



Council Policy Manual

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY	
PLAY SPACE POLICY	Policy No:
	Adopted by Council: 16 May 2018
	Next review date:
Senior Manager:	Director Infrastructure, Development & Works Director Corporate and Community Services
Responsible Officer:	Assets and GIS Coordinator
Functional Area:	Early Years, Sport & Recreation, Tourism, Economic Development, Assets and Works
Introduction & Background	<p>Council supports the view that play space facilities help develop and improve the experience for all users, young and old. There is a need for play spaces that are unique and exciting spaces that provide a range of engaging play experiences that are accessible to users of all ages, abilities, cultural and social backgrounds.</p> <p>There is a need for a balance of facilities to cater for the progression of the users through their development stages, the contribution the play spaces provide for the liveability in, and to provide visitor attractions in the whole Council.</p> <p>With the adoption of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021, and the Access and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020, the link with public health and healthy eating, physical activity and social connectivity must be considered, along with other Council Plan aspirations and objectives.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the provision of play spaces meets contemporary access and development needs for users of the play spaces. • To show Council's commitment to the provision of accessible, fun, stimulating and challenging play spaces that enhance the users learning, development and access to opportunities for physical activity. • To develop a balanced approach to the provision of play spaces (and sport & recreation) opportunities. • To ensure a direct link to the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Access and Inclusion Plan, Early Years, Health Ageing and the Council Plan.



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Definitions	<p>Play Spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play spaces, including equipment in public spaces and skate parks. • Outdoor play spaces in Council managed kindergartens. • Exercise equipment and facilities under public management. • Open space areas.
Policy Details	
1.	<p>Facilities</p> <p>A balance needs to be provided across the Council to cater for the various ages and capabilities. Economic and social benefit, including health and wellbeing will be considered in Council's determination of play space assets.</p>
2.	<p>Management</p> <p>Council has responsibility to develop and ensure play spaces are installed and maintained in accordance with the Australian Standards and are consist with Play Australia guidelines.</p> <p>To develop a maintenance plan in response to the independent audits undertaken for all of Council's play spaces, and to develop a plan that is achievable within Council's allocated annual play space and skate park maintenance budget.</p>
3.	<p>Inspections</p> <p>Council has responsibility to ensure play spaces are inspected in accordance with the Australian Standards, AS4486 - Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation, and Councils play space procedure.</p> <p>Council will ensure the inspections are completed by trained and competent staff, complete inspection checklists and provide maintenance records for all defects and issues.</p> <p>The inspection program identifies all the known risks associated with play spaces and generally takes one of the following forms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine (visual) Inspections • Proactive Periodic Scheduled Inspections • Reactive Inspections



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4.	<p>Review of Play Spaces</p> <p>Council will review the design, provision and purpose of individual play spaces every four years.</p> <p>Council will consult with the community with regards to the installation, refurbishment or removal of play spaces and/or the play equipment.</p>
5.	<p>Australian Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS 1428 – Design for Access and Mobility • AS 4685 – Playground Equipment • AS 4486 – Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation • AS 4422 – Playground Surfacing • AS 2555 – Supervised Adventure Playgrounds • AS 2890 – Parking Facilities • AS 1158 – Exterior Lighting
6.	<p>References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 • Access and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020 • West Wimmera Council Plan 2017-2021 • Sport and Recreation Victoria

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 13/06/02	Minute Book Page 10145	
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 06/04/06	Minute Book Page 13682	
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