

Appendices

Draft Recreation, Open space & Sport Strategy 2026-2036



The Alexandrina Council and its communities acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk and Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of our Council district.



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Introduction

The Appendices document for the Alexandrina Council’s Recreation, Open space and Sport Strategy (ROSS) provides the core supporting data that helped inform and produce the final strategic outcomes.

These supporting documents capture the voices of the community, the insights of the local area with regard to usable open space, club and association feedback, along with emerging trends in sport and recreation across the Alexandrina Council area.

Each appendix contributes a unique layer of understanding:

- **Appendix A** – provides detailed community feedback across Alexandrina’s townships, highlighting recreation, open space and sport priorities and identifying barriers.
- **Appendix B** – summarises the findings of the Open Space Survey, showcasing how residents and visitors in the Alexandrina region use parks, playgrounds, and other recreational spaces.
- **Appendix C** – includes open space data by ward and township, categorising land use and function to identify gaps and opportunities, including township mapping.
- **Appendix D** – provides a detailed township-level sport analysis, identifying facility ownership, usage, and future needs.
- **Appendix E** – summarises local sport and recreation participation through club survey responses, offering a snapshot of membership, facility use, and club needs.
- **Appendix F** – captures strategic directions and feedback from State sporting organisations and associations, aligning local priorities with broader sector goals.
- **Appendix G** – Informs and analyses AusPlay data to understand participation patterns and physical activity levels across South Australia and the Alexandrina region.
- **Appendix H** – informs and reviews Local and National sporting trends, including insights from the SA Government’s Game On Strategy, to associate Alexandrina’s recreation landscape within broader demographic and social transformations.

Collectively, these appendices provide a strong foundation of evidence, community insights, and stakeholder input, ensuring the ROSS is strategically informed and supports a vision for inclusive, sustainable, and well-utilised recreation, open space, and sporting facilities across the Alexandrina region.

Background

This overview outlines the steps taken to better understand the value and role of recreation, open space, and sporting facilities within the Alexandrina Council area.

By combining community feedback, data, surveys, research, benchmarking and stakeholder input, we’ve developed a clear approach to guide decision making. Each stage builds on the last to ensure the final ROSS is well-informed, inclusive, and aligned with community needs and best practices.

While the ROSS document presents the strategic direction and outcomes, the appendices contain the supporting data, detailed findings, and community feedback that informed the development of the ROSS.

Strategy overview diagram



Appendix A

Village Conversations:

Community feedback and resulting themes (2021-2023)

Alexandrina Council's Village Conversations were a key engagement process undertaken in two phases: first in October 2021 and again between October and December 2023.

These sessions were held across townships to capture community expectations, priorities, and ideas for future planning. Residents shared insights on how they utilise recreation, open space and sport facilities, as well as their aspirations for future improvements.

This process provided valuable qualitative data on themes such as accessibility, inclusivity, youth recreation opportunities, and the importance of preserving local character.

Feedback gathered throughout both engagement phases has helped inform the development of the ROSS document.

Goolwa – Hindmarsh Island – Currency Creek Village Conversations 2021

- Preserve existing open space
- Short-term goal is to establish a pump track next to the nature playground at Bristow Smith Reserve
- Improve bicycle and walking paths with safe signage
- Establish a connection between the Beach Road car park and the Murray Mouth and connecting Cadell Street to the Goolwa Wharf Precinct
- Create a dog park
- Through development, keep green spaces.

Goolwa – Hindmarsh Island – Currency Creek Village Conversations 2023

Playgrounds visited

- Bristow Smith Reserve has something for every age
- Beach
- Skate park – Goolwa
- Liverpool Road
- Wharf area
- Jekejere Park
- Fishing – near Scout Hall/Amelia Park
- Sweetman Road Reserve.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Undeveloped reserves that are not inviting
- Dogs off lead

- Lack of seating
- Not enough equipment for older kids
- Not enough bins.

Informal recreation

- Walking/dog walking
- BBQ/picnic
- Reading
- Water sports
- Cycling/scooters/roller skating
- Horse riding
- Basketball
- Gym.

Dog experience

- Better signage for off-leash areas
- Need more dog parks.

Themes - Goolwa – Hindmarsh Island – Currency Creek

Bristow Smith Reserve is well used and popular, as well as the Goolwa Wharf Precinct and Goolwa Beach area.

Factors preventing the use of open space are a lack of seating and uninviting underdeveloped reserves. Improvements required are pathway access and wayfinding signage for walking and biking.

Popular recreation

- Walking/riding/scooter/cycling
- Water sports
- Basketball
- Picnics and BBQs.

Middleton Village Conversations 2021

- Middleton is a village green and open space, and is welcoming
- The community value the environment, keen to see it maintained, enhanced and protected, including beaches, nature reserves, open spaces and the green belt around town.
- Improve the natural environment through tree planting
- Build a community garden
- Improve the playground to cater for diverse ages and abilities
- The medium-term goal is to upgrade the playground to include natural components reflecting the surf and the whales
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Abbotts Reserve community garden upgrade and signage
- Native revegetation along the creek to prevent further erosion
- Middleton is relaxed, recreational and quiet
- Join up bike paths along the Esplanade.

Middleton Village Conversations 2023

Playgrounds visited

- Travel to Victor Harbor or Goolwa for nature play spaces
- Travel to Goolwa and Victor Harbor for skate facilities
- A beginner skate facility to be built at many unused grassy locations near the point
- More options needed for BBQ and parties as Abbotts Reserve isn't big enough
- Abbotts Reserve
- Newell Reserve for nature, running, native animals and walking
- Coast for running, cycling and walking.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Not looked after
- Poor maintenance
- Not developed
- No consultation
- Playgrounds need equipment for all ages
- Decent skate park/basketball court and area for scooter and roller skating
- Needs more BBQ and toilets
- More to be done with Morrison Reserve.

Informal recreation

- Water sports
- Walking/dog/beach
- Running
- Horse riding
- Picnic/BBQ/parties

- Bike/skate/scooter
- Basketball/netball/pickleball
- Reading/observing nature/bird watching
- Irrigated lawn for social sport
- Beach fire pits
- Surfing.

Dog experience

- Negative experience with dogs off-leash
- Can be hard at peak summertime with tourists.

Themes - Middleton

Middleton is a quiet beach township.

Residents would like play spaces with bigger irrigated kick about areas, more BBQs, toilets, playgrounds that cater for all ages and abilities, whilst incorporating natural elements.

Popular recreation

- Water sports
- Walking/running/dog/beach
- Horse riding
- Picnic/BBQ/ parties
- Bike/skate/scooter
- Basketball/netball/pickleball
- Reading/observing nature/bird watching
- Irrigated lawn for social sport.

Port Elliot Village Conversations 2021

- Green space is protected
- Build a nature playground
- Replant the cliffs near the Soldiers Memorial Garden
- Build a community garden
- Medium-term opportunity is to undertake a tree planting plan across town to increase the tree canopies and improve the aesthetic attraction of key business communities
- Medium-term possibility is to plant indigenous plants on the cliff face adjacent to the Bowling Club
- The medium-term undertaking is to provide all abilities beach access at Horseshoe Bay
- Intergenerational activities
- Decommission and activate the underutilised netball courts for community access and use
- Short-term opportunity is the installation of bike stands in The Strand precinct and the railway station
- Short-term opportunity is to decommission the 1 netball court and plant a community garden
- Medium-term possibilities are to develop a plan and deliver a connected walking and biking trail that connects and incorporates the Encounter Bikeway.

Port Elliot Village Conversations 2023

Playgrounds visited

- Lakala Reserve
- Foreshore – Horseshoe Bay, Commodore Reserve
- Ratalang (Basham Beach) Conservation Reserve
- Freemans Knob
- Harbour Masters Reserve lawn area
- Watson's Gap.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Not enough trees or shade
- Erosion
- Undeveloped reserve
- Unused court – no multi-use (basketball)
- No teenage playground or recreation facilities
- Access to water
- Lack of seating
- Sport facilities require an upgrade
- Unusable play equipment
- Footpath access – disability access
- Stairs in need of repair
- Skate facilities need upgrading.

Informal recreation

- Tree climbing
- Whale watching
- Walking
- Bike riding
- Pokémon Go
- Skate/scooter
- Sport – Soccer
- Picnic
- Basketball
- Gym
- Swimming.

Dog experience

- Not positive along the beach, especially unleashed
- Positive for dog park.

Themes – Port Elliot

It is a beach township with green and foreshore open space that is heritage protected.

Has well-utilised areas like Horseshoe Bay and Freeman's Knob Reserve.

Require upgraded open space with more shade, seating and equipment for all ages, especially teens. They also require upgraded access to water via footpaths that are built for all abilities.

Popular recreation

- Water sports
- Walking/riding/skate/scooter
- Sports/soccer/basketball
- Picnic/whale watching.

Mount Compass Village Conversations 2021

- Will continue as community-oriented and open spaces and environment-friendly
- Recreation ideas including jogging tracks, play and outdoor exercise equipment and all-weather and day and night sport facilities and toilets
- Interpreting places of cultural significance and developing history trails
- Protecting and revegetating the natural environment, conserving creeks and wetlands
- Recreation ideas include linking to the Heysen Trail, outdoor shaded exercise equipment, improved tennis court access, and upgraded play equipment
- Golf course to be retained as open space and not redeveloped
- Additional public toilets and BBQs required
- More play equipment at the new playground area
- Recreation ideas including jogging tracks, play and outdoor exercise equipment and all-weather and day and night sport facilities and toilets.
- Recreation ideas include linking to the Heysen Trail, outdoor shaded exercise equipment, improved tennis court access, and upgraded play equipment
- Improve recreational facilities with the community wanting new paths to support fitness and exploration, and to key upgraded playground equipment
- Improved access to tennis courts and an undercover all-year-round outdoor facility
- Installation of public toilets at the skate park is important
- More play and outdoor exercise equipment (with shade), tennis court access, and walking trails
- Covered recreation facilities, regional trail linkages (Heysen Trail), and golf course retained.

Mount Compass Village Conversations 2023

- Playgrounds visited
- Commercial Road park (near swimming pool, Strathalbyn)
- Burgess Oval
- Basin Reserve.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Missing planks at wetlands
- Walking distance
- Access to Roadman's Reserve
- No new reserve in new development
- Lighting.

Informal recreation

- Walking/dog
- Horse riding
- Basketball.

Dog experience

- Positive.

Themes - Mount Compass

Mount Compass is known as the gateway to the Fleurieu and is a country township surrounded by a natural open environment with wetlands.

Would like more green open space areas with playground, exercise equipment and shade. Would like access to the Heysen Trail and to preserve their wetlands and revegetate the natural environments.

Popular recreation

- Sports
- Walking/dog
- Horse riding.

Milang Village Conversations 2021

- Medium-term possibilities are to revisit our Open Space and playground revitalisation plan, and if possible, include outdoor activities, including a basketball ring, outdoor gym equipment and seating and charging stations
- The playground looks tired
- Place a pontoon on the lake
- More sand to make a beach
- Bike trail linking Langhorne Creek, Clayton Bay and Strathalbyn
- Basketball court
- Outdoor gym
- Shared use path through parklands.

Milang Village Conversations 2023

- Playgrounds visited
- Lakeside green area
- Dog park and oval
- Lakeside playground
- Goolwa nature play
- Under bridge playground.

Preventions of using Open Space

- No pathway from caravan park to jetty
- Oval toilets need replacement
- Grass surrounding the playground up to the lake
- Snakes on the foreshore and reeds area near the lake
- Caltrop control on grassed areas
- Lack of shade.

Informal recreation

- Tennis courts
- Fishing
- BMX
- Rage cage
- Walking.

Dog experience

- Positive.

Themes - Milang

It is a heritage lakeside community surrounded by nature and wetlands.

The community would like more irrigated grass areas, especially from the lake to the playground, with more maintenance and additional shade. Community would like an upgraded playground with a basketball ring on courts, outdoor gym equipment and shared-use path throughout parklands.

Popular recreation

- Court sports
- Fishing
- Walking/riding
- BMX.

Clayton Bay Village Conversations 2021

- The community appreciates their recreation activities, which include boating, sailing, swimming and walking trails
- There is a perceived lack of structured recreation facilities, like a skate park and basketball ring
- Medium and long-term opportunity is to undertake a planning process with children and young people to determine desired recreational activities and opportunities to socialise. Noting that engagement on development for BMX facilities was undertaken in late 2023 and approved in 2024, with funding resolved by the chamber in the 2025/26 financial year.

Clayton Bay Village Conversations 2023

- High requests for Terry Way Reserve to have either a dog park, walking trail/path, or more native planting.

Playgrounds visited

- Walking trail along the foreshore and walking trail along Island View Reserve due to wonderful planting for walking, exercising and views
- Oval for major design for children's play area, exercise and dog walking
- Boat club for events.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Need more shade, with shade sails installed within the 2024/25 financial year
- Too old
- Grass is full of burrs
- Limited access to water for swimming
- Walking trail too rough
- Smell due to misuse of bins
- Playgrounds need upgrading not set up for older kids.

Informal recreation

- Dog walking
- Trail walking
- Water activities.

Dog experience

- Quite positive.

Themes – Clayton Bay

It is a small township surrounded by waterways and a natural environment that appreciates its open space and supportive country atmosphere.

Would like open spaces with additional shade, a maintained and usable grass area, upgraded playground with equipment for older children, with a BMX track.

Popular recreation

- Dog walking
- Trail walking
- Water activities.

Strathalbyn and Ashbourne Village Conversations 2021

- Develop a community garden
- Plant more trees to create a shade canopy and reduce heat island effect, and encourage walking and cycling
- Reintroduce native flora and fauna
- Establish an interactive playground
- Bigger playgrounds with toilets
- Extend opening hours and season for the Strathalbyn swimming pool
- Short term – Recreation facilities (for example indoor facilities, improved playgrounds, increased time of year pool is open, shared facilities)
- Basketball court
- Joint-use facilities opportunities.

Strathalbyn and Ashbourne Village Conversations 2023

Playgrounds visited

- River/Central Park
- Near the swimming pool
- Pipers Crest
- Strathalbyn Oval
- Burnside Creek Reserve
- Playground at the railway station.

Preventions of using Open Space

- No toilets near playground (Pipers Crest, Strathalbyn)
- Pool not open after 8.30am (lap swimming, Monday to Friday)
- Footpath linkages
- Dogs off lead
- No access through rail yards
- New developments and not enough green space provided
- No nature play playgrounds.

Informal recreation

- Walking/running
- Sports.

Themes – Strathalbyn and Ashbourne

Rural communities with a country feel that value their picturesque landscapes, natural environment, and support local.

The community would like more trees planted to create a stronger shade canopy, to reintroduce

native flora and fauna, a bigger playground with nature play elements and toilet facilities. Whilst there are great facilities for sports within the township, there is a need for indoor basketball courts.

The township of Strathalbyn would like to make sure that, through its growth that usable open space is provided.

Popular recreation

- Walking/running
- Sports.

Langhorne Creek, Hartley and Woodchester Village Conversations 2021

- Short and medium-term includes improved playground facilities with possible nature play
- Improve recreation facilities such as walking, cycling and public toilets
- Would like improved recreational facilities like playgrounds.

Langhorne Creek Village Conversations 2023

Playgrounds visited

- Frank Potts Park
- Alfred Langhorne Park
- Mosquito Creek
- Ferries McDonald Park
- Sporting oval
- Courts.

Preventions of using Open Space

- Water point for public use at campground
- No toilet at Alfred Park
- Playground near school is not to school standards and is not being used.

Informal recreation

- Pickleball
- Tree planting
- BMX track
- Nature play at the sportsground
- Walking
- Basketball at the sportsground.

Dog experience

- Utilise the oval for dog walking.

Themes – Langhorne Creek, Hartley and Woodchester

They are rural and country towns known for their diverse agriculture and vines, which are settled along the Bremer flood plain with unique bird life and wetlands.

Would like more trees planted, improved recreational facilities with multi-use, upgraded playgrounds, and the creation of walking and cycling trails.

Popular recreation

- Walking
- Sports
- BMX
- Nature play.

Appendix B

Open space survey outcomes

A survey seeking feedback from the broader community on how they utilise open space and recreation facilities within the Council area was placed out for six weeks of consultation from 24 October to 4 December 2024.

The survey received feedback from 122 participants.

The majority of people who responded were either a resident, ratepayer or business owner of Alexandrina, with only two participants being visitors to the area.

The feedback and themes from this survey were utilised to develop levels of service.

The largest age groups who responded were:

- 46–60 years
- 24–40 years.

When asked why they utilise open space/parks or playgrounds, the top five responses were:

1. Walk
2. Exercise
3. Socialise
4. Access to nature
5. Play and have fun.

When asked what outdoor and play activities do you or your children participate in, the top five responses were:

1. Walking
2. Using playgrounds
3. Kicking a footy/soccer/casual cricket
4. Swimming
5. Events in the park.

Others highly specified

- Dog walking/exercise
- Soccer
- Cricket.

Top 10 parks or open spaces visited recently

Location	Amount
Bristow Smith Reserve	24
Horseshoe Bay	11
Port Elliot Oval	10
Dog Park Port Elliot/Oval	9
Goolwa Oval	6
Lions Park Strathalbyn (next to Strathalbyn Swimming Pool)	6
Milang (foreshore)	6
Strathalbyn Soldiers Memorial Garden	5
Pipers Crest Reserve	5
Angus River walk	5

The three most important things for you in the development of our parks were:

1. Shade
2. Toilet
3. Mixture of suitable play equipment.

Other:

- Exercise equipment
- Pump track
- Mobility safe surfaces
- Off-leash dog parks
- BBQ
- Coffee.

Top five favourite parks and open space features were:

1. Shade
2. Toilets close by
3. Irrigated green space
4. Beautiful landscaping
5. Pathway network
6. Location.

Top five most important improvements needed for our open space/parks were:

1. Upgrade and improve existing sports facilities
2. Increase our maintenance of open spaces
3. Build new parks
4. Upgrade existing parks only
5. Provide more multi-use court facilities.



Appendix C

Open space data captured by ward

North Ward

Suburb	No of reserve parcels	Total suburb land (ha)	open space (ha)	% of open space per suburb	No of sport function parcels	No of Environmental function parcels	No of Reserve function parcels	No of Recreation function parcels	Population 2021 (current data)	Townships that meet 500+ populations
Angas Plains	3	4140	4.15	.1%	3				81	
Ashbourne	2	5800	1.42	.02%			2		308	
Belvidere	1	2010	3.77	.18%					118	
Bletchley	2	2358	5.28	.22%		1	1		76	
Gemmells	1	1210	2.95	.24%			1		99	
Hartley	1	1610	4.67	.29%		1			149	
Highland Valley	8	2830	15.46	.54%		5	3		384	
Lake Plains	1	2990	4.22	.14%			1		48	
Langhorne Creek	11	16320	15.94	.09%		2	7	1	444	
Macclesfield	1	3750	1.41	.03%			1		1413	But not all in Alexandrina Council area
Nurragi		2140		0					30	
Paris Creek	1	2530	.74	.02%	1				206	
Red Creek	2	3220	3.42	.10%		1	1		145	
Salem		450		0					123	
Sandergrove	2	5060	9.42	.18%		1	1		98	
Strathalbyn	103	11700	153.51	1.3%	2	15	72	14	7246	Yes
Tolderol		428		0					21	
Willyaroo	4	12100	5.47	.04%		3	1		376	
Woodchester	3	3630	7.16	.19%		2	1		253	
Total	146	84276	238.99		6	31	92	15	11618	

South Ward

Suburb	No of reserve parcels	Total suburb land (ha)	open space (ha)	% of open space per suburb	No of sport function parcels	No of Environmental function parcels	No of Reserve function parcels	No of Recreation function parcels	Population 2021 (current data)	Townships that meet 500+ populations
Clayton Bay	30	3630	21.78	.6%		11	16	3	472	
Currency Creek	14	10930	17.90	.16%		2	11	1	443	
Finniss		10	10020	138.13	1.3%	1	7	2		293
Goolwa	47	1740	35.56	2.04%	9	16	21	1	2558	Yes
Goolwa North	12	790	1.93	.24%	6	3	3		1307	Yes
Goolwa South	15	1190	15.73	1.32%		5	10		1041	Yes
Hindmarsh Island	74	6680	47.72	.71%		42	32		1846	Yes
Milang	22	7510	44.15	.58%	3	5	12	2	962	Yes
Mount Observation		820		0					n/a	
Mundoo Island		1200		0					4	
Point Sturt	5	100	14.73	14.73%		5			64	
Total		44610	337.63		19	96	107	7	8986	

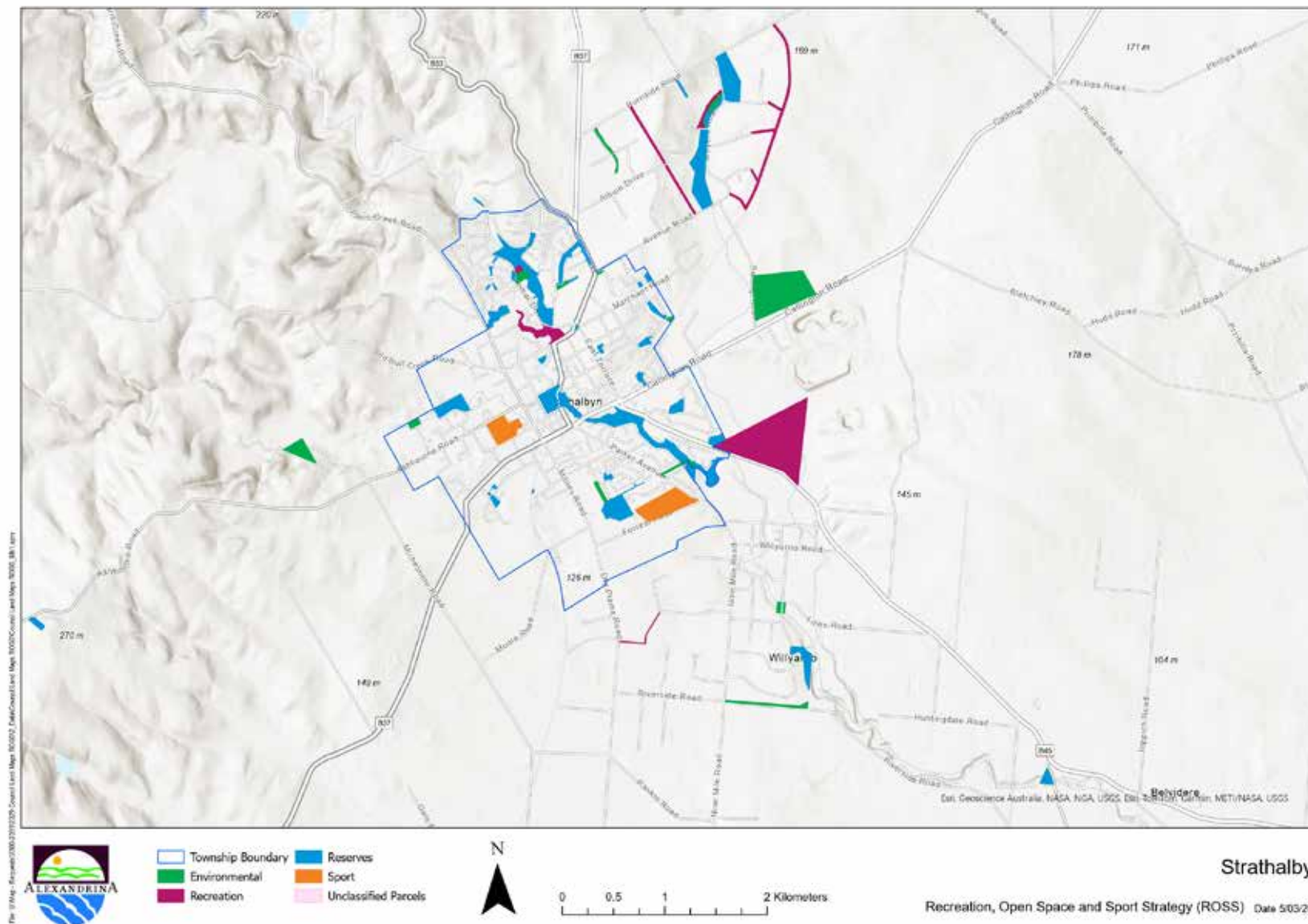
Yellow - townships with over 500 people population

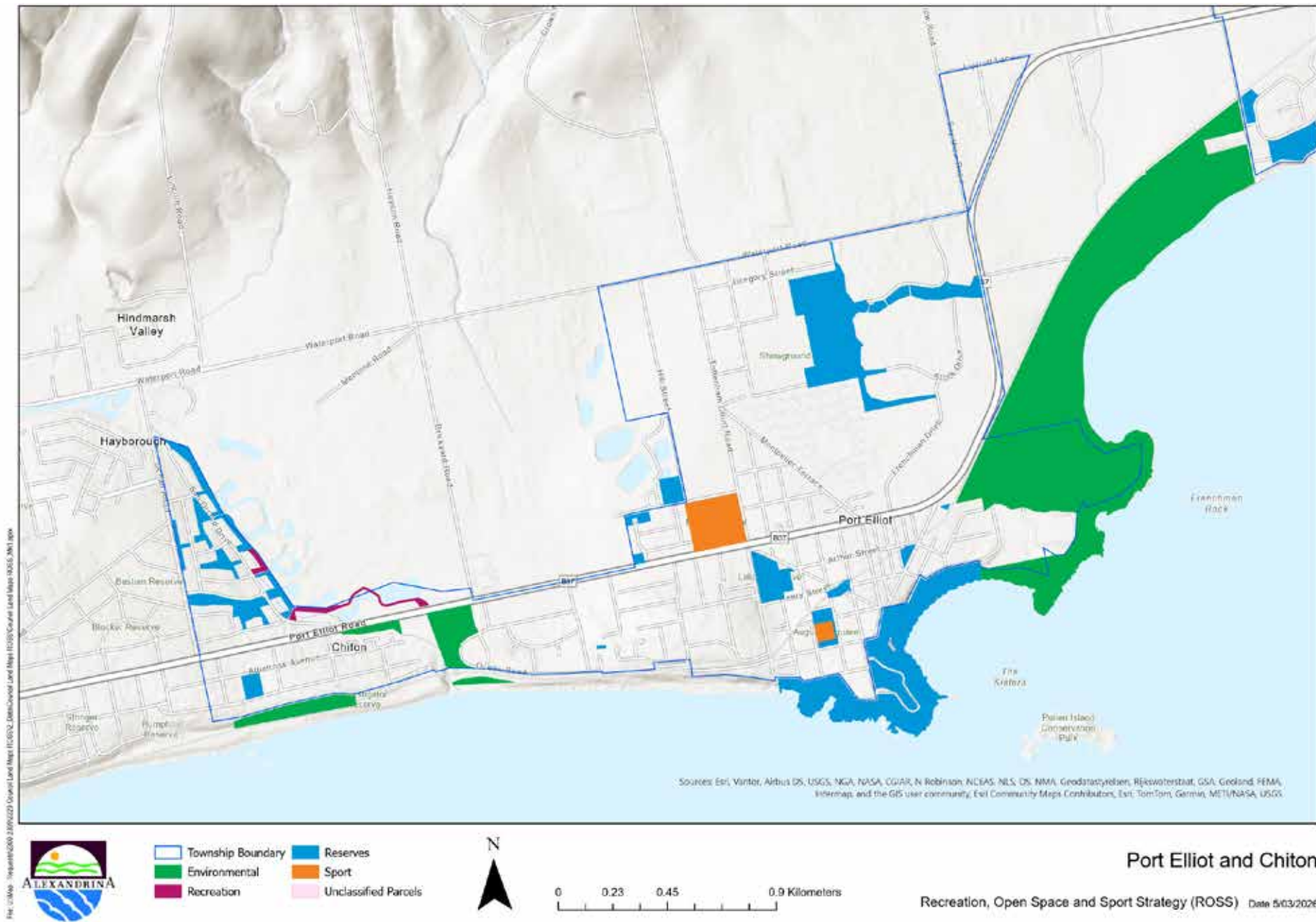
West Ward

Suburb	No of reserve parcels	Total suburb land (ha)	open space (ha)	% of open space per suburb	No of sport function parcels	No of Environmental function parcels	No of Reserve function parcels	No of Recreation function parcels	Population 2021 (current data)	Townships that meet 500+ populations
Blackfellows Creek		780		0					28	
Bull Creek		1280		0					111	
Chiton	25	6700	13.23	.19%		10	13	2	440	
Dingabledinga	3	600	6.19	1.03%		1	2		80	
Goolwa Beach	36	430	38.70	9%		31	5		2222	Yes
Hope Forest		1230		0					143	
Kuitpo	4	5060	1.22	.02%			4		198	
Kyeema		1560		0					21	
McHarg Creek		1200		0					72	
Middleton	26	3540	54.20	1.5%		8	18		1298	Yes
Montarra		150		0					28	
Mount Compass	11	4480	14.58	.32%	2	2	7		1232	Yes
Mount Jagged		4430		0					155	
Mount Magnificent		1700		0					60	
Nangkita	1	2821	.78	.02%			1		242	
Pages Flat		2440		0					164	
Port Elliot	56	2170	94.09	4.33%	13	7	36		2251	Yes
Prospect Hill		1660		0					158	
The Range		1970		0					159	
Tooperang		4050		0					271	
Willunga Hill		1190		0					150	
Yundi	1	2210	.49	.02%			1		168	
Total	163	51651	222.99		15	59	87	2	9651	

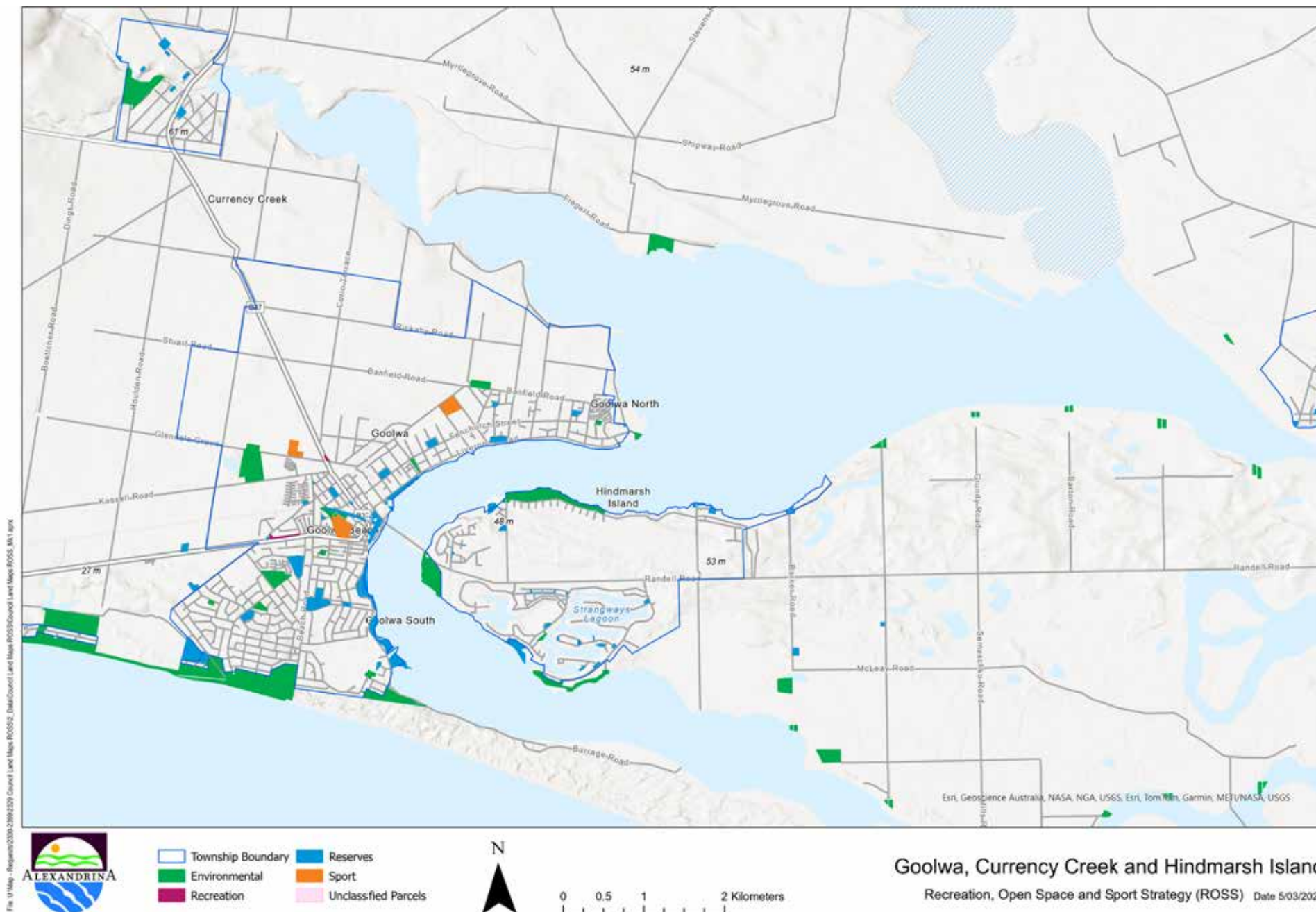
Yellow - townships with over 500 people population

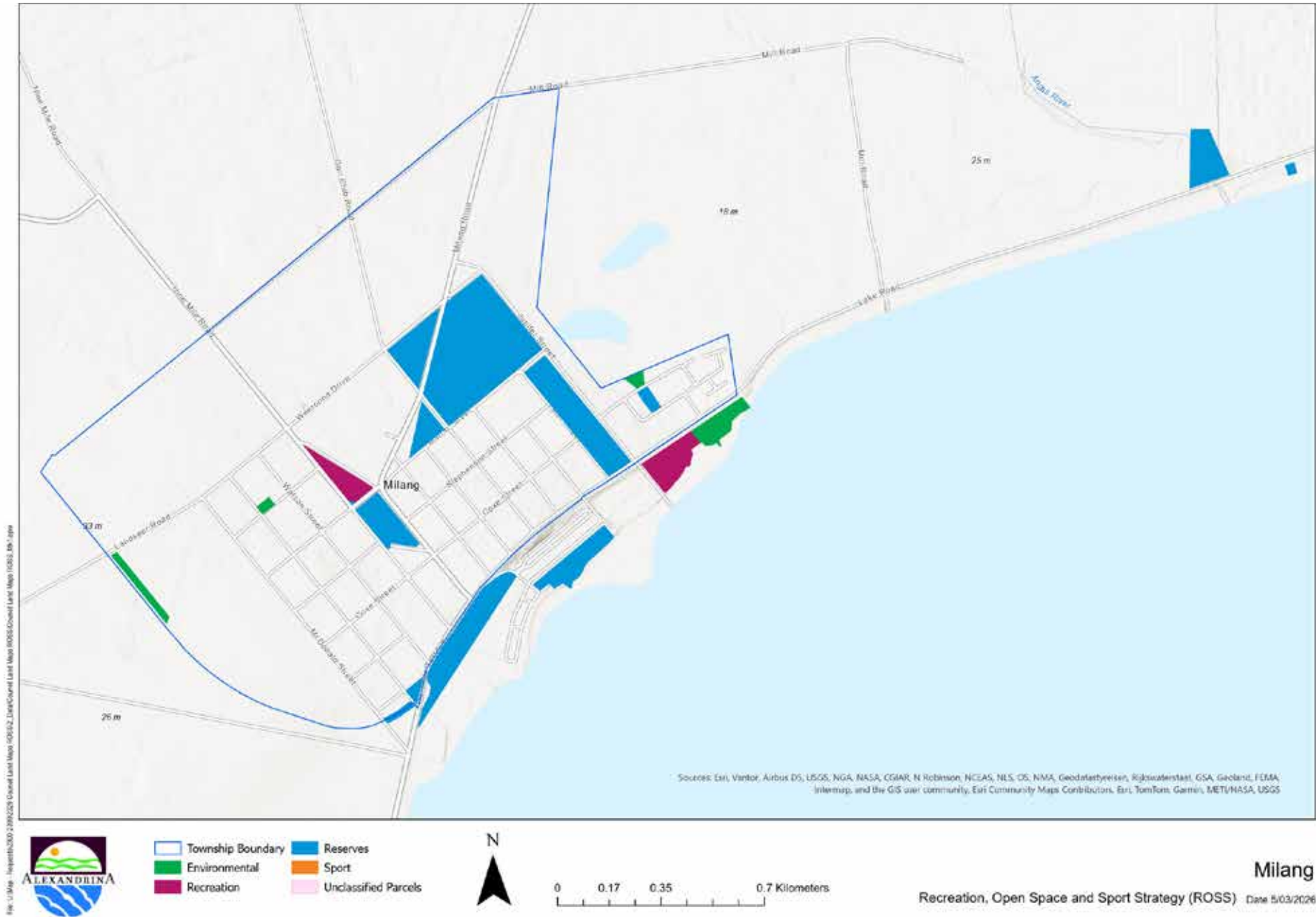
Open space data captured by township



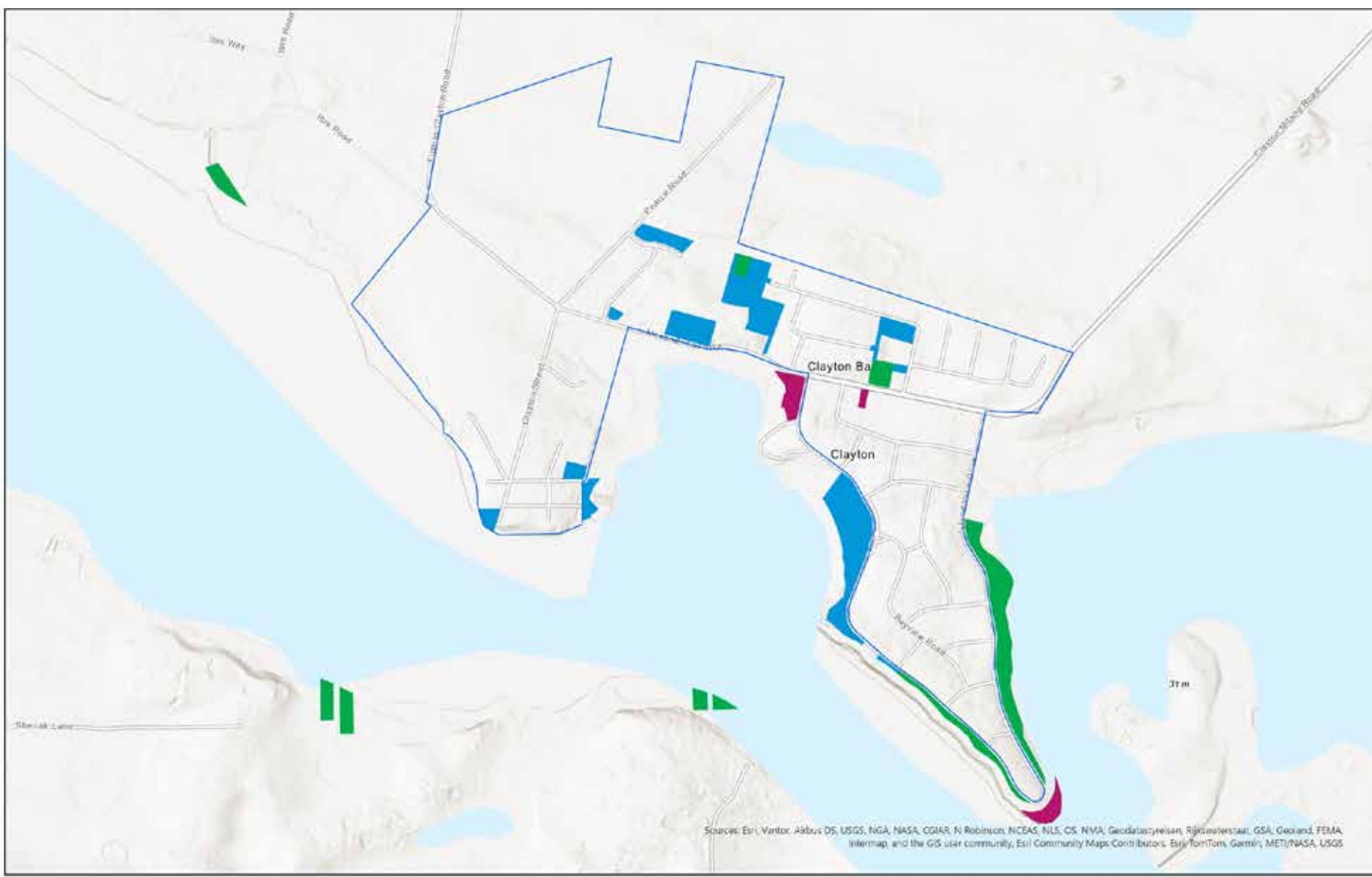








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Sources: Esri, Vantor, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, CS, NVA, Geodatasysteme, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap, and the GIS user community, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri/TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS



- Township Boundary
- Environmental
- Recreation
- Reserves
- Sport
- Unclassified Parcels



Clayton Bay Township

Recreation, Open Space and Sport Strategy (ROSS) Date 5/03/2025

Appendix D

Township sport analysis

The sport and recreation priorities for each township area are summarised in this section of the report.

Note – population growth projections to 2041 are not currently available for townships and smaller areas. ABS Census data with population forecasts to 2041 is only available for the broader LGA.

Strathalbyn, Finniss, Ashbourne

Overview

The total population is 7,846. The majority, approximately 6,675 people, live within the Strathalbyn township. Finniss and Ashbourne have a smaller population with a combined total of 601 people. Population growth in Strathalbyn is 2.53%, which is higher than the Alexandrina Council average growth of 1.94% in 2024.

Strathalbyn has new housing developments, and with families moving into the area, the demand for sport and recreation in this township is expected to increase. The community is seeking good quality facilities, and while the need for traditional sports such as AFL football, cricket, netball and tennis is currently being met, people are having to travel significant distances to access growth sports like basketball and soccer. Soccer and basketball are high-priority sports within this area, as there are limited and, in some cases, unsuitable facilities. Further to this, soccer and basketball in Strathalbyn have some of the highest memberships within the Council area, supporting the case for improved facility provision.

Area 1 – Facility ownership

- 28.5% Council (4 sites)
- 28.5% Private (4 sites)
- 21% Community (3 sites)
- 14.2% DECS (2 sites)
- 7.1% Crown (1 site).

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Strathalbyn Recreation Grounds, Coronation Road and Ashbourne Road	One oval, clubrooms, 8 netball courts (multi-use – also for tennis)	Council and community owned	• Strathalbyn Football Club (250 members) • Strathalbyn Cricket Club (119 members) • Strathalbyn Netball Club (170 members) • Strathalbyn Softball Club (membership unknown) • John Wesley Tennis Club (membership unknown)
Strathalbyn Polo and Recreation grounds, Callington Road	One soccer ground, clubrooms, shed, grounds used for horse activities	Privately owned	• Strathalbyn Strikers Soccer Club (205 members) • Strathalbyn Pony Club (18 members) • Strathalbyn Show Jumping Club (70 members) • Adelaide Hills Dressage Club (84 members)
Strathalbyn Tennis Club, 2 Murray Street	9 tennis courts, clubroom	Community owned	• Strathalbyn Tennis Club (90 members)
Strathalbyn Bowling Club, 5 Colman Terrace	2 bowling greens, clubroom	Community owned	• Strathalbyn Bowling Club (72 members)
Strathalbyn Basketball Association, Eastern Fleurieu School	One basketball court	DECS	• Strathalbyn Basketball Association (412 members)
Strathalbyn Little Athletics, Eastern Fleurieu School	Oval used for activities	DECS	• Strathalbyn Little Athletics (membership unknown)
Angas Go Kart Club, 96 Nine Mile Road	Track and clubroom	Privately Owned	• Angas Go Kart Club (165 members)
Great Southern Archers (formerly Strathalbyn Target Archers Inc), Forrest Road	Archery grounds	Crown Land	• Great Southern Archers (62 members)
Strathalbyn Golf Club, Cox Road	Golf course and clubroom	Privately owned	• Strathalbyn Golf Club (150 members)
Strathalbyn Racing Club, Dry Plains Road	Racecourse and associated facilities	Privately owned	• Strathalbyn Harness Racing Club (membership unknown)
Ashbourne Cricket Club, Ashbourne Oval, Bull Creek Road	Hall and oval	Community owned	• Ashbourne Cricket Club (membership unknown)
Finniss Sports Ground, 4 Hamley Terrace	Oval, clubroom, 3 outdoor basketball courts, cricket nets	Council	• No clubs (all have folded)
Strathalbyn Skate Park, North Parade	Skate park, pathways, seating	Council	• Community use
Strathalbyn Community Swimming Pool, Colman Terrace	50m pool, toddler pool, kiosk and changing facilities	Council	• Great Southern Swimming Club (99 members) • General community use

Facility findings

Strathalbyn:

- Strathalbyn Recreation Ground has very good quality facilities that are overall fit for purpose.
- The Strathalbyn Skate Park is in good condition and is well utilised.
- Strathalbyn Strikers Soccer Club facilities are not suitable for their needs, especially with high usage and growth in the sport. Basic amenities such as toilets and change room facilities are not provided (only portable facilities on site).
- Strathalbyn Basketball Association utilise one local indoor school court in the township; additional courts are needed to meet the current membership, demand and growth in the sport.
- There is an adequate supply of tennis and netball courts in Strathalbyn. The Strathalbyn Tennis Club has nine courts used only for tennis. The Strathalbyn Netball Club and John Wesley Tennis Club share eight courts used for both netball and tennis.

Finniss:

- Finniss Sports Ground is in very poor condition, and all facilities are not suitable for sport.

Ashbourne:

- Ashbourne Oval is only used for cricket, has no lights or change rooms. This oval is only used for cricket.
- Site could have capacity for other cricket clubs to use as overflow.

Challenges:

- Challenges include the distribution of ovals, with ovals within Strathalbyn highly utilised, while ovals in smaller townships are under-utilised and have capacity for greater use.
- The Strathalbyn Football Club has a high membership with 250 players. Based on the SANFL benchmark of 175 club players to every oval, this ground is at capacity, which has also been demonstrated through the club survey in which both the Strathalbyn Football and Cricket Clubs stated they are seeking access to additional ovals for their sport.

Recommendations

- Strathalbyn Recreation Precinct (Lot 10) is a high priority for this region. Strathalbyn is a sporting hub that will continue to grow in population. The precinct could possibly include a flexible open space which includes soccer pitches, football/cricket oval and indoor basketball courts/facilities.
- Indoor basketball courts are needed in the Strathalbyn township. Continue to plan for a new basketball facility at Lot 10. Council to also consider opportunities within future developments and, in the short-term, work with schools and neighbouring Councils to resolve immediate challenges in basketball court provision.

- Soccer facilities within Strathalbyn are a very high priority with soccer pitches and a clubroom being a high priority for Lot 10. Council to actively plan for soccer facilities and work with schools and neighbouring Councils to ensure adequate provision into the future. Options at the soccer club's current home at the Recreation and Polo Grounds should also be considered. There may be benefits to reaching long-term agreements with the private landowner at this site, and for this to be further investigated by Council.
- Assist Strathalbyn football and cricket clubs to access ovals during times of high demand. This could be through joint user agreements with schools or the use of other ovals within the broader Council context.
- Work with developers through open discussions and negotiations to identify opportunities where possible to provide the facilities needed for sport within new residential developments in Strathalbyn.
- Strathalbyn Recreation Ground sports lighting to be assessed to meet 100 LUX minimum for football and cricket.
- Consider community needs and club membership before any improvements to tennis/netball courts – there is an adequate supply (potentially high supply) within the township.
- Community to have access to Council-owned tennis courts for casual use. This could be stated within future lease agreements, and Council to work with the clubs to facilitate access.
- Finniss Sports Ground is in very poor condition with the future of this site needing to be assessed as it is not suitable for sport use.
- Provide club development support to all clubs by providing advice, training and leadership to guide and build their capacity to manage and promote their facilities and programs for the benefit of the community.
- Ensure a maintenance and inspection program is implemented for skate and BMX facilities so that these facilities are well maintained and any risk management issues are addressed.

Port Elliot

Overview

Port Elliot is a quiet township, popular as a holiday destination while also close to Adelaide for day trippers and even commuters. The continued expansion of the Adelaide metropolitan area together with ongoing improvements to road links between the Fleurieu Peninsula and Adelaide has brought an influx of retirees. The town has a higher proportion of people aged over 60 years and lower proportion of children under 18 years old. Population in Port Elliot is 2,251 people.

Area 2 – Facility ownership

- 83.3% Council (5 sites)
- 16.7% non-council (1 site)

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Port Elliot Bowling Club, The Cutting, Port Elliot	1 clubroom, 2 bowling greens	Community owned	Port Elliot Bowling Club (127 members)
Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club, The Cutting Port Elliot	Clubrooms and surf lifesaving infrastructure	Non-Council	Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club (625 members)
Port Elliot Tennis Club, Mason Street, Port Elliot	6 tennis courts	Community owned	Port Elliot Tennis Club (127 members)
Port Elliot Oval, North Terrace, Port Elliot	1 oval (that includes 1 full sized soccer pitch for seniors and three small pitches for juniors), clubroom, cricket nets, skate facility, and 1 netball court	Council	- Port Elliot Cricket Club (105 members) - Southern Breakers Soccer Club (286 members) - Also includes a skate facility
Port Elliot Half-Pipe Skate Facility (located next to Port Elliot Oval)	As above	Council	Community use
Great Southern Table Tennis, Pt Elliot Institute Hall, 16 The Strand Port Elliot	Hall	Council	Great Southern Table Tennis (144 members)

Facility findings

Port Elliot Oval:

- Port Elliot Oval is a key community facility with high club membership, particularly the Southern Breakers Soccer Club that has 286 members, the highest club membership in the area (apart from the Port Elliot Surf Lifesaving Club and Strathalbyn Basketball Association).
- The site includes the cricket club, soccer club and a skate facility
- Port Elliot Oval buildings are in a poor, ageing condition. There are no adequate change rooms especially for growing sports such as soccer or to help facilitate female participation.
- Sports lighting is in poor condition and requires a lighting LUX audit.
- The skate facility is also ageing and likely to receive limited use.

Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club:

- The club has very high membership with 625 members (highest in Alexandrina Council area).
- The facility is in good condition and is well utilised.

Port Elliot Tennis Club:

- High supply of tennis courts based on population; however, the club also has strong membership to support the provision. Consider membership and number of courts required when due for asset renewal.

Port Elliot Bowling Club

- Is in a prime location which is a benefit to recruiting members and attracting visitors and tourists to the club.
- Opportunity to attract sporting events.

Challenges:

- Some clubs expressed challenges with maintenance (due to coastal location) including the Port Elliot Bowling Club and seeking Council assistance in this area.
- Some clubs are seeking Council assistance with longer term lease agreements, facility improvements and access to grant funding.

Recommendations

- Develop a master plan for Port Elliot Oval that considers the needs of all sports and unstructured recreation as a priority with an outcome on additional upgraded change room facilities to help with growth in sport especially female participation.
- There is potential to consider other clubs within the township and surrounding areas (eg Middleton) in the future planning for Port Elliot Oval. Multi-use facilities will be important.
- Review the suitability of cricket and soccer sharing facilities given different type of use.
- Work with Victor Harbor Council on opportunities

for soccer across the region. The Southern Breakers Soccer Club is also using Endeavour College grounds in Victor Harbor.

- A skate facility that caters for both Port Elliot and Middleton could be considered given the close proximity of the two townships.
- Port Elliot is an area of high visitation and tourism, improved facilities would be justified.
- Engagement with clubs in this area on an ongoing basis will be required to understand any future challenges and to ensure they continue to thrive and be sustainable into the future.

Mount Compass

Overview

Mount Compass is a small township, traditionally supported by farming. It has an R-12 area school and a population of 1,232 people. Mount Compass has a high quality golf course that attracts many golfers across the state and country. The course is listed in the Australian Golf Digest top 100 courses in Australia. Mount Compass hosted the country's only Cow Race, the Compass Cup, for nearly 50 years starting in 1973. Originally conceived as a way to bring together the surrounding communities, it became a regional institution that attracted thousands of visitors to the town.

Area 3 -Facility ownership

- 50% Council (2 sites)
- 25% Community (1 site)
- 25% Private (1 site).

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:
(see table below)

Facility Findings

- The town has a good quality recreation park with skate and BMX facilities.
- High quality golf course, privately-owned and redeveloped in 2016.
- High provision of sport facilities in the township, based on population.
- Very high provision of tennis courts (7 courts) based on population and membership numbers.
- Change rooms need to meet minimum standards in AFL Facility Guidelines.
- Sports lighting LUX audit is required at Mount Compass sports grounds to ensure minimum standard for sport is being met.
- High provision of ovals (2 in the township) based on population and known club membership numbers.
- Netball, football and cricket clubs all have good membership numbers.
- All clubs could benefit from club development support (eg strategic planning, governance, volunteer management).

Challenges

- Some of the community-owned clubs have expressed they have challenges funding improvements to facilities and meeting operational costs.
- All clubs are seeking more information and support with training, grant opportunities, volunteer retention and funding.
- The Mount Compass Netball Club and Mount Compass Tennis Club's would like to resurface their courts.
- The Mount Compass Sports and Social Club would like to upgrade toilet facilities to meet DDA standards.

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Mount Compass Community Centre Oval, Peters Terrace	1 oval, sheds, public toilet and clubroom 3 asphalt netball courts and clubroom 7 tennis courts (acrylic) and a clubroom)	Community Owned	• Mount Compass Sports and Social Club (260 members) • Mount Compass Football Club (150 members) • Mount Compass Netball Club (141 members) • Mount Compass Tennis Club (30 members)
Mount Compass Burgess Oval, Burgess Drive	Clubroom and 1 oval	Council Owned	• Mount Compass Cricket Club (112 members) • Mount Compass Soccer Club (membership unknown)
Mount Compass Recreation Park	Skate park, BMX track, playground	Council Owned	• Community use
Mount Compass Golf Course	Driving range, greens, facilities including bar and restaurant.	Private	• Mount Compass Golf Club (80 members)

Recommendations

- Maintain Council-owned facilities to a good standard in accordance with condition audits.
- Consider any actions for Council-owned facilities that may come from the BCA audit.
- Support all clubs (Council and community-owned) by promoting the attractions and facilities of Mount Compass to encourage greater visitation to the township.
- Provide club development support, grant writing, communication and training opportunities to all clubs (both Council and community-owned).
- Further investigate how community owned clubs can be supported by Council to ensure their future sustainability in the medium to long term.

Milang

Overview

Milang is a small community, on the banks of Lake Alexandrina, with a population of 831 people. It is a quiet town, with the predominant age group being 60–69 years old. Households are mostly couples without children. In the late 19th century, Milang was the largest inland port in South Australia, providing a busy trade and produce hub for road transport from Melbourne. Now it is home to charming old buildings, a caravan park, and an attractive foreshore area.

Area 3 –Facility Ownership

- 75% Council (3 sites)
- 25% Community (1 site).

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:
(see table below)

Facility Findings

- The town has had limited residential growth, and many of the clubs have folded including the Milang Tennis Club and Milang Netball Club.
- Other clubs have small memberships including the cricket club that currently has no members (but operating) and the football club with 42 members.
- Based on the SANFL benchmark of 175 club players to every oval, the Milang Oval is under utilised with only 42 football player members and 0 cricket members.
- Milang Oval change rooms do not meet the minimum standard and a lighting LUX audit is required at this site.
- The Milang Tennis Club courts and clubroom are no longer used.

Challenges

- Many clubs in this township are at risk of closing due to limited demand within the town.
- When clubs close often the facilities are handed back to Council (even if community-owned) which provides challenges for Council on what to do with the assets that may no longer be needed.

Recommendations

Milang Oval

- Work with clubs to ensure buildings are maintained, and the grounds fit for purpose. Consider outcomes of BCA audits.
- The Milang Oval has capacity for greater use and could assist other clubs in the Council area seeking additional ovals for training or games. Further to this, revenue could also be generated for the Milang clubs by hiring the facilities to other clubs who have ovals that are at capacity (e.g. Strathalbyn Football Club, Strathalbyn Cricket Club and Langhorne Creek Cricket Club).

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Milang Oval, Luard Street	1 clubroom, change room (cricket and football), 1 oval, cricket nets, historical society building, Red Cross building, a toilet block	Council	• Milang Cricket Club (0 members – still operating) • Milang Football Club (42 members) • Milang Netball Club (0 members – has folded)
Milang Lawn Bowls Club, Daranda Terrace	1 clubroom, 2 bowling greens, carpark	Community Owned	• Milang Lawn Bowls Club (32 members)
Milang Tennis Club, Luard Street	5 tennis courts and a clubroom	Council	• No clubs (has folded)
Milang Regatta Club and Milang Search and Rescue, Foreshore Milang	Club facility	Community Owned	• Milang Regatta Club and Milang Search and Rescue (20 members)

- Consider the medium to long-term future of Milang Oval in consultation with the clubs that use the facility.

Milang Tennis Club – Courts and Clubroom

- In consultation with the community, review the need for the tennis courts at Luard Street.
- Consider re-purposing courts and providing other recreation use.
- Ensure two high quality multi-use courts with tennis, basketball and other games, that can be used by the community and visitors to the town.

Club Support

- Clubs in the town require club development support to help build their capacity and where possible, grow their memberships to improve future sustainability.
- Monitor Milang club membership trends closely and develop close working relationships with the clubs to build their capacity.

Middleton

Overview

Middleton is a coastal community with a small population of 1,057 people. It is located between Port Elliot and Goolwa, with the majority of the community accessing the neighbouring townships for structured club sport and recreation. Middleton is a popular location for surfing and has a number of surf schools located near the foreshore. The town has a higher proportion of children (aged under 18 years).

Area 5 -Facility ownership

- 100% Council (2 sites)

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Middleton Tennis Courts, Abbotts Reserve	2 tennis courts	Council	N/A
Middleton Half-Pipe Skate Facility, Abbotts Reserve (Southern end)	1 half-pipe skate facility	Council	N/A

Facility findings

- The Middleton half-pipe is an older skate facility. There has been a petition in recent years seeking a skate park in Middleton. A skate park was also expressed in Middleton Village conversations.

Recommendations

- Review suitable locations in Middleton and the surrounding area for an upgraded skate facility.
- Promote the coastal lifestyle and unstructured recreation opportunities within this township that include surf schools and learn to surf programs.

Langhorne Creek, Hartley and Woodchester

Overview

The Langhorne Creek, Hartley and Woodchester area has a population of 847. Langhorne Creek is primarily a wine region with a history dating back to the 1850's. It has a higher proportion of young people aged between 15-19 years old than South Australia. The majority of the community is employed locally in the wine and grape growing industries.

Facility ownership

- 100% Community (1 site)

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Langhorne Creek Oval, Murray Road	1 oval, 1 bowling green, 4 netball courts (multi-use with 6 tennis courts), clubrooms, playground, cricket nets	Community	- Langhorne Creek Bowling Club (membership unknown) - Langhorne Creek Cricket Club (115 members) - Langhorne Creek Football Club (150 members) - Langhorne Creek Netball Club (130 members)

Facility findings

- Strong club membership and successful clubs in the region.
- Clubs work well together, and are generally happy with their facilities.
- The site has high-quality and very well-maintained sporting facilities.
- This community sporting complex has acrylic netball courts in excellent condition, a good quality playground, oval with digital scoreboard, excellent quality cricket nets, sealed carparking, clubrooms for netball, bowling and football/cricket.
- SANFL facility audit showed that players' and umpires change rooms need upgrading to meet minimum standards, and the site requires a lighting LUX audit to ensure the site is meeting the minimum standards.

Challenges

The challenges expressed by the clubs in the survey included:

- Cricket:
 - Pressures meeting operational costs and financially contributing to improvements to facilities.
 - Access to ovals can be difficult, and also currently using Milang Oval and Eastern Fleurieu R-12 School for additional oval space.
- Netball:
 - Volunteer retention is a challenge.
- Football:
 - Stated they would benefit from training and support on club development topics such as volunteer management, governance, grant writing, and seeking sponsorship.

Recommendations

- Clubs in this area are self-sufficient and are supported by a strong local community.
- The clubs would benefit from communication and support from the Council on training opportunities available on relevant issues, such as retaining volunteers, strategic planning, and grant writing. Training is often available through the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and Clubs SA.
- Future Lot 10 Strathalbyn Recreation Precinct would also assist Langhorne Creek Clubs in the long term with additional oval space for overflow.

Goolwa, Hindmarsh Island and Currency Creek

Overview

Goolwa, Hindmarsh Island and Currency Creek have a population of 9,416 people. Goolwa is the largest central Hub within Alexandrina Council. Goolwa has had significant investment in sport and recreation facilities in recent years and is well provided for. Goolwa has a higher percentage of people aged 60–74 years than the average South Australian, and a low percentage of young and middle-aged people under 39 years old. Goolwa is a popular location for holidays and day trips and attracts many visitors from Adelaide throughout the year.

Facility ownership

- 73% Council (8 sites)
- 18% Private (2 sites)
- 9% Crown (1 site).

Sport and Recreation facilities

(See next page)

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Goolwa Districts Pony Club, Washington Street	Pony club and clubroom, shed, toilets	Council (leased)	Goolwa Districts Pony Club (6 members)
Goolwa Aquatic Sailing Club, 92 Barrage Road	Clubrooms, function spaces, café	Council (leased)	- Goolwa Aquatic Sailing Club (118 members) - Coorong Dragons (39 members) - Goolwa Vintage Boat Club - Goolwa Speed Boats
Goolwa Sport Stadium, Glendale Grove Goolwa	1x indoor compliant full sized basketball court	Council	- Goolwa Magic Basketball Club (163 members) - Goolwa International Rules Basketball Club Inc (163 members) - Goolwa Badminton Club (30 members) - Great Southern Archers (62 members)
Goolwa Skate and Bike Park	Concrete skate facility, asphalt pump track facility, dirt jumps.	Council	General community use
Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct, Goyder Street	1 Oval 4 Cricket nets 3 Bowling greens 3 Tennis courts 3 Netball courts Clubrooms Sports lighting for all courts and oval Public toilet	Council	- Goolwa Bowling Club (150 members) - Goolwa Cricket Club (84 members) - Goolwa Croquet Club (membership unknown) - Goolwa Football Club (200 members) - Goolwa Hockey Club (50 members) - Goolwa Netball Club (164 members) - Goolwa Tennis Club (61 members)
Goolwa Pistol and Shooting Club, 59 Peel Road, Currency Creek	Clubroom and shooting ranges	Crown Land	Goolwa Pistol and Shooting Club (116 members)
Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club, 112 Barrage Road	Yacht club facility	Crown Land	Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club (membership unknown)
Goolwa Rowing Club, Coorong Quays, Tolarno Dr, Hindmarsh Island	Sheds	Private	Goolwa Rowing Club (48 members)
Goolwa Surf Lifesaving Club, Beach Road	Surf lifesaving club room and associated facilities	Crown Land	Goolwa Surf Lifesaving Club (membership unknown)
Fleurieu Aquatic Centre, 4 Ocean Road Chilton	25m indoor pool	Council Joint user with Victor Harbor Council	Great Southern Swimming Club (99 members)
Chilton Rocks Surf Lifesaving Club	Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms	Crown Land	Chilton Rocks Surf Lifesaving Club (203 members)

Facility findings

Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct

- There is a large number of user groups that use Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct.
- Goolwa Oval is highly utilised, and the oval is at capacity.
- The Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct clubs require support as they establish an Oval Management Committee and develop ways of working together and with Council.
- Goolwa Tennis Club is seeking a clubroom upgrade.

Goolwa Aquatic Centre

- Goolwa Aquatic Centre are sharing toilets with Bombora Restaurant – seeking separate toilet/change facilities.

Goolwa Rowing Club

- Goolwa Rowing Club would like a purpose-built facility for rowing.

Goolwa Pony Club

- Goolwa Pony Club has an ageing clubroom that appears to be in poor condition; further assessment required by Council, including space requirements.

Recommendations

- Working in collaboration, support the Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct clubs to establish the Oval Management Committee and ensure the management of the new facility is successful.
- Review the need for a separate toilet and change facility at the Goolwa Aquatic Centre.
- Determine any opportunities for Goolwa Rowing Club to share with other clubs in the region.
- Review future needs of the Goolwa Pony Club, and assess the condition of their existing clubroom.
- The Goolwa Oval is at capacity for use. Develop agreements with schools to access ovals if further space is needed for clubs.
- Consider hockey in any future planning for soccer facilities.

Clayton Bay

Overview

A riverside town with a population of 536 people. Clayton Bay is a quiet place, which includes a caravan park that attracts people interested in eco-tourism, bird watching, sailing and boating activities.

Sport and Recreation facilities

Key sport and recreation facilities include:

Facility	What is there?	Ownership	Clubs and membership
Clayton Bay Boat Club, Lot 270 Island View Drive	Boat ramp, marina berths, clubrooms	Council (leased)	Clayton Bay Boat Club (membership unknown)

Facility findings

- Recreation in this township includes boat and sailing activities

Recommendations

- Develop working relationships with clubs in Clayton Bay to support groups into the future.
- Undertake the delivery of a new bike park within the foreshore reserve as per council resolution.

Appendix E

Local Sport and Recreation Participation/Club survey outcomes

Data collected through the sport and recreation club survey provides a snapshot of sport participation across Alexandrina Council.

Top Participation Sports in Alexandrina	Total Club Membership (Council-Wide)	Township with the highest club membership
1. Surf Lifesaving	828	Port Elliot
2. AFL Football	792	Strathalbyn
3. Basketball	702	Strathalbyn
4. Netball	605	Strathalbyn
5. Cricket	535	Strathalbyn
6. Soccer	491	Port Elliot
7. Tennis	308	Port Elliot
8. Bowling	252	Port Elliot
9. Golf	230	Strathalbyn
10. Sailing, Rowing, Dragon Boat Racing	205	Goolwa
11. Equestrian	178	Strathalbyn
12. Go Kart Racing	168	Strathalbyn
13. Shooting	156	Goolwa
14. Swimming	99	Strathalbyn / Goolwa
15. Archery	66	Strathalbyn/ Goolwa
16. Hockey	50	Goolwa
17. Badminton	30	Goolwa

*The data provides a snapshot only, as not all clubs completed the survey. It also does not include sports that are taking place outside of clubs, such as school sport, casual competitions or general recreational use.

Alexandrina Club Survey Results

A survey was undertaken with sport and recreation clubs to understand current membership/trends, facility condition, current usage, ownership, opportunities and areas for improvement. The survey was conducted during April/May 2024 for a period of four weeks.

A total of 55 responses were received:

About the respondents

- 36.4% (20 respondents) – President
- 34.5% (19 respondents) – Secretary
- 12.7% (7 respondents) – Treasurer
- 16.4% have another role on the club committee or within the club.

What sports did we hear from?

- 25.4% AFL football or cricket clubs (7 football responses and 7 cricket responses)
- 18.2% Lawn bowls and netball clubs (5 lawn bowl responses and 5 netball clubs)
- 14.4% Golf, basketball, surf lifesaving and table tennis clubs (3 responses received from each)
- 5.5% were from soccer clubs (3 responses)
- 36.5% responses received from other clubs (including hockey, archery, swimming, shooting, badminton, motor and go kart racing, paddle boarding, boating- sailing, yacht, rowing, dragon boating and marine rescue).

Where are the clubs located?

1. 29% Strathalbyn (16 clubs)
2. 23.6% Goolwa (13 clubs)
3. 14.5% Port Elliot (8 clubs)
4. 14.5% Mt Compass (8 clubs)
5. 5.4% Langhorne Creek (3 clubs)
6. 5.4% Milang (3 clubs)
7. 5.4% Other (including Chiton, Currency Creek and Hindmarsh 3 clubs).

Club membership statistics

The clubs represented a combined total of **6,165 members**, demonstrating the benefit that clubs bring to the well-being of Alexandrina Council residents and the community.

The clubs with the highest membership:

1. Port Elliot Surf Lifesaving Club – 625 members
2. Strathalbyn Basketball Association – 412 members
3. Southern Breakers Soccer Club – 286 members
4. Mount Compass Sports and Social Club – 260 members
5. Strathalbyn Football Club – 250 members
6. Strathalbyn Strikers Soccer Club – 205 members.

Over the past five years:

- 45.5% of clubs stated that their membership is increasing
- 18.1% said membership has decreased
- 29% have stayed the same
- 7.2% stated not applicable.

In Alexandrina Council, clubs have:

- 34.5% (19 responses) – mostly senior members with some junior-aged members
- 34.5% (19 responses) – equal representation of both senior and junior-aged members
- 18.2% (10 responses) – mostly junior members with some senior-aged members
- 10.9% (6 responses) – exclusively senior-aged members
- 1.8% (1 response) – other.

Club development

Clubs have said that the best way to grow and develop their membership is (in order of preference):

1. By providing a friendly, welcoming and supportive club culture
2. Providing good quality facilities
3. Social opportunities and events
4. Social media promotion
5. Social competitions
6. Modified competitions for beginners
7. School clinics.

Clubs consider the following as most important to the future development of their club (in order of preference):

1. Volunteer retention
2. More promotion of the club
3. Training and development for clubs on topics such as volunteer management, governance, grant writing and sponsorship
4. Improved playing facilities
5. Improved social facilities
6. Networking and collaboration with similar clubs.

Club operations

Financial:

- 63.6% of clubs (35 responses) strongly agree/ agree they are self-sufficient and don't rely on external funding
- 30.9% of clubs (17 responses) disagree/strongly disagree that they are self-sufficient and do need external funding and assistance
- 3.6% of clubs (3 responses) are unsure.

Operational costs:

- 67.2% (37 clubs) said they can meet all operational costs and can financially contribute to improvements to their club facility
- 18.1% (10 clubs) said they are unable to meet their operations costs and/or financially contribute to improvements to their club facility
- 7.2% (4 clubs) are unsure
- 3.6% (2 clubs) said not relevant.

Volunteering:

- 74% of clubs are well supported by their volunteers (41 responses)
- 16.3% of clubs don't feel they are supported by volunteers (9 responses).

Working with Council:

- 38% (21 clubs) agree/strongly agree that they work closely with Council to develop their club
- 45.5% (25 clubs) do not believe that they work with Council to develop their club
- 12.7% (7 clubs) stated not relevant
- 3.6% (2 clubs) stated they are not sure.

Working with other facility user groups:

- 81.8% (45 clubs) agree/strongly agree that they have a good working relationship with other clubs that share their space
- 3.6% (2 clubs) said they do not have a good working relationship with clubs that share their space
- 1.8% (1 club) said they are unsure
- 12.7% (7 clubs) said not relevant.

Strategic Plan:

- 61.8% of clubs (34 responses) have a current strategic plan
- 25.4% (14 clubs) do not have a strategic plan
- 7.2% (4 clubs) are not sure
- 1.8% (1 club) stated not relevant.

Club Facilities

Maintenance:

- 85% of clubs (47 responses) strongly agree/agree that their facilities are well looked after and maintained
- 10.9% of clubs (6 responses) disagree/strongly disagree that their facilities are well looked after and maintained
- 3.6% (2 clubs) are not sure.

Fit for purpose:

- 70.9% (39 clubs) strongly agree/agree their facilities are appropriate for their needs
- 23.6% (13 clubs) believe their facilities are not appropriate for their needs
- 1.8% (1 club) is not sure.

Hire fees and charges:

- 63.6% (35 clubs) strongly agree/agree that the fees to hire their facilities are reasonable
- 7.2% (4 clubs) do not believe that the fees to hire facilities are reasonable
- 9.1% (5 clubs) are not sure
- 18.1% (10 clubs) stated not relevant.

Using other facilities

- 40% (22 clubs) use other facilities/venues for training, competition and social sport
- 60% (33 clubs) do not use other facilities or venues.

The key reasons for using other venues:

- Catering for increased demand/club growth (7 clubs) – 31.8%
- We use other facilities during winter/times of inclement weather (6 clubs) – 27.3%
- The club believes it has outgrown its facility and needs more space (4 clubs) – 18.2%
- The club's home ground is not available when they need it (2 clubs) – 13.6%
- Other – 9.4%.

How could Council assist Clubs going forward?

The clubs selected which areas they would like support from Council. Responses in order of preference:

1. Access to Council grant funding (49 responses)
2. Assistance with information on grants and other opportunities (42 responses)
3. Provision of adequate facilities (24 responses)
4. Promotion of activities (20 responses)
5. Assistance with maintenance or operation of facilities (23 responses)
6. Business, club or strategic club planning support (14 responses)
7. Accommodating growth in membership (12 responses)
8. Committee support and training (3 responses).

Appendix F

State Sporting Organisation and Association Directions and Feedback

Survey Responses

In February 2025, a questionnaire was sent to State Sporting Organisations and Associations seeking information on the strategic directions for their sports and key priorities. A total of 14 responses were received from individuals representing nine of the 12 listed organisations contacted for feedback, including:

- Great Southern Football League
- SANFL
- Great Southern Cricket Association
- SACA
- Sailing Australia
- Badminton SA
- Goolwa Badminton
- Great Southern Basketball Association
- Softball SA
- Table Tennis SA
- Great Southern Netball Association
- Bowls SA.

Findings included:

Great Southern Football League/SANFL:

- Experiencing growth in females and juniors
- SANFL is seeking improvements to floodlighting and change rooms in selected locations
- SANFL Key facility targets for Alexandrina Council include:
 - 55% of player and umpire change rooms are female-friendly.
 - 60% of playing fields have match standard (minimum 100 LUX, ideally 150 LUX) lighting.

Softball SA

- Currently no programs in Alexandrina
- Expressed that some Council areas have Softball programs and would be interested in developing in Alexandrina if there is interest.

Great Southern Cricket Association / SACA:

- Key priority is ovals in new developments and gaining access to spaces
- Development of change room facilities at ovals (other than Strathalbyn and Goolwa) and improvements to oval lighting for community cricket
- Both organisations are focused on strengthening girls'/women's participation and junior participation
- SACA would like to increase participation in the Goolwa, Mount Compass, and Port Elliot.

Great Southern Basketball Association

- Key priority is fit-for-purpose facilities, additional courts and securing an indoor stadium for the wider region to cater for growing participation (discussions currently taking place with Alexandrina and Victor Harbor Council).

Great Southern Netball Association

- Stated membership has increased
- Key focus is on promoting netball in the region and upgrading netball facilities.

Bowls SA

- They stated the Alexandrina Council area is popular for bowls and attracts many people due to the tourism benefits of the region
- Would like to see the Council area hosting more events and for clubs to secure funding support
- Also stated that updated facilities will be important in the future for clubs.

Table Tennis SA

- Interested in access to multi-purpose indoor stadium facilities if and when available for programs and competitions.

Other Associations:

- Key priorities included continuing with their sport, growing and promoting within the Alexandrina Council region.

Appendix G

South Australian Participation – AusPlay data

AusPlay is a national population survey funded and led by the Australian Sports Commission. It is the largest and most comprehensive survey, and is widely considered the single-source participation data currency for government and the sport sector. In 2023, AusPlay released its latest survey results, which included 1,280,327 adults and 233,111 children in South Australia to determine sport and recreation participation across the State

Overall Participation

- 80% of the SA population participate in sport and recreation at least once a week
- 60% of the SA population participate in sport and recreation at least three times a week.

Child Participation

- 52.1% of children participate at least once per week
- 70% participate in sport related activities.

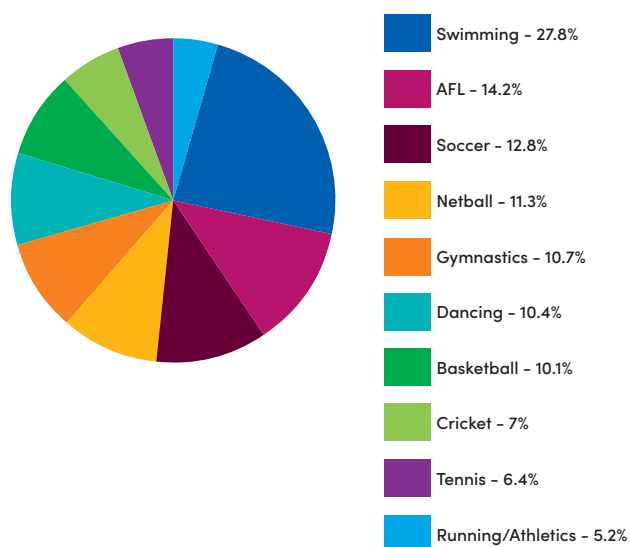
Physical Activity Guidelines

- 22.7% of people 65 years and over met the guidelines of 30 minutes of exercise everyday
- 36.1% of 18–64 year olds and over met the guidelines of 30 minutes of exercise everyday
- 26.1% of 15–17year-olds met the guidelines of 60 minutes of exercise everyday.

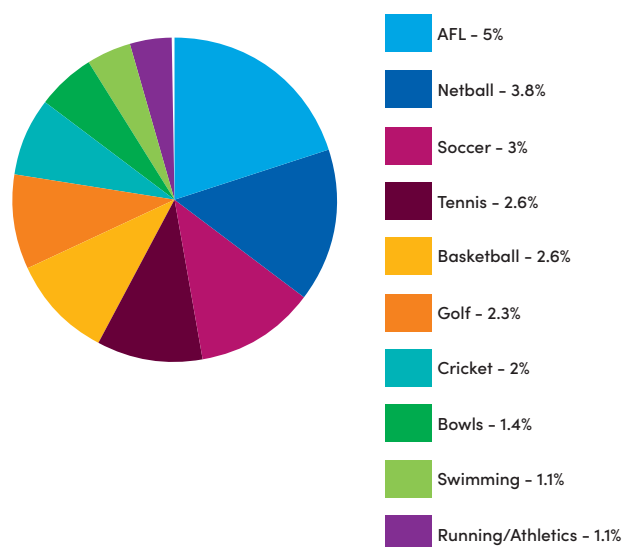
*AusPlay 2023 Survey Data provided by Australian Sports Commission and Clearinghouse for Sport.

AusPlay Data – South Australia

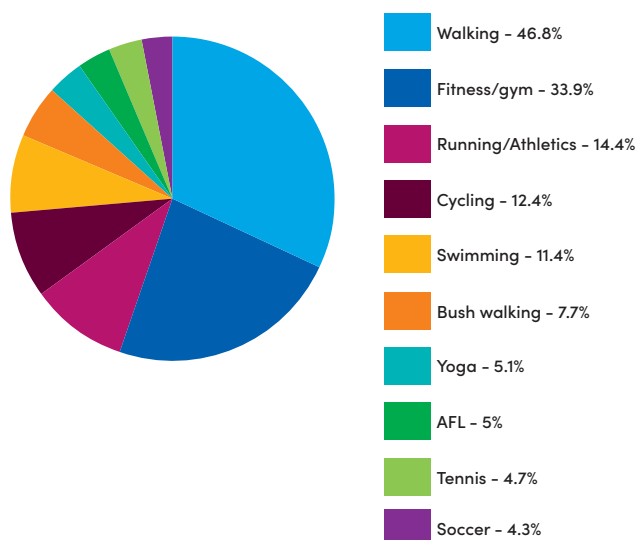
Activities most popular with children in South Australia:



Top activities for sport club participation in South Australia:



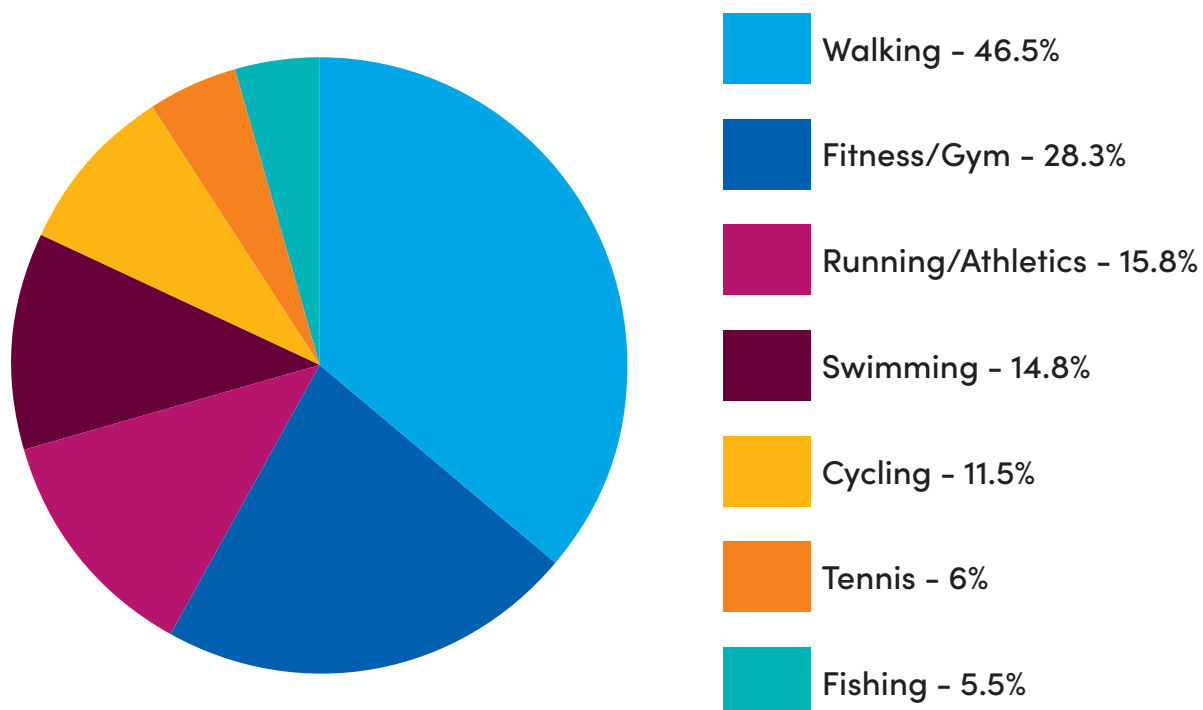
Activities most popular with adults in South Australia:



The 2023 AusPlay survey results showed that in South Australia, the most popular activity for children was swimming (27.8%), followed by AFL football (14.2%), soccer (12.8%) and netball (11.3%). The most popular activities for adults were walking (46.8%), followed by fitness/gym (33.9%). The top activities for sport club participation were AFL football (5.0%), followed by netball (3.8%), and soccer (3%).

*AusPlay 2023 Survey Data provided by Australian Sports Commission and Clearinghouse for Sport.

AusPlay Data - Alexandrina Council Area



The 2023 AusPlay survey results showed that for people living in the Alexandrina LGA the most popular activities included walking (46.5%), fitness/gym (28.3%), running/athletics (15.8%), and swimming (14.8%).

Appendix H

Local Sport Trends and Findings

From club survey results and analysis, Alexandrina Council has a total of 63 clubs and over 6,165 people involved in club sport and recreation. The local trends and findings include:

Surf Lifesaving

Surf Lifesaving plays a vital role in coastal towns by saving lives, promoting water safety, and fostering a sense of community through volunteerism, education, and sports programs. Alexandrina Council has high-quality surf lifesaving facilities, programs and significant community involvement. Surf Lifesaving is the highest participation sport in Alexandrina Council, with a total membership of 828 people. There are three surf lifesaving clubs in the region, Port Elliot Surf Lifesaving Club, the largest, with an impressive 625 members.

Football and Cricket

Football and cricket continue to be high participation sports within Alexandrina Council. Football has the second-highest participation in the region with 792 members. Cricket has 535 members and is one of the top five participation sports in the LGA. Most towns have a local oval, which is often the center of the community, with its own history and story. From research, it has been found that ovals located near the Strathalbyn and Goolwa hubs are at capacity, while in some townships with smaller populations, ovals have capacity for additional use. This presents a unique challenge with the current distribution of ovals.

Indoor Basketball

There is only one Council-owned indoor basketball court within the Alexandrina Council region, which is situated at the Goolwa Sports Stadium. Basketball has some of the highest memberships in the Council area. For example, the Strathalbyn Basketball Association has 412 members. The low provision of indoor courts available is a big challenge for the sport, limiting the number of people who can currently participate within the Alexandrina Council area.

Netball

Netball participation continues to be strong across Alexandrina, it is the fourth highest participation sport with 605 members. The clubs are well provided for with good provision of netball courts, based on the current and anticipated future population.

Soccer

Soccer is a relatively new growth sport for South Australia, and due to this, there are no purpose-built soccer facilities within the Council area. Soccer is being played on ovals typically used for AFL football and cricket. Soccer is rapidly growing, providing opportunities for all ages and genders. Soccer clubs in Alexandrina Council have some of the highest membership numbers. For example, the Southern Breakers Soccer Club in Port Elliot currently has 286 members. For comparison, the largest AFL football club in Alexandrina, the Strathalbyn Football Club, has 250 members. The rapid growth in soccer is not expected to slow down, and the limited provision is a significant gap.

Tennis Courts

While tennis remains popular with seniors, junior participation in tennis is declining. This is mostly due to competition from other popular sports such as soccer, basketball and AFL football. There was an overall 35% drop in tennis players in Australia between 2001 and 2016, indicating a declining trend. Alexandrina Council has a high supply of tennis courts, and there may be a case for consolidation of courts in some areas when assets are due for replacement or renewal.

Lawn Bowls

With an ageing population and many retirees living in Alexandrina Council, lawn bowl clubs have strong membership and are well utilised. Port Elliot is the largest bowling club in the region with 127 members.

Golf

Alexandrina has many golf courses, including the Mount Compass Golf Course, listed in the Australian Golf Digest top 100 courses in Australia.

Equestrian

The largest equestrian facility in Alexandrina is located at the Strathalbyn Polo and Recreation Grounds. A large facility, with a number of horse and pony clubs and a membership of 172 people.

Sailing, Yacht, Rowing and Boat Activities

Boating and sailing sports/unstructured activities are popular along the coast and lakeside at Goolwa, Port Elliot, Milang and Clayton Bay. These experiences are a drawcard to living and visiting the area, and there are many opportunities and high-quality facilities along the foreshore.

Other Recreation Activities

Other activities that Alexandrina residents participate in include shooting, swimming, archery, hockey and badminton.

Sport and Recreation Clubs- Council Owned Facilities

Sport and Recreation Clubs are experiencing challenges in improving and upgrading their ageing facilities. Many clubs were built 50-60 years ago and are facing facilities reaching the end of their asset life. With the decline in volunteerism and in some cases club membership, it is becoming increasingly difficult to fund and resource the work that is required to be undertaken. Clubs are seeking greater support from Council in regards to maintenance and grant funding to assist. Clubs are also seeking support with training, advice, assistance with volunteer retention and promotion of their club and facilities.

Community and non- Council Owned Clubs

Community and non-Council-owned clubs are experiencing the same challenges as Council-owned clubs. There have been recent examples of clubs folding (Milang Tennis Club and Finnis Cricket Club), and club facilities being handed back to the Council. Community and non Council-owned clubs are having difficulty meeting their operational costs and improving their facilities. As shown in the SANFL facility audit data, the majority of community-owned clubs require change rooms to be upgraded and lighting to meet the minimum standard. These clubs have the additional challenge that they often receive very little funding or support from external sources, even though they provide a valuable service to the community.

Ageing population

Alexandrina Council has an ageing community, and this impacts the community's overall involvement and participation in selected sports. However, this also presents opportunities, with participation and membership in sports such as golf and bowls increasing with age.

A Changing Community

Where we live and how we live are changing as housing affordability and availability place pressure on many South Australians. The full impact is still to be determined, but many families are moving further from Adelaide to be able to afford housing or for a lifestyle change. Strathalbyn is a community that is seeing more young people and families move into the area, and this will increase the demand for sport and recreation opportunities.

Unstructured Recreation

There is an overall trend of unstructured recreation pursuits increasing, such as walking, cycling, swimming, kayaking and recreational surfing. The Alexandrina Council area lends itself to these activities, particularly along the coast and lakeside communities.

Sports Tourism and Events

An opportunity for Alexandrina Council is increased sports tourism, where people travel to observe or participate in sporting events, encompassing both spectator and active tourism. It is a rapidly growing sector of the industry, generating significant economic benefits for the region. The unique townships, coastal holiday spots, and proximity to local wine regions make Alexandrina Council an ideal choice to host events.

State and National Sport Trends and SA Game on Strategy

In South Australia, soccer and basketball are experiencing significant growth, with soccer participation increasing by 11% and basketball rising as a top team sport nationally. Australian rules football continues to be popular in South Australia, and netball participation is also very strong.

This is also demonstrated through Alexandrina's sport and recreation club survey, where football, netball, basketball and soccer are all sports with some of the highest local club memberships.

Basketball:

- Basketball is experiencing phenomenal growth across Australia, with participation reaching new heights.
- The NBL (National Basketball League) is considered the fastest-growing sporting league in Australia.

Soccer:

- Soccer participation in South Australia increased by 11% to 126,934 participants.
- This growth is attributed to the success of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ and Australia's national teams, along with Football Australia's initiatives.
- There has been a rise in women and girls' participation nationally, increasing by 16% to 221,436 participants.
- Registered coaches and volunteers have also increased, reflecting a growing workforce to support the game.

Australian Rules Football:

- South Australia has 64,000 participants, and continues to drive strong participation numbers across all levels of football
- Women and girls also account for 20% of all community football registrations nationally.

Netball

- Netball in South Australia has over 35,000 participants
- The sport is actively working to grow participation and revenue, and has several initiatives to increase male and mixed-gender participation.

Cricket

Cricket is another of Australia's major team sports in terms of participation, with nearly 800,000 participants across the country, and more than 50,000 of these in South Australia. Cricket participation is dominated by younger age groups, though far less so than soccer and (especially) basketball. Unlike those sports, cricket is also far more likely to be played by males.

Other sports and activities:

- Tennis and golf also continue to be popular
- National and state participation trends show that participation in non-sport-related physical activities has increased. Participation in walking, running, swimming, cycling and fitness is the most popular activity.

South Australian Government Game On Strategy

The trends impacting sport and recreation participation have been sourced from the South Australian State Government Game On Strategy and include:

Family and work pressures:

- People are experiencing increased pressures associated with managing their time and finances.

On-demand everything:

- Consumers now expect instant gratification, tailored to their individual circumstances.

Ageing population:

- The population is ageing, creating the need for more choices to be physically active.

Active Travel:

- The most common method of travel to work for employed people was: car driver 66.0%, public transport 7.2%, car passenger 4.6% and employee working from home 4.4%.

Experiences and personalisation:

- The flexibility of unstructured outdoor activities and experiences is becoming increasingly important to people.

Broader and more diverse population:

- 28.2% of Australians were born overseas, almost 20% of Australians have some form of disability, and 3% of Australians may have a diverse sexual orientation or gender identity.

New technology:

- Technology is changing the way people get information and view sports. Data demonstrates that as physical activity levels decline, screen-viewing behaviours increase.

Decline in volunteering:

- The labour input of Australian volunteers in sport is estimated to be valued at \$4 billion annually.

Urban planning infill:

- Urban planning infill is a key growth strategy to address changing demographics and affordability issues.

Megatrends in sport:

Six environmental factors are shaping sport into the future over the next 30 years.

1. A Perfect Fit
2. From Extreme to Mainstream
3. More than Sport
4. Everybody's Game
5. New Wealth New Talent
6. Tracksuits to Business Suits.





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