



**HUON VALLEY
COUNCIL**



Summary of Community Engagement Huon Valley Recreation Plan

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Huon Valley Recreation Plan

Summary of Community Engagement

Publication Date: [Council Meeting Date]

Council Resolution: [Resolution No.]

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This community engagement was conducted at the “Consult Level” in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Framework.

For the purposes of the engagement, feedback on the draft plan was invited from the community for a period of three weeks (18 May 2020 to 5 June 2020)

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions Council was unable to provide hard copy surveys.

Community members received notification via email and the Council eNewsletter. A total of 1,185 recipients received the eNewsletter over the three-week period.

This report summarises feedback received throughout the engagement period. A total of 11 responses to the request for feedback were received. Copies of each of the responses received are included in Appendix 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

The Huon Valley Council engaged consultants Inspiring Place to develop a Huon Valley Recreation Plan to guide future planning, development, and management of sport and recreation within the Huon Valley.

Inspiring Place developed the draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan based on community engagement conducted with key stakeholders. This recreation plan was released to the community for feedback on 18 May 2020.

As part of its development, the Huon Valley community, sporting clubs, schools and other groups were invited to a series of workshops and an online survey was available to complete.

The Recreation Plan addresses a range of aspects including:

- changing needs within the community;
- achieving equitable access to multipurpose facilities and spaces;
- better utilisation of existing recreational facilities and services;
- potential for changing, enhancing, sharing or rationalising use of existing facilities;
- identifying the need and priority for new facilities; and
- opportunities where recreational pursuits may also engage tourism.

Community members were invited to share their thoughts about the proposed Recreation Plan and any additions they would like to see included.

Engagement Technique	Date	Reach
Huon Valley Council Website - Community Engagement ‘Have Your Say’ page	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	221 page views

Engagement Technique	Date	Reach
Survey Monkey	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	11 online surveys completed
Facebook	18 May 2020 – 5 June 2020	4350 People Reached 156 Engaged with post
Council eNewsletter	Emailed on: 22 May 2020 29 May 2020	Emailed to: 592 593
Paid Advertising	20 – 21 May 2020	
Huon FM Radio	Included in the Mayor's weekly radio interview.	

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

As indicated in the Summary to this Report a total of 11 responses to the request for feedback were received during the engagement period.

The feedback received made a number of suggestions and has been summarised in a table in the form of feedback received, comments and a recommended response, attached as Appendix 1.

The consultation asked the following questions:

- Do you support the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan? Y/N
 - Comments
- Are there any other additions you would like to see included in the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan? Y/N
 - Comments
- Are you a resident? Y/N
 - Please supply suburb
- Are you a visitor? Y/N
 - Please supply postcode

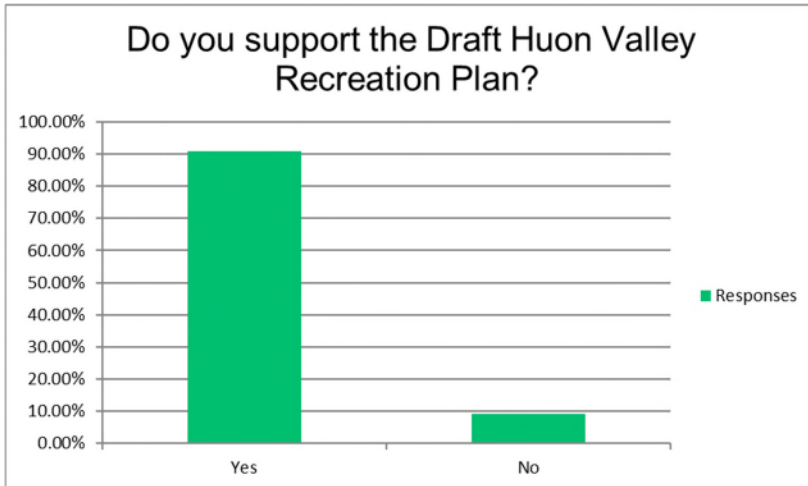
Each response was analysed, and responses are provided. Some comments made by the community were outside the scope of this project and the relevant departments will be notified.

No structural changes or amendments to the Draft Plan were identified during the engagement process.

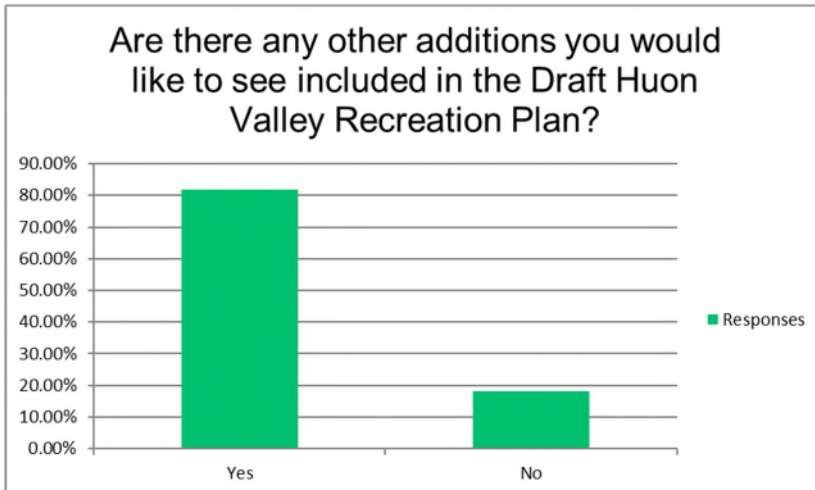
RECOMMENDATION

Based on the feedback and suggestions received it will be recommended to Council that the draft plan be endorsed for implementation subject to funding allocations.

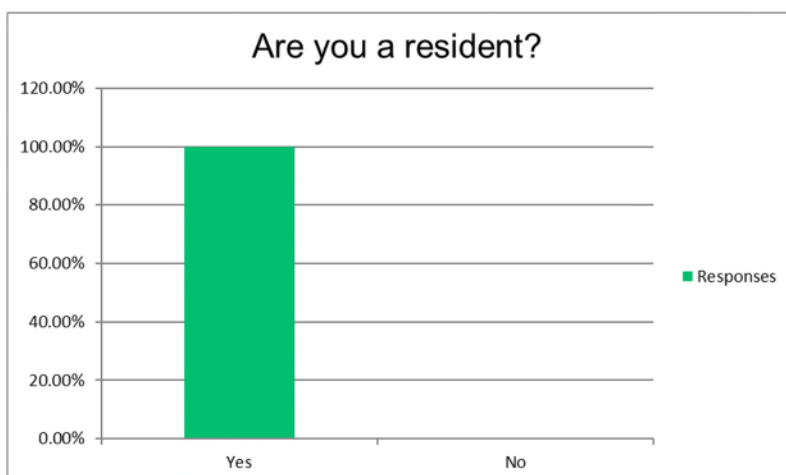
APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY RESULTS



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	90.91%	10
No	9.09%	1
Other (please specify)		4
	Answered	11



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	81.82%	9
No	18.18%	2
Comments		10
	Answered	11



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY COMMENTS

#	Do you support the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan?	Comments	Are there any other additions you would like to see included in the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Ground?	Comments	Are you a resident?	Council Comments
1	Yes	I note that there is a request from Huon Pedals for the retention and restoration of the Franklin velodrome. This is something that would fit in with so many of the aims of the Recreation Plan. Please note that a public walkway across private land between New Road and Old Road Franklin (about 500m from Huon Hwy.) now exists. This creates a public loop walk. This could be extended following a similar contour and on existing paths across private land and could then link through to Walpole Lane.	Yes	A significant piece of public art (e.g. Antony Gormley) located in the valley would become a destination and focus for both passive and active recreation.	Yes	The Franklin Velodrome, was the subject of a previous engagement activity. Walking trails and paths linking paths around through townships is a recommended action of Future Direction Number 3 of the draft plan.
2	Yes	I would like to see more done for the township of Cygnet. This has grown rapidly since the population survey in your report was taken. Look at the lovely foreshore of Huonville, then take a look at the Cygnet foreshore. We are attracting many tourists to Cygnet with the very popular market and several fine eating establishments. How about an upgrade to the entrance of Cygnet and more plantings along the roadsides? Also benches along the path on Lymington Road. Garden beds would also be a welcome addition in that area near the wooden walk bridge at the start of Lymington Road. Don't forget Cygnet please. Our businesses and crafts people bring in lots of revenue to the town.	Yes	Lymington Road requires upgrading and a footpath along the foreshore would encourage more locals to exercise and enjoy our river. The Cannery on Lymington Road has opened and the new retailers nearby were attracting more traffic into Lymington Rd., prior to the Coronavirus. The traffic between the Cygnet Roundabout and the jetty opposite Davies Court has increased greatly in the last year or two. The road requires widening to make it safer for vehicles and pedestrians alike. A good footpath with safety rails to protect walkers (as in Snug to Margate footpath), would be ideal. Many new houses have been built along Lymington Road and Cygnet Coast Rd. in recent years. There are two fabulous accommodation places on Gourlays Road and yet the road at the end of Lymington Rd is unsealed. Hire cars are not allowed to drive on unsealed roads. Think of the added tourism if the road between the Blueberry Farm owned by the Clarke's and Lymington Road was sealed. I used to work in retail in Cygnet and often heard tourists stating that they wishes to visit the Blueberry Farm to purchase Blueberries and also see to the fossils at Kay's Beach but had to turn around when the sealed road ended just after Drip Beach Road. We need to promote tourism but the road conditions here are a deterrent.	Yes	Lymington Road is a State Government owned road. The Council continues to engage with the State Government on the condition of the road. Improving the safety, connectivity and functionality of existing trails like Lymington Road is a recommended action of Future Direction Number 2 of the Draft Plan. The suggestions in relation to town beautification have been referred to the relevant department.
3	Yes		No		Yes	
4	Yes		Yes	The plan has a huge emphasis on upgrading existing facilities and encouraging multi-use facilities yet the Port Huon Sports and Aquatic Centre is rarely mentioned. This is a great facility well used by a loyal and diverse group from the local community.		Comments noted. We welcome feedback and suggestions on the facility at any stage.

#	Do you support the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan?	Comments	Are there any other additions you would like to see included in the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Ground?	Comments	Are you a resident?	Council Comments
5	Yes	Especially the shared pathway between Huonville and Franklin (and beyond), and the development of cycle, walking, mtb and kayak trails between towns across the valley, and how this could support use by locals as well as small business connections. Also planning for building better road shoulders for cyclists around the valley. some investment, love and attention by government. But the plan still keep the character of the site which is really important.	Yes	Mostly. There is mention from staff about the interest in exercise equipment, but I didn't see this in the implementation section. This has been raised for the Franklin foreshore for many years. There is mention of improvement of signage, etc. One that definitely needs to be done is signage on the 'cricket clubrooms' in Franklin. I understood this facility was Council provided for general use as well as the 'home' for the cricketers. However, there is no signage at all on the building. It does not say how community members can also access or hire the building. It does not say the toilets are public toilets. These two matters could easily and quickly be rectified so that such existing facilities are more accessible and used by all of the Huon community, and visitors.	Yes	Comments noted. Clubrooms are leased by clubs who are responsible for meetings, all outgoing expenses and holding relevant insurances. Signage for toilets noted and referred to relevant department.
6	Yes		Yes	I think the plan could be improved if it further considered the amount of forestry managed land around the Huon Valley and its considerable potential for recreation (i.e. Mountain Biking, Walking, Horse riding trails etc.) with careful negotiation and collaboration with the industry. on the site. Personally, I would like on-lead dog areas clearly signed.	Yes	Comments noted. Considerations for forestry managed land is beyond scope of this project, however Council has recently completed a Huon Valley Mountain Bike Destination Feasibility Study. A copy of this report is available on Council's website. Signage noted and referred to relevant department.
7	No	You have stated aims herein "of higher preference to upgrade amenities" and "having recreational trails" yet your Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 puts grass on the velodrome. This is a fantastic amenity, it draws people from Hobart and elsewhere, who ride there from where their club is and then use it. We ride around it all the time. I use it for racing with my kids, yet Your policies are therefore incompatible. You need to make this Recreation Plan align with the Franklin. Please read this feedback in combination with my feedback on the Franklin Plan Stage 3. DO NOT GET RID OF THE VELODROME. There is a move afoot to have a festival with the penny farthing festival up north near Launceston. How can you make a velodrome grass, its much better paved?	Yes	Keep the velodrome at Franklin. It draws people from elsewhere, is already there, and is used a lot (although very dilapidated). Don't put concrete over Keep open spaces. Recreation includes such thing as picnics. My favourite place to picnic is the green area behind the hospital and skate park at Dover. YOU NEED TO PRESERVE THESE SECLUDED PICNIC PLACES WITH THEIR TREES. Please increase green areas.	Yes	Comments noted, however the Franklin Velodrome, was the subject of a previous engagement activity, and has not been included in this Plan.
8	Yes		Yes	I think that there are generally good recreation facilities across the Valley. Given the impact of the pandemic on the Council budget I'm concerned that it will be difficult to achieve many of the projects. Perhaps it would be possible to include community	Yes	The purpose of the Plan was to develop a new Huon Valley Recreation Plan to help guide Council towards working with and within the community to

#	Do you support the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan?	Comments	Are there any other additions you would like to see included in the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Ground?	Comments	Are you a resident?	Council Comments
				participation/labour to help achieve some outcomes?		deliver services and recreational spaces that are needed to accommodate the changing needs of our community. The Council welcomes support from the Community and identifies the community as a key element to the success of the Plan. Without the support of the community the Plan will not be achievable. This support can be through a range of ways such as, in kind volunteer support to complete a project, financial support from sporting organisations, as well as the community continuing to use Council facilities.
9	Yes		Yes	<p>Cygnets walking track from the football oval to Burton's Reserve along Agnes Rivulet. A consultant put forward this as the next priority for Cygnets many years ago after community consultation.</p> <p>It'd be terrific to extend the current Burton's walking infrastructure that is heavily utilised, create a link to the north and south of the town that is off the highway, care for the rivulet by creating a buffer zone and link sporting and recreational facilities for more enjoyable training. It would also be a safe walking/biking path for children to access the playgrounds and schools if links to the township were made. Tourists love walking trails that give greater purpose to their visits.</p>	Yes	<p>Comments noted for future consideration. This aligns to Future Direction Number 2 of the Draft Plan, which identifies the improvement of safety, connectivity and functionality of existing trails like those in Cygnets.</p> <p>Future Direction Number 3 identifies an action to review the existing Walking Track Strategy, which though this review could identify the extension along Agnes Rivulet.</p>
10	Yes		No	<p>I am primarily concerned with provision of more walking tracks where you can also take your dogs, that have some shade, and some bubblers, and some RUBBISH BINS. There are too few rubbish bins for walkers from Cygnets shops to the Yacht Club, along Lymington Road. I spend my time picking up coffee cups, PET drink bottles, and dog poo, so the track doesn't look like a dump. When you install dog poo bag holders, please put Council's phone number on the holder, saying ring this number if the bags run out. Thank you for the dog poo bag holder at the Yacht Club, finally. I've been ringing when the bags run out.</p>	Yes	<p>Comments noted in relation to rubbish bins, signage and water bubblers. These have been referred to relevant departments for consideration, and will be a consideration in the development of future walking trails.</p>

#	Do you support the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan?	Comments	Are there any other additions you would like to see included in the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Ground?	Comments	Are you a resident?	Council Comments
11	Yes		Yes	<p>Main roads in the Huon Valley need to be turned into shared access roads - inclusive of walkers, runners and cyclists. At present many are too dangerous to safely commute in these ways because of non existent or small shoulders, no sidewalks and blind corners with no way to safely stay away from cars. This isolation period with COVID has seen so many people return to using the roads for these activities while there have been less cars and it has been really great to feel safe enough to do that. But when all the cars go back on the roads, we'll lose that sense of safety again.</p> <p>I live on Glen Huon Rd, raising a little boy, and I am sad to think I can't teach him to ride his bike on the road, and he won't be able to ride a bike to school, because it's just too dangerous.</p>	Yes	<p>Comments noted. Improving the safety, connectivity and functionality of trails is a recommended action of Future Direction Number 2 of the Draft Plan.</p>

APPENDIX 3 – ONLINE MEDIA PERFORMANCE

Post Details Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

Huon Valley Council

18 May · 🌐

⋮

HAVE YOUR SAY 📣

The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for future planning, development and management of sport and recreation within the Huon Valley.

The Recreation Plan addresses a range of aspects including:...

[See more](#)

HUONVALLEY.TAS.GOV.AU

Huon Valley Recreation Plan - Huon Valley Council

The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for...

ℹ️

1,575

People reached

81

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

1 Comment 5 shares

👍 Like
💬 Comment
➦ Share
🌐

Performance for your post

1,575 People Reached

10 Likes, Comments & Shares [?]

4 Likes	2 On Post	2 On Shares
1 Comments	1 On Post	0 On Shares
5 Shares	5 On Post	0 On Shares

71 Post Clicks

1 Photo views	36 Link clicks	34 Other Clicks [?]
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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide post	0 Hide all posts
0 Report as spam	0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

Post Details Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

Huon Valley Council

27 May · 🌐

⋮

Have Your Say!

The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for future planning, development and management of sport and recreation within the Huon Valley. As part of its development, the Huon Valley community, sporting clubs, schools and other groups were invited to a series of workshops and an online survey was available to complete online.

The Recreation Plan addresses a range of aspects including:...

[See more](#)

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The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for...

ℹ️

1,436

People reached

37

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

2 shares

👍 Like
💬 Comment
➦ Share
🌐

Performance for your post

1,436 People Reached

6 Likes, Comments & Shares [?]

4 Likes	4 On Post	0 On Shares
0 Comments	0 On Post	0 On Shares
2 Shares	2 On Post	0 On Shares

31 Post Clicks

0 Photo views	15 Link clicks	16 Other Clicks [?]
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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide post	0 Hide all posts
0 Report as spam	0 Unlike Page

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Meeting: 26.08.2020
Item Number: 19.019/20*
Page 10 of 112


Huon Valley Council
2 June · 🌐

Have Your Say! Submissions close 5pm, Friday 5 June.

The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for future planning, development and management of sport and recreation within the Huon Valley. As part of its development, the Huon Valley community, sporting clubs, schools and other groups were invited to a series of workshops and an online survey was available to complete online.

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[See more](#)



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The Huon Valley Recreation Plan is designed as a ten-year guide for...

1,339 People reached 38 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

1 Comment 3 shares

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share 🌐

Performance for your post

1,339 People Reached

5 Likes, Comments & Shares

1 Likes **1** On Post **0** On Shares

1 Comments **1** On Post **0** On Shares

3 Shares **3** On Post **0** On Shares

33 Post Clicks

0 Photo views **14** Link clicks **19** Other Clicks

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide post **0** Hide all posts

0 Report as spam **0** Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

Page ?	Page Views ?	Unique Page Views ?	Avg. Time on Page ?	Entrances ?	Bounce Rate ?	% Exit ?	Page Value ?
	221 % of Total: 0.12% (176,993)	176 % of Total: 0.13% (136,954)	00:04:44 Avg for View: 00:01:25 (234.84%)	128 % of Total: 0.17% (73,487)	49.23% Avg for View: 52.15% (-5.59%)	66.97% Avg for View: 41.52% (61.29%)	A\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (A\$0.00)
1. /consultations/huon-valley-recreation-plan-2/	183 (82.81%)	142 (80.68%)	00:04:57	97 (75.78%)	44.44%	63.39%	A\$0.00 (0.00%)

APPENDIX 4 – E-News

eNewsletter #7

22 May 2020



Have Your Say

Council is conducting Community Engagement on the following projects;

- [Huon Valley Recreation Plan](#) - closes Friday 5 June
- [Stronger Together COVID-19 Community Issues and Ideas](#)

Visit **Have Your Say** to view these projects and all Council's projects www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au

eNewsletter #8

29 May 2020



Have Your Say

Council is conducting Community Engagement on the following projects.;

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Visit **Have Your Say** to view these projects and all Council's projects. www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au



Huon Valley Recreation Plan

February 2020

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ABN 77 602 207 026

Prepared by Inspiring Place Pty Ltd
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Version history

- 10.09.19 Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan report to Council staff for review
- 15.10.19 Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan report to Council for review
- 12.02.20 Revised Huon Valley Recreation Plan report following meeting with Councillors on 21.01.20

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HUON VALLEY RECREATION PLAN

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Summary Report



Huon Valley Recreation Plan Summary Report

Background

Council decided to prepare a 10 Year Recreation Plan and Inspiring Place was engaged in 2019 to identify the goals and actions to meet the changing needs of the community.

The purpose of the project is the development of a new Huon Valley Recreation Plan to help guide Council towards working with and within the community to deliver services and recreational spaces that are needed to accommodate the changing needs of our community.

The process involved review of relevant background reports and information, analysis of demographic and development trends, analysis of broader recreation trends, engagement with the key stakeholders and community (e.g. surveys, forums, meetings) and site visits to existing recreational assets throughout the municipal areas.

Community Views

The key observations drawn from the community consultation are:

The community have indicated importance for having well-developed and well-connected recreational trails. This includes trails that provide circuits/ loops within towns, trails that provide safe connections between towns and trails that are planned to cater for a range of recreational activities such as walking, running, bike riding, exercising the dog, horseriding etc. There was a strong view expressed that trails improve the health and well-being of the local community and can attract visitors into the local areas. The community also indicated a number of locations where there were safety concerns with the use of roads and road edges for trail use.

The community showed keen interest in improving access and enhancing the use of the waterways and Huon River for a range of recreational activities. The community referred to promoting a Huon River Kayak Trail, securing access to the river, developing pontoons, enhancing fishing and encouraging connectivity between places by water.

There are limited demands for major new recreation facilities and a higher preference given by the community to upgrading existing facilities to make them more functional, more capable of meeting future demand pressures and to allow for the opportunity of increased multi-use. Apart from investment in infrastructure to support trails, there was some interest expressed for upgrading aquatic facilities and extending operating hours. It was widely recognised that aquatic facilities would require big funding sources to be found.

The big ideas for attracting significant visitor use were considered to be the development of a mountain bike destination, cycling tour routes, an iconic walk(s) and the Huon River Kayak Trail. The community also indicated a desire for upgrading some existing road circuits (e.g. North Huon Road, Cygnet Coastal Road) to better cater for the needs of cyclists. There was several detailed submissions for cycle routes and walking tracks based on investigations and local experience.

There was high interest in having additional dog off-leash exercising areas throughout the Huon Valley.

There was community support for developing multi-use or shared facilities to cater for a mix of recreational activities.

Vision

The Plan set out a policy framework to guide the future planning, management, maintenance and improvement of recreation facilities, programs and services within the Huon Valley over the next 10 years. The key components of the policy framework were the vision, planning principles, policy positions for Council and a Strategic Action Plan.

The vision is:

The Huon Valley will be a liveable place where planned open space and recreation opportunities are actively managed and supported providing health and well-being, environmental, sport and recreation, economic and social benefits to the community.

The planning principles provide statements about achieving:

Fairness, Equality and Access

Life-Long Involvement

Quality of Experience and Safety
Continual Improvement
Sustainability
Multiple-Use and Efficiency
Diversity of Opportunities
Partnerships/Shared Responsibility
Making a Whole-of-Council Commitment
Organisational Capacity

Future Directions

Open spaces, sport and recreation are essential elements contributing to the quality of life enjoyed by the community. Well-designed and implemented planning policies for sport and recreation can help deliver a range of Council's broader objectives for the community. For instance, high quality recreational facilities, programs and services may improve people's sense of well-being in the place they live, foster community activities that engage social interaction and promote healthy living, preventing illness, and contributing to the social development of the community.

The Council is the major provider of recreational facilities, programs and services to the community. About 10% of the Council's total expenditure is allocated towards sport and recreation, including the maintenance of open space areas under its control.

The Plan sets out four future directions for recreation within the Huon Valley:

1. Supporting Council's capacity and operational processes to help deliver recreation benefits to the community.
2. Improving existing recreation facilities, programs and services.
3. Developing new recreation facilities, programs and services to meet identified community needs.
4. Fostering synergies for recreation and tourism benefits within the Huon Valley.

Future Direction 1: Capacity and Operational Processes

A review of the past recreation plans¹ indicates the willingness and capacity for the Council to review recommended actions and to implement those where funding and support is known. Some recommended actions were not progressed given further assessment identified issues or changing needs, high costs and limited funding prospects or limited support for the idea.

The key actions for supporting Council's capacity and operational processes to help deliver recreation benefits to the community are:

- maintain strong working relationships within Council and with other key agencies and interest groups involved with recreation;
- set aside a budget allocation over the next 10 years;
- continue to monitor and evaluate community recreation needs;
- promote multi-use of recreation facilities and sharing of resources;
- facilitate communication and providing support for sports clubs and recreation groups; and
- maintain Council's community data base on sporting and recreation facilities, programs and services.

Future Direction 2: Improving Existing Recreational Facilities, Programs and Services

Over time the Council has developed and managed a wide range of recreational facilities throughout the municipal areas that generally cater well for community needs. Consultation with the community suggested there was not an over-whelming demand for major new facilities but rather stronger interest in upgrading existing facilities and developing recreation trails.

The existing facilities (e.g. recreation grounds, indoor sports , aquatic centres) are generally well-located to cater for the needs of the dispersed community. This does require local people to travel to reach the main facilities, but the community indicated an awareness of the high capital investment and operational costs involved with building and maintaining major new facilities.

The key actions for improving the existing recreational facilities, programs and services are:

¹ Huon Valley Sport and Recreation Plan 1996 and Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011-2021

upgrade directional signs and information for the community and visitors to access and use existing open spaces and recreational venues (refer to Future Direction 4);

continue to progressively review and implement recommended actions in the existing master plans and concept plans for Council managed recreational land e.g. Huonville Recreation Ground, Ranelagh Recreation Ground (in preparation), Heritage Park, Franklin Foreshore, Huon River Foreshore, Dover Foreshore, Burtons Reserve, Shipwrights Point Reserve and Calvert Park;

prepare a concept master plan for the village green area at Ranelagh given its potential to be a valuable community park to cater for picnic, play, exercise/fitness, small outdoor events/community pizza oven, learn to ride etc;

review, re-position and activate the PCYC indoor sports facilities including the indoor courts, music studio and multi-use dance room;

improve the safety, connectivity and functionality of existing shared trails including:

- the shared trail between Huonville and Ranelagh, and
- the foreshore shared trail from Burtons Reserve to the Port Cygnet Sailing Club and onto the boat ramp and small foreshore park;

support the local community to re-activate the Castle Forbes Bay sportsground as a multi-use community park with potential for hosting local community events;

support continued public access to Big Log for fishing and local social gatherings near Judbury including addressing existing site impact issues;

support the introduction of night lights at sportsgrounds where the need is evident and the benefits for multi-use can be demonstrated; and

assess the potential community interest in extending the operating hours for use of the aquatic facilities at Huonville and Port Huon Sports Centre.

Future Direction 3: Developing New Recreation Facilities, Programs and Services

Community engagement indicated there was a strong desire within the community for multi-use recreational trails, floating pontoons to improve river access, more dog exercising areas and fitness circuits to be developed within the municipal areas. This view is consistent with the *Huon Valley Health and Wellbeing Strategy* which noted as an aspirational direction that

“Our towns and hamlets are pedestrian-friendly, connected by a network of cycling tracks and walking trails, and have active recreation and exercise spaces that encourage participation and use.”

The provision of more developed open space within towns and hamlets, improving accessibility, the provision of seats along trails and within open space areas, increased shade, programming of facilities and more information would assist the wider community to become more active. There was also an understanding that physical exercise can be integrated with fun and health benefits. These improvements will help meet the specific needs of an ageing population to embrace active exercise.

There was also a widely accepted recognition by the community that many of the sportsgrounds did not have adequate changerooms and facilities to cater for the growth in women’s participation in sport.

The key actions for developing new recreation facilities, programs and services to meet identified community needs are:

- progress the future development of a mountain bike hub with commercial support services within the Huon Valley to attract locals and visitor interest (feasibility assessment in progress);
- review and revise the Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy 2007 with community engagement in order to prepare a Recreation Trails Plan that accommodates the shared and specific needs of trails for walking, running, cycling, mtb bike riding, kayaking and horseriding within the Huon Valley – this may include:
 - continue to pursue the opportunity for development of new shared trails between towns including Huonville – Franklin;
 - the potential for the Huon Valley to be a major cycling destination in Southern Tasmania through the improvement of selected tour circuits e.g. Huonville – Ranelagh – Judbury – Glen Huon – Huonville, Cygnet Coast Road,

- opportunities for new park runs (currently using Heritage Park in Geeveston),
- investigate and promote the concept of a Huon River Kayak Trail that identifies a range of different paddling experiences including infrastructure (e.g. parking, launching locations, toilets etc), required skill levels, being prepared for risk and general information, the potential for promoting a D'Entrecasteaux Kayak Trail in the longer term,
- identifying, assessing and negotiating a hierarchy of walking trails to cater for different users, and
- potential for horseriding trails that may be linked to the location of existing riding clubs e.g. Ranelagh, Cygnet;
- install additional floating pontoons or structures along the Huon River that would improve accessibility and allow for different recreational activities e.g. fishing, kayaking, small boats;

support new provision for upgrading changerooms, toilets and amenities to accommodate the growth in women's participation in active sports such as cricket and football;

continue to provide dog exercising areas throughout the municipal areas given strong community interest – including re-use of Surges Bay oval as a dog-off leash park and finding a suitable sized area at Cygnet; and

continue to provide facilities that cater for increased community interest in running and fitness circuits within towns e.g. Judbury, Glen Huon.

Future Direction 4: Fostering Synergies and Benefits

The opportunities for fostering synergies and benefits between recreation and tourism can be achieved through a range of measures:

improve information and signage that help visitors access parks, open spaces, beaches, trails, play facilities, toilets, boat ramps etc throughout the municipal areas;

encourage investment into leading recreation/tourism projects that will help differentiate the Huon Valley as a visitor destination [e.g. MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails, range of high profile walks (short, half day, day, overnight), pontoons and greater river-edge access];

continue to utilise the existing infrastructure for events that attract high local use and visitor interest – especially those events that sell the ‘place’ and encapsulate the brand and quality experiences of the Huon Valley (e.g. Taste of the Huon, Huon Agricultural Show, Willie Smith Mid Winter Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival) and those that may potentially eventuate with a MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails etc); and

support existing tourism operators and increasing new operators to present tour and travel experiences within the Huon Valley that area based around recreational trail activities (e.g. bike riding, walking, kayaking, running) and nature (e.g. camping/caravanning/recreational vehicles, nature study).

Council could facilitate the potential benefits, in partnership with other agencies, by giving priority to:

actions that may help address seasonality issues (leading to low profits, little re-investment and seasonal staff);

co-ordinating with other land managing agencies to facilitate the management of commercial operations requiring leases/ licenses/ permits across different regulated lands;

capacity for mentor assistance for selected existing and new operators with growth plans that can leverage and support the new opportunities;

encouraging investment and/or planned improvements in contemporary-style nature-oriented/ tailored/ personalised immersive experiential products;

supporting collective marketing within the Huon Valley; and

developing new visitor information (may be digital) to assist visitors quickly sift through the recreation based tourism activity options and select the highlights, plus the activities best suited to their needs, physical skill, interests, time etc.

Implementation Plan

An Implementation Plan has been prepared that lists the recommended actions, the responsibility, time frame and resource implications for the achievement of the identified priorities listed within the Recreation Plan.

It is recognised that the Council currently has limited resources and that the delivery of recreation outcomes is just one area of its overall operations. Whilst there is a list of recommended actions, Council will need to choose those actions, which are achievable given time, resources and commitment to the implementation program in relation to other imperatives for Council.



Huon Valley Recreation Plan

Section 1: Introduction

1.1 Background

The Huon Valley municipal area covers some 5,507 square kilometres, and is the third largest local government area in the state. The municipal area incorporates a large portion of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (WHA) and reserved land of various tenures, including state forest and national park. Map 1.1 shows that the municipal area is bounded to the north by the Wellington Range (Hobart, Glenorchy and Derwent Valley Councils), to the east by Kingborough Council, and to the west by the West Coast Council.

The main towns and settlement, being Huonville, Geeveston, Franklin, Cygnet, Dover and Southport are primarily confined to the eastern section of the municipal area, with historic and continuing service links to the Huon River and its estuary.

The economy of the Huon Valley is based on a range of industry sectors, including agriculture, forestry, tourism, and fishing/aquaculture. Agriculture is a traditional industry around which the Huon Valley has grown and continues to play an important role in providing economic opportunities within the region.

The census population of the Huon Valley municipal areas was 16,199 in June 2016¹ and has experienced steady population growth over the last decade at around 0.7% per annum². The population continues to grow with the estimated population being 17,219 in June 2018, representing some 3.3% of Tasmania's population growth between 2017–2018³. The State Government (Department of Treasury and Finance) release of population forecasts for Tasmanian LGA's indicated an estimate that the Huon Valley population will grow to 20,464 by 2042. This estimate was that the Huon Valley would have a growth of 23.9% over this time period with the fourth highest rate of growth amongst all other Tasmanian LGA's.

The Huon Valley Council (hereinafter referred to as Council) engaged Inspiring Place to prepare the *Huon Valley Sport and Recreation Plan 1996*. This plan was reviewed in 2011 in conjunction with preparing a draft open space strategy for the entire municipal area⁴.

Council decided to prepare a 10 Year Recreation Plan and Inspiring Place was engaged in 2019 to identify the goals and actions to meet the changing needs of the community. The Council needs to prioritise expenditure in relation to recreation needs in the future so as to ensure that facilities and opportunities are of a high standard, and are equitably distributed based on need, throughout the municipal area.



Source: Local Government Association Tasmania (www.lgat.tas.gov.au/site/page)

Map 1.1. Huon Valley Local Government Area

Council also recognises that it plays a pivotal role in the delivery of recreation facilities, programs and services throughout the municipal areas. Council commits about 10% of Council's total annual expenditure to sport and recreation and this plays an important role also supporting social connectivity, health and wellbeing, building community capacity and delivering economic benefits in the region. The Council is also keen to support and develop recreational pursuits that will support and enhance tourism growth.

1.3 Project Objectives

The purpose of the project is the development of a new Huon Valley Recreation Plan to help guide Council towards working with and within the community to deliver services and recreational spaces that are needed to accommodate the changing needs of our community.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- research the rapidly changing recreational needs of the Huon Valley considering factors such as complex social issues, health problems, crime and vandalism as well as future economic sustainability and approved developments;
- ensure the community has equitable access to multipurpose inclusive accessible facilities;
- support better utilisation of existing recreational facilities and spaces;
- explore potentials of changing, enhancing, sharing or rationalising existing facilities to better suit the communities needs as well as identifying the need for new facilities where demands have changed;
- identify opportunities where recreational pursuits could also engage tourism; and
- undertake consultation with the community on the development of the strategy.

1.4 Approach

The main tasks undertaken at each stage of the project are summarised in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Project Tasks

Project Stage	Key Tasks
Stage 1 Getting Started	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Project Plan and Consultation Plan • Meeting with Project Management Team
Stage 2 Research, Stakeholder and Community Consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys out to all Clubs and Groups • Online survey listed on Council's website • Workshop session with Council staff • Research demographics and recreation trends • Review of State, regional and local recreation policy framework • Review of implementation of the recommended actions listed in the draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021 • Review existing reports and Council's asset data base information • Run community forums in Cygnet, Huonville and Geeveston • Undertake site visits of existing recreation facilities • Assess community needs based on survey returns, trends analysis and community feedback • Prepare brief summary report on outcomes from Stage 2 for Council review
Stage 3 Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further site visits and consultations • Prepare draft report including the 10 Year Action Plan • Review report with the Project Management Team
Stage 4 Community Review and Final Huon Valley Recreation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public exhibition and community review invited • Review of community feedback • Prepare Community Engagement Evaluation Report • Refine the final Huon Valley Recreation Plan • Presentation to Council

1.5 Limitations

Council has limited resources and that any funding of future recreational needs has to be considered within its overall budget and operational priorities. The development of the Recreation Plan should assist Council and the community to seek and source funds from other agencies or grant schemes for recreational projects. The Federal and State Governments often request a strategic plan that provides a wider framework for supporting new investment in recreational facilities. The Governments also favour planning that promotes multiple use of existing and new recreational facilities.

The report is primarily a high level strategy to assist Council and the community in guiding decisions about the priorities for planning, developing and managing recreational facilities, programs and services to meet changing community needs. Consequently, the Plan does not provide recommendations about detailed site planning or master planning for different recreational facilities. It does indicate the priority for the preparation of such plans within the municipal areas.

The process provided a range of opportunities for stakeholders and community groups to make an input into the assessment of recreational needs and priorities. The views expressed by those stakeholders and community groups have been assessed as part of the process, but it should be recognised that some clubs and groups did not become involved in the process.

1.6 Acknowledgements

Inspiring Place would like to acknowledge the advice and support of the Project Management Team from the Huon Valley Council. The members were Rebecca Stevenson (Director Community Services), Rebecca Bell (Manager Recreation Services) and Wayne Thorpe (Director Corporate Services).

Thanks is also given to the sporting clubs, recreation groups and community members who were involved in the community engagement process and contributed their ideas and needs to the project.

Section 2: Context

2.1 Policy Framework

The development of a Recreation Plan for the Huon Valley is consistent with the key policy and strategic planning documents of the State Government and the Huon Valley Council. The key documents are the *State Government Visionary Goal*, *Huon Valley 2020 Community Plan* and the *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2015–2025*.

2.1.1 State Government Visionary Goal

The State Government has announced a goal to make Tasmania the healthiest population in Australia by 2025⁵. It recognises that:

- 21.7 per cent of Tasmanians smoke, compared to 18 per cent nationally;
- 69.4 per cent of Tasmanians are physically inactive, compared to 67.5 per cent nationally;
- 65.6 per cent of Tasmanians are now overweight or obese, compared with 63.9 per cent five years ago; and
- 39.4 per cent of Tasmanians have high cholesterol – compared to 32.8 per cent nationally.

Importantly it recognises that a healthier Tasmania must also start with promoting a healthy lifestyle and preventing chronic disease.

An assessment⁶ of sport and physical recreation value in Tasmania indicated that there is \$4 value back to the Tasmanian community for every \$1 invested in sport and recreation.

⁵ http://www.premier.tas.gov.au/releases/a_healthy_tasmania

⁶ Millar P, Wadsley, A, Adams, D, Arthur, D, D & Felmingham, B 2010, *The Value of Sport and Physical Recreation to Tasmania*, Australian Innovative Research Centre, University of Tasmania, Australia.

2.1.2 Huon Valley 2020 Community Plan

The Huon Valley 2020 Community Plan was prepared with comprehensive community engagement and provides an important reference point for the Huon Valley Council Strategic Plan 2015–2025. One of the future directions was to enhance recreational opportunities within the Huon Valley.

The key opportunities included:

providing open spaces as well as diverse recreational and sporting activities around the Valley's natural and social strengths will meet the needs of changing community demographics;

maintaining and further enhancing the areas strong sporting heritage is integral to a fit, healthy and happy community - it is important to develop social capital and explore innovative ways to organise and support sporting and recreational clubs and their endeavours; and

developing a system of multi-use tracks and trails has the potential to provide cultural and recreational activities for those who live in the Valley and those who love to visit - access to the rivers of the Valley will also open up recreational possibilities on, in and beside the water and interpretation will enhance the tracks, trails and rivers experience helping to build a strong sense of place.

The key strategies were considered to be:

develop multi use tracks and trails;

improve access along and to the river;

develop an Open Space Strategy;

update and implement the Recreation Plan;

review and implement the parks, playgrounds, halls, public toilets and marine facilities strategy; and

improve the viability of sporting organisations.

2.1.3 Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2015–2025

The *Huon Valley Council Strategic Plan 2015–2025* describes how Council works with and within the community to deliver the governance and services that will achieve community objectives and priorities.

One of Council's strategic stances is to encourage local arts, cultural and recreational pursuits, by facilitating or providing appropriate infrastructure and support for these local activities and events. This relates to the "Huon Valley Brand" which provides an overlay brand to tourism and recreation events, sectors and businesses.

2.1.4 Other Reports

There are also a number of other strategies, reports and plans that provide a context for recreation planning across the Huon Valley. These documents were reviewed and include:

Burttons Reserve Master Plan 2017;
Cygnet Township Plan 2010;
Dover Foreshore Master Plan 2008;
Franklin Foreshore Master Plan 2012;
Franklin Crown Land Foreshore Master Plan 2017;
Geeveston Master Plan 2010;
Heritage Park Site Development Plan 2015;
Huon Valley Land Use and Development Strategy 2007;
Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy 2007;
Huon Valley Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
Huonville Ranelagh Master Plan 2019;
Huonville Recreation Ground Master Plan 2015;
Huon Valley Council Land Strategy 2012;
Huon Valley Council Marine Facility Development Strategy 2009;
Huon Valley Council Asset Management Plan – Parks and Reserves 2012;
Roaring Beach Public Reserve Management Plan 2011; and
Shipwrights Point Master Plan 2009.

2.2 Assessment of Demographic, Development and Recreation Trends

2.2.1 Demographic Trends

Tasmania has the most regional and dispersed population of any state in Australia, with 58 per cent of the population living outside the greater capital city area. Tasmania's population increased by 2.9% during 2011–2016 as compared with a 7.0% growth in the Huon Valley. Population growth expectations suggest the Huon Valley continues to experience growth with an estimated 17,219 persons at June 2018⁷.

Table 2.1 shows the breakdown of population into the main towns within the Huon Valley during the 2011–2016 period. It indicates that the five towns account for only about 30% of the Huon Valley population with the balance of the population spread across rural areas and smaller settlements. There was significant growth in Ranelagh and Cygnet between 2011–2016.

Table 2.1 Population in Tasmania, Huon Valley and Towns 2011–2016

Town	Population 2011	Population 2016	Growth in numbers	% Change between 2011–2016
Cygnet	843	929	86	10.2
Dover	443	486	43	9.7
Geeveston	634	617	-17	-2.7
Huonville	1,742	1,842	100	5.7
Ranelagh	684	876	192	28.0
Huon Valley	15,140	16,199	1,059	7.0
Tasmania	495,354	509,965	14,611	2.9

There is not reliable data on town populations since the Census data but Table 2.2 shows ABS population estimates for statistical areas (SA) within which these towns are located. For instance the Cygnet SA extends to the Huon River and east to the Kingborough municipal boundary and includes Cygnet, small villages and the rural living areas. As a consequence the population data is not comparable with the town populations shown in Table 2.1

⁷ Regional Population Growth (ABS Cat No 3218.0).

Table 2.2 Population Estimate in Huon Valley Statistical Areas 2018

Statistical Area (which includes the town and surrounding hamlets and rural areas)	Population Estimate 2018
Cygnet SA	1556
Dover SA	852
Geeveston SA	1302
Franklin SA	1094
Huonville SA	2714
Ranelagh SA	1268

Table 2.3 shows the age profile for the Huon Valley in comparison with Tasmania and Australia.

It shows that Huon Valley has a similar profile in the age groups 10–14 years and 15–19 years to Tasmania or Australia. These age groups span primary schoolers, secondary schoolers and those undertaking tertiary education or work experience – typically attracting a higher level of participation in sporting and recreation activities.

The Huon Valley is generally below the Tasmanian and Australian average for the age groups 20–24 years and 25–34 years. These age groups can be associated with those undertaking tertiary education, seeking employment and being parents/homebuilders. Time is often a major constraint but typically there can be a higher level of participation in sporting and recreation activities in these age groups. This age group is not likely to increase in the future and consequently will be a factor for consideration in the needs assessment.

The Huon Valley has an older age profile than Tasmania or Australia with 28.6% over the age of 60 years compared with 26.3% for Tasmania and 21.4% for Australia. The median age is also higher for the Huon Valley. Whilst past perceptions may have been that participation in sport and recreation rapidly declines with age, the 'baby boomers' have largely altered this pattern with active participation extending into the 60's and 70's age groups.

Table 2.3 Community Profile Comparison – Huon Valley, Tasmania and Australia at 2016 Census

Age	Huon Valley 2016 (%)	Tasmania 2016 (%)	Australia 2016 (%)
People			
0–4 years	5.4	5.6	6.3
5–9 years	6.1	6.2	6.4
10–14 years	6.4	5.9	6.0
15–19 years	5.8	6.1	6.1
20–24 years	4.1	5.9	6.7
25–34 years	9.2	11.4	14.4
35–49 years	18.9	18.6	20.3
50–59 years	16.0	14.3	12.7
60–69 years	16.0	13.3	10.7
70–84 years	10.4	10.7	8.6
85 years and over	1.6	2.3	2.1
Median age	45	42	38

Source: ABS, www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census

2.2.2 Development Trends

The *Huon Valley Land Use and Development Strategy* (GHD 2007) provided land use directions for each of the major settlements within the municipal area with an emphasis on:

- consolidating development within existing serviced areas or where extensions to service infrastructure is planned;
- setting urban growth boundaries; and
- identifying land areas for commercial, industrial, community and residential uses.

The *Huonville – Ranelagh Structure Plan 2011* reviewed the land use options, land zoning and prepared a co-ordinated strategy for growth including improving linkages between the two towns.

The *Huonville Ranelagh Master Plan 2019* provides a projection of future population growth for Huonville and Ranelagh as shown in Table 2.4.

Table 2.4 Population Projections

	2021	2026	2031	2036	AAGR⁸
Huonville Ranelagh Area	4,450	4,945	5,470	6,040	2.1%
Huonville – Franklin Statistical Area	8,950	9,610	10,300	11,045	1.4%
Huon Valley LGA	17,445	18,720	20,010	21,345	1.4%

Source: *Huonville Ranelagh Master Plan 2019* based on ABS and DPAC data

It is projected that the population of Huonville Ranelagh will continue to grow by about a 36% over the next 15 years.

A summary of the expected growth areas within the main settlements and possible implications for open space and recreation is provided in Table 2.5.

8 Average Annual Growth Rate

Table 2.5. Assessment of Urban Growth Areas

Settlement	Future Identified Urban Growth Boundaries	Possible Implications for Open Space and Recreation
Huonville – Ranelagh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern side of the town on vacant land to the north of Sale Street and south of Knights Road • Smaller area for future serviced residential to west of Ranelagh Road within urban boundary of Huonville. • Some infill housing on the southern side of the town • Infill residential within Ranelagh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future development will be on the eastern side of the town where there is currently limited usable open space – as part of the overall development of the vacant land a large usable open space area for passive recreational use should be planned • Need for connecting trails with the Skinner Creek Track and access to other community facilities and spaces e.g. link to Huonville Recreation Ground, school, PCYC, pool at safe crossing point on highway • Recognised trail connection opportunities between Huonville and Ranelagh including using existing road links and alternative future links through rural land and along creeks • The potential for upgrading the village green area at Ranelagh to become more useable open space with improved facilities • The potential for upgrading of Ranelagh showground as multi-activity recreational space • Limited need for new public open space at the smaller infill housing sites
Cygnat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential infill on western side of town between Golden Valley Road and below the primary school. • Residential development at southern end of town opposite Charlton Street • Low density residential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The western side of the town will continue to be the main residential living area. • Continue to consolidate use of open space and recreation facilities around the school, sports centre, oval, tennis courts and bowls club in western part of town • Potential to consider utilising some area to the east of the town centre for open space with trail links along creek and to commercial area given land is unsuitable for residential use. • Importance of linkages given linear land use pattern of the town and location of Burtons Reserve, foreshore and sailing club
Franklin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential infill to be encouraged on vacant land within town boundaries • Maintaining the heritage and character values of Franklin may constrain some opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franklin Foreshore is the main open space focus for both residents and visitors and this should have priority in future upgrading works • Need to improve pedestrian links within the town and up-slope to future residential areas • Community interest in developing a foreshore trail between Franklin and Huonville that will cater for local and visitor interest
Geeveston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation of residential development within the existing town boundary with some small areas for new development with upgrading of infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited need for additional open space areas given existing space and facilities with preference to upgrade facilities and linkages • Importance of Heritage Park as central open space area and likely higher use with any tourism developments that may occur on vacant land nearby • Possibility of trail links within the town and to connect to the existing sports oval
Dover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower density residential with limited infill opportunities subject to satisfactory waste disposal on large land area to west of Hopetoun Beach • Some low density residential development behind Kent Beach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major focus for recreation activity to remain along the foreshore and beaches that cater for both locals and visitors – priority for extending trails and improving facilities • Need for a master plan to better arrange access and amenity of the town recreation facilities and community services near skate park, bowls club, RSL, community health etc.

2.2.3 Recreation Trends

There has been significant shift in the way Australian's participate in recreation over the last 10–20 years. At a broad level, there has been a decrease in the participation of some traditional sports and an increase in the popularity of informal recreation activities such as walking and bike riding.

Alarming rates of obesity, particularly among children and young people, and widespread cardiovascular disease and diabetes have also increased in severity in recent years.

The ways by which leisure, sport and recreation opportunities have been provided has changed quite substantially over recent years. Given the significant investment in community sport and recreation infrastructure (both indoor and outdoor), it is important that this be considered with an understanding of the broader sport and recreation trends being observed.

These changes have encompassed:

- major trends that are likely to impact sport, recreation and leisure in coming years;
- participation levels;
- building and site designs;
- the siting of facilities;
- the development of a strong relationship between indoor and outdoor areas;
- elements of commercial provision; and
- programming.

These trends also reflect the changing aspirations of the community regarding its engagement in recreation activities. A summary of these trends is provided in the following sub-section of the report.

Megatrends

The CSIRO published a key report in 2013, which sought to assess a set of critical “megatrends” which could be expected to impact on sport and recreation in Australia over coming years.⁹

The following main conclusions were reached:

The commitment to regular, organised sport will fall in comparative terms as more people pursue single-person and small group fitness activities. This will mean that funding for facilities for these activities will need to increase, perhaps at the expense of traditional sports.

Greater efforts will need to be put into both understanding and responding to the link between sport and recreation and mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development, and international cooperation. This may mean that some activities will be found to warrant greater funding while others are given less funding than in the past.

Sport and recreation providers will need to respond to the changing age and cultural make-up of the community if they are to attract continuing support.

Corporate funding and salary differentials between sports will disadvantage “loosely organised sports associations” and activities, which do not need or have structured organisations. It is thus likely that local and state governments will need to strengthen their support for these activities if the growing diversity and quality of opportunities sought by the community is to be achieved.

Participation Levels

Table 2.3 presents a summary of the broad findings from the *2013–2014 Australian Bureau of Statistics Multi-Purpose Household Survey Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation* module. The survey covers 500 persons over the age of 15 years and over within Tasmania.

⁹ CSIRO Futures, 2013: The Future of Australian Sport. Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades, Australian Government, Australian Sports Commission

Table 2.6 Sport and Recreation Trends Assessment

Key Findings from the 2013–2014 Australian Bureau of Statistics Multi-Purpose Household Survey	General comment in relation to the Huon Valley
67.3 % of Tasmanians aged over 15 participated at least once in physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport in the previous 12 months – this has grown from 65.2% in 2005–06	<p>Tasmania had the second highest participation rate (67%) of all state and territories and was 7% above the national rate (60%).</p> <p>The Australian and Tasmanian community is becoming increasingly aware of the need to participate in some form of regular physical activity – whether an organised sport or group fitness activity, or unstructured activities such as walking or cycling.</p> <p>The Huon Valley recreation facilities have been located and developed over time in response to community needs. Community engagement indicated there is limited demand for major new facilities but a preference for upgrading existing facilities and extending the trail network.</p>
The survey shows a general trend of decreasing participation rates with age in Tasmania. Highest participation rates in Tasmania are in the 25–34 age group, then 45–54 years and 35–44 years. The lowest participation is in the 65+ age group.	<p>The Huon Valley already has the capacity to cater for a wide range of organised sports, unorganised sports and recreational activities.</p> <p>The new and upgraded facilities, programs and services will provide opportunities to provide for, and encourage, older people to participate in physical activity. Incorporation of community functions will foster activities – both active and passive, for a wide cross section of the community.</p>
The Tasmanian rate of participation in three or more physical activity sessions per week was 26.5%. The Tasmanian regular participation rate is 3.9% above the national average of 22.6%.	<p>Sport and recreation has always been an important facet of community life within the Huon Valley. Some facilities and locations attract high levels of use, whereas others have low use and potential to cater for some future needs. This requires consideration of management and programming of the facilities to identify opportunities to cope with future use and needs. However it is also recognised that the location, age and condition of some existing facilities are not conducive to attracting new interest in sport and recreation.</p>
The survey showed that regular participation rates are stable across age groups with the highest rates of regular participation in the 35–44 age group (32%) and the lowest rates of regular participation in the 15–17 and 65 and over age groups.	<p>This suggests the potential for the new and upgraded facilities to attract interest across all age groups within the regional community.</p> <p>It is likely that this will provide increased opportunities for both male and female participation in physical activities and organised sports.</p>
The survey indicates that regular participation in physical activities in Australia and Tasmania are correlated with education levels – regular participation rates increase as the level of education increases.	<p>The existing facilities are accessible to a broad range of users, including those of lower socio-economic status. It is important that these people continue to have access to community facilities, and to be encouraged to participate in sport and recreational activities in the future.</p>

The *Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey 2010* (ERASS) indicated that there was a moderate trend of increased physical activity in Tasmania in the previous decade – an increase of 3.1%. It provides an indication of the most popular organized sports and physical activity undertaken within Tasmania.

It found that the most popular organised sport activities were (listed in order) aerobics/fitness, golf, Australian rules football, netball, basketball, cricket, running, tennis, football, lawn bowls

and dancing. The most popular physical activities (listed in order) were walking, aerobics/fitness, swimming, cycling, bushwalking, running, golf, Australian rules football, fishing and tennis.

The Australian Sports Commission provides data on participation in sport and physical activity by adults and children in Tasmania. In the period October 2015 to September 2016, the most popular club sports for adults were netball, golf, football, tennis and touch football. Some 80% of adults participated in sport and physical activity once a week, 69% twice a week and 59% three times a week. This participation level is similar to that of the national participation level.

There are general observations that dance, soccer and cycling are some of the fastest growing activities across Australia whilst traditional sports must work hard to maintain levels of use. The exception to this is the emergence of women's AFL football and continuing growth in basketball and netball.

The most popular club sports for children in Australia were football (soccer), netball, Australian football, basketball and swimming. The participation level of 53% was comparable with the National level of 54% but was lower than all other States except Western Australia.

There has been an overall trend of decreasing participation in organised physical activities (e.g. organised by a sporting club, association, fitness centre or other organisation) over the last 5 years. The shift towards unstructured, or un-organised physical activities is likely, due in part, to the time and financial pressures that the community face. Despite this overall trend, sports like basketball, netball and futsal continues to grow in participation and attraction within the Australian community.

Many people now pursue sport and recreational activities specifically because they are aware of the significant personal and community health benefits that involvement provides rather than for the enjoyment of the selected activities *per se*. This is occurring across a wide range of age groups with people taking up or recommencing activities that offer body strengthening, enhanced aerobic capacity, weight loss and a general improvement in their health. Much of the activity is non-competitive engagement but some sports are also gaining significant participation numbers such as dancing and martial arts.

Significantly, the pursuit of healthy outcomes has generated another linked trend, that being participation in active recreation pursuits across nearly all age groups with some of the greatest growth occurring in the 50s, 60s and 70s age groups as older, healthier people remain active.

Importantly, venues that deliver these programs need to be attractive and the presence of staff and programmers is often very important.

During consultation, several of the clubs and groups indicated that juniors are often involved with different sports and this can cause issues with the timing of competitions.

Building design trends

Building design and presentation have been greatly improved over recent years, as have the settings in which the buildings are placed, to attract more use and to meet rising user expectations of attractive venues.

Building quality and user conditions (e.g. use of colour, materials, air conditioning, heating, quality amenities, lounge areas etc) are rising dramatically in response to building and health regulations, workplace safety standards, competition, wider user experiences, expectations regarding the standards of local provision, and the recognition that the quality of the use setting enhances the quality of the user experience and the number of users.

There are substantial increases in the expectation of, the legal requirement for improved building amenities and services, for user safety, parking, safety and security lighting, access, pathways, and signage. Provision of these reduces costs and litigation while enhancing the user experience and attracting higher use levels.

Buildings are increasingly being designed with inherent use flexibility and the capacity to “move spaces around” or be changed and expanded as demands and needs grow, contract and change.

There is an increased focus on the linked provision of indoor and outdoor/ breakout/ bootcamp and informal spaces as a means of allowing programming flexibility and variability, providing attractive social areas, linking the built facilities to surrounding and district spaces (such as parks and trails) and providing cheaper program areas.

Overall, there is a growing move to create community hubs and “destinations” for all members of the community.

Siting and locational trends

Buildings are no longer treated as stand-alone venues but rather, are increasingly being sited along with other community activity hubs such as schools, rail and bus interchanges and stations, outdoor sporting and recreation venues and trail networks, shopping centres and libraries. This co-location widens community awareness, encourages the “cross pollination” of use and saves significantly on infrastructure and servicing costs.

In a similar vein, the consolidation and co-location of sport and recreation opportunities entails the development of multi-component and multi-user venues rather than multiple, stand-alone facilities for each different sport and recreation activity.

There is increased linking of sport and recreation initiatives with other wider economic, social and educational initiatives. For instance, TAFE colleges in Victoria have recently used sporting venues as a base for hospitality and catering student work placements.

The consolidation of provision and sharing of use allows:

- the freeing up of land for other purposes;
- efficiency savings through the sharing of enhanced infrastructure and other services across several user groups and activities;
- clubs to focus on their activities and programs rather than on building maintenance, operation, building insurances and security;
- reduced maintenance costs by having fewer venues to care for and repair;
- the possible application/sharing of professional management; and
- the hosting of far more effective regional events and programs.

Commercial Involvement

There is a growing mix of community and commercial program and services delivery (e.g. physiotherapists, hairdressing, chiropody, personal trainers, café and food services) associated with major sporting and recreation facilities. There has been some degree of commercial investment in public venues.

The growth of leisure and sport participation and the greater capacity of many in the community to pay for recreation activities not provided by government has led to substantial commercial investment in recreation. While some pursuits such as restaurants, travel, tourism and the like have always been commercially-focused, more and more businesses are investing in health and fitness venues, recreation-related service industries, tennis and golf clinics, boating, off road adventure activities, music and the arts.

Many Councils now license the use of parks and gardens for bootcamp/fitness programs while others lease the operation of their aquatic, health and fitness and stadium facilities to private or not-for-profit organisations.

Increasingly in these situations, leaseholders are expected to provide diverse, quality programs and in some instances, to make a capital investment in the assets. In other Councils, commercial

providers have offered to invest in Council facilities, to diversify the mix of opportunities provided. Such opportunities should be pursued and promoted as they strengthen the economic and market base of venues, diversify the client base that is attracted and offer opportunities that may not have otherwise been afforded by, or appropriately provided by, a Council or government agency.

Programming and use trends

There is increasingly tight management control over programming and program timetabling to optimise venue use and to offer a diverse array of activities to a wider cross-section of the community

Professional programmers have replaced volunteers at many venues in response to user expectations, risk and insurance issues, and competition. In virtually every Council across Australia, professional managers and programmers are now employed to run libraries, indoor leisure and sports centres, pools, museums and galleries. Good managers and programmers know how to engage people, how to identify and meet community and member needs and how to evaluate and improve on what they have offered previously.

One of the strengths of programming is that it does not have to be regular. Rather, programs might be run on anything from a one-off, daily, weekly, monthly, half yearly, annual, holidays/seasonal or even less frequent basis. Many Councils, which do not have the financial capacity or space to build new facilities, have put a growing emphasis on targeted programming and services.

There is a growing trend to link the activities that are programmed to local, state and national health objectives rather than running programs for the program's sake. This has led to the deletion of some activities and replacement with others with known health benefits. Some community sporting and recreation venues have developed doctor referral programs while the opportunity to include medical practices in community leisure centres has been explored by many Councils.

Venues are staying open for increasingly longer hours to accommodate demand levels, to ensure accessibility for shift workers, part time workers and families of mixed make-up and to counter commercial 24/7 operators.

Program diversification entails providing new and different activities that encourage participation. It includes:

- provision of new opportunities that target residents who are not actively involved in existing groups and clubs e.g. youth at risk, people with disabilities, new residents, aged and lone household members of the community, members of cultural minorities;

provision of programs that deliver benefits that cannot be achieved through existing pursuits; and
existing clubs working together to offer a mixed program of activities over say one or two weekends annually.

There is a growing provision of community activities and sports, and non-competitive activities. This trend embraces two elements - the provision of activities and sports as opposed to buildings, and the provision of non-competitive activities.

Built sport and recreation facilities (whether ovals, parks or buildings) are simply the means to a recreational outcome: not an end in themselves. Councils and State governments are increasingly recognising that there are many people in the community who need access to programs and services (such as community transport, information, fee assistance) ahead of facilities. They are also recognising that where existing facilities are better programmed, greater benefits are delivered to the community. This applies to all age and ability groups, but particularly to the aged, people with disabilities, a person from different cultural backgrounds, children, and the families of working couples, single parents, lone residents and new arrivals in a town or district. Well-designed multi-user facilities have a strong capacity to support a diversity of programming initiatives.

From a competition versus non-competition perspective, for many people, being active does not involve competitive sports: instead, it involves for example, boot camps, fitness classes, walking a dog, cycling, gardening, going for a run, casual swimming, scratch matches of 5-a-side teams, and the use of walking/ cycle tracks. The availability of facilities for these self-programming opportunities encourages regular but casual enjoyment of healthy, largely self-directed recreation activities.

The non-competitive programming trend is increasing as the population ages, as people become more aware of the health benefits of exercise, as the cost of competitive participation increases and as family, work and other commitments impact on the availability of regular free time in large blocks. As such, it is important that whatever sport and recreation facilities, programs and services are provided, they are provided with a capacity to sustain casual, informal, non-competitive or irregular use.

A final point of relevance, about this trend is that greater support needs to be given to sports that can be pursued across a far broader age span compared with those with a narrow age span. Activities with a narrow age span are looking to identify and develop ways by which people can/will continue to participate. These may include rule changes for older participants (e.g.: different balls, fewer players, shorter duration games), the addition of social activities as part of the competition program, the development of alternate training regimes, and changed times of competition.

Overall Implications

There are several important trends in sport and recreation provision that warrant consideration in planning all future sport, recreation and leisure facilities, programs and services provision. In terms of the present project, reflecting these trends is likely to mean:

development of facilities, which, while having a capacity to cater for various levels of competition, will still have a multi-purpose use capacity;

a venue which will need to have the flexibility to offer a greater diversity of programs and/or changes the programs on offer as needs change so that more people are attracted to become engaged;

an opportunity to develop a greater focus on activities that promote healthy living and community wellbeing in addition to core sporting team programs;

an opportunity to develop a greater focus on activities that build social capital in the community;

significant benefits from the use of skilled management and programming; and

an opportunity to consider commercial or government investment and involvement in providing sporting, recreation and community opportunities.

2.3 Implementation of Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021

The *Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021* outlined a range of recommendations based around four key main strategic actions, those being:

1. Building operational structures and capacities in the Council for recreation management.
2. Building operational processes and policies for recreation within Council and in the wider community.
3. Improving recreation facilities, programs and services.
4. Developing new recreation facilities, programs and services.

Attachment 1 provides an assessment of the implementation for the recommended actions including a comment/reason as to what may have been commenced or why no action has been taken. It indicates that Council has taken action on 70% of the recommendations (20% completed, 12% commenced and 38% continuing). Some of the recommended actions that have not progressed are due to no longer being seen as a priority, limited resources, outside of Council's influence or the timing is not appropriate (e.g. may have to wait to other actions are progressed).

The assessment indicates a strong commitment by Council to take action to improve recreation facilities, programs and services within the Huon Valley.

2.4 Existing Recreation Facilities

An inventory of existing recreation facilities is provided in Attachment 2.

Programming of the use of facilities is undertaken at the major facilities including Cygnet Sports Centre, Huonville Swimming Pool, Huonville Recreation Ground, Huonville PCYC and Port Huon Sports Centre and Aquatic Centre. The single-purpose use of many facilities with limited demand for various activities requires limited levels of programming.

Information about recreation facilities is available on the Huon Valley Council website or via social media for individual clubs and groups.

2.5 Recreation Club and Community Views

2.5.1 Club Surveys

Surveys were sent out to all known sporting clubs and recreation groups in the Huon Valley. 20 surveys were completed and returned to Council.

The surveys asked questions about:

- membership numbers and trends (past and future);
- critical issues that the club/group may face in the next 5 years;
- priorities for upgrading and new infrastructure/facilities;
- opportunities for resource sharing; and
- any further comments on the needs and priorities for improving access and use of facilities, programs and services.

Membership trends

Table 2.7 shows there has been growth in membership of the clubs and groups in the last 5 years and that this is expected to continue in the next 5 years. Overall the total membership for these Clubs is expected to increase by around 33%.

The survey also asked what proportion of the active/playing members were juniors – the surveys indicated that overall 36% of the total active/playing members were juniors. The survey also indicated that 62% of the active/playing members were male and 38% were female members.

Table 2.7 Membership Trends – Club Survey Respondents

Club/Group	Total Members	Current Active/ Playing Members	Change over last 5 years	Change expected next 5 years (total members)
Huon Valley Little Athletics	125	125	up	150
Huon Valley Soccer Club	120	110	up	140
Huon Valley Golf Club	180	180	up	200
Huonville Scout Group	55	55	up	105
Huon Archers	25	25	down	40–50
Huon Valley Netball Club	112	102	down	120
Huon Zombies Community Fitness	90	30	up	120
Huonville Lions Football Club	350	300	up	450
Huon Districts Pony Club	65	55	up	80
Ranelagh and Huon Kayak Group	–	–	up	increase
North Huon Cricket Club	170	140	up	200+
Southern Pedals	85	40	up	120
Southern Pedals Social Cyclists	60	30	up	100
Slab Road Cricket Club	60	60	up	60
Cygnets Riders	12	10	up	20
Port Cygnets Sailing Club	–	–	up	–
Castle Forbes Bay Recreation Club	34	34	up	100
Southern Tigers Cricket Club	100	60	up	120
Geeveston Park Run	50	50	up	100
Port Esperance Sailing Club	58	27	up	70

Critical Issues

The highest listed issues were responding to increased demands resulting from major growth expected in the sport or recreational activity and the lack of volunteers to help administer and run the club and group. The next highest issue was the limited resources to upgrade/maintain club or group facilities. The third ranked issues related to increased costs, limited funding support, lack of suitable venues, limited skilled coaches and the ageing community.

Table 2.8 Critical Issues for Clubs and Groups

Critical Issue	Response by Clubs/ Groups	Overall Ranking (Top 4)
Decline in the population making it difficult to maintain players, clients and supporters	1	
Increased demands resulting from major growth expected in the sport or recreational activity	9	=1
Decline in club or group membership	3	
Lack of volunteers to help administer and run the club and group	9	=1
Increased legal liability pressure and rising insurance costs	5	=4
Need for the Club/group to prepare a development or business plan	-	
Limited funding assistance from government or Council	6	=3
Limited information to help club/group	-	
Lack of suitable venues or appropriate facilities to meet needs	6	=3
Poor standard of facilities used and the inability to provide quality sporting and recreation opportunities	5	=4
Limited resources to upgrade/maintain club or group facilities	7w	2
Limited resources for developing or programming of facilities and activities	3	
Lack of support services (e.g. public transport, childcare, information)	-	
Decline in fundraising capability	1	
Increased competition and diversity of recreational and leisure opportunities which will reduce members	1	
Lack of professional advice and support available	2	
Lack of master plans for venues and facilities	3	
Lack of, or need for a Strategic Plan to help guide the vision and future direction of your Club	1	
Limited junior development programs	1	
Increased operational or asset management costs	3	
Increased insurance costs or difficulty to get appropriate insurance cover (e.g. flood prone areas)	3	
Decline in spectators to support the sport or activity	1	
Limited skilled or sufficient coaches	6	=3
Changing working hours affecting support for programs, activities	3	
Ageing community	5	=4
Facilities for emerging sports or recreation pursuits (indoor and outdoor)	3	
Rapid population growth which will put excess pressure on resources	2	
Too many legal/compliance restrictions being placed on clubs and groups	4	
Limited avenues now for sponsorship	1	

Critical Issue	Response by Clubs/ Groups	Overall Ranking (Top 4)
Attracting female and junior participants	1	
Outside groups and bookings affect use of hall	1	
Need more umpires	1	

Priorities

Table 2.8 Club Priorities

Club/Group	Fixing Facilities, Programs and Services	New Facilities, Programs and Services
Huon Valley Little Athletics	Canteen room fit out, long jump pit, timing gate	Windbreak, community fun run start of season
Huon Valley Soccer Club	Lights for night games, resurfacing playing areas	
Huon Valley Golf Club	Ongoing drainage improvement, upgrade clubhouse	Women's and junior golf development, machinery upgrade
Huonville Scout Group	-	-
Huon Archers	Find permanent ground, more Council grants	Junior coaching and female coaches
Huon Valley Netball Club	New netball courts, better surface and secured courts (stop vandalism) and security	Car parking, design of the club buildings, new large indoor centre for the Huon Valley
Huon Zombies Community Fitness	Outdoor fitness equipment (current equipment poor and outdated)	All weather workout area at no cost
Huonville Lions Football Club	Upgrade lighting to meet current standards	Replace old clubrooms, additional communal purpose room to accommodate other groups and use
Huon Districts Pony Club	Horse riding trails, better toilets	
Ranelagh and Huon Kayak Group		Develop a Huon Kayak Trail
North Huon Cricket Club	Unsafe training nets, maintenance and upgrade of the clubrooms, improved watering system, management of surface pre and post events	
Southern Pedals	Seal North Huon Road and improve shoulders to allow better safety and separation	Sealing roads, redevelopment of Franklin velodrome
Southern Pedals Social Cyclists	Shoulders on roads, encourage safer cycling environment	Cycle track work

Club/Group	Fixing Facilities, Programs and Services	New Facilities, Programs and Services
Slab Road Cricket Club	Upgrade changerooms, improve lights and seal around oval	Upgrade lights
Cygnets Riders	Cycling paths	Cycling paths
Port Cygnets Sailing Club	-	-
Castle Forbes Bay Recreation Club	Repair of Clubhouse, removal of perimeter fencing and repair of cricket nets	Disability access to clubrooms, upgrading kitchen, improve safety and upgrade parking and amenity of ground
Southern Tigers Cricket Club	Upgrade changerooms, clubrooms and kitchen	Practice nets, outdoor deck and concrete path to practice nets
Geeveston Park Run	Upgrade green shelter at Heritage Park	Improve and widen paths at Heritage Park, fencing along river and showers in toilet block
Port Esperance Sailing Club	Fix wood heater	Upgrade commercial kitchen and storage area for dinghies and trailers

Resource Sharing

The Clubs identified the following possible opportunities for resource sharing with other Clubs or groups:

- cross-promotion of Little Athletics programs e.g. fun run at start of the season;
- already sharing occurring between some clubs e.g. soccer and Little Athletics;
- meeting rooms, entertainment and function facilities, fitness and health facilities;
- possibility of integrating clubs;
- accommodating other community based groups e.g. Senior Strength for Life utilise the Lions Football Club;
- sharing facilities with Riding for Disabled;
- night time football and cricket use (with improved lights);
- sharing boats/facilities with Scouts and local schools;
- promote access and use for events and activities by other groups;
- greater use for events e.g. Aus Day celebrations, Greater Huon Festival; and
- sharing of rowing boats and dinghies between sailing clubs.

Other Comments

Clubs were also invited to make other comments about improving access, rationalising facilities or linking recreation to tourism opportunities. The responses included:

need for ongoing promotion of recreational activities including the Council website;

make better use of the Ranelagh Recreation Ground;

hosting of carnivals/events if courts were upgraded e.g. netball;

encourage multipurpose community use of existing facilities;

establish a good network of trail rides to encourage greater use and interest for equine tourism;

develop a Huon River Kayak Trail would appeal to both locals and visitors especially using existing/planned infrastructure and promotion/information and interpretation;

Huon Valley could become an attractive cycling destination with organised cycling rides and encouraging professional cycling touring operators;

ensure all recreational facilities meet WHS standards including access for people with disability;

encourage flexibility into the use of recreation grounds as multi-use venues;

make the Huon River more easily accessible for transport connections;

support sealing of parking areas and walking areas at recreation grounds and play areas;

better lighting for security and safety outside recreation buildings;

continue to support use of recreation grounds for events e.g. Aus Day celebration, Great Huon Festival, Taste of Huon, Huon Agricultural Shows and Mid-Winter Festival;

parkruns are a world-wide program and attracts increasing visitor interest; and

potential for recreation venues to be community safe places during bushfires.

2.5.2 Community Forums

Community forums were held in Cygnet, Huonville and Geeveston during May 2019. The points raised and discussed at these forums is provided in Attachment 3.

The key points mentioned about current provision of recreation were:

- increasing need for well-connected and safer trails, especially for walking and bike riding;
- many of the existing recreation facilities are well used;
- improving public access to the rivers is important;
- increased dog ownership and need to have more spaces and trails to exercise;
- restrictions on opening hours limits recreational access and use.

Some of the trends noticed within the community were:

- ageing population and increase in young families;
- increasing need to cater for dog friendly facilities;
- loss of informal trails (over private land);
- loss of numbers to support organised sports like football and cricket;
- increase in female participation in organised sports;
- increase in rowing , sailing, skiffs etc;
- increase in people undertaking walking, cycling and running;
- increase in motorhomes, caravans and campers;
- increase interests in arts, culture and tourism; and
- increased traffic issues with growing population.

Some of the big opportunities for new recreation were listed as:

- trail links between towns (e.g. Huonville to Franklin option being assessed, Huonville to Judbury, Geeveston to Kermandie to Shipwrights Point);
- improving access and connectivity of the Huon River e.g. ferries, boat landings at towns, strategic locations for pontoons to cater for fishing, picnics and paddling;
- mountain bike destination (currently being investigated) and an iconic walk within the Huon Valley;
- creating safer conditions and promoting cycling loops e.g. Ranelagh- Judbury – Glen Huon, Cygnet Coast Road;

- potential for kayaking trails;
- catering for increased use of electric bikes;
- hydrotherapy pool and larger green open spaces at Cygnet; and
- more community events.

At a more local level, the recreational opportunities included:

- more exercise circuits and short walks/loops in towns;
- adding training/fun facilities into dog parks;
- upgrading existing facilities to improve times of use e.g. lighting at ovals.
- extending the opening times at the Huonville Swimming Pool and Port Huon Sports & Aquatic Centre;
- more public toilets
- community garden at Ranelagh Recreation Ground;
- change Surges Bay oval into a dog off-leash area;
- extending foreshore walk about 300m past the Sailing Club;
- upgrade gym at Cygnet; and
- pontoon access under the Huon River bridge (as a safer road crossing).

2.5.3 Online Community Surveys and Submissions

A summary of the key points raised through the online survey and submissions is shown in Table 2.9.

Table 2.9 Key Points from the Online Community Surveys

Number	Key Points Raised
1	Support for the Franklin to Huonville shared path along the foreshore
2	Cygnets needs a larger off-leash dog park maybe share space used by Cygnets Riding Club. Council needs to be more pro-active about maintaining walking tracks. Cygnets needs another park/open space area.
3	Increase free and low cost camping and caravanning options
4	Enclose the Huonville swimming pool and open all year round
5	Would like an artists co-op to be developed – possibly at the Ranelagh Recreation Ground
6	Encourage bike riding around the Huon Valley
7	Provide safe access for kayaks and small watercraft at Shipwrights Point - build some rock groynes to create a safe beach to south of the boat ramp
8	Extending the multi-use trails around Skinners Creek with a loop trail, two small footbridges and boardwalk to make it safer and encourage healthy outdoor activity
9	Build adventure tree-top walk/climb for both locals and visitors
10	Concern that Crown Land Services may close access to the Big Log fishing area at She Oak Road in Judbury. Historical use and seeking Council to agree to a General License Agreement for the site.
11	Proposal for a Huon River Loop Ride – 33km circuit from Huonville to Judbury and Glen Huon. Proposed improvements include achieving greater access to river, fixing road shoulders, improving road surface near Judbury (North Huon Road) and improving the track surface between Huonville and Ranelagh.
12	Heated covered pool at the Cygnets Sports Centre.
13	Want the possibilities of a public access to a boat ramp at Glen Huon to be investigated.
14	Ideas to upgrade Glen Huon Hall and surrounds to include walking track, exercise station, cycle paths, dog walking and a bandstand.
15	Need indoor pool at Huonville for the benefit of the ageing community
16	Keen for Council to invest in an indoor heated pool in Huonville to cater for ageing community and extend participation in a range of water activities.
17	Submission outlining the potential for walking tracks to and from Cygnets to the Snug Tiers Recreation and Conservation Area – an European style walk with a community-based group working with Local Councils to construct and maintain. The submission refers to fieldtrip investigations for Hobart-Cygnets via Mountain River and Pelverata (3 days), Hobart to Cygnets on a ridgeway track (2 days), Pelverata Loop (1 day), Cygnets to Pelverata (1 day) and Cygnets to Snug (1 day).
18	Youth need more job opportunities, transport and housing support
19	Submission outlines a 3 day Wellington-Huon Cycle Trail similar to the successful New Zealand Bike Rides – traversing through diverse landscapes and using existing accommodation along the route with a shuttle service for luggage.

Number	Key Points Raised
20	Need bike rack outside the Cygnet Old Bank
21	Submission outlining a published bike ride in the Huon – D'Entrecasteaux Channel starting at Hobart via Huon Road, Ranelagh, Huonville, Cradoc, Cygnet Coast Road, Cygnet, Verona Sands, Gordon, Kettering , Kingston to Hobart.
22	Rowing/paddling on the Huon River is impacted by jet skiers
23	Submission from Women on Water being affected by jet skis and speed boats not obeying speed limits and creating high noise levels, submerged obstacles (trees) in the river pose safety risks, impact of wash on the foreshore banks and birdlife.
24	Support for outdoor activity and list ideas for improvements. These include bike rack in Huonville, shared use cycle/walk track on North Huon Road, sealing part of North Huon Road, improving track between Conlan Road and Voss Road, outdoor exercise station at Judbury, improve cyclist land between Huonville and Franklin, improve Lollara Road and Pages Road (missing cyclist lane), use of road user signs (advise motorists of shared use) and prepare a Bike Plan and setup a Bicycle Advisory Group.
25	Should be government funding to help community groups using volunteer labour to improve coastal areas for public recreational use and value.
26	More residential units built for 50 and over age group

2.5.4 Council Staff Forum

A forum was held with Council staff and the key points from the discussion are listed in Appendix 3. The notes indicate a strong similarity with the key points raised in the three community forums and in particular:

- the trends in recreation;
- the importance of multi-use of recreation facilities and spaces;
- the strong community interest in improving trails and connections between towns and places;
- focus on upgrading existing facilities;
- potential of cycle touring and MTB riding within the Huon Valley;
- the potential for developing infrastructure to support water based recreation opportunities;
- more dog exercising areas;
- interest in exercise equipment; and
- good community feedback on recent upgrading of recreation facilities.

2.5.5 Key Observations

The observations drawn from the community consultation are:

The community have indicated importance for having well-developed and well-connected recreational trails. This includes trails that provide circuits/ loops within towns, trails that provide safe connections between towns and trails that are planned to cater for a range of recreational activities such as walking, running, bike riding, exercising the dog, horseriding etc. There was a strong view expressed that trails improve the health and well-being of the local community and can attract visitors into the local areas. The community also indicated a number of locations where there were safety concerns with the use of roads and road edges for trail use.

The community showed keen interest in improving access and enhancing the use of the waterways and Huon River for a range of recreational activities. The community referred to promoting a Huon River Kayak Trail, securing access to the river, developing pontoons, enhancing fishing and encouraging connectivity between places by water.

There are limited demands for major new recreation facilities and a higher preference given by the community to upgrading existing facilities to make them more functional, more capable of meeting future demand pressures and to allow for the opportunity of increased multi-use. Apart from investment in infrastructure to support trails, there was some interest expressed for upgrading aquatic facilities and extending operating hours. It was widely recognised that aquatic facilities would require big funding sources to be found.

The big ideas for attracting significant visitor use were considered to be the development of a mountain bike destination, cycling tour routes, an iconic walk(s) and the Huon River Kayak Trail. The community also indicated a desire for upgrading some existing road circuits (e.g. North Huon Road, Cygnet Coast Road) to better cater for the needs of cyclists. There were several detailed submissions for cycle routes and walking tracks based on investigations and local experience.

There was high interest in having additional dog off-leash exercising areas throughout the Huon Valley.

There was community support for developing multi-use or shared facilities to cater for a mix of recreational activities.

Section 3: Recreation Planning Framework

The Draft *Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021* set out a policy framework to guide the future planning, management, maintenance and improvement of recreation facilities, programs and services within the Huon Valley over the next 10 years. The key components of the policy framework were:

- the vision;
- planning principles;
- policy positions for Council; and
- Strategic Action Plans.

A review of this framework indicated that there was no identifying reason to alter the vision, guiding principles or policy positions for Council. The framework, based on best practice policy, continues to provide strong guidance for recreation planning by the Council. However the Strategic Action Plans (as outlined in Section 4) have been revised to reflect the priorities for addressing community recreation needs in the next 10 years. As outlined in Section 2.3 (and Attachment 1) Council has implemented many of the previous recommended actions or there are reasons why some have not been acted upon (e.g. limited resources, changing needs) and some recommendations that are no considered to be supported.

3.1 Vision

The vision is a statement of Council's intent regarding its involvement and responsibility with regards to both open space and recreation in the community. The vision is consistent with Councils overarching vision for the municipal area as expressed in the *Huon Valley 2020 Community Plan* and the *Huon Valley 2010–2015 Strategic Plan*.

The vision statement was modified slightly to acknowledge the economic benefits of recreation that include the opportunity for recreational experiences to attract visitors to the Huon Valley.

The vision is:

The Huon Valley will be a liveable place where planned open space and recreation opportunities are actively managed and supported providing health and well-being, environmental, sport and recreation, economic and social benefits to the community.

The intent of the word “community” is that provision would be made for:

the general resident community within the Huon Valley;

open space and facilities that would also cater for visitors to the municipal area; and

a range of other individuals and groups who may well have special requirements which need to be met to ensure that they can access open space and undertake recreation pursuits, and thereby gain the benefits intended through the provision (e.g. aged, youth, people with disabilities, minority cultural groups, Aboriginal community etc).

3.2 Recreation Planning Principles

These are a set of broad principles, which guide decisions and planning relating to open space and recreation over the long-term, and aid in the realisation of the vision.

These principles are, in part, based on the recreational policy principles adopted by the Active Australia Program, but have been revised and expanded to acknowledge the needs of the Huon Valley community:

Fairness, Equality and Access – Council will actively seek equality of access to open space, sport, leisure and recreation opportunities regardless of age, sex, mobility, ethnicity or economic capacity by providing extra help for those for whom access is more difficult (e.g. for reason of language or mobility barriers); encouraging the development of user-friendly and high standard access infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, bike ways); ensuring equitable pricing policies, and favouring initiatives that improve access.

Life-Long Involvement – Council is committed to ensuring that all members of the community have the opportunity for life-long involvement in sport, leisure and recreation through participation and education programs; improvement of access and services and exposing people to new or different leisure and recreation opportunities.

Quality of Experience and Safety – Council believes that the resident and visitor community have the right to expect a high standard of recreation opportunities based on identified community needs. Council recognises the value of experiential qualities of recreation (including environment and setting); and the need to ensure that facilities, programs and services are provided in accordance with community need, contemporary standards and practices for health, risk and public safety.

Continual Improvement – Council is committed to reviewing and continually upgrading its provision of open space and recreational facilities, programs and services, and to improving the operational capacity of Council in relation to the provision of these services, and to facilitate initiatives in the community and commercial sectors, which improve open space and recreation opportunities.

Sustainability – Council believes in ensuring the sustainability of open space and recreation opportunities by providing facilities programs and services which meet identified needs in the community; by strengthening the ability of Council and the community to develop, operate and maintain them, and by avoiding, remedying or mitigating any lasting impacts upon the natural environment and quality of life of residents. In pursuing this principle, Council will encourage the involvement of members of the community in major decisions relating to open space and recreation.

Multiple-Use and Efficiency – Council believes in multi-use and efficiency in the provision of recreation opportunities. Efficiency is measured in terms of the costs incurred in the running of programs, maintenance, improvement or replacement of facilities against the benefits to the whole community in terms of recreation opportunity. Preference will be given to initiatives which avoid the duplication of facilities, which are designed to support and encourage multi-use and which help to achieve a coordinated and holistic approach to recreation.

Diversity of Opportunities – Council will support the provision of a range of opportunities for both passive and active recreation; in response to community needs; in a number of locations; at all levels of skill and competence and which cater for needs at the local, municipal and regional levels. Council will encourage the development of new opportunities for recreation in the Huon Valley.

Partnerships/Shared Responsibility – Council will pursue opportunities for joint development of facilities with other providers (e.g. schools, Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Tasmania, private business, not-for-profit agencies), encourage shared management regimes with clubs and community groups and inter-agency and inter-government cooperation; and will assist those who assist the community (e.g. volunteers and community based groups).

Making a Whole-of-Council Commitment – Council believes in a cooperative, whole-of-Council commitment to meeting the foregoing principles and to improving opportunities for recreation for all members of the community.

Organisational Capacity – Council will develop the organisational and financial capacity to actively, plan, manage and assist with the delivery of facilities, programs and services that enhance the opportunities for the community to benefit from engaging in recreational activities.

Whilst the principles outlined above express accepted community values to some degree (i.e. fairness, sustainability, life-long involvement) they have the potential to be used as guides for making decisions about open space provision and recreation priorities in the future. If a proposal can satisfy all of these principles then this should indicate to the Council that the proposal is worthy of proceeding to more detailed investigation and assessment. If the proposal fails on several of these principles, then it suggests that the benefits to the community may not be sufficient to warrant Council support or resource investment.

3.3 Policy Positions for Council

The following policy positions have been identified to guide Council in progressing the *Huon Valley Recreation Plan* based on a review of existing policies and practices:

Council will only provide new facilities, programs and services, which reflect identified community needs and which will broaden the base for participation in recreational activity.

Council will continue to provide a range of open spaces and facilities to allow the opportunity for an equitable range of both structured and unstructured recreational experiences. Wherever practical, those open spaces and facilities will be developed, managed and scheduled to support multi-use.

Council will provide and maintain recreation facilities, programs and services for the use and enjoyment of the community. Standards of provision will be appropriate for the standard and level of use and will comply with contemporary standards for competition, safety and risk management.

All Council recreational facilities, programs and services shall be subject to the provisions of Council By-laws.

Council will continuously review the existing provision of recreation facilities, programs and services for the purpose of determining need and relevance, and where appropriate, will refurbish and/or rationalise the assets or restructure their management to ensure current and emergent needs are satisfied.

Council will promote the availability of recreation facilities, programs and services in the community for a broad range of uses, and shall encourage individual, associations and clubs to provide events and sporting fixtures on Council reserves whether on a regular or occasional basis.

In order to encourage multiple use and shared access, Council will seek alternative arrangements to granting associations, clubs or individuals exclusive occupancy rights to any facility for specified hours, days, and weeks within particular seasons of the year.

Council will develop and maintain recreation facilities, programs and services that fit the intended level and purpose of use (e.g. higher standards are usually required for higher levels of competition) in order to offer sustainable opportunities for participation at all appropriate skill levels.

Council will establish specifications for provision and maintenance for each type and standard of facility, program and service so as to deliver a consistency of provision at a cost that is sustainable.

Fees and charges will be established on the basis of facility, program and service maintenance costs, facility, program, service and user types, and Council's community service obligations.

Council will encourage and facilitate development and transition to a shared or multiple occupation of existing sporting grounds, facilities, clubrooms and social facilities.

Council will monitor the implementation and impacts of these policy positions, and review and revise them on a 3–5 yearly basis as deemed appropriate. Additional items can also be added depending on new and changing circumstances.

Section 4: Implementation Plan

4.1 Overview

Open spaces, sport and recreation are essential elements contributing to the quality of life enjoyed by the community. Well-designed and implemented planning policies for sport and recreation can help deliver a range of Council's broader objectives for the community. For instance, high quality recreational facilities, programs and services may improve people's sense of well-being in the place they live, foster community activities that engage social interaction and promote healthy living, preventing illness, and contributing to the social development of the community.

The Council is the major provider of recreational facilities, programs and services to the community. About 10% of the Council's total expenditure is allocated towards sport and recreation, including the maintenance of open space areas under its control.

The future directions for recreation within the Huon Valley are based upon:

- review of policies and plans (refer to Section 2.1);
- assessment of the broader demographic, development and recreation trends (refer to Section 2.2);
- review of progress achieved on implementation of recommendations from past Recreation Plans (refer to Section 2.3 and Attachment 1)
- review of existing recreation facilities and survey of sporting clubs and recreation groups (refer to Sections 2.3, 2.4 and Attachment 2);
- review of input from Council staff, community forums, surveys and submissions (refer to Section 2.5 and Attachment 3); and
- site visits to the majority of existing sporting and recreational facilities.

4.2 Key Future Directions

The Implementation Plan focuses on four key future directions for the Huon Valley municipal areas:

1. Supporting Council's capacity and operational processes to help deliver recreation benefits to the community.

2. Improving existing recreation facilities, programs and services.
3. Developing new recreation facilities, programs and services to meet identified community needs.
4. Fostering synergies for recreation and tourism benefits within the Huon Valley.

The criteria for selecting the recommended actions for each of these future directions include:

recognition of the need for such an action identified within the background research, consultation and review undertaken for this study;

consistency with achieving the proposed vision and principles for the Council (refer to Section 3);

ability to clearly demonstrate the benefits for the community;

being practical/achievable given the current recreation planning arrangements, resources and skills within the Council; and

potential to trigger other opportunities for recreation planning and development initiatives, including partnerships with other agencies and the community.

4.2.1 Capacity and Operational Processes

A review of the past recreation plans¹⁰ indicates the willingness and capacity for the Council to review recommended actions and to implement those where funding and support is known. Some recommended actions were not progressed given further assessment identified issues or changing needs, high costs and limited funding prospects or limited support for the idea.

The key actions for supporting Council's capacity and operational processes to help deliver recreation benefits to the community are:

maintain strong working relationships within Council and with other key agencies and interest groups involved with recreation;

set aside a budget allocation over the next 10 years;

continue to monitor and evaluate community recreation needs;

¹⁰ Huon Valley Sport and Recreation Plan 1996 and Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021

promote multi-use of recreation facilities and sharing of resources;
facilitate communication and providing support for sports clubs and recreation groups; and
maintain Council's community data base on sporting and recreation facilities, programs and services.

4.2.2 Improving Existing Recreational Facilities, Programs and Services

Over time the Council has developed and managed a wide range of recreational facilities throughout the municipal areas that generally cater well for community needs. Consultation with the community suggested there was not an over-whelming demand for major new facilities but rather stronger interest in upgrading existing facilities and developing recreation trails.

The existing facilities (e.g. recreation grounds, indoor sports , aquatic centres) are generally well-located to cater for the needs of the dispersed community. This does require local people to travel to reach the main facilities, but the community indicated an awareness of the high capital investment and operational costs involved with building and maintaining major new facilities.

The key actions for improving the existing recreational facilities, programs and services are:

- upgrade directional signs and information for the community and visitors to access and use existing open spaces and recreational venues (refer to Future Direction 4);
- continue to progressively review and implement recommended actions in the existing master plans and concept plans for Council managed recreational land e.g. Huonville Recreation Ground, Ranelagh Recreation Ground (in preparation), Heritage Park, Franklin Foreshore, Huon River Foreshore, Dover Foreshore, Burtons Reserve, Shipwrights Point Reserve and Calvert Park;
- prepare a concept master plan for the village green area at Ranelagh given its potential to be a valuable community park to cater for picnic, play, exercise/fitness, small outdoor events/community pizza oven, learn to ride etc;
- review, re-position and activate the PCYC indoor sports facilities including the indoor courts, music studio and multi-use dance room;
- improve the safety, connectivity and functionality of existing shared trails including:
 - the shared trail between Huonville and Ranelagh, and

- the foreshore shared trail from Burtons Reserve to the Port Cygnet Sailing Club and onto the boat ramp and small foreshore park;

support the local community to re-activate the Castle Forbes Bay sportsground as a multi-use community park with potential for hosting local community events;

support continued public access to Big Log for fishing and local social gatherings near Judbury including addressing existing site impact issues;

support the introduction of night lights at sportsgrounds where the need is evident and the benefits for multi-use can be demonstrated; and

assess the potential community interest in extending the operating hours for use of the aquatic facilities at Huonville and Port Huon Sports Centre.

4.2.3 Developing New Recreation Facilities, Programs and Services

Community engagement indicated there was a strong desire within the community for multi-use recreational trails, floating pontoons to improve river access, more dog exercising areas and fitness circuits to be developed within the municipal areas. This view is consistent with the *Huon Valley Health and Wellbeing Strategy* which noted as an aspirational direction that

“Our towns and hamlets are pedestrian-friendly, connected by a network of cycling tracks and walking trails, and have active recreation and exercise spaces that encourage participation and use.”

The provision of more developed open space within towns and hamlets, improving accessibility, the provision of seats along trails and within open space areas, increased shade, programming of facilities and more information would assist the wider community to become more active. There was also an understanding that physical exercise can be integrated with fun and health benefits. These improvements will help meet the specific needs of an ageing population to embrace active exercise.

There was also a widely accepted recognition by the community that many of the sportsgrounds did not have adequate changerooms and facilities to cater for the growth in women's participation in sport.

The key actions for developing new recreation facilities, programs and services to meet identified community needs are:

progress the future development of a mountain bike hub with commercial support services within the Huon Valley to attract locals and visitor interest (feasibility assessment in progress);

review and revise the *Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy 2007* with community engagement in order to prepare a Recreation Trails Plan that accommodates the shared and specific needs of trails for walking, running, cycling, mtb bike riding, kayaking and horseriding within the Huon Valley – this may include:

- continue to pursue the opportunity for development of new shared trails between towns including Huonville – Franklin;
- the potential for the Huon Valley to be a major cycling destination in Southern Tasmania through the improvement of selected tour circuits e.g. Huonville – Ranelagh – Judbury – Glen Huon – Huonville, Cygnet Coast Road,
- opportunities for new park runs (currently using Heritage Park in Geeveston),
- investigate and promote the concept of a Huon River Kayak Trail that identifies a range of different paddling experiences including infrastructure (e.g. parking, launching locations, toilets etc), required skill levels, being prepared for risk and general information,
- the potential for promoting a D’Entrecasteaux Kayak Trail in the longer term,
- identifying, assessing and negotiating a hierarchy of walking trails to cater for different users, and
- potential for horseriding trails that may be linked to the location of existing riding clubs e.g. Ranelagh, Cygnet;

install additional floating pontoons or structures along the Huon River that would improve accessibility and allow for different recreational activities e.g. fishing, kayaking, small boats;

support new provision for upgrading changerooms, toilets and amenities to accommodate the growth in women’s participation in active sports such as cricket and football;

continue to provide dog exercising areas throughout the municipal areas given strong community interest – including re-use of Surges Bay oval as a dog-off leash park and finding a suitable sized area at Cygnet; and

continue to provide facilities that cater for increased community interest in running and fitness circuits within towns e.g. Judbury, Glen Huon.

4.2.4 Fostering Synergies and Benefits

The opportunities for fostering synergies and benefits between recreation and tourism can be achieved through a range of measures:

improve information and signage that help visitors access parks, open spaces, beaches, trails, play facilities, toilets, boat ramps etc throughout the municipal areas;

encourage investment into leading recreation/tourism projects that will help differentiate the Huon Valley as a visitor destination [e.g. MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails, range of high profile walks (short, half day, day, overnight), pontoons and greater river-edge access];

continue to utilise the existing infrastructure for events that attract high local use and visitor interest – especially those events that sell the ‘place’ and encapsulate the brand and quality experiences of the Huon Valley (e.g. Taste of the Huon, Huon Agricultural Show, Willie Smith Mid Winter Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival) and those that may potentially eventuate with a MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails etc); and

support existing tourism operators and increasing new operators to present tour and travel experiences within the Huon Valley that area based around recreational trail activities (e.g. bike riding, walking, kayaking, running) and nature (e.g. camping/caravanning/recreational vehicles, nature study).

Council could facilitate the potential benefits, in partnership with other agencies, by giving priority to:

actions that may help address seasonality issues (leading to low profits, little re-investment and seasonal staff);

co-ordinating with other land managing agencies to facilitate the management of commercial operations requiring leases/licenses/ permits across different regulated lands;

capacity for mentor assistance for selected existing and new operators with growth plans that can leverage and support the new opportunities;

encouraging investment and/or planned improvements in contemporary-style nature-oriented/ tailored/ personalised immersive experiential products;

supporting collective marketing within the Huon Valley; and
developing new visitor information (may be digital) to assist
visitors quickly sift through the recreation based tourism
activity options and select the highlights, plus the activities best
suited to their needs, physical skill, interests, time etc.

4.3 Implementation Plan

The Implementation Plan lists recommended actions, the responsibility, time frame and resource implications for the achievement of the identified priorities listed within the Recreation Plan.

It is recognised that the Council currently has limited resources and that the delivery of recreation outcomes is just one area of its overall operations. Whilst there is a list of recommended actions, Council will need to choose those actions, which are achievable given time, resources and commitment to the implementation program in relation to other imperatives for Council.

It is important that the Implementation Plan is not seen as a fixed document, but rather a tool that can be updated on a regular basis as new information becomes available. Accordingly it is recommended that the Implementation Plan be seen more as a 'working document' that requires regular review and planned revision.

It is recommended that an 'internal' review of the implementation of the Implementation Plan be undertaken annually by Council and a major review of the Recreation Plan involving extensive community consultation should be undertaken within 8–10 years, or earlier if Council considers it necessary.

The priority for the Implementation Plan, subject to available resources, is based upon the following:

High – high priority strategy that should start
and be completed within 2 years;
Moderate – moderate priority strategy that should
start and be completed within 5 years;
Low – low priority strategy that should be start and
be completed within the next 10 years; and
Ongoing - a strategy that requires continuous action, commencing
immediately or requiring immediate action when the relevant situation arises.

Future Direction #1

Supporting Council's capacity and operational processes to help deliver recreation benefits to the community.

Recommended Action	Priority	Responsibility	Initiating Implementation
Maintain strong working relationships within Council and with other key agencies and interest groups involved with recreation.	Ongoing	Council	Maintain and update contacts with key agencies including Department of Premier and Cabinet (Communities Sport and Recreation), land managers, peak bodies and interest groups.
Set aside a budget allocation for recreation over the next 10 years.	Ongoing	Council	Prepare longer term budget commitment based on identified priorities and then review within the framework of the Strategic Plan and Operations Plan (budget would be conditional on seeking funding support from outside sources).
Continue to monitor and evaluate community recreation needs.	Ongoing	Council	Continue to monitor and assess population change, trends in participation, land development trends, emerging or expressed community needs, recreation/tourism operator proposals and changing government policy.
Promote multi-use of recreation facilities and sharing of resources.	Ongoing	Council	Adopt the vision and guiding principles to seek multi-use benefits from existing and new recreation facilities
Facilitate communication and providing support for sports clubs and recreation groups.	Ongoing	Council, recreation clubs and groups	Facilitate improved management and programming skills within Clubs with access to advice, training, resource sharing and support services. Foster training for recruitment of volunteers. Assistance with access to grants and funding programs.
Maintaining Council's community data base on sporting and recreation facilities, programs and services.	Ongoing	Council, recreation clubs and groups	Council provides online information about Council managed recreation facilities. Review the options to allow a data base to help link community interest to recreation clubs (dependent on Clubs agreeing to commit to updating contact data on a regular basis)

Future Direction #2

Improving existing recreation facilities, programs and services.

Recommended Action	Priority	Responsibility	Initiating Implementation
Continue to progressively review and implement recommended actions in the existing master plans and concept plans for Council managed recreational land e.g. Huonville Recreation Ground, Ranelagh Recreation Ground (in preparation), Heritage Park, Franklin Foreshore, Huon River Foreshore, Dover Foreshore, Burtons Reserve, Shipwrights Point Reserve and Calvert Park.	Ongoing	Council	Continue to allocate a budget for implementation works and seek funding for the further implementation of the recommended actions
Prepare a concept master plan for the village green area at Ranelagh given its potential to be a valuable community park to cater for picnic, play, exercise/fitness, small outdoor events/ community pizza oven, learn to ride etc.	Moderate	Council	Undertake initial discussions with neighbouring Church Budget funds for the preparation of the master plan and community engagement
Review, re-position and activate the PCYC indoor sports facilities including the indoor courts, music studio and multi-use dance room.	High - Moderate	PCYC and Police Tasmania with support from Council,	The recreation facilities are generally under-utilised and a new management model is required to activate the programming of the centre. This would include improving public awareness of facilities, consultation with potential user groups, upgrading of facilities (if need and demand is established), seeking new programs providers and securing longer term budget for future planning. The success of the Men's Shed is a good example of adaptation and activation of building space.
Improve the safety, connectivity and functionality of existing shared trails including the shared trail the foreshore shared trail from Burtons Reserve to the Port Cygnet Sailing Club and onto the boat ramp and small foreshore park.	High - Moderate	Council	Undertake risk assessment for pedestrian safety on the Port Cygnet foreshore walk – install road barriers (e.g. bollards) to enhance safety in some locations and extend the foreshore walk around to the boat ramp.

Support the local community to re-activate the Castle Forbes Bay sportsground as a multi-use community park with potential for hosting local community events.	High - Moderate	Council support	Whilst the sportsground is not Council owned or managed, the ground is an important community asset with potential to host a mix of uses and events in the future.
Support continued public access to Big Log for fishing and local social gatherings near Judbury including addressing existing site impact issues	High - moderate	State Government, Council, anglers peak body, local community	Seek partnership arrangement to maintain/ upgrade public access, address risk management and site impact issues.
Support the introduction of night lights at sportsgrounds where the need is evident and the benefits for multi-use can be demonstrated.	Ongoing	Council, clubs	Review and support funding submissions from Clubs where need and benefits identified. North Huon Cricket Club and the Slab Road Cricket Club identified the need for night lights at Ranelagh and Cygnet grounds.
Assess the potential community interest in extending the operating hours for use of the aquatic facilities at Huonville and Port Huon Sports Centre.	Ongoing	Council	There should be regular review of programming including program plans and operating hours. Consider trials if demand for extending times of use is considered to be feasible.

Future Direction #3

Developing new recreation facilities, programs and services to meet identified community needs.

Recommended Action	Priority	Responsibility	Initiating Implementation
Progress the future development of a mountain bike hub with commercial support services within the Huon Valley to attract locals and visitor interest (feasibility assessment in progress);	High - Moderate	Council, State Government agencies and land managers	To be determined by the feasibility study outcomes
Review and revise the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy 2007</i> with community engagement in order to prepare a Recreation Trails Plan that accommodates the shared and specific needs of trails for walking, running, cycling, mtb bike riding, kayaking and horseriding within the Huon Valley – this may include:	Moderate	Council with support from trail users and groups	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to pursue the opportunity for development of new shared trails between towns [including Huonville – Franklin] 	Moderate	Council	Await feasibility assessment for the Huonville – Franklin trail.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the potential for the Huon Valley to be a major cycling destination in Southern Tasmania through the improvement of selected tour circuits e.g. Huonville – Ranelagh – Judbury – Glen Huon – Huonville, Cygnet Coast Road, 	Moderate - Low	Council, users and riding clubs	Undertake bike rider safety and infrastructure assessment of the roads and consider options for improving bike riding safety and use whilst retaining character. Prepare submission for sealing the gravel section of Ranelagh – Judbury
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> opportunities for new park runs (currently using Heritage Park in Geeveston), 	Moderate - Low	Council and users	Assess additional locations and the potential for trail improvements to support park runs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate and promote the concept of a Huon River Kayak Trail that identifies a range of different paddling experiences including infrastructure (e.g. parking, launching locations, toilets etc), required skill levels, being prepared for risk and general information, 	High - moderate	Council and kayakers	Review the Clarence Kayak Trail and modify to suit the skill, paddling conditions and launch/retrieve experiences of the Huon River. Identify selection of paddling routes/experiences. Promote the trail and upgrade any facilities that may be required to support the trail.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the potential for promoting a D'Entrecasteaux Kayak Trail in the longer term, 	Moderate - low	Council and kayakers	Consider based on the outcomes from the Huon Kayak Trail.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying, assessing and negotiating a hierarchy of walking trails to cater for different users, 	High – moderate (short walks and circuits) Moderate – low (long distance walks)	Council, land owners, land managers, walking clubs and walkers	<p>Short walks cater for the recreational needs of a majority of locals and visitors.</p> <p>A long distance trail is likely to involve negotiation with multiple landowners and should be subject to feasibility assessment given the high costs usually involved with construction and maintenance.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> potential for horseriding trails that may be linked to the location of existing riding clubs e.g. Ranelagh, Cygnet; 	Moderate - low	Council with support of horseriding and pony clubs	Investigate level of interest and potential use with the existing clubs at Ranelagh and Cygnet. Feasibility assessment may be required given land ownership and development costs.
Install additional floating pontoons or structures along the Huon River that would improve accessibility and allow for different recreational activities e.g. fishing, kayaking, small boats.	High - moderate	Council	Continue to identify appropriate locations for installing new pontoons/structures for local access to the river edge.
Support new provision for upgrading changerooms, toilets and amenities to accommodate the growth in women's participation in active sports such as cricket and football.	Ongoing	Council, clubs and associations	Feedback from clubs indicated high priority at Huonville and Ranelagh Recreation Grounds.
Continue to provide dog exercising areas throughout the municipal areas given strong community interest – including re-use of Surges Bay oval as a dog-off leash park and finding a suitable sized area at Cygnet.	Ongoing	Council, local community	<p>Popular point raised in community consultations.</p> <p>Assess opportunities at Surges Bay oval and Cygnet Recreation Ground (or other sites)</p>
Continue to provide facilities that cater for increased community interest in running and fitness circuits within towns e.g. Judbury, Glen Huon.	Ongoing	Council	Assess opportunities at the sportsgrounds/ community halls at Judbury and Glen Huon

Future Direction #4

Fostering synergies for recreation and tourism benefits within the Huon Valley.

Recommended Action	Priority	Responsibility	Initiating Implementation
Improving information and signage that help visitors access parks, open spaces, beaches, trails, play facilities, toilets, boat ramps etc throughout the municipal areas	Moderate	Council	Undertake internal review of the existing signs and information. Review/revise/prepare signs manual to guide upgrade signs and information based on priorities.
Encouraging investment into leading recreation/tourism projects that will help differentiate the Huon Valley as a visitor destination [e.g. MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails, range of high profile walks (short, half day, day, overnight), pontoons and greater river-edge access)	Ongoing	Council, tourism industry	Progress identification of opportunities, feasibility assessment and funding for these projects.
Continuing to utilise the existing infrastructure for events that attract high local use and visitor interest – especially those events that sell the 'place' and encapsulate the brand and quality experiences of the Huon Valley (e.g. Taste of the Huon, Huon Agricultural Show, Willie Smith Mid Winter Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival) and those that may potentially eventuate with a MTB bike park, Huon Kayak Trail, country cycle trails etc);	Ongoing	Council, Huonville Agricultural Society, event organisers	Continue to build capacity for staging events with support facilities at key locations. Support marketing of events.
Supporting existing tourism operators and increasing new operators to present tour and travel experiences within the Huon Valley that area based around recreational trail activities (e.g. bike riding, walking, kayaking, running) and nature (e.g. camping/caravanning, recreational vehicles, nature study.	Ongoing	Council, tourism operators	Promote and encourage investment by tourism operators.

Attachments



Attachment 1

Review of Implementation of Recommended Strategies from the Draft Huon Valley Recreation Plan 2011–2021

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
Huonville		
1. Implement the new master plan for the Huonville Recreation Grounds.	Commenced	Items Completed: 4. Car park 28. Skate Park 8. Dog Exercise area 3. Screen 12. Upgraded memorial 13. Access road 20. Stage 1 of new park 21. Basketball court 25. Upgrade of shared building (to commence April 19) 26. Extend footpath to pool 28. Upgrade Skate Park 29. Upgrade 3 Netball courts 31. Lockable bollard 35. Additional seating 36. Discuss cage
2. Consideration be given to the construction of a link from the main Skinners Creek Track to the proposed Flood Road nature reserve. This linkage may not need to be constructed to shared track standard, as bike use is not likely to be compatible with the aims of a nature reserve.	No progress	Not identified as a priority
3. Further investigate, in partnership with the local community, the feasibility of developing a shared foreshore track between Huonville and Franklin.	Commenced	Feasibility study currently underway

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
<p>4. Secure a central area of level land for future community open space to service the residential infill area off Sale Street as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Land Use and Development Strategy 2007</i>, if and when future subdivision occurs. It is important that the land be centrally located, incorporate flat land areas and be well linked to surrounding areas including the Main Road, residential area and Huonville Recreation Ground. It should be noted that the location of the community open space shown on Map 4.1 is indicative only. The final site should be strategically located at the time of subdivision approval to ensure that the majority of future residents can access the area safely and easily on foot, and that the open space can be accessed from surrounding open space areas and tracks (i.e. from Skinners Creek). Future open space in this area may serve multiple purposes and be combined with a stormwater retention basin for the surrounding residential area.</p>	No progress	
<p>5. Extend the existing section of Skinners Creek track north across Sale Street into the residential infill area, if future subdivision occurs. The track should be constructed to a shared track standard, and link into the proposed community open space, continuing through to Main Street.</p>	Early stages	Subdivision approved in the area as part of sub-division plan.
<p>6. Manage the small parcel of land at the termination of Tutton Avenue primarily as operational land. The site is not considered to be suitable for community open space, given its relatively isolated position and the presence of high voltage power lines overhead. As outlined above, a trail link may be developed through this site to provide access to Tutton Avenue and surrounding areas in the event that the vacant land to the north and east is subdivided for residential purposes.</p>	Maintained	
<p>7. Expand and develop the small parcel of land at 63 Main Street, as a functional pocket park, including seating and landscaping.</p>	Completed	67 Main Street Walton Park
<p>8. Further investigate the possibility of developing the Waltons Inlet Track as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i>. As outlined in the Strategy, the track would provide a scenic riverside walk within close proximity to the town centre, potentially attracting both residents and visitors. Development of the complete trail would provide a circuit, which are often favoured by users walking for health reasons. This would include investigating the options for a trail link between the foreshore and Ranelagh Road.</p>	Investigated several times	Insufficient Crown Land Reserve

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
9. Further rehabilitate and develop the vacant bushland (Black Gum site) on the corner of Esplanade and Flood Road (owned by Council) as a community nature reserve. The site provides opportunities for community land rehabilitation projects, interpretation, school education projects as well as recreational walking. In conjunction with the above investigation, consider the possibility of developing the Flood Road Nature Walk as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	Completed	
10. Investigate the possibility of developing safe shared linkages (pedestrian and bike) between Huonville and Ranelagh. Options may include the construction of a shared trail along the edge of Ranelagh Road, within the road reserve, or investigating the possibility of constructing a trail within the riparian corridor of Mountain River.	Completed	Pedestrian/bike linkage within the road reserve.
11. Investigate the potential for a shared trail along Flood Road in the long term.	No progress to date	
Cygnnet		
1. Prepare a landscape plan for the Cygnnet Recreation Ground so as to plan improvements to the shade, amenity, spectator facilities and designated parking spaces.	Not progressed	
2. Retain the existing land area of Loongana Park as a public open space. Loongana Park is the only designated 'green space' along the main street (Mary Street), providing a central, informal recreation area for community events (i.e. Sunday markets, the Cygnnet Folk Festival), and 'spill out' space for the Catholic School. Retaining the entire area of the park through to George Street will also ensure that the open vista through the park is maintained. The open vista that the park provides is considered to be visually important element of the otherwise linear streetscape.	Maintained	Footpath upgrade and new public toilets to DDA compliant standard
3. Upgrade the Lymington Road Track, improving safety and amenity for users, as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> . In particular there should better safety measures for users of the trail given the gravel construction is 'lost' within the gravel verge of the road.	Completed	Formed track from Burtons Reserve to Yacht Club

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
4. In the long term consider the potential for developing a shared trail along Agnes Creek, providing a safe alternative route between the Recreation Ground and Burtons Reserve, as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> . Development of the trail could incorporate the establishment of a riparian reserve, and include rehabilitation with locally indigenous plant species, contributing to local biodiversity, minimising stream-side erosion and improving water quality. Establishment of a riparian reserve along Agnes Creek would require negotiations with private landowners to either purchase the land along the creek or reach an agreement to provide for public access. It should be noted that the southern section of the proposed trail has already been set aside for the purpose of a shared trail, following a subdivision approval, and will be transferred to Council ownership.	No progress	
5. Continue to implement the <i>Burtons Reserve Management Plan</i> .	Continuing	Playground upgraded Skate Park developed Upgraded BBQ facilities Exercise equipment New toilets pending
6. Investigate the feasibility of developing the proposed track to Martins Point as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> . Safe and easily accessible recreational walking opportunities within Cygnet are considered to be lacking by local residents. The Martins Point track would provide an alternative foreshore track, easily accessible from the town centre, connecting to the town's main open space area (Burtons Reserve). The opportunity for a link back to the Channel Highway should also be considered. The other track opportunities identified for Cygnet within the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> should also be investigated as lower priorities.	No progress to date	
7. Develop a small park (see Map 4.2) at lower end of Mary Street.	Completed	Harveys Park
Franklin		
1. Continue to implement the recommended township improvements relating to open space and recreation outlined in the <i>Franklin Township Plan</i> and draft <i>Franklin Foreshore Master Plan</i> .	Continuing	Stage 1 & 2 Complete

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
2. Further investigate the potential for the development of the proposed shared trail between Franklin and Huonville, as proposed by the local community, and within the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	Underway	Feasibility study currently underway.
3. Provide pedestrian/shared linkages along the roads if the undeveloped land on Old Road is subdivided in the future for residential purposes. The vacant land adjoining this section of road has been identified as a potential future residential development area in the <i>Huon Valley Land Use and Development Strategy (2007)</i> .	No progress	
4. Ensure that public access to the foreshore is maintained and enhanced in the event of future redevelopment of the Huon Evaporators site.	Underway	Currently investigating options with funding obtained
5. Upgrade pedestrian/shared linkages along Temperance Lane and New Road is subdivided for residential purposes in the future. The potential future residential development area as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Land Use and Development Strategy (2007)</i> includes adjoining these roads and existing subdivisions.	No progress	
Geeveston		
1. Prepare a site Master Plan for the general Memorial Park area to guide future development and upgrade access and amenity in an integrated way. This would help identify land required for open space, the use of that land and the opportunity for residential infill housing or alternative uses of some land areas.	No progress	Land owned by RSL and being used for RVs
2. Continue to manage Heritage Park as an important informal community open space, improving trail connections as outlined in this report and in the <i>Arve Road Site Development Strategy</i> and the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	Continuing	Progress to date includes public toilet, destination playground, educational bike track and Forest Memorial
3. Develop the Platypus Interpretive Walk as outlined in the Huon valley Interpretation Plan. The intended route forms a figure of eight beginning at the Forest and Heritage Centre in the town centre, through Heritage Park to the Southern Design Centre.	Completed	
4. Develop the upstream section of the Kermandie River Track (see point 4), between the Huon Highway and Memorial Park as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	No progress	

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
5. Develop the downstream section of the Kermandie River Track (see point) between the footbridge in Heritage Park to the Arve Road, as outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> . Development of the Kermandie River tracks also provides an opportunity to rehabilitate the riparian habitat of the Kermandie River. Rehabilitation works may be implemented in partnership with local community groups or school groups.	Completed	
6. Investigate the development of a shared path between the town centre and the Recreation Ground to provide safe non-vehicular access.	No progress	
7. Investigate the feasibility of developing a bushland track beginning at the Forest and Heritage Centre, crossing the Arve Road to allow for interpretation of the Kermandie River and bushland. This track could be promoted as a short walk from the Forest Interpretation Centre but would be dependent upon acquiring a link to the Kermandie River over private land.	No progress	
Dover		
1. Prepare a Master Plan for the community precinct, including recreation (skate Park, informal space and tracks) and community facilities (Fire Station, Online Access Centre, community health complex etc) to improve the opportunities for access, parking and amenity for both residents and visitors.	Planning	Various plans completed for residential development projects for community facility and medical centre seeking funding to progress
2. Complete the proposed Francistown Road track extension outlined in the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	Continuing	Extension of track to Pottery Road currently being costed
3. Develop a further extension of the foreshore walking track along Dover Beach to Kent Beach as outlined in the <i>Dover Foreshore Plan</i> and <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> .	Continuing	Walkway completed to Dover Brick Kiln
4. Investigate the potential to develop a public day use facility on the vacant land adjacent to the Pottery Road.	No progress	

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
Other Places		
<p>1. Maintain Council's existing recreation reserves and associated facilities within the smaller settlements and encourage shared use to optimise use and club maintenance contribution. Council should also investigate the potential for alternative use of the ovals and associated facilities within recreation reserves with little use. This may mean moving away from traditional sports and providing for other formal and informal activities (e.g. soccer, equestrian events etc). It may also be possible to seek multiple use of the facility e.g. maintain one end of the oval for informal cricket/football use and the other used for alternative activities e.g. pony club riding.</p>	Continuous	<p>Glen Huon Oval – cricket Judbury Oval – cricket Ranelagh – cricket and events Cygnet Rec – Equestrian Use Mountain River Oval – equestrian use Surges Bay – no regular use Dover Oval – no regular use</p>
<p>2. Implement the master plan for Calvert Park to ensure that pedestrian and vehicular access, amenity, safety and signage is well integrated with the placement of existing and future buildings and other infrastructure.</p>	Completed	<p>Fencing of park area Upgrade of Hall Car park sealed Playground upgrades New BBQ tables and chairs</p>
<p>3. Encourage the Franklin cricket team to increase their use of the Franklin sportsground, by continuing to improve facilities (e.g. new training nets).</p>	Completed	<p>Southern Tiger fully relocated to Franklin Oval New cricket nets on the club's wish list.</p>
<p>4. Investigate the demand for public toilets at the Ranelagh recreation ground.</p>	Underway	Master Plan being developed
<p>5. Investigate, in consultation with the community, the possibilities for improving the use and function of the 'village green' at Ranelagh. Following consultation, a site master plan may be required prior to the implementation of any construction or landscaping works.</p>	No progress to date	<p>Has been identified on the Huonville Ranelagh Master Plan and will be explored in near future</p>
<p>6. Investigate the possibility of developing safe shared linkages (pedestrian and bike) between Huonville and Ranelagh as outlined in Section 4.3.1 above. Options include the construction of a shared trail along the edge of Ranelagh Road, within the road reserve, or investigating the possibility of constructing a trail within the riparian corridor of Mountain River.</p>	Completed	Linkage along roadway
<p>7. Continue to liaise with the local hall management committees regarding the future use and management of community halls throughout the municipal area. Council should continue to explore best outcomes for the wider community, as occurred with Cradoc Hall being redeveloped as a new multi-purpose facility.</p>	Some progress	<p>Judbury Hall upgraded with new public toilets and court area. Glen Huon Hall upgraded with new public toilets. Future consideration needed for the playground</p>

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
8. Ensure all playgrounds within the Huon Valley that are to be maintained comply with current Australian Standards. The provision of shade is also considered important. Some of the smaller neighbourhood playground with ageing infrastructure and poor design may require removal. Replacement should follow Councils current approach of directing development and maintenance funds into town or regional scale, high quality play facilities.	Continuous	Shade provided in some areas
9. Continue to upgrade the small playground at Port Huon (on Palmers Road), including demolition of the derelict shelter, installation of a new shade structure and/or planting of shade trees, improvements to soft fall and general landscaping to improve visual amenity. In conjunction with the above recommendation, construct a concrete footpath along the southern side of Palmers Road, between the playground and the Huon Highway/foreshore to provide safer access, particularly for parents with small children. Subsequent development of foreshore trails in Port Huon should connect to the proposed footpath, facilitating pedestrian movement.	No progress	
Strategic Action 1 Building operational structures and capacities within the Council for recreation management.		
Maintain strong working relationships between Council staff and with key agencies and organisations involved with sport and recreation.	Continuous	
Review and revise the budget allocation available for recreation to achieve implementation of the Strategy Action Plan over the next 10 years	Continuous	
Strategic Action 2: Building operational processes and policies for recreation within Council and in the wider community		
Integrate the proposed vision and guiding principles of the Recreation Plan into Council's strategic and operational management plans. Adopt the vision, guiding principles and policy positions as a framework for guiding future decision-making in relation to recreation management	Continuous	
Continue to assess community needs as a primary basis for future decision-making regarding recreation facilities, programs and services provision.	Continuous	

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
<p>Facilitate the improvement of management and programming skills within existing and new sporting clubs and recreation groups through the provision of advice and co-ordination of support training services. This may include facilitating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improving club management skills training for volunteers preparation of Business Plans management of volunteer services financial management access to Government agencies and funding programs fund raising legal and insurance aspects program development pricing services marketing and promotion meeting disability access standards incorporation 	Support provided to Clubs	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance with grant writing Building maintenance Ground works Engagement through committees No usage fee charged for grounds or rental for buildings
<p>Maintain and improve Council's community database, providing information about open space, sporting and recreation facilities, programs and services.</p>	Continuous	<p>Improvements have been made to Council's Website regular engagement occurring via social media</p>
<p>Consider the opportunity to run a community forum with sporting and recreation stakeholders each year to discuss issues, management processes, priorities and co-operative opportunities.</p>	No progress	<p>Planned for 2019 with a Health and Wellbeing focus but open to various versions</p>

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
Strategic Action 3 Improving recreation facilities, programs and services		
Council to continue to improve and upgrade its existing parks and reserves based on identified need, priority and stakeholder consultation. The priority for implementation of works on existing open space, parks and reserves beyond ongoing maintenance is considered to be:	Continuing	As funding permits
Upgrading of the Huonville Recreation Ground as this continues to be the regional sporting and recreation facilities hub – prepare a master plan to guide upgrading of amenity, landscaping, maintenance, future facilities, access, parking, signs etc.	Completed	Planned developed and being implemented as funds permit
Prepare a landscape plan to guide improvements to shade, parking and spectator facilities at the Cygnet Recreation Ground.	Not started	–
Continue to implement the recommended townscape improvements in the Franklin Township Plan.	Continuing	Considerable work undertaken
Continue to develop, manage and maintain Heritage Park as an important informal community open space for Geeveston.	Continuing	Considerable work undertaken
Implement the master plans for guiding the upgrading of Huon River foreshore, Dover Beach foreshore, Shipwrights Point Reserve and Calvert Park.	Continuing	Considerable work undertaken
Implement the <i>Huon Valley Township Walking Track Strategy</i> and reviewed aspects covered within the <i>Huon Valley Recreation Plan</i> , and <i>Huon Valley Open Space Strategy</i> .	Continuing	As funding permits
Maintain the existing indoor recreation facilities to cater for the current and expected needs of the community for the next 10 years, whilst monitoring the impact of the new PCYC indoor sports centre and proposed Kingborough sports centre redevelopment on existing use levels.	Continuing	Cygnet Sports Centre Port Huon Sports Centre Huonville Swimming Pool PCYC has had little to no impact on Council facilities
Maintain Council's existing aquatic facilities to cater for the current and expected needs of the community for the next 10 years.	Continuing	Upgrades needed at the Huonville Swimming Pool
Continue to upgrade and maintain the existing sportsgrounds based on level of use and status (hierarchy) within the local, district, sub-regional and regional level of competition.	Continuing	
Continue to investigate potential for Council to sell some parcels of land blocks with limited recreational and environmental value, to generate funds that can be used to support open space and community recreation projects.		Old Dover Sports Centre site sold

Recommended Action	Implemented	Comment/Reason
Facilitate production of a recreation trails map and guide for walking, horse riding, mountain bike riding, and road cycling in the Huon Valley	Continuing	Links provided to P&WS brochures and info Also some trails included at the VIC
Upgrade directional signs to major open space areas, community sporting and recreation facilities.	No progress	As funding permits
Strategic Action 4 Developing <u>new</u> recreation facilities, programs and services		
Add new play facilities into a number of selected areas, if and when, public open space is acquired and/or resources permit. The selected areas are: open space on the eastern side of Huonville north of Sale Street; Huonville Recreation Ground (as per draft Master Plan); Ranelagh recreation ground; Dover Beach; and Those areas associated with future trail development on the southern side of Huonville town	Continuous	Huonville Rec – Stage 1 completed Ranelagh Rec – Master Dover Beach – completed Ranelagh Playground
Undertake feasibility assessment for the development of a walking track between Huonville and Franklin settlements along the edge of the Huon River.	Underway	Feasibility Study currently underway
Investigate the potential for development of a shared path between Geeveston town centre and the Kermandie Recreation Ground.	No progress to date	As funding permits – on community wish list

Attachment 2

Inventory of Recreation Facilities

This provides only an indicative inventory of current facilities and more detailed information can be provided by contact with Council, internet search, through the social media or direct contact with the Clubs and user groups.

Facility	Huonville	Cygnnet	Franklin	Geeveston	Dover
School recreation facilities	High School, Primary School	Primary School and Catholic College	Primary School	Primary School (Government and Catholic)	District School
Swimming Pools	50m heated outdoor swimming pool and toddler pool)	Private pool for hire and bookings			
Indoor Sports Centre	Huon Valley PCYC	Associated with Cygnnet Primary School			Associated with Dover District School
Sports Ovals and Recreation Grounds / Reserves	Oval (football, cricket) and recreation grounds (soccer, little athletics)	Oval (football and cricket) Recreation ground used by the Cygnnet Riding Club	Oval (cricket and junior football)	Oval (Kermandie, mini league football)	Oval (cricket)
Playgrounds	Huonville Recreation Ground, foreshore playground	Burtons Reserve	Franklin foreshore	Heritage Park, School Road	Esperance Bay Park, Dover foreshore
Bowls Clubs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Outdoor Tennis Courts	Public court	Cygnnet Tennis Club	Public court		Public court
Golf Course	Huon Valley Golf Club	Cygnnet Golf Club		Geeveston Golf Club	Dover Golf Club
Outdoor Netball Courts	Huonville Recreation Ground				
Sailing Club		Yes			Yes
Equestrian Clubs/ Pony Clubs	Huon Districts Pony Club	Cygnnet Riding Club			
Community Halls/ Centres	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rowing Club			Huon Rowing Club		
Shooting Club/ Archers	Huon Archers		Huon Combined Shooting Club	Huon Field and Game	
Skate Parks	Huonville Recreation Ground	Burtons Reserve		Heritage Park	Town centre
Caravan Parks and Camping Areas	Huonville Camping Ground	Cygnnet Holiday Park	Franklin foreshore	Heritage Park and RSL	Dover caravan park
Council developed and managed walking tracks	Huonville to Ranelagh, Skinners Creek	Lymington to Burtons Reserve Walkway	Foreshore walk	Platypus Walk	Dover coastal walk
Marine Facilities	boat ramp, foreshore walkway and fishing platform/ public jetty on Coolstore Road	jetty and launching ramp	boat ramp and jetty		boat ramp, jetty
Dog exercise parks	Yes	Yes		Yes	

Other Settlements	Comments
Glen Huon, Nichols rivulet	Range of recreation facilities (outdoor and indoor) vary between schools. Community access and use determined by each School.
Port Huon (Indoor 25m) Hastings Cave Reserve (small outdoor pool heated via thermal springs)	
Port Huon Sports and Aquatic Centre	
Smaller ovals located at: Surges Bay, Castle Forbes Bay (not owned by Council), Ranelagh, Glen Huon, Judbury, Mountain River (leased to the Huon Hoofbeats Pony Club). Huon Pony Club utilise Huon Agricultural Society grounds	Some of the ovals are considered to be under-utilised, with the majority of formal use confined to summer cricket matches. The ovals at Dover and Surges Bay are considered to be very under-utilised. Ranelagh is currently used for cricket in the summer.
Port Huon, Judbury, Glen Huon, Mountain River (with the hall), Cradoc and Ranelagh	
Surges Bay	
	Huon Netball use courts for training but regional competition games are played in Hobart or Kingston.
Port Huon	
Huon Hoofbeats at Mountain River	
Surges Bay, Ranelagh, Glen Huon, Calvert Park (Judbury), Mountain River, Pelverata, Cradoc, Southport, Cygnet, Geeveston, Huonville, Franklin	The community halls are for various social and recreational events and activities.
Port Huon (Shipwrights Point)	Shipwrights Point, Cygnet, Huonville, Franklin, Geeveston and Rivers Edge Camp grounds have a dump station. Multiple camping areas managed by PWS in the Southwest National Park and the Recherche Bay Nature Recreation Area. Range of free camping sites including Arve River and Hastings Forest.
	These are the promoted short walks but other less developed walks exist. Multiple walking trails managed by State Government on crown land.
Surveyors Bay (jetty, boat ramp, car park) Charlotte Cove (boat ramp, jetty) Lymington (boat ramp, jetty) Deep Bay (jetty, boat ramp) South Port (ramp, jetty, Kingfisher Beach) Glaziers Bay (fishing platform) Abels Bay (jetty) Egg and Bacon Bay (boat ramp) – not owned/managed by council Police Point (Granny Gibbons Bay) Port Huon (jetty, ramp) and at Sailing Club	Boat ramp at Catamaran Kayak platforms at Judbury and Ranelagh

Attachment 3

Notes from the Community and Council Forums

Cygnet Community Forum 14th May 2019

The forum was attended by Cygnet residents and representatives of the Cygnet Football Club and Cygnet Cricket Club.

CURRENT VIEW OF RECREATION

- PCYC available as a top quality sporting precinct in Huon Valley
- Distance between Cygnet and some recreation activities too far to take advantage of Swimming access, exercise/health groups and activities, PCYC.
- Sports centre a positive, however unavailable Monday to Friday during school hours due to being in use by school.
- Walk along road to Cygnet Yacht Club positive, however safety concerns at some corners, countered by concerns with trading ruining the country feel of the trail with over engineering. Fix safety concerns with reducing speed limit or speed cameras.
- Waterway and amenity in reaching the foreshore positive.
- Increasing interest in walking trails in Cygnet area, look at broader scope connections.
- Cygnet oval condition very good. Surface and size positive.
- Burtons Reserve upgrade positive response by community.
- Skatepark used all the time. Upgrades popular with young people.
- Limited number of walking trails. Increasing demand for new walking trails. Possible problems with losing more trails with increasing development. Need for future trails to be dog friendly.
- Drop in football participation, increase funding to clubs to gain young interest. Childhood obesity increasing
- Facilities like Huonville lacking in Cygnet.

- Open exercise equipment at school a positive and gets use.
Possibility for more equipment like it around Cygnet.

CURRENT CYGNET/HUON VALLEY TRENDS

- Increase in young families and people over the age of 65. (Possible missed demographic in meeting due to Hobart City commuters)
- Increasing need for more dog friendly facilities.
- Loss in informal trails due to development, loss of back alleys, easement access due to new subdivision.
- Loss in organised sports dropped for young people in Cygnet & Huon Valley.
- Cygnet has begun absorbing smaller town clubs to keep clubs afloat with member numbers.
- Increase in female participation in organised sports (Football, Cricket)
- Increase in boat numbers in Cygnet dock, number of moorings increased. Recent increase in number of moorings at Port Cygnet. (Up to Marine Tasmania, not HVC)
- Increasing need for limited ability friendly recreational activities and spaces. Need for sensory gardens.
- Increase in number of road cyclists in Cygnet region however also increase in vehicle traffic affecting road cycling as recreation.
- Problems with Climate Change and need for more shading.
- Soccer clubs have moved to Cygnet Primary oval near sports centre.
- Currently competition at the Port Huon recreation centre for access to lap lanes, currently only ~4 lanes.
- Only open at certain hours. Possibly HVC needs to look at advertising swimming pool open hours to public, and maybe if there is an increase in numbers keep the pool open longer.

BIG PICTURE

- Pool access in Cygnet. Hydrotherapy facility, could extend to options for Yoga classes and massage therapy opportunities.
- More beach access needed.
- Designated walking trails in all new subdivisions before they are built.
- Need for more dog friendly facilities. More shade for new off leash dog facilities if/when they happen. Smaller off leash area for puppies/small dogs. Bins and bags required more.
- The central hub of Cygnet needing more recognition in regard to landscaping, tree planting, recreation trails in close proximity to town.
- Community space for children to interact, within the town centre. Tennis clubs or bringing parts of little athletics to Cygnet.
- Need for more open green spaces near Cygnet, not for one particular sport/club, but for general recreation by community. Opportunity to encourage group games in parks.
- Sharing and caring: Looking at vacant land not in use/ limited use by some clubs near town.
- Look at more large scale community events/opportunities on a few Saturdays a year. Events like giant water slides or creating a community billy cart race down Cemetery Hill. Events to get young people in Cygnet involved.
- Look at consultation with Children (scouts, kids, young adults. schools) Need for young people to become more active.
- Upgrade lighting at Football/Cricket club in Cygnet. Increase play times during winter. 4 teams training on the ground at one time, lights don't cover the full field. Look at lighting triangle section of grass at rear of oval to enable more training space.
- Out dated facilities for cricket and football at oval. Grandstand clubrooms 30–60 years old, need refurbishment.
- Need for looping/circuit routes for walking. Publicising track locations, make the public aware of their availability/length.
- Upgrade/make Tramway track.
- Martin's Point recreation trail. Currently no defined track, needs upgrade.
- Agnus Rivulet, sections of privately owned land, makes track unavailable at times.
- Walking trail over Snug Tiers to Hobart. Proximity to the Snug Tiers under utilised, opportunity for more trails.

- Cygnet Coast Road trail. Currently undefined roadway causes problems with traffic and pedestrian mix. Need to be careful about construction to not lose appeal of walk with over engineering.
- Currently no barriers along road, cars moving 70km/h in bends. Staged approach to the implementation, currently 21km of road. Need to look at access for both dog walkers and cyclists.
- Kayaking trails, launch from floating pontoons. Trail around Mosquito Point to Shipwright Point round island to Cygnet.
- Boat parks in Huonville along the river to allow people to boat up from Cygnet. Use the river as transport.
- Upgrade the Cygnet Primary Oval, currently quite deteriorated, this could then become another training ground during summer to limit competition for main oval.

SMALLER PICTURE

- Fixing corners of Cygnet Coast Road to Yacht Club walk without ruining appeal of walk with over engineering.
- Extend this trail on towards public jetty located 200–300m further down the road. No pathway currently, some dangerous areas with traffic speeds.
- Community Garden.
- Arts as recreation.
- More shading trees and seating along walks.
- Implement rear parking space and recreation area.
- Upgrade gym facilities in Cygnet, currently quite a small room, little visited place due to location. Only other Gym close is in Huonville at the PCYC.
- Look at limiting Jet Skis on the river near Cygnet Coast Road. Same with Targa Tasmania.
- Vitamin D/ Sunroom facility in town during winter, near cafes or recreation spaces.

Huonville Community Forum 15th May 2019

Huonville residents and representatives/interests from Castle Forbes Recreation Club Inc., Huon & District Pony Club, Girl Guides, Huonville Pool Community, Huon Trails Organisation, Huon Valley Dog Walking Association, Mountain River Community Hall , Bicycle Network, Wooden Boat Centre and Boat School Franklin, Sisters on a Roll (informal bike group).

CURRENT VIEW OF RECREATION

- Skinner's Creek Trail good example of a successful trail in Huon Valley. Trails need loops.
- Increasing need for connectivity other than vehicles between major towns in the Huon Valley Region
- Safer connections along roads for horses, bikes, pedestrians. No shoulder on roads, never gravel surfaces, speed limits too fast.
- No children riding any more due to unsafe conditions on roads, need to encourage youth to be active by providing safe links. Speed limit on roads need to reflect the increase in population size. Facilitate connectivity.
- Huon Valley Dog walkers, Increase in dog ownership but not available spaces. Need for more dog friendly trails. Visitors often asking where they can take their dogs.
- Access to the Huon River a big plus, but not taken advantage of enough.
- Problems with not being able to get Kayaks into the river.
- Need for easier access to river between Huonville and Ranelagh.
- Increasing ageing population, need for accessibility to exercise. Need for more seating on trails.
- Need for more passive surveillance in public spaces (CPTED). Safety in public spaces a high priority. Litter and damage near netball courts needs to be cleaned/repared faster, set new trend in public appearance. Need to give kids ownership over skatepark.

CURRENT HUONVILLE/ HUON VALLEY TRENDS

- Population increase, access to amenity limited, need to act pre-emptively for increases.

- Increase in personal activities over organised club sports. Cycling, Kayaking, E Bikes, Walking.
- Huon Valley community looking to move away from cars as transport and towards active transport. health and wellbeing becoming a priority.
- Informal trails disappearing due to increase in private property and sub division development. Landlocked trails.
- Increase in Motorhomes, campers and campers. Franklin Foreshore in particular. Limited available space, pressure on current spaces.
- Increase in Cycle tourism, town to town trips. High value tourists. Increase in cycling as main form of transport.
- Increase in ageing population and young families, areas of unemployment.
- Biotrails, problem with 4WD sneaking into trails causing damage and ruining fire trails.

BIG PICTURE

- Huon Tourist Trail currently having problems with speed limits. Need one constant speed limit through all roads. Currently in 3 council areas, limited cost to fix a big problem.
- Ferries access on river, form of transport for school children. River as transport. Cygnet to Franklin Ferry.
- Creation of a Mountain Bike park for lower level users, more leisurely than pro level. Skill development park.
- Cycling loop around Glen Huon to Judbury, back to Ranelagh. Section (~5km) of road needs to be sealed. Need for wider road in sections to allow safe passing by cars
- Possible link to Huon River in spots for rest, picnic, fishing, several strategic locations along Huon River.
- Creation of safe route for Cyclists around Cygnet Coast Road, wider shoulders, change in speed limit on road to make safer.
- Advocacy for shared use roads in the Huon Valley. Advertise Huon Valley as Cycle Friendly with zoned speeds.
- Limit big international companies investing, aim at small businesses in Huon Valley being involved, need for local young people to have access to jobs. Small business to invest in future recreation/tourism.
- More horse trails needed away from vehicles.

- Kayak trails throughout Huon River. Camping spots for Kayaks along the trail
- Connecting trail from Pipeline Track on Mt Wellington down into Grove. Only one land tenure agreement required.
- Need for trails plan to be drawn up for entire Huon Valley. Colour coded, people, bikes, horses, dogs etc.
- Business with 10 day ride through Huon Valley. Dramatic increase in camp ground use due to popularity.
- Rock climbing facilities in Huon Valley. Possibility for outdoor area, or upgrading PCYC to have indoor facility.
- Increase awareness of the Tasmanian Trail opportunities in the Huon Valley.
- Bike parking facilities near buses, secure facilities.
- Look towards a future of electric cars and E bikes. Big increase in technology for E bikes going further.
- Call for a Grove to Huonville cycle lane, reduce traffic speeds along that section of road.

SMALLER PICTURE

- Adult exercise area at Judbury, possible circuit layout. Similar to dover foreshore
- Dog and people water bubbler access along trails, public toilets on trails.
- Huonville to Judbury trail. Walk along river/ expand for dogs, horses, cyclists. Problem with crown land leases by residents, and one area being privately owned land. Riparian communities along river.
- Subdivision trails needed. Pay for use of land
- Pool upgrades, open longer hours. Need to weigh up usage with costs of keeping pool open longer.
- Bandstand/ upgrade to park at Glen Huon Hall for carols event. Active community in Glen Huon wanting to make change. Open opportunities for park run.
- Increasing need for public toilets. High quality. Disabled access.
- Huts and decks for camping along trails.
- Pontoon access under Huon bridge.
- Bring back the attitude for cycling in Franklin/ Huon Valley for young children. History in Franklin of world class cyclists 1930s.

- Education about being required to have a bell on your bike. Extending to education about trail etiquette and education. Code of ethics. Signs on 'What to Do' situations for all trails. 'Shared Trail' signs.

Geeveston Community Forum 16th May 2019

Geeveston residents and representatives/interests from the Sailing Club, local businesses, informal walking/cycling groups, track runners, Living Boat Trust, Shipwright Point Regatta Committee, dog walking and artists heritage community.

CURRENT VIEW OF RECREATION

- Limited access to bush walks in the area. lack of varying opportunity.
- Lack of organised groups for activities.
- Regatta at Shipwright Point gone, historically had one, possibility of bringing it back. Tourism opportunity.

CURRENT GEEVESTON/ HUON VALLEY TRENDS

- Disappearing clubs, no more football or cricket at Kermandie Oval. Currently only mini league playing.
- Kermandie Oval was vital in the Bushfires as a space for refuge and used for some community events. Valuable to community. Don't want to see it become run down.
- Feeling unsafe running at Kermandie during evening and nights. Could be an opportunity for a running group out to oval.
- Limited benches and shade at oval
- Increase in rowing, skiffs etc. Particularly in older residents in Huon Valley (Masters/ Geriatrics). Same applies for sailing, limited interest by young people.
- Increase in traffic due to increasing population.
- Increase in Jet Skis on Huon River (not a positive reaction)
- Increase interest in the arts, tourism, the MONA influence.
- Half marathons and park runs seeing interstate participation, drawing people down south towards Cockle Creek.

- Outlook of problems with traffic in the next ten years. Increase in E Bikes, E Cars need for charging stations.
- Dramatic changes in zoning for subdivisions. Concerns of conservation, heritage slowing change (positives and negatives)

BIG PICTURE

- Opportunity to get young people outside with technology. Pokemon Go etc.
- Community gardens/ veggie garden. Need for community garden at Ranelagh Showgrounds. Look at creating educational experience through fruit tree plantings. Shade trees, seating needed.
- Launching pontoons at Franklin 3–4
- Walking/cycling route needed to Kermandie oval from Geeveston town centre.
- Cycling routes to other towns.
- Need to increase use of Huonville Waterfront.
- Open space in Geeveston for markets, swap things, twilight feasts. Celebration of local produce.
- Develop a trail along the old Tram Trail round the back of Geeveston. Riverfront area for recreation.
- Look at developing a low skill level Mountain Bike Trail at the back of Geeveston near the RSL.
- Need for an area to come ashore on a boat/kayak ride down to Geeveston/ Dover. Creation of sheltered bay for anchorage. Only minimal facilities required.
- Creation of an Iconic walk for the Huon Valley. Some big tourist draw card.

SMALLER PICTURE

- Huon pool to have a slide, possibly just during school holidays. Change pool image at a small risk factor. Attract back teenagers. Bring in food vans or a cafe at the pool.
- Coin operated showers at Heritage park for adventure recreation people. (Lake Barrington as an example)
- Increase advertising for Kermandie pool. Bring a positive image to the pool.
- Long walk to showers from the pool, makes people not want to go during winter.

- Call for a bigger notice board at the town hall for people to advertise community recreation groups. Currently a waiting list to use it.
- Need for more shade at Heritage Park. Every time a tree falls in park replace it. Possibility of using shade cloths in areas.
- Need for an adult play area, fitness for adults at Heritage park. Work into the park run circuit.
- Need for rambling walks through town. Limited places to walk from, loops.
- Publicise these walks.
- Keep unused sites available to council. Don't sell on for development. Keep for future sports/recreation.
- Change Surges Bay oval to an off the leash dog area.
- More shelter and seating at Shipwrights Point Regatta ground
- Create more water access for kayaks at Shipwrights Point.
- Load of sand at Franklin near the Evaporators. Fix beach area from over use.
- Option for converting forestry roads into Mountain Bike Trails.

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BIG PICTURE

- Multiuse/mixed use spaces required
- Arts and culture/ interpretation opportunities
- Walking/cycling connections between towns required
- Increase use of waterfront resource
- Increased cycling opportunities
- Removal of unused parks. Low cost replacement.
- Increase in non-formalised sports/recreation opportunities
- Move towards nature play
- Increased quality of existing sports/recreation spaces over quantity of space
- View stopping points needed throughout Huon Valley. Lookout investments.

SMALLER PICTURE

- Riverfront under-utilized in recreation
- Streetscape Improvements/Urban water play opportunity
- Increase in equal opportunities/disabled access at all recreational areas
- Need for increased seating and shade at recreation areas
- Need for toilets and baby change facilities at recreation spaces
- Dog walkers association increased participation, more dog opportunities required
- Poor quality drainage on sports fields, required to close off during wet times. No rest period for grounds.
- Walking/cycling connection between Huonville and Ranelagh
- Walking/cycling connection between Huonville and Franklin
- Horse riding trails required
- Indoor sportsgrounds (Kingston)
- No indoor gym opportunities other than PCYC
- Gardening as part of recreational opportunity. Community gardens
- Public arts run/managed by community/Exhibition spaces
- Regional horticulture course
- Mountain bike tracks in Huon Valley

TOWN SPECIFIC PICTURE

Huonville

Riverfront:

Kayaking opportunities from Huonville riverfront.

- Launching points
- Day/Half day travelling
- Kayak safety day training
- Drop off operations
- Kayak hire (Council owned)
- Guided tours

- Combined as part of Tasmanian Trail

Possible closure/ reduced use of road along riverfront esplanade

- New market opportunities
- Park spaces
- Foreshore recreation

New skate park up and running.

- High use.

Dog walking

- Increase in spaces required
- Fenced areas

Drone flying/ Kite flying

School connections walk between Huonville and Ranelagh

- Need for safe route
- Footpath upgrade/route
- Clear path of travel

Future (next decade) bypass/alternative route through to flood road and onto Cygnet to reduce traffic issues at central Huonville roundabout.

Future lookout at Scenic View Hill. Possible interpretation opportunities.

New subdivision connection require to Huonville shopping precinct in future. (Walking connection, not vehicle)

Ranelagh

Sports ground multiuse capacity in future

- Sports events
- Public events
- Taste of the Huon increased interest

- Evacuation centre during Gell River Bushfire

Success with the Ranelagh playground

- Possible increase in size/ number of playgrounds required
- Increasing young population in Ranelagh (subdivisions)

Franklin

Franklin foreshore use.

- Fishing (foreshore floating platforms/combined use with Kayaking)
- Paddle boarding
- Dog walking (possible increase/ fenced area required)
- Exercise opportunities along foreshore, work out equipment
- New gazebo (weddings, celebrations)
- Increase in RV/ tourists staying at Franklin waterfront

Walking/riding connection to Huonville high priority

Zoomba (dancing) popular at town hall, community run recreation.

Geeveston

Heritage Park

- Community organised Park Run
- Success of new educational bike track
- Need for fitness circuit: high visibility workout equipment
- Need for Playground (nature play)

Walking connections between Shipwright walking track and Arve Road

Possible mountain bike track opportunities in Geeveston/Hartz Mountain region

Cygnnet

New skate park up and running.

- High use

Indoor sports centre successful.

- Table tennis etc.

Judbury/Glen Huon

Cycling circuit/ cycle touring in Huon

- Palawa lugganah track (not-for-profit organisation in Huon Valley)

Fitness circuit: high visibility workout equipment

Dover

Pottery Road walking trail opportunity

- Possible signage trail with history interpretation

