



Playspace Plan

Audit and

Summary



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What's It All About?

We have created a plan to improve playgrounds and play areas across the region. The Plan focuses on improving our playspaces over the next 10 years so they better meet the needs of children, families and our growing community. It recommends clear priorities for upgrades, new playspaces, and investment across the municipality.

Why Is This Important?

Our community is growing fast – faster than most places in Tasmania. More families and children mean we need more places to play. Play is vital for kids' development, health and wellbeing. Good play areas also help families and community connect and enjoy the outdoors.

What the Community Said

In our consultation people said they want more shade, toilets, and variety in equipment. Families want spaces that include everyone, including kids with disabilities and older children. Nature play and less plastic were popular ideas. Being involved in designing play spaces is also important to our community.

What's in the Plan?

The Plan outlines our current situation:

- There are 14 playspaces across our community.
- Most are in good condition and under 15 years old.
- Playspaces should be planned according to catchment areas. For the purpose of play, a 500m catchment area (distance to safely walk to a nearby playspace) is recommended as good access. According to this 500m catchment area, some parts of Midway Point, Sorell, Carlton, and Primrose Sands have no nearby playspaces. This is where we will need to plan for new or upgraded playspaces in the future.

Types of Playspace Classification Hierarchy:

These classifications help guide how different types of playspaces are planned and designed across our community. It makes sure everyone has fair access to play opportunities, from small local parks to large regional destinations. Each level of playspace offers different experiences, facilities, and sizes depending on who it's for, how far people will travel, and how long they'll stay.

Local: Small, for young kids, close to homes.

Neighbourhood: Medium-sized, for kids up to 12.

District: Larger, with more features for all ages.

Regional: Big, special parks that attract visitors from outside Sorell.



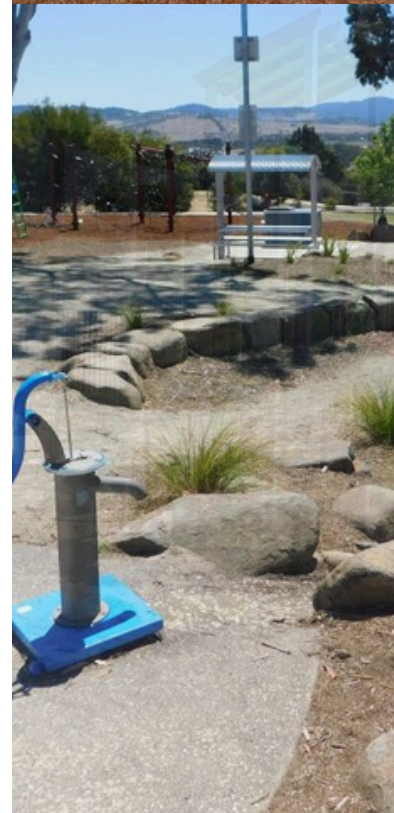
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Key Recommendations of the Plan:

Priority projects on our existing playspaces have had ratings applied:

Playspace	Details	Rating
Dodges Court Reserve	Replace the playspace or enhance the existing site with a new local playspace.	High
Madison Lyden Park	Include shade structures, replace softfall and add additional play opportunities, facilities and toilets.	High
Lewisham Boat Ramp	Remove existing playspace and develop a new playspace on the opposite side of road near the public toilets.	High
Sweetwater Park	Add shade structures to the park and additional carer areas such as seating and shelters.	Medium
Billy Kessarios Memorial Park	Additional low-key equipment to enhance the local classification.	Medium
St George's Square	Enhance playspace to district classification and theme with the cultural aspect of the park.	Medium
Lewis Court	Maintain in its current state with minor upgrades to equipment and seating/shade.	Medium
Snake Hollow	Upgrade to Neighbourhood classification and natural play opportunities and include carer areas and seating.	Medium
Flyway Island Park	Potential site master plan to enhance District classification and passive surveillance of the park.	Low
Pioneer Park	Replace softfall with rubber and maintain the Neighbourhood classification.	Low
Boat Park	Master plan for upgrades and enhance Regional classification.	Low
Primrose Sands Park	Monitor and maintain the site and replace ageing infrastructure.	Low
Imlay Street Park	Maintain at its current district level and consider replacing some of the sand softfall with rubber.	Low



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Other opportunities identified include:

Licence to Play - Our community has many areas of natural beauty and there is opportunity to promote play in the natural environment, beaches, and bushland via an educational awareness campaign.

Fill major access gaps and plan for growth - 17 areas have limited access to play. Priority suburbs include Midway Point, Sorell, and the Southern Beaches. Our growing community will need additional playscapes in the future. We can identify potential locations and start planning for these now.

Playspace Design - Ensure each playspace is carefully designed to align with its intended classification and target age group.

Guiding Principles - Adopt, endorse and implement the proposed 12 guiding principles for playspace design, provision, and management.

Estimated investment:

The Plan outlines an estimated \$8.875 million investment over 10 years. We'll need to plan carefully for how we fund this, including allocating budget each year and seeking grant opportunities to support our community's needs.

PRIORITY	EXISTING PLAYSPACES	NEW PLAYSPACES	TOTAL
High (1-3 yrs)	\$1.4m	\$3.5m	\$4.9m
Medium (3-5 yrs)	\$1.375m	\$1.75m	\$3.125m
Low (5-10 yrs)	\$350k	\$500k	\$850k
Total	\$3.125m	\$5.75m	\$8.875m

