

Port Macquarie Hastings Council

Community Spaces Plan



PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS COUNCIL

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Acknowledgement of Country

Yii Birrbay Barray

This is Birpai Country

Nyura yii gu mara la barray gu, nyaa gi, ngarra gi

You have come here, to the Country to see, listen and remember

Gathay Nyiirun Wakulda

Let's all go together as one

We acknowledge that we are on Birpai Country and pay respect to all elders past and present. We acknowledge the ongoing connection to the traditional owners and custodians of the lands and waters of the Port Macquarie Hastings region.

This Birpai Country acknowledgement is delivered verbally at gatherings and as a written statement in formal Council documents.

Image front cover: Port Macquarie Town Beach / Marine Rescue building

Our vision

Imagine2050 Community Strategic Plan

To be 'the most liveable, sustainable and innovative place in Australia.'

Our mission

Community Spaces Plan

To provide and sustain inclusive, accessible and well-planned community spaces and services, fostering vibrant, healthy and connected communities.



Wauchope Community Arts Hall

About this plan

The *Community Spaces Plan* is a strategic framework designed to guide the development, implementation and sustainable management of essential community facilities, including public toilets, sports field amenities, community halls, aquatic amenities and more.

With over 380 hectares of public open space in the region, including parks, reserves, beaches and sports amenities, the plan establishes a hierarchy of high-quality spaces to ensure diverse experiences and equitable access for all. It addresses the evolving needs and expectations of the community, changes in legislation and the impacts of urbanisation in the Port Macquarie Hastings Local Government Area (LGA). Regular reviews of the plan will ensure it remains adaptive, responsive and focused on delivering vibrant, inclusive and accessible spaces that enhance the quality of life for the local community and visitors alike.

What are Community Spaces?

Community spaces are shared environments, services and facilities that are designed to be accessible and beneficial to everyone in the community. They play a vital role in fostering social connections, promoting well-being and supporting the daily activities of individuals and groups. These spaces are often managed by local councils or governments to ensure they meet the needs of the community.

The *Community Spaces Plan* encompasses:

- Public toilets
- Community halls
- Sports field amenities
- Stadiums
- Outdoor Court Amenities
- Aquatic amenities
- Library buildings
- Council Emergency Services Buildings



*Glasshouse Interior
Port Macquarie*

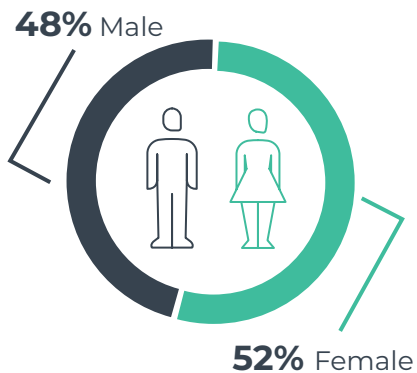
Our community snapshot

Population

92,650
in 2025

103,890 ▲
by 2035

119,027 ▲
by 2050



- **5.5%** Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- **17.3%** born overseas
- **8.0%** need disability assistance

Households



39,259
in 2025

- **2.3** average number of people per household

44,999 ▲
by 2035

- **34.3%** couples without children
- **28.5%** single person
- **22.9%** couples with children
- **11.3%** one parent families
- **2.9%** extended family or group

Education



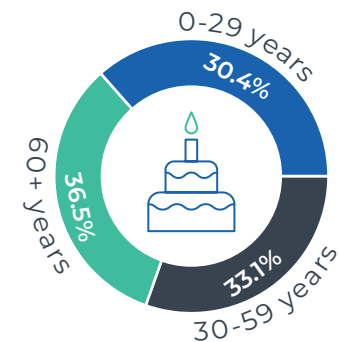
60.1%
completed year 12

- **46.7%** Vocationally Trained (Certificates, Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas)
- **20.8%** University Educated (Bachelor Degree level and above)

** All statistics sourced from: REMPLAN Economics 2021*

Age

49
years (median age)



Young people

18,203
0-18 year olds



Our community spaces



59 Public toilets*



18 Community halls



41 Sports field amenities*



3 Stadiums



3 Library buildings



15 Outdoor court amenities*



39 Council emergency services buildings*



14 Aquatic amenities*

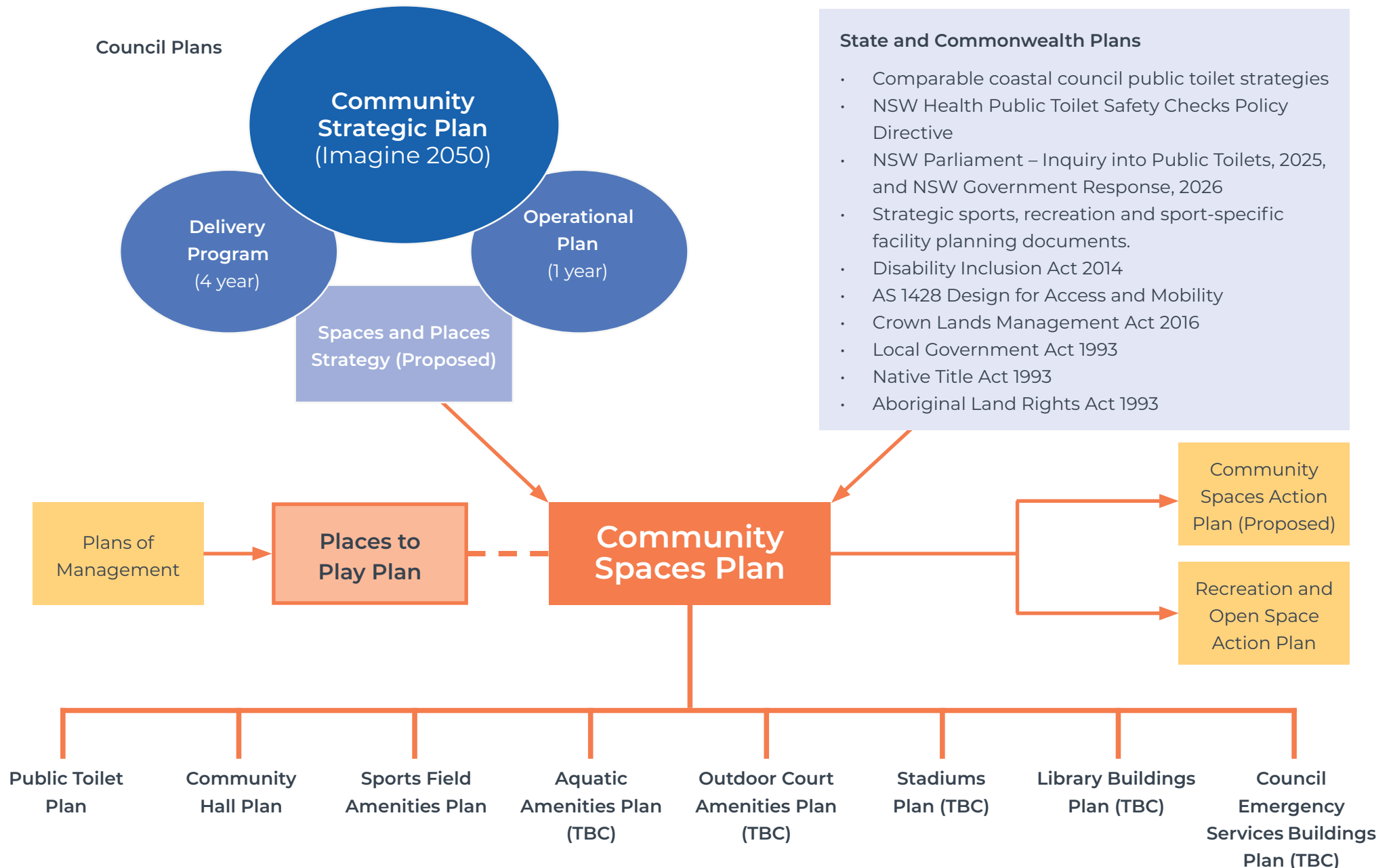
**Indicative only. Some shared facilities support multiple service functions and may be represented across more than one building type.*



Construction
of the Port
Macquarie
Indoor Stadium

An integrated approach

The *Community Spaces Plan* is a comprehensive strategy composed of several integrated sub-plans and reviews, forming a cohesive and all-encompassing approach.



Guiding Design Principles

General guiding design principles set a baseline for all development and construction undertaken to provide equitable, safe and sustainable community spaces:

- 1. Design and Inclusivity** - Community spaces must accommodate diverse needs, including gender-neutral options and spaces for people with disabilities. A thoughtful and inclusive design encourages equitable access for everyone in the community.
- 2. Convenient Location and Accessibility** - Community spaces should be strategically located in high-traffic areas, near parks, play spaces, beaches and other recreational sites. They must also meet accessibility standards, ensuring people of all abilities, including those with disabilities, can use them comfortably.
- 3. ESD Principles** - Incorporating Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles focus on reducing environmental impacts. This includes water-saving fixtures, energy-efficient lighting, solar power, rainwater harvesting and eco-friendly materials in construction.
- 4. Structural Elements** - Infrastructure must be built using durable, low-maintenance materials to withstand high usage, weather conditions and potential vandalism. Structural integrity is essential to ensure safety, longevity and cost-effective management.
- 5. CPTED Principles** - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies ensure community spaces are safe and secure. This includes well-lit surroundings, clear visibility, strategic placement in active public areas and design features that discourage vandalism or misuse.
- 6. Hygiene and Sanitation** - Ensuring high standards of cleanliness and sanitation is crucial. Facilities should include easy-to-clean surfaces, adequate ventilation and regular maintenance schedules to promote public health and user satisfaction.



Wauchope Memorial Olympic Pool covered seating

Everyone Can Use Values

COMMUNITY DESIGN COMPASS

In 2019, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment introduced the Everyone Can Play Guidelines, which serve as a comprehensive resource for play spaces across metropolitan and regional areas. Council has adapted these guidelines into the Community Spaces Plan as the Everyone Can Use Values, ensuring that all community spaces are welcoming and usable for people of all ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds.

The *Everyone Can Use Values* are used by Council to:

- Inform design briefs
- Address existing community spaces
- Determine what improvements can be made to increase inclusivity and accessibility
- Influence budget setting for community spaces
- Educate staff on the importance of inclusion in our public spaces

PRINCIPLES



Can I Access it?

Community spaces must be accessible to all users, regardless of their physical abilities or location. They should be strategically placed in high-use areas and designed to accommodate individuals with disabilities, ensuring equitable access for everyone.



Can I Use It?

The design of community spaces must meet the needs of diverse users. This includes providing adequate facilities, such as gender-neutral options and elements that support a variety of activities and user preferences.



Can I Rely On It?

Community spaces must be well-maintained, hygienic and safe. Users should be confident in the functionality of the facilities, which should be regularly serviced and maintained to uphold high useability standards.

PEOPLE

Design and implement community-focused, accessible local services

PLACES

Develop inclusive community spaces that encourage social connection and engagement

ENVIRONMENT

Encourage resource-efficient building practices and development types

ECONOMY

Our LGA attracts people to work, live and visit

Determining which community spaces to retain, upgrade, renew, close or retire

Community Space Retention or Fit-for-purpose Criteria

1. Community spaces with a condition rating of 1, 2, or 3, as defined in the *PMHC Buildings Asset Management Plan 2025-2035*, are considered fit-for-purpose and suitable for ongoing maintenance to ensure their continued functionality, safety, and cleanliness.
2. When the building orientation and the location align with the CPTED and safety guidelines.
3. When the facility is adequate in capacity perspective to the location.
4. When the facility is inclusive for all groups of the community.

Community Space Upgrade Criteria

1. When an existing facility is appropriately located but has a condition rating of 4, as defined in the *PMHC Buildings Asset Management Plan 2025-2035*, it indicates that the facility is in poor working condition and requires an upgrade to maintain serviceability and meet community expectations.
2. When the existing facility is poor in physical condition but costly to maintain.
3. When the facility does not meet current service, accessibility, functionality or fit-for-purpose requirements, but these gaps can be addressed through upgrade or refurbishment.
4. When facility defects, service limitations or functional issues can be rectified cost-effectively through upgrade or refurbishment.
5. When upgrading or refurbishing the existing facility is more cost-effective than constructing a new facility.

Community Space Renewal Criteria

1. When an existing facility is appropriately located but has a condition rating of 5, as defined in the *PMHC Buildings Asset Management Plan 2025-2035*, it indicates that the facility is in extremely poor condition and requires immediate renewal to restore functionality and safety.
2. When the facility no longer meets required standards, specifications, accessibility requirements or compliance obligations, and cannot be adequately addressed through minor upgrade or refurbishment.
3. When the facility is no longer fit-for-purpose due to significant deterioration, functional limitations, compliance failures or inability to meet current service requirements.
4. When facility failures can be rectified cost-effectively through renewal works to improve functionality, safety, compliance and long-term service outcomes.

Community Space Closure/Retire Criteria

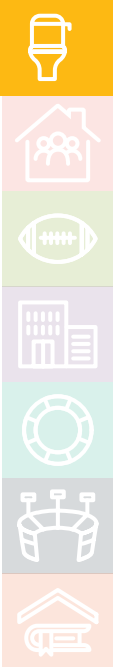
1. When there is another facility serving the same area which can be easily accessed.
2. When the usage is very low, and the activity index is at a lower level (According to the movement data).
3. When the location is highly exposed to vandalism and anti-social behaviours.
4. When the cost of maintenance is excessive and unjustifiable.

Public Toilet Plan



Rainbow Beach amenities block Bonny Hills





WHAT IS THE PUBLIC TOILET PLAN?

Public toilet facilities are essential infrastructure that supports the usability and accessibility of public spaces, ensuring comfort and convenience for visitors and the local community. Port Macquarie Hastings Council oversees the management of 59 public toilets strategically located across a range of public spaces, including:

- Parks and Reserves
- Play Spaces
- Beaches
- Watercraft Access and Fishing Areas
- Walking and Cycling Paths
- Sporting and Recreational Amenities
- Community Hubs

These facilities cater to the diverse needs of the local community and visitors, enhancing their experience and promoting inclusivity across the region. A comprehensive *Public Toilet Plan* is vital to ensure the sustainable development of the region, focusing on both the construction of new facilities and the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of existing assets. This strategic approach will enable the Council to address the current and future demands of the community while aligning with broader environmental and economic sustainability goals.

OUR PUBLIC TOILET NETWORK



36% of the Public Toilets are located near Parks & Reserves to provide amenities to park users and the surrounding community.

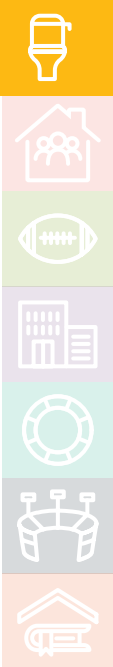
17% of the public toilets are at sporting amenities



15% of the public toilets are in general community spaces



32% of the public toilets are at beaches & watercraft access & fishing areas



OUR PUBLIC TOILET STRATEGIC INTENT

"To provide safe, clean and inclusive public toilet facilities in key locations across the LGA for everyone to use. These facilities will support activating parks, reserves and public open spaces, encouraging community members to engage in healthy and active lifestyles."

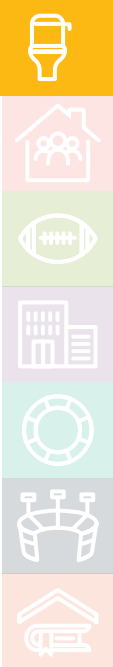
SCOPE

The *Public Toilet Plan* applies to public toilet facilities located in parks, reserves and other public spaces within the LGA. It encompasses all public toilet amenities in high-use and recreational areas, including those co-located with other facilities such as beaches, play spaces, sports fields, watercraft access and fishing areas, walking and cycling paths, skate spaces and outdoor fitness equipment areas.

This plan focuses on planning, developing, maintaining and refurbishing public toilets to meet current and future community needs. It aims to ensure these facilities are accessible, inclusive, environmentally sustainable and strategically distributed to support the usability and enjoyment of public spaces across the LGA.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Establish equitable and strategic access for all communities	Achieve sustainability and minimise environmental impact	To provide user-focused, safe, and welcoming facilities
• Strategically locate public toilet facilities across the Local Government Area (LGA) to address high-demand areas and support surrounding community activities. • Ensure facilities are accessible and inclusive, catering to individuals of all ages, genders and abilities.	• Minimise the environmental footprint of public toilet facilities on community spaces and residential areas. • Incorporate sustainable design, energy-efficient technologies and environmentally friendly materials in all aspects of facility development and management.	• Ensure public toilets meet the highest standards of cleanliness, safety, comfort and convenience. • Make public toilets easy to locate and enhance the overall user experience through thoughtful design and accessibility.



GUIDING DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The *Public Toilet Plan* is subject to the [Guiding Design Principles](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 9)

EVERYONE CAN USE VALUES

The *Public Toilet Plan* is subject to the [Our Everyone Can Use Values](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 10)

SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Supporting infrastructure increases the usability, safety and accessibility of the entire facility, not just a public toilet. Typical supporting infrastructure may include:

- Water Supply System
- Wastewater Management
- Lighting
- Ventilation
- Security Features
- Accessibility Features
- Shelters/Enclosures
- Signage
- Waste Management Systems
- Drainage
- Maintenance and Cleaning Infrastructure
- Parking and Waiting Areas



Can I Access it?



Can I Use It?



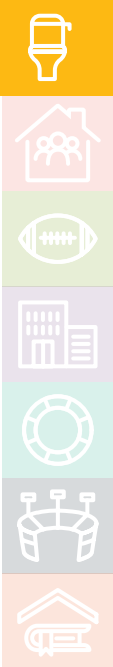
Can I Rely On It?

Pilot Beach play space amenities block

Public restrooms are a vital part of our public infrastructure and their condition reflects the values we place on human dignity and community well-being

Dr Jane Smith





PUBLIC TOILET CATEGORIES AND DISTRIBUTION

Given the absence of established public toilet benchmarks specific to New South Wales, Port Macquarie Hastings Council (PMHC) has taken the proactive step of developing tailored benchmarks to meet the unique needs of its community. This approach is supported by the NSW Government Response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Public Toilets (2026), which acknowledges that public toilets are essential urban infrastructure and that facilities should be safe, accessible and inclusive for all members of the community. While the NSW Government has not mandated local public toilet strategies or minimum design standards, it recognises that local councils are best placed to plan, manage and maintain public toilet facilities in response to local community needs, usage patterns, infrastructure requirements and available resources. PMHC has drawn valuable insights from public toilet strategies of other coastal city councils, NSW Government guidance and local network analysis to establish a locally tailored framework for the planning, renewal, upgrade and maintenance of public toilet facilities across the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA. By addressing challenges such as peak seasonal demand, accessibility, future growth and the complexities of servicing coastal and remote areas, these provisions support a consistently high standard of comfort, safety, inclusivity and functionality for all users.

Urban Public Toilet Provisions

- **What** - Facilities are located within a 400-meter radius or a 4 to 10-minute walking distance from regional and neighbourhood play spaces, skate spaces, watercraft access and fishing areas and outdoor courts to provide accessibility and convenience for all users

- **Where** - Ideally these public toilets will be located in Port Macquarie, Wauchope, Camden Haven, Lake Cathie, and Bonny Hills town areas
- **Who** - These public toilets are strategically located to serve both the local community and visitors to regional and neighbourhood play spaces, skate spaces, watercraft access and fishing areas and outdoor courts, ensuring accessibility and convenience for all users

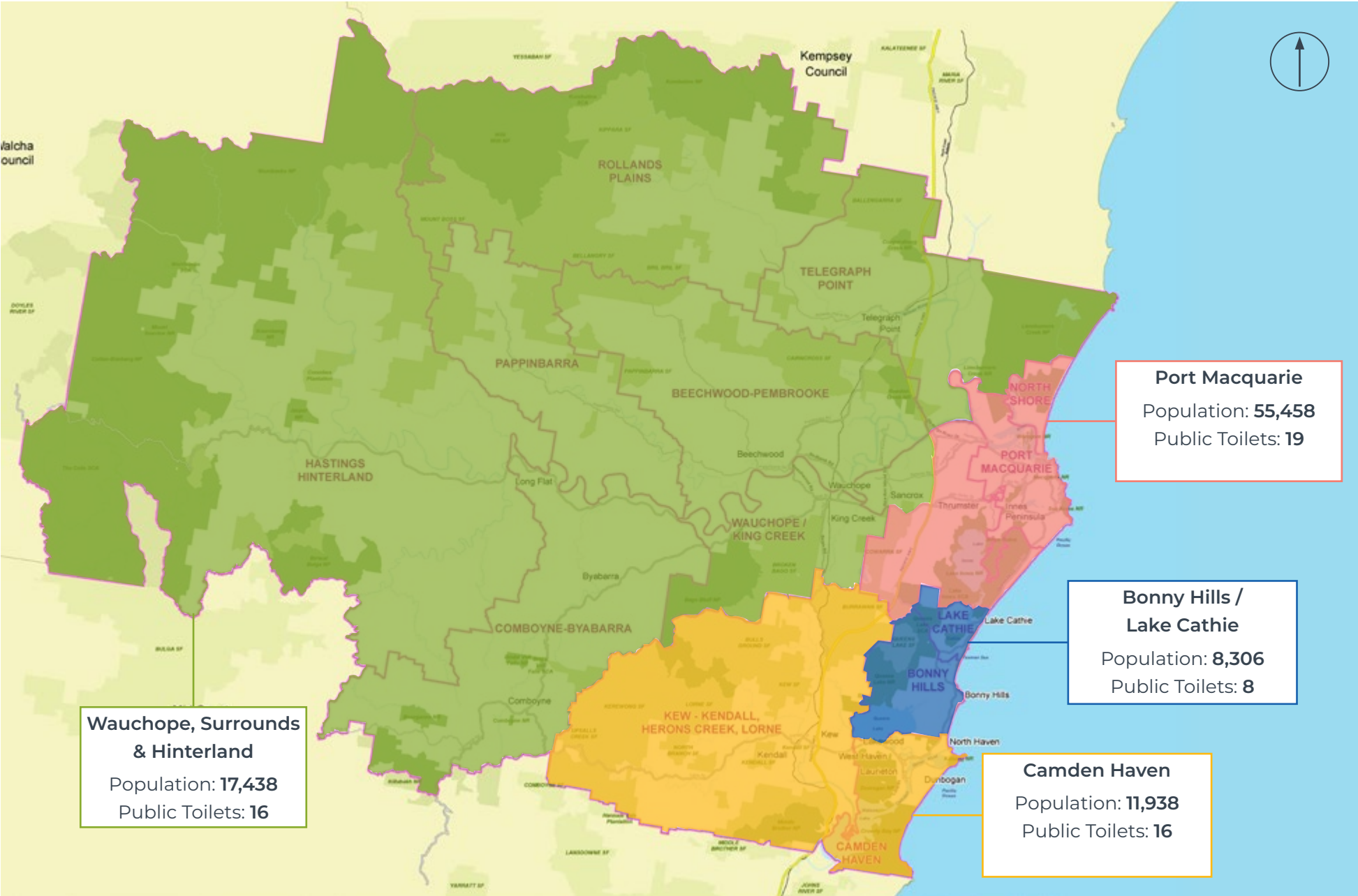
Coastal Public Toilet Provisions

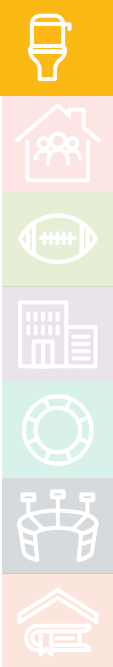
- **What** - Facilities are located within 1km distance of the coastal walk and the beach-to-beach walk
- **Where** - Ideally these public toilets will be located in Port Macquarie, Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills and Camden Haven
- **Who** - These public toilets are strategically located to serve both the local community and visitors using the coastal walk, beach-to-beach walk and foreshore areas.

Rural Public Toilet Provisions

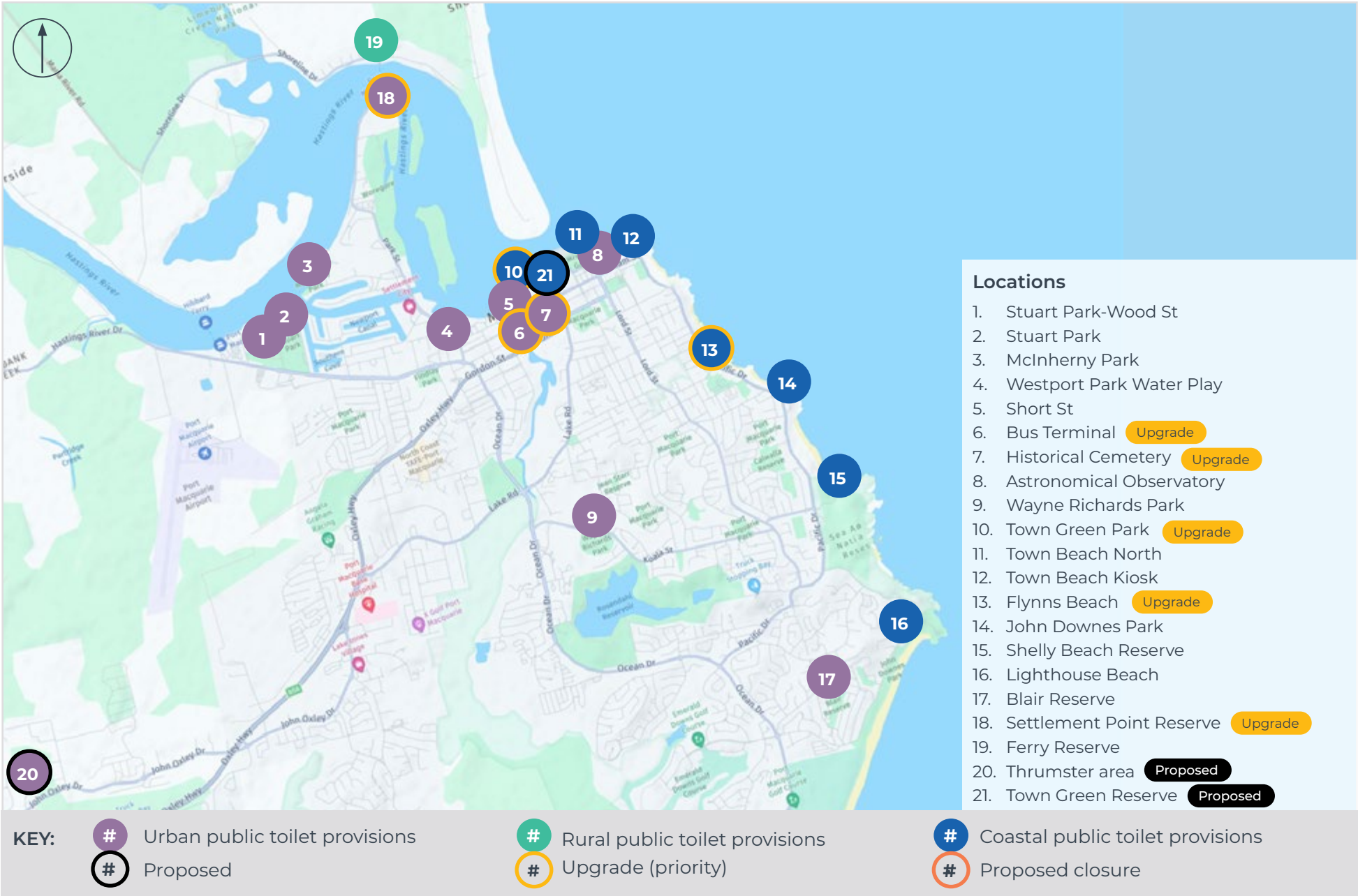
- **What** - Facilities are located in centralised rural towns and villages, ensuring they can be reached within a 5 to 10 minute drive from play spaces, skate spaces, outdoor courts, and water access points
- **Where** - Ideally these public toilets will be located in Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterland regions
- **Who** - These public toilets are strategically located to serve both the local community and visitors to rural play spaces, skate spaces, water access and fishing areas and outdoor courts, ensuring accessibility and convenience for all users

OUR PUBLIC TOILET MAPS

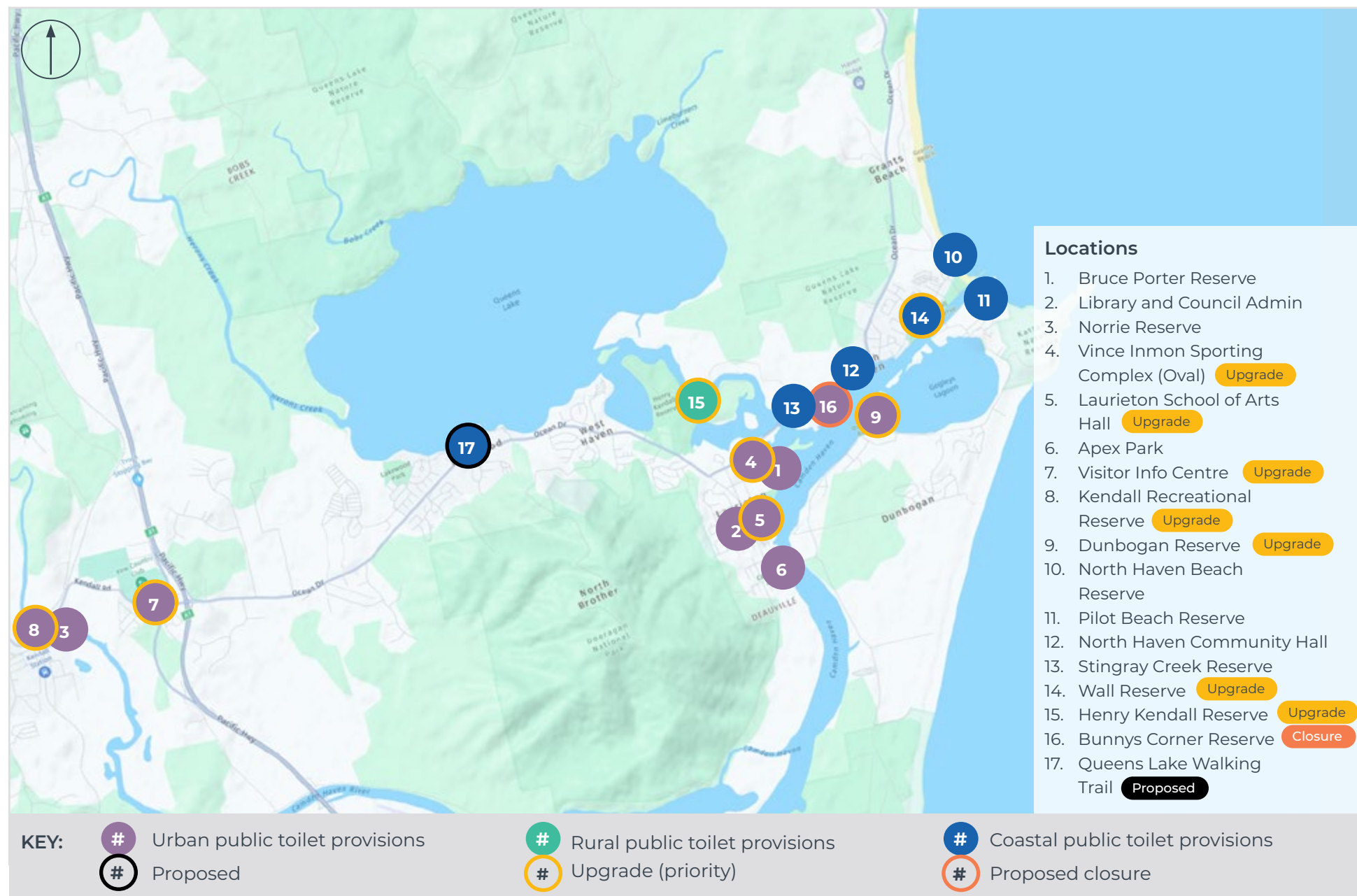


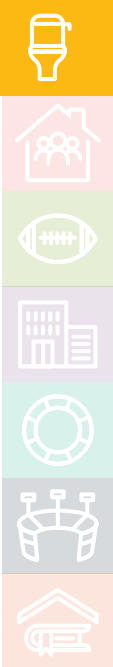


Port Macquarie

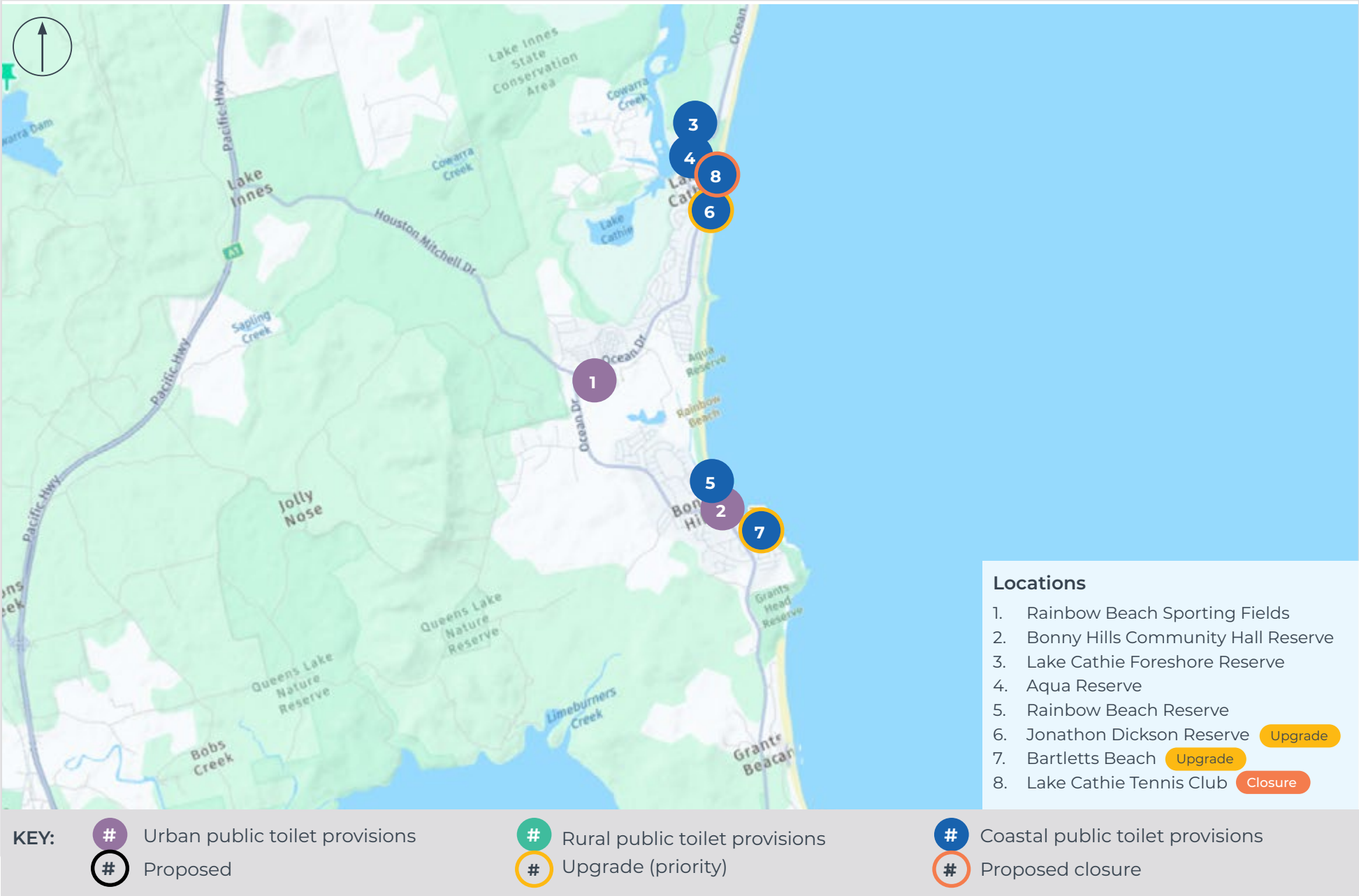


Camden Haven

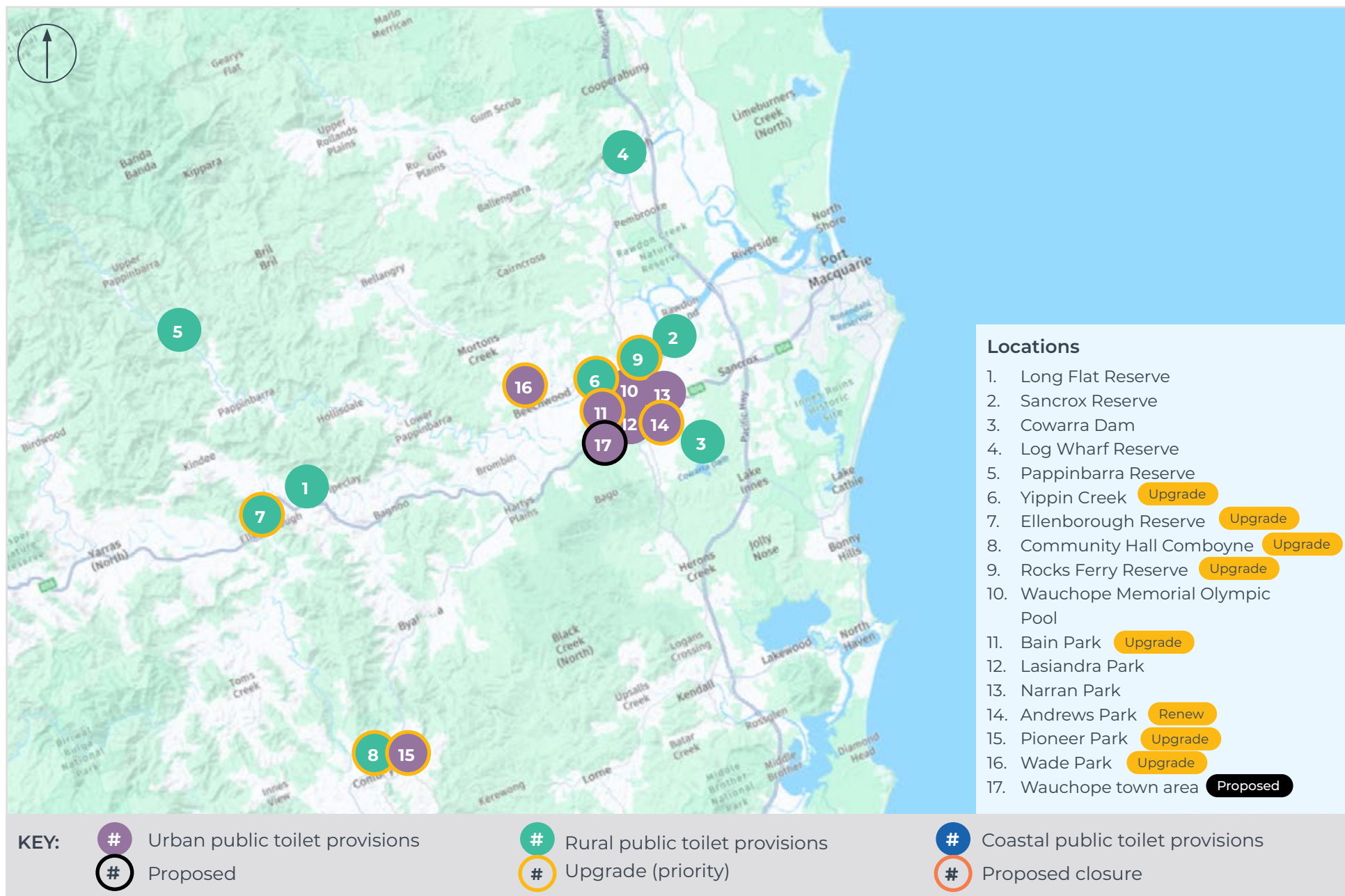


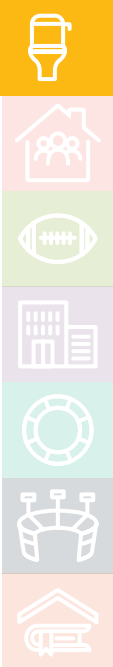


Lake Cathie / Bonny Hills



Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterland





INCLUSIVE ACCESS

Accessible Toilet Provision Across the LGA

Accessible and inclusive public toilets are an important part of a well-functioning public toilet network. They support equitable access to public spaces and help ensure that people of different ages, abilities and mobility needs can access and enjoy public spaces with greater comfort, safety and independence.

Accessible toilet provision includes a range of facilities that respond to different user needs, including wheelchair accessible toilets, ambulant toilets and MLAK-enabled accessible toilets. Together, these facilities strengthen the overall public toilet network by supporting inclusion, improving usability and helping to identify where future accessibility improvements may be required.

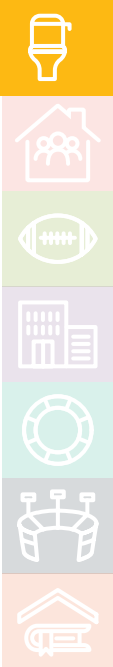
Accessible toilet provision can be considered through three key elements:

Wheelchair accessible toilets are designed to support people using wheelchairs and other mobility aids. These facilities typically provide wider access, circulation space, grab rails and fixtures that support safer and more functional use.

Ambulant toilets support people with limited mobility who do not require a wheelchair accessible cubicle but still benefit from features such as grab rails and improved internal accessibility. These facilities support a broader range of users, including older people and people with temporary or permanent mobility limitations.

MLAK-enabled accessible toilets are accessible toilets fitted with the Master Locksmiths Access Key system, allowing eligible users to access secure facilities where this arrangement is considered appropriate. These facilities form part of the broader accessible toilet network and provide an additional layer of inclusive access across the LGA.

Note: Accessible toilets are not assessed as a separate public toilet category. Instead, they are considered as an accessibility overlay across the urban, coastal and rural public toilet network to support inclusive planning, identify accessibility gaps, and inform future renewal, upgrade and prioritisation decisions



Accessible Toilet Distribution Across the LGA

PORT MACQUARIE

- Ferry Reserve - Accessible
- Settlement Point Reserve - Accessible **Upgrade**
- McInherney Park - Accessible
- Stuart Park - Accessible - MLAK and Ambulant
- Stuart Park Wood St - Accessible - MLAK
- Westport Park - Accessible - MLAK
- Westport Park Water Play - Accessible
- Findlay Park - Accessible - MLAK
- Short St - Accessible - MLAK
- Town Green Park - Accessible - MLAK **Upgrade**
- Glasshouse - Accessible - MLAK
- Bus Terminal - Accessible - MLAK **Upgrade**
- Historical Cemetery - Accessible - MLAK **Upgrade**
- Town Beach North - Accessible - MLAK
- Astronomical Observatory - Accessible - MLAK
- Town Beach Kiosk - Accessible
- Flynns Beach - Accessible **Upgrade**
- John Downes Park - Accessible
- Shelley Beach Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- Blair Reserve - Accessible
- Wayne Richards Park - Accessible - MLAK
- Lighthouse Beach - Accessible

LAKE CATHIE/BONNY HILLS

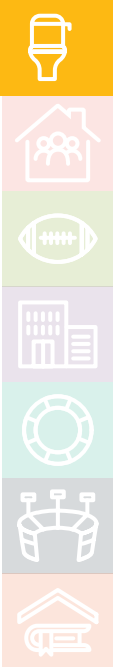
- Lake Cathie Foreshore Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- Aqua Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- Rainbow Beach Sport Fields - Accessible and Ambulant
- Rainbow Beach Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- Bonny Hills Community Hall - Accessible and Ambulant

CAMDEN HAVEN

- Pilot Beach Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- North Haven Community Hall - Accessible - MLAK
- Dunbogan Reserve - Accessible **Upgrade**
- Bruce Porter Reserve - Accessible and Ambulant
- Laurieton School of Arts - Accessible - MLAK **Upgrade**
- Library and Council Admin- Laurieton - Accessible
- Apex Park - Accessible
- Norrie Reserve - Accessible

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- Sancrox Reserve - Accessible - MLAK
- Bain Park - Accessible - MLAK **Upgrade**
- Wauchope Memorial Olympic Pool - Accessible - MLAK
- Wauchope CWA Hall - Accessible - MLAK
- Narran Park - Accessible and Ambulant
- Lasiandra Park - Accessible
- Long Flat Reserve - Accessible
- Community Hall Comboyne - Accessible **Upgrade**
- Log Wharf Reserve - Accessible



Planning Significance

Recognising accessible and inclusive toilets as a distinct layer within the public toilet network strengthens Council's ability to plan for equitable and inclusive access across the LGA. It reinforces accessibility as an integral part of public toilet planning, supporting more inclusive, equitable and future-focused decision-making.

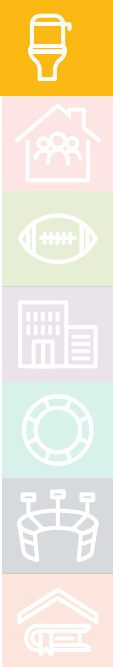
Mapping wheelchair accessible toilets, ambulant toilets and MLAK-enabled accessible toilets provides a clearer understanding of current provision across the network. It helps identify areas where facilities are well distributed, limited or missing, and supports more informed decision-making for future improvements across town centres, parks, reserves, beaches, sports precincts and other key community destinations.

This accessibility layer supports Council to:

- Understand the distribution of accessible toilet facilities across the LGA;
- Identify gaps in accessible and inclusive toilet provision;
- Recognise locations where facilities may require improvement, upgrade or expansion;
- Consider accessibility needs in future renewals and new facility planning; and
- Align public toilet provision with broader community access, inclusion and service planning outcomes.

Accessible amenities, Short St, Port Macquarie





KEY FINDINGS

With the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA population expected to exceed 108,960 (currently 92,650) by 2036, additional public toilet facilities will be required to accommodate growth and meet future community needs.

Identified gaps in the LGA - Feasible Proposals and Supporting Rationale

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Thrumster Area** - A public toilet facility should be considered near the proposed Thrumster neighbourhood skate space to support service provision, user convenience and inclusive access. The facility should include at least one accessible toilet to meet the needs of people of different ages, abilities and mobility needs.
- **Town Green Reserve (Southern End)** - Provision of a new public toilet facility near Town Green Reserve could support regular events held at the reserve, strengthen accessible toilet provision and increase overall service capacity. This would provide a practical response where expansion of the existing public toilet within Town Green Park is constrained or not feasible.

CAMDEN HAVEN

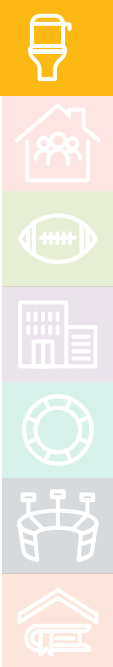
- **Queens Lake Walking Trail** - A public toilet near the Queens Lake Active Walking Area is required to address the current absence of facilities within the catchment area and support user convenience, comfort and hygiene. The facility should include an accessible toilet to improve inclusive access for walkers, visitors and people of different ages, abilities and mobility needs.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- **Wauchope** - An additional public toilet facility in the Wauchope city centre is necessary to cater to the 400-meter area around the Showground and High Street. This will ensure equitable access for visitors to these high-traffic areas, alleviate pressure on existing facilities, and enhance convenience and comfort for the community and event attendees.

Amenities block along the Beach-to-Beach Walk, Laurieton





Identified gaps in the LGA - Potential Future Opportunities

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Coal Wharf proposed Non-powered Watercraft Access & Fishing Area** - The Coal Wharf Water Access and Fishing Area is a noted gap due to its isolation and lack of existing public amenities. Non-powered watercraft users may spend extended periods in the area, necessitating the availability of accessible restroom facilities. Currently, providing a public toilet facility in this area is not feasible, as the necessary supporting systems are not in place to accommodate this type of a facility, such as a sewer line.

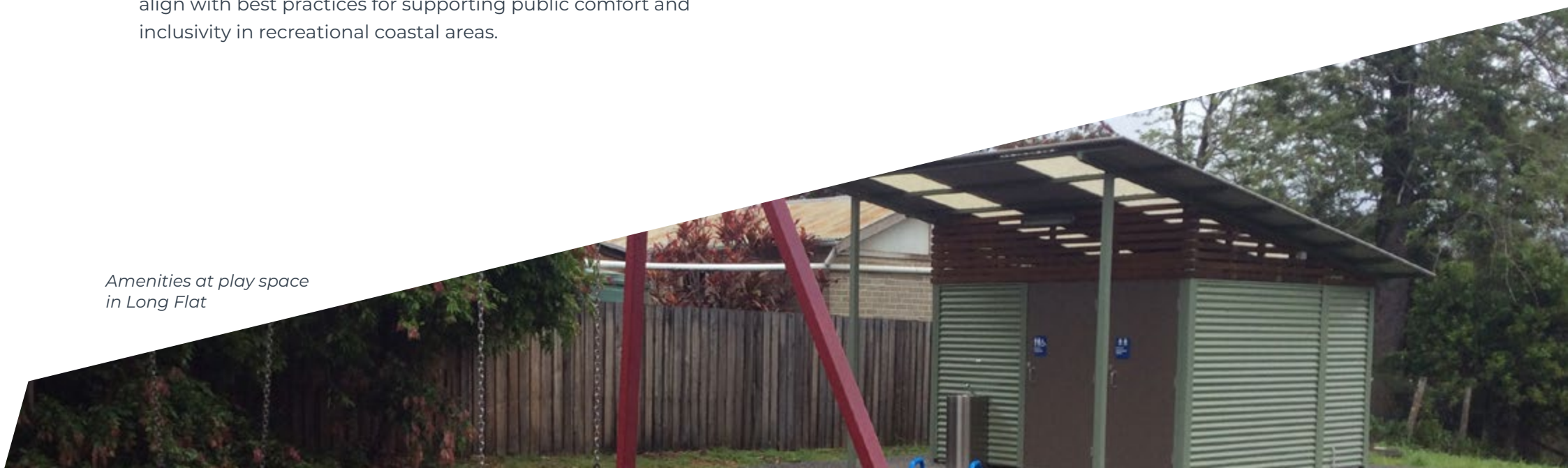
CAMDEN HAVEN

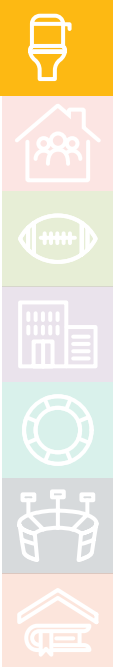
- **Amenities along the beach-to-beach Walk** - To maintain the benchmark of providing public toilet facilities every 1 km along the Beach-to-Beach Walk in Camden Haven, one additional facility may be required. This will ensure consistent accessibility, enhance convenience for walkers and beachgoers, and align with best practices for supporting public comfort and inclusivity in recreational coastal areas.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- **Byabarra Tennis Court** - Currently, there is no public toilet facility for the Byabarra tennis court. According to the benchmark, a public toilet should be available within a five-minute drive from play spaces, outdoor courts, and other recreational areas in rural settings. Installing a toilet facility near the tennis court will meet community needs, ensure accessibility, and enhance the comfort and convenience of users engaging in recreational activities.

*Amenities at play space
in Long Flat*





Public Toilet Expansion and Improvement Provisions

1. ACCESSIBILITY AND PATHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Ensuring universal access and connectivity across public amenities is a key focus in delivering inclusive, equitable, and user-friendly community facilities. Several existing facilities within Port Macquarie currently present barriers such as discontinuous paths or limited wheelchair access between amenities and nearby open spaces. Upgrading these links will not only enhance safety and mobility for users of all abilities but also improve connections to adjacent car parks, play spaces, picnic shelters, and pedestrian networks.

These works align with PMHC’s commitment to universal design standards and seek to create an accessible network of public toilets that support active mobility, recreation, and community wellbeing.

Facilities identified for improved pathways and accessible connections include:

Port Macquarie

- Astronomical Observatory Amenities
- Flynn’s Beach Amenities
- Stuart Park Amenities
- John Downes Park Amenities
- Ferry Reserve Amenities

Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills

- Bartlett Beach Reserve Amenities
- Rainbow Beach Reserve Amenities
- Bonny Hills Community Hall Reserve Amenities

Camden Haven

- Bruce Porter Reserve Amenities
- Vince Inmon Sporting Complex Amenities
- Kendall Recreation Reserve Amenities
- Henry Kendall Reserve Amenities

Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterlands

- Wade Park Amenities

2. FACILITY EXPANSION AND ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

Future facility enhancements will be guided by network demand, service gaps, accessibility needs, asset condition and long-term community benefit. Where required, improvements may include outdoor showers, changing spaces, enclosed facilities and accessible toilets to strengthen user comfort, convenience, functionality and inclusive access. This approach supports a more responsive and sustainable public toilet network that aligns infrastructure investment with identified needs across the LGA.



Facilities Identified for Expansion and the Inclusion of Additional Amenities

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Town Beach Kiosk, Marine Rescue and Amenities** - Explore opportunities to enclose the existing shower areas with integrated changing facilities to enhance functionality and improve user comfort during peak periods. Alternatively, if feasible from a maintenance perspective, consider relocating the showers outdoors and adding two additional toilet cubicles to the existing amenity block.
- **Settlement Point Reserve Amenities** - Investigate the inclusion of changing and outdoor shower facilities to support high recreational use along the foreshore.
- **McInerney Park Amenities** - Assess the potential to introduce outdoor showers and changing facilities to enhance functionality and comfort for park users.

CAMDEN HAVEN

- **North Haven Beach Amenities** - Incorporate an accessible toilet cubicle with integrated changing facilities to enhance inclusivity and convenience for all beach users. These improvements could be coordinated with the ongoing Camden Haven Surf Life Saving Club project to provide a cohesive upgrade and strengthen overall amenity provision at the site.
- **Vince Inmon Sporting Complex Amenities** - Reconfigure one or two existing cubicles within the female section to create an accessible toilet and upgrade the pathway access to improve overall accessibility and compliance with standards.
- **Kendall Recreational Reserve Amenities** - Incorporate an accessible toilet cubicle within, or as part of future works to,

the amenities building to support the adjacent accessible play equipment and neighbourhood skate space, ensuring inclusive access for all users.

LAKE CATHIE / BONNY HILLS

- **Foreshore Reserve Amenities** - Explore opportunities to incorporate an additional outdoor shower with integrated changing facilities to better accommodate increased visitor use and enhance overall amenity functionality.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLANDS

- **Bain Park Amenities** - In line with the Bain Park Master Plan, future public toilet upgrades at Bain Park should include the integration of an adult changing table within the public toilet facility. This provision would strengthen the inclusiveness and functionality of the facility by supporting people with higher support needs, carers and families. Its inclusion would also improve accessibility at Bain Park as a key community and recreational destination, including its role as a regional play space, ensuring future amenities respond to a broader range of user needs.
- **Andrews Park** - New public toilet facilities are proposed at Andrews Park, including accessible toilet provision. This is intended to be delivered as part of the proposed 550m² amenities building identified in the Sports Field Amenities Plan, supporting the broader amenity requirements for Andrews Park and strengthening alignment between public toilet planning and sports field amenity provision.

Future Considerations for Public Toilet Planning

The NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Public Toilets (2026) provides a useful strategic reference for future public toilet planning. These considerations provide strategic guidance to support more inclusive, accessible and resilient public toilet planning.

Future public toilet planning should consider the following matters where appropriate:

- Use the term “all-gender” instead of “unisex”, where appropriate, to reflect more current and inclusive public facility language.
- Consider providing additional facilities, such as changing facilities, where required. High-traffic parks, sports grounds, town centres, foreshore areas and tourist destinations should be prioritised for this type of provision.
- Consider all-gender, single-use cubicles as part of future facility design, particularly in high-use public spaces such as destination parks, foreshore areas and town centres.
- Apply universal design principles, including clear, consistent and inclusive signage, accessible paths of travel, and safe, even lighting coverage within and around facilities.
- For coastal, foreshore, flood-prone or environmentally exposed locations, consider resilience factors such as coastal corrosion, drainage performance, back-flow prevention, flood-compatible materials, elevated electrical systems, water-resistant internal finishes, and designs that allow facilities to be cleaned, repaired and reopened efficiently after severe weather events.

*Amenities block, Westport Park,
Port Macquarie*



Community Hall Plan



*Laurieton School of
Arts Hall*

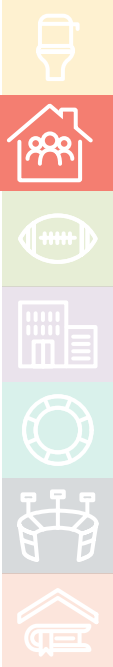


WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY HALL PLAN?

Port Macquarie Hastings Council manages 18 community halls strategically distributed across the Local Government Area (LGA), serving urban, suburban, and rural communities. These adaptable multi-purpose facilities provide welcoming space for the local community and visitors to host a wide range of activities, including:

- Community gatherings and celebrations
- Cultural and arts performances
- Recreational programs and fitness activities
- Educational workshops and training
- Local meetings and civic events

The Community Hall Plan sets the strategic direction for the sustainable planning, renewal, maintenance and refurbishment of these assets. This approach ensures that facilities continue to meet current and future needs while supporting environmental stewardship, social wellbeing, and economic sustainability across the LGA.



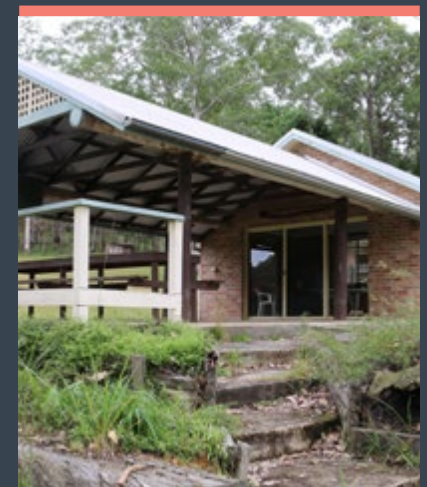
OUR COMMUNITY HALL NETWORK

The community hall network within the LGA is strategically distributed across urban, suburban, and rural areas, ensuring that residents have convenient access to well-equipped, multi-purpose spaces. Each hall is positioned to serve its surrounding catchment, with locations selected to maximise accessibility and community benefit.

These facilities are designed to support a diverse range of activities, from cultural events, recreational programs, and educational workshops to local meetings and celebrations. Depending on their categorisation and setting, community halls may include amenities such as toilets, kitchenettes, meeting rooms, conference rooms, storage areas, and accessible features that cater to community members and visitors of all ages and abilities.

By combining thoughtful geographic distribution with a variety of functional spaces, our network of community halls strengthens social connection, encourages participation, and provides inclusive venues that meet the evolving needs of the community.

In addition to the formal Council-owned or managed community hall network, a number of non-Council owned or managed halls also support local community use. While these facilities are commonly referred to as “small halls”, for the purpose of this Plan they are identified as “community-purpose halls”. These facilities play an important role in strengthening local identity, supporting social connection and providing accessible gathering spaces for local communities.



Recreation Reserve Meeting Room- Pappinbarra

OUR COMMUNITY HALL STRATEGIC INTENT

"To provide welcoming, versatile, and accessible community halls that foster social connection, support local events, and enrich community life for all generations."

SCOPE

The *Community Hall Plan* applies to all community halls located within the LGA. It encompasses all multi-purpose public spaces that support a wide range of social, recreational, educational, and cultural activities.

This plan guides the planning, development, upgrading, maintenance, and refurbishment of community halls to meet both current and future community needs. It seeks to ensure these spaces are accessible, inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and strategically distributed across the LGA, supporting community participation, social inclusion, and a strong sense of belonging.

The Plan also recognises the role of community-purpose halls in supporting local meetings, gatherings, events and community activities. While these facilities may not all be Council-managed community halls, they contribute to the broader community facility network by providing additional places for community use across both urban and rural areas.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Promote Community Engagement and Participation

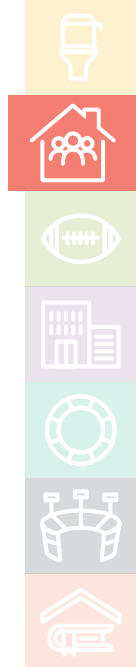
Increase access to versatile, multifunctional spaces that encourage social interaction, cultural activities, educational programs, and community events for all age groups and backgrounds.

Support Sustainable and Inclusive Development

Design and maintain community halls that are environmentally sustainable, energy-efficient, and accessible to people of all abilities, fostering long-term community use and well-being.

Enhance Social Cohesion and Well-being

Provide spaces that support diverse community needs, offering opportunities for recreation, learning, and social integration, thereby contributing to the overall health, happiness, and unity of the community.



GUIDING DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The *Community Hall Plan* is subject to the [*Guiding Design Principles*](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 9)

EVERYONE CAN USE VALUES

The *Community Hall Plan* is subject to the [*Our Everyone Can Use Values*](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 10)

SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Typical supporting infrastructure may include:

- Toilets
- Meeting Rooms
- Conference Rooms
- Function Halls
- Changing Rooms
- Kitchenettes
- Lighting
- Ventilation
- Security Features
- Accessible Features
- Signage
- Stores
- Parking



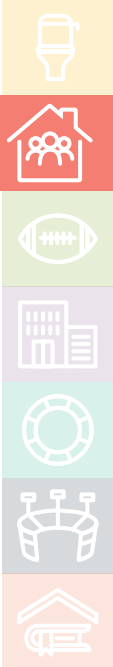
Can I Access it?



Can I Use It?



Can I Rely On It?



**Community halls are the heart
of a community's social vitality**
*- Reflecting Ray Oldenburg's
concept of "third places"*



Beechwood School of Arts Hall

COMMUNITY HALL CATEGORIES AND DISTRIBUTION

Given the absence of established community hall benchmarks specific to New South Wales, Port Macquarie Hastings Council (PMHC) has taken the proactive step of developing its tailored benchmarks to meet the unique needs of its community. These benchmarks classify community halls based on their location, available facilities, and their capacity to cater for local communities and visitors. Together, these factors provide a consistent framework for assessing how well current facilities meet service needs across the LGA. They serve as a guide for identifying opportunities for upgrades and improvements, ensuring that future planning supports accessible, functional, and well-equipped spaces for all communities.

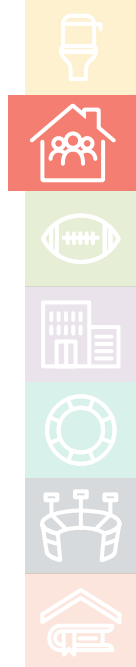
Regional Community Hall Provisions

- **What** - Regional community halls are medium to large, multi-purpose facilities that provide flexible, higher-capacity indoor space for a broad catchment. They are typically designed to accommodate around 200-300 people at a time, including supporting facilities such as toilets, kitchenettes, meeting or conference rooms, storage, and parking spaces. Regional halls support a wide range of activities, including major community gatherings, cultural events, exhibitions, performances, workshops, and large recreational programs. In addition to their social and cultural value, they also contribute to local economic activity by attracting visitors, supporting community activation, and generating hire revenue.
- **Where** - Regional community halls are strategically located within or near major urban centres and activity hubs to maximise accessibility and support event-based activation. Preferred locations are within approximately 3 km of the Port Macquarie urban centre, enabling convenient access for broader community groups, visitors and event attendees.

- **Who** - Intended for the broader urban community and visitors, supporting strong social connection and participation while contributing to local economic activity and community activation.

Neighbourhood Community Hall Provisions

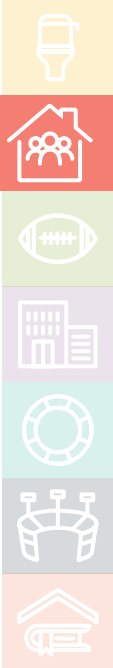
- **What** - Neighbourhood community halls are small to medium-sized, multi-purpose facilities located within residential and commercial areas to serve multiple neighbourhoods and a diverse range of community groups. These halls are typically designed to accommodate around 100 to 200 people and provide flexible indoor space suited to neighbourhood-level activities with essential supporting facilities such as toilets, a kitchenette, parking, and building accessibility. These facilities support community interaction by hosting meetings, local celebrations, workshops, and recreational programs that respond to neighbourhood-level needs.
- **Where** - Ideally located within 3-5 km of Port Macquarie, Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills, Camden Haven, and Wauchope town areas, providing convenient access for surrounding communities.
- **Who** - Designed for urban and suburban populations, enabling small-to medium-scale gatherings and activities that reflect local interests and needs.



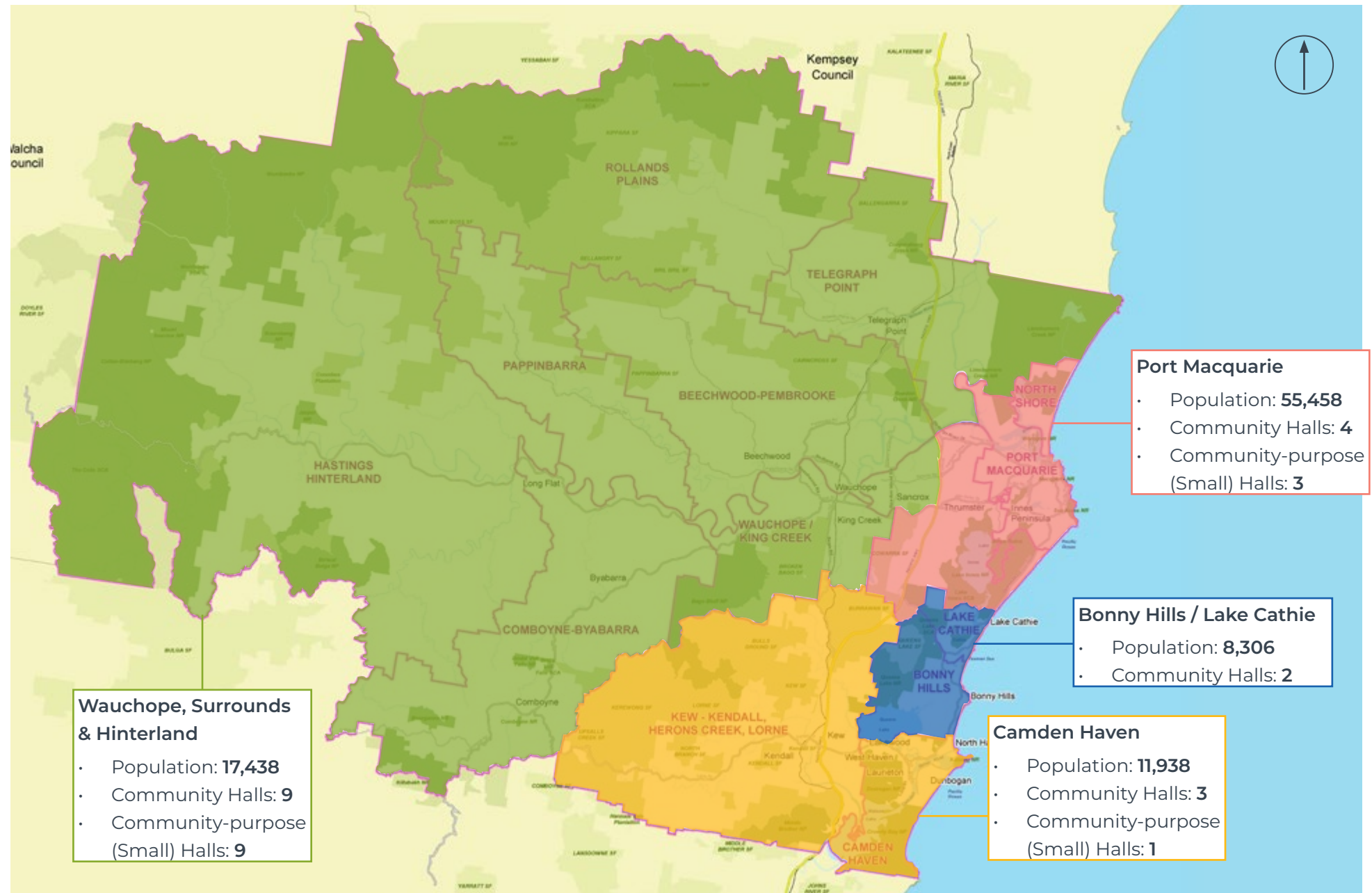
Local Community Hall Provisions

- **What** - Local community halls are small-scale, community-focused facilities located across Port Macquarie, Camden Haven, Wauchope, and surrounding areas, providing modest indoor spaces for small community groups and local activities. These halls are typically designed to accommodate less than 100 people at a time and include basic supporting facilities, such as toilets and a kitchenette, suitable for low-intensity and community-based use. They support regular local activities, including community meetings, interactive classes, small celebrations, and events that respond to the needs of local communities.
- **Where** - Local community halls are typically distributed across Port Macquarie, Camden Haven, Wauchope, and surrounding areas to provide convenient access for local communities, generally within a 10–15-minute drive of their surrounding catchments.
- **Who** - Intended for local residents, community groups, and visitors, these halls provide accessible venues for small-scale gatherings, celebrations, and community activities that strengthen social connection and local identity.

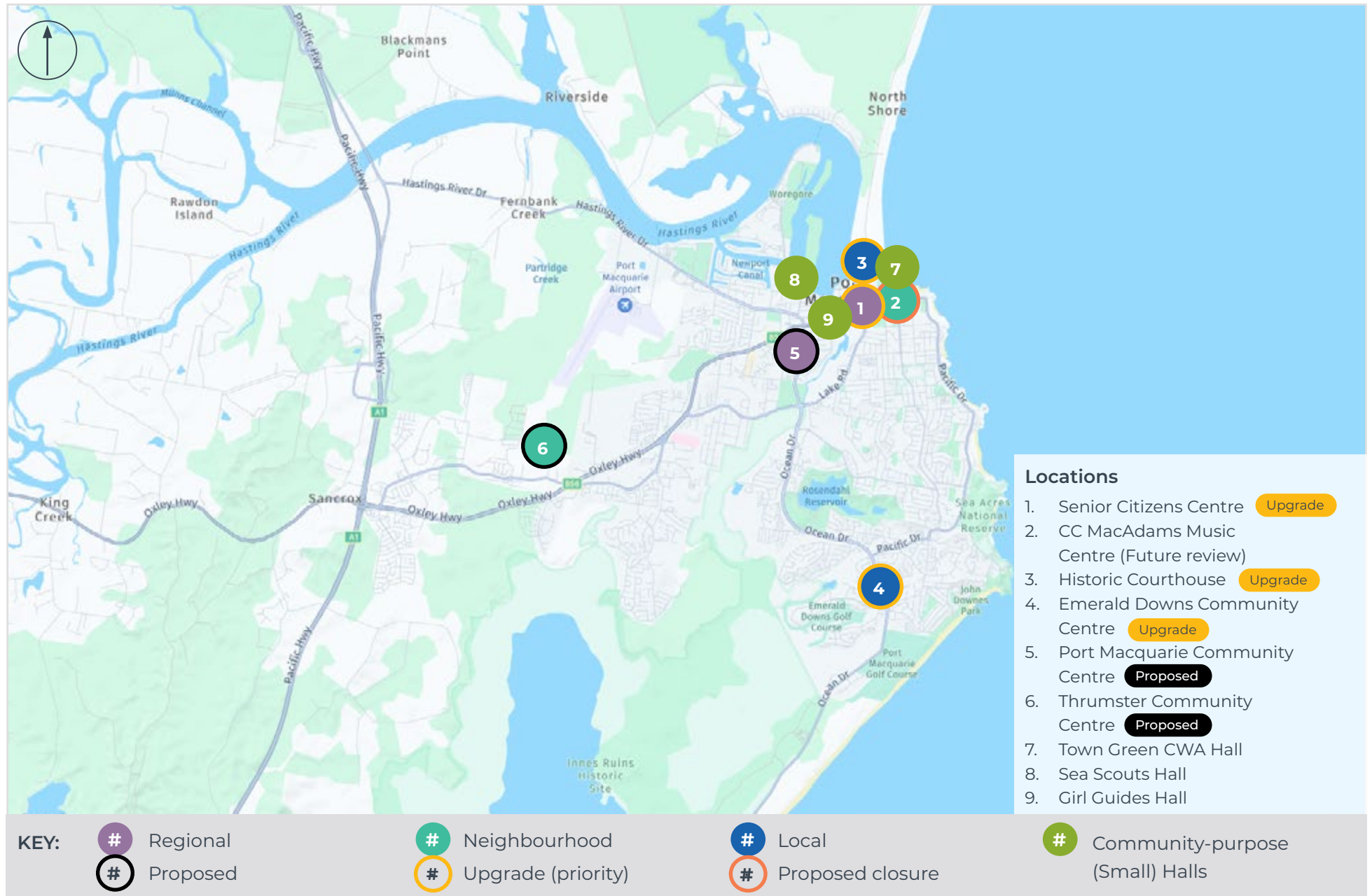
Dunbogan Jubilee Hall



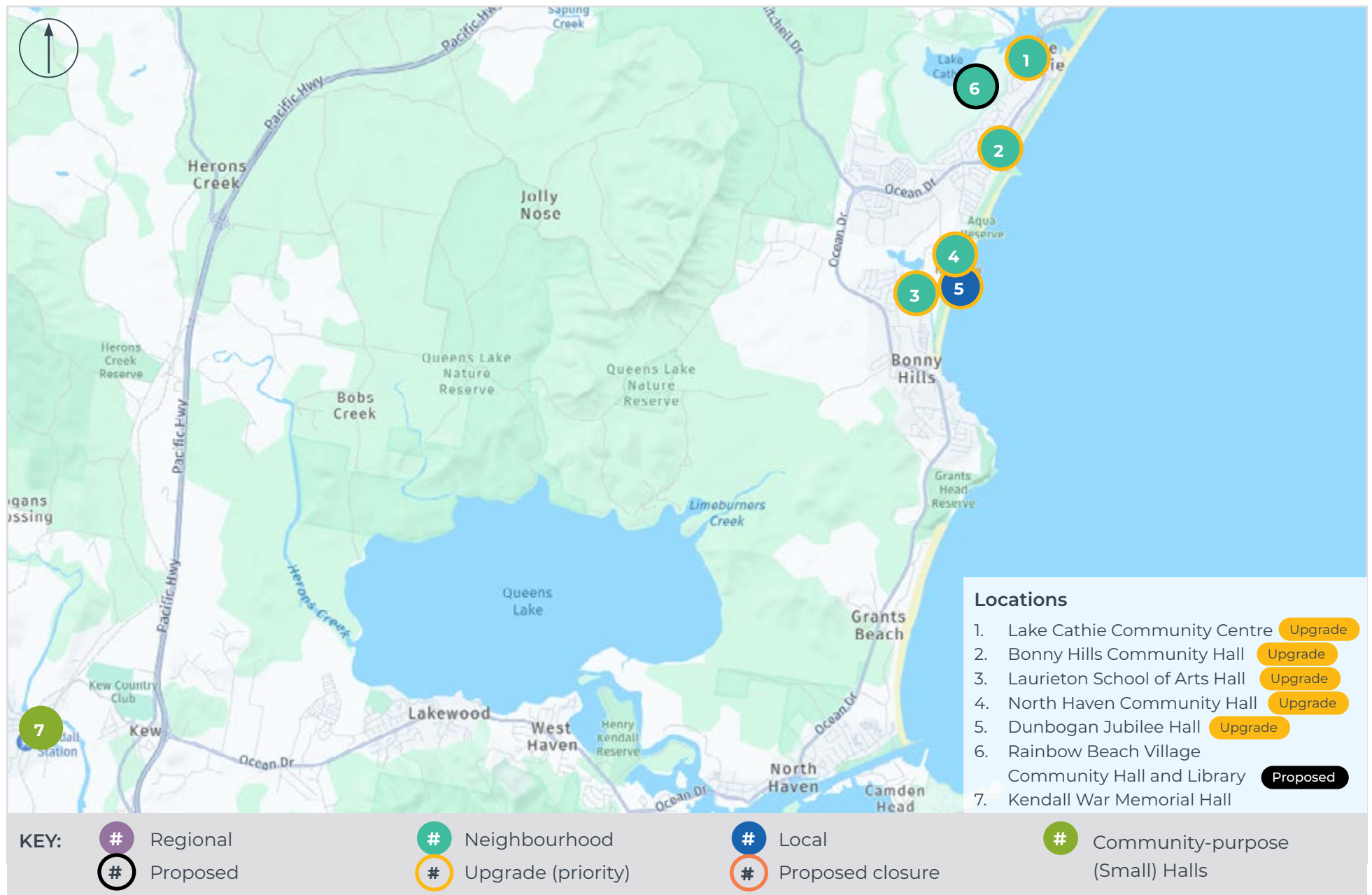
OUR COMMUNITY HALLS MAPS



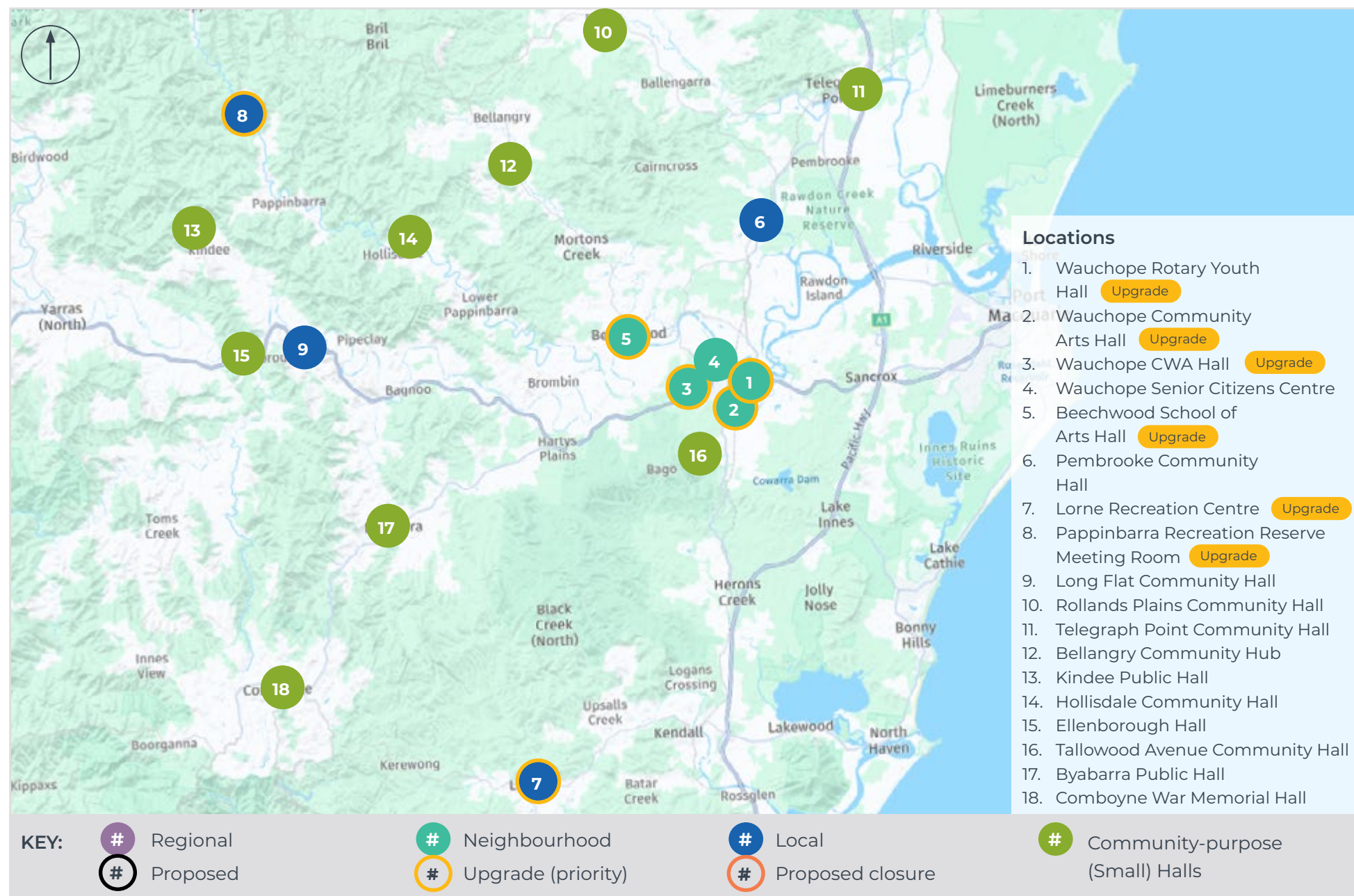
Port Macquarie



Lake Cathie / Bonny Hills / Camden Haven



Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterland



KEY FINDINGS

With the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA population projected to grow from 92,650 to more than 108,960 by 2036, additional community hall provision will be required to support future demand. Community hall services across the LGA are currently provided through a network of Council and non-council managed facilities performing regional, neighbourhood and local level functions. While this network continues to support a wide range of community needs, high utilisation in some locations and ongoing population growth indicate that additional capacity will be needed over the planning period.

Identified gaps in the LGA - Feasible Proposals and Supporting Rationale

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Ocean Drive** - A future regional community hall is proposed in Ocean Drive - Burgess Road area to strengthen community space provision in Port Macquarie and respond to increasing demand. This facility would improve the overall capacity and distribution of the community hall network, while supporting more equitable access to regional level community space. Once delivered, the operational functions of the Mac Adams Band Hall are intended to transfer to the new facility, indicating that the existing hall may no longer be required in its current location for community hall purposes.
- **Thrumster** - To respond to forecast growth and support equitable access to community spaces across the broader Port Macquarie area, an additional neighbourhood community hall is recommended for the Thrumster area. This additional provision would strengthen network capacity, improve service coverage in a growing catchment, and help meet future demand as the population continues to increase.

LAKE CATHIE/BONNY HILLS

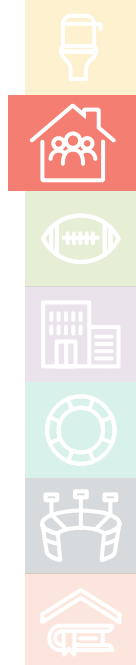
- **Lake Cathie Library** - A projected 12% increase in the Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills population over the next 10 years highlights the need for an additional neighbourhood community hall. To respond to this growing demand, a new hall is proposed to be co-located with the Lake Cathie Library, enabling both facilities to be planned, delivered and operated in an efficient and integrated manner.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- Wauchope and the surrounding hinterland are currently supported by an established network of ten community halls, comprising five neighbourhood community halls and four local community halls. Based on projected population growth of approximately 5% over the planning period, the existing community hall network is considered sufficient to meet anticipated demand, and no additional community hall provision is recommended for this sub area at this time.

BROADER RURAL COMMUNITY ACCESS

Community-purpose halls, commonly known as small halls, across the LGA also contribute to community access, local social connection and community participation. While these facilities may sit outside the formal Council-managed community hall network, they provide supplementary gathering spaces for local communities and have been considered when assessing local service gaps, community access and future facility needs across the LGA.



Community Halls Expansion and Improvement Provisions

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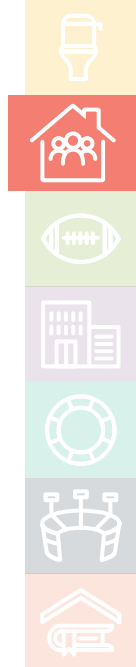
- **Emerald Downs Community Centre** - The facility requires upgrades to the main entry to enhance accessibility, including clear entry signage.
- **Historic Courthouse:** The Historic Courthouse is proposed to transition into a Council-managed, bookable community hall. Following this management change, future upgrade requirements should be reassessed to ensure the facility is fit-for-purpose and able to support appropriate community use, meetings, programs and events. Based on the existing condition of the facility, priority upgrades should include improvements to the kitchen and toilet facilities, together with required paving repairs to enhance accessibility, safety and overall usability.

LAKE CATHIE/BONNY HILLS

- **Bonny Hills Community Hall** - The hall requires a range of improvements to enhance functionality, accessibility, user comfort and site security, including upgrades to the kitchen and toilet facilities, formalisation of the car park and access road, interior lighting upgrades, provision of outdoor seating, improved door locking systems, and accessibility-related improvements such as designated accessible parking and appropriate signage.
- **Lake Cathie Community Hall** - The building would benefit from targeted improvements to enhance functionality, user comfort and operational flexibility. Key needs include improved internal ventilation, additional office space to support appointments and service delivery, and the provision of outdoor seating areas. Improved door locking systems are also recommended to strengthen site security and support effective facility management.

CAMDEN HAVEN

- **North Haven Community Hall** - The facility requires an extension to the existing kitchen to improve functionality and better support user needs. Upgrades to the toilet facilities, including accessible toilet improvements, and improved accessible entry to the hall are also recommended. Consideration should also be given to better cooling and provision of technical equipment to support the hall's use as a meeting venue.
- **Dunbogan Jubilee Hall** - A range of upgrades are recommended to improve the hall's functionality, comfort, security and overall activation of the space. Key priorities include upgrading the outdated kitchen and associated kitchen facilities, improving cooling through upgraded fan systems, upgrading accessible toilet facilities, undertaking broader furniture renewal, and upgrading door locking systems to strengthen security and support effective facility management.
- **Laurieton School of Arts Hall** - Facility improvements are recommended to enhance the hall's functionality, accessibility, comfort and long-term usability. Priorities include upgrading the outdated kitchen and associated facilities, renewing internal furniture, improving cooling, and upgrading the dressing room, stage and backstage areas, including lighting and audio improvements. Accessibility upgrades should include improvements to accessible toilet facilities and provision of an accessible ramp to the kitchen area. Upgraded door locking system is also recommended to improve building security and ongoing use.





WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- **Wauchope Rotary Youth Hall** - Improved door locking systems are recommended for Bain Park Rotary Youth Centre to enhance security, support effective facility management and improve the overall resilience of the building.
- **Wauchope CWA Hall** - The hall requires a series of functional upgrades to improve usability, user comfort and safe ongoing access. These include improved storage capacity, upgrades to the toilet and kitchen facilities, provision of outdoor seating, and installation of an appropriate ventilation system to enhance year-round comfort. Given the ongoing concerns associated with the nearby car parking area, future works should also consider car park realignment together with appropriate safety measures to support safe access and continued use of the community hall space.
- **Wauchope Community Arts Hall** - The facility requires a coordinated range of improvements to enhance accessibility, functionality and security. Priority works include upgrades to the kitchen and toilet facilities, improved accessibility at the main entry, provision of a compliant access ramp, and improvements to the accessible toilet to ensure compliance. Additional storage capacity is also required to better support ongoing operations. Security upgrades, including improved door locking systems, are recommended to strengthen site security and support effective facility management.
- **Lorne Recreation Centre** - The hall requires targeted improvements to enhance accessibility, functionality and user amenity. Identified priorities include improvements to car parking, upgraded security door locking systems, provision of outdoor seating with tables to support broader community use, and upgraded outdoor lighting, to improve safety, visibility and usability.
- **Beechwood School of Arts** - The facility requires a range of improvement priorities, including technical upgrades to the stage and dressing room area, furniture renewal, stage enhancements to strengthen performance and event capability, upgraded door locking systems to improve security and facility management, and improved cooling to enhance user comfort and overall amenity. Although the hall is not currently activated frequently, its district-level capacity presents a valuable opportunity for greater community use. Delivery of these improvements would help unlock the hall's potential and support increased activation through a broader range of events, programs and community activities.
- **Pappinbarra Recreational Reserve** - Targeted improvements are recommended to enhance the functionality, accessibility, security and activation of the venue. Priorities include repair of the kitchenette, upgrades to accessible toilet facilities, improved cooling, and broader accessibility improvements to the hall to support more inclusive use. Upgraded door locking systems are also recommended to strengthen security and support effective facility management. Consideration may also be given to potential camping-related facilities where appropriate, to strengthen use of the area and support increased activation of the venue.
- **Long Flat Community Hall** - The facility has previously operated as a community hall and continues to be available for occasional community use where required; however, it is currently used full-time for preschool purposes. Despite its current primary use, the facility contains key infrastructure, including a canteen, accessible toilets, a moderately sized hall, change facilities and accessible entry paths, which support its potential use for broader community purposes when needed.



Potential Future Community Hall Opportunities

- **Astronomical Observatory Building** - The hall component of the Astronomical Observatory Building has the potential to be adapted for use as a hireable community space, with access to public toilet facilities. This would enhance community access, support greater activation of the facility, and provide an opportunity for economic return through increased use of the space.
- **Hamilton Green Art Gallery (The Manor House)** - The facility is expected to transition into Council management, presenting an opportunity to consider its potential use as a community hall available for hire. Prior to any change in function, the building should be reassessed to determine its suitability, condition, access, compliance requirements and ability to support broader community use. If supported, the facility could contribute to meeting future neighbourhood-level community hall demand in Port Macquarie and provide a potential source of economic return through hire and community use.

Improvement Priorities Across the Community Hall Network

- **Upgraded Security Door Locking Systems** - All functioning community halls require replacement of existing door locking systems with upgraded security door locking systems to improve site security, support more effective facility management, and strengthen the overall resilience of the facilities.
- **Tactile Paving at Accessible Ramps** - Provision of tactile paving at accessible ramps should be considered as a further improvement across the community hall network, particularly to support safer and more legible access for older users and others with mobility or vision-related access needs.
- **Storage for Ongoing User Groups** - Provision of storage should be considered across the community hall network to better support ongoing user groups. Where a user group hires a facility for up to six months, temporary storage may be provided where feasible. Where a user group hires a facility for more than six months, consideration may be given to provision of permanent storage or a dedicated storage shed, subject to site suitability and operational requirements.

Sports Field Amenities Plan



*Vince Inmon Sports Field Grandstand
and amenities, , Laurieton*

WHAT IS THE SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES PLAN?

The Sports Field Amenities Plan provides a strategic framework to guide the planning, renewal, upgrade and future provision of amenities that support sports field facilities across the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA. These amenities include changerooms, toilets, storage, kiosks, canteens and other supporting infrastructure that help make sports fields functional, accessible, safe, and fit-for-purpose for players, officials, spectators, and the broader community.

OUR SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES STRATEGIC INTENT

"To establish a functional, accessible and equitable network of sports field amenities that meets the current and future needs of the community, supports participation in sport and recreation, and contributes to active, healthy and connected communities across the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA."



OUR SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES NETWORK

The distribution of sports field amenities across the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA is intended to support the accessible, functional and equitable provision of sports and recreation infrastructure across the region. These amenities form part of the broader sports field facilities network, which ranges from single ovals and fields serving local communities to larger multi-field precincts that function as sport hubs for the wider district and region. Amenity provision is intended to respond to the scale and functional requirements of each site within the network, supporting the coordinated delivery of fit-for-purpose infrastructure such as changerooms, toilets, storage, canteens and other field-related facilities to meet the needs of players, officials, spectators and the broader community.



Vince Inmon Grandstand,
Laurieton

SCOPE

The *Sports Field Amenities Plan* outlines the strategic provision, renewal, upgrade and distribution of sports field amenities across the Port Macquarie Hastings LGA. It applies to amenities associated with sports fields, including changerooms, toilets, storage areas, kiosks, canteens, undercover seating and other related supporting spaces that enable effective operation of sport and recreation activities. The Plan is intended to guide future planning, prioritisation and investment to ensure sports field amenities are functional, safe, accessible, inclusive and responsive to current and future community needs.

AMENITIES DEFINITIONS

To support a clear and consistent understanding of the facility types assessed in this Plan, the following descriptions provide common sports field amenity components.

- **Canteen** - A canteen is a food and beverage service facility provided to support sporting events and higher levels of use. It is intended for the sale and service of pre-prepared or low-preparation food and beverages, rather than as a commercial kitchen, and does not include stove cooking facilities or exhaust systems.
- **Kiosk** - A kiosk is a small-scale service point used for the sale or distribution of refreshments, snacks and basic event-related items. It generally functions as a counter for issuing food and drink items, rather than as a fully serviced preparation facility.
- **Kitchen** - A kitchen is a dedicated food preparation space within an amenities building or venue, typically fitted with food preparation facilities, cooking appliances, exhaust and ventilation systems, washing facilities, and associated fixtures required to support catering and venue use.
- **Amenities** - Amenities are the supporting facilities and spaces that enable sports fields to function effectively, safely and comfortably for players, officials, spectators and the broader community. These may include changerooms, toilets, storage areas, kitchens, canteens, kiosks, referee rooms and other associated support spaces.
- **Toilet** - A toilet is a sanitary facility provided for players, officials, spectators and visitors. Toilets may be provided as part of a broader amenities building or as standalone public or sports-related facilities, and should support accessibility, comfort and appropriate levels of service.
- **Clubhouse** - A clubhouse is a building within a sports precinct that supports club operations, social activities and event-day functions. It may include spaces such as meeting rooms, administration areas, kitchen or canteen facilities, storage, toilets, changerooms, and areas for players, officials, volunteers and spectators. In many cases, clubhouses are constructed, or financially contributed to, by sporting clubs and operate under a licence agreement with Council.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Fit-for-purpose Provision

Provide sports field amenities that are functional, fit-for-purpose and aligned with the role and level of each sports field precinct.

Accessibility, Inclusion and Safety

Ensure sports field amenities are safe, accessible and inclusive for players, officials, spectators and the broader community.

Renewal and Future Planning

Guide the renewal, upgrade, expansion, and future provision of sports field amenities based on condition, demand, the classification framework, and community needs.

Participation and Community Wellbeing

Support sport, recreation and community connection by providing high-quality amenities that encourage participation and enhance the overall user experience.



GUIDING DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The *Sports Field Amenities Plan* is subject to the [Guiding Design Principles](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 9)

EVERYONE CAN USE VALUES

The *Sports Field Amenities Plan* is subject to the [Our Everyone Can Use Values](#) as set out for Community Spaces (p. 10)

SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Typical supporting infrastructure may include:

- Accessible toilets
- Accessible pathways
- Changerooms
- Shower facilities
- Canteens, kitchen or kiosk
- Internal and external storage
- Match officials' rooms
- Undercover seating areas
- First-aid and multipurpose room
- Meeting or community room



Can I Access it?



Can I Use It?



Can I Rely On It?



Well-designed sports field amenities help users feel welcome, safe, and encouraged to participate

Inspired by Jan Gehl's people-centred approach to public space



Sancrox Reserve

SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES CATEGORIES AND DISTRIBUTION

The planning of sports field amenities across the LGA has been informed by relevant New South Wales, Australian and sport-specific facility guidelines aligned to the range of sports and uses accommodated at each precinct. As amenity requirements vary across sports, activities and facility contexts, this plan adopts a tailored benchmarking approach, using the most appropriate guidance for each site. This provides a consistent, evidence-based framework for assessing amenity provision and guiding future planning, prioritisation, and investment across the sports field network.

Regional Sports Field Amenities Provisions

- **What** - Regional sports field amenities provide higher-order supporting infrastructure for multi-sport venues of regional significance that accommodate multiple sporting codes, higher-level competition, major events, and large volumes of players, officials and spectators. Typical amenities may include multiple changerooms, accessible toilets, officials' spaces, spectator areas, kitchens or canteens, storage, and other supporting infrastructure required to service high-use sporting precincts and support shared use across multiple sport codes.
- **Where** - Ideally located within major sport and recreation precincts, serving the whole LGA and broader regional catchments. These venues are positioned to provide convenient regional access for local users and visitors from outside the LGA, while also capable of accommodating large numbers of users at once.

- **Who** - These amenities support a broad catchment, including players, clubs, officials, spectators, event organisers, and community users from across the LGA and beyond. They cater for representative sport, tournaments, major events, higher-order competition, and a range of organised and informal recreation activities, while also supporting local and district use where needed.

District Sports Field Amenities Provisions

- **What** - District sports field amenities provide supporting infrastructure for higher-capacity, more versatile sporting venues that accommodate multiple sporting codes, regular training, junior and senior competition, club-based activities, and shared use across different sports. Typical amenities include accessible toilets, changerooms, storage, match officials' rooms, and canteens, provided to a standard appropriate for frequent use, district-level competition, and multi-sport operations.
- **Where** - Strategically located within larger sport and recreation precincts in urban and suburban areas, servicing multiple suburbs, townships, and surrounding rural communities. They are often co-located with other recreation and community infrastructure, helping to form broader sport and recreation hubs that provide convenient access to higher-order sporting opportunities across the LGA.
- **Who** - District sports field amenities support clubs, schools, competitions, officials, spectators, and community users from a broader catchment, including those travelling for higher-level sport and events.



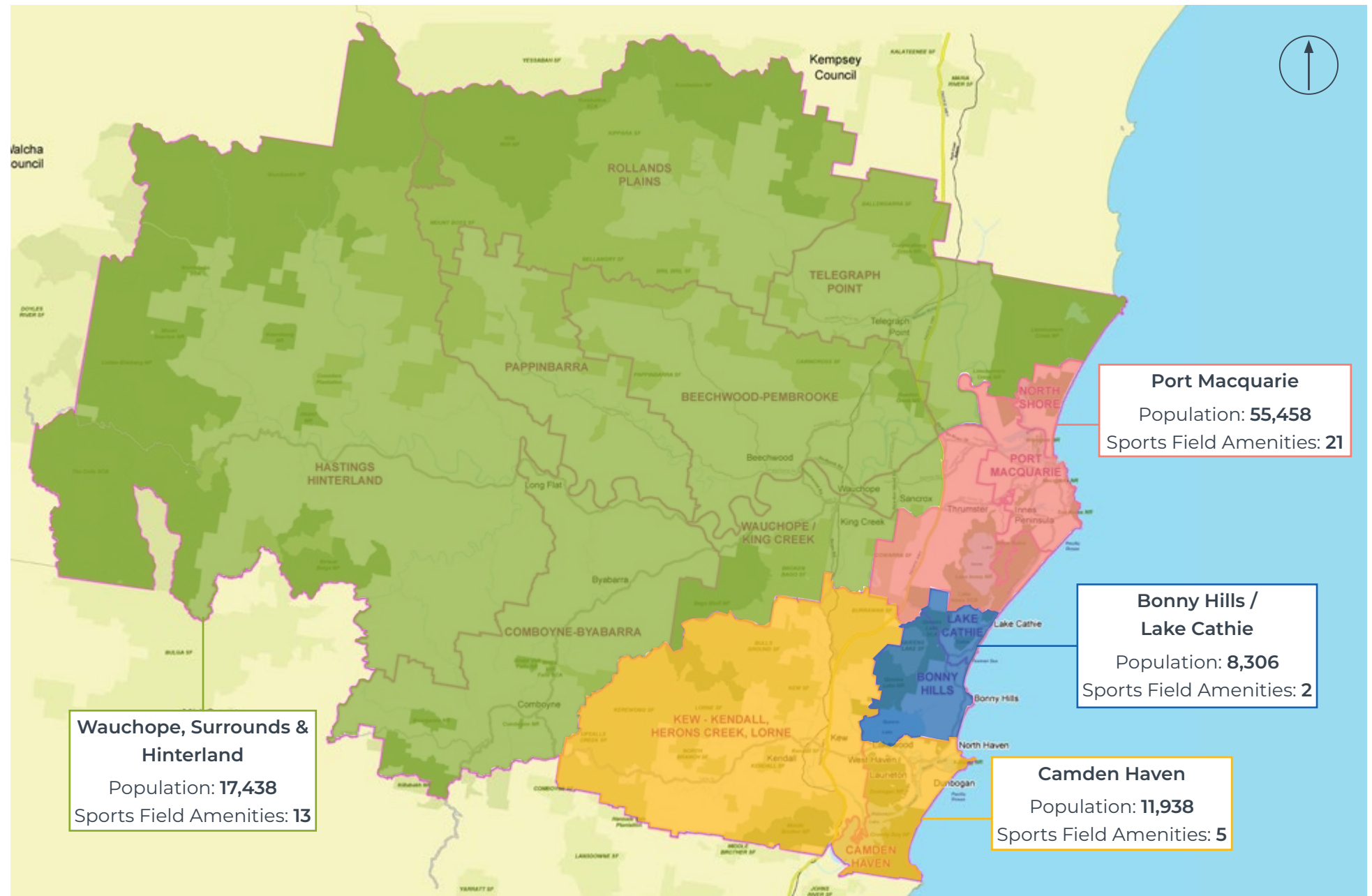
Local Sports Field Amenities Provisions

- **What** - Local sports field amenities provide essential supporting infrastructure for local sport field facilities, which typically serve as the home grounds for local clubs and communities. They support training, junior and senior home-and-away matches, school use, participation programs and grassroots competition, and are intended to meet the core functional requirements of community-level sport. Amenity provision is generally modest in scale and focused on basic supporting infrastructure appropriate to local-level use.
- **Where** - Local sports field amenities typically serve a single suburb, township or village. They are generally located within local sports fields and reserves and are often shared seasonally between different sports. Their distribution across suburban and rural areas supports equitable, close-to-home access to community sport and recreation.
- **Who** - These amenities primarily support local community clubs and schools, junior and senior grassroots competitions, participation programs and informal community use. They are particularly important for people who rely on close-to-home opportunities to participate in sport and recreation.

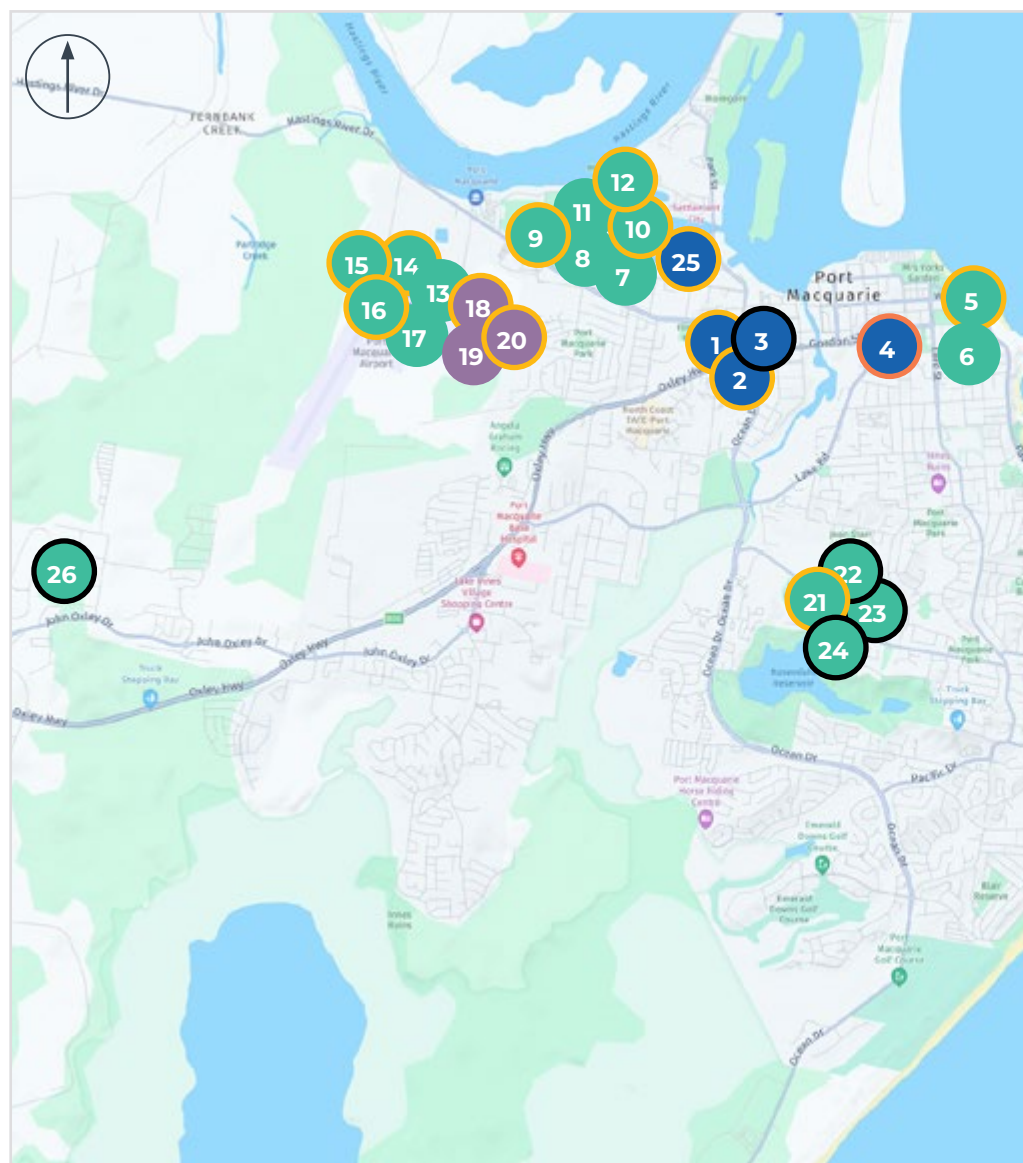
Wood St Storage and facilities



OUR SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES MAPS



Port Macquarie



KEY:

- # Regional
- # Proposed

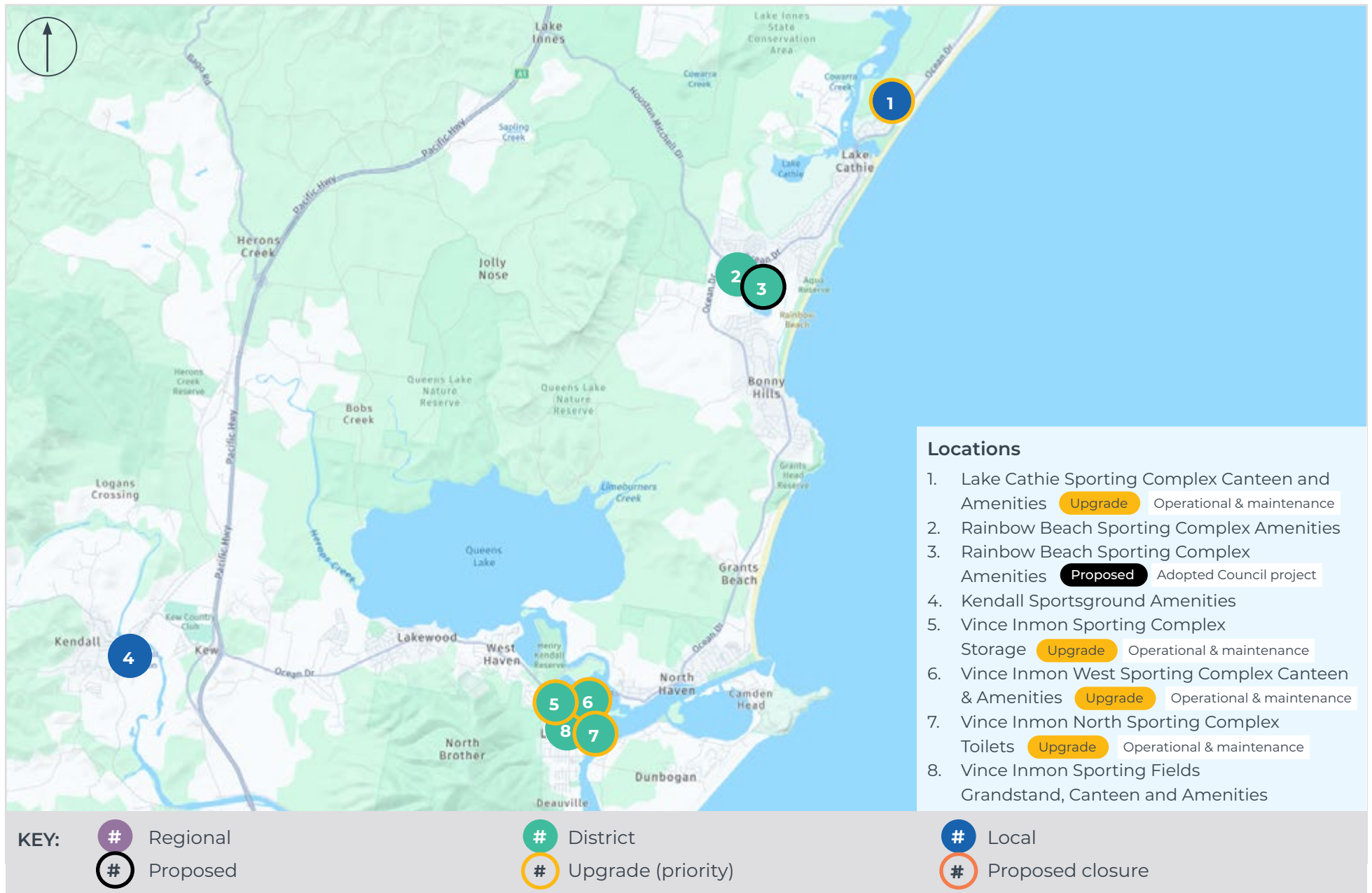
- # District
- # Upgrade (priority)

- # Local
- # Proposed closure

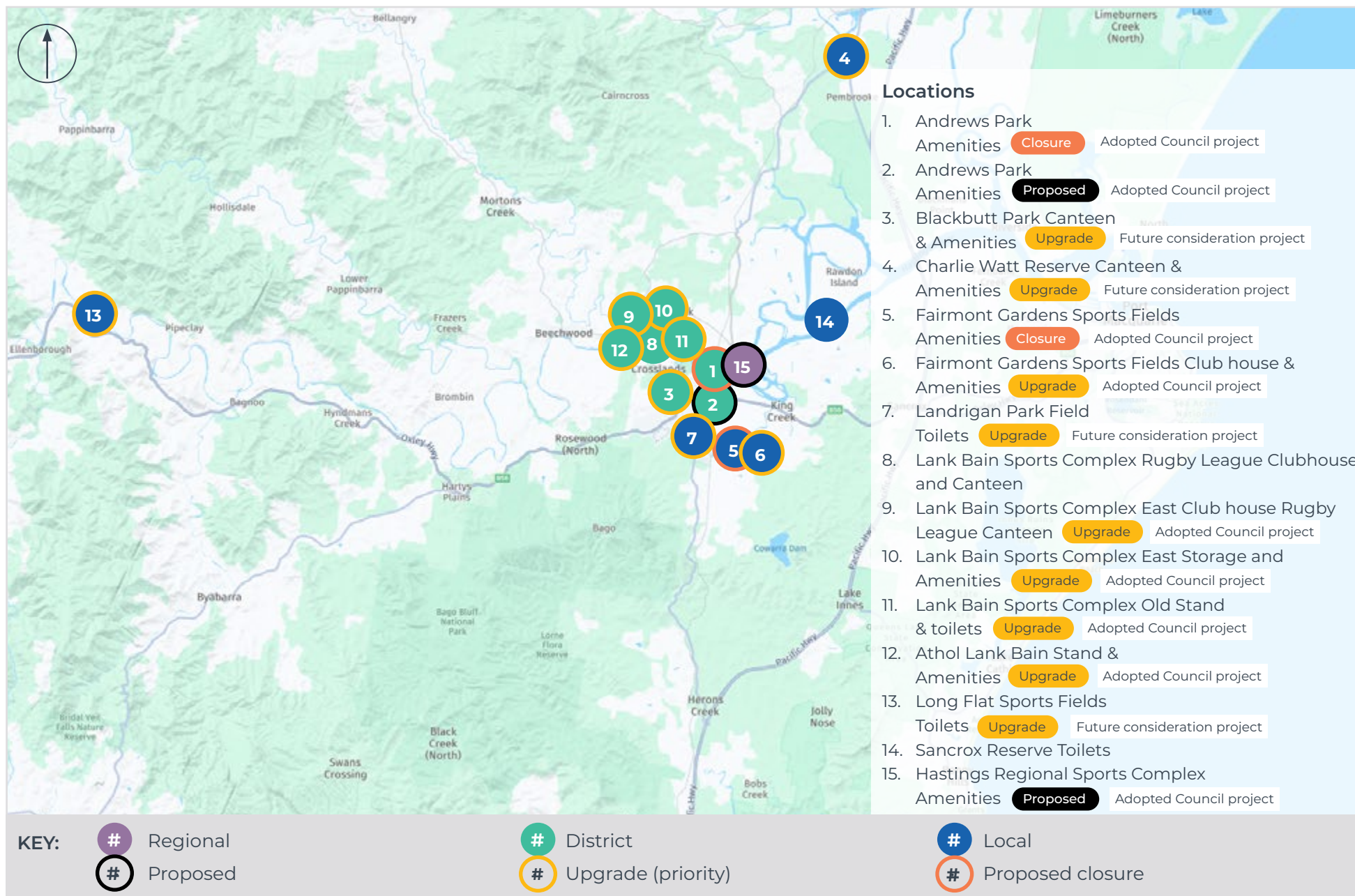
Locations

- Findlay Park Football Clubhouse **Upgrade** Supported club project
- Findlay Park Amenities **Upgrade** Adopted Council project
- Findlay Park Canteen & Amenities **Proposed** Adopted Council project
- Macquarie Park Amenities **Closure** Future consideration project
- Oxley Oval Sports Field Amenities **Upgrade** Operational & maintenance
- Oxley Oval Cricket and Rugby Union Clubhouse & Amenities
- Stuart Park Rugby Union Clubhouse
- Stuart Park Storage Shed
- Stuart Park Rugby League Clubhouse **Upgrade** Supported club project
- Stuart Park Fields Amenities **Upgrade** Operational & maintenance
- Wood Street Fields Canteen & Amenities
- Wood Street Fields Storage & Amenities **Upgrade** Operational & Maintenance
- Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields Touch Football Clubhouse
- Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields toilets **Upgrade** Operational & maintenance
- Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields Kiosk & Amenities **Upgrade** Operational & maintenance
- Tuffins Lane West Playing Fields toilets **Upgrade** Operational & maintenance
- Tuffins Lane West Playing Fields kiosk Storage Shed
- Port Macquarie Regional Stadium Canteen & Amenities **Upgrade** Adopted Council project
- Port Macquarie Regional Stadium BBQ hut/ kiosk
- Port Macquarie Regional Stadium Grandstand & Amenities **Upgrade** Future consideration project
- Wayne Richards Park Canteen & Amenities **Upgrade** Supported club project
- Wayne Richards Park (proposed athletics facility) – Grandstand and Amenities (District) **Proposed** Operational & maintenance
- Wayne Richards Park (athletics facility) Clubhouse **Proposed** Operational & maintenance
- Wayne Richards Park (athletics facility) Storage Shed **Proposed** Operational & maintenance
- Dixie Park Football Clubhouse & Amenities **Upgrade** Supported club project
- Thrumster Sports Field Amenities **Proposed** Adopted Council project

Lake Cathie / Bonny Hills / Camden Haven



Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterland



ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK AND FINDINGS

Assessment Approach

This Plan has been informed by a review of existing sports field amenities across the LGA, supported by relevant facility categorisation, asset condition and functional considerations, accessibility requirements, user needs, and known planning directions for each precinct.

The assessment considered the extent to which existing amenities align with the role and function of each sports field precinct, the sporting activities they support, and the level of service expected based on current and future use. This has provided the basis for identifying gaps, improvement needs and priority directions for future planning and investment across the sports field facility network.

Sports Amenities Benchmarking Reference Documents

The benchmarking of sports field amenities across the LGA was informed by a review of relevant national, state and sport-specific facility guidelines, selected according to the sporting codes accommodated at each venue. These reference documents provided the basis for assessing the suitability and adequacy of existing amenity provision.

The key reference documents used in this assessment are listed below:

- AFL Preferred Community Facility Guidelines 2024 – Australian Football League
- Club Facility Resources Guide for National, State and Local Facilities 2016 – Baseball Australia
- Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia
- Football Facilities Building Development Guide – Football Victoria
- Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW
- Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – National Rugby League
- National Facility Guidelines – Rugby Australia
- Facility Management Guide 2023 – Softball Australia
- Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – Touch Football Australia
- National Facilities Policy 2016 – Netball Australia

Clubhouse at Tuffins Lane, Port Macquarie



KEY FINDINGS

The assessment of sports field amenities across the LGA identified considerable variation in the type, scale, condition and functionality of existing provision across the network. While some precincts are supported by amenities that generally align with their classification, level of use and service function, others have identified shortcomings in accessibility, capacity, functionality, condition and overall usability.

These findings reflect differences in precinct hierarchy, sporting activity, asset condition and user needs across the LGA. The assessment also identified that different sporting codes are guided by different sports facility standards, which can create conflicting requirements where multiple sports are accommodated at the same venue.

A key operational consideration is the importance of flexible and inclusive changeroom provision across multi-use sports venues. Rather than permanently designating changerooms as 'Men' and 'Women', future planning should support flexible labelling, such as 'Changeroom 1' and 'Changeroom 2', or the use of changeable signage. This approach improves operational flexibility, supports equitable access, and helps reduce congestion where venues accommodate back-to-back fixtures, mixed programming, junior sport, carnivals and external bookings.

To respond to these findings, PMHC is proposing a more consistent approach to future sports field amenities provision through the development of standardised and adaptable Local, District and Regional amenities building types for new sports facilities. These building types are intended to provide fit-for-purpose infrastructure capable of supporting a range of sports and community needs. Where existing amenities buildings remain serviceable and are not at the end of their useful life, upgrades and renovations are proposed, where feasible, to improve functionality and work towards minimum guideline requirements.

Together, these findings highlight the importance of a planned, evidence-based approach to the renewals, upgrades, expansions, and future provisions of sports field amenities across the LGA.



Identified Gaps in the LGA and Proposed Future Amenities Developments

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Findlay Park Amenities Option 1** - The Findlay Park Master Plan (2025) has been developed to guide the long-term delivery of a contemporary fit-for-purpose amenities building. This would incorporate four (4) changeroom areas, additional storage provision aligned with user group requirements (one storage per user group), including a dedicated cleaners' room, a canteen, a multipurpose room incorporating first-aid provision, and separate male and female match official rooms.
- **Thrumster Sporting Fields Amenities** - Thrumster Sports Field amenities are proposed to meet the future needs of the planned sporting precinct. The proposed amenities building is intended to provide accessible toilet facilities, four (4) changerooms, two (2) match officials' rooms, a multipurpose room with first-aid facilities, a kitchen with associated storage, dedicated storage areas, a cleaner's room, and administration space. As the sports fields and amenities building are not yet constructed, these components represent the proposed future amenity provision for the site.
- **Wayne Richards Park (proposed athletics facility): Canteen and Amenities, Grandstand and the Storage Shed** - To address future amenity requirements associated with the proposed athletics facility and the broader district-level sporting function of Wayne Richards Park, three new buildings have been identified as part of the proposed Stage 3 and Stage 4 developments. These include a new amenities building, new grandstand and a dedicated storage shed. The proposed amenities building is intended to provide key supporting facilities, including a canteen, shower areas, accessible toilet, meeting room, multipurpose room, and male and female toilet facilities. These inclusions would support club operations, user amenity, inclusive access and the broader functionality of the sporting precinct.

LAKE CATHIE/BONNY HILLS

- **Rainbow Beach Sporting Complex Amenities** - Stage 2 of the Rainbow Beach Sports Fields is intended to address the currently unmet amenity requirements for AFL local-level, Football local club-level, Cricket club-level and Netball local-level use. This stage is proposed to include four (4) changerooms with toilets and lockable shower facilities, two (2) match officials' rooms, a first-aid and multipurpose room, a kiosk with associated storage, and five (5) dedicated storage areas for each sporting group with additional storage space.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- **Andrews Park Amenities** - A new amenities building of approximately 550m² is proposed as the key priority, incorporating urban public toilet facilities, four (4) changerooms with lockable showers, canteen facilities with storage, a multipurpose room with first-aid facilities, and a match official room with dedicated toilet and changing amenities. These improvements would strengthen the precinct's functionality, service capacity and long-term suitability for sporting, club and community use.
- **Hastings Regional Sports Complex Amenities** - A new regional sports complex is proposed to meet future demand across the LGA. The proposed sports field amenity provision includes a large clubhouse with four changerooms incorporating lockable showers, toilet facilities including accessible toilets, a meeting room, administration space, a multipurpose room with first-aid capability, two match officials' rooms, a canteen, a kitchen with associated storage, and dedicated sports storage areas with clearly defined storage allocation. As the facility is not yet constructed, these elements reflect the intended future amenity provision for the site.



Proposed Improvements and Expansions to Existing Sports Field Amenities

PORT MACQUARIE

- **Findlay Park Amenities** - Two implementation pathways have been identified to respond to amenity requirements at this site. Option 1 has been presented above under Identified Gaps in the LGA – Feasible Proposals and Supporting Rationale. **Option 2** - This option involves a shorter-term improvement approach focused on upgrading existing facilities by refurbishing the public toilet block to provide two change-room areas as an interim response to current operational needs. In addition, refurbishment of the existing clubhouse, together with the addition of a side awning, has been identified as a supported club-funded initiative.
- **Macquarie Park Amenities** - The existing sports amenities are proposed to be decommissioned and removed from the precinct in line with the delivery of the proposed Port Macquarie Regional Aquatic Centre. As Macquarie Park will no longer include sports fields as part of the precinct, no upgrade works are proposed for the existing sports amenities. Future planning should, however, consider the potential need for alternative publicly accessible toilet provision within the broader precinct, particularly to support other user groups accessing nearby bookable facilities.
- **Oxley Oval Sports Field Amenities** - Building improvements are required to enhance accessibility to the amenities building and improve usability, convenience and inclusive access for players, spectators and other community users. While the existing clubhouse provides changeroom facilities, the Oxley Oval sports field amenities building does not include dedicated changerooms. Instead, it provides change spaces within the toilet block and is not of sufficient scale to accommodate dedicated changerooms within its current footprint. In line with best practice for district-level sports field amenities, additional changeroom facilities with lockable showers will be required to support future needs. As the oval amenities building serves a broader range of users and remains more consistently available than the clubhouse, it should remain accessible at all times. Expansion of storage capacity within or adjacent to the building should also be considered to better support user group needs and overall facility functionality.
- **Stuart Park Sports Field Amenities** - To better support the operational needs of multiple sports that play here, the existing amenities building requires an additional multipurpose room that incorporates first-aid and administration functions.
- **Wood Street Fields Storage and Amenities** - Wood Street storage sheds require improved storage planning and internal reconfiguration to better support the needs of different user groups. Priority works include the provision of clearly allocated storage areas for separate user groups, together with improvements to the internal layout of the storage rooms through the inclusion of appropriate shelving and more functional, spacious storage arrangements. This may include the incorporation of internal storage in the canteen space. These upgrades would improve organisation, accessibility and the overall efficiency of the storage facilities.
- **Tuffins Lane West Playing Fields Toilets** - The amenities building located in the western corner of the site would benefit from targeted upgrades to improve functionality, condition and overall usability. While the facility continues to be used during large events, the amenities are known to experience recurring plumbing issues and blockages, which should be investigated as a priority as part of future upgrade planning.



- **Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields Toilets** - Targeted upgrades are recommended for the field toilets at the eastern end of the sports fields to improve accessibility, spectator comfort and overall user convenience. This should include installing clear wayfinding signage to assist players, spectators and visitors in locating the toilets, thereby improving site legibility and ease of access.
- **Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields Kiosk and Amenities** - Priority upgrades should also include improvements to the changeroom facilities within the amenities building, incorporating lockable showers. In addition, a dedicated match officials' room and a multipurpose space capable of accommodating first-aid facilities are recommended. Collectively, these improvements would strengthen the operational functionality of the sports field and better support a broader range of sporting and community use.
- **Dixie Park Football Clubhouse and Amenities** - The existing building is proposed to be retained and upgraded through targeted amenity improvements to enhance its functionality, usability and operational capacity. Works should include the provision of additional storage (this aspect is currently a supported club project), including dedicated cleaner's storage, together with minor internal reconfiguration and amenity improvements to better support current operational needs until a longer-term redevelopment is pursued.
- **Port Macquarie Regional Stadium Grandstand and Amenities** - Priority improvements include the fit-out of the

changeroom within the grandstand with lockable showers and multipurpose spaces to enhance the functionality, as well as the installation of lockable showers in the current changeroom spaces. This will increase the flexibility and overall service capacity of the buildings within the precinct. As this precinct is the only currently available regional sporting precinct in the LGA, these works are important to ensure the facility can appropriately support higher-level sporting activities, diverse user groups and broader operational demands. The proposed improvements would strengthen the overall effectiveness, usability and regional function of the precinct.

- **Wayne Richards Park Canteen and Amenities** - A multipurpose room with capacity to support first-aid functions is required within the amenities building to meet the functional facility requirements for AFL regional-level and cricket club-level use. An extension to the existing canteen has also been identified as a supported club project, reflecting the club's interest in strengthening the site's operational capability, improving user amenity and enhancing the broader community value of the facility.
In addition, the proposed Stage 3 and Stage 4 developments at Wayne Richards Park are intended to respond to future demand for district-level sports fields. These newly proposed works include the development of a new clubhouse, grandstand and amenities building, together with a dedicated storage shed to support the ongoing operation and functionality of the sporting precinct.



LAKE CATHIE/BONNY HILLS

- **Lake Cathie Sporting Complex Canteen and Amenities**
 - The field requires targeted amenity improvements to strengthen basic service provision, accessibility and overall user convenience. This includes the provision of an accessible toilet to meet the functional facility requirements for Rugby League local-level use, as well as lockable showers within the existing changerooms. Further improvements should include two additional changerooms with lockable shower facilities, along with expanded storage capacity, including canteen and cleaner's storage, to better support the operational needs and usability of the site.

CAMDEN HAVEN

- **Kendall Sportsground Amenities** - No upgrades or improvements are recommended for this sporting amenity at this stage. Future improvements should be considered at the end of the asset's useful life and aligned with the relevant standards and best-practice requirements of the sporting facilities it supports.
- **Vince Inmon West Sporting Complex Canteen and Amenities**
 - Vince Inmon West Sporting Complex requires targeted amenity improvements to better support player and official needs and to align the precinct with its district-level function. Priority works include the provision of additional changerooms, a dedicated referee room, additional storage and upgrades to the existing changerooms to incorporate lockable shower facilities.

- **Vince Inmon Sporting Complex Storage** - Further works are recommended to improve the overall functionality and capacity of the precinct. These include repurposing the old canteen within the Vince Inmon Sporting Complex Storage building to expand existing storage spaces and establish a dedicated storage room for cricket, as well as constructing an additional cricket curator's shed. Together, these improvements would enhance the quality, functionality and suitability of the amenities to support a higher level of sporting use.

WAUCHOPE, SURROUNDS AND HINTERLAND

- **Charlie Watt Reserve Canteen and Amenities** - Charlie Watt Reserve requires amenity improvements to enhance functionality, user comfort and the ongoing delivery of sporting and club activities. Priority works include the provision of additional changerooms, lockable showers within existing changerooms, and expanded storage capacity to better support current use and improve the overall operational effectiveness of the facility. Additional storage is likely to be most appropriately delivered as a consolidated row of storage sheds associated with the sports facility.
- **Blackbutt Park Canteen and Amenities** - The building requires targeted amenity improvements to enhance functionality, accessibility and overall user convenience. Priority works include upgrades to the storage sheds, upgrades to the existing amenities and canteen, the incorporation of lockable showers and first-aid facilities, and improvements to accessibility. Together, these improvements would strengthen the usability, inclusiveness and operational effectiveness of the site and better support its ongoing sporting and community use.



- **Fairmont Gardens Sports Fields Amenities** - The site requires a strategic approach to future planning and amenity improvement, with a new master plan to guide longer-term development and upgrades. The existing clubhouse is to be retained, with future works focused on an extension to the building, or additional on-site amenity provision, to address identified gaps in current facilities. This should include additional changerooms, a multipurpose room and an accessible toilet, while retaining the existing canteen facilities within the clubhouse.
- **Landrigan Park Fields Toilets** - Improving accessibility is the key priority for toilet facilities, ensuring safer, more convenient and more equitable access for a wider range of users. This upgrade would enhance the inclusiveness and overall usability of the facility for players, spectators and the broader community.
- **Lank Bain Sports Complex** - Lank Bain Sporting Complex requires an integrated approach to future planning and amenity improvement, with a new master plan needed to guide long-term development across the site, including provision for a fit-for-purpose amenities building. In the short to medium term, priority works include refurbishing the grandstand changerooms with lockable shower facilities, providing a match officials' room, improving toilet accessibility, and expanding storage facilities to support dedicated storage allocation for each user group.

- **Long Flat Sports Field Toilets** - In accordance with Rugby League local-level facility standards, the amenities building should include changerooms with lockable showers and a match officials' room. As the facility is located in a rural area of the LGA categorised as a local sports facility, the immediate provision of these components is not considered critical. It is therefore recommended that these improvements be incorporated as part of future upgrades when the building reaches the end of its useful life.

*Rugby Union Club house,
Stuart Park*



APPENDIX: UPGRADE AND EXPANSION SUMMARY FOR SPORTS FIELD AMENITIES ACROSS THE LGA

Port Macquarie

SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Findlay Park	Local Sports Field	Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch)	Amenity capacity, changeroom provision, user group storage limitations, cleaners' room provision, canteen functionality, first-aid provision, match official facilities, clubhouse functionality and short-term operational needs.	Option 1 – Long-term provision Delivery of a contemporary fit-for-purpose amenities building incorporating four (4) changerooms, user group storage, cleaners' room, canteen, multipurpose room with first-aid facilities, and separate male and female match official rooms. Option 2 – Short-term / interim provision Refurbishment of the existing public toilet block to provide two changeroom areas, supported by clubhouse refurbishment and a side awning as a club-funded initiative.
		Softball	Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
Macquarie Park	Local Sports Field	Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW	No ongoing sports field amenity requirement, with potential need for alternative publicly accessible toilet provision to support broader precinct users.	No upgrade works proposed for existing sports amenities due to future decommissioning. Consider alternative publicly accessible toilet provision as part of broader precinct planning.



SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Oxley Oval	District Sports Field	Cricket - Club (Home)/ Premier level	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia	Accessibility, changeroom provision, lockable shower facilities, storage capacity, building scale and overall user functionality.	Improve accessibility and usability of the existing amenities building, provide additional changeroom facilities with lockable showers to support district-level use, maintain public accessibility, and consider expanded storage provision within or adjacent to the building.
		Rugby Union - Local level	National Facility Guidelines – Rugby Australia		
Stuart Park Fields	District Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – National Rugby League	Multipurpose space, first-aid provision and administration support	Provide an additional multipurpose room incorporating first-aid and administration functions to support the operational needs of the Stuart Park field amenities building
		Rugby Union - Local level	National Facility Guidelines – Rugby Australia		
		Cricket - Club (Home)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia		
		Athletics - Category IV	IAAF Track and Field Facilities Manual 2008		



SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Wood Street Fields	District Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – National Rugby League	Storage capacity, user group allocation, internal layout, shelving provision and storage functionality	Reconfigure and improve the Wood Street field storage and amenities to provide clearly allocated user group storage, improved shelving, more functional storage arrangements, and potential internal storage within the canteen space
		Cricket - Club (Home)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia		
Dixie Park	Local Sports Field	Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW	Building functionality, service capacity, storage provision, cleaner's storage, multipurpose space, first-aid provision and current operational usability.	Retain the existing building and undertake staged upgrades, including additional storage, dedicated cleaner's storage, minor internal reconfiguration and amenity improvements to support current operational needs.
Tuffins Lane West Playing Fields	District Sports Field	Cricket - Club (Home)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia	Plumbing performance, recurring blockages, facility condition, functionality and overall usability of the Tuffins Lane West Sports field toilets	Investigate and address recurring plumbing issues and blockages, with targeted upgrades to improve the condition, functionality and usability of the west sports field amenities building for large event use.





SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Tuffins Lane East Playing Fields	District Sports Field	Cricket - Club (Home)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia	Toilet accessibility, wayfinding, spectator comfort, changeroom provision, lockable shower facilities, match official facilities, first-aid provision and multipurpose space.	Improve the east sports field kiosk and amenities building to include upgraded changerooms with lockable showers, a dedicated match officials' room and a multipurpose space capable of supporting first-aid functions.
		Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
		Touch Football - Affiliate Tier A	Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – Touch Football Australia		
Port Macquarie Regional Stadium	Regional Sports Field	Rugby League - Regional level	Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – National Rugby League	Changeroom functionality, lockable shower provision, multipurpose space, service capacity, flexibility and regional-level operational support.	Fit out grandstand changeroom with lockable showers and multipurpose spaces and install lockable showers within the existing changeroom spaces to improve functionality, flexibility and service capacity for regional-level sporting use.
		Touch Football - Premier level	Preferred Facility Guidelines 2021 – Touch Football Australia		

SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Wayne Richards Park	District Sports Field	AFL - Local/ Regional level	Preferred Community Facility Guidelines - 2024	Future Stage 3 and Stage 4 amenity provision, district-level service capacity, facilities, storage provision, accessible toilet provision, shower facilities, meeting or multipurpose space and user amenities.	Deliver future Stage 3 and Stage 4 amenity provision, including a new amenities building and new grandstand and dedicated storage shed, with supporting facilities such as a canteen, shower areas, accessible toilet, meeting room, multipurpose room, and male and female toilet facilities.
		Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
		Cricket - Club (Home)/ Premier	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia		
		Athletics – Category V	IAAF Track and Field Facilities Manual 2008		
Thrumster Sporting Field	District Sports Field	Football	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW	Future sports field amenity provision, accessible toilet facilities, changeroom capacity, match official facilities, multipurpose/first-aid space, canteen and storage provision, cleaner's room and administration space	Deliver a proposed future amenities building incorporating accessible toilets, four changerooms, two match officials' rooms, a multipurpose/first-aid room, canteen and associated storage, dedicated storage areas, cleaner's room and administration space to support the planned sporting precinct.
		Cricket	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia		



Lake Cathie / Bonny Hills

SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Lake Cathie Sports Complex	Local Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Community Rugby League Preferred Facility Guidelines - 2021	Accessible toilet provision, changeroom capacity, lockable shower facilities, storage capacity, canteen storage, cleaner's storage and overall user convenience.	Provide an accessible toilet, install lockable showers within existing changerooms, deliver two additional changerooms with lockable showers, and expand storage provision including canteen and cleaner's storage to support local-level rugby league use.
		Touch Football - Social/Affiliate Tier B	Touch Football Australia - 2021		
Rainbow Beach Sports Complex	District Sports Field	AFL - Local level	Preferred Community Facility Guidelines - 2024	Unmet multi-code amenity requirements, changeroom capacity, lockable shower provision, match official facilities, first-aid/multipurpose space, kiosk storage and dedicated user group storage	Deliver Stage 2 amenity provision to include four changerooms with toilets and lockable showers, two match officials' rooms, a first-aid/multipurpose room, canteen with associated storage, and five dedicated storage areas with additional storage space to support AFL, football, cricket and netball use
		Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
		Cricket - Club (Home)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines 2023 – Cricket Australia		



SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Kendall Sportsground	Local Sports Field	Cricket - Club (satellite)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia	No immediate amenity gaps identified at this stage.	No upgrades recommended at this stage. Future renewal or improvement works should be considered at the end of the asset's useful life and aligned with relevant sport facility standards and best-practice requirements.
		Touch Football - Affiliate Tier B	Touch Football Australia - 2021		
Vince Inmon Sports Complex	District Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Community Rugby League Preferred Facility Guidelines - 2021	Changeroom capacity, lockable shower provision, referee room provision, and storage capacity in the west sports field canteen and amenities building. Cricket storage and curator's shed unavailability in the Vince Inmon sporting fields storage.	Upgrade the canteen and amenities building to include additional changerooms, lockable showers, a dedicated referee room and additional storage in the west sporting field canteen and amenities. Repurpose the old canteen within the storage building to expand storage capacity in Vince Inmon field storage building, providing dedicated cricket storage, and construct an additional cricket curator's shed.
		Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
		Cricket - Club (Home)/ Premier	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia		



Wauchope, Surrounds and Hinterlands

SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Charlie Watt Reserve	Local Sports Field	Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW	Changeroom capacity, lockable shower provision, storage capacity, user comfort and operational functionality.	Provide additional changerooms, install lockable showers within existing changerooms, and deliver expanded storage capacity, likely as a consolidated row of storage sheds associated with the sports facility
Blackbutt Park	District Sports Field	Athletics - Construction Category V Baseball - Club competition level	IAAF Track and Field Facilities Manual 2008 Club Facility Resource Guide - Baseball Australia 2016	Storage provision, amenity condition, canteen functionality, lockable shower provision, first-aid facilities, accessibility and overall user convenience.	Upgrade the storage sheds, existing amenities and canteen, incorporate lockable showers and first-aid facilities, and improve accessibility to strengthen site functionality, inclusiveness and operational effectiveness.
Fairmont Gardens Sports Fields	Local Sports Field	Football - Local Club level Cricket - Club (Home)	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia	Changeroom capacity, multipurpose space, accessible toilet provision, long-term planning direction and overall amenity functionality.	Prepare a new master plan to guide future amenity improvements, retain the existing clubhouse and canteen, and consider building extension or additional on-site amenity provision to include additional changerooms, a multipurpose room and an accessible toilet.





SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Landrigan Park	Local Sports Field	Cricket - Club (Satellite)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia	Accessibility, inclusive access, user convenience and overall toilet usability	Upgrade toilet facilities to improve accessibility, safety, convenience and inclusive use for players, spectators and the broader community
		Football - Local Club level	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
Hastings Regional Sports Complex	Regional Sports Field	Cricket	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia	Future regional-level amenity provision, changeroom capacity, lockable shower facilities, accessible toilet provision, administration/ meeting space, first-aid/ multipurpose space, match official facilities, canteen/ kitchen provision and dedicated sports storage.	Deliver a future regional sports amenity clubhouse incorporating four changerooms with lockable showers, accessible toilet facilities, meeting and administration spaces, multipurpose/first-aid room, two match officials' rooms, canteen, kitchen with storage, and dedicated sports storage areas with clearly allocated storage provision.
		Touch Football	Touch Football Australia - 2021		
		Football	Football Victoria (Double Pitch) Modular Sporting Facilities - Northern NSW Football and Football NSW		
		Rugby League	Community Rugby League Preferred Facility Guidelines - 2021		
		Rugby Union	National Facility Guidelines – Rugby Australia		



SPORTS FACILITY	PMHC BENCHMARK	SPORTS CODE/S	SUPPORTING GUIDELINE	IDENTIFIED GAP	PROPOSED AMENITIES REQUIREMENT/UPGRADES OR PROPOSALS
Lank Bain Sporting Complex	District Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Community Rugby League Preferred Facility Guidelines - 2021	Long-term planning direction, fit-for-purpose amenity provision, changeroom condition, lockable shower facilities, match official facilities, toilet accessibility and user group storage capacity	Prepare a new master plan to guide long-term amenity improvements, including provision for a fit-for-purpose amenities building. Short to medium-term works should include refurbishment of grandstand changerooms with lockable showers, provision of a match officials' room, improved toilet accessibility, and expanded storage for dedicated user group allocation
		Touch Football - Affiliate Tier A	Touch Football Australia - 2021		
		Cricket - Club (Satellite)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia		
Long Flat Sports Field	Local Sports Field	Rugby League - Local level	Community Rugby League Preferred Facility Guidelines - 2021	Changeroom provision, lockable shower facilities, match official facilities and future compliance with Rugby League local-level standards.	No immediate upgrade is recommended. Incorporate changerooms with lockable showers and a match officials' room as part of future renewal works when the building reaches the end of its useful life.
Andrews Park	District Sports Field	Cricket - Club (Home/Premier)	Community Cricket Facility Guidelines - Cricket Australia	Amenity capacity, urban public toilet provision, changeroom provision, lockable shower facilities, canteen storage, first-aid provision, match official facilities and long-term precinct functionality	Deliver a new amenities building of approximately 550m ² incorporating urban public toilets, four changerooms with lockable showers, canteen facilities with storage, multipurpose/first-aid room, and a match official room with dedicated toilet and changing amenities
		Rugby Union - Local level	National Facility Guidelines – Rugby Australia		



Bain Park amenities block mural, Wauchope

Port Macquarie Hastings Council

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