lime White 37131		Traditional - Exterior Professional High Gloss	
Pavilion Masonry Walls	Dulux Regency White - GI		Traditional - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	
Pavilion Masonry Window Sills	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Traditional - Exterior Professional High Gloss	
Pavilion Window Timber Mullions & Window Sash	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Modern - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Architectural Features on Masonry & Timber Walls	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	









Pavilion Architectural Features on Grandstand	Timber arches - Dulux Sandstone 37526 Timber vertical infill to gables - Dulux Lime White 3713 Timber posts - Dulux Georgian Brick 87345		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Grandstand Balustrading	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Grandstand Western Enclosed Balustrading	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Link Trusses to Committee Room	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	






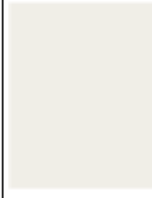



Pavilion External Timber Doors & Door Jams	Timber Door - Dulux Georgian Brick 87345 Timber Door Jams - Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Pavilion Masonry Stair Stringer & Capping Details	Dulux Georgian Brick - 87345		Heritage - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	
Pavilion Barge Boards	Colorbond/ Dulux Manor Red		Heritage - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	









COMMITTEE ROOM									
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image					
Committee Room Roof	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Classic Range		Committee Window Mullions & Window Sash	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Modern - Exterior High Gloss	
Committee Room Guttering	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Classic Range		Committee Room External Timber Doors & Door Jams	Timber Door – Dulux Georgian Brick 87345 Timber Door Jams - Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Committee Room Downpipes	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Classic Range		Committee Room Link Timber Truss	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Heritage - Exterior High Gloss	
Committee Room Metal Flue & Roof Penetrations	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Classic Range		Committee Room Masonry Capping Details	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Heritage - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	
Committee Room Barge Boards	Colorbond /Dulux Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Weathershield Exterior Low Sheen		Pavilion Masonry Walls	Dulux Regency White - GI		Traditional - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	
Committee Room Masonry Window Sills	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Traditional - Exterior High Gloss						




POULTRY PAVILION				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Poultry Pavilion Roofing	Colorbond Manor Red		Classic Range	
Poultry Pavilion Guttering	Colorbond		Classic Range	
Poultry Pavilion Downpipes	Colorbond & Dulux paint to match on PVC downpipes		Classic Range	
Poultry Pavilion Barge Boards	Colorbond / Dulux		Classic Range Exterior Weathershield Low Sheen	
Pavilion Pavilion Roller Door	Colorbond & Dulux Dune		Contemporary Range	


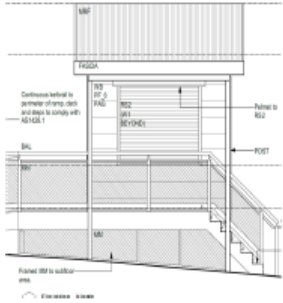

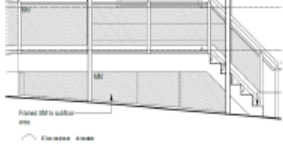

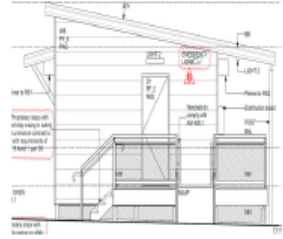




Chicken Pavilion Timber Door	Colorbond & Dulux Dune		Contemporary Range	
Chicken Pavilion Cladding	Colorbond Wallaby		Contemporary Range	
Chicken Pavilion Door frame	Colorbond Manor Red		Heritage Range	




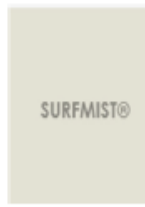

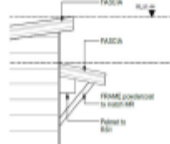
NOWRA WARRIORS CHANGEROOM				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Warriors Roof Sheeting	Colorbond		Heritage Range	
Waratahs Barge Boards	Colorbond		Heritage Range	
External Door frames & brick window sills & support posts	Colorbond / Dulux		Colorbond Dune Gloss	
External doors	Colorbond / Dulux		Colorbond Woodland Grey Gloss	
Brickwork	Colorbond / Dulux		Weathershield Exterior Low Sheen	



FAMILY CAFE				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Family Café Roof Sheeting	Colorbond		Colorbond - Lysaught Kliplok 406 Manor Red	
External doors	Dulux		Colorbond / Dulux Dune Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
Fixed louvre window - Women's Amenities	Colorbond		Colorbond Woodland Grey Satin	
Soffit & External Framed Walls	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Weathershield over 1 x coat Professional Low Sheen	
Steel Roller Shutter	Colorbond		Colorbond Woodland Grey Gloss	






SHOW RING COMMENTARY BOX				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Judges Box Roofing	Colorbond Manor Red		Classic Range	
Judges Box Guttering	Colorbond/Dulux		Classic Range	
External Window Sills	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Dulux Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
Judges Box External Timber Doors	Timber Door – Georgian Brick 87345 Timber Door Jams - Dulux Sandstone 37526		Dulux Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
External Fibro & Timber Walls	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Traditional - Exterior Professional Low Sheen	











Judges Box Timber Door Frames and Window Frames	Dulux Lime White 3713		Dulux Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
Judges Box Timber Mullions & Window Sash	Dulux Natural White W 15W		Modern - Exterior High Gloss	




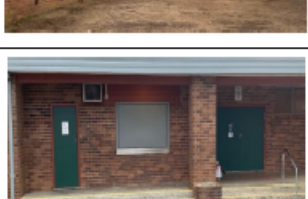

CATTLE RING JUDGES BOX				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Judges Box Roofing	Colorbond Manor Red		Classic Range	
Judges Box Guttering	Colorbond/Dulux		Classic Range	
External doors	Dulux		Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
Exposed galvanised door frames	Dulux		Metalshield epoxy Enamel Satin	
Soffit	Dulux		Weathershield Natural White W 15W	
External Walls	Dulux		Colorbond Dune Gloss	




Roller Shutter RS1	Colorbond		Satin	
Roller Shutter 2	Colorbond		Satin	
Weather board Fibre Cement	Hardiplank		Woodgrain	
Sliding Window Frame with lock finish W1	Trend Windows & Doors		Satin	
External Posts & Frame to Fascia	Powdercoated to Colorbond Manor Red		Satin	



CATTLE AND HORSE STALLS				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Cattle Stalls - Timber	Dulux	Dulux 33078 Sienna Stone	Weathershield Exterior Low Sheen Sienna Stone - 33078	
Horse Stables	Dulux	Dulux 33078 Sienna Stone	Weathershield Exterior Low Sheen Sienna Stone - 33078	










WOOD CHOP ARENA AND COMMENTARY BOX				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Wood Chop Roofing	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Classic Range	
Wood Chop Guttering	Colorbond	MANOR RED®	Classic Range	
Wood Chop Barge Boards	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Traditional - Exterior High Gloss	
Wood Chop Roof Trusses	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Traditional - Exterior High Gloss	
Wood Chop Vertical Slats	Dulux Regency White - GI		Traditional - Exterior 1 x coat + Professional 1 x coat Low Sheen	
Concrete footings	Dulux Sienna Stone 33078		Traditional - Exterior 1 x coat + Professional 1 x coat Low Sheen	








Wood Chop Handrail to Seating Area	Dulux / Colorbond Manor Red TR / EB C21		Colorbond® Dulux - Exterior High Gloss	
Wood Chop Timber Seating	Colorbond		Colorbond Woodland Grey Gloss	
Wood Chop Judging Box Brickwork	Dulux Weathershield - Exterior		Colorbond Wallaby Low Sheen over rendered walls	
Wood Chop Timber Fencing	Dulux Regency White GI		Traditional Exterior Low Sheen	
Wood Chop Timber Doors	Dulux Georgian Brick 87345			
Wood Chop Timber Door Frame	Dulux Regency White			


COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTRE AND GYMNASIUM				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Youth Hall Roof	Colorbond		Colorbond Woodland Grey	
Youth Hall Fascia/Barge Boards	Colorbond		Colorbond Woodland Grey	
Youth Hall Aluminium Window Trim	Dulux		Colorbond Dune Aquanamel High Gloss	
Youth Hall Façade - Upper Level & Back Wall	Colorbond		Colorbond Dune Aquanamel Low Sheen	
Youth Hall Timber Doors & Roller Door	Georgian Brick 87345		Aquanamel Semi-Gloss	
Youth Hall Door Frames and Window Frames	Dulux		Colorbond Dune Aquanamel High Gloss	





Youth Hall Down Pipes	Colorbond		Heritage Range Manor Red	
Youth Hall Timber Handrail	Colorbond/ Dulux		Dulux Aquaneamel Low Sheen Manor Red	




VICTORIAN MASONRY GATE - MALE TOILET				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Electrical Substation masonry walls	Dulux Regency White - GI		Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen	
Electrical Substation Timber Trim	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen	
Male Toilet Roof	Colorbond		Colorbond Manor Red	
Male Toilet Downpipe	Colorbond Roof/Dulux downpipe at gutter	 	Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen - Georgian Brick and Regency White below eaves	
Male Toilet Roof Masonry Trim	Dulux Cornice Moulding Georgian Brick – 87345 Quoins Regency White - GI	 	Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen - Georgian Brick around the pilasters and window trim Regency White above.	


FEMALE TOILET				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Female Toilet Roof	Colorbond		Colorbond Manor Red	
Female Toilet Downpipe	Colorbond Roof/Dulux downpipe at gutter	 	Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen - Georgian Brick at the gutter level Regency White at the wall level.	
Female Toilet Fascia/Barge Boards	Dulux Georgian Brick - 87345 R		Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen - Georgian Brick	
Female Toilet Horizontal Timber Trim at Gables	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Dulux Weathershield Traditional Low Sheen	
Female Doors	Dulux Georgian Brick 87345			
Female Door Frames	Dulux Sandstone 37526			

Dog Club Building				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Dog Club Room Guttering & Downpipe	Colorbond		Colorbond Manor Red	
Dog Club Room Fascia / Barge Boards	Dulux		Weathershield Exterior Low Sheen Manor Red	
Dog Club Room Posts	Dulux		Weathershield Exterior High Gloss Georgian Brick	
Dog Club External Doors & Roller Door	Dulux Georgian Brick 87345 R		Weathershield Exterior High Gloss Georgian Brick	
Dog Club Door Frames	Dulux Sandstone 37526		Weathershield Exterior High Gloss	

MONAHAN'S MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Fountain	Dulux	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div style="background-color: #c8e6c9; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black;"> <small>Dulux 3165</small> Pale Green </div> <div style="background-color: #439843; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black;"> <small>Dulux 132</small> Deep Brunswick Green </div> </div>	Weathershield Heritage Exterior Full Gloss Pale Green - 37195 Deep Brunswick Green G32	

LIGHTING, SEATING, FENCING				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
Showground Light Post	Colorbond Manor Red	MANOR RED®	Dulux Aquanamel High Gloss	
Showground Timber Seating	Recommend replace with aluminium seating			
Show Ring Railing	White Arris Rail			
Cattle Ring Railing	White Arris Rail			

NOWRA WAR MEMORIAL GATES				
Location	Product & Code	Colour	Finish	Image
War Memorial Cast Iron Vehicular Gates	Colorbond/Dulux	MANOR RED®	Dulux Weathershield High Gloss - Colorbond Manor Red	
War Memorial Cast Iron Pedestrian Gates	Colorbond/Dulux	MANOR RED®	Dulux Weathershield High Gloss - Colorbond Manor Red	
War Memorial Cast Iron Wreath Hooks	Colorbond/Dulux	MANOR RED®	Dulux Weathershield High Gloss - Colorbond Manor Red	

War Memorial Flanking Fence Cast Iron Detail	Colorbond/Dulux	MANOR RED®	Dulux Weathershield High Gloss - Colorbond Manor Red	
--	-----------------	------------	--	---

Appendix 3 – Community Engagement Report

Shoalhaven City Council



Nowra Showground Community Engagement Report

March 2021



localé consulting

ABN: 73 140 973 735

T 0419 700 401
A 1/27 River Street Woolgoolga NSW 2456
P PO Box 53 Woolgoolga NSW 2456
E info@localeconsulting.com.au
W www.localeconsulting.com.au

Document Control

Job Number: 2020/638

Job Name: Nowra Showground Plan of Management & Master Plan Community Engagement

Client: Shoalhaven City Council

Job Contact: Jessica Volkanovski – Social Infrastructure Planning Manager

Document Name: Community Engagement Report

Version	Date	Authors	Reviewer	Approved
1	23.03.21	Keelan Birch	Cinnamon Dunsford	Cinnamon Dunsford

Disclaimer:

Whilst care and diligence has been exercised in the preparation of this report, Locale Consulting Pty Ltd does not warrant the accuracy of the information contained within and accepts no liability for any loss or damage that may be suffered as a result of reliance on this information, whether or not there has been any error, omission or negligence on the part of Locale Consulting Pty Ltd, their employees or sub-contractors.

Contents

1. Consultation Overview	1
2. Showground User Group Discussions	2
3. External Stakeholder Discussions	7
4. Internal Stakeholder Discussions	9
5. Community Drop-in Sessions	11
6. Community Survey	14
6.1 Relationship to the site	14
6.2 Visitation, demographic and use of the site	14
6.3 Future use of the Showground	15
6.4 Future design and additional thoughts	16
7. Summary of Key Themes	17
8. Emerging Principles to inform Future Planning	21



1. Consultation Overview

The engagement process for the Nowra Showground Plan of Management and Master Plan project was undertaken during February and March 2021.

The focus / aim of the consultation was to understand how the community values the area and what their vision for the Showground may be in the future. The process also sought to obtain ideas and priorities to assist Shoalhaven City Council (Council) in progressing the review of the Plan of Management and Master Plan for the site.

This report provides a summary of each of the engagement processes that were undertaken. In total, over 120 stakeholders were involved in the consultation as follows:

- o Showground user groups - 12+ groups
- o Community drop-in sessions - 40+ participants
- o External stakeholders - 12+ participants
- o Internal (Council) stakeholders - 10+ participants
- o Community survey - 60 respondents
- o Written submissions - 3 received

The consultation process highlighted that the Showground is well utilised with a wide variety of user groups operating out of the site. It also highlighted that investment into the amenity and facility provision is desired by many. Generally, there is a strong appreciation of the Showground's history and combined with the surrounding natural environment / setting along the presence of camping on the site, the area was generally seen to be highly valued by a range of different stakeholders.

It should be noted that certain conflicts and issues were consistently emphasised. This appears to detract from the Showground's ability to effectively service the community as an important piece of public land in such close proximity to the regional centre of Nowra. However, these concerns were also generally acknowledged as being resolvable.

The consultation data has been collated and developed into a number of key themes and emerging principles for future planning. These principles in Section 8 outline to Council the key strategic directions that would be required to meet the needs identified in the consultation and ultimately help guide Council in their preparation of the Plan of Management and Master Plan for the site.



2. Showground User Group Discussions

In total, 11 community groups, organisations or individuals operating within, or in association with, Nowra Showground were identified as key stakeholders including:


- o Nowra Show Society
- o Nowra Cricket Club
- o West St Croquet Club
- o Bomaderry AFL
- o Nowra RSL Sub Branch
- o One Door Mental Health
- o Shoalhaven Dog Training Club
- o South Coast Beef
- o Nowra Men's Shed & Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society
- o Nowra Athletics Club
- o Nowra Poultry Club



These Showground user groups were initially contacted by email and/or phone and invited to provide input into the planning process via an onsite face to face meeting or videoconference.


The feedback from the Showground user group discussions has been captured in Table 1 (in no particular order) with the date of discussions and means of consultation identified for each.


These groups may be further targeted for feedback / comment as the Plan of Management and Master Plan project progresses.



Table 1: Summary of showground user group discussions

<p>Nowra Show Society <i>Videoconference with three members - 17.12.2020 and one member on 04.03.2021 and onsite face to face meeting with four members - 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Formal regulation of camping and fees is required with associated sullage. Waste removal from the dump point is not always attended to properly and illegal camping is common with needles found in the horse stables. Increasing ranger patrol is important. Camping around the pavilion needs to be managed better and we support installing a caretaker or similar position in the cottage or other location on site.</p> <p>Announcers box needs upgrading as many stakeholders would like to use this broadcasting space. Show Society applied for a PA system grant which would benefit multiple users e.g. Relay for Life.</p> <p>Painting, meshing and general maintenance of the pavilion is also needed. This remains a safety issue. A separate clubhouse for Show Society is desirable. AFL also require their own storage shed. Keen to develop a new amenities where the old seating around the main oval is near the male toilet, with the conversion of the male toilet restored to its original use. This is also most appropriate location for a new Announcers box, to benefit the entire site, including events on the added area.</p> <p>A public picnic area, coffee van or BBQ at Hanging Rock would be very popular. A children's playground is also desirable near this location. Poultry pavilion is too wet and drainage is poor. General road system needs resealing and formalising, along with pedestrian access around the site. Dogs on the main showground oval clash with sporting clubs and a solution is required to resolve this issue. Dog bags and signage are important as dogs limit other showground user groups.</p>	

<p>The Show Society is the only stakeholder that contributes money to the site and is seeking to become a 355 committee again. Increased stakeholder representation from the Showground in decision making is important.</p>	
<p>Nowra Cricket Club <i>Two onsite face to face meetings with one member at each meeting - 24.02.2021 & 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Club has been onsite since 1885 and both ovals typically used however the 'added area' not used this year due to no 4th grade cricket team. Club volunteers maintain the main turf oval during the on season (typically water grounds on Monday and Wednesday with a cut on Friday) and Council cuts the oval during the off season. No current juniors at Nowra Cricket Club but juniors operate each Saturday at the 'added area' under Shoalhaven District Cricket Association (SHDCA). High Schools often use both ovals for competitions. SHDCA likes playing competitions at Nowra Showground and is seen as the most popular oval in the Shoalhaven LGA.</p> <p>Currently there are conflicts with the annual show, especially with heavy vehicles such as Monster Trucks on the main oval. This causes severe damage to the oval with little to no rehabilitation work and this needs addressing. 2 sheds are currently used for equipment which is appreciated and adequate. There are conflicts with off-leash dogs who run up to the cricket pitch on the main oval. A simple solution is signage and restriction on dog access on the main oval during booked sport time. Prefer if historical features of showground are retained in the planning process.</p> <p>Current lighting around the main oval is insufficient and including lighting around the entirety of the main oval would lead to a potential T20 comp as well as assisting rugby league and AFL. Toilet facilities currently adequate but road surfaces in poor condition. Timber seating either side of pavilion could be upgraded.</p>	
<p>West St Croquet Club <i>Onsite face to face meeting with three members - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Fencing, along Junction Street frontage, similar to the height of the men's shed, is the number one priority for the club. During football days, members</p>	

<p>of the public jump the croquet fence and get into the showground with no payment. Another common issue is break ins, vandalism and theft (plants worth up to ~\$500 stolen). This is part of the security concern with the current low fencing (that can easily be stepped over by an adult).</p> <p>Sewerage system an issue (depending on wind direction) both for the club which impacts playing and also being located at the focal point / entry of the entire site. Vent is located near the memorial archway. Croquet grounds were reopened in 2012 after significant personal investment by members. Currently on a 5-year lease \$500 a year. 13-14 people are members all with keys to the clubhouse.</p> <p>Floorboards in clubhouse need repair as they have subsided. Signage at Croquet Club / Showground entrance as well as cleaning pathway and tree maintenance at showground entrance is also a priority. Club is installing a pathway approved by Council from the carpark to the clubhouse. The club currently mows the croquet playing area, however, is currently seeking assistance from Council with the mowing. Installing plastic lines are desirable rather than spraying lines every two weeks. A question for Council is why are there 'no stopping signs' for car across from the club at the site entrance?</p> <p>Would like to see the area around the croquet club cleaned up more often i.e., rubbish, leaves and branches create a trip hazard, block drains and look unsightly at the main entrance to the Showground. One member had a near-miss with a tree branch falling to the ground where they were playing/ working on the grounds.</p>	
<p>Bomaderry AFL <i>Onsite face to face meeting with one member -24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>AFL currently use the pavilion, canteen, oval and changeroom which are all adequate facilities. Season typically starts first weekend of April due to the Show Society requiring the facilities for 2 weeks prior to that.</p> <p>Cricket typically booked until mid to late March but if possible, AFL would start the season earlier. 8th May 2021 is the Big Country Music Festival at Berry with Nowra Showground as a backup. If it occurs here, it may damage the oval. The club will mainly use Artie Smith Oval at Bomaderry once it is</p>	

<p>upgraded, but will continue to use the showground for up to ~2 years until Artie Smith upgrade is complete.</p> <p>There are conflicts with off leash dogs on the main oval with kids being scared of the dogs for Thursday training and not turning up. In addition, off leash dogs are not under 'effective control' and dog poo not picked up. A sign about 'no dogs' during booked sporting use is required or possibly after 3pm each day. The timber seating requires upgrading. General road surfaces need resealing.</p>	
<p>Nowra RSL Sub-Branch</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with one member - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>RSL conduct the ANZAC day march where they march through the memorial gates to the McKenzie's Gate (male toilet) and turn around. Although due to COVID there will be no march this year, however wreaths will be placed at the site on Anzac Day. RSL carries out maintenance of the war memorial. 8-9 years ago, \$20,000 was allocated to clean the memorial and replace mortar where required, which now needs to occur again due to an insufficient job.</p> <p>Memorial is deteriorating at the top and front of arch with mortar falling out to the ground. It could break a car windscreen or worse. Memorial arch was replaced 20-25 years ago after being hit by a garbage truck and cars occasionally hit the front of the memorial causing further damage.</p> <p>Grants are capped at approximately \$4,000 for maintenance of the memorial and Council assistance with applying for grants is required to secure more maintenance funds. Bunnings maintain the gardens and planting at the memorial prior to ANZAC Day. Main concern is traffic through the memorial which vibrates the arch which will continue to cause ongoing deterioration over time.</p> <p>It is one of few memorials in NSW where traffic drives through so the preference is to close the Junction Street site entrance to vehicular traffic and allow only pedestrian traffic through the memorial arch as there are 2 other site entrances for vehicles.</p>	



<p>Would like to see the area around the memorial cleaned up more often i.e., rubbish, leaves and branches create a trip hazard, block drains and look unsightly at the main entrance to the Showground.</p>	
<p>One Door Mental Health</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with two employees - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Operate under a 10-year lease at West St Tennis Centre Community Centre typically on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with ~20 clients per day. Service is free of charge and funded by the NDIS or federally funded for non-NDIS clients. Functional space and facility recently upgraded with footpaths and toilets.</p> <p>Relinquished four tennis courts from their lease but retain two top tennis courts which were resurfaced between 2016-2017. Good demand for tennis with coaching occurring on their two courts. Four bottom tennis courts were locked by Council and then unlocked again due to community angst.</p> <p>Surrounding trees are great but are high maintenance and required constant clearing of leaf litter during bushfires – need Council assistance. Nearby neighbours provide indirect security so this issue is low.</p> <p>Tennis court gates on both bottom courts may not be locked and people use bottom courts free of charge without paying Council fees. Driveway and disabled access are OK but property needs general maintenance, especially clearing of bark, leaves and branches.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven Dog Training Club</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with two members - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Club has 175 members, meeting 3 times a week and is a competition training club with demonstrations at Nowra Show and the Pet Expo. Many external people travel to the showground for competitions at the added area with often more non-members than members taking part. Club has small kitchen; storage shed and meets on open space out the front of building. An awning on the front of the building is desirable to hold meetings.</p>	



Dog signage, bins and poo bags is a top priority. Club sometimes gets blamed for dog issues which are from recreational dog owners. There is a sense of entitlement from recreational dog owners on site and proper signage that explains 'effective control' can help manage this.

The current fenced dog agility park area is useless and in fact dangerous to dogs. Some dogs injure themselves on the permanent, wooden agility equipment (that does not meet competition standard). Dog fencing will only be effective if extended towards the war memorial with interconnecting fenced areas, so dogs can be separated as required

Club has 100% on lead policy and sometimes has conflicts during club events with other off leash dogs from recreational Showground users disrupting the club events. Would be supportive of a fenced off-leash area and the remainder of the showground being on-leash, except for when the club books the added area.

<p>South Coast Beef</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with two members - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Acquired \$1.3 million in grants for upgrading cattle yards. Quality of work and materials related to the grant is sub-standard and serious issues with grant spending as stakeholders are not reported back to at all and the works are not occurring in a timely manner. Project management agricultural specialists should have been engaged as the upgrades that have taken place now put the cattle at risk and are not 'fit for purpose'. 3 years since the grant funding was approved and the new fence is inadequate and shelters are inappropriate. The risk of injury to the public is very high with the current fence. Judge's box is yet to be replaced after 15 months too.</p> <p>Family café needs a DA for a refurbishment and installing showers here is preferable for school kids to do a 2-day cattle show. The idea is to establish a training centre for school kids and industry over time. Currently weeds are an issue for cattle owners concerned with spread of weeds on their hooves back to the farms. The entire road and drainage system upgrade is needed.</p>	

<p>Additional storage facility with a roof is desired. Coral trees need replacing. Want to use the pulled down sheds for a refurbishment of another shed – a question for Council is if a DA is required?</p>	
<p>Nowra Men's Shed / Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with multiple members (joint meeting) - 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Both user groups share an alarmed shed used 6 times a week and operate under a 10-year lease. Happy with shed space. Caretakers' cottage shared between Nowra Men's Shed, Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society and Nowra Spinners and Weavers.</p> <p>Carpark entrance and in the carpark, itself could be upgraded and formalised. War memorial at site entry is in poor condition. Would like to see the area around the memorial cleaned up more often i.e., rubbish, leaves and branches create a trip hazard, block drains and look unsightly at the main entrance to the Showground.</p> <p>Minimal interaction with adjoining West St Croquet Club and Shoalhaven Dog Training Club.</p> <p>Seeking location to install a storage shed or shipping container with a possible location being behind the toilets. Caretakers' cottage has been broken into twice but security is not a major concern.</p>	
<p>Nowra Athletics Club</p> <p><i>Onsite face to face meeting with one member - 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Currently operate out of Nowra High School and use the main Showground oval for training and added area is not used. Trotting track around outside of the main oval is in poor condition for athletics training and needs to be grassed. The Showground oval needs to be protected during the annual show by mats. Athletics holds a one-off event annually at the Nowra Show.</p>	

<p>Nowra Spinners & Weavers <i>Onsite face to face meeting with two members - 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Currently operate out of caretaker's cottage twice a week which is fit for purpose. Carpark entrance, driveway and internal carpark needs updating which will benefit multiple user groups. A motion detection light is installed but the lighting is insufficient. A drying rack area for drying is desirable as is an awning to cover the walkways between the cottage and shed. 3 groups each pay \$500 a year rent and consideration needs to be given to charging just one fee for all 3 groups.</p>	
<p>Nowra Poultry Club <i>Onsite face to face meeting with members - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Club has 65 members and holds monthly meeting with 3 big events being the annual poultry show, Nowra Show and sale day. Club has a rolling lease and pigeon race club is no longer on the lease. Club dug their own drain and currently there are siltation, drainage and flooding problems within and around the shed. Would like to make more use of education programs with schools on the keeping and showing of poultry.</p> <p>There are no toilets or kitchen facilities and only four power points in the Poultry Pavilion. More power points, hot water and external awning is needed. Despite, fans being used, the shed gets very hot which has killed chickens and requires additional ventilation. There is existing grant funding for this to occur. Until there is ventilation installed, they cannot assist as an emergency animal location during bushfire events the general road surface is poor and doesn't drain well.</p>	

3. External Stakeholder Discussions

In total, five organisations operating outside of Nowra Showground, but who have a particular interest in the Showground, were also identified as key stakeholders including:

- o Local Land Services
- o Shoalhaven Sports Board
- o Shoalhaven Hospital
- o Nowra Police
- o Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group



These external stakeholders were initially contacted by email and invited to provide input into the planning process via an onsite face to face meeting. The feedback from the external stakeholder discussions is captured in Table 2 (in no particular order) with the date of discussions and means of consultation identified for each.




Others who were contacted in relation to the project and given opportunity for involvement but have not provided feedback to date include:

- o Nowra-Bomaderry Jets Football Club
- o Nowra Aboriginal Land Council
- o Shoalhaven Aboriginal Advisory Committee

These groups may be further targeted for feedback / comment as the project progresses.

Table 2: Summary of external stakeholder discussions

<p>Local Land Services <i>Onsite face to face meeting with four members of staff - 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Use the showground for the evacuation of large animals during an emergency with security, lighting and stall setups. Also set up fodder distribution centre during emergency events. Gates and posts are required for these to operate well. There are often theft and vandalism issues with equipment when the site is used in emergencies i.e., lights and batteries stolen.</p> <p>Current facility doesn't cater for goats, alpacas and sheep. Showground is not bushfire safe so people opted for Berry Showground during 2019-2020 bushfires. This could also have been due to safety/ security concerns. Camping is restricted during an emergency. Gates can be unlocked during an emergency which can create security problems</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven Sports board <i>Onsite face to face meeting with one member - 24.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Floodlights on added area funded by Show Society. 4th grade cricket sometimes uses added area. Gymnastics centre is underutilised and needs to be operational again. 'Warriors amenities' are outdated and need upgrading to meet accessibility requirements. There is a lack of consolidated sporting excellence centres in the Shoalhaven LGA. Beneficial to combine clubs where possible.</p>	

<p>Shoalhaven Hospital</p> <p><i>Two onsite face to face meetings with one staff member at each meeting - 24.02.2021 & 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>Current lack of formalised carpark at the Showground and no parking down on Shoalhaven Street. Hospital carpark is sometimes used during show time. Correspondingly hospital staff sometimes park in Showground (possibly due to cost of parking on site at the hospital). Can be at risk when walking to/ from their cars parked in Showground.</p> <p>Hospital staff also use the Showground for active and passive recreation when they are on breaks.</p> <p>Would like to see FitPacks installed on site which provide clean syringes and disposables bins in key locations. Interest in the respiratory unit renting a room at the site for 4-5 years - potential for gymnastics room to be utilised.</p> <p>Future helipad on new hospital building will only conflict if new, large buildings at showground are constructed. During the hospital expansion consideration has been given to using the Showground as temporary helipad site, however this is not the preferred location.</p> <p>Green space near hospital has potential for children's playground. Would like to see increased seating around main oval.</p>	
<p>Nowra Police</p> <p><i>Telephone discussion with one staff member - 04.03.2021</i></p>	
<p>Prefer to be consulted once draft masterplan is completed.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group</p> <p><i>Telephone discussion with one group member - 01.03.2021</i></p>	
<p>Values the strong relationship of the site to the river and riverfront, especially in the context of the Shoalhaven River Festival event and its satellite bearing to Bundanon and Riversdale. This all provides event opportunities.</p>	

It would be good to see upgrades and improvements to support regional sporting events being held so close to the Nowra CBD.

Important to consider the link between the agricultural use and history of the site and the REMS scheme on the river floodplain.

Also, important to focus on the Aboriginal significance of the site, and surrounds.

Welcome the opportunity to continue being involved as the Plan of Management and Master Plan progress.

4. Internal Stakeholder Discussions

In the context of the review of the Plan of Management and Master Plan internal discussions with Shoalhaven City Council staff regarding the future of Nowra Showground. These were conducted to discuss what is working well, what could be improved and any issues they have with the site.

These internal stakeholders were initially contacted by email and invited to provide input and be involved in the planning process via a face to face or videoconference meetings.




The feedback from the internal stakeholder discussions has been captured in Table 3 (in no particular order), with the date of discussions and means of consultation identified for each.




It is estimated that around 25 staff were involved across the internal consultation process.

Table 3: Summary of internal stakeholder discussions

<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Ranger Services <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	
<p>Off-leash dogs currently conflict with sporting activities, especially during sport training where there have been dog attacks. There needs to be a review of dogs and people undertaking sporting activities using the same area. Illegal camping is also a concern and a consideration is whether it is feasible for ranger services to check camping on a daily basis – a caretaker will fix this alongside a number of other issues. Formalised camping spots, not just general areas as is the current situation, needs to be considered.</p> <p>Other issues include substantial tree poisoning bordering West Street Oval, drug use, after hours anti-social behaviour and homelessness leading to assaults. There are 2-3 rangers who cover a wide area with their time mostly</p>	

<p>taken up by beach patrolling. It is generally too time consuming to track illegal camping at the Showground.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Roads Asset Manager <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	
<p>The site is not appropriate as an evacuation point due to safety concerns and maintenance of buildings. Security and vandalism are a major issue on the site.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven Swim / Sport / Fitness – Manager, Facilities Coordinator and Facilities Officer <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020, onsite face to face meeting on 25.02.2021 and videoconference on 10.03.2021</i></p>	
<p>Council is about to spend significant money on fire compliance. Camping infrastructure needs improving. Currently preparing a business case for a showground co-ordinator 9-5 to be located on site (and could be located in the Pavilion office).</p> <p>Generally showground is in a poor state and needs lighting and pathway linkages, seating, walkways, cycleways. Better use of gymnasiums hall is a must.</p> <p>Speeding vehicles through the site is an issue combined with not all roads being sealed. Potential solution is speedhumps or other traffic calming devices, especially near site entrances. Campground facilities need upgrading as it's the only camping area in Nowra and people go to Berry instead due to poor facilities on this site. Camping could be consolidated between the 'Warriors amenities building' and the southern end of the pavilion. The camping area needs an overhaul so it is contained and allows for other (income generating) uses of the site to occur, without the camping overflowing into other high use and valued areas for other user groups.</p> <p>Would remove / relocate the Poultry Club Shed and put a camp kitchen in there. Sporting clubs currently share amenities with campers with amenities (toilets and showers) located next to the dump point with public toilets also located outside committee room. This area is a high conflict area that needs better uses assigned to precincts on this part of the site.</p>	

<p>Hanging Rock could be developed with a playground and used as a wedding venue with a view to the river from the pavilion. An onsite caretaker could combat the issues that Ranger Services is raising. Southern end of campground is not utilised due to security concerns which further leads to unsavoury behaviour. The bush flanking showground makes the site a further bush fire risk during evacuations and therefore an inappropriate location for livestock during an evacuation.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Infrastructure Delivery Officer <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	
<p>There is an unofficial stockpile site at northern end of additional field which is visually not appealing and there are complaints from residents. It is used for a location for mulch and playground Softfall used by the teams in the northern portion of the park. Council shipping containers are also located here.</p> <p>Dogs shouldn't be allowed on playing fields. There is a maintenance issue across the site related to unmapped and unknown underground services, some may contain asbestos. The dump point is also being exploited and used for commercial reasons. Generally, concur with other Council staff comments.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Tourism Manager <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	
<p>There has been a lot of conversation over the years about the opportunity for hotel development that takes advantage of the views at Hanging Rock, an Art Gallery has also been discussed and even a flying fox that goes from one side of the river to the other. Would advocate for consideration for commercial tourism attraction infrastructure if ever the space / usage ever allowed. This would also have to consider connection to the CBD and pedestrian links etc.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Events Booking Officer <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	

<p>Agrees with Councils Tourism Manager comments. Tourism wishes to make Nowra Showground more appealing and current pricing is a barrier as well as limited public transport access.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Manager of Visitor Services <i>Videoconference meeting – 17.12.2020</i></p>	
<p>Campground is currently losing 50% a year due to illegal campers. There was a push for a caretaker 5-7yrs ago. Current revenue from camping is \$40k a year for 2,000 nights. It is great that the showers have been upgraded.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Coordinator Policy Planning <i>Onsite face to face meeting – 25.02.2021</i></p>	
<p>We need to engage all stakeholders to understand the heritage significance of the trees and buildings. Appropriate maintenance of heritage items is required including the war memorial. The significant tree register needs to be available and Council staff made more aware of it. Increase signage and interpretive signage throughout the site. More internal co-ordination of projects is important for the sites heritage significance to be respected, including approvals processes. Would like to remain involved in the Plan of Management and Master Plan project.</p>	
<p>Shoalhaven City Council – Shoalhaven Water <i>Email Exchange – 01.03.2021</i></p>	
<p>Shoalhaven Water manage up to the meter or sewer junction. The taps and fittings within the site, including the dump point, are the asset custodian's responsibility. Therefore, the strong sewage smell coming from the vent at the corner of the croquet court (located nearest the war memorial at intersection of Junction & West Streets) is being investigated by Shoalhaven Water.</p>	

5. Community Drop-in Sessions

Three drop-in sessions were held onsite at the Showground Pavilion as follows:

- o 6:00-8:00pm on 24 February 2021
- o 7:30am-9:00am on 25 February 2021
- o 12:30pm to 1:30pm on 25 February 2021

In addition, some members of the public who were using the Showground during the period also informally shared their thoughts outside of the formalised drop-in session times. This was an opportunity for the community to discuss what they currently enjoyed about Nowra Showground and surrounds, what they believed could be improved and any other concerns they might have.

The feedback from the community drop-in sessions has been summarised, grouped into themes and consolidated in Table 4 below (in no particular order). It is estimated that the three sessions captured commentary from around 50 people.

Table 4: Summary of community drop-in session discussions

Theme	Feedback
Security / illegal activity	Many people raised strong concerns about homelessness or semi-homelessness, especially in the southern area of the Showground and along Bens Walk. This makes the Showground feel unsafe and is a significant barrier to the full public enjoyment of the site. Some felt that the private security company was not monitoring the site appropriately and not locking the main Worrigeer Street site entry at the right times.

Theme	Feedback
	<p>It was frequently commented that people stay overnight illegally for extended periods of time at the Showground and also not in their allocated camping spot or beyond the 'no camping' signs. A number of people felt defining and consolidating camping with better signage and monitoring would solve this issue.</p> <p>Many felt an onsite caretaker or similar role would go a long way to dealing with security concerns, lighting of fires, drug use, unsavoury behaviour and illegal camping at the Showground as well as general day-to-day operation and maintenance.</p>
Dogs	<p>There is a conflict both between dogs and Showground user groups. It was noted by many members of the public that this is not related to Shoalhaven Dog Training Club, but rather related to general dog walkers with untrained dogs.</p> <p>Many recreational dog walkers enjoy the main oval as it is fenced, however this causes conflicts with showground user groups, particularly cricket and AFL. Fencing the added area was raised as a potential solution as well as restricting access to the main oval during booked sport time.</p> <p>Many dogs are not in 'effective control' and are a risk to other dogs and dog walkers as owners let their dogs run wild.</p> <p>The existing dog agility park is completely insufficient in size and functionality but could be extended along West Street with interconnected fenced area or a fenced off leashed dog park provided elsewhere onsite. There is also no shade, shelters or water at the dog agility park which is why owners choose to go to other parts of the site with</p>

Theme	Feedback
	<p>the only other fenced area being the main showground oval.</p> <p>While many appreciate the large open space for dogs off leash, there is no signage or poo bags and many dog walkers were upset that the water tap near the dog agility park was turned off.</p> <p>Dogs often cause concern with campers and cars around the pavilion due to the confusing internal road network with dogs running across the roads and some campers not always controlling their dogs.</p> <p>Many agreed that consolidating and formalising both the roads, camping area and dog spaces, along with improving signage, will assist in resolving these conflicts.</p>
Camping	<p>While many community members were supportive of camping, they expressed concern that camping is not regulated effectively and that people stay significantly longer than allowed without paying or they set up camp after ranger hours.</p> <p>Many noted that people camp in places not designated for camping and creating allocated sites will help solve this. Some felt the rangers did not patrol or check bookings frequently enough.</p> <p>Numerous community members frequently see people use the dump points, both for personal and commercial use, who are not camping at the Showground.</p> <p>Frequent comments were that the amenities are inadequate for camping and require renovation, along with road and drainage upgrades within the designated camping area.</p>

Theme	Feedback
	<p>Falling large tree limbs are a concern among regular showground users who see dangerous near misses with campers.</p> <p>Some users of the camping area at times felt unsafe and also suggested it would be helpful to create some flat sites within the camping area for both tents and campervans.</p> <p>Some users of the camping area also praised the customer service provide by Council's visitor information centre.</p>
Natural attractions	<p>Peaceful, natural feel of the site is highly valued and the community love Hanging Rock but the basic infrastructure detracts from the space with the fencing and seating outdated and requiring upgrading.</p> <p>Many enjoy having lunch in their car due to not enough tables or chairs at Hanging Rock, meaning the carpark where there are river views can get busy. This in turn can lead to litter issues.</p> <p>Bens Walk is a great asset and visitor attraction but is often avoided due to concerns of homeless people living down there, and requires better signage so that visitors know how to get there and don't get lost</p> <p>The Aboriginal cultural values of the site and surrounds are also important.</p>
Facilities	<p>The historic pavilion is well loved by the community and should definitely be retained. Some felt it is not always maintained properly and requires painting.</p> <p>Community members raised concerns that the war memorial is deteriorating and bits of mortar from the memorial have been found on the ground.</p>

Theme	Feedback
	<p>Nearby residents were concerned that bins, including the dump point and near the Announcers Box, are frequently being used for outside personal and commercial waste.</p> <p>Some felt the space opposite Shoalhaven Hospital could be better utilised for a children's playground, outdoor gym stations or similar facility which caters for the showground and those waiting at the hospital.</p> <p>Overflow parking, especially along Scenic Drive / North Street, but also within the site, is ruining the grass within the showground site.</p> <p>There was support for improved signage, more bins, more water taps (that work properly), footpaths, seating and provision of shade throughout the site.</p> <p>Some community members said they would welcome a coffee cart or kiosk at the site.</p>
Roads	<p>Generally agreed that the road network needs both updated / resealing and the internal road network needs formalisation to avoid confusion.</p> <p>Numerous people commented about hoons and noisy motorbike riders blasting through the showground.</p> <p>There is increased traffic volume on site due to the expanded Shoalhaven Hospital and some felt that the Scenic Drive gate does not need to remain open.</p>
Heritage	<p>Some stakeholders stated that both the European and Aboriginal heritage values of the site are valued and any upgrades and improvements should respect and complement the heritage significance of the site and surrounds.</p>

6. Community Survey

A community survey was hosted on the Shoalhaven City Council's 'Get Involved' webpage between 18 February and 15 March 2021. A copy of the survey (including larger versions of graphed results) is provided in Appendix A.

The survey received a total of 60 responses over the period, with an annotated summary of survey results presented below.

6.1 Relationship to the site

Of the 60 respondents to the survey, 53% were female and 47% were male (question 1) with respondents being connected to the site in a wide variety of ways. Noting that more than one relationship to the site was possible in question 2 of those who responded, 49% were a 'Community group member', 46% were a 'User of community facilities', 41% were a 'Recreational user', 32% were a 'Visitor for events and activities' and 27% were a 'Nearby permanent resident' as shown in Figure 1 below.

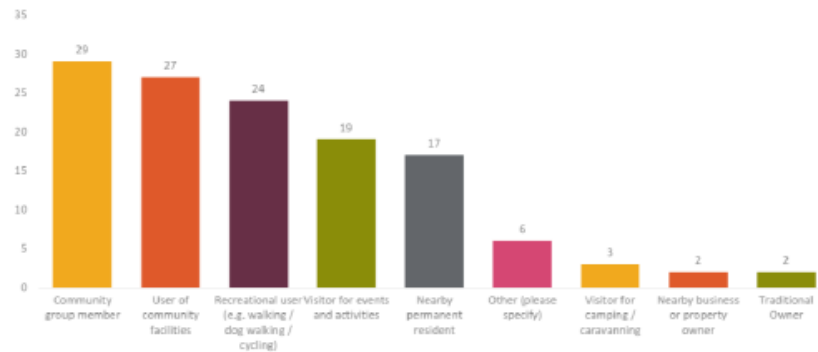


Figure 1: Survey respondent relationship to the Showground

6.2 Visitation, demographic and use of the site

Most respondents indicated in question 3 that they visit the Showground more than twice a week (32%) or once or twice a week (25%), suggesting a high level of community use of the showground by the respondents, shown in Figure 2 below.

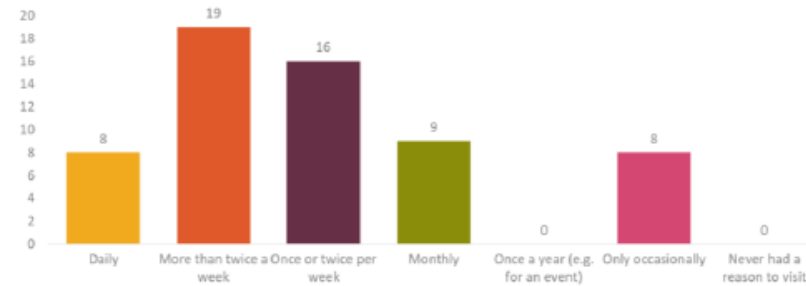


Figure 2: Relationship of respondent to the Showground

In question 4, there was a generally representation of respondents in most age groups except for people under 24 years as shown in Figure 3.

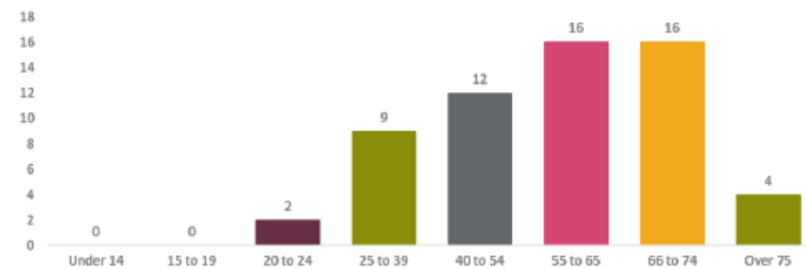


Figure 3: Survey respondent age

Question 5 asked respondents what they use the Showground for (with respondents selecting multiple options if applicable). 55% indicating they use it for the 'Showtime events and activities', 50% for 'Walking or cycling' and 47% for 'Public and community events' as shown in Figure 4. This further emphasises the wide variety of uses at the site.

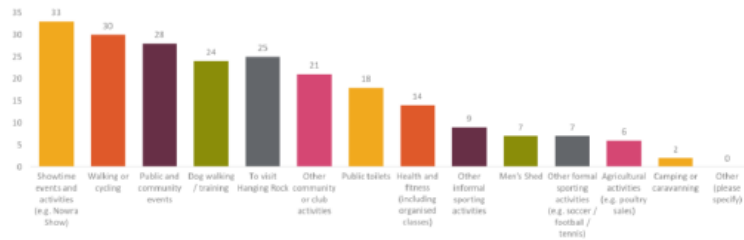


Figure 4: Use of the showground

When asked what they value most about the showground in question 6 (with respondents selecting up to five options), being 'Peaceful and quiet' (56%) and the 'Natural environment' (54%) were both highly valued. This indicates the importance of any future development retaining the Showground's tranquil setting (adjacent to natural areas including Bens Walk, Shoalhaven River and the associated escarpment) in an otherwise urban context.

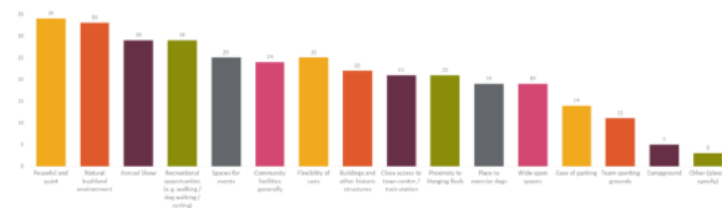


Figure 5: What respondents' value about the Showground

6.3 Future use of the Showground

Respondents were then asked in question 7 what barriers were experienced in the use of the showground, in which they could select all that apply to them. Highest comments were received regarding the 'Insufficient equipment / facilities to use' (40%), 'Conflicts between user groups' (35%), 'The age or quality of facilities' (30%) and 'Other' (23%). Importantly, of those 10 responses to 'Other', 80% mentioned, the dog park or dogs being off leash is the barrier to their use of the site.

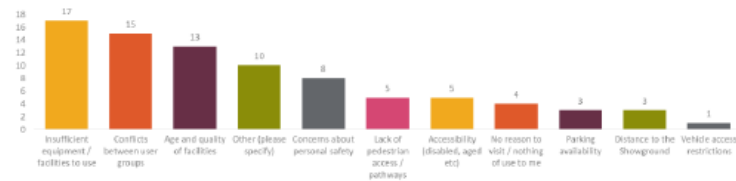


Figure 6: Barriers to the use of the showground

Question 8 was an open question that asked respondents what could be improved to enhance their enjoyment of the Showground. Most comments related to improving a current conflict or issue at the site. This was of particular relevance to resolving the inadequate dog park and dog off leash conflicts at the main oval and also in the Showground more broadly.

Many felt that improving the road surfaces and upgrading the current facilities would be key to improving the amenity of the site. Improving the homelessness situation was frequently mentioned as a key concern that limits enjoyment of the area. Some felt that they would use the site more if the space around Hanging Rock, such as the fence and tables, was upgraded and possibly a children's playground installed onsite.

6.4 Future design and additional thoughts

Respondents were asked in question 9 what elements were important as part of the future design of the showground. The desire to 'Retain / enhance historical showground uses' (68%) was most popular followed by 'providing a dedicated dog off-leash park (53%)', 'Providing a dedicated park (e.g., picnic facilities, seats and tables)' (53%), 'Improving the quality of internal roads' (51%) and 'Retaining buildings where they currently exist' (51%).

Responses that did not receive a particularly high rating included 'Provide more sport fields for the growing population (5%)', 'Retaining camping as an ongoing use' (22%) and 'Improve information / interpretative signage and art' (24%).

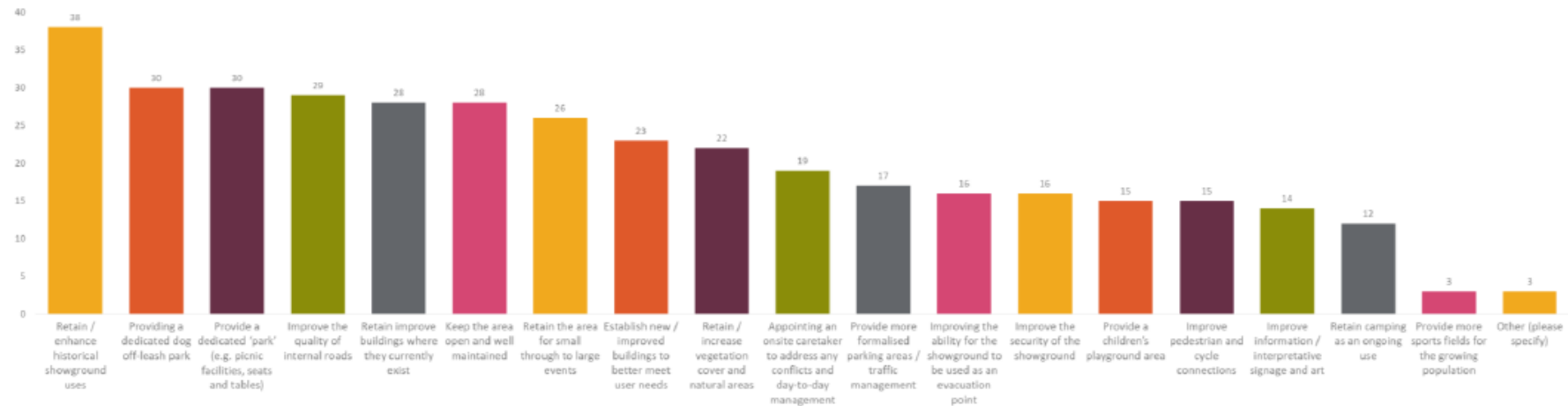


Figure 7: Elements of importance in future designs

Question 10 was an open-ended question that asked respondents if they have any other comments on the future of the showground in which 38 out of 59 people responded.

Of particular note was the strong need to resolve dog conflicts and improve dog-related facilities, such as a fenced dog area, water tap for dogs and provision of dog poo bags.

This was however balanced with a large number of respondents praising the beauty of the showground and surrounding natural environment, highlighting that upgrading facilities and resolving current issues will go a long way to increasing the use and value of the site as a public asset. Many felt that the showground was not realising its full potential and can become an even greater asset for Nowra and the Shoalhaven LGA.

7. Summary of Key Themes

Based on the consultation activities undertaken to date, there are a number of key themes that stand out which can assist Council in the development of the Plan of Management and Master Plan.

These have been identified in Table 5 below (in no particular order) with a sub heading for the key issue and potential options to consider.

Table 5: Key directions by theme

1. Create clear and defined spaces or precincts
<p><i>Dogs</i></p> <p>There is a current issue with off-leash dogs onsite that are not under 'effective control' and run up to, and cause conflict with, other dogs, walkers and sporting groups.</p> <p>An option, that was supported by many consulted, was to extend the existing dog agility park fencing along West Street towards the war memorial as an existing fence already runs along West Street. The extended fenced area could have smaller interconnected fenced areas to cater for different dog sizes and reduce dog conflict via separation options.</p> <p>Further, this area could contain dog signage, dog poo bags, a water tap and possible shelter to encourage off-leash dog use at this part of the Showground away from other users such as at the main oval/ pavilion area.</p> <p>The remainder of the Showground could then be on-leash dog area, apart from restriction at the main Showground oval and added area when they are booked for sport training and competition.</p> <p>It is noted the signage regarding dogs would need to be reviewed and updated across the entire showground.</p>

Camping

There is a strong concern about illegal camping, camping in unallocated areas and camping beyond the 'no camping' signs.

A redesign of the camping precinct with the formalisation of site numbers with signage was generally supported as a potential solution.

However, many felt that this would only go so far and that an onsite caretaker would significantly help resolve camping issues. The caretaker's role would be multi-faceted and not limited to camping, yet the current location, condition and use of the caretaker cottage would mean the caretaker may need to be situated in proximity to camping and the pavilion.

Showground Oval

Minor conflicts exist between sporting groups and the showtime activities on the oval, namely that vehicles damage the oval during the show which can take months to rehabilitate.

Facilitating communication between sporting clubs and showtime use on the condition of the oval is critical and enforcing prevention methods that minimise oval damage during the show, such as matting where cars drive, could assist in this regard.

Pedestrians

The creation of defined spaces, including walkways/ cycleways, would also assist pedestrians who access the site for both passive and active recreation. This would reduce conflict between cars and pedestrians moving through the site, which has three vehicular access points and several more formal and informal pedestrian access points.

2. Retain the historic showground identity and maintain the built and natural heritage fabric of the site

Pavilion

The pavilion is a highly valued space and is well utilised both during showtime and on a day-to-day basis.

General maintenance to the pavilion including repairs, and painting, would help retain its valued heritage features.

War Memorial

The war memorial is currently a gateway entrance to the site and strongly contributes to the historic value.

However, vibrations from vehicles driving through the arch, alongside vehicles hitting the memorial, has caused ongoing deterioration and immediate repair is required.

Investigation into the long-term feasibility of closing the Junction Street site entrance to vehicular traffic to preserve the war memorial may be required, noting the public road (Junction Street) continues into the site.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

The Aboriginal cultural values of the site and surrounds are also important. Integration of natural and cultural site features and links to adjoining sites (including the escarpment/ riverfront) need consideration in collaboration with the local Aboriginal community.

Other Heritage Aspects

Investigate the opportunity to restore and enhance other heritage features of the showground including McKenzie's Gate (currently the male toilets) and the Announcers Box.

3. Create and maintain functional and high quality, multi-purpose facilities

Existing Buildings

The main pavilion is booked for a wide range of uses and ensuring this facility is of high quality to meet multiple demands is critical.

The Poultry Pavilion has poor drainage and has inadequate ventilation. Plans to improve this building should continue to progress.

The ex-gymnastics building is a key site asset and is currently underutilised. Future use considerations need to focus on multi-purpose options to suit potential current and future users of the site.

Amenities

The current camping amenities building is sub-standard, requires renovation and is heavily used, and shared, by both camping and sporting groups.

Investigation into the renovation, or relocation, of an amenities block specifically for camping is required. Separate amenities for sporting teams and other uses would then also be required.

Grant Money

The high volume of clubs and showground user groups, presents the opportunity for these groups (and Council) to apply for grant money to fund infrastructure projects.

All grant funding opportunities need to occur in a co-ordinated manner, so all stakeholders have input and maximum benefit is afforded to the site.

Ensuring funds are spent properly and in consultation with showground user groups is essential so that future infrastructure meets the needs, for the operation of those user groups.

Showground Oval

The Showground Oval receives high use throughout the year by both sporting teams and recreational users yet cannot be used effectively at night time as only half the oval has lighting. The timber seating next to the pavilion is also in relatively poor condition.

Investigating the opportunity to provide lighting around the entirety of the oval to enable night time sporting and showtime use and investigate if the timber seating requires replacement.

4. Preserve and enhance natural environment and setting

Hanging Rock

This highly valued space is the key feature of the site, despite little and aging infrastructure provided here.

An option to replace the existing fence, improve parking, upgrade the picnic tables and seating and provide a BBQ area would significantly boost the amenity of this popular spot. Improving this space will benefit residents and visitors, and support events being held in this part of the site.

Tree Management

The extent of heritage listed trees, and trees generally, is a major reason that the showground retains a unique tranquil feel despite being located next to a regional centre.

However, the extent of vegetation on site, particularly larger trees, requires regular maintenance and risk assessment to avoid safety issues. A review of vegetation types that are best suited to the land use should be paramount in any future upgrades to the site.

Bens Walk

This popular walk is not fully utilised due to poor directional signage and security concerns.

Improved signage and other promotion of Bens Walk alongside an increase in security, either through a caretaker or other means, would help enable more people to enjoy this asset more often.

5. Cater for access and parking

Shoalhaven Hospital

The planned and continued expansion of Shoalhaven Hospital and current paid parking within the grounds, means that more cars are travelling through, and parking at, the adjoining showground due to free parking and the scenic lunch break views at Hanging Rock.

Some staff and visitors to Shoalhaven Hospital also park in the local surrounding streets.

Planning for, and investigating ways, to improve traffic flow onsite will be critical in the future.

Road Network / Entrances

The current road surfaces require resealing and upgrading (including drainage improvements), especially toward the middle to southern end of the site.

Further, the internal road system can be confusing thus creating safety issues, and an opportunity exists to consolidate and formalise the internal roads

6. Create a safe and secure space

Homelessness Concern

The southern end of the showground is a concern for many stakeholders as it is used by homeless people. This leads some existing and potential showground users to deliberately avoid this area, thus this large area remains generally underutilised except at showtime and during other irregular agricultural events.

Implementing measures to increase site activation, while effectively dealing with the homelessness issue (noting this requires the collaboration of many agencies (including Council)), could alter the use of this part of the showground.

Security

There are concerns from several user groups regarding personal safety onsite, especially at the southern end of the showground and the camping area.

Increasing site activation and security, through either security cameras, smart technology options and/or an onsite caretaker, should be further investigated as part of any future planning for the site.

8. Emerging Principles to inform Future Planning

The following emerging principles have been identified based on the outcomes of the stakeholder consultation, documented in Sections 2 – 7 above. These principles should now guide and underpin the Plan of Management and Master Plan for the Showground site:

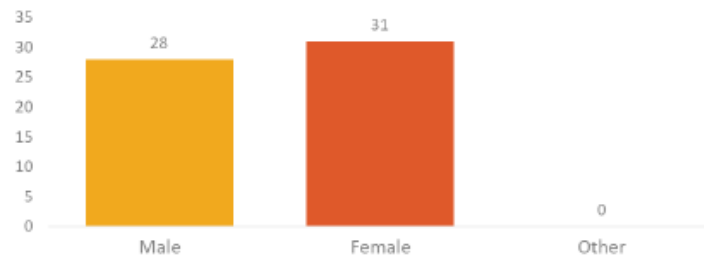
1. Define precincts within the site that respect the existing built footprints and natural environmental values, whilst supporting existing and future user groups.
2. Increase the accessibility of the space, including review of vehicular and pedestrian networks within and around the site to reduce conflict and increase pedestrian amenity.
3. Identify opportunities for directional and interpretive signage and other elements (e.g. public art) to create a stronger sense of place and increased functionality and which is consistent with recognition of the heritage significance of the site (both European and Aboriginal).
4. Increase the attractiveness of Nowra Showground as a destination by improving infrastructure to act as an “attractor” for residents and visitors alike and that enables flexible use of the site – for example improving Hanging Rock lookout area, event opportunities and camping spaces.
5. Consider options to increase activation of the southern portion of the Showground, along with improvements to safety and security within and around the site.
6. Ensure that the existing community buildings are meeting the broader needs of the community, including through opportunities to improve existing buildings to meet appropriate standards that enable multi-use or re-use of existing facilities.
7. Promote the Showground through place-making and marketing to increase use and opportunities to engage with Nowra’s heritage / history, passive and active recreation, agricultural pursuits, camping, community events and the like.
8. Improve interaction between showground users and the adjoining natural areas, including Bens Walk, the escarpment and the Shoalhaven River through viewing opportunities, safe edges, connectivity and other infrastructure improvements such as seating, waste management, BBQ facilities, shade cover and the like.
9. Establish an effective site management model to facilitate ongoing community input to the improvement and operation of the site with consideration of active on-site management and/or other management opportunities.

PROJECT SURVEY OUTCOMES SUMMARY

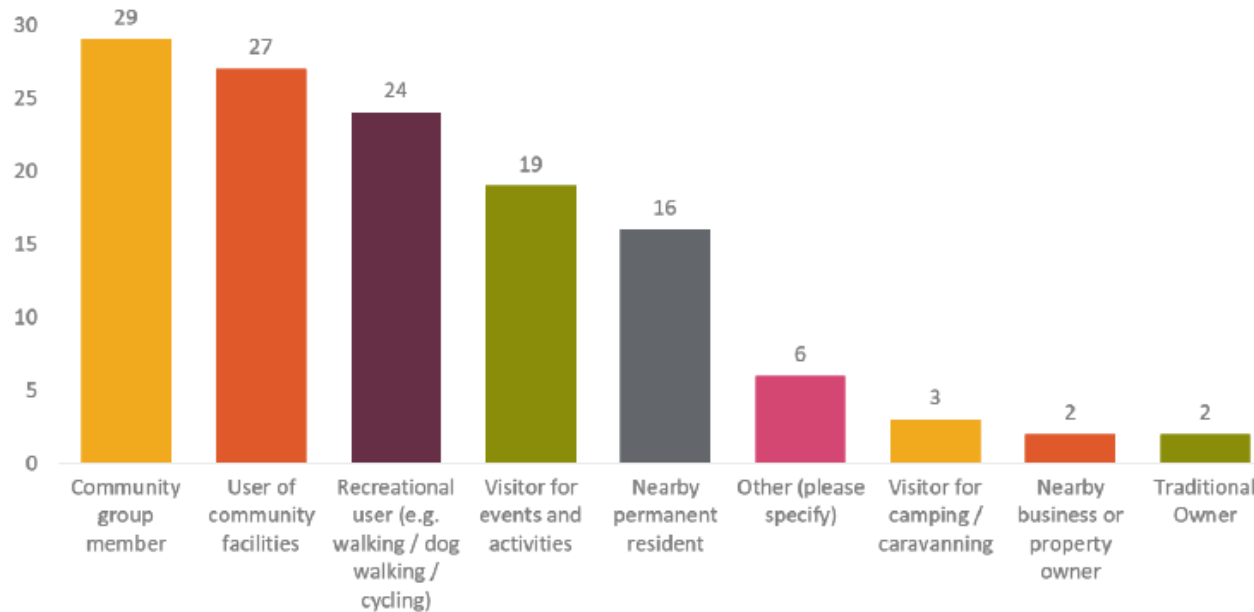
Nowra Showground Master Plan and Plan Of Management Community Survey

This community survey was hosted on the Shoalhaven City Council's 'Get Involved' webpage between 18 February and 15 March 2021 which aimed to understand how the community values the area and what their vision for the Showground may be in the future.

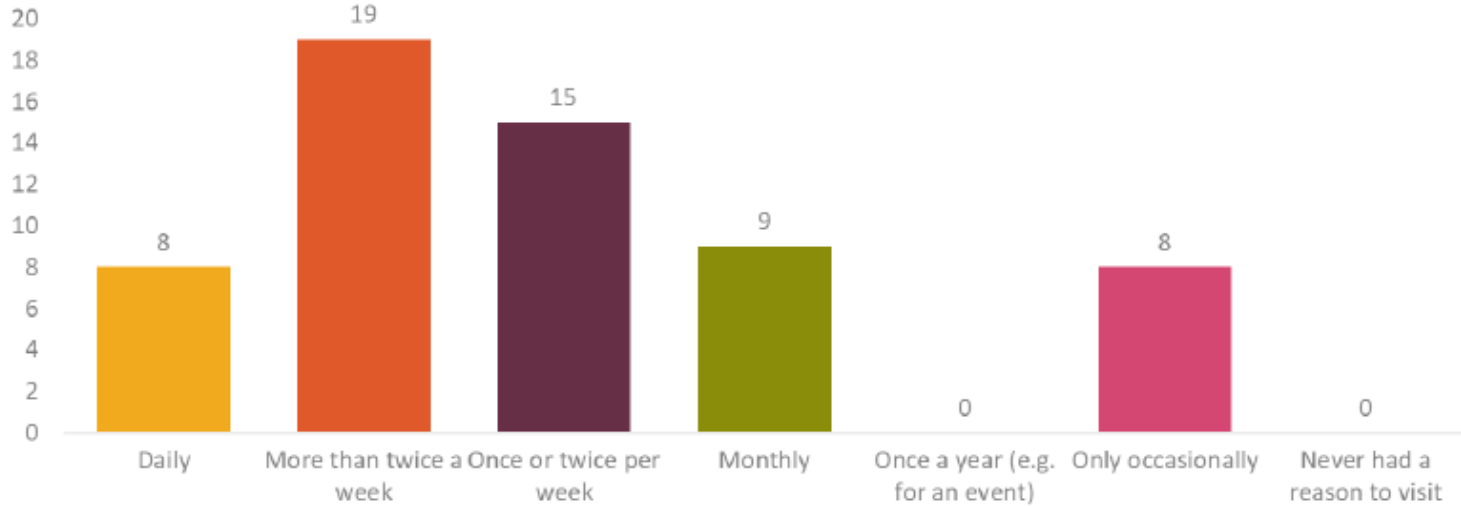
Q1. Are you?



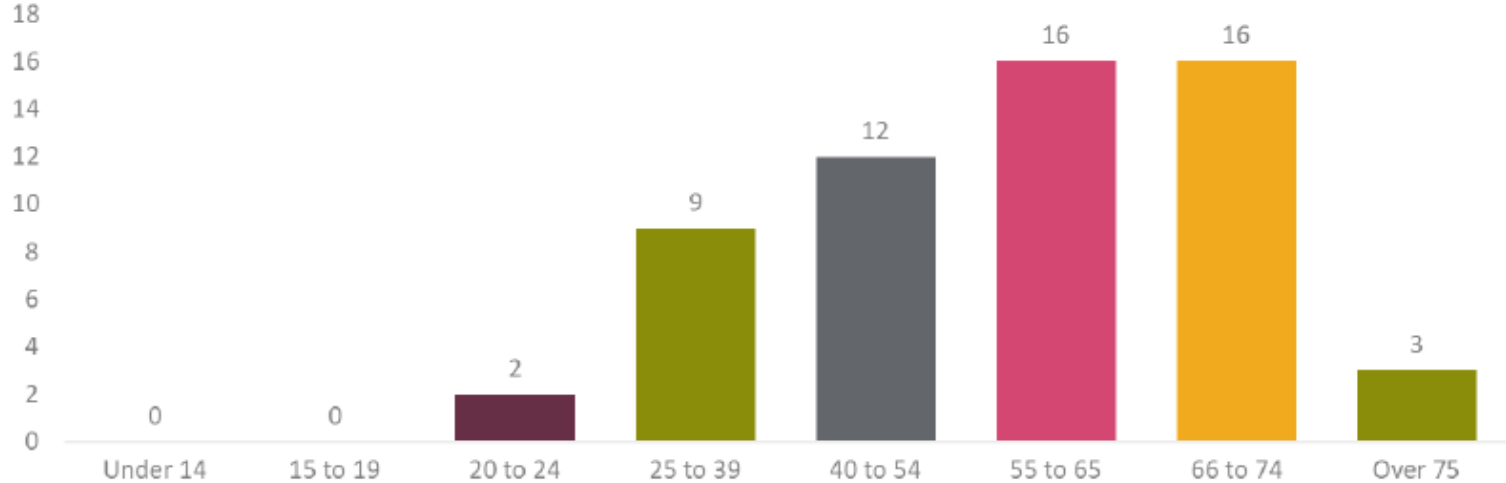
Q2. What is your relationship to the Showground? (select multiple if applicable)



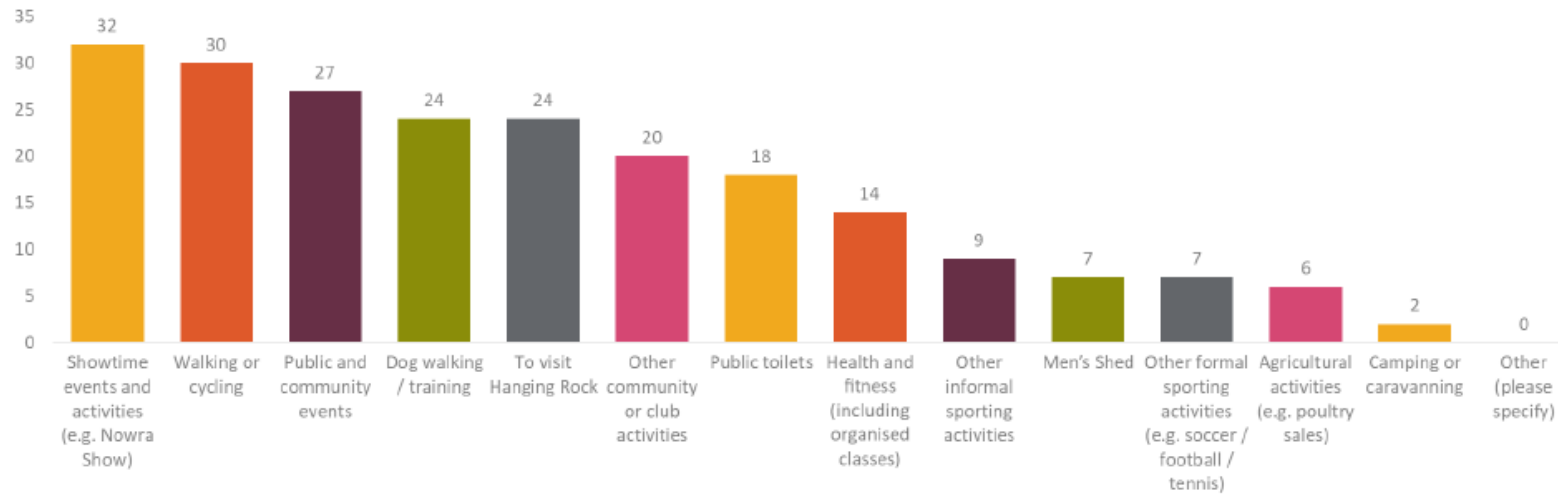
Q3. How often do you visit the showground?



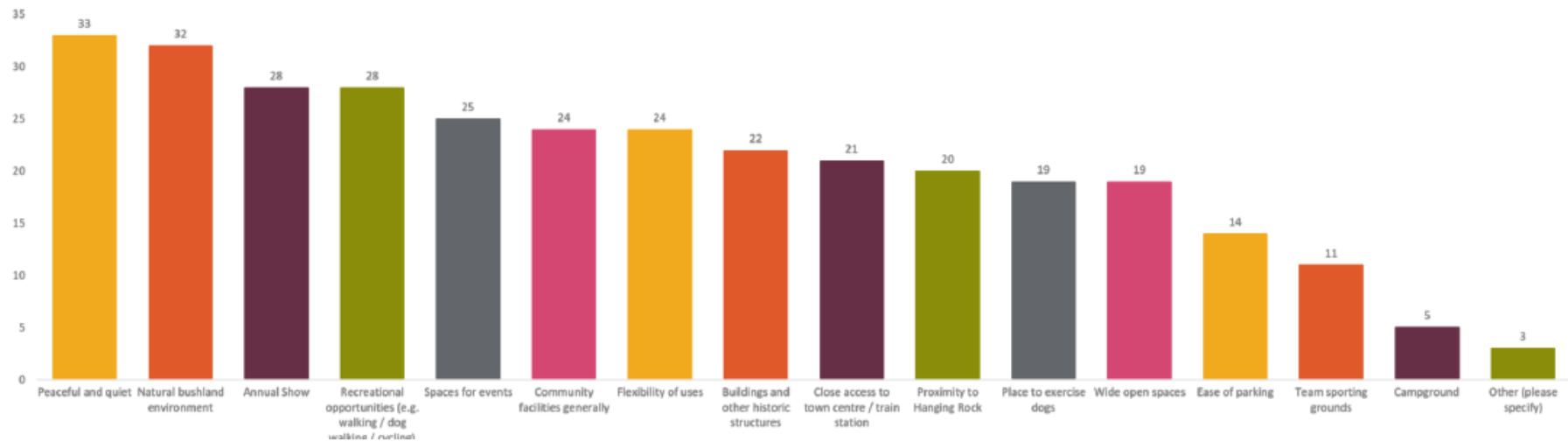
Q4. Age group:



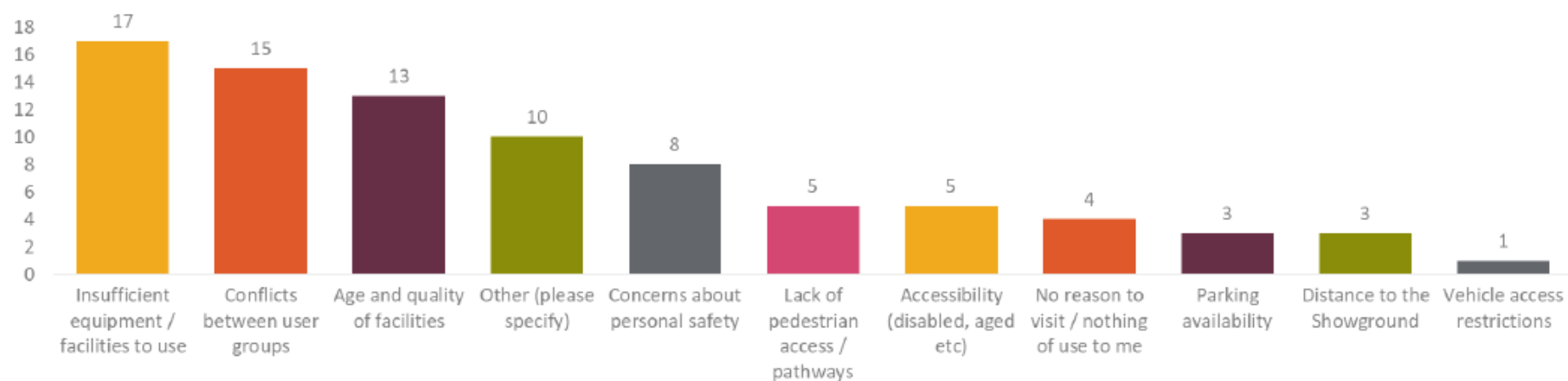
Q5. Thinking about the existing Showground site, what do you use the area for? (select all that apply)



Q6. What do you value most about Nowra Showground? (select up to 5)



Q7. Are there any barriers or reasons why you don't use Nowra Showground more often? (select all that apply)



Q8. What could be improved to enhance your enjoyment of Nowra Showground?

What could be improved to enhance your enjoyment of Nowra Showground?
I think that it would be a perfect opportunity to create a dog and family friendly area that focuses on gardens, shaded sitting areas (perhaps donated benches with small plaques), and grassy spaces. Also, I'd love to see an upgrade to the puppy and dog facilities to cater for more user groups. The current area is relatively large, but this could be made a bit bigger with separate areas for smaller and larger dogs. We often change our plans to visit and use the area and facilities as larger dogs are there. There is also no tap close to the dog area which makes it difficult to stay for extended periods of
A split dog park for small and big dogs
Improved dog exercise park and off lead areas including accessibility and fencing
Improving the dog exercise area and facilities. We sometimes visit the Yass dog park which is a great example of a dog park and exercise area that caters for big dogs, little dogs, and even puppies. There are three separate areas to allow dogs of all sizes and temperaments to use the facilities. There are also great shaded areas, donated cemented dog bowls with taps to access water, seated areas and fun signage.
Split dog pens for safety of animals and people.
Dual dog pens designated for small and big dogs respectively. Too often large untrained big dogs create a risky environment for people and smaller dogs. Water troughs in the pens to prevent heatstroke for dogs.
Some recognition of the traditional custodians/owners of the land Aboriginal people's Cultural landmarks / spiritual significance of the river / land animals and sky of the Area Maybe include some gathering spaces for people to sit together - need flexible multipurpose spaces

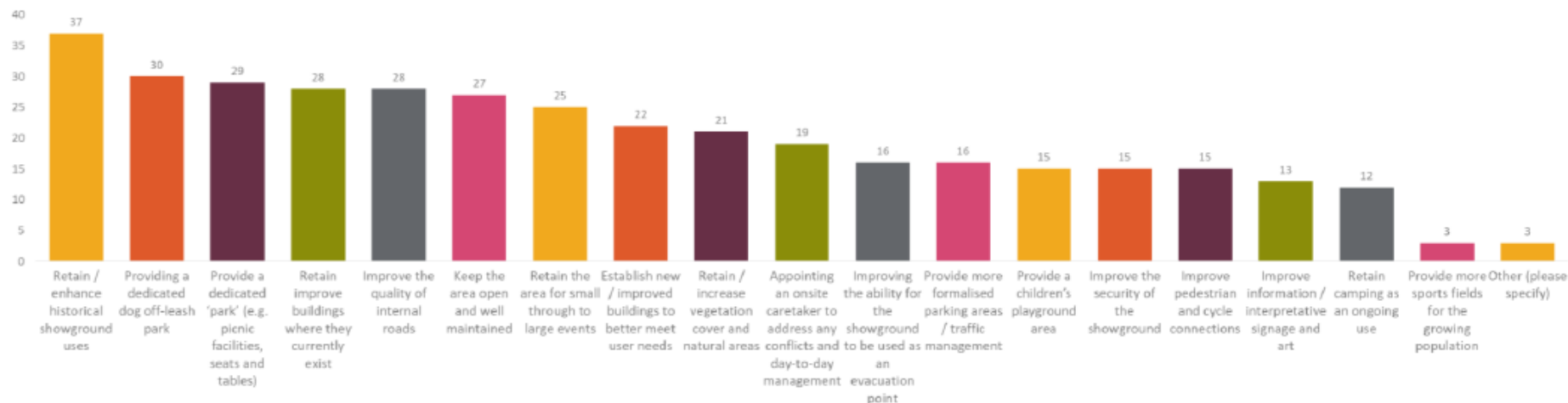
What could be improved to enhance your enjoyment of Nowra Showground?
A running track lines would be great
Better roads and drainage, some repairs needed to the Poultry pavilion
I train (running) on the showground grass. There is need for a defined border around the grass surface, fix erosion and resurface the cinders with an all-weather surface like crushed granite or similar.
The Poultry Pavilion needs to be upgraded and increased in size. A kitchen needs to be included and insulation and ventilation needs to be improved in the light of climate change and increasing temperatures.
Dog owners provided with poo bags or better still no dogs on the main arena. It's a playing / sports field and dog mess is a concern for children using this area.
Even up some of the areas where cars can be parked, especially during show time.
1. A cafe/coffee shop so you can get something to eat/drink and enjoy the beautiful view of the river and landscape. 2. Family push bike track around the boundary of the Showground with sign posts containing local historical information along the track. 3. install a permanent telescope to look down the river and at the wildlife 4. Install Bird Baths for native birds to enjoy 5. Install a yarning circle as acknowledgement of the traditional people and have art and totem poles installed.
Less very visual drug sales. Less drug paraphernalia lying around. Less abusive attacks by park users. Dog owners with better control over their animals
Disabled access and toilets. Accessible parking. Tennis/basketball courts. Bike path and parking.
Build new modern facilities which are sympathetic to the natural environment but provide comfort and relevance to future users. The showground needs to be revitalised so it is in use all year round, it must have facilities which allow people to come and stay and it has to be accessible to all users.
Regular maintenance of roadways, water supply at the dog park
I would like it to be well maintained and facilities to be up graded as needed. The drive way to the old Caretakers Cottage to be improved and made level.
would love to see better amenities for campers and also for children. So many younger families which need access to better playground facilities
Obviously move the homeless on to a more suitable location and not the nicest location in Nowra. Every town North, east and south of us have beautiful parks, pump tracks, playground, roads, coffee shops, walks while Nowra Show ground is not often used due to it being unsafe.
Given the opportunity for not-for-profit organizations to easily utilize facilities, and provide stable appropriate usage arrangements.
More shade trees at lower fenced in dog park and a water tap there.
Exercise stations in a circuit round the Showground
Cycling track connecting Nowra to Yalwal Rd via the power line easement
Plant more trees. as the ones that have been taken out not one tree has been replaced. Put the excise equipment from Marriott park up there where people can use it as visitors and locals alike can use it before and after Ben's walk. as the walk has become very popular with people keeping fit...A shipping container turned into a cafe serving breakfast/ brunch... tables and chairs that could be locked up at night... that view.. coffee.. PERFECT.. if Milton or Berry had that out look it would be put to use.. true..
Fenced off area along West St added area for dog off lead, not on main arena/oval. Caretaker to manage camping and general issues. Traffic control for speeding and reckless driving. Roads appropriate for Showground use and not a shortcut to the hospital. Better security, especially at night/out of working hours.

What could be improved to enhance your enjoyment of Nowra Showground?
Maintenance of trees and tree cover. Better waste management: reduction in litter and littering. Better weed management on perimeter. Maintenance and enhancement of valuable habitat plants; eg she-oaks (casuarinas) as feed trees for glossy black cockatoos. Introduction of nesting boxes for target species; eg, glossy black cockatoos.
I think a space for a cafe to take advantage of the best view in Nowra. Or use the show ground meeting room as a cafe. I think the oval below the old gym would be a great spot for an all-weather running track with a soccer ground on the infield. Otherwise, the I like the natural feel of the area
Get dog owners to clean up. Especially main arena.
Replace the ugly fencing at hanging rock
Camping should be more organised and monitored. Run similar to how Berry Showground camping facilities.
Maintenance and quality of facilities, roads and other infrastructure.
South Coast Beef is currently refurbishing seldom-used cattle shed to improve its fitness for purpose going forward. SCB has precipitated redevelopment of the cattle area of the Showground but is highly dissatisfied with the progress. After 3 years of little or poorly managed progress, the outcome is very disappointing. The quality of work is poor and some of the materials are unsatisfactory.
More shaded sitting area, grass needs to be mown more often, more level powered sites.
seal internal roads
Improvement and use of a grant that has stood unused for an inordinate amount of time and seems to be being relegated further back with the use of bureaucratic intrusion and poor management.
The seating at the main field could be improved. The current seating is old and splintery in parts. The dirt roads in the Showground needs attention.
Major road works are required.
Allocate land for the construction of new facilities
Upgraded facilities. Destination playground. Cafe
A lick of paint and general upkeep. Gravel roads, dirt tracks and parking areas need a bit of work, plus seating could probably be replaced or upgraded.
Restaurants, Better walkways, so much could be done along the water's edge
a safe hard surface parking area adjacent to the Showground cottage Better lighting for evening meetings. More consideration our regular activities on a Saturday when clubs want to restrict entry to anyone else.
Entitled dog owners who feel a booked ground does not impact their right to let dogs off leash and onto the booked fields. The lack of signs dealing with the above. The lack of bins and poo bag dispenser
The dog park their needs a major overhaul. There needs to be better facilities for people to use there. There's no tap down there to give water to the dogs, it would be nice to have a roll of dog poo bags down there like you offer at your beaches. The agility equipment you have there does not get used by the majority of people who use the park. Instead, it would a better idea to have the park bigger and have two parks side by side, one for little dogs and one for bigger dogs which both have facilities for people to sit down, and even something like a sandpit as well for dogs to dig around in rather than digging up the grass and causing trip hazards. I've just come back from living in Baldivis in WA, and they have a great modern dog park that I highly recommend looking at it and consider looking into as an idea on how a new dog park could look like.

What could be improved to enhance your enjoyment of Nowra Showground?

Proper dog facilities as current dog park are insufficient for different dog group. Water supply at dog park. More area dedicated for dogs

Q9. What elements do you think are important for the future design of Nowra Showground? (select up to five)



Q10. Do you have any other comments on the future of Nowra Showground?

Do you have any other comments on the future of Nowra Showground?

This is a brilliant idea to add some user-friendly areas and upgrades to the grounds

This is a great opportunity to provide an upgraded dog exercise and training area. Something that is lacking in the Shoalhaven region with the Berry dog park no longer in existence.

We enjoy our visits to the showground but hope that this process will result in an upgraded and purpose-built dog area. Not to labour the point, but the Yass dog park is a great example for any upgrades or changes to the Nowra Showground dog area.

Lovely area but not worth visiting with dogs due to unsafe pen

A great area - keep it for public use

It's a great part of Nowra's history.

This is a great opportunity. It is in a terrific position. Don't stuff it up. Keep the same footprint and enhance the experience for all.

Do you have any other comments on the future of Nowra Showground?
The location is idyllic and any future enhancements/improvements must not degrade/diminish the natural beauty of the immediate area. New buildings should be built in harmony with the heritage beauty of the site.
Maintain and improve existing buildings but Poultry Pavilion is an issue - it's not in a great place and needs major work done to it.
I don't actually like going to the show ground. I've seen too many confrontations there where people abuse one another. I've seen way too many drugs drops up there and had to pick up used needles that are left around trees. There's no water for dog in the 'dog park' and generally - it's not a place I'd really like to go if I didn't have to.
The showgrounds have one of the best views in Nowra but it's a scary place to visit much of the time. Clean it up, resettle itinerant populations and make it beautiful and accessible for the whole community to enjoy throughout the year. Consider new uses, summer outdoor cinema, sheep dog trials, cricket
It was great when the Show mow was racing as it encourages families to be in a low-cost sport for families. It is as important as the horse events that is out of the reach for many families
Separate small/large dog fenced areas, with running water
I hope the Nowra Showground can keep its unique qualities that distinguish from Showgrounds. Roads are improved and stay free flowing, so the user can come in one direction and exit through a different gate.
Build something that will generation income for the community
Allow the gymnastics to come back as the vast number of children in the area lack the opportunity to participate in.
Nowra Showground has been misused and neglected over the last couple of decades. We have the best showground on the Coast but because of politics and lack of attention that central Nowra seems to attract we need a total rethink
Well lit, security patrolled walking circuit for day and night use. Reference to the amazing all-purpose park in Gladstone QLD. Incorporates playground, covered picnic/BBQ areas, small playing fields, security patrolled and well-lit at night, safe walking pathway around the perimeter. The whole community uses it all year round
PLEASE PLEASE.. look after the pavilion as it is falling apart.. WHEN is it going to get painted as by the look of it the longer you leave it the harder it gets...I would love to see the trees that are around the both ovals taken care of when we are going through drought as they were planted by school children years ago.. I would like to see the rangers do there job in keeping the camping area as it should be (no tents)... (making sure the vans stay 14 day lots as they should be)..Also dog bags in a couple of places would be nice as other towns have them!!!! would like to see the memorial gates looked after eg fountain cleaned regularly and paths swept.. curb and guttering and foot paths put in West St Worrige St ... the oldest part of town and NO curb and guttering so bad... and the traffic has increased and no footpaths.. the paths in around the tennis courts are neglected not using round up.. grrr Better fencing like the ones Berry Showground got nice black fencing...A communal garden would be lovely..My list could go on.. also a mailbox drop in the area for residence could know.. I was walking my dog a found out about this...
Large tree limbs regularly fall. These are a hazard to campers and pedestrians. beside regular inspections on these trees, campers shouldn't be camping underneath them at all. Compacting of soil under the historic fig trees has increased with the greater volume of traffic in the Showground since the last Plan was undertaken in 2007.
Level of litter currently is a big problem. We need to demonstrate pride in the showground.
Build some infrastructure to take advantage of the view
I love the Showground as it is. Development should be limited

Do you have any other comments on the future of Nowra Showground?

I would like to see better toilet and shower facilities for use for short term caravans. The use of caravans needs to be better structured as to what is their boundary, improved security to stop free loaders making long term use of the facilities

It is an important feature of the city and deserves to be protected, improved and maintained

This is such a picturesque spot it should be marketed for more events to increase the income that can be used to help maintain and improve the facilities.

More information signage of events

I believe it could be a facility of great importance for training and a boost for however the facilities have been left to degrade and not included in future thinking initiatives within council developmental scope.

The Nowra Showground has been the historical home of the Nowra Cricket Club for over a century. That relationship should be maintained. Also, the Showground is a centrepiece for Nowra. Its historical significance should be maintained. Therefore, new buildings should be sympathetic to the historical heritage (unlike the fitness centre, for example).

This facility is the crown jewel for Nowra and needs to be recognised as such. It is the community's largest relaxation park in Nowra and needs to continue to provide (even with possible new facilities) the ambience that has made it such a loved and much used location. It needs to be treasured

Not particularly. Think I have covered most points. Just needs some general maintenance and love providing the naturally beauty of the showground is retained. As a member/follower of a number of sporting organisations, I would prefer the dogs were assigned another dedicated off leash area as they damage the playing surface and some of their owners fail to clean up after them.

A beautiful garden

