

# RURAL CITY OF MURRAY BRIDGE

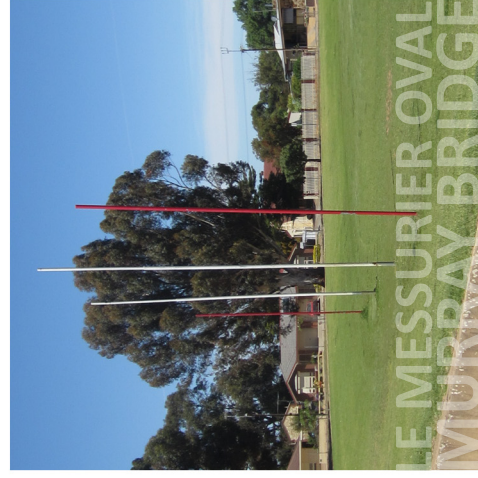
## SPORT, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

OCT 2013



MURRAY BRIDGE FROM PRINCES HIGHWAY

### VOLUME I: INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW



**TREDWELL**  
MANAGEMENT

in association with

ASPECT Studios™



*Bridge to Opportunity*

The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**



Government of South Australia  
Office for Recreation and Sport



Government of South Australia  
Department of Planning,  
Transport and Infrastructure



Bridge to Opportunity

The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

## DISCLAIMER

---

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this report is complete, accurate and up to date, Tredwell Management Services (TMS) make no warranty, representation or undertaking whether expressed or implied, nor do they assume any legal liability, whether direct or indirect, or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information.

---





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Project Aim .....	1
1.2 Project Objectives .....	1
1.3 Background.....	2
1.4 Strategy Format .....	3
1.5 Definitions .....	3
2. PROJECT METHODOLOGY .....	4
3. PLANNING AND POLICY FRAMEWORK .....	7
3.1 Legislation and Policy .....	7
3.2 Planning Documents.....	8
3.3 South Australia Strategic Plan 2011 .....	9
3.4 Murray Bridge Council Development Plan December 2012.....	10
3.5 Policy Review .....	13
4. BENEFITS OF SPORT, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE .....	15
5. SPORT, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE TRENDS.....	16
5.1 The Future of Australian Sport (CSIRO/Australian Sports Commission) .....	16
5.2 Sport SA - Regional Participation in exercise, recreation and sport in South Australia - Regional Profile – Murray & Mallee.....	17
5.3 ERASS Data .....	17
5.4 ERASS Children's Report 2010 .....	20
6. POPULATION, URBAN GROWTH & EMPLOYMENT.....	22
6.1 Strategic Context .....	22
6.2 Population Growth and Urban Development .....	22
6.3 Employment Lands and Infrastructure.....	23
6.4 Directions for Open Space and Recreation .....	24
6.5 Rural Communities .....	24
6.6 Population Profile.....	25
6.7 Demographic Review.....	26
6.8 Localised Population Characteristics.....	31
6.9 Population Projections .....	35
6.10 SEIFA 2011 (ABS Socio-economic index of relative disadvantage) .....	36
7. REVIEW: OPEN SPACE & RECREATION RESEARCH & PLANNING STUDY – 'THE STRATEGY REPORT' MAY 2010.....	37
8. CONSULTATION.....	52
8.1 Consultation and Communication Plan .....	52
8.2 Club Survey .....	52
8.3 Online Community Survey .....	53



8.4	Community Workshops & Focus groups .....	54
9.	COUNCIL'S ROLE .....	56
10.	FUNDING.....	59
10.1	Funding Opportunities.....	59
11.	IMPLEMENTATION.....	63

## TABLES

Table 1: Project Methodology – Stages 1-5 .....	4
Table 2: Participation rates and rankings for sports in South Australia in 2010, with comparison to Australia wide rates and rankings ERASS 2010.....	18
Table 3: Fitness and leisure participants — total participation in physical activities organised by fitness, leisure and indoor sports centres or sport, recreation clubs/associations for South Australia 2008, 2009 & 2010 .....	20
Table 4: Demographic Review.....	26
Table 5: Localised Population Characteristics.....	31
Table 6: 2026 Population Projections for the Rural City of Murray Bridge .....	35
Table 7: Theme 1 - Active Sport & Recreation.....	37
Table 8: Theme 2 - Recreation Open Space .....	40
Table 9: Theme 3 - Water Management .....	46
Table 10: Theme 4 - Natural Areas and Landscapes .....	47
Table 11: Theme 5 - Indoor Sport & Physical Activity .....	49
Table 12: Theme 6 - Swimming & Fitness.....	51
Table 13: Council's Role in Sport and Recreation Provision .....	57

## FIGURES

Figure 1: SA Planning Structure & Key Planning Document Hierarchy .....	7
Figure 2: Total participation in organised physical activity by type of organisation, ERASS 2010 (Fig 24) .....	19
Figure 3: Top ten organised physical activities, 2010 .....	21
Figure 4: Residential Employment Yield Plan – Targets from the Murray Bridge Structure Plan March 2012 .....	23
Figure 5: Age Structure – current and projected .....	36



The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

Bridge to Opportunity

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

---

We acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri people as the traditional owners of this land on which we meet and work. We respect and acknowledge their spiritual connection as the custodians of this land and that their cultural heritage beliefs are still important to the living people today.

---

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Project Aim

The aim of this project is to research and develop a Sport, Recreation & Open Space Strategy for the Rural City of Murray Bridge (MBSROSS) to guide the provision, development and ongoing management of sport, recreation and open space facilities and resources throughout the Rural City.

The MBSROSS serves as the strategic link that ties together strategies and plans related to active and passive recreation and conservation, such as the Murray Bridge Bike Plan, the former Sport and Recreation Strategy, the Trail Strategy, the Integrated Water Management Plan, the Murray Bridge Development Plan and the Environmental Sustainability Management Plan.

### 1.2 Project Objectives

The main objective of the Rural City of Murray Bridge Sport, Recreation & Open Space Strategy (MBSROSS) is to provide council with a policy framework to guide the identification, provision, development and management of recreation and sport services and infrastructure. The objectives include:

#### Identification

- *Audit current Sport & Recreation facilities and Open Space resources*
- *Identify current Sport, Recreation and Open Space trends (local, State and National)*
- *Determine the existing provision, cost and utilisation of recreation infrastructure across Council*
- *Identify the Rural City's deficiencies based on current and projected demographic trends*
- *Identify local and regional opportunities and shortcomings in recreation and sport provision for specific populations*

#### Provisions

- *To inform decisions relating to the provision of active and passive recreation and sport services and infrastructure*
- *Connect provision to demographic trends including youth and disadvantaged*
- *Promotes the collaborative and shared provision of services and facilities between government and private sector providers and the community*

#### Development

- *Ensure timely community and stakeholder input regarding current and future opportunities and needs*
- *Consult with key stakeholder agencies to align existing and proposed policies and strategies which may impact on provision across the region*

- *Ensure that water sensitive urban design and ecological sustainable design principles are considered*
- *Ensure that crime prevention through environmental design is considered*
- *Include innovative and creative design processes and outcomes*
- *Examine and define potential partnerships and collaborations that will present funding and other opportunities for the development of recreation and sport.*

### Management

- *Clearly define Council's role and function in relation to the provision and facilitation of sport, recreation and open space*
- *Recommend a management structure and identify roles and responsibilities for the various groups involved including the Council, Community Groups, Not for Profit Organisations and other User Groups*
- *Ensure connectivity with existing policy, reports and plans that have a bearing on sport, recreation and open space provision*
- *Provide an action plan which outlines priorities and costings for implementing strategies to guide the provision of services and infrastructure development and which maximise the utilisation and provision of recreation and sport services across the LGA including requirements of urban expansion areas and developer contributions.*
- *Establish a framework for the regular review of the MBSROSS.*

## **1.3 Background**

The Rural City of Murray Bridge is located around 80 kilometres to the south east of metropolitan Adelaide. The Rural City covers an area of 1,828 square kilometres and includes a regional centre and rural communities. The regional centre provides a destination for surrounding rural communities and visitors as well as local residents.

The Murray River is a major feature that defines the character of the Rural City of Murray Bridge and many of its towns. The river and riverfront open space are a highly valued resource that support recreation activity and influence people to live in and visit the Rural City.

The city is one of the fastest growing centres in regional South Australia. Its proximity to metropolitan Adelaide, connection to the South Eastern Freeway, land affordability, investment opportunities, and river connection make the Rural City an appealing place to live, work and visit. It is anticipated that the population will increase from 17,678 in 2006 to at least 30,000 people by 2025 (30 Year plan for Greater Adelaide). This growth could result in a greater proportion of families with young children as well as older people retiring to the urban centre.



Additional people will ultimately increase the demand for open space and sport and recreation facilities. This will place pressure on existing open space and facilities and could potentially impact on quality of life for the existing population.

In 2010 Council engaged Suter Planners to complete a feasibility study of open space and recreation, as well as a plan for indoor and aquatic facilities. This document is reviewed and updated as part of the MBSROSS.

## **1.4 Strategy Format**

In preparing the Murray Bridge Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy (MBSROSS) four separate volumes have been compiled. They are:

- *Volume I: Introduction & Project Overview*
- *Volume II: Sport & Recreation Strategy*
- *Volume III: Open Space Strategy*
- *Volume IV: Literature Review, Consultation Findings & Evidence Base*

It is recommended that all four volumes are read in conjunction with each other. *Volume IV* provides background information relating to the Literature Review and compiles the key findings from the extensive consultation process and evidence base.

## **1.5 Definitions**

For the purpose of the MBSROSS the following definitions of 'active recreation' and 'sport' are broadly recognised, as defined by the Government of South Australia Office for Recreation and Sport:

*Active Recreation* is where:

- *The primary purpose and primary focus of the activity undertaken, is to engage in human physical activity for its own sake;*
- *The physical activity gained is not an indirect benefit of the primary activity; and*
- *Organisations delivering these activities do so for the primary purpose of human physical activity.*

*Sport* is where:

- *A human activity capable of achieving a result requiring physical exertion and/or physical skill which, by its nature and organisation, is competitive and is generally accepted as being a sport.*

For the purpose of the MBSROSS, *Open Space* is defined as:

- *Parks and reserves (and facilities within these spaces), riverside spaces, trails and other corridors that are freely accessible and have value for a variety of purposes including recreation, sport, tourism, environmental and visual amenity.*

## 2. Project Methodology

The project methodology has been developed to ensure that the Study incorporates relevant consultation, research and design processes. The five stage methodology undertaken ensured that all of the project requirements outlined in the original project brief are addressed.

- **Stage 1 – Literature Review and Communication & Consultation Plan**
- **Stage 2 – Site Assessment and Supply Analysis**
- **Stage 3 – Stakeholder Consultation**
- **Stage 4 – Needs Analysis**
- **Stage 5 –Strategy and Action Plan Development**

The Methodology for each of these stages is detailed in the table below.

**Table 1: Project Methodology – Stages 1-5**

Stages of Methodology	Key Tasks	Key Deliverables
<b>Stage 1</b>  Project Start-Up and Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a comprehensive Consultation Program incorporating relevant stakeholders, including Council representatives, the community, state, regional and local recreation, sporting, and community bodies.</li> <li>• Conduct Demographic Analysis.</li> <li>• Determine a series of planning precincts</li> <li>• Summarise key issues and strategies from the literature review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Framework and program for consultation</i></li> <li>• <i>Literature review summary</i></li> <li>• <i>Previous Study Review and Status Matrix</i></li> <li>• <i>Demographic analysis of the Council area relevant to open space provision</i></li> <li>• <i>Identification of planning precincts.</i></li> </ul>

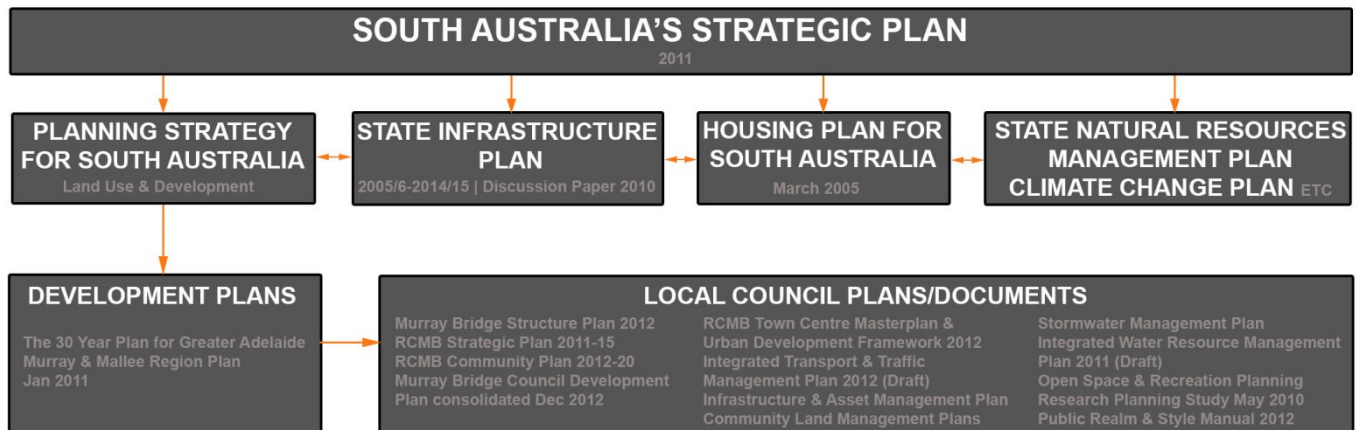
Stages of Methodology	Key Tasks	Key Deliverables
<b>Stage 2</b>  Stage 2: Site Assessment, Facility Audit and Gap Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct audit of sport, recreation and open space facilities including site visits to key facilities/open spaces.</li> <li>• Develop Sport, Recreation and Opens Space Matrices and associated databases /community land listing.</li> <li>• Prepare Sport, Recreation and Open Space Network Maps (existing provision) for each planning precinct.</li> <li>• Conduct a Gap Analysis of the Local Government Area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sport, Recreation and Open Space Audit and Matrix including the development of a community land listing that identifies open space facility type and hierarchy</i></li> <li>• <i>Series of maps identifying the existing Sport, Recreation and Open Space Network including supporting photographic imagery</i></li> <li>• <i>Gap Analysis/ Oversupply Analysis</i></li> </ul>
<b>Stage 3</b>  Stakeholder Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport and Recreation Organisation online survey</li> <li>• Community workshops</li> <li>• Focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Prepare a Summary of Consultation Findings Report</li> <li>• Workshop with the Project Reference Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Summary of outcomes of meetings, interviews, focus groups and workshops</i></li> <li>• <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i></li> <li>• <i>Summary report incorporating community and key stakeholder views, key issues and opportunities and pertinent research and consultation findings.</i></li> </ul>

Stages of Methodology	Key Tasks	Key Deliverables
<b>Stage 4</b> (Sport & Recreation Strategy)  Needs Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a Needs Analysis Report based on the findings and analysis of the outcomes of Stages 1-3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Needs Analysis Report incorporating</i></li> <li><i>Literature Review</i></li> <li><i>Audit &amp; Gap Analysis Findings</i></li> <li><i>Consultation Findings</i></li> <li><i>Initial Mapping</i></li> <li><i>Emerging Strategic Directions</i></li> </ul>
<b>Stage 5</b>  Finalise Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of the Draft Sport Recreation &amp; Open Space Strategy</li> <li>Preparation of spatial mapping</li> <li>Submit Draft Strategy to Project Manager for feedback and comments</li> <li>Make agreed changes</li> <li>Submit to Project Manager and Council for endorsement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Draft Rural City of Murray Bridge Sport Recreation &amp; Open Space Strategy</i></li> <li><i>Maps that outline the strategic intent of the study</i></li> <li><i>Council endorsed Rural City of Murray Bridge Sport Recreation &amp; Open Space Strategy</i></li> </ul>



### 3. Planning and Policy Framework

There are various planning documents, policies and legislative requirements that guide Council in providing sport and recreation opportunities for its community. The relevant sections for sport and recreation planning at a Local Government level are summarised below.



**Figure 1: SA Planning Structure & Key Planning Document Hierarchy**

#### 3.1 Legislation and Policy

##### Local Government Act 1999

Section 6 and Section 7 of the Local Government Act 1999 identify the role and function of a Council:

##### *Section 6 - Principle Role of a Council*

*To encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community.*

##### *Section 7 - Functions of a Council*

*The functions of a council include:*

- (a) to plan at the local and regional level for the development and future requirements of its area;*
- (b) to provide services and facilities that benefit its area, its ratepayers and residents, and visitors to its area (including general public services or facilities (including electricity, gas and water services, and waste collection, control or disposal services or facilities), health, welfare or community services or facilities, and cultural or **recreational services or facilities**);*

### National Preventative Health Strategy June 2009

The Strategy focuses on obesity, tobacco, and excessive consumption of alcohol, directed at primary prevention and addressing all relevant arms of policy. The Strategy presents a comprehensive approach with seven strategic directions:

1. Shared responsibility – developing strategic partnerships
2. Act early and throughout life
3. Engage communities
4. Influence markets and develop coherent policies
5. Reduce inequality
6. Indigenous Australians
7. Refocus primary healthcare towards prevention

### Regional Public Health Plan

The Rural City of Murray Bridge is currently in the process of producing its Regional Public Health Plan, which is a requirement of the South Australian Public Health Act 2011. The Murray Bridge Sport, Rec & Open Space Strategy will assist in the development of the Plan through the identification of key issues and the strategies and actions proposed.

## **3.2 Planning Documents**

The key planning documents that have relevance to the Murray Bridge Sport, Rec & Open Space Strategy are:

- South Australia Strategic Plan 2011
- Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia 2005/6 – 2014/15 & Discussion Paper
- The 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide
- The Murray and Mallee Region Plan, South Australian Planning Strategy January 2011
- Murray Darling Basin Regional NRM Plan 2009-2019
- Murray Bridge Council Development Plan
- Imagine Your Rural City Murray Bridge 2020 Community Plan
- Rural City of Murray Bridge Strategic Plan 2011-2015
- The Murray Bridge Town Centre Master Plan
- Murray Bridge Public Realm and Style Manual 2012
- Office for Recreation and Sport Strategic Plan 2013-2015

### **3.3 South Australia Strategic Plan 2011**

Recreation, sport and physical activity continues to be a fundamental element of Australian culture and lifestyle, and therefore has varying degrees of influence on a range of issues affecting South Australia, including those identified specifically by targets in the South Australian Strategic Plan. Specific and measurable targets are identified within the Strategic Plan. Those targets of particular relevance to the MBSROSS are:

#### **Target 6 Aboriginal wellbeing**

Improve the overall wellbeing of Aboriginal South Australians

#### **Target 13 Work-life balance**

Improve the quality of life of all South Australians through maintenance of a healthy work-life balance

#### **Target 24 Volunteering**

Maintain a high level of formal and informal volunteering in South Australia at 70% participation rate or higher

#### **Target 78 Healthy South Australians**

Increase the healthy life expectancy of South Australians to 73.4 years (6%) for males and 77.9 years (5%) for females by 2020

#### **Target 79 Aboriginal healthy life expectancy**

Increase the average healthy life expectancy of Aboriginal males to 67.5 years (22%) and Aboriginal females to 72.3% (19%) by 2020.

#### **Target 82 Healthy Weight**

Increase by 5 percentage points the proportion of South Australian adults and children at a healthy body weight by 2017.

#### **Target 83 Sport and recreation**

Increase the proportion of South Australians participating in sport or physical recreation at least once per week to 50% by 2020.

#### **Target 85 Chronic disease**

Increase by 5 percentage points the proportion of people living with a chronic disease whose self-assessed health status is good or better.

### 3.4 Murray Bridge Council Development Plan December 2012

Open Space and Recreation policy objectives include:

- The creation of a network of linked parks, reserves and recreation areas at regional and local levels;
- Pleasant, functional and accessible open spaces providing a range of physical environments
- A wide range of settings for active and passive recreational opportunities
- The provision of open space at State, Regional, District, Neighbourhood and Local levels
- The conservation and preservation of flora, fauna and scenery of the River Murray, the Lakes and The Coorong and the creation of recreation areas by establishing parks and reserves.
- Recreational parks and reserves provided at appropriate locations in towns and along the River Murray.

The associated Principles of Development Control include:

1. Urban development should include public open space and recreation areas.
2. Public open space and recreation areas should be of a size, dimension and location that:
  - (a) facilitate a range of formal and informal activities
  - (b) provide for the movement of pedestrians and cyclists
  - (c) incorporate existing vegetation and natural features, watercourses, wildlife habitat and other sites of natural or cultural value
  - (d) link habitats, wildlife corridors, public open spaces and recreation facilities
  - (e) enable effective stormwater management
  - (f) provides for the planting and retention of large trees and vegetation.
3. Open space should be designed to incorporate:
  - (a) pedestrian, cycle linkages to other open spaces, centres, schools and public transport nodes
  - (b) park furniture, shaded areas and resting places to enhance pedestrian comfort
  - (c) safe crossing points where pedestrian routes intersect the road network
  - (d) easily identified access points
  - (e) frontage to abutting public roads to optimise pedestrian access and visibility



- (f) reuse of stormwater for irrigation purposes.
- 4. Where practical, access points to regional parks should be located close to public transport.
- 5. District level parks should be at least 3 hectares in size, and provided within 2 kilometres of all households they serve.
- 6. Neighbourhood parks should be at least 0.5 hectares and generally closer to 1 hectare in size, and provided within 500 metres of households that they serve.
- 7. Local parks should generally be a minimum of 0.2 hectares in size and should be centrally located within a residential area, close to schools, shops and generally within 300 metres of households that they serve.
- 8. No more than 20 per cent of land allocated as public open space should:
  - (a) have a slope in excess of 1 in 4
  - (b) comprise creeks or other drainage areas.
- 9. Signage should be provided at entrances to and within public open space to provide clear orientation to major points of interest such as the location of public toilets, telephones, safe routes and park activities.
- 10. Buildings in open space, including structures and associated car parking areas, should be designed, located and of a scale that is unobtrusive and does not detract from the desired open character.
- 11. Development in open space should:
  - (a) be clustered where practical to ensure that the majority of the site remains open
  - (b) where practical, be developed for multi-purpose use
  - (c) be constructed to minimise the extent of hard paved areas.
- 12. Open spaces and recreation areas should be located and designed to maximise safety and security by:
  - (a) ensuring that within urban areas, their edges are overlooked by housing, commercial or other development that can provide effective informal surveillance
  - (b) ensuring fenced parks and playgrounds have more than one entrance or exit when fenced
  - (c) locating play equipment where it can be informally observed by nearby residents and users during times of use
  - (d) clearly defining the perimeters of play areas
  - (e) providing lighting around facilities such as toilets, telephones, seating, litter bins, bike storage and car parks

(f) focusing pedestrian and bicycle movement after dark along clearly defined, adequately lit routes with observable entries and exits

13. Landscaping associated with open space and recreation areas should:

- (a) not compromise the drainage function of any drainage channel
- (b) provide shade and windbreaks along cyclist and pedestrian routes, around picnic and barbeque areas and seating, and in car parking areas
- (c) maximise opportunities for informal surveillance throughout the park
- (d) enhance the visual amenity of the area and complement existing buildings
- (e) be designed and selected to minimise maintenance costs
- (f) provide habitat for local fauna.

14. Development of recreational activities in areas not zoned for that purpose should be compatible with surrounding activities.

15. Recreation facilities development should be sited and designed to minimise negative impacts on the amenity of the locality.

### 3.5 Policy Review

A review of each of the listed policy documents has identified several broad themes that have direct relevance to the MBSROSS. The primary thrust of policy seeks to:

#### Create vibrant, liveable, safe places

Policy promotes the creation of high quality public open space, urban design and architecture through excellent design. Encouraging and delivering appropriate facilities for an active and engaged community, the protection, conservation and promotion of heritage assets and developing public art policies are also high priorities. Sound environmental principles are advocated to promote a safe environment that facilitates community surveillance.

#### Encourage healthy and active lifestyles

Active and healthy lifestyles are encouraged through the promotion of high quality open space, recreation facilities and walking/cycling trail networks, catering for people of all ages and abilities. It is recognised that physical activity contributes to the quality and duration of life, has the capacity to improve mood and stress levels, and plays a key role in the prevention and treatment of a range of chronic disease conditions.

#### Improve accessibility, connectivity and legibility

Strategic policy promotes the provision of key economic and social infrastructure, primarily as a response to population growth, whilst protecting the natural, built and heritage environment. This includes the improvement of public transport and the movement of people, at local and more strategic levels, through fully integrated pedestrian and cycling networks. Creating distinctive and attractive entrances/ gateways to towns reinforces a unique sense of place and improves overall legibility of the urban environment, combined with links connecting town centres, key facilities and tourist attractions.

#### Protect, restore and enhance the natural environment

Policy focuses on the retention, protection and restoration of the natural environment and resources, advocating ecologically sustainable practices and habitat management/revegetation programmes. Water management and the protection of water ecosystems are fundamentally important, as are policies addressing the impacts of climate change. There is a drive to promote community appreciation and understanding of native ecosystems and species, nature conservation and the natural environment more broadly. Other policies seek to preserve the landscape and amenity value of the natural environment by controlling new development, particularly in high value areas that attract tourists.

#### Protect, restore and enhance cultural/heritage assets

Policies seek to protect and conserve places of heritage and cultural value, whilst maximising economic and social benefits and identifying commercial opportunities.

Towns that are strongly valued for their unique design and character buildings should be preserved and enhanced, with new buildings and the public realm designed to complement and reinforce the desired character.



### Promote tourism

A vibrant and growing tourism industry is advocated through the protection, enhancement and promotion of assets that attract tourists such as open space, walking/ cycling/ horse trails, scenic tourist drives, heritage and cultural attractions. Tourism development is to be encouraged where it will assist in the conservation, interpretation and public appreciation of natural and cultural features, whilst sustaining/ enhancing local character, visual amenity and appeal of an area.

A table included within Volume IV: Literature Review, Consultation Findings & Evidence Base (Appendix 1) relates these six broad policy themes to specific strategies/policies contained within the key planning documents identified.



#### 4. Benefits of Sport, Recreation & Open Space

Recreation, sport and open space provides a wide range of benefits to individuals and communities that have been identified through numerous university and government research reports and studies. These factors can be important contributors to 'quality of life' with **individuals** benefiting from:

- Improved physical and mental health
- Positive self esteem and confidence
- Increased social interaction and support
- Sense of achievement
- Skill development
- Challenge and competition
- Achievement and leadership

At a broader level the community benefits socially, economically and environmentally.

##### **Socially** through

- Improved personal and societal health and wellbeing
- Increased community pride
- Social inclusiveness
- Safer communities through reduced anti-social and criminal behavior

##### **Economically** through

- Employment in the industry and associated industries
- Economic benefits of sport and recreation tourism such as special events
- Reduction in health care-costs

##### **Environmentally** through

- Increased understanding of the environment particularly through trail based activities
- Protection of environmentally significant flora and fauna within recreation areas (open spaces, coast, rivers, open spaces, natural reserves etc)
- Management of water systems through incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) measures
- Establishment of buffer zones, protecting local character and visual amenity

## 5. Sport, Recreation & Open Space Trends

### 5.1 The Future of Australian Sport (CSIRO/Australian Sports Commission)

The report, published in April 2013, identifies six sports 'megatrends' that may redefine the Australian sport sector over the next 30 years:

- **A Perfect Fit** – participation in individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise (e.g. aerobics/running/walking/gym membership), whilst participation rates for many organised sports have held constant or declined. Increasingly busy, time fragmented lifestyles mean people are less willing to commit to a regular organised sporting event.

*'Australians are increasingly playing sport to get fit rather than getting fit to play sport'*

- **From Extreme to Mainstream** – 'Adventure', 'Lifestyle', 'Extreme' and 'Alternative' sports are rising in popularity, particularly with younger generations, and are likely to attract participants through generational change and greater awareness via online content. These sports are beginning to appear at the Olympic Games (e.g. BMX cycling).

*'These sports are characterised by a strong lifestyle element and participants often obtain cultural self-identity and self-expression through these sports'*

- **More than Sport** – sport is an effective means of helping to reduce the rising rates of obesity and chronic illness and can be an effective mechanism to help achieve social inclusion of marginalised groups and reduce crime rates.

*'Sport can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development and international cooperation objectives'*

- **Everybody's Game** – an ageing and more culturally diverse Australian population will change the types of sports we play and how we play them, with indications that Australians are embracing sport into their old age.

*'As Australia becomes more culturally diverse, and the population ages, the sports preferences of the nation are likely to change'*

- **New Wealth, New Talent** – population and income growth throughout Asia will create tougher competition and new opportunities for Australia, both on the sports field and in the sports business environment.

*'Populations of Asian countries are becoming more interested in sport, potentially creating new markets for sports television/ tourism/ equipment/ services/ events'*

- **Tracksuits to Business Suits** – market forces are likely to exert greater pressure on sport in the future. Sports with high salaries and large sponsorship deals may draw athletes away from those with lower salaries.

*'Loosely organised community sports associations are likely to be replaced with more formalised, corporate structures'*

## **5.2 Sport SA - Regional Participation in exercise, recreation and sport in South Australia - Regional Profile – Murray & Mallee**

The Sport SA Regional Profile notes that the survey was conducted at a time of extended drought throughout the state; the Murraylands being a region that was particularly hard hit. This may have impacted participation in sport in the regions through the degradation of outside playing facilities and/or the social and financial impacts of the drought.

The rate of sports participation in Murray and Mallee was 69%, with 38,100 adults participating. This was lower than the participation rate of 78% for the whole of South Australia, and the lowest rate recorded of all the regions.

There was a decline in the rate of participation according to age; 80% for those aged 16-24%, falling to 61% for those aged 65 and older.

38% of all adults participated three or more times per week, with 25% participating five or more times. Regular participation by females increased with age, especially from ages 16-24 and 24-44. There was a marked decrease in regular participation by males aged 35-44 and 45-54.

35% of adults participated in some organised sport or active recreation, with 18% only participating in organised activities. Participation in organised activities declined with age from 60% of those aged 16-24 to 24% of those aged 65 and older.

An estimated 51% participated in non-organised activities, including 34% who participated only in non-organised activities.

Club-based participation in the region stood at 26%; the lowest rate of all the regions outside metropolitan Adelaide. Club based participation was highest by those aged 16-24 (53%).

Only 10% participated in activities through a fitness centre, and of these 63% were female.

19% of adults volunteered in some way for sport and recreation, which is higher than the state average (16%) but it is the lowest of all the non-metropolitan areas. 65% were spectators at a sporting event at some time during the survey period.

Overall, a smaller range of activities was undertaken in the region compared to the state as a whole and this is reflected in there being few activities with any sizeable number or proportion of participants. The rates of participation in all but one of the activities were noticeably lower than the respective state figures (with the exception of netball, which was slightly higher).

## **5.3 ERASS Data**

The Exercise Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS) is conducted on an annual basis by the Australian Sports Commission in conjunction with the State and Territory governments. The survey is conducted at a national and state level; however, data at a more localised level is not readily available. For the purposes of informing this Strategy data reflecting participation trends for the whole of South Australia is utilised. The most recent report relates to data collated over the period 2006-2010.

## South Australia Participation Rates

Table 2 identifies participation rates for all sports (indoor and outdoor) in South Australia in 2010. The total participation rate identified is the number of persons who participated in the activity at least once in the last 12 months, expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over.

**Table 2: Participation rates and rankings for sports in South Australia in 2010, with comparison to Australia wide rates and rankings ERASS 2010**

Total %	Sports Participation for AUSTRALIA in 2010	Rank	Sports Participation for SA in 2010	Organised		Non-Organised		Total Participation	
				'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
35.9	Walking (other)	1	Walking (other)	22.2	1.7	509.3	38.8	514.5	39.2
23.5	Aerobics / fitness	2	Aerobics / fitness	103.7	7.9	237.1	18.1	319.3	24.3
13.0	Swimming	3	Cycling	16.5	1.3	147.7	11.3	150.4	11.5
11.9	Cycling	4	Swimming	25.0	1.9	116.2	8.9	132.9	10.1
10.6	Running	5	Running	22.2	1.7	116.5	8.9	125.7	9.6
6.7	Golf	6	Tennis	45.5	3.5	54.6	4.2	91.6	7.0
6.0	Tennis	7	Netball	66.0	5.0	20.7	1.6	79.6	6.1
4.8	Football (outdoor)	8	Golf	36.8	2.8	44.4	3.4	69.7	5.3
4.8	Walking (bush)	9	Football Australian Rules	51.1	3.9	22.3	1.7	68.6	5.2
3.7	Netball	10	Walking (bush)	7.9*	0.6*	55.1	4.2	60.8	4.6
3.5	Basketball	11	Cricket (outdoor)	35.2	2.7	22.1	1.7	54.4	4.1
3.5	Yoga	12	Basketball	30.9	2.4	21.9	1.7	46.0	3.5
3.3	Football Australian Rules	13	Weight training	6.1*	0.5*	41.5	3.2	46.3	3.5
3.2	Cricket (outdoor)	14	Football (outdoor)	33.6	2.6	13.4	1.0	44.3	3.4
2.9	Weight training	15	Lawn bowls	36.5	2.8	7.4*	0.6*	41.5	3.2
2.8	Touch football	16	Yoga	21.1	1.6	24.5	1.9	42.4	3.2
2.6	Dancing	17	Martial arts	23.1	1.8	4.5*	0.3*	27.6	2.1
2.2	Fishing	18	Surf sports	6.0*	0.5*	24.2	1.8	25.7	2.0
2.1	Lawn bowls	19	Fishing	1.0**	0.1**	26.5	2.0	26.5	2.0
2.1	Martial arts	20	Dancing	16.1	1.2	7.2*	0.5*	21.8	1.7

\*Estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.

\*\*Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

Analysis of the data in the context of this Strategy reveals that:

- Non-organised, often individual activities dominate the participation statistics with walking, aerobics/ fitness, cycling, swimming and running making up the top 5, with bush walking and weight training also in the top 12 activities.

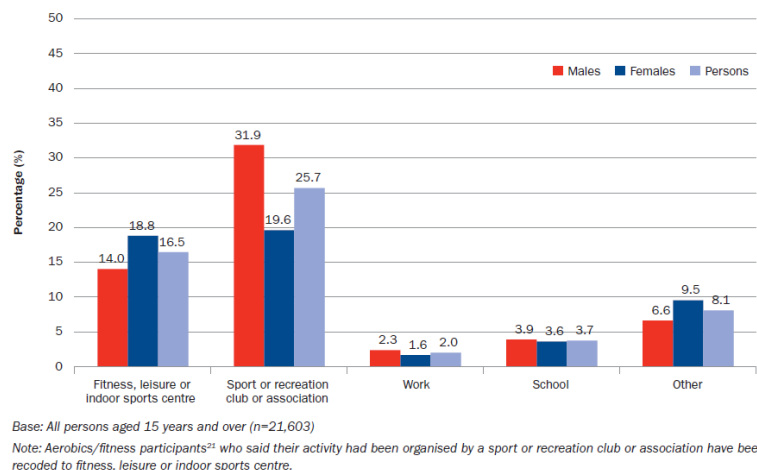


- Organised, traditionally 'club type' sports like tennis, netball, Australian football and basketball remain popular, rounding out places in the top 12 for participation in SA for 2010.
- Indoor based activities including aerobics/fitness, weight training, basketball, martial arts and dancing all feature in the top 20 activities.

### Organised Physical Activity - Type of Organisation

An estimated 25.7% of persons surveyed participated at least once in 2010 in physical activity organised by a sport or recreation club/association. An estimated 16.5% participated in physical activity organised by a fitness, leisure or indoor sports centre.

**Figure 2: Total participation in organised physical activity by type of organisation, ERASS 2010 (Fig 24)**



### Organised Physical Activity - Participation by Age Group

Higher proportions of people of the younger age groups attend fitness, leisure and indoor sports centres than older age groups although these older age groups are still significant markets for indoor centres. This is also true of participation rates associated with sports or recreation clubs/associations.

**Table 3: Fitness and leisure participants — total participation in physical activities organised by fitness, leisure and indoor sports centres or sport, recreation clubs/associations for South Australia 2008, 2009 & 2010**

Age Groups	% Participation					
	Fitness, leisure or indoor centre			Sport or recreation club/association		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
15 to 24	28.1%	24.5%	40.0%	42.5%	40.1%	53.4%
25 to 34	20.1%	16.9%	20.4%	28.3%	33.2%	27.1%
35 to 44	16.4%	14.0%	17.2%	27.1%	28.0%	26.2%
45 to 54	12.3%	11.8%	15.3%	19.9%	18.0%	20.1%
55 to 64	12.5%	8.9%	6.4%	14.5%	12.3%	19.2%
65 and over	7.7%	9.7%	9.4%	17.2%	19.2%	14.6%

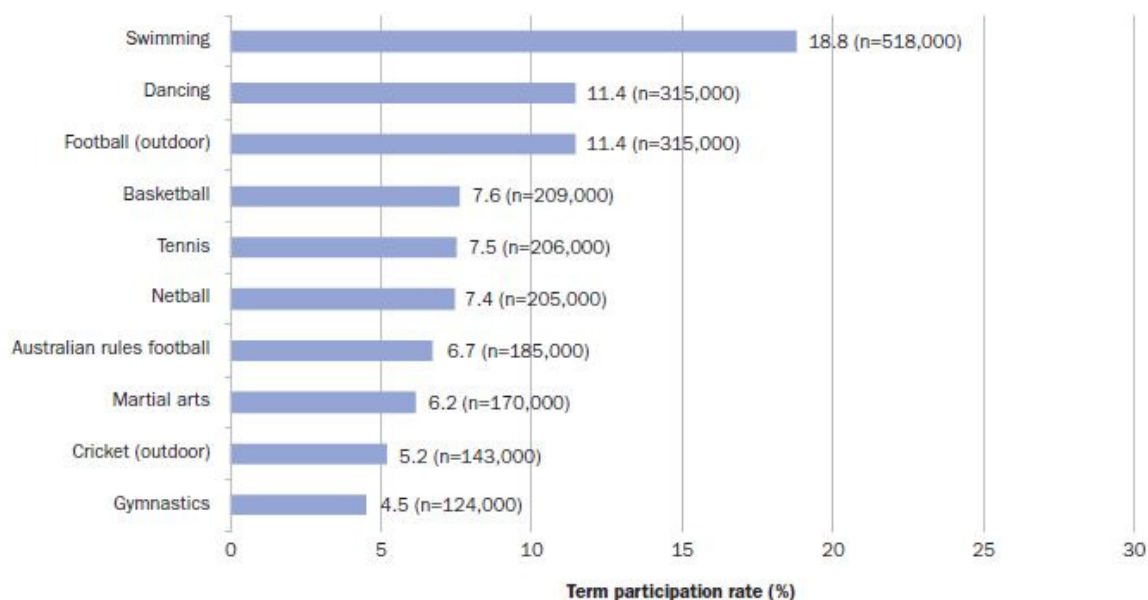
#### 5.4 ERASS Children's Report 2010

This report presents the 2010 data on children's physical activity across Australia (aged between 5 and 14 years). The key findings included:

##### *Organised Sport*

- 34.7% of children aged between 5 and 14 years participated in organised physical activity at least three times per week
- Median frequency of participation in organised physical activity was two times per week for both males and females
- An estimated 28.9% of children aged between 5 and 14 years did not participate outside school hours in any organised physical activity in the previous school term (or participated less than weekly).
- Regular participation rates in organised physical activity were slightly higher among males (37.7%) than females (31.6%), peaking in the 11-12 years age group.
- The organised activity with the highest term participation rate was swimming (18.8%) with an estimated 518,000 children aged between 5 and 14 years participating at least once in the previous school term.
- For males, organised activities with the highest term participation rates were outdoor and indoor football (18.3% and 4.0% respectively), swimming (17.4%) and Australian rules football (12.4%).
- For females, highest rates were recorded for dancing (22.1%), swimming (20.3%) and netball (15.0%).

**Figure 3: Top ten organised physical activities, 2010**



Base: All children aged between 5 and 14 years in 2010 (n=3,306).

### *Non-organised sport*

- Generally, frequency of participation in non-organised physical activity decreased as children grew older.
- 72.9% of children aged between 5 and 14 years participated in non-organised physical activity at least three times per week.
- The daily participation rate in non-organised physical activity ranged from a high of 60.3% among males aged 8-10 years to 27.8% among females aged 13-14 years.
- The top ten non-organised physical activities in 2010 in terms of participation rate were walking (52.1%), cycling (47.4%), active play (24.2%), swimming (21.8%), gymnastics (10.0%), running (7.4%), outdoor football (6.4%), roller sports (6.3%), bush walking (4.0%) and outdoor cricket (3.8%).

## **6. Population, Urban Growth & Employment**

### **6.1 Strategic Context**

In order to effectively plan for open space and recreation, an understanding is required of the expected future growth and change in the Rural City of Murray Bridge in terms of population, urban development, and employment. To achieve this understanding at a strategic level, the following documents have been reviewed:

- The 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide;
- Murray Bridge Structure Plan; and
- Rural City of Murray Bridge Rural Communities Study.

### **6.2 Population Growth and Urban Development**

Targets set out in The 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide (the 30-Year Plan) provide for the population of the Murray Bridge township and surrounds to grow by 13,400 over the next 30 years, along with development of 6,000 new dwellings, 15 % of which should be affordable housing. The geographic area identified for this growth is the existing township of Murray Bridge (in the form of infill development), along with land west of the township set aside for future urban growth. This land is intended to be rezoned for urban development to occur in 15 years or 30 years time.

The Murray Bridge Structure Plan (the Structure Plan) identifies more ambitious growth targets for Murray Bridge than the 30-Year Plan, utilising the scenario of an average population growth of 2.3% per annum as opposed to 1.8%. In real numbers, this means total population growth from 21,500 in 2013, to 26,875 in 2023, and 37,800 in 2038, and development of 8,400 additional dwellings over thirty years rather than 6,000. The Structure Plan emphasises that the population and dwelling targets are “aspirational indicators used for strategic planning processes, not forecasts of the future”. The Murray Mallee Regional Plan, within which Murray Bridge is identified as a regional centre, also utilises higher growth targets to inform its strategic directions.

A range of contextual investigations for the Structure Plan indicate that all potential growth areas in Murray Bridge will require augmentation to infrastructure, and that freight movements through existing urban areas have an impact on amenity and provide a challenge to potential infill development.

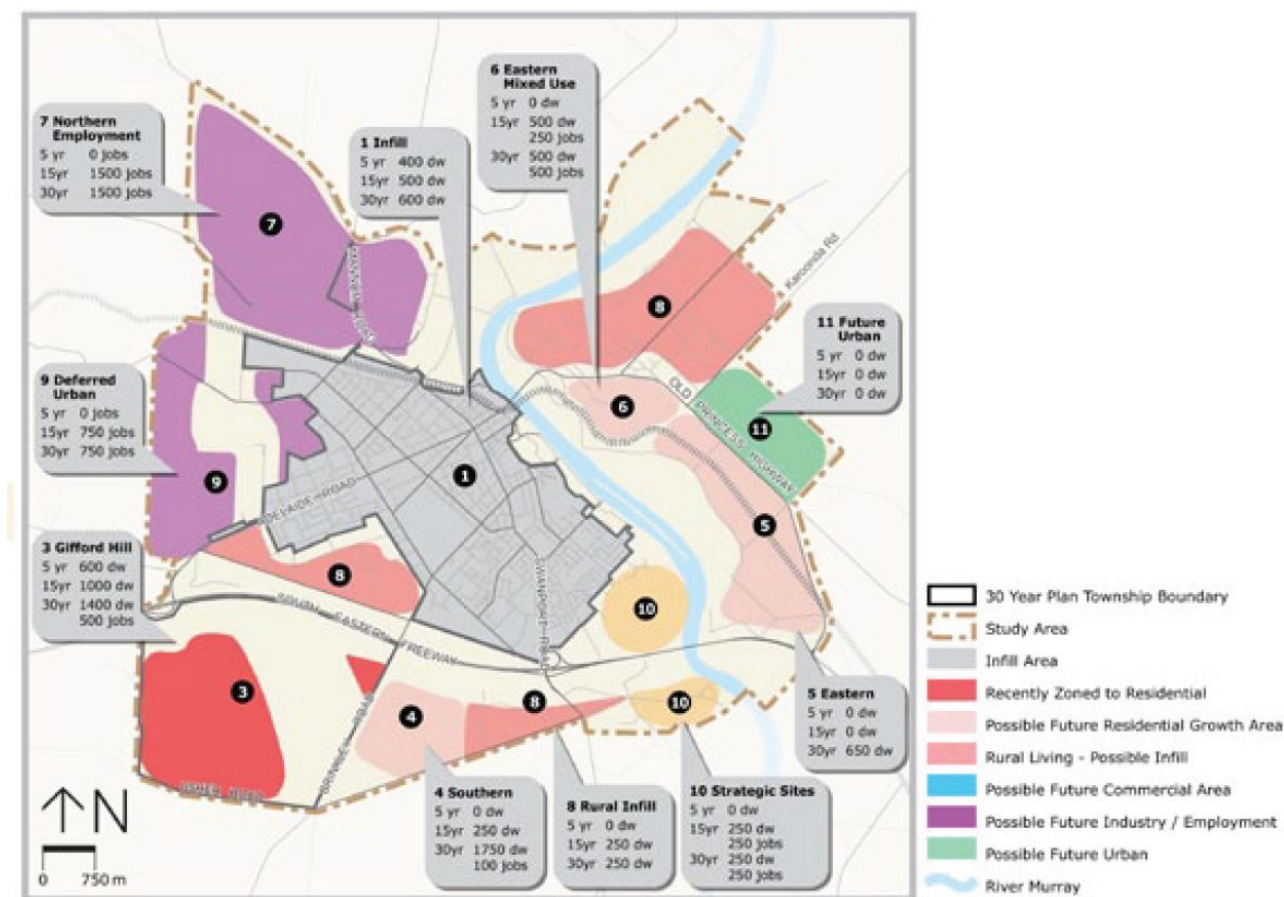
According to the Structure Plan, in order to meet the target of 8,400 dwellings, the existing Murray Bridge urban lands boundary would need to be exceeded. As such, the Structure Plan recommends revision of the existing town boundary, and a land release approach based on targets for both infill and growth area development over 30 years. The targets are based on an analysis of development capacity, opportunities and constraints of various areas, but do not necessarily reflect the full development capacity of those areas.

The main areas for development of additional dwellings are identified as the Southern Growth Area or Precinct 4, south of the South Eastern Freeway and east of Brinkley Road (1,750 dwellings in 30 years), and Gifford Hill (1,400 dwellings in 30 years). While growth targets are set

for Gifford Hill within the next 5 years (600 dwellings), the majority of growth in Precinct 4 is planned for the next 15 to 30 years (250 and 1,750 dwellings respectively). Other areas to the south and east of the Township are allocated smaller, longer term dwelling targets in the Structure Plan, generally starting at a 15 year target.

The analysis of future growth potential for the Structure Plan indicates that infill potential in Murray Bridge is limited; however infill targets are allocated for 400 dwellings in 5 years time, growing to 600 in 30 years. This means Gifford Hill and Murray Bridge Township are the locations most immediately intended to experience population growth.

**Figure 4: Residential Employment Yield Plan – Targets from the Murray Bridge Structure Plan March 2012**



<sup>1</sup> These residential and employment yields reflect Structure Plan targets and not the capacity of the areas.

### 6.3 Employment Lands and Infrastructure

In terms of future employment, the 30-Year Plan sets out targets for 13,000 jobs and 280 hectares of regional employment lands in the Adelaide Hills region, inclusive of Murray Bridge. While the 30-Year Plan does not specify the types of jobs expected by location, across Greater Adelaide the majority of additional jobs over the next 30 years are expected to be in the services, community, manufacturing, retail, and transport/logistics/warehousing sectors.



The Structure Plan identifies the major employment lands over the next 30 years as located north west of the Murray Bridge township (Northern Employment Precinct 7), with the target set for 1,500 jobs. The current deferred urban area west of the Township has a target for 750 jobs in the next 30 years (and notably no dwellings, indicating it was found to be more suited to industrial or commercial development). Other locations to the north and south of the Township have targets for between 100 and 500 additional jobs over the next 30 years.

#### **6.4 Directions for Open Space and Recreation**

The Structure Plan references the Rural City of Murray Bridge Open Space and Recreation Research and Planning Study May 2010 which concluded that for a population increase to 34,000, there would be a need for additional outdoor recreation facilities. Based on projected demand for different types of sports associated with demographic information, the Structure Plan contemplates the future development of an athletics track, two turf hockey fields, 4 or 5 soccer pitches, a softball diamond and a baseball diamond, and possible additional ovals.

Given Murray Bridge's role as a Regional Centre as identified within the Murray Mallee Regional Plan, the Structure Plan recommends provision of open space at 8 hectares per 1,000 people, with provision staged to accommodate population growth as new areas come "on stream".

The Structure Plan recommends that open space provision include walking and cycling trails, and that in terms of sustainability, opportunities be identified to rehabilitate land and provide recreational and green space. Specific features of the Structure Plan in relation to open space and parkland are:

- An open space corridor along the SEAgas pipeline alignment north east of the South Eastern Freeway;
- Reinforcement and establishment of linear parks and trails along Adelaide Road, Brinkley Road, Swanport Road, Mannum Road, Old Princess Highway, and along the waterfront providing connections to rural communities to the south; and
- Neighbourhood level open space areas to service new growth precincts to the south and east.

#### **6.5 Rural Communities**

The Rural City of Murray Bridge Rural Communities Study (the Rural Communities Study) outlines the broad implications of and recommended directions for growth within the communities of Callington, Jervois, Wellington, Monarto, Mypolonga, Woodlane, and River Glen/Whitesands/Monteith/Woods Point.

Overall, each of these communities was found to have potential for future growth, predominantly on the basis of future development of currently vacant allotments and large land parcels. Most locations are however constrained in achieving this growth by a current lack of infrastructure and/or services, and an interface with primary production land.

More specifically the recommendations point to longer term growth for Callington and Wellington, sustainable growth within township limits for Jervois, Monteith, and Woods Point, and growth in the short term for Mypolonga, Woodlane, and River Glen/Whitesands

The Rural Communities Study identifies that opportunity for enhanced connection of Jervois, Wellington, River Glen/Whitesands, and Woods Point as a “String of Pearls” along the river.

Jervois and Mypolonga count amongst their opportunities existing sports and recreation facilities such as ovals and clubrooms.

Monarto is the exception amongst the rural communities in that while it possesses good road and rail access, it has no township as such and lacks community infrastructure. Potential directions for Monarto identified by the Rural Communities Study is as an intermodal/employment hub, or regional airport.

## **6.6 Population Profile**

The character of the existing and future population of the Rural City of Murray Bridge has implications for the way open space and the public realm are planned for, and managed. Age, family and household type, people’s ability to travel to open space, the sorts of housing people live in today and into the future and other characteristics will influence the activities that people undertake and the environments that are sought.

The population profile has three components:

**Demographic review** - defining characteristics of the Murray Bridge’s existing population, and what this means for open space and the public realm. The data has been drawn from Australian Bureau of Statistics Census Data, and the Social Health Atlas for South Australia.

**Localised Population Profiles** - specific population characteristics for township/suburb clusters based on ABS Census data to guide specific open space investigations.

**Population and development projections** - population projections of likely future age structure to complement data from the document review discussed development scenarios from the 30 Year Plan and Murray Bridge Structure Plan.

## 6.7 Demographic Review

**Table 4: Demographic Review**

Topic	Characteristic	Implications
<b>Age Profile</b>	<p>The 2011 Census estimated the population of the Rural City of Murray Bridge to be 19,740, an increase of 2,062 from the 2006 Census.</p> <p>The data showing population by age indicates a somewhat different age profile within the Murray Bridge community when compared to the Greater Adelaide Statistical Area (Greater Adelaide). For example, amongst adults, Murray Bridge has higher proportions of people aged 15 to 19 years, 40 to 44 years, and 60 to 79 years, and comparatively less people aged 20 to 39, 50 to 59, and 85 years and over.</p> <p>There are proportionally more children in Murray Bridge than Greater Adelaide, with children aged 0 to 14 years making up 19.2% of the population compared 17.7% in Greater Adelaide.</p> <p>Between the 2006 and 2011 Censuses, population growth in Murray Bridge was concentrated amongst children aged 0 to 4 years and people aged 15 to 19 years, 25 to 29 years, and 50 to 54 years. There was a loss of people in the cohorts 5 to 14 years, and 35 to 39 years.</p>	<p>The age profile of the Murray Bridge population shows the largest cohorts of the current population to be in the age groups from 0 to 24 years, and from 35 to 64 years.</p> <p>The larger proportions of children may indicate the suitability of Murray Bridge as an affordable location to start a family, and has implications for suitable, accessible recreation and open space for children and young people.</p> <p>The proportion of people aged over 65 is slightly higher in Murray Bridge than the metropolitan average, highlighting the need to plan and manage open space and the public realm in an 'age friendly' manner to support active ageing. This need will continue if the cohort aged 40 to 64 years choose to stay in Murray Bridge as they enter retirement.</p>

Topic	Characteristic	Implications
<b>Family and Household Characteristics</b>	<p>At the 2011 Census, Murray Bridge had similar proportions to Greater Adelaide of lone person households (28.6% and 27.6% respectively), and family households (68.2% and 68.5%).</p> <p>Of the “family” households, 37.9% were couples with children, 42.2% were couples with no children, and 18.3% were one parent families. Compared to Greater Adelaide, Murray Bridge is home to proportionally more couples with no children and one parent families.</p>	<p>The significant proportion of lone person households suggests that supporting formal and informal social interaction in open space and the public realm is particularly important in Murray Bridge.</p> <p>The combined 56% of family households with children (one and two parent) suggests that recreation and open space opportunities for young families as well as older people and people without children should be provided for within Murray Bridge to meet the needs of all household and family types.</p>
<b>Cultural Diversity</b>	<p>Murray Bridge has a smaller number of languages other than English spoken at home compared with Greater Adelaide, and significantly lower proportions of people speaking languages other than English at home (5.2% compared to 12.7%). The languages other than English most frequently spoken at home in Murray Bridge are Chinese languages (1.7%) and Italian (1%).</p> <p>Similarly, a greater proportion of Murray Bridge’s population was born in Australia (81.8% compared with 70.2% across Greater Adelaide), and correspondingly, a significantly lower proportion born overseas (12.2% compared with 25.4%). Of Murray Bridge residents born overseas, nearly 30% were born in the United Kingdom or New Zealand.</p>	<p>Different cultural groups use and identify with open space differently. The planning and management of open space and the public realm provides opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of cultural backgrounds of the Murray Bridge community.</p>



Topic	Characteristic	Implications
<b>Income</b>	<p>At the 2011 Census, income levels in Murray Bridge were slightly below metropolitan Adelaide averages. 70.3% of households were earning less than \$1,500 per week, and 31.6% were earning less than \$600 per week (compared with 57.7% and 23.6% for Greater Adelaide). The proportion of people earning more than \$1,500 per week was around the Greater Adelaide average, at 20.1% compared with 21.6%.</p>	<p>Some people in Murray Bridge may not have the financial capacity to participate in organised activities. This highlights the need for spaces and activities that allow community participation with minimal or no cost.</p>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>At the 2011 Census 86.9% of housing stock in Murray Bridge was detached dwellings, compared with 77.2% for Greater Adelaide.</p> <p>As such, Murray Bridge has proportionally less residents living in units, townhouses, semi-detached dwellings and apartments.</p> <p>5.5% of Greater Adelaide's "other" dwellings including caravans, cabins and houseboats are in Murray Bridge.</p>	<p>Although the majority of housing stock in Murray Bridge is detached dwellings likely to have front and back yards and sufficient provision of private open space, there remains a need to provide public open space for the community to enable different forms of active and passive recreation and social interaction.</p>



Topic	Characteristic	Implications
<b>Vehicle Ownership and Travel Patterns</b>	<p>At the 2011 Census, 52.7% of households in Murray Bridge reported owning two or more vehicles (compared to 50.5% for Greater Adelaide).</p> <p>35.6% of households had 1 vehicle (compared with 37.5% for Greater Adelaide), while 8.1% had no motor vehicles (compared with 9.3% for Greater Adelaide).</p> <p>At the Census, nearly 74.9% of Murray Bridge's working population reported to travelling to work by car as a driver or passenger (compared with 69.3% for Greater Adelaide). 4.1% walked and used no other method (compared with 2.5% for the ASD), and 0.8% travelled to work by either bicycle or public transport (compared with 1.1% and 6.7% respectively for Greater Adelaide).</p>	<p>Most households should have the capacity to travel to significant parks, sportsgrounds and recreation and sport facilities.</p> <p>However, there should also be local open space to cater for people who do not have access to a motor vehicle, including households with only one vehicle (which might be used by one person for travel to work).</p> <p>The relatively high incidence of people walking to work is worthy of further investigation and presents opportunities to reinforce open space linkages and support the use of open space on the way to and from work.</p> <p>Cycling is lower probably due to poor cycling infrastructure</p>



Topic	Characteristic	Implications
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	<p>In the 2007-08 ABS National Health Survey, 3.9% of Murray Bridge's population reported to having Type 2 Diabetes, while 7.6% reported high cholesterol. The rates of these chronic diseases were higher than metropolitan Adelaide averages.</p> <p>The same survey revealed that proportionally fewer people living in Murray Bridge are within the healthy weight range, while proportionally more people are physically inactive (42.7% of people are physically inactive, compared with 35.1% for the Adelaide Statistical Division).</p> <p>66.9% of the population have at least one of four of the following health risk factors - smoking, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and obesity. This was significantly higher than the proportion across the Adelaide Statistical Division of 56.1%.</p>	<p>Access to useable and affordable open space and recreational facilities is important in supporting healthy lifestyles. This is particularly important in Murray Bridge where rates of some chronic diseases are high, and there is an especially high incidence of key health risk factors.</p>

## 6.8 Localised Population Characteristics

**Table 5: Localised Population Characteristics**

Township/Settlement	Characteristics	Implication
<b>Murray Bridge</b>	<p>Defining characteristics of the Murray Bridge township's population are slightly above average proportions of children and young people, below average proportions of 'working aged' people and above average proportions of older people.</p> <p>Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slightly above average proportions of 0-19 year olds (25.5% compared with 24.2 for Greater Adelaide)</li> <li>A below average proportion of 45-64 year olds (23.2% compared with 25.9% for Greater Adelaide)</li> <li>A larger percentage of people aged over 65 (19.0% compared with 15.5%).</li> </ul>	<p>The very large proportions of older people suggests that an age friendly approach to the design and maintenance of open space will be needed to promote active ageing. In addition, recreational facilities that deliver programs targeted at older people will be particularly beneficial in Murray Bridge.</p> <p>There is a slightly above average proportion of children and young people who are likely to generate demand for more active recreational facilities and open spaces. Demands for more active recreational opportunities are likely to increase with generational change over the next 20 years.</p>

Township/Settlement <sup>1</sup>	Characteristics	Implication
<b>Swanport/Murray Bridge South</b>	<p>Although the actual population numbers are low, defining characteristics of the Swanport/Murray Bridge South area are the high proportions of children and adults aged 35-54, and small proportions of older people.</p> <p>Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <p>Significantly above average proportions of 5-19 year olds (24.5% compared with 18.2 for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>An above average proportion of 35-54 year olds (33.9% compared with 27.7% for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>A small percentage of people aged over 65 (8.2% compared with 15.5%).</p>	<p>The high proportion of children and young adults indicates that there may be heightened demand in the Swanport/Murray Bridge South area for more active recreational facilities and open spaces.</p> <p>While the population of older people in the Swanport/Murray Bridge South area is currently small, those in the 'pre-retirement' age groups today may generate demand for 'age friendly' recreational facilities and open spaces in the longer term if they age in place.</p>
<b>Mypolonga District</b>	<p>Although the actual population numbers are low, defining characteristics of the Mypolonga district are the high proportions of children and adults in their 'pre retirement' years, and small proportions of older people and younger adults.</p> <p>Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <p>Significantly above average proportions of 5-19 year olds (24.0% compared with 18.2 for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>An above average proportion of 45-64 year olds (32.9% compared with 26.0% for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>A small percentage of people aged over 65 (12.6% compared with 15.5%).</p>	<p>The high proportion of children and young adults indicates that there may be heightened demand in the Mypolonga district for more active recreational facilities and open spaces.</p> <p>While the population of older people in the Swanport/Murray Bridge South area is currently small, those in the 'pre-retirement' age groups today may generate demand for 'age friendly' recreational facilities and open spaces in the longer term if they age in place.</p>



Township/Settlement <sup>1</sup>	Characteristics	Implication
<b>Murray Bridge East</b>	<p>Although the actual population numbers are low, defining characteristics of the Murray Bridge East are the slightly high proportions of children and significantly above average proportions of adults in all age groups between 45 and 74 years. Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <p>Slightly larger proportions of 5-19 year olds (21.4% compared with 18.2 for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>An above average proportion of 45-64 year olds (32.4% compared with 26.0% for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>A large percentage of people aged 65-74 (10.3% compared with 7.8%), but a small percentage of people aged over 75 (3.3% compared with 5.3%).</p>	<p>The high proportion of children and young adults indicates that there may be heightened demand in the Murray Bridge East district for more active recreational facilities and open spaces.</p> <p>The presence of high proportions of those about to enter, or early into retirement indicates that is likely to be demand for 'age friendly' recreational facilities and open spaces currently, and that this likely to continue for some time as those currently in the pre-retirement age groups grow older.</p>



Township/Settlement <sup>1</sup>	Characteristics	Implication
<b>Woods Point, Jervois, Riverglen, White Sands</b>	<p>Although the actual population numbers are low, defining characteristics of the Woods Point, Jervois, Riverglen and White Sands area is the below average proportions of people between the ages of 15 and 34, above average proportions of people aged 35 to 74, and smaller proportions of adults over the age of 75.</p> <p>Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <p>Comparable proportions of 0-19 year olds (23.4% compared with 24.2% for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>Significantly smaller proportions of adults aged 25-34 years (5.3% compared with 13.4%)</p> <p>An above average proportion of 45-64 year olds (35.9% compared with 26.0% for Greater Adelaide)</p>	<p>The average proportion of children and above average proportions of adults over the age of 35 indicates that there is likely to be a number of families in the “child raising” life cycle, with demand for more active recreational facilities and open spaces.</p> <p>The presence of high proportions of those about to enter, or early into retirement indicates that is likely to be demand for ‘age friendly’ recreational facilities and open spaces currently, and that this likely to continue for some time as those currently in the pre-retirement age groups grow older.</p>
<b>Wellington</b>	<p>Although the actual population numbers are low, defining characteristics of Wellington’s population are the small proportions of people aged 15 to 34, and above average proportions of adults in all age groups between 45 and 84 years.</p> <p>Specifically, at the 2011 Census there was:</p> <p>Small proportions of 15-34 year olds (14.2% compared with 27.1% for Greater Adelaide)</p> <p>Particularly large proportion of 55-74 year olds (33.1% compared with 19.2% for Greater Adelaide).</p>	<p>The presence of high proportions of those about to enter, or early into retirement indicates that is likely to be demand for ‘age friendly’ recreational facilities and open spaces currently, and that this likely to continue for some time as those currently in the pre-retirement age groups grow older.</p>

## 6.9 Population Projections

The following table summarises the likely size and age structure of the Rural City of Murray Bridge's 2026 population based on the then Department of Planning and Local Government's population projections prepared in 2011.

If realised, Murray Bridge's population will increase from its 2011 Census population of 19,740 to 24,432 in 2026, growing at a rate of 3128 people per annum (1.6% per annum).

**Table 6: 2026 Population Projections for the Rural City of Murray Bridge**

	Number	Percent
<b>0-4 years</b>	1,491	6.1
<b>5-9 years</b>	1,506	6.2
<b>10-14 years</b>	1,568	6.4
<b>15-19 years</b>	1,504	6.2
<b>20-24 years</b>	1,210	5.0
<b>25-29 years</b>	1,335	5.5
<b>30-34 years</b>	1,463	6.0
<b>35-39 years</b>	1,575	6.4
<b>40-44 years</b>	1,656	6.8
<b>45-49 years</b>	1,459	6.0
<b>50-54 years</b>	1,375	5.6
<b>55-59 years</b>	1,412	5.8
<b>60-64 years</b>	1,372	5.6
<b>65-69 years</b>	1,312	5.4
<b>70-74 years</b>	1,214	5.0
<b>75-79 years</b>	1,187	4.9
<b>80-84 years</b>	950	3.9
<b>85+ years</b>	843	3.5
<b>Total</b>	24,432	

*Source: Department of Planning and Local Government 2026 Population Projections (prepared in 2011).*

The following chart summarises the age structure of the 2026 projection with the current age structure, which helps to identify the following trends:

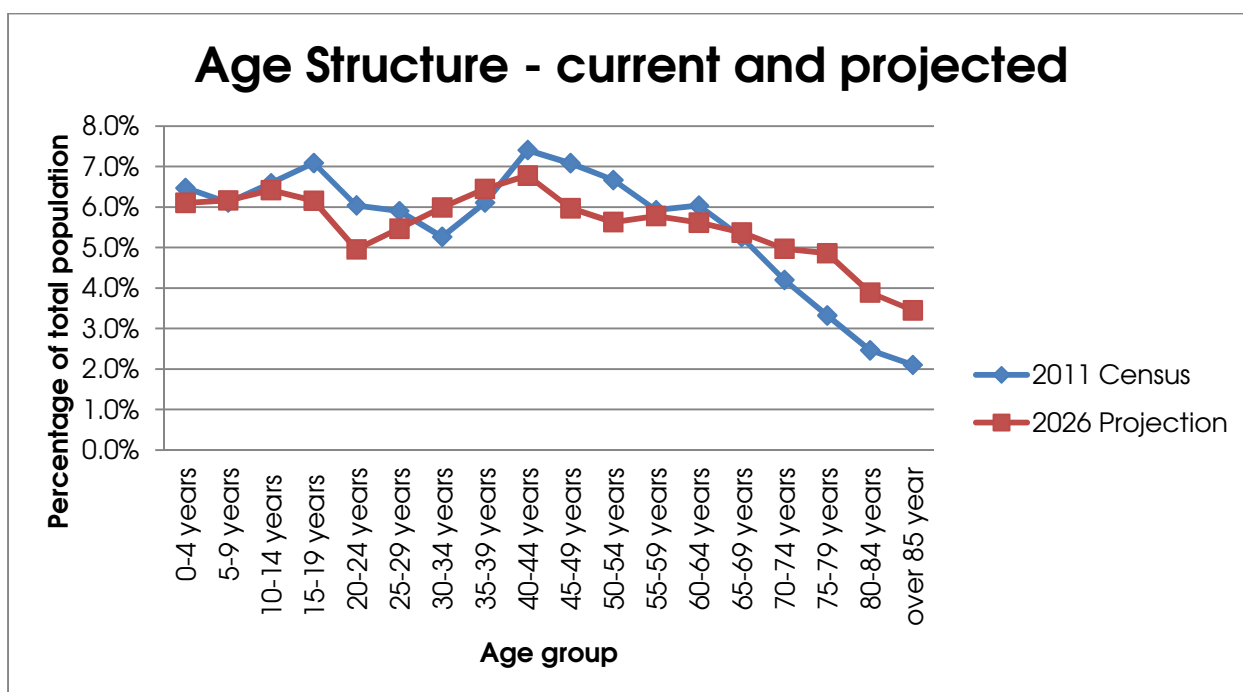
In 2026, it is expected that there will be comparable proportions of children and young people as 2011

In 2026, it is expected that there will be proportionally fewer people in the 'pre-retirement' age groups (i.e. 45-64 years) than in 2011

In 2026, it is expected that there will be proportionally more people over the age of 65 than in 2011.

**Figure 5: Age Structure – current and projected**

**Comparison of 2026 Population Projections for the Rural City of Murray Bridge with ABS 2011 Census Data.**



Source: Department of Planning and Local Government 2026 Population Projections (prepared in 2011) and Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census.

#### 6.10 SEIFA 2011 (ABS Socio-economic index of relative disadvantage)

The ABS broadly defines relative socio-economic disadvantage (and advantage) in terms of 'people's access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society'. The indexes are calculated using 2011 Census data.

The index of 'Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage' summarises 17 different measures, such as low income, low education, high unemployment and unskilled occupations. Generally, a low score indicates relatively greater disadvantage, whereas a high score indicates a relative lack of disadvantage.

To enable easy recognition of high and low scores, the index scores have been standardised to have a mean (average) of 1,000 in Australia. The SEIFA score for the Murray Bridge Local

Government Area (LGA) is 901 and is included in the bottom 12% of Local Government areas in Australia. This indicates relatively low socio-economic status and will have an influence on people's to access indoor recreation and sport services including capacity to pay, access to transport and overall physical activity levels.

## 7. Review: Open Space & Recreation Research & Planning Study – 'The Strategy Report' May 2010

This Study was undertaken during 2010 with the aim of identifying the future requirements and guiding the provision, development and management of open space and facilities for the Rural City of Murray Bridge over the next 20 years.

The Strategy Report identifies six overriding themes:

- Theme 1: Active Sport & Recreation
- Theme 2: Recreation Open Space
- Theme 3: Water Management
- Theme 4: Natural Areas & Landscapes
- Theme 5: Indoor Sport
- Theme 6: Swimming & Fitness

Broad directions and strategies were identified under the heading of these themes.

The table below provides a concise overview of each of the 2010 directions/ strategies, establishes whether or not the strategy has been successfully implemented on the ground and makes reference to corresponding, updated strategies and actions, which are detailed within Volume II Sport & Recreation Strategy and Volume III Open Space Strategy of the MBSROSS.

**Table 7: Theme 1 - Active Sport & Recreation**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Regional Sport &amp; Recreation Complex</b>	1.1 Establish complex on the Showgrounds & Harness Racing Track site	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 1, Actions 1.1-1.6
<b>District Sports Grounds</b>	1.2 Establish Johnstone Park as a quality district level sport & recreation ground with integrated facilities	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 9, Actions 9.1-9.5

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
	1.3 Investigate options for third main sports ground: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gifford Hill development</li> <li>Existing racecourse</li> <li>On the river flat (if feasible)</li> </ul>	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 2, <i>Action 2.1-2.2</i> Strategy 6, <i>Action 6.1</i> Strategy 13, <i>Action 13.1-13.2</i>
<b>Neighbourhood Sports Ground</b>	1.4 Retain LeMessurier Oval as a neighbourhood level sports ground if another sports ground is not developed.	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 11, <i>Actions 11.1-11.11</i>
<b>Christian Reserve</b>	1.5 Maintain as a good quality shared-use outdoor court facility and undertake upgrades in accordance with usage/demand levels.	<b>MAINTAIN STRATEGY</b>  Courts upgraded.  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 8, <i>Actions 8.3</i> Strategy 10, <i>Actions 10.1-10.5</i>
<b>Other hard surface courts</b>	1.6 Maintain existing courts linked to the football ovals	<b>MAINTAIN STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 9, <i>Action 9.2</i> Strategy 11, <i>Actions 11.1, 11.8, 11.11</i> Strategy 17, <i>Action 17.1</i> Strategy 18, <i>Action 18.1</i> Strategy 20, <i>Action 20.1</i>
<b>Lawn Tennis</b>	1.7 Review Sturt Reserve lawn tennis courts and consider relocating the courts to the racecourse land	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 8, <i>Actions 8.2 - 8.4</i> Strategy 10, <i>Action 10.2</i>



Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>School Ovals and Fields</b>	1.8 Establish a formal agreement with schools on the community use of fields and ovals	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 13, Action 13.4 Strategy 14, Actions 14.1 - 14.4
<b>Rural Town Sports Facilities</b>	1.9 Continue to assist communities to maintain existing rural facilities to a safe standard. Do not undertake major upgrade/replacement facilities	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 16, Actions 16.1-16.2 Strategy 17, Action 17.1 Strategy 18, Actions 18.1 - 18.4 Strategy 19, Actions 19.1-19.7 Strategy 20, Actions 20.1-20.2 Strategy 21, Action 21.1 Strategy 22, Actions 22.1-22.2
<b>River Sports</b>	1.10 Establish a water sports facility on the river for rowing, canoeing, sailing, kayaking etc.	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 8, Actions 8.6, 8.8 Strategy 23, Action 23.1-23.4 Strategy 25, Action 25.1
<b>Golf Course</b>	1.11 Investigate the feasibility of establishing the Murray Bridge Golf Course as a 72 par course with associated quality facilities	<b>MAINTAIN STRATEGY</b>  Current Newbridge Masterplan illustrates an amended course design and a shared clubhouse facility / new motel on site  Refer also <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 2

**Table 8: Theme 2 - Recreation Open Space**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Sturt Reserve</b>	2.1 Establish additional recreation space along Sturt Reserve riverfront: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grassed area (near Narooma Wetland)</li> <li>Lawn tennis court area</li> </ul>	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> OSR1 Sturt Reserve, Actions 1.1-1.8 OSR96 Narooma Wetland, Action 96.1
	2.2 Allow small number of sensitively designed and integrated cafes/restaurant plus hire facilities (eg water activities, bikes)	<b>STRATEGY SUPERSEDED</b>
	2.3 Activate open space to south of Sturt Reserve Road/Charles Sturt Drive (BMX, bike tracks, picnic areas, event infrastructure etc)	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> OSR1 Sturt Reserve, Actions 1.1-1.8

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Other Riverfront Reserves</b>	<p>2.4 Improve/expand key riverfront reserves in accordance with Riverfront Management Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thiele Reserve</li> <li>• Long Island Reserve</li> <li>• Hume Reserve</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>OSR2 Sturt – Hume Reserve Link &amp; Wharf Precinct, <i>Actions 2.1-2.5</i></p> <p>OSR8 Hume Reserve <i>Actions 8.1-8.4</i></p> <p>OSR25 Long Island Reserve <i>Actions 25.1-25.2</i></p> <p>OSR26 Thiele Reserve <i>Actions 26.1-26.5</i></p> <p>OSR27 Vanderzon Reserve <i>Actions 27.1-27.2</i></p> <p>OSR28 Swanport Reserve <i>Actions 28.1-28.4</i></p> <p>OSR29 Queen Louisa Reserve <i>Action 29.1</i></p> <p>OSR65 Hefford Drive Reserve (Callington) <i>Action 65.1</i></p> <p>OSR74 Hill Road Reserve (Mypolonga) <i>Action 74.1</i></p> <p>OSR75 Woodlane Reserve <i>Actions 75.1-75.3</i></p>
	<p>2.5 Improve the quality and accessibility of water access points (upgraded boat ramps, water entry, moorings)</p>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>As above.</p>

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>District Parks</b>	<p>2.6 Establish 5-6 quality district recreation parks, giving initial consideration to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Reserve</li> <li>• Diamond Park</li> <li>• Homburg Park</li> <li>• LeMessurier Oval (if sport no longer required)</li> <li>• Racecourse land</li> <li>• The Showgrounds</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>OSR3 Pine Park, <i>Actions 3.1-3.2</i></p> <p>OSR4 Edwards Square, <i>Actions 4.1-4.2</i></p> <p>OSR5 Diamond Park, <i>Actions 5.1-5.2</i></p> <p>OSR6 War Memorial Playground, <i>Actions 6.1-6.3</i></p> <p>OSR7 Showgrounds, <i>Action 7.1</i></p> <p>OSR9 Tamarisk Reserve/OSR18 Wattle Street Reserve, <i>Actions 9.1-9.2, 18.1</i></p> <p>OSR12 Christian Reserve, <i>Actions 12.1-14.3</i></p> <p>OSR13 Homburg Park, <i>Actions 13.1-13.3</i></p> <p>OSR114 Existing Racecourse, <i>Actions 114.1-114.3</i></p> <p>OSR115 Gifford Hill, <i>Actions 115.1-115.2</i></p>

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Neighbourhood &amp; Local Parks</b>	<p>2.7 Upgrade neighbourhood &amp; Local Parks over time (prioritising larger Neighbourhood Parks). Improve quality of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play equipment</li> <li>• Seating</li> <li>• Pathways</li> <li>• Landscapes</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>OSR10 Le Messurier Oval, <i>Actions 10.1-10.2</i></p> <p>OSR19 Adelaide Road Plantation, <i>Action 19.1</i></p> <p>OSR20 Carey's Park, <i>Action 20.1</i></p> <p>OSR21 Watts Road Stone Reserve, <i>Action 21.1</i></p> <p>OSR23 Plover Park, <i>Action 23.1</i></p> <p>OSR24 Wickens Reserve, <i>Actions 24.1-24.3</i></p> <p>OSR66 Geisler Reserve, <i>Action 66.1</i></p> <p>OSR70 Jervois Oval, <i>Action 70.1</i></p> <p>OSR71 Mypolonga Civic Park, <i>Action 71.1</i></p> <p>OSR72 Irene Hughes Park, <i>Action 72.1</i></p> <p>OSR73 Mypolonga Oval, <i>Action 73.1</i></p> <p>OSR75 Woodlane Reserve, <i>Actions 75.1-75.3</i></p> <p>OSR76 Courthouse Reserve, <i>Action 76.1</i></p>
	<p>2.8 Maintain or establish at least one quality neighbourhood park in each rural town</p>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>As above.</p>



Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Playgrounds</b>	2.9 Improve the provision and quality of playgrounds linked to park hierarchy	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> Strategy S6 Playgrounds OSR1 Sturt Reserve, <i>Actions 1.1 &amp; 1.4</i> OSR3 Pine Park, <i>Action 3.2</i> OSR6 War Memorial Playground, <i>Action 6.2</i> OSR10 Le Messurier Oval, <i>Action 10.2</i> OSR18 Wattle Street Reserve, <i>Action 18.1</i> OSR24 Wickens Reserve, <i>Action 24.1</i> OSR72 Irene Hughes Park, <i>Action 72.1</i>
<b>Skate &amp; BMX</b>	2.10 Relocate BMX mounds at Sturt Reserve to south side of Charles Sturt Drive to create high quality separate bike area	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> OSR1 Sturt Reserve, <i>Action 1.1</i>
	2.11 Maintain existing skate park at Sturt Reserve and create additional facilities at other locations	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> OSR1 Sturt Reserve, <i>Action 1.1</i> OSR13 Homburg Park, <i>Action 13.1</i>

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Community Courts</b>	2.12 Increase community access to outdoor courts through additional and improved accessible facilities	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 8, <i>Actions 8.2-8.3</i> Strategy 9, <i>Actions 9.2, 9.5</i> Strategy 10, <i>Actions 10.1-10.5</i> Strategy 11, <i>Actions 11.1, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.11</i> Strategy 13, <i>Actions 13.1, 13.4</i> Strategy 14, <i>Actions 14.1-14.4</i> Strategy 16, <i>Action 16.1</i> Strategy 17, <i>Action 17.1</i> Strategy 18, <i>Actions 18.1, 18.2, 18.4</i> Strategy 19, <i>Actions 19.1-19.3</i> Strategy 20, <i>Action 20.1</i> Strategy 21, <i>Action 21.1</i>
<b>Open Space Connections</b>	2.13 Strengthen the open space connections along the riverfront as proposed in the Riverfront Management Strategy	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> OSR1 Sturt Reserve, <i>Actions 1.2-1.3, 1.8</i> OSR2 Sturt – Hume Reserve Link & Wharf Precinct, <i>Actions 2.1 &amp; 2.3</i> OSR8 Hume Reserve, <i>Action 8.4</i> OSR25 Long Island Reserve, <i>Action 25.2</i>
	2.14 Establish key linear trail connections for walking, cycle and horse riding	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 22 Trails  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> Council Wide Open Space Strategy S1: <i>S1.1-S1.4</i>

**Table 9: Theme 3 - Water Management**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Water Initiatives</b> (in accordance with Integrated Water Resources Management Plan & Stormwater Management Plan)	3.1 Develop and strengthen water management initiatives, prioritising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water storage</li> <li>• Underground drainage</li> <li>• Water purification</li> <li>• Water re-use</li> <li>• Aquifer storage and recovery schemes (ASR)</li> </ul>	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b> Council Wide Open Space Strategy S3: S3.1-S3.3 OSR 1 Sturt Reserve, <i>Action 1.6</i> OSR 102 Clipsal Road Reserve, <i>Action 102.1</i> OSR 114 Existing Racecourse, <i>Action 114.3</i>
<b>Detention &amp; Drainage</b>	3.2 Upgrade existing detention basins and drainage areas to improve recreation quality, prioritising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Reserve</li> <li>• Homburg Park</li> <li>• Weigall Avenue Reserve</li> </ul>	<b>PARTIALLY DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b>  OSR 12 Christian Reserve, <i>Action 12.3</i> OSR 13 Homburg Park, <i>Action 13.3</i>
<b>Irrigation</b>	3.3 Continue to review irrigation practices and reduce mains water use giving consideration to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential use of water retention/ASR schemes for irrigation</li> <li>• Irrigation based on open space hierarchy</li> <li>• Broader directions in Strategic Plans (eg Waterproofing Adelaide – A thirst for Change 2005-2025)</li> </ul>	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 1, <i>Action 1.6</i> Strategy 8, <i>Action 8.9</i> Strategy 9, <i>Action 9.4</i> Strategy 11, <i>Action 11.6</i> Strategy 12, <i>Action 12.4</i> Strategy 13, <i>Action 13.5</i> Strategy 14, <i>Action 14.3</i>  <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b>  Council Wide Open Space Strategy S3: S3.2, S3.3

**Table 10: Theme 4 - Natural Areas and Landscapes**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Protection of Natural Reserves</b>	4.1 Identify and formalise the protection of natural reserves linked to hierarchy	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b>  Council Wide Open Space Strategy S2: S2.1
<b>Murray Park</b>	4.2 Upgrade and manage the use of Murray Park through vegetation, protection, weed and litter management and formalised tracks	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b>  Council Wide Open Space Strategy S2: S2.1 OSR22 Murray Park, Action 22.1
<b>Wetlands</b>	4.3 Strengthen the wetland areas to achieve water purification and enhance eco systems	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b>  Council Wide Open Space Strategy S3: S3.1 OSR96 Narooma Wetland, Action 96.1

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>Community Projects</b>	4.4 Strengthen the volunteer involvement in managing and enhancing natural reserves	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 33, Actions 33.1-33.3 Strategy 36, Action 36.3 Strategy 38, Action 38.3</p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>OSR 13 Homburg Park, Action 13.2 OSR 22: Murray Park, Action 22.1 OSR 74 Hill Road Reserve, Action 74.1</p>
<b>Vegetation</b>	4.5 Utilise native and indigenous vegetation to landscape parks and sports grounds and manage water use	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>Council Wide Open Space Strategy S3: S3.4</p>
<b>Landscape Features</b>	<p>4.6 Create strong features and entry statements through native landscapes, including at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adelaide Road 'islands'</li> <li>• Adelaide Road</li> <li>• Princess Highway/Karoonda Road intersection</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Refer <b>Volume III Open Space Strategy</b></p> <p>Council Wide Open Space Strategy S1: S1.2 OSR 1 Sturt Reserve, Action 1.2 OSR 71 Mypolonga Civic Park, Action 71.1</p>



**Table 11: Theme 5 - Indoor Sport & Physical Activity**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
<b>School Facilities</b>	5.1 Negotiate affordable community use of the new Unity College two court indoor facilities	<b>MAINTAIN STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 14, Actions 14.1-14.2
	5.2 Maintain the Murray Bridge High School court to a good standard and continue community access at affordable rates	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 14, Action 14.4
	5.3 Negotiate community use of other indoor sport and community school facilities including recent new halls	<b>MAINTAIN STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 14, Actions 14.1-14.2
Upgrade Existing Indoor Courts	5.4 Upgrade Showground indoor sports court to a safe and appealing standard to address structural issues, toilets/change rooms and air circulation	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 1, Actions 1.3 & 1.4
Future Community Indoor Courts	5.5 Plan for new indoor sport centre and associated facilities including two new courts initially with potential to expand to four courts. Consider potential locations, including Showgrounds	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 1, Actions 1.3 & 1.4 Strategy 5, Actions 5.1-5.3 Strategy 6, Actions 6.1-6.3 Strategy 8, Action 8.7 Strategy 14, Action 14.5
Future of existing courts	5.6 Undertake a review of existing courts to determine whether any courts should be retained for activities that require dedicated spaces and storage	<b>STRATEGY SUPERSEDED</b>



Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
Community Halls and Centres	5.7 Identify opportunities for affordable community use of the Murray Bridge Town Hall and guide improvements to the facility to create a flexible activity space	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 15, Actions 15.1-15.5
	5.8 Undertake a review of all other community halls (including rural towns) to determine whether there are opportunities to cater for physical activity and organised recreation and achieve a spread of well used facilities	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 15, Actions 15.1-15.5

**Table 12: Theme 6 - Swimming & Fitness**

Topic/Location	Strategy	Current Status/ Strategy development
Existing 50m pool	6.1 Undertake upgrades to improve the quality and function of the site for the remaining life of the existing 50m outdoor pool. Detailed assessment required.	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 7, Actions 7.1-7.6 Refer also Strategy 5
New Aquatic & Fitness Facility	6.2 Plan for an indoor aquatic and fitness facility that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25m indoor pool</li> <li>• Fitness facilities</li> <li>• Activity/meeting spaces</li> <li>• Potential links to commercial components</li> <li>• Land for 50m outdoor pool (long term goal)</li> </ul> Consider options for locating on a high profile, well connected site.	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 5, Actions 5.1-5.3 Strategy 7, Actions 7.1-7.6 Strategy 8, Action 8.7
Review 50m outdoor pool	6.3 Review toward end of its life (10-15 years) and plan for replacement facility	<b>DEVELOP STRATEGY</b>  Refer <b>Volume II Sport &amp; Recreation Strategy</b> Strategy 7, Action 7.4 & 7.6

The Strategy Report concludes by identifying 'next steps' and recommends that the Council develop:

- A detailed Action Plan that includes priorities and timeframes
- A 'works plan' to link proposed actions to works budgets.

The MBSROSS forms part of these next steps and provides a targeted approach to implementation through ongoing planning and analysis.

## 8. Consultation

### 8.1 Consultation and Communication Plan

The planning process includes consultation with stakeholders including the broader community, Council, clubs, relevant state/federal government agencies and industry bodies. A Consultation and Communication Plan was developed to guide this process. The key objectives of the Consultation and Communication Plan were to:

- Provide the opportunity for involvement of the stakeholders including Council/s, project committee, user groups, government agencies and other key stakeholders in the planning process.
- Ensure that all consultation occurs at the appropriate points in the study process and that timely and important information is gathered from and disseminated to all key stakeholders.
- Build an understanding and ownership of the study amongst key stakeholders within the study area.

A copy of the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Plan is included within Volume IV Literature Review, Consultation Findings & Evidence Base (Appendix 2).

Various consultation mechanisms were employed to promote discussion and comment from a wide a range of stakeholders:

- Club Survey
- Online Community Survey
- Community Workshops & Focus Groups

### 8.2 Club Survey

Community based organisations such as sport clubs, recreation and community groups were provided an opportunity to express their views and ideas for the study. The Club Survey provided valuable and detailed feedback in terms of aspirations and expectations of individual clubs for their facilities. Broad themes that emerged from the comments received included:

- **Fit for purpose facilities** – to encourage participation, including upgrading and extended existing surfaces, changeroom/clubroom facilities and establishment of new purpose built facilities.
- **Connectivity & Accessibility** – improve footpath network and condition to facilitate better access for all, including public transport improvements and dedicated bike paths.
- **Infrastructure** – ensure appropriate provision and maintenance for access roads, car parking, facility lighting, drainage, irrigation, secure fencing, landscaping, spectator shelter and rubbish disposal.
- **Membership** – clubs reported generally stable or modest increases in club membership – facilities need to be maintained/upgraded to reflect this and retain current membership

levels, Where membership was stated as falling, possible reasons cited included financial constraints, lack of advertising, loss of interest, and inadequate facility provision.

- **Sustainability** - introduce energy efficiency measures to club facilities

### 8.3 Online Community Survey

Members of the local community were invited to complete an online survey, accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MurrayBridgeSROS>. The survey was advertised through local media, at local government offices and on social media. The survey was conducted over a period of four weeks in January and February 2013.

Findings from the online survey included:

- The 5 most popular recreational activities (in order of preference) are walking, gym attendance, netball, cycling and running.
- In relation to the **'Sporting Environment'**:
- Respondents value the wide variety of sporting activities currently available
- Existing facilities require upgrading - specific examples suggested included the basketball stadium, tennis and netball courts.
- Requirement for a new multi-use facility – establishing a central community venue, providing for a wide range of sports. Support expressed for an indoor and outdoor swimming pool.
- There is a lack/under-provision of facilities for some sports, such as squash courts, softball and baseball
- Support for more advertisement/promotion/awareness of sport programs/events
- In relation to the **'Recreational Environment'**:
- Sturt Reserve is a highly valued asset, as is the Murray River. The skate park, gyms and play areas are well regarded.
- Improvements required to walking/running/cycling trails and networks, establishing loops that connect key areas of the town to the river and surroundings
- Limited provision of facilities on the east side of the river and the showgrounds could be a real asset
- Additional and upgraded playground facilities are required
- Establish a centrally located sport/fitness/community venue
- Improve water skiing facilities to ease pressure at peak times and encourage tourism
- In relation to the **'Open Space Environment'**:
- Open spaces are well maintained with improvements to Sturt, Thiele and Avoca Dell



- Huge improvement to playground provision at Sturt Reserve and Fraser Park.
- Create additional bike/running paths near the river, together with easily accessible wetland walking tracks/boardwalks.
- Riverfront needs better lighting, shade/protected areas and improvements to toilet facilities
- Linkages between open spaces need to be improved
- Optimise use of all areas within Sturt Reserve
- Improve maintenance levels of all spaces, and monitor vandalism
- In relation to **‘Broader Community Aspirations’**:
- All sports facilities need to be upgraded to ensure the large pool of sporting talent in Murray Bridge stay in the area to play and train
- It is vital that there are sporting facilities, recreation and open space resources that are available, accessible and welcoming to all members of the community
- More investment is required in facilities for ‘non-mainstream’ sports, such as soccer, baseball, dance and martial arts
- Create a fully integrated, safe network of walking and cycling trails linking all sport, recreation and open space resources.

#### **8.4 Community Workshops & Focus groups**

Workshops were advertised through the local media inviting members of the community to share their views. Workshops were held in Murray Bridge, Mypolonga, Monarto and Jervois.

Focus Groups were held with council representatives, relevant government agencies, elected members, and local interest groups, with additional workshops convened to discuss specific issues (eg environment):

Specific priorities identified during the workshops and focus groups include the following:

##### **Tourism**

- Importance of Sturt Reserve as “face of Murray Bridge” - draw card for tourists and opportunity to increase its use for events as well as day to day use (eg picnicking)
- **Enhance existing facilities**
- Showgrounds have potential but need enhancement (eg tree planting, perimeter fencing, public transport)
- In addition to the provisional list of reserves/parks identified for particular attention, also consider Homburg Park, Magpie Reserve, parks of Gayle Crescent and Johnson Drive. Diamond Park requires additional management/maintenance
- Opportunity at Woodlane to expand car parking area

- River Glades wetlands is an important area to support
- Ensure equitable spread of resources to provide adequate maintenance for open spaces away from key areas (eg Sturt Reserve, Parkview Reserve)
- **New facilities/opportunities**
- Explore potential for new regional centre at Gifford Hill
- Establish levels of provision required for open space on the east side of river
- Support for community based facilities eg at Mypolonga
- Identify a suitable area for an off-leash dog park within Murray Bridge
- Improve public amenities generally
- Consider opportunities for exercise equipment in open space
- Urgent requirement for a new indoor recreation facility
- Lack of signage/information/interpretation boards
- **Improved access/linkages**
- Access/transportation/mobility is often problematic, particularly for the aged
- Increase footpath provision to avoid necessity of walking in the road
- Increase opportunities for accessing the riverbank plus boat mooring/access areas
- Council to acquire swampland on east side and establish loop walk - boardwalk/viewing platforms/interpretation boards
- Integration/connections are important to link all areas throughout Murray Bridge and surroundings
- Improve linkages network between schools and sportsgrounds
- Establish well-maintained loop walks/shared use path network

## **Sustainability**

- Explore opportunities to link recycled water with reserves to green them (as part of the MB Storm Water Management & Reuse Scheme)

A detailed record of the findings from the consultation process is presented within Volume IV: Literature Review, Consultation Findings & Evidence Base (Appendix 2-5).

## 9. Council's Role

Local Government's role in the provision of leisure and recreational opportunities is largely discretionary. Council therefore has the opportunity to determine its own role to meet assessed community needs in collaboration with the local community and other key providers.

There are associated statutory requirements that relate to the provision of recreation and sport, to which Local Government must adhere and/or for which it has the task of administering, for example the Local Government Act 1999, Development Act 1993, Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Liquor Licensing Act 1997, Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986 and the Trade Practices Act 1974.

Traditionally, Council has provided local and district level facilities such as tennis courts, ovals and clubrooms. Also regional level facilities such as swimming centres and indoor recreation centres where it has not been commercially viable to do so and Council have the resources to develop and manage these.

Recognising that community recreational facilities in the Murray Bridge Council area are often not fully commercially viable in their own right, Council will prefer to support the development, management and investment in these facilities in a partnership fashion with State and Federal governments, private sector, community and sporting groups. Lastly Council can play an important role in the provision of support services such as education and promotion.

Input from the community in the provision of sport and recreation facilities and services has varied, but has included:

- planning and management of major facilities
- maintenance of sporting grounds and facilities
- volunteer labour to assist with construction and upgrading
- fund raising including applications for grant funding
- management of sporting programs, clubs and teams

Millions of dollars worth of resources are tied up in council owned/operated leisure and recreational facilities and services, with the associated obligations for ongoing maintenance and management. The increasing cost of sustainable management i.e. insurance, risk management, maintenance, salaries and refurbishment together with an increasing demand for quality facilities, will influence the level of Council's involvement.

To ensure that Council can continue to support the range of recreation facilities and services in a sustainable manner it will be necessary to investigate options for revenue generation including sponsorship, investment partnerships with the private sector, external funding from sources such as the State and Federal governments and usage charges for the use of public facilities and programs.

Additionally, Council will need to consider its level of support for non-Council owned community-based facilities and programs.

After directing resources at legally required functions such as maintenance of Council owned recreation assets, it is important that funding be directed to areas that are going to have the greatest community benefit.

It is generally recognised that Community Development programs in which the community (through avenues such as sport and community clubs) are empowered to provide their own programs and facilities is an effective way achieve recreation and sport outcomes within a community.

Table 13 below outlines the roles that Council undertakes to some degree. The extent of these roles will vary over time in response to factors such as resource availability, community need and demands, and participation trends.

**Table 13: Council's Role in Sport and Recreation Provision**

Council Role	Description
<b>Leadership</b>	Monitor and analyse relevant local, state and national trends and influences, and support research and development related to public recreation to inform Council policies, plans and operations Strive to attain an equitable distribution of, and access to quality recreational facilities and opportunities
<b>Owner / custodian</b>	Effectively manage recreational facilities and infrastructure under Council's care and control. Develop standards and performance measures for Council's recreation assets. Comply with relevant legislation and industry standards.
<b>Regulator</b>	Ensure provisions within the Development Plan promote opportunities for public recreation and that new development complies with these provisions
<b>Information Provider</b>	Provide timely and relevant information to the Federal and State Government, user groups, and the general community in relation to the planning, development and use and existence of recreational facilities and opportunities within the Council. Work with community groups and other agencies providing similar information.
<b>Advocate</b>	Advocate on behalf of the community to the State and Federal Governments, in relation to recreational needs and opportunities within the Council. Join with other Councils to provide a strong and united voice at state and national levels for common recreational concerns and aspirations.



Council Role	Description
<b>Facilitator / initiator</b>	Bring together and/or engage with individuals, community groups, industry, government agencies and other stakeholders to address public recreation issues impacting (or potentially impacting) on the Council.
<b>Agent</b>	Provide recreation and sport opportunities on behalf of another agency/tier of government with additional resources provided from that party.
<b>Part Funder</b>	Join government agencies and others to fund development of recreational facilities and services of a strategic nature. These opportunities will respond to genuine long-term demand, encourage community development and will be developed where the private sector, non-government organisations and schools cannot provide the service in an accessible and affordable manner.
<b>Direct Provider</b>	Provide recreational opportunities in accordance with Council's adopted service levels and network and asset management plans, in a manner consistent with Council's adopted strategic directions and plans. These opportunities will respond to genuine long-term demand, encourage community development and will be developed where the private sector cannot provide the service in an accessible and affordable manner.

## 10. Funding

### 10.1 Funding Opportunities

This section identifies potential external funding sources available through state and federal government programs that could be utilised in the implementation of the MBSROSS. The status of these funding programs are continually changing and updated to respond to such issues as shifts in community participation rates and the continual evolvement of the industry more widely.

At the date of publication of the MBSROSS current programs include:

#### Office for Recreation and Sport

The current status and further information and lodgment details for all Office for Recreation and Sport grants can be found on the department's website <http://www.recsport.sa.gov.au>



#### Community Recreation and Sports Facilities Program (CRSFP)

The aim of this program is to support the sport and recreation 'Target 83' set within the SA Strategic Plan by providing funding for the planning and development of sustainable, inclusive, functional and fit for purpose active recreation and sport facilities that meet the current and future needs of the SA community.



This program was established to allocate funds to eligible community-based organisations, Local Government, Schools and State sporting and active recreation associations. They offer grants under three categories:

- Category 1: Facility Planning Projects (no maximum funding level) including feasibility studies, facility audits/needs assessment and masterplans;
- Category 2: Facility Development Projects (funding up to \$200,000 excl.GST) including facility and playing surface upgrades/development, irrigation/drainage and floodlighting; and
- Category 3: Facility Development Projects (funding between \$200,001 - \$500,000 excl.GST) including facility and playing surface upgrades/development, irrigation/drainage and floodlighting.

For Category 1 projects there is an expectation that the applicant/key stakeholders will make a significant financial contribution towards the cost of the project. For Category 2 and 3 projects the grant amount requested cannot be more than 50% of the total project cost. Where the application meets the criteria for the Active Club Program (see below) it will be first assessed through that program.





### Active Club Program (ACP)

This program provides assistance to sport and/or active recreation organisations to provide quality facilities and deliver competition and activity experiences in the community. They offer three types of grants:

- Program and Equipment (up to \$5,000)
- Facility (up to \$20,000)



### Sport & Recreation Sustainability Program (SRSP)

This program provides financial support for the leadership, policies and services provided by South Australian State Sport and Active Recreation Organisations and Industry Representative Bodies. The maximum amount that can be allocated is \$100,000 per annum. The assessment process specifically recognises the additional costs for organisations associated with providing sport and active recreation opportunities to people with disabilities and for those providing elite sporting pathways.

### Sport & Recreation Development & Inclusion Program (SRDIP)

This program provides financial assistance to support eligible organisations to develop and implement projects that will grow the sport or activity, improve services and/or address barriers to inclusion. An organisation may make application for multiple eligible projects through the Program and there is no maximum amount that an applicant can be allocated. Sport and Recreation organisations may apply for funding for:

1. Strategic projects that improve organisational performance
2. Development of new or improved programs/pathways/events
3. Targeted support for talented athletes
4. Club development and volunteer management initiatives
5. Inclusion initiatives that embed sustainable opportunities for targeted populations.

Councils are only eligible to apply under categories 4 and 5; community organisations are only eligible to apply under category 5.



## Australian Sports Foundation

Further information can be found at <http://www.asf.org.au>

### Sport Incentive Program

Specifically the Sport Incentive program aims to increase the opportunities for Australians to participate in sport activities, and excel in sports performance. Eligible organisations, including sporting clubs, schools, councils and community groups can apply to register sport-related projects in either of the following categories:

- Category 1 – to collect donations using the ASF's tax deductible status and to receive consideration for discretionary grants from the ASF
- Category 2 – discretionary grants starting from \$500

## Department of Planning, Transport & Infrastructure

Projects eligible for consideration should be designed to assist in the preservation, enhancement and enjoyment of open space areas containing elements of natural beauty, conservation significance and cultural value.

Information is available at: [www.sa.gov.au/planning/publicspacegrants](http://www.sa.gov.au/planning/publicspacegrants)



### Places for People Funding

The principal objective of the Places for People program is to help create new public places or revitalise existing public spaces that contribute to the social, cultural and economic life of the community they serve.

### Open Space Grant Funding

The State Government's Open Space Grant Funding program provides financial assistance to local government for the purchase, development and planning of open space. Subsidies are also provided for works relating to conservation and recreation on public land.

External funding sources are currently available through a variety of government agencies and programs, foundations and the private sector and could be utilised in the development of the Open Space and Public Realm Strategy. These programs include:

## Regional Development Australia

The Australian Government has allocated almost \$1 billion to the Regional Development Australia Fund. The RDAF is administered by the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport. Refer [www.regional.sa.gov.au](http://www.regional.sa.gov.au)



## Office for Recreation & Sport

Funding of up to \$500,000 may be received for facility. Additional funds may be received for minor capital works, equipment and programs. Refer [www.recsport.sa.gov.au](http://www.recsport.sa.gov.au)

## Department of Planning and Local Government

When land is subdivided via strata or community title, or when subdivisions create less than 20 additional allotments by normal land division, the developer is required to make a financial contribution to the Planning and Development Fund. These funds are then made available to local government through grant funding. Refer [www.dpti.sa.gov.au](http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au)

## Trusts and Foundations

There are numerous trusts and foundations established in Australia and a number provide funding for community facility project such as this. Often they are established by large corporations. Refer [www.philanthropy.org.au](http://www.philanthropy.org.au).



## 11. Implementation

The Rural City of Murray Bridge Council will provide a key leadership role in the implementation of this Strategy.

However, it is imperative that there is cross agency support given to Council and the community if the strategies outlined in this Report are to be achieved. It is only through this partnership approach that the potential of the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council area in the provision sport, recreation and open space facilities and services will be realised.

This partnership approach will involve Federal and State Government agencies, regional and local organisations working in collaboration to achieve the vision and outcomes of this Strategy. In doing so, Council will deliver significantly more sport, recreation and open space opportunities to the community from the limited resources it has available.