Town of Cottesloe

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND STRATEGY

Pepared for the Town of Cottesloe, July 2019

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Image 1. Ocean views from Grant Marine Park, udla (cover)
Image 2. Jasper Green Reserve, udla (previous)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Public Open Space and Playground Strategy is intended to provide direction to the Town of Cottesloe (The Town) on equitable provision, access, type and quality of Public Open Space (POS) and playgrounds to ensure these are available to the residents of Cottesloe and the wider community. The Strategy is divided into the Public Open Space Strategy and Playground Strategy and contains the following:

Project Background

- Literature review of past and current documents pertaining to POS in the Town of Cottesloe.
- Exploration of Cottesloe's unique 'sense of place'.

Public Open Space Strategy

Analysis

- Summary of the benefits of public open space.
- Assessment and classification of existing POS on the Town. Taking into account: barriers; public amenity; verges, function and typology; and gaps.

A POS vision for Cottesloe

The vision is to develop four key corridors of POS. This addresses the existing provision, access and quality of POS throughout the Town. These corridors include:

- Foreshore corridor;
- Broome street/central corridor;
- Railway & highway corridor; and,
- Grant street transect.

The upgrades to existing POS have been prioritised along with an estimate of the cost and complexity of these upgrades.

Playground Strategy

Analysis

- Importance of play including key trends.
- Quantitative assessment of existing play grounds
- Assessment matrix developed through the use of '**Seven Cs: An informational guide to young children's outdoor playspaces'** *(Susan Herrington, Chandra Lesmeister, Jamie Nicholls, Kate Stefiuk, Consortium for Health, Intervention, Learning and Development (CHILD)*)

Playground Recommendations

- Specific recommendations to improve existing playgrounds.
- Proposed hierarchy for existing and future playgrounds.
- Prioritising of upgrades to existing playground.

The Public Open Space and Playground Strategy aims to:

1. Assess existing POS and Playground hierarchies and types within the ToC and identify opportunities for consolidation and improvement into the future;
2. Assist in the supply of quality Playgrounds that reflect best practise;
3. Ensure equitable access for current and future residents and visitors;
4. Ensure planning of POS and playgrounds is reflective of and responsive to Cottesloe's unique sense of place; and,
5. Aid direction on provision, management and prioritisation of upgrades to existing playgrounds in particular.

Image 3. South Cottesloe beach, udla

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1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1 STUDY EXTENTS

The Town of Cottesloe is located on the shores of the Indian Ocean, with approximately 4km of shoreline and in close proximity to the Swan River to the East and 12 kilometres to Perth. The Town covers an area of 4 square kilometres and as of 2018 the population was 8,625 with over 4,200 dwellings.

Within the Town's limits are key destinations such as Cottesloe Beach, Indiana Tea Rooms, Ocean Beach Hotel, Cottesloe Beach Hotel, Sea View Golf Club and a number of cafés, restaurants and retail outlets.

Within the boundaries of the Town is North Cottesloe Pre-Primary & Primary School, Sea View Community Kindergarten and Cottesloe Child Care Centre. Just outside of the Town's boundary there are multiple educational facilities within close proximity.

The Town is well serviced with transport routes such as Marine Parade, Curtin Avenue, Stirling Highway and the Fremantle-Perth train line. These connections provide excellent north-south access but the infrastructure also act as significant barriers.

Surrounding the Town are the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Mosman Park, Peppermint Grove, Claremont and the suburb of Swanbourne, which is part of the City of Nedlands.

Image 4. Grant Marine Park, udla (previous)

Cottesloe Key Statistics

Area: 4km^2

Dwellings: 4,209 (2017-2018)

Population: 8,625 (2017-2018)

Families: 1,901 (2016)

Male: 6,616 (2016)

Female: 3,757 (2016)

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander: 31 (2016)

Median age: 42 (2016)

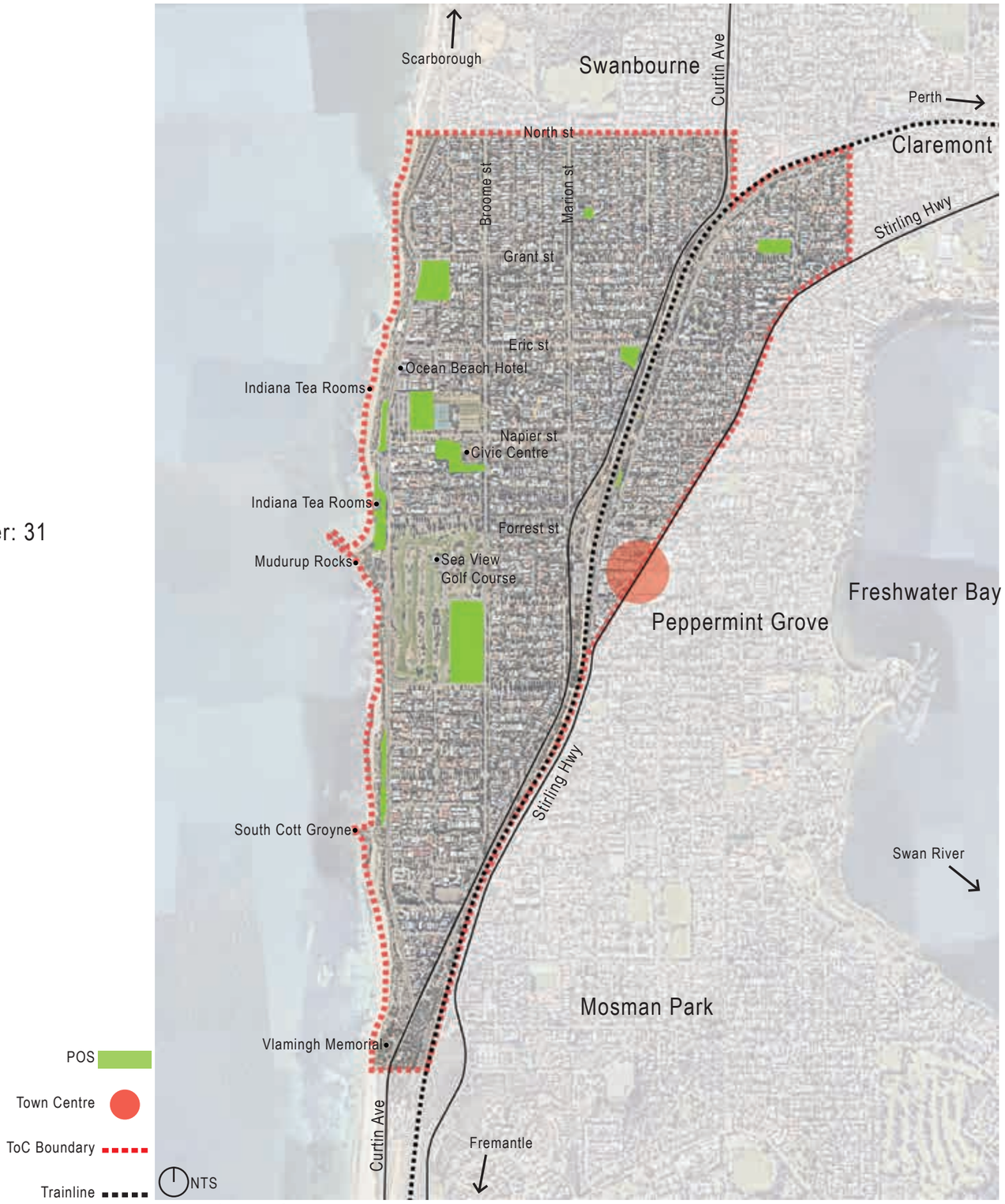


Figure 1. Study Extents Map

1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

The following documents were reviewed as a key component of developing the POS and playground strategy. Key recommendations and themes of these documents have informed the direction of the Strategy.

***Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023,* Revised June 2016**

Key Points:

- Shared community & Town vision of maintaining the relaxed, coastal vibe.
- Focus on improving the connection by reducing the barriers of the trainline, Curtin Ave and Stirling Hwy.

Cottesloe's Sense of Place, Vicki Woods, 2008

Key Points:

- The coastal landscape, Norfolk Island Pines and low lines of limestone cliffs are iconic to Cottesloe.
- These are all important public realm elements.

Cottesloe Recreation Precinct Plan, AECOM, 2018

Key Points:

- Playground to be moved to the west side of the proposed multi-purpose building.
- The playground is yet to be allocated a theme or style but should multi-generational and be used by locals and visitors.

Western Suburbs Greening Plan, Ecoscape, 2002

Key Points:

- A focus on sustainability, connectivity and enhanced recreational and aesthetic amenity.
- Provides a framework for managing, protecting, preserving and enhancing vegetation.
- There are no Bush Forever sites within the Town.
- Regional greenways provide linkage between significant remnant bushland areas, coastal habitats, riverine habitats and wetlands.
- Securing linkages between locally significant bushland and extending regionally significant bushland.
- Developing linkages between open space, parks and recreational areas to remnant bushland.

Figure 2. Extract from 'Cottesloe Recreation Precinct Plan' AECOM 2018

Natural Areas Management Plan, Ecoscape, 2008

Key Points:

- Strong approach towards natural area management through an efficient allocation of resources.
- Gives priority to all current natural areas listed as POS and enhancing the natural value of the Town.

Vision to enhance or restore to a resemblance of the original vegetation.

Cottesloe Foreshore Renewal Masterplan, Cardno, 2016

Key Points:

- Focused on vehicle and pedestrian patterns, cultural significance, access, materiality and sustainability.

Cottesloe Skatepark and Youth Space Feasibility Report, enlocus, 2018

Key Points:

- The investment in such spaces is strategically aligned and supports the Town's Vision.
- 1000+ signature petition supports youth focused community facilities.

Draft Cottesloe Foreshore Masterplan, Aspect Studios, Current

Key Points:

- The masterplan addresses the foreshore between Forrest Street and Eric Street.
- The Draft Foreshore Masterplan nominates a location for a new major playground which this POS and Playground Strategy supports.

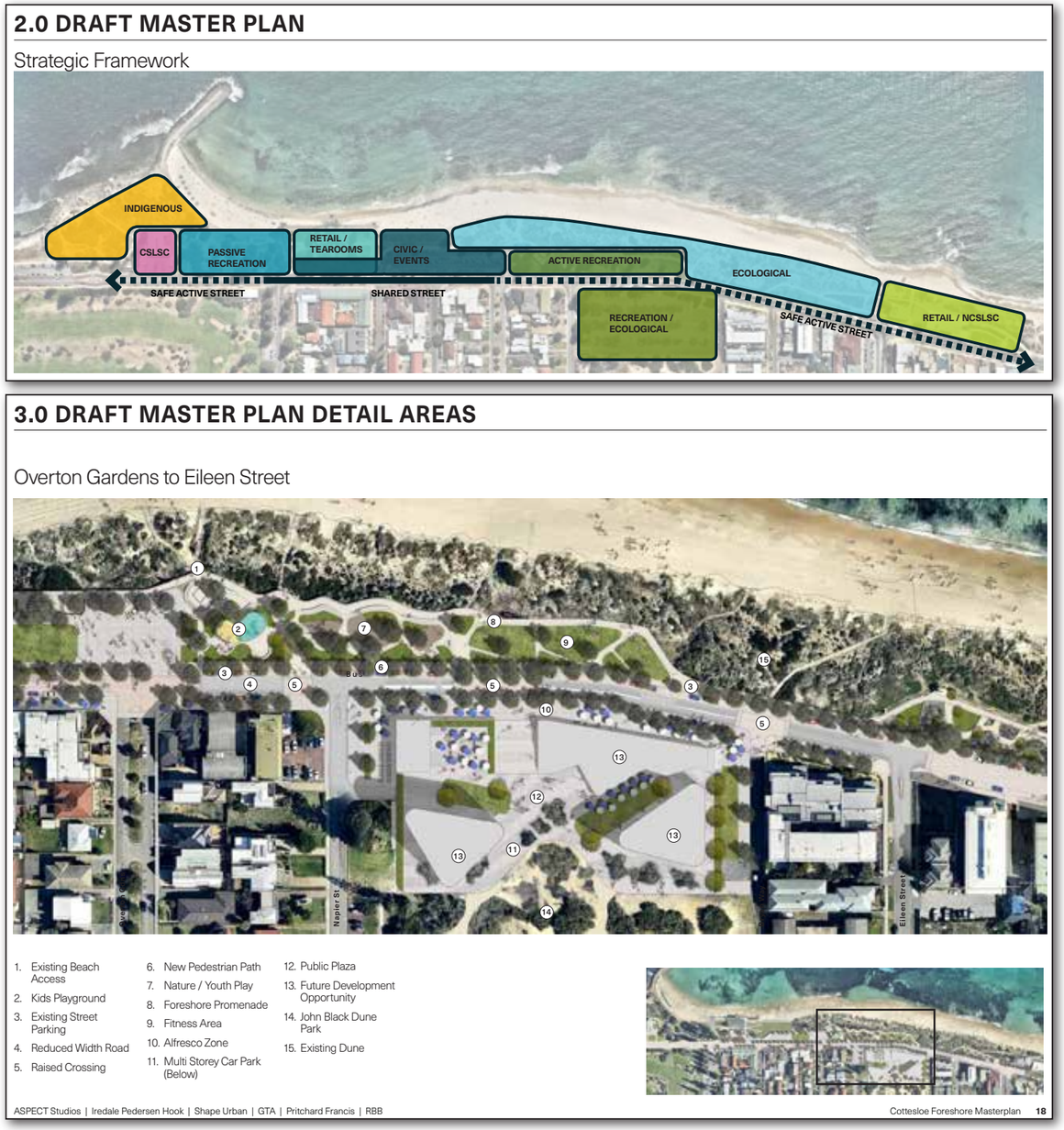


Figure 3. Extracts from 'Draft Cottesloe Foreshore Masterplan' Aspect Studios, current

1.3 SENSE OF PLACE

Cottesloe's Sense of Place is a strong component driving the Public Open Space & Playground Strategy. As outlined in Vicki Woods' *Sense of Place,* Cottesloe has a unique multi-faceted identity that has formed the Sense of Place clearly felt today. The Noongar significance, European history, the beach, limestone and avenues of Norfolk Island Pines, among many other factors, are what gives Cottesloe its Sense of Place.

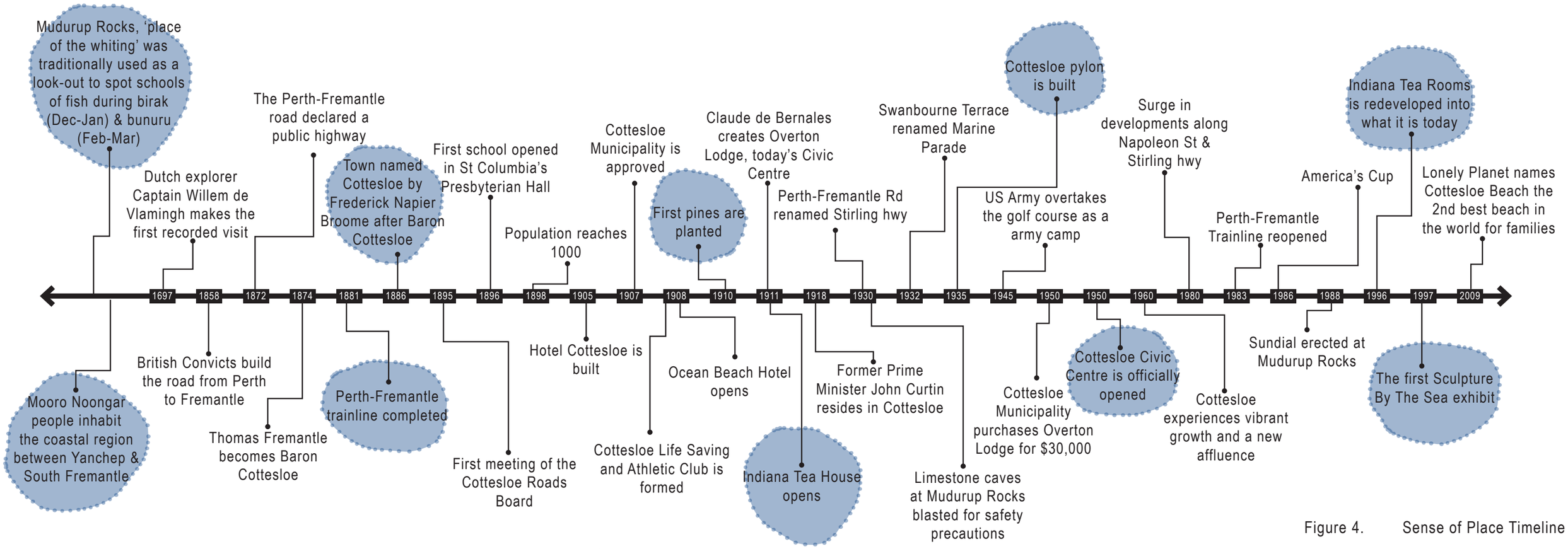


Figure 4. Sense of Place Timeline

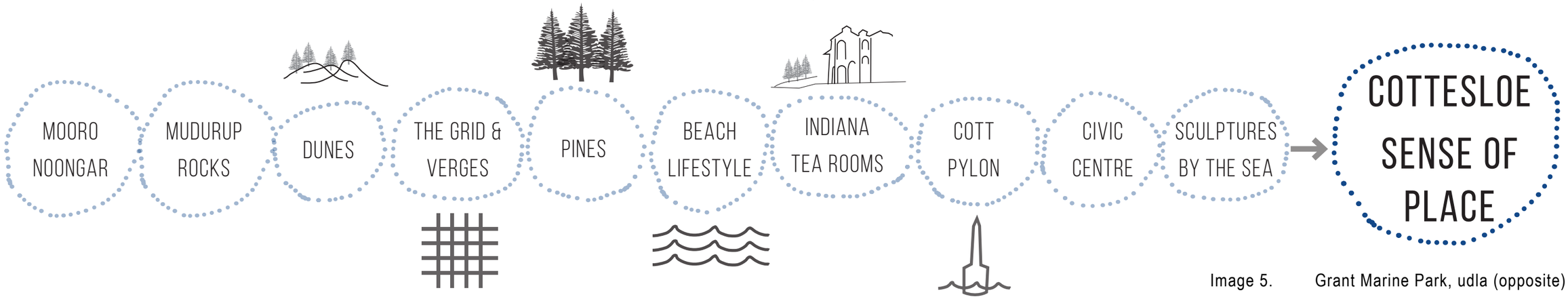


Image 5. Grant Marine Park, udla (opposite)

2.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Part One of the Strategy is a review of the town's POS at a macro level. This part of the document takes an overarching view of the town's POS and highlights areas of deficiency utilising access requirements, population data, functionality, current and future plans for various parks and spaces, and physical attributes of the locality. Each existing POS has been mapped, quantified and gaps in provision, opportunity and level of service identified leading to a series of recommendations concerning opportunities for new and existing POS. The outcome is a proposal for a simplified level-of-service hierarchy of POS that capitalises upon Cottesloe's unique Sense of Place. The result is 4 key recommendations each with highlighted benefits, key issues to address, and actions to implement. In summary these approaches are:

Coastal Corridor

Establish an integrated Regional Level Foreshore POS that brings together the various plans and projects into a broader vision that caters not only to locals but to the wider Perth community. Linked by a significant pedestrian promenade with opportunities for play, exercise, art and cultural interpretation along its length. This is effectively a change in mindset – rather than understanding the foreshore as numerous discreet spaces, it is promoted and managed as a coherent place with precincts.

The Heart Corridor

Establish a linked series of Neighbourhood parks along the Broome St spine forming a 'Heart' of Cottesloe that provides for active and passive, formal and informal recreation, play, community and sporting opportunities for residents of Cottesloe and nearby. This builds a language of Broome St as the heart of Cottesloe and improvements to its pathways and verges to better link the various active spaces.

Railway Corridor

Establish a linked series of Micro and Local park and parklets into a railway corridor primarily aimed at providing for play, youth, informal sport and expression. This approach addresses the significant shortfall of useful POS in the town's eastern corridor and can be implemented as small projects and temporary activations, using elements that are easy to move. This reflects the fact that ToC does not have planning control over the corridor.

Ecological Link

Establish the Grant St median as a biodiversity corridor and ecological transect that links together existing water management swales, revegetation, and remnant vegetation thus addressing the shortfall of ecologically active POS within the town. There are opportunities for environmental and cultural interpretation and community participation.

Further opportunities for Cottesloe's 'big verges' and medians to provide de facto POS benefits have also been considered.

Image 6. Jasper Green Reserve, udla

2.2 BENEFITS OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

There are significant benefits associated with accessing and utilising POS. Green places such as parks, fields, and playgrounds have been linked to a better perceived general health and reduced stress levels, with reduced depression and more greater well-being (healthyplaces.org.au). There is emerging evidence that suggests the more walking people do, the better their physical and mental state becomes.

Some of the important benefits from engaging in regular physical activity include:

- Improved physical health and well-being;
- Improved mental health;
- Enhanced social outcomes; and,
- Reduced healthcare costs.

The number of benefits that POS provides for people is paramount to the reasons for developing a POS & Playground Strategy. Aside from the mental and physical well-being provided by POS, there are also significant environmental benefits through the protecting of local biodiversity, retaining complex ecological systems and providing spaces to best manage urban water. (dsr.wa.gov.au)

Image 7. Drainage Swale, udla

2.3 KEY CONSIDERATIONS

In order to thoroughly assess POS, there are a number of key considerations that inform the process. Each consideration is an important proponent of the public realm and is often determined by key trends and latest research or changing approaches to design. These include:

Vision

A relaxed coastal network of high quality, resource efficient POS & Playgrounds across the Town that will satisfy the current and future community needs in an equitable and sustainable manner, while preserving and improving Cottesloe's unique natural and built environment.

Play & Playability

Does the space have a playground? Is there a variety of types of play opportunity catering for different ages and abilities?

Safety

Does the space feel safe to be in and is it safe to use? This refers to lighting, visibility/clear sight lines and passive surveillance, while also considering the infrastructure and the condition it is in.

Connectivity & Access

Universal access for all ages and abilities is critical. Are there clear pathways and access throughout for pedestrians of all ages & abilities and vehicles? Does the space connect with immediate users and the surrounding community? Is there infrastructure such as parking, public transport, bike racks available for people to better access the space?

Infrastructure

Relating to the hierarchy classification developed by Liveable Neighbourhoods, does the space have adequate amenity suitable to its size and function? A critical specific component of POS infrastructure is social seating that caters for the needs of all ages and abilities.

Recreation

Is there a variety of recreational opportunities for users other then play such as organised and unorganised sport, events or exercise and inform social/family gatherings?

Environment

Does the POS address the opportunities & constraints presented by the existing and surrounding environment? Is there an environmental approach to the space?

Cultural Interpretation

Does the space identify any cultural significance specific to the site or the surrounding area? How is this portrayed to enhance the sense of place?

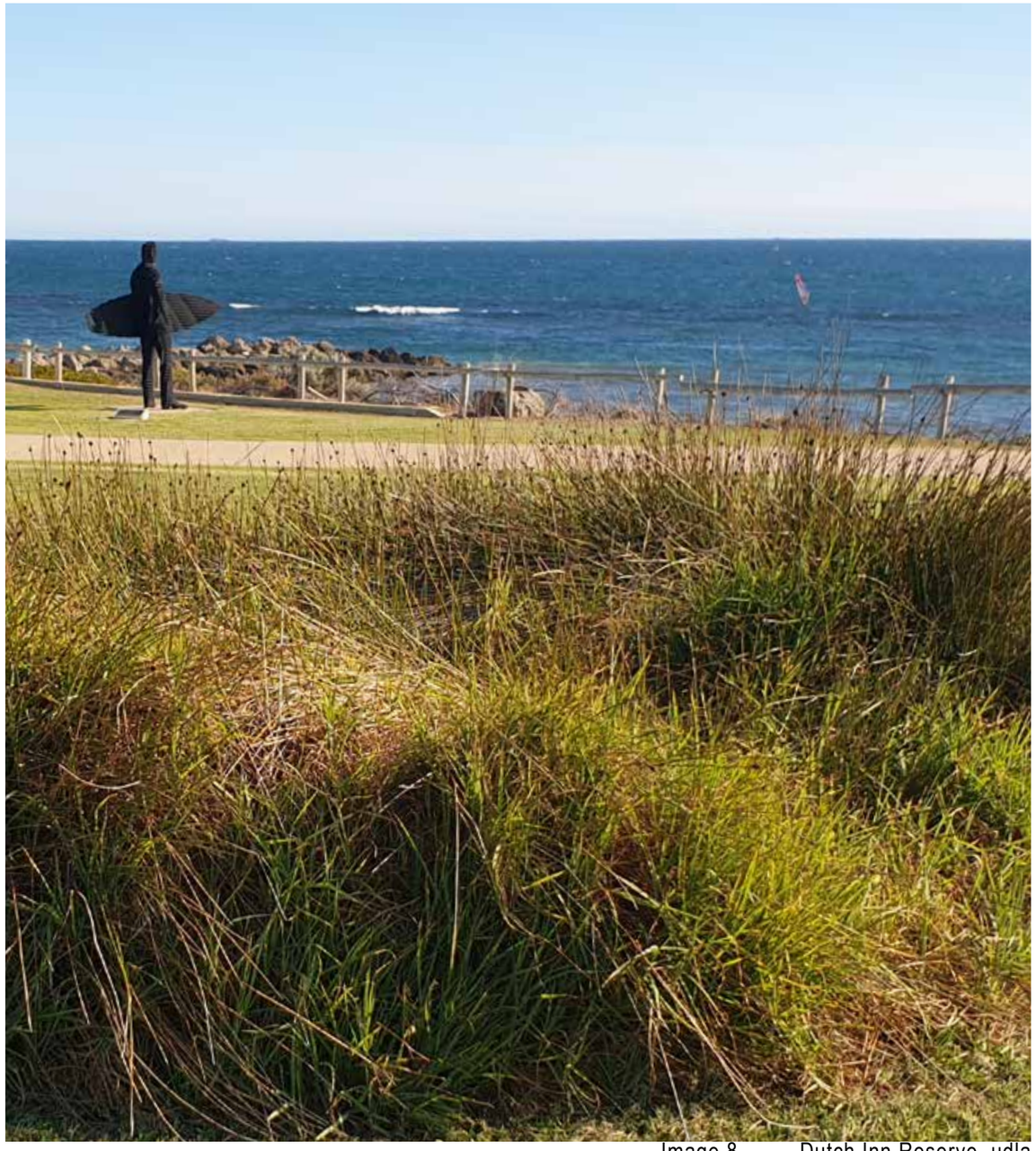


Image 8. Dutch Inn Reserve, udla

2.4 OVERVIEW

There are 12 Public Open Spaces within the Town of Cottesloe. For the purpose of this document, the entire foreshore is considered a Regional POS.

All existing parks that are currently allocated as dog off lead exercise areas will remain the same.

The verge along Marine Parade has multiple Micro Park sized beach access/ respite points that are considered as part of the Foreshore Reserve. There is currently planning underway that will impact Jen's Park, John Black Dune Park, Harvey Field and various points along the foreshore.

There are 9 playgrounds within the ToC. All playgrounds except for Purple Dinosaur, have basic play equipment. Purple Dinosaur is a fenced sandpit with moveable toys and respite for parents/ carers. The majority of playgrounds contain 'off the shelf' play equipment and forts from Megatoy, a discontinued play equipment supplier.

Key Findings:

- POS are concentrated to the area around Cottesloe Beach, primarily west of Marine Pde;
- Lack of POS at Cottesloe's Town Centre (Napolean Street and surrounds);
- Planning is underway for the Foreshore & John Black Dune Park, Harvey Field (Aecom) and Jen's Park (Main Roads);
- Allen Park located outside of the Town's northern boundary is used by north Cottesloe residents;
- Lack of defined POS along train line, despite ample room for several connected POS to exist.
- The Foreshore provides a significant POS function and is by far Cottesloe's most significant asset.

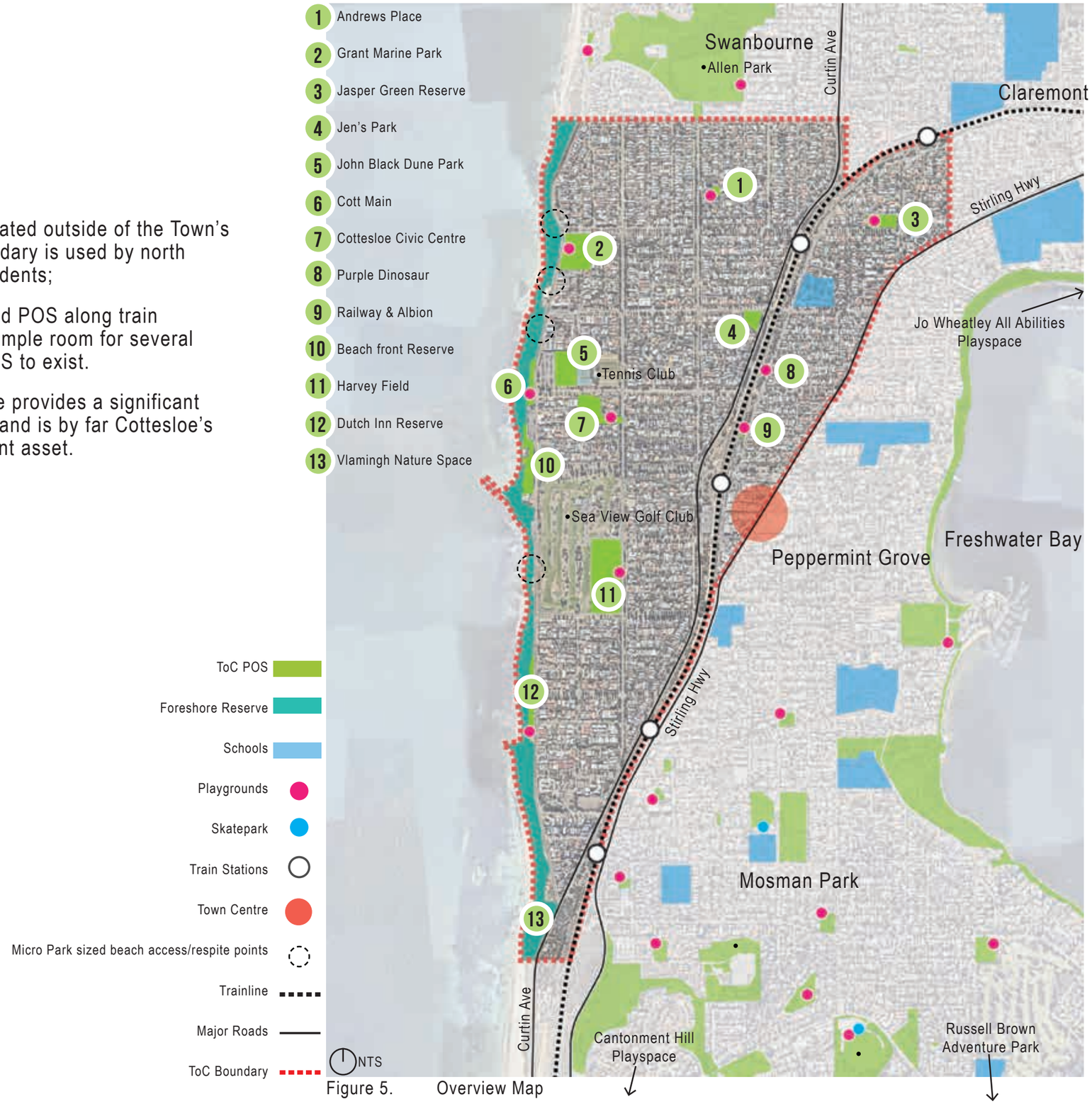


Figure 5. Overview Map

2.5 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BARRIERS

A major barrier to the Town's POS is the rail corridor and the two main roads, Curtin Avenue and Stirling Highway. These busy transport routes are significant barriers for both pedestrian and vehicle access due to the separation caused between east and west Cottesloe and the surrounding areas. There are three level crossings for vehicles at Victoria Street, Salvado Street and Jarrad Street which cause frequent congestion at peak times.

Cottesloe has a unique undulating topography which is part of its character and simultaneously a barrier to POS. This topography experiences relatively steep inclines at certain areas as highlighted on the adjacent map. Pedestrians may be impacted by this due to the difficulty negotiating these steep paths.

There are multiple entry points into the Town of Cottesloe. From analysing these points, there is a lack of clear, updated way-finding signage directing pedestrians and traffic to key destinations within the Town, specifically POS and playgrounds.

Barriers:

- Train line and level crossings;
- Curtin Avenue and Stirling Highway;
- Steep streets;
- Lack of signage and poor way-finding,
- Disconnected Town Centre; and
- Marine Parade is a barrier to the foreshore.

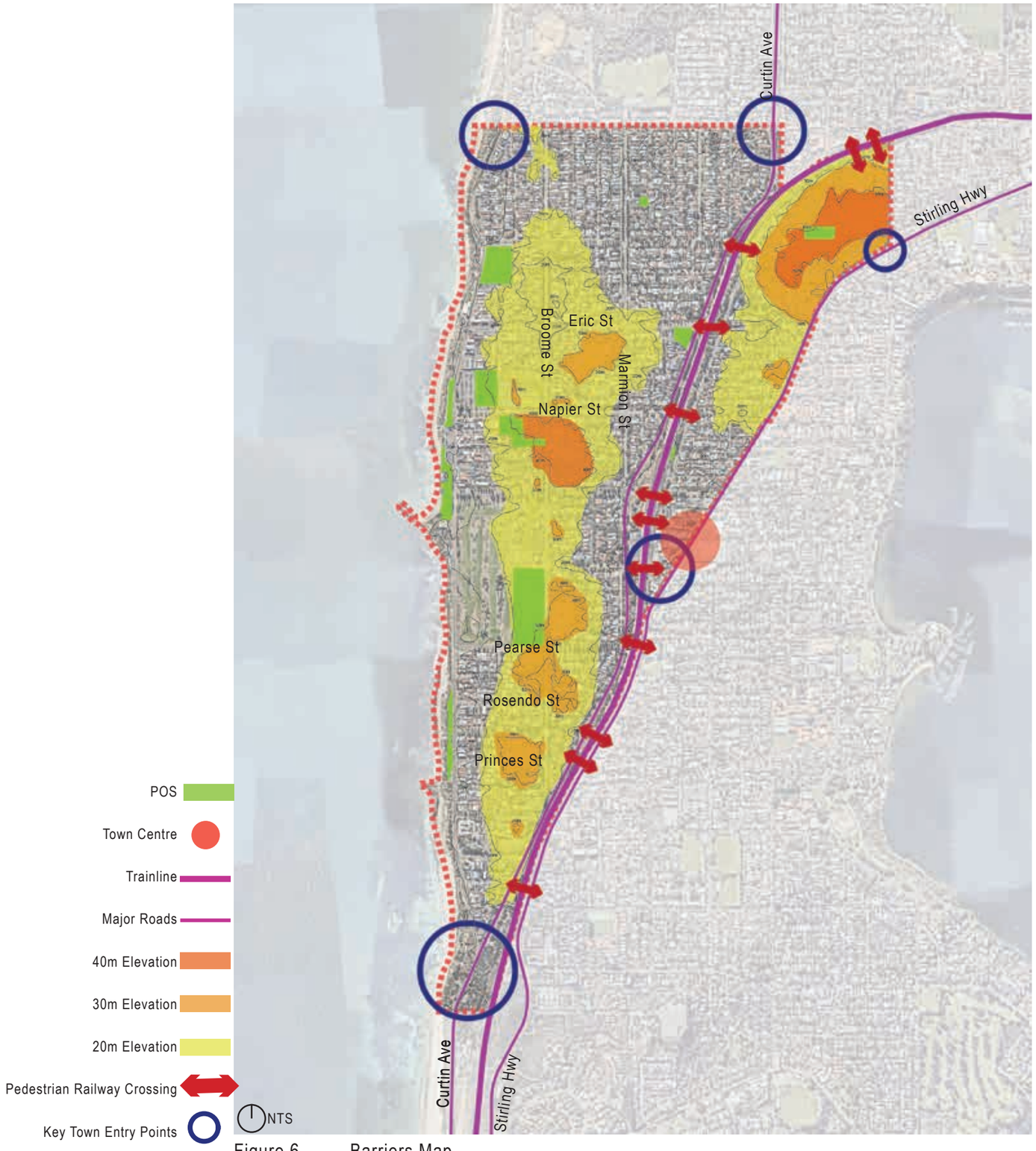


Figure 6. Barriers Map

2.6 PUBLIC AMENITY

Public amenity are the facilities, infrastructure or general conveniences that are available to the general public for use and enjoyment. The Town is well serviced with public amenity. Cottesloe has established itself as a popular destination for locals, the surrounding community and a diverse range of visitors.

A key attractor to POS for people is food & coffee and the Town is well serviced with access to cafés and restaurants, particularly around the Town Centre, along Eric St and along the Foreshore but also at key intersections in the form of 'Corner-Deli' type businesses. Locating these community attractors adjacent playgrounds within POS can be a successful method for activating such spaces. There is also opportunity for inclusion of mobile food and beverage services such as coffee carts to service POS and playgrounds not located near a cafe during peak use times.

There are also a number of public use assets spread throughout the Town such as beach showers, sculptures, bus stops, disability parking and a number of other features highlighted on the map shown.

Key Findings:

- The Town has a large supply of food and beverage shops, which are well distributed on main streets and key intersections;
- Concentration of public amenity along north portion of Marine Parade and at the Town Centre;
- Lack of public amenity within dense residential pockets;
- Significant sculpture collection;
- Lack of public toilets;
- Numerous beach access points; and,
- Significant tree canopy coverage.

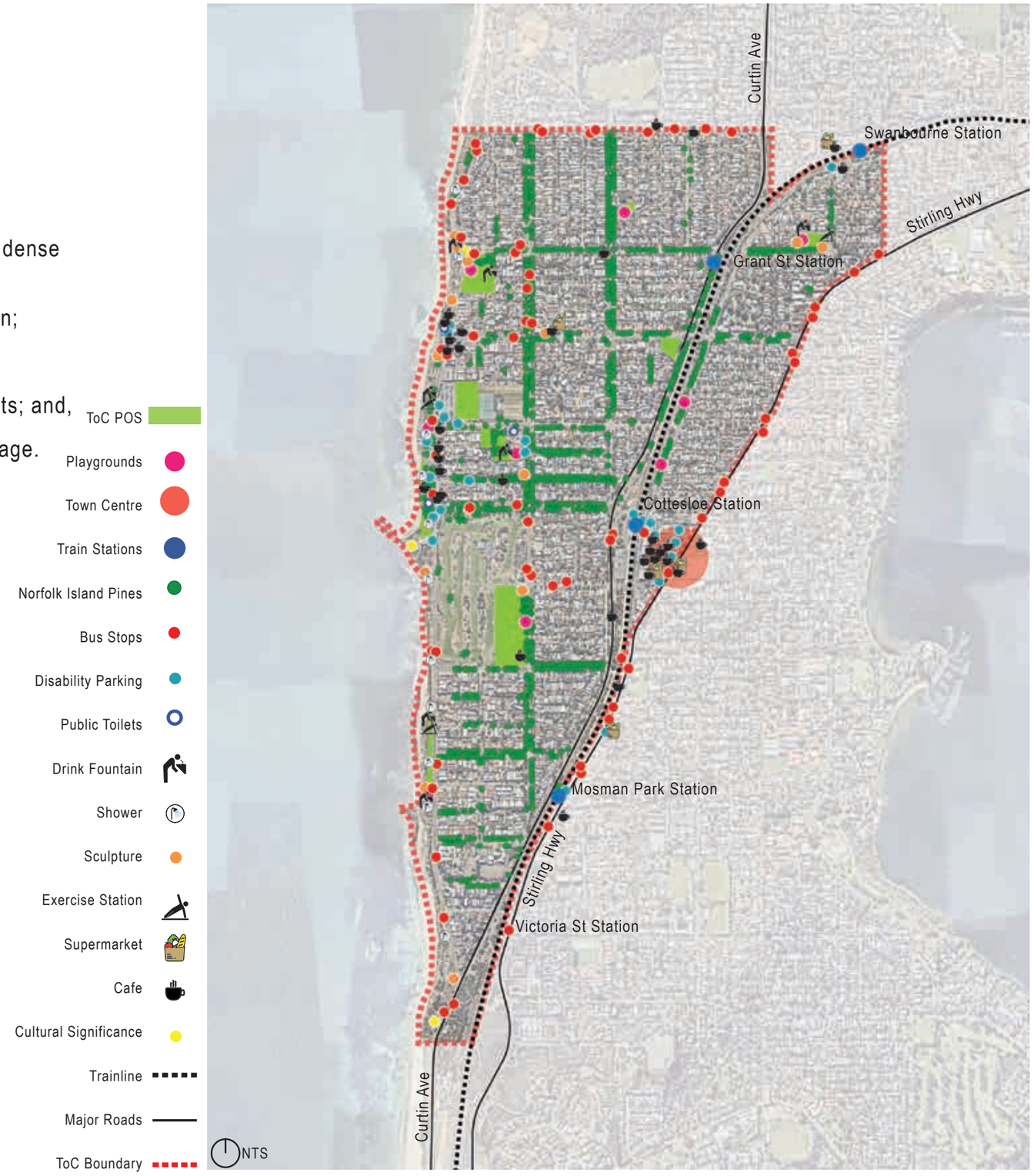


Figure 7. Public Amenities Map

2.7 THE BIG VERGES

The original layout of the Town's streets was a large square grid which still exists today, and is what creates the strong east-west and north-south axis. The original lots were subdivided in this way to reflect the Garden City approach to planning that was popular during the time. This approach intended to enhance pedestrian walkability due to the approximate 400m lengths of the blocks which equates roughly to a 5 minute walk.

There are multiple instances of small pockets of respite and impromptu installations (tree swings, seating nodes and community initiatives such as the 'Secret Garden' on Little Marine Parade). The big verges are fundamental to Cottesloe's physical character and Sense of Place, however these have generally not been included in the analysis of existing POS.

Key Findings:

- Verges act as an extension of the front yard and allow for impromptu installations, such as tree swings;
- Verges function as a biodiversity corridor;
- Norfolk Island Pine line many of the verges. *Agonis flexuosa* is another prominent verge tree;
- Utilised for extra parking during peak events and by residents;
- Jasper Green Reserve utilises the verge as POS; and,
- Grant Street median has significant drainage functions and also acts as informal car parking.

Figure 8. Cottesloe Key Verges Map

2.8 FUNCTION & TYPOLOGY

There is a range of POS types and uses within the Town. These include:

Passive

No organised sporting facilities, however may include open turf areas, playspaces and infrastructure to support social gathering.

Active

Infrastructure to support organised sporting events (e.g. football oval) and recreational pursuits (e.g. skate park).

Environmental

Areas worth protecting and enhancing due to environmental values, such as vegetated (remnant and/or revegetated) green space with limited open space as well as water management functions.

Events

Spaces that provide opportunity for community gathering, structured events.

Key Findings:

- Lack of environmental function within most POS, except John Black Dune Park and Grant Marine Park;
- The Grant Street and Broome Street corridors are highlighted in *Western Suburbs Greening Plan* as an opportunity to be established as a 'developing greenway'. This aligns with the existing environmental typologies of these areas;
- Grant Street is a significant environmental link to the coast;
- Harvey Field is the only POS that caters for organised sport;
- Grant Marine Park is multi-functional;
- There are a number of small POS host informal events such as family gatherings, birthday parties etc;
- Civic Centre & Harvey Field hosts corporate & private events;
- Sculptures By The Sea is held along the beach front reserve in March annually.

Figure 9. POS Green Spaces Map

2.9 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE HIERARCHY

2.9.1 CLASSIFICATION

The Hierarchy Classification System is informed by Liveable Neighbourhoods, 2015. For the purpose of this document, the addition of Micro Park categorises POS that is less than 0.4 Hectares (Ha) in size, which covers POS within the Town that provide specific POS benefits but are smaller than a Local Park. The system is a guide based on size (Ha).

TYPES	PURPOSE	PLAY ELEMENTS	INFRASTRUCTURE	EXAMPLE
REGIONAL PARK • Large areas of significance to the whole city servicing one or more regions and an attraction for visitors.	*'Super-sized reserve'* • Recreation, sport or nature • Variety of activities in multiple areas	• Large/multiple playspaces • Caters for different ages and abilities • Diverse mix of play elements and types e.g. physical play areas, multiple play structures/nodes and enclosed spaces	• Accessible seating and picnic shelter nodes • BBQ & Drink fountains • Shade • Accessible pathways • Access to public toilets	The entire Foreshore Reserve including the beach access points along the Foreshore verge.
DISTRICT PARK • 5Ha - 15Ha in size • 1-2km from home	*'Sport & play'* • Multiple recreation activities • Family & community gathering • Organised sporting & events	• Playspace will depend on sporting function and available space • Generally caters for limited age range • Can include similar elements to local level	• Accessible seating, picnic shelter • Drink fountain • BBQ (negotiable) • Shade • Accessible pathways • Access to public toilets	There are no District Parks within the Town. Allen Park in the City of Nedlands is a nearby District Park at the north boundary of the Town.
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK • 1Ha - 5Ha in size • 800m walk from home	*'Our community heart'* • Multiple recreation activities • Family & social gatherings • Intended for longer visits	• Medium to large playspace • Caters for broader age range • Can include range of play types e.g. exercise equipment, outdoor multi-court, play structures and nature play elements.	• Accessible seating, picnic shelter • Drink fountain • BBQ (negotiable) • Shade • Accessible pathway	Grant Marine Park, Grant Street
LOCAL PARK • 0.4Ha - 1Ha in size • 400m walk from home	*'Our street meeting place'* • Basic recreation activities • Dog walking, play • Intended for short visits	• Small to medium sized • Caters for a limited age range • Can include 1 to 2 types of play e.g. nature play elements, modular equipment, climbing frame and swings	• Accessible seating • Natural shade or shade sail • Accessible pathways • Education opportunities e.g stories, interpretation	Jasper Green Reserve, Grant Street
MICRO PARK • Less than 0.4Ha in size • 300m walk from home	*'My extended backyard'* • Rest, relaxation, play. • Intended for short visits	• May have basic play element/s in a small playspace e.g. swing, natural play elements	• Accessible seating & Pathways • Minimal landscaping & small scale community initiatives such as community gardens • Shade	Andrews Place

Table 3. POS Hierarchy Classification System

2.9.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK

A Neighbourhood Park serves as a 'community meeting place'. The size of a neighbourhood park ranges from 1Ha to 5Ha and is a 400m or 5 minute walk to access it. This type of POS provides basic elements such as turf, shade, seating and play equipment. There is also the provision of recreation elements such as sporting & exercise equipment, drink fountains and BBQs.

Key Findings:

- Neighbourhood POS concentrated to western edge of the Town;
- 3 of the 5 Neighbourhood Parks have playgrounds;
- Grant Marine Park is in prime location and presents significant opportunity to be a improved;
- John Black Dune Park is considered a Neighbourhood Park due to size, but functions as an environmental POS with little amenity;
- Lack of Neighbourhood POS at a large portion of the north-east & south area of the Town; and,
- Allen Park, although outside the boundary of the Town provides for part of the north of Cottesloe.

Figure 10. Neighbourhood Parks, 400m walk

2.9.3 LOCAL PARK

A Local Park varies from 0.4Ha to 1Ha in size and 400m or a 5 minute walk. Local Parks provide immediate residents and the surrounding streets with a space for relaxation and respite with simple elements, play equipment and opportunity for family and social gathering.

Key Findings:

- Local Parks are spread relatively evenly throughout the Town;
- Lack of access to Local Parks for residents within the central north-south portion;
- Jen's Park is excluded from this assessment as it is considered reserve land for future upgrades at Curtin Avenue and Eric Street;
- Cott Main is in prime location and has opportunity to be ugrades to a POS of regional significance;
- Jasper Green Reserve provides a high level of amenity for users;
- Jasper Green Reserve utilises the verge of William Street as POS; and,
- Curtin Avenue, the train line and Stirling Highway are barriers that restrict Jasper Green's 400m catchment, as shown in the figure opposite.

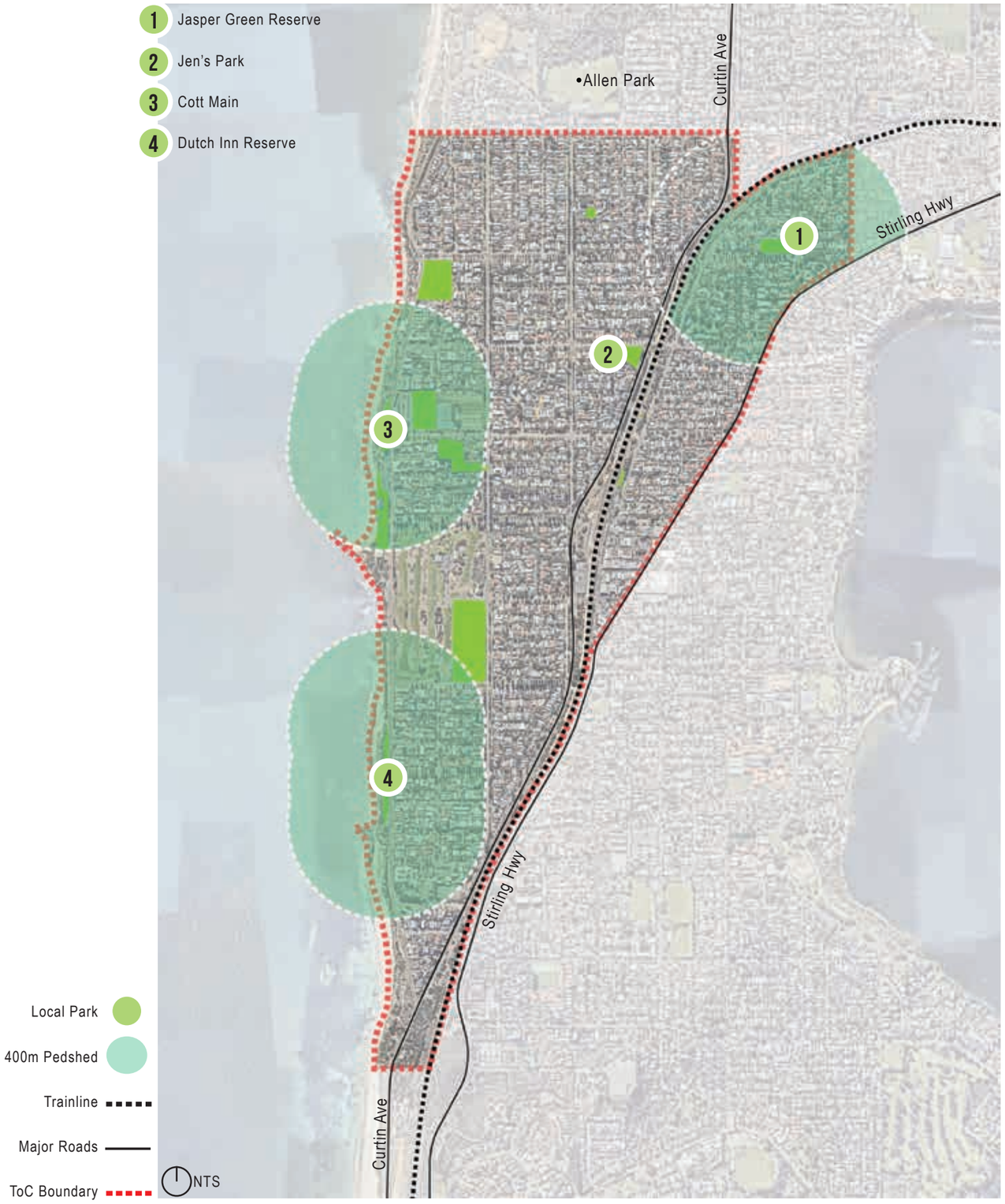


Figure 11. Local Parks, 400m walk

2.9.4 MICRO PARK

Micro Parks are an additional POS category that are less than 0.4 ha in area. These parks are a 200m or 3 minute walk for users. Micro Parks are intended for immediate residents as an extension of their backyard.

Key Findings:

- Lack of Micro Parks within the Town in general;
- All have play elements;
- Purple Dinosaur provides unique benefits such as imaginative play, loose parts play, community ownership and respite for parents;
- POS outside the Town on south-east edge is difficult to access due to train line; and,
- There are multiple Micro Park sized beach access points that provide POS-like functions such as having seating, drink fountain, turf area, bike parking and sculptural elements.
- Vlamingh Memorial Nature Space is currently under construction and provides a nature based play space at the southern most portion of the Town.

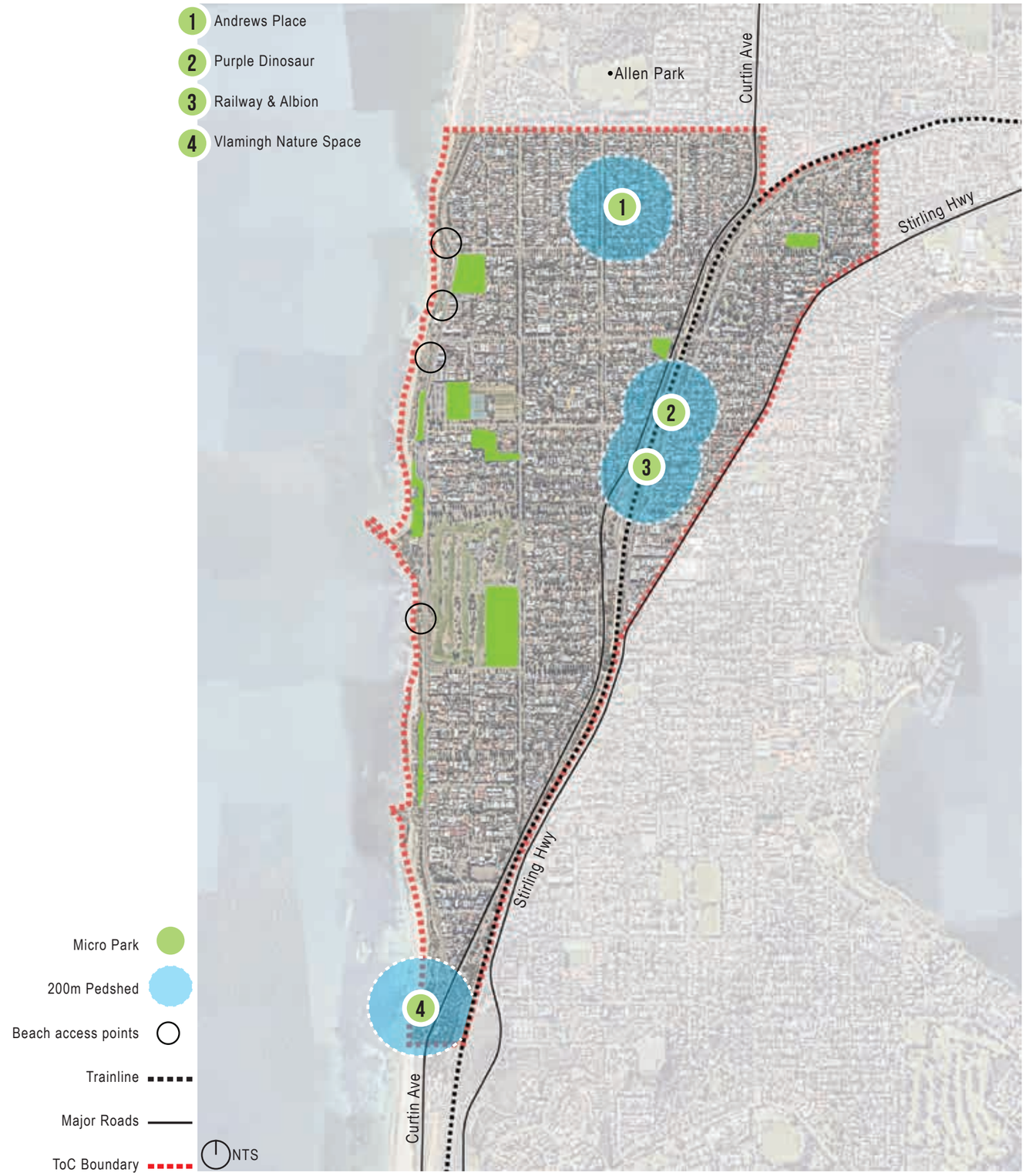


Figure 12. Micro Parks, 200m walk

2.10 GAPS

Figure 13. adjacent shows all POS within the Town, each with their respective pedshed catchments. It highlights where there is a lack of POS within the recommended catchments. Factors such as the train line, sloping topography, lack of direct access via 'straight lines' and the built environment present barriers that affect access to POS.

Key Findings:

- No District level parks;
- Lack of POS around the Town Centre (Napolean Street) and a lack of even distribution of POS east-west across the Town;
- Northern and southern ends of the Town are not well serviced by POS;
- No clear hierarchy of service provision within POS;
- The trainline is a significant barrier to the POS along with Curtin Avenue and Stirling Highway;
- Jen's Park and John Black Dune Park have not been considered in the gaps analysis due to not providing sufficient POS recreation function;
- Allen Park, although not within the Town of Cottesloe is used for both active and passive recreation by those living in the northern end of the Town. It is noted that this does fill a 'gap' in the north of the suburb, but has not been taken into account in regards to upgrades to existing parks and playgrounds.
- Vlamingh Memorial Nature Space is a recent addition and is to provides a nature based playspace. Its 200m catchment only reaches the house at the corner of Curtin Ave and Marine Parade. There is not other residential area within the catchment.

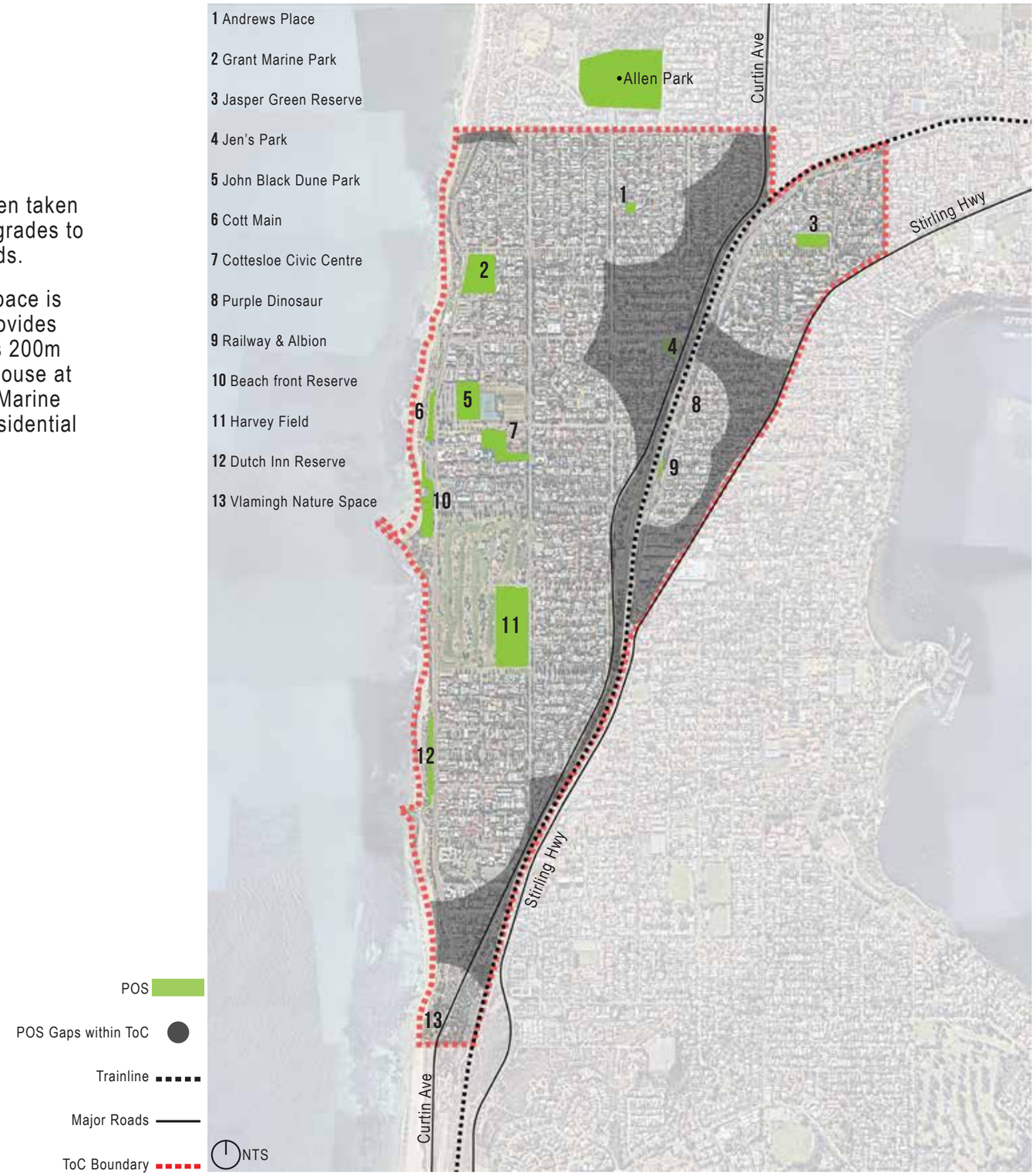


Figure 13. POS Gaps & Pedsheds Map

2.11 FINDINGS SUMMARY

Key Findings

Distribution

- POS concentrated to foreshore;
- Lack of POS around Town Centre and lack of quality POS east of Broome Street generally;
- Foreshore provides significant POS recreation function;
- Train line, Stirling Highway, Curtin Avenue and the steep sloping topography are significant physical barriers to access POS;
- Verges provide opportunity for community initiatives and establishment of ecological & biodiversity corridors within urban fabric;
- Lack of POS along train line and at stations despite ample space;
- Lack of environmental function in most POS;
- Sculptures by the Sea is a large event held at the Beach and beach front Reserve;
- Lack of Micro POS throughout the Town;
- Neighbourhood POS concentrated to western edge, lacking at North-east portion;
- 3 of the 5 Neighbourhood POS have playgrounds; and,
- No District POS is located within the Town.

Individual POS

- Purple Dinosaur is a unique space;
- Jasper Green Reserve is sufficient as POS but is restricted to the north-east corner;
- Jen's Park is set aside for future road works;
- Cott Main has significant potential to be an iconic destination playspace;
- John Black Dune Park is solely environmental in function and is part of future development planning;
- Grant Marine Park has good amenity and enough unencumbered space that allows for substantial opportunity to improve and develop;
- Harvey Field is the only POS catering for large organised sporting events;
- Allen Park in City of Nedlands provides POS opportunity for residents who experience lack of POS at the north edge of ToC; and,
- Vlamingh Memorial Nature Space is a recent addition and provides a nature based playspace. As a future micropark with a 200m catchment, it only reaches the residence at the corner of Curtin Ave and Marine Parade.

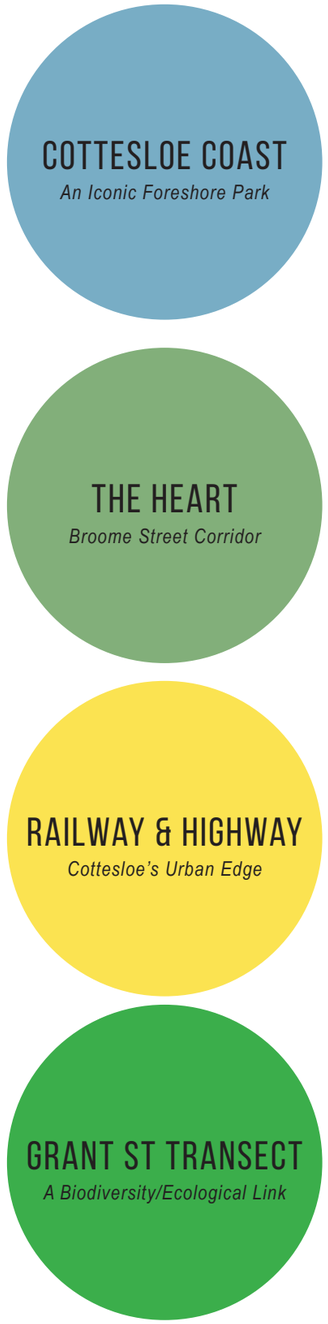
Image 9. Cottesloe Civic Centre, udla

2.12 A POS VISION FOR COTTESLOE

The Town currently lacks a coherent hierarchy for its Public Open Spaces. Based on the analysis and the Hierarchy Classification system from Liveable Neighbourhoods previously outlined, the proposed POS vision establishes a simple and coherent framework that organises POS into four linked 'bands' that provide function and amenity according to location and character.

These opportunities are as follows:

- The coastal portion of the Town along the western edge.
- The central 'heart' of the Town running north-south along Broome Street.
- The land immediately surrounding the rail corridor and the major roads.
- An ecological link along Grant Street verges.



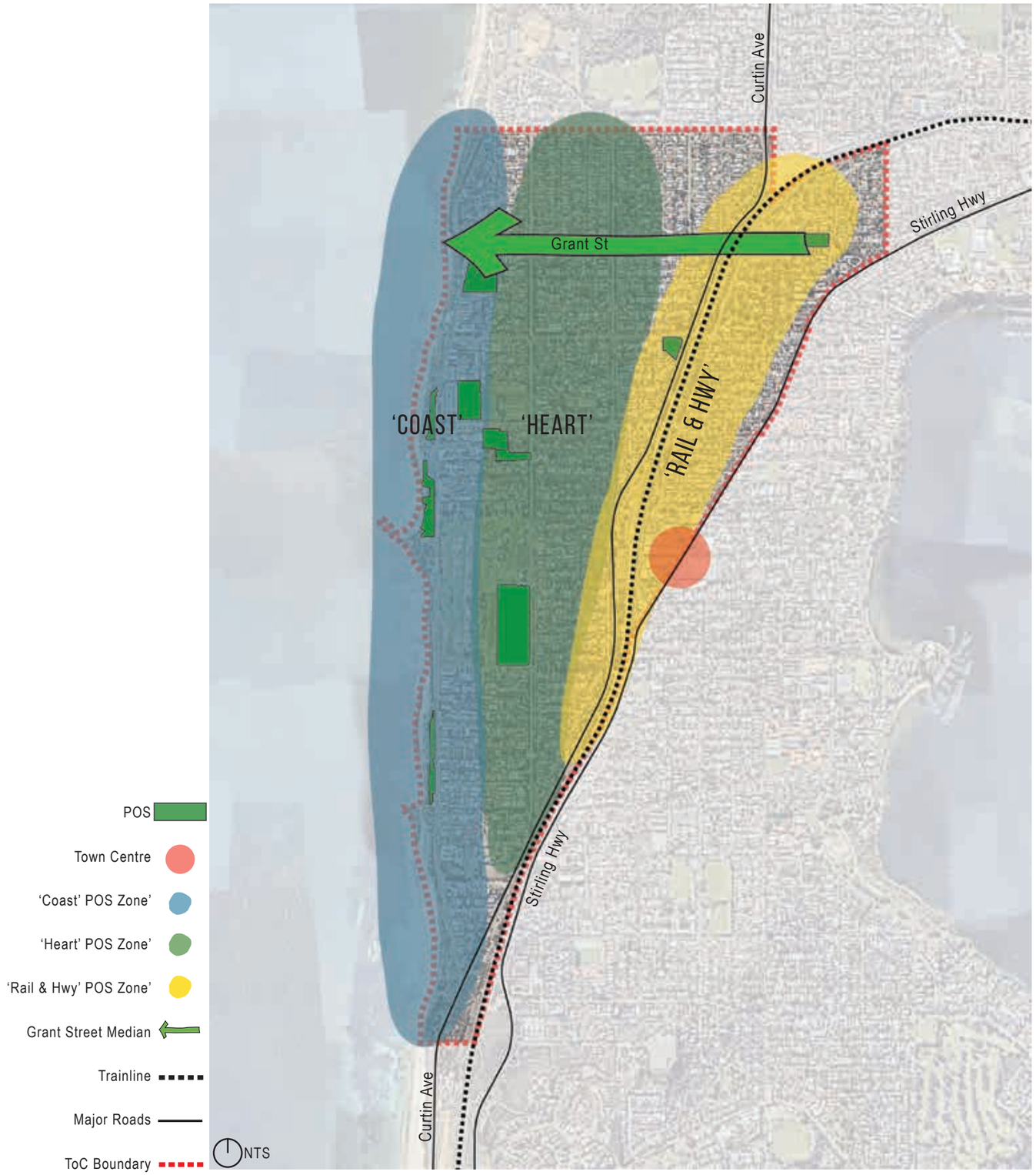
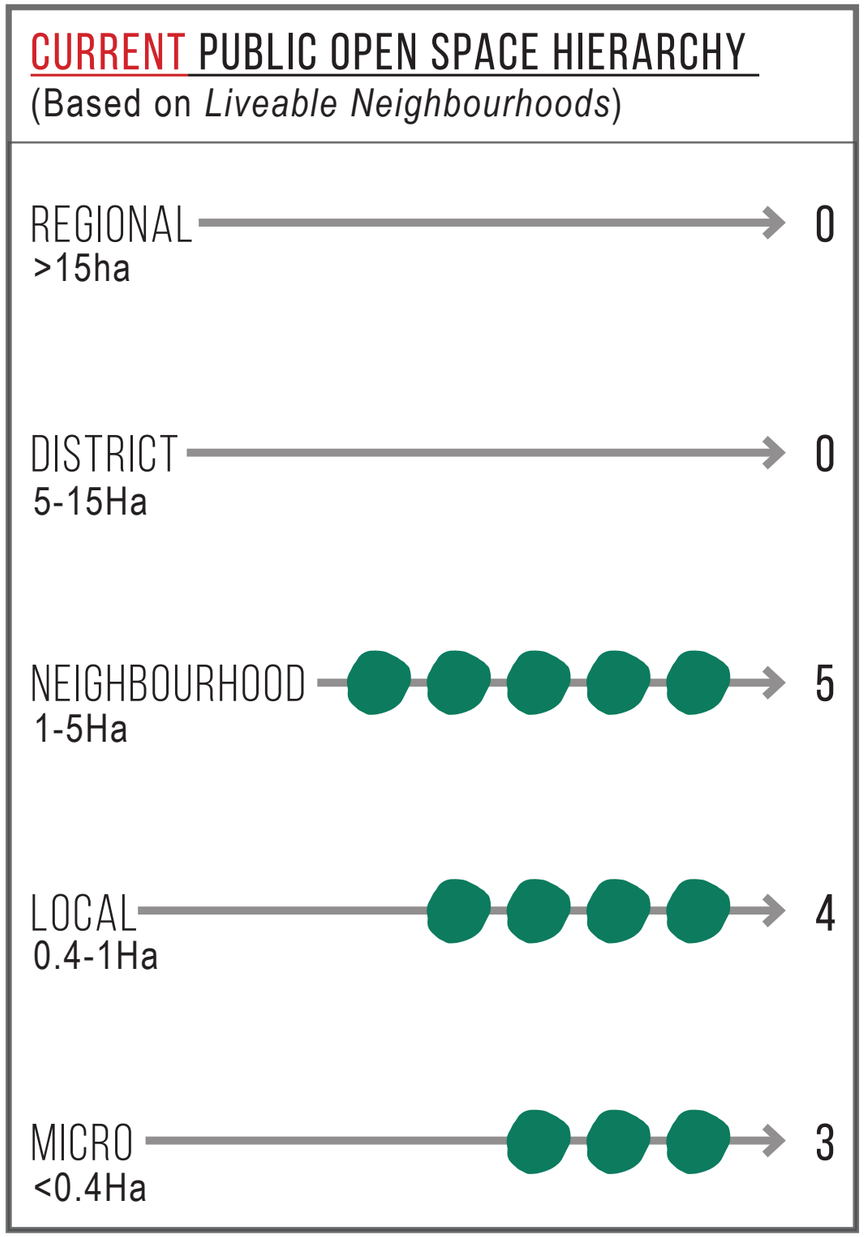
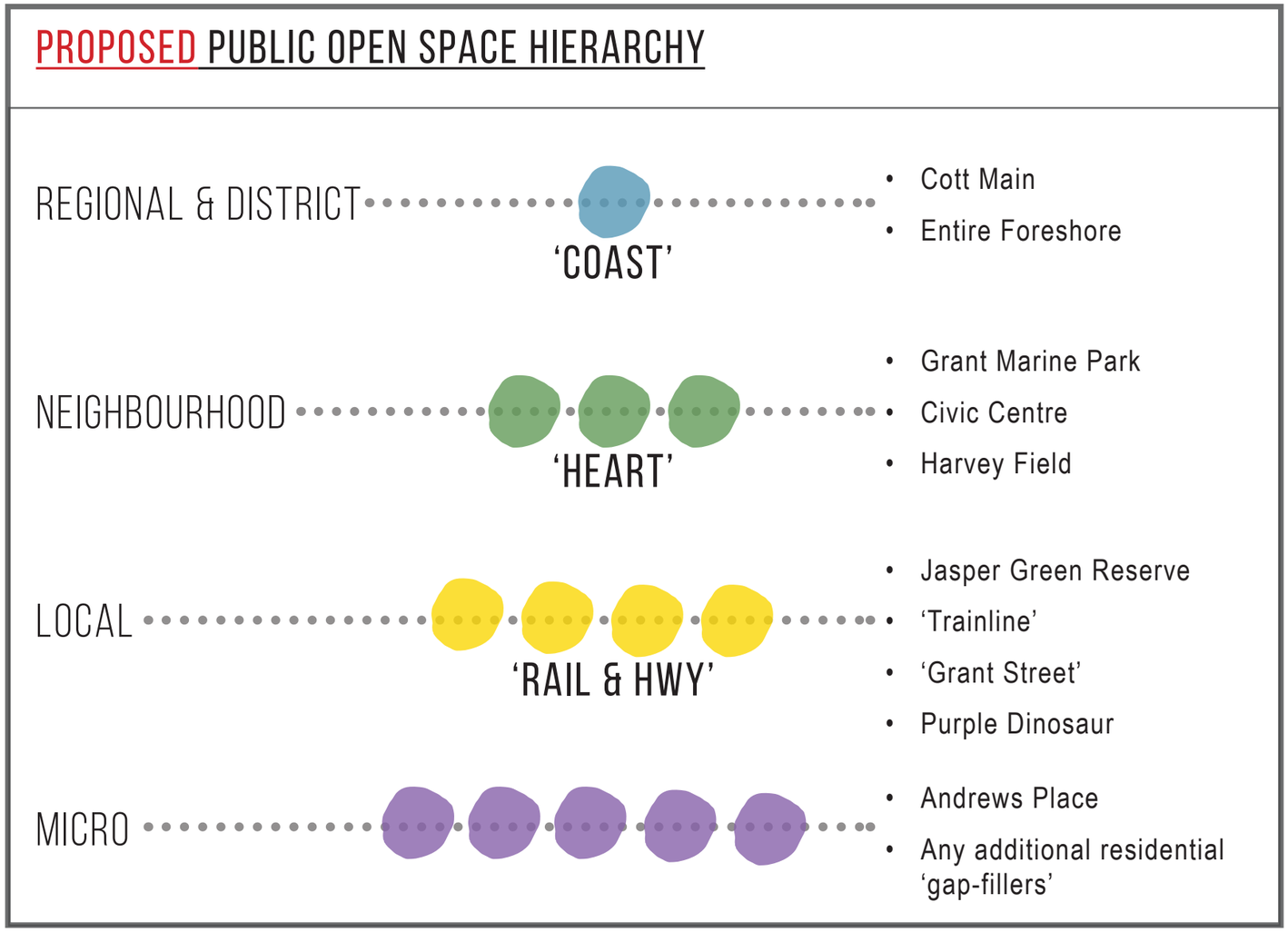


Figure 14. POS Vision for Cottesloe Map

2.12.1 ESTABLISHING A POS HIERARCHY FOR COTTESLOE





2.12.2 COTTESLOE COAST: AN ICONIC FORESHORE PARK

The entire North-South foreshore area west of Marine Parade should be regarded as a connected linear Foreshore Park rather than a disjointed series of small Local and Micro Parks and unallocated spaces. The foreshore is to be treated as a Regional Reserve that is a popular destination for the entire Perth community.

Benefits:

- Promote foreshore as a complete place and experience that encompasses several beaches, dunal areas and a north-south promenade and esplanade experience;
- Opportunity to synchronise all material finishes, fixtures, wayfinding, interpretation to improve legibility and rationalise maintenance;
- Opportunity to improve ecological corridors and dunal vegetation to better enhance biodiversity;
- Manage and upgrade individual pockets of POS within the context of the whole place;
- Better opportunities to promote and manage events; and,
- Certainty for the community and stakeholders;

Next Steps:

- Foreshore to encompass entire Marine Parade;
- Engage with neighbouring LGA's to north & south to improve pedestrian links;
- Establish coherent landscape & built form guidelines for the foreshore reserve;
- Fold in all current foreshore projects including beach access projects, Indiana Tea Rooms etc. into a coherent plan; and,
- Establish precincts along the foreshore (for example, north/central/south).

Figure 15. An Iconic Foreshore Park Diagram

2.12.3 THE HEART: BROOME STREET CORRIDOR

Harvey Field, the Golf Course, Cottesloe Civic Centre, Tennis Club and Eric Street shopping precinct leading to Grant Street collectively forms a north-south spine through the 'Heart' of Cottesloe behind the primary dune. By establishing a hierarchy between these spaces - both public & private and using Broome Street's generous pine-lined verge, we can ensure an even level of POS provision that serves the local Cottesloe community in an evenly distributed manner. The character of the spaces are primarily organised sports, informal sport & recreation, and Civic gardens at the Civic Centre.

Benefits:

- Even distribution of useful sporting and recreation spaces through Cottesloe;
- A consistent & cohesive experience along Broome Street; and,
- Improved connection and inclusiveness between the various sporting clubs and the wider community.

Next Steps:

- Engage with the Tennis Club and Golf Course to find ways to improve the Broome Street interface. Also refer to recommendations explored in *Cottesloe Recreation Precinct Plan, AECOM, 2018;*
- Establish verge policy for Broome Street that encourages community use of the verge space (play, biodiversity, exercise, water management);
- Establish landscape guidelines that indicate planting, finishes, fixtures and signage;
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle connections and safety; and,
- Further emphasise the Civic Centre Gardens as Cottesloe's 'Local Heart'.

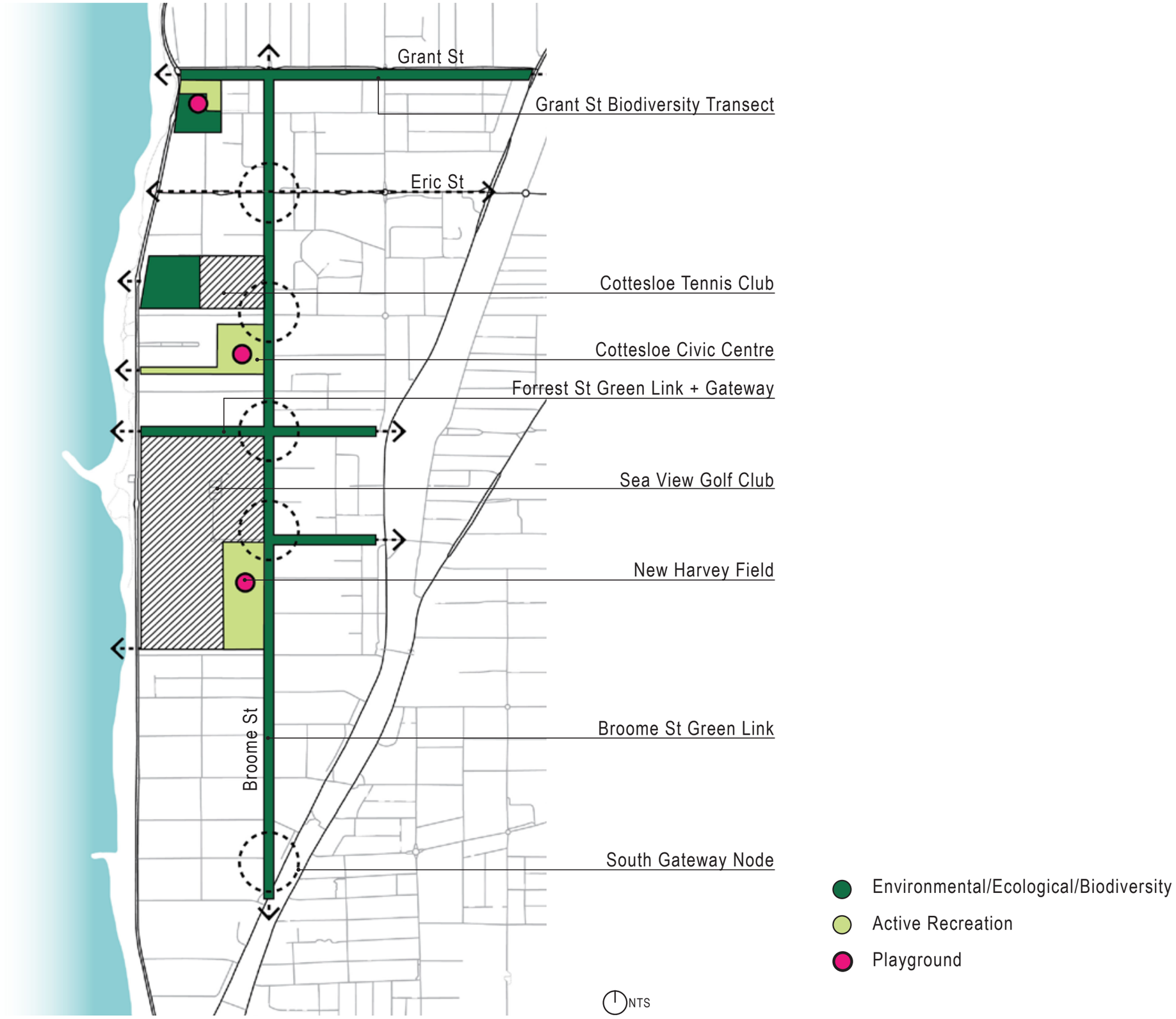


Figure 16. Broome Street Corridor Diagram

2.12.4 RAILWAY & HIGHWAY: COTTESLOE'S URBAN EDGE

The eastern corridor of Cottesloe is the least provided area despite being home to the Town Centre, a school and two train stations, as well as two major gateways (Stirling Highway via Eric Street and West Coast Highway via Curtin Avenue). The railway reserve along Curtin Avenue is the site of the soon to be completed cycle path, however it is the eastern side of the railway that presents the most realistic opportunity with regards to land tenure. Currently two small playspaces exist here and the possibility of a 'pump-track' and/or 'wheeled' sports oriented youth space have been suggested for various sites in this area. Rather than see these as isolated instances, the reuse along the eastern side of the train line should be thought of as a connected and linear space with opportunity for play, social interaction, artwork and exercise stations along a coherent and safe path of travel. In this regard it could be thought of as a series Micro Parks, but is in fact a large urban linear park that can be managed and thought of as a whole place.

Benefits:

- Connected, safe, welcoming and understood as one linear place;
- Easier to manage;
- Promotes exercise & well being; and,
- Activates an underutilised space.

Next Steps:

- Undertake a masterplan vision for the corridor; and,
- Establish design guidelines.

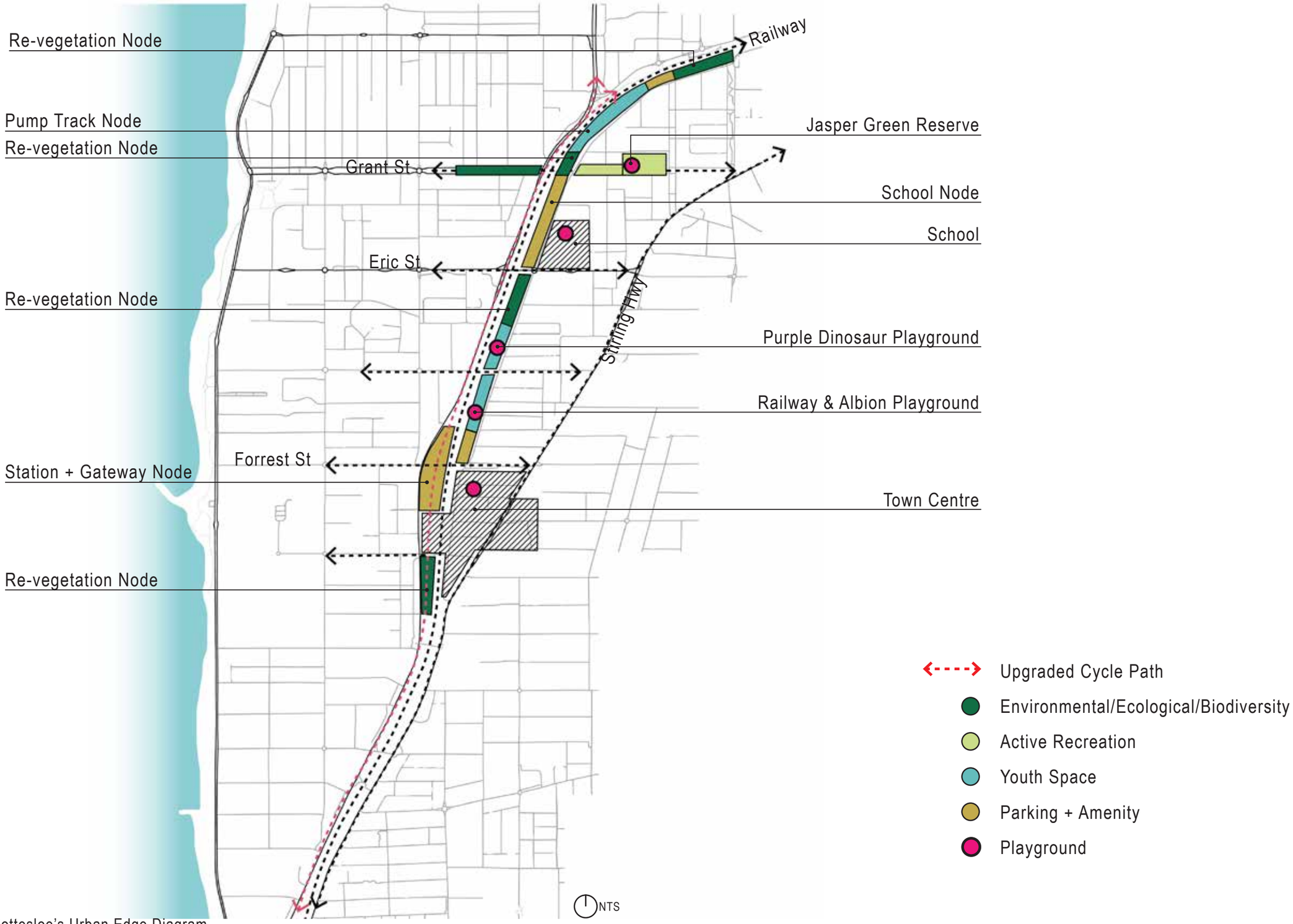


Figure 17. Cottesloe's Urban Edge Diagram

2.12.5 GRANT STREET TRANSECT: AN ECOLOGICAL LINK

The existing Grant Street median presents a unique opportunity to manage and use as POS rather than verge space. Several segments of this median already form the basis of urban water management and revegetation pockets. Other areas are used as informal car parking. Much of the median remains as un-irrigated turf which dries out considerably during the warmer summer months. Grant Street itself runs east-west and effectively forms a transect from Cottesloe's beach front through to Stirling Highway. The Western Suburbs Greening Plan aligns directly with this recommendation by highlighting the opportunity for Grant Street to become a 'Developing Greenway' that connects multiple opportune greenways.

A parking strategy should be undertaken at an early stage and include meaningful engagement with surrounding businesses and residents. This may include developing innovative ways to provide overflow parking in peak times and water sensitive urban design for water harvesting.

Benefits:

- The median is managed as POS rather than roadway, effectively elevating its overall presentation and usefulness to the community;
- A significant increase in ecological infrastructure for Cottesloe that can represent an authentic cross-section of the original environment;
- Improved water management;
- Improved and increased habitat; and
- Increase in passive POS.

Next Steps:

- Establish a detailed vision, design & implementation plan that can be delivered in small stages.

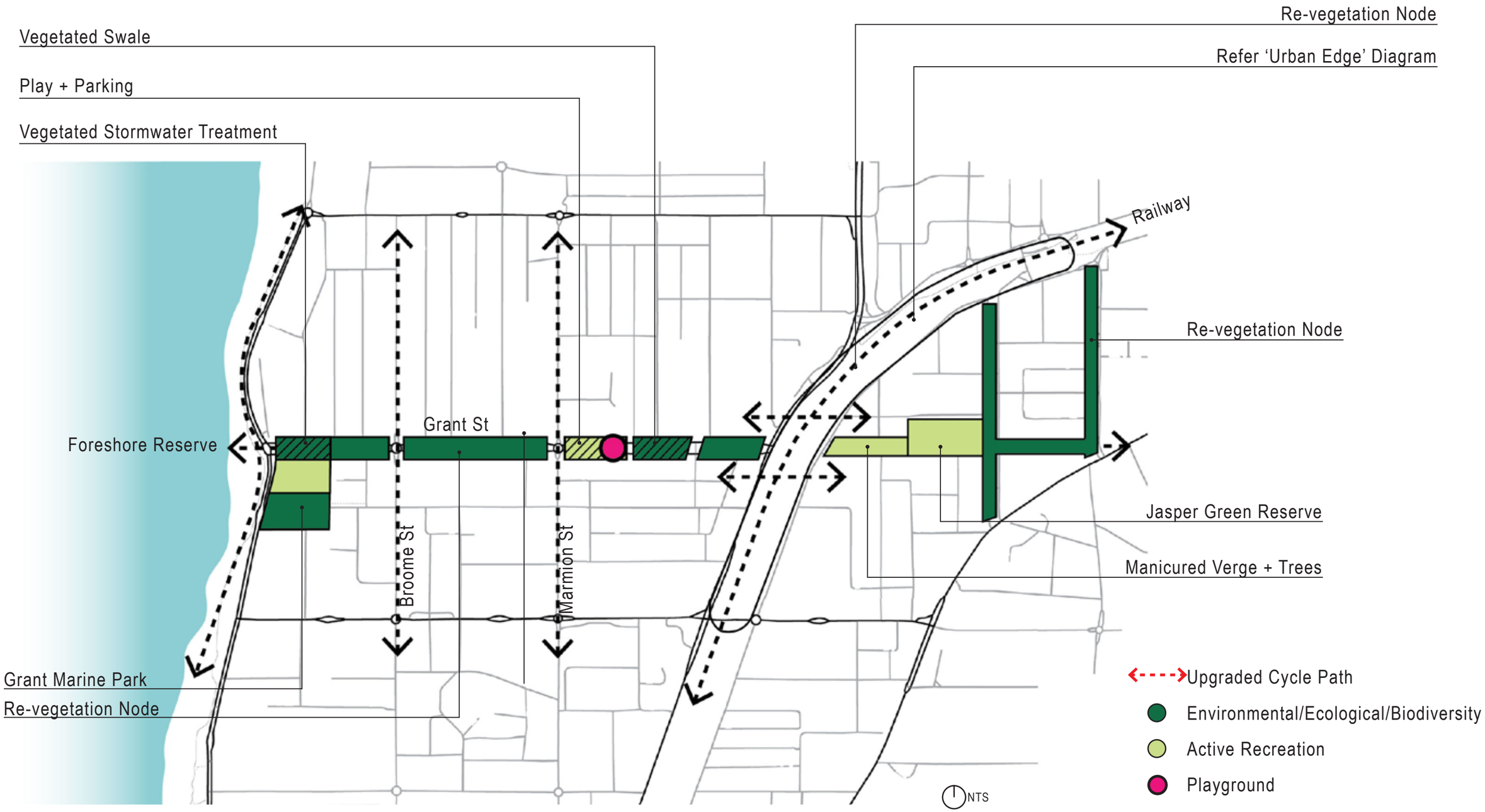


Figure 18. Grant Street Ecological Link Diagram

2.13 PRIORITISING EXISTING POS UPGRADES

The Town's 13 POS have been grouped into high / medium / low priorities for consultation, design, and delivery of improvements. Rationale for higher priority versus lower priority is as follows:

- **Safety** – conflicting user groups, unsafe and ageing equipment and/or environment.
- **Opportunity** – ToC are undertaking numerous designs and plans for various areas especially in relation to the foreshore. Where existing or nearby POS fall into the sphere of influence of priority projects being developed, the opportunity to improve the POS should be undertaken in conjunction.
- **Distribution** – need to balance rate of upgrades to ensure that one area of Cottesloe isn't neglected in favour of another.
- **Cost & Complexity** – need to balance the cost and staging of upgrades to ensure ToC's annual budget can accommodate upgrades.

Image 10. Harvey Field, udla (opposite)

High Priority

POS	Proposed Hierarchy	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Grant Marine Park	Neighbourhood	POS is ripe for further activation. In prime beachfront location along key transit routes. Opportunity for further improvement as a multi-use space.	0-1 year	Low
Cott Main	Regional	Cottesloe's central most foreshore POS. Opportunity to dimprove POS into an iconic beachfront POS as part of the current Foreshore Design works. Project will take time to plan, design, fund and implement.	0-4 years	High
Dutch Inn Reserve	Regional	Safety of users, Age of equipment, lack of Provision. Opportunity to become part of one whole regional foreshore POS and service south end.	0-2 years	Low
Vlamingh Memorial and Nature Discovery Space	Local	Recent addition to the south end of the Town.	n/a	n/a

Medium Priority

POS	Proposed Hierarchy	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Harvey Field	Neighbourhood	Masterplanning currently underway. The Town's only large scale sporting precinct.	2-3 years	Medium
Railway & Albion	Local	Lacking a sense of place. Well located near transport nodes and the Town Centre. Opportunity to develop further as one whole POS along the trainline.	2-5 years	Low
Purple Dinosaur	Local	Very limited functionality as a sandpit playspace. Opportunity to develop further as one whole POS along the trainline.	3-5 years	Medium

Low Priority

POS	Proposed Hierarchy	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Civic Centre	Neighbourhood	Multiple separate spaces. Aging equipment. Opportunity to further enhance heritage garden feel.	2-5 years	Medium
Jasper Green Reserve	Neighbourhood	POS is well catered to. Opportunity for minor improvements to further enhance what is overall a well utilised POS.	2-5 years	Low
Andrews Place	Local	Very limited to immediate residents. Underutilised trees and vegetation. Opportunity to have better connection to the surrounding community.	3-5 years	Low
Jen's Park	n/a	Not for further development as POS, set aside for future civic works.	n/a	n/a
John Black Dune Park	n/a	As part of the Foreshore Design works. Very limited POS function. Solely environmental.	n/a	n/a
Beachfront Reserve	Regional	Well utilised space. Part of the current Foreshore DesignWorks. Opportunity to become part of one whole regional foreshore POS.	2-5 years	Medium

3.0 PLAYGROUND STRATEGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Playground Strategy is focused on the Town's existing playgrounds and is supported by an audit (refer Appendix A) of each playground to determine its current level of service. This part of the document examines opportunities and themes for playspaces, identifies key gaps in provision and priorities for upgrades to align each of Cottesloe's playgrounds with their likely users and POS. A playground assessment tool has been applied to each space to identify where playgrounds are currently rated at, what rating it should be achieving and what is required in order to achieve the recommended rating. These are based on factors such as:

- Playability;
- Respite;
- Shade;
- Access;
- Attractors;
- Other play opportunities; and,
- Age.

Specific recommendations have been made for each playground including guidance on prioritisation and implementation.

Image 11. Scarborough Whale playground, udla
Image 12. Cottesloe Civic Centre playground, udla (opposite)

3.2 THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

Play is child-led, fun, unstructured and self-motivated. It can be spontaneous, encourage group discussion, negotiation and planning and is ideally free of adult intervention. Play is a human right and all children have the right not only to play but to the benefits associated with it. These benefits are outlined as follows:

Being Outdoors

Play that occurs outdoors increases physical activity, exposure to natural greenery or vegetation is shown to reduce blood pressure, improve sleep patterns, lower rates of depression and lead to better self or parent reported general health. Developmentally, children who spend time outside are likely to have increased awareness, improved ability to reason, improved cognitive development, a better imagination and ability to concentrate.

Ownership

Independent play in natural environments supports children's development and relationship with the natural environment, encouraging a framework in which they can create a place for themselves within the context of their larger community, an important developmental milestone as they move into adolescence.

Physical Activity

Children aged 5-12 should exercise moderately-vigorously for 60 minutes a day. This level of physical activity is a preventative approach for a number of chronic diseases including obesity, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, some forms of cancer and metabolic syndrome. In addition to preventing these chronic diseases, sufficient physical activity in children can also improve bone density and muscle function, which can assist in the prevention of injury later in life. Children achieve a significant amount of physical activity when playing, being outdoors and through being independently mobile. Children who play and are physically active are more likely to carry these healthy behaviours into adulthood. Play can provide more physical activity than some group sports, and is where a majority of Australian children achieve their physical activity.

Improved Mental Health

Play and associated physical activity is shown to reduce stress in children; which has an array of health benefits including improved immune system responses, better and more regular moods, increased energy levels, improved ability to concentrate and a reduction in tension, anxiety and depression. When children engage in play they are able to explore their imagination, be creative, go on an adventure and take risks. These fundamental elements of play provide a myriad of emotional and mental health benefits for children.

Social Skills

Adventure or "nature play" style playspaces facilitate improved social connectedness in children as they encourage discussion and social interaction, in turn improving social skills and creativity. They can remove cultural barriers, equip children with the ability to self-regulate and take appropriate risks, resolve conflict and enhance children's self-esteem. Play, particularly in natural settings, is shown to improve sensory processing, motor skills and perception in children.

Independence

Children who are independently mobile and who engage in independent play are more likely to achieve the recommended level of physical activity and spend more time in overall free play. They are more likely to meet friends, neighbours and other community members and have an improved social connectedness. They may also benefit from improved levels of confidence and development of road safety skills. Reduction in independent mobility, including travel to school, friends' houses, parks or shops, limits children's opportunity to spend time outdoors and in unstructured play.

3.3 KEY TRENDS IN PLAY

Due to the benefits for children's health and well-being, playgrounds have become a key element of infrastructure in most WA suburbs.

There are a number of key trends that have arisen from this recent increase in focus on playgrounds, being as follows:

MULTI-GENERATIONAL PLAY

Opportunity for all ages to play and interact, to support an aging population, ensuring accessibility and inclusiveness for those using the space and bringing children.

ADVENTURE & NATURE PLAY

Utilising unstructured and imaginative play to support children to take risks, form narratives, learn, experience nature, play and socialise independent of adult intervention.

THEMED PLAY

Themed playgrounds provide a reference to a key local cultural narrative, telling a story of the place in a fun, interpretive manner.

SENSORY PLAY

Play that utilises sights, sounds, smells, and textures to develop cognitive function, potentially in the company of adults.

INCLUSIVE PLAY

Play for people of all ages, background and abilities in spaces that are safe, comfortable, coherent and provide elements of independence.

POP-UP PLAY

Temporary, 'pop-up' play provide an impromptu, interactive play experience that can enhance and enliven dull spaces and promote curiosity and social play. This can be an affordable short term solution to increase play diversity.

3.6 QUANTITATIVE DATA

Key Findings:

- There are 10 playgrounds out of 12 POS;
- Vlamingh Memorial Nature Discovery Space is a recent addition. It has been included in this strategy as an existing playground, but not included in the POS strategy as it was not considered POS prior to the playground being installed;
- Purple Dinosaur is the only space without play equipment, it is a fenced sandpit with toys;
- Each of the remaining playspaces have similar basic play equipment, a combination of off-the-shelf proprietary swings, climbing structures and slides; and,
- Play opportunities are mostly targeting young children (<7 years).

Refer to Appendix A: *Playground Audit Package* to see a detailed assessment of the Town's POS and the current situation of the playgrounds.

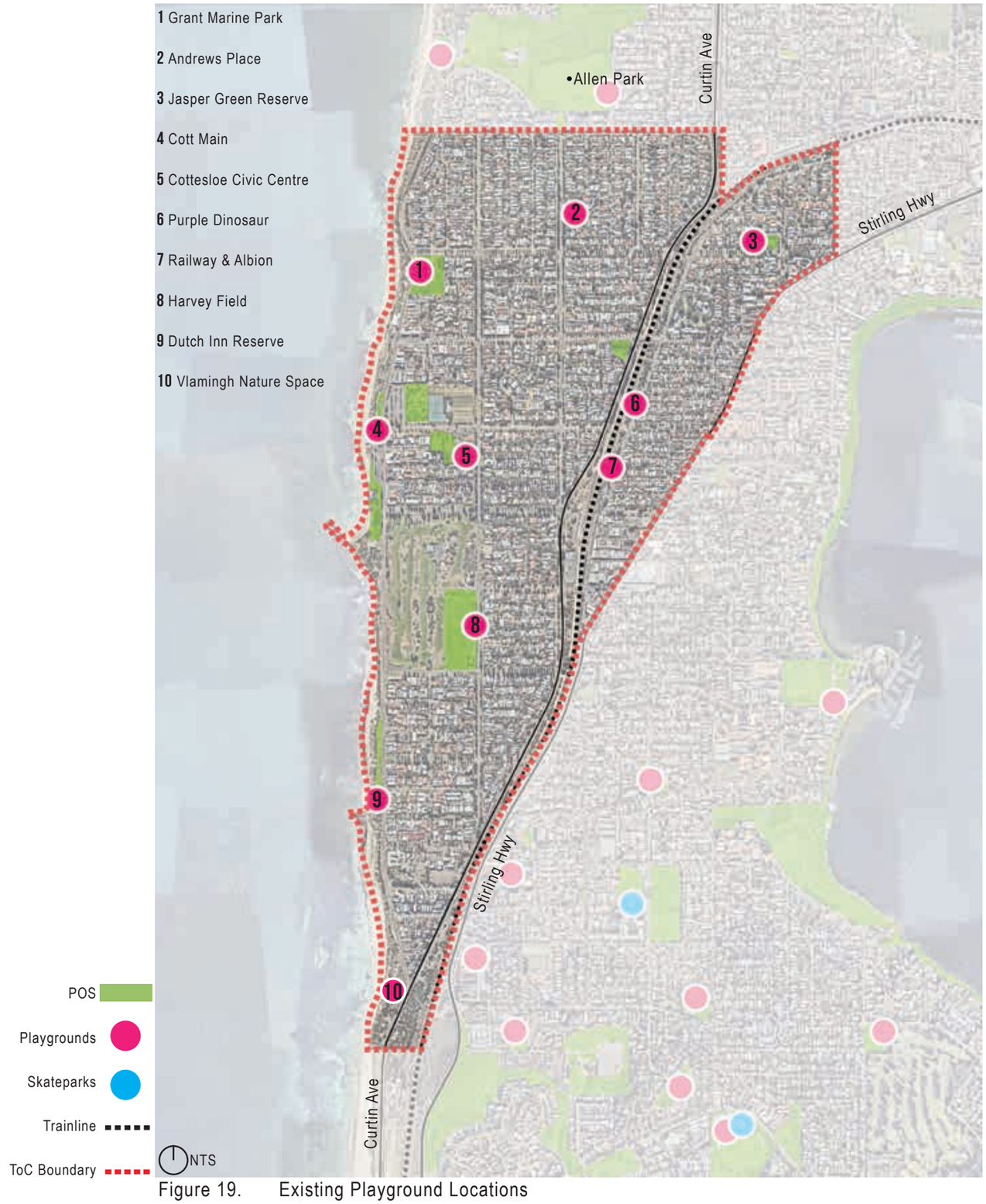


Figure 19. Existing Playground Locations

3.6.1 GAPS

The pedshed diagram opposite shows a 400m or five minute walk from each playground. All residents should be within a five minute walk from at least one playground.

Key Findings:

- Playgrounds are relatively well distributed;
- Gaps identified:
  - to the north of the Town, whilst the mapping illustrates coverage we note the northern playgrounds are small in size and provision;
  - along the train line to the south; and,
  - around the Town Centre;
- Gap in the heart of Cottesloe between Broome Street and Curtin Avenue;
- Allen Park and the playground on the Swanbourne Foreshore may address some of the gaps to the north, however this is a modest playground over which ToC has no authority;
- The railway is a significant barrier to access, however there is a crossing between Purple Dinosaur (6) and Railway and Albion(7); and,
- The Tier 3 Local Vlamingh Memorial Nature Play Discovery Space (10) at the southern end of the Town will cover a previously significant gap in this area.

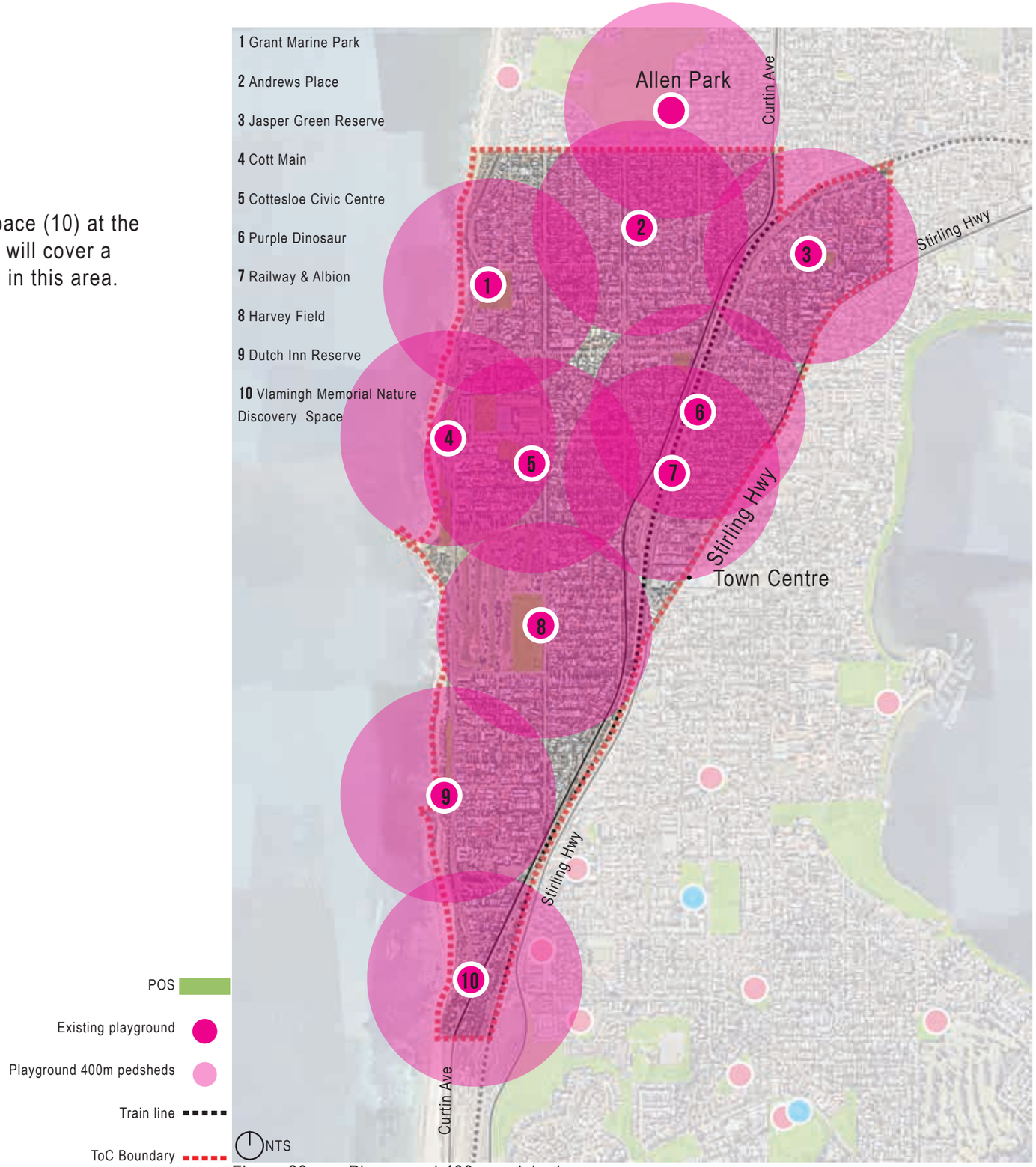


Figure 20. Playground 400m pedsheds

3.6.2 QUALITY

There is subjectivity around what makes a good playspace, with different elements appealing to different children. However there are some key considerations for making a playground fun, cohesive, functional and engaging.

It is assumed that all playspaces within the Town are regularly assessed by a qualified safety auditor to ensure alignment with all relevant Australian standards and guidelines.

In order to provide a framework for the assessment of existing playspaces this strategy has utilised the document '**Seven Cs: An informational guide to young children's outdoor playspaces'** *(Susan Herrington, Chandra Lesmeister, Jamie Nicholls, Kate Stefiuk, Consortium for Health, Intervention, Learning and Development (CHILD)*) and has applied this as a benchmark for assessing each playground. This document is a clear and well informed research paper that is a guide *"to help people design outdoor playspaces that support the development of young children and integrate the unique qualities of playing outdoors."* The guide assists in highlighting the elements of playgrounds that are not considered in codes, safety standards and other regulatory material. It is important to consider these 'qualitative' aspects of play as they are strongly related to the popularity and play outcomes of the space.

The assessment framework is as follows:

1. **Character**: Referring to the feel of the space, its sense of place, its relationship with the broader site.

2. **Context**: What are the opportunities and constraints of the site, and how does the playspace relate to these?

3. **Connectivity**: How well does the elements of the playspace respond to each other, and overall is the playground well connected to the broader community?

4. **Change**: Is the space constantly changing, does it provide seasonal interest? (e.g. summer VS. winter).

5. **Chance**: Is there opportunity to take ownership over the site, to make changes and be spontaneous?

6. **Clarity**: Does the space make sense? Can children and carers navigate the playspace to achieve the intended play outcomes?

7. **Challenge**: Does the space provide opportunity for all children to be challenged in play?

The assessment of existing Playgrounds in Cottesloe is highlighted overleaf.

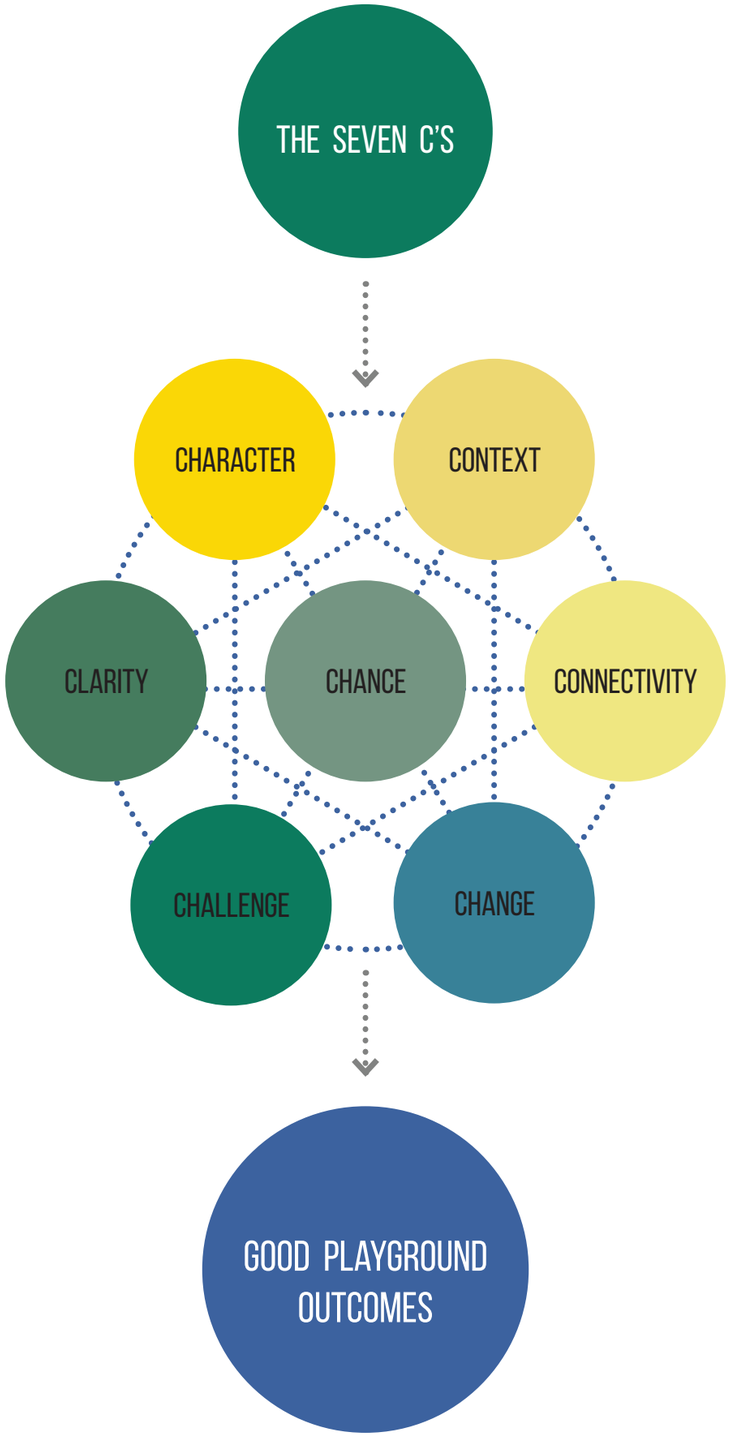


Figure 21. The Seven C's Diagram

3.6.3 ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Based on the understanding that each playground is limited to catering for children no older then 6 or 7, the assessment criteria scores reflect this overarching limitation. For example, no playground gains a point against the criteria: 'Are play elements challenging for all?' due to there being a lack of play that challenges older kids. However, the assessment on if children can control the level of challenge is addressed across the majority due to play elements such as multi-use forts that can be a challenge for very young children. Note the Vlamingh Memorial Nature Discovery Space is a recently added space and has been assessed only on the concept drawings provided by the Town.

Assessment Framework	Criteria (1 point each)	Total Max. Score	Grant Marine Park	Andrews Place	Jasper Green Reserve	Cott Main	Cottesloe Civic Centre	Purple Dinosaur	Railway & Albion	Harvey Field	Dutch Inn Reserve	Vlamingh Nature Space
Character	Is there a clear theme?	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
	Is it designed holistically with the surrounds?	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Context	Does it respond to the opportunities presented by the surrounding environment?	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	1
	Does it address a constraint of the site?	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Connectivity	Is the whole playground designed so that play elements respond to one another, encourage play in-between elements and maintain visual connection throughout?	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	Is the playground well connected to transport networks?	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1
Change	Is there variety in the play opportunities, and does this opportunity change to provide continued interest?	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Does the playground respond to changes in the environment that may keep play outcomes variable throughout the year?	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chance	Does the playground provide flexibility to encourage children to take ownership over the space, to modify it and reflect their play needs?	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Clarity	Is the playspace and its intended uses legible?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
	Can all users clearly navigate the space?	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Challenge	Are play elements challenging for all users?	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Can children control the level of challenge they wish to undertake?	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-
	Are challenges achieved in a safe and hazard free approach?	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-
TOTAL		**14**	**7**	**4**	**9**	**7**	**8**	**3**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**4 TBC**
Quality Rating			**50%**	**28%**	**64%**	**50%**	**57%**	**21%**	**36%**	**50%**	**36%**	**28% TBC**

Table 4. Cottesloe Playground Assessment Matrix

3.6.4 PLAYGROUND HIERARCHY

Similar to the approach taken by Liveable Neighbourhoods to utilise POS size as an approach to ensuring equitable delivery of space, we have developed a tier system for playspace to provide a guide to the delivery of a diverse range of playgrounds that meet the needs of the Town of Cottesloe community.

TIER ONE PLAYGROUND

'Regional Playspace'

A playground that is visited by both locals and tourists. Regional playgrounds will usually:

- Be iconic;
- Are majority custom designed;
- Addresses a number of play opportunities such as risk taking, parallel play, space for informal games, group play, sensory play etc;
- Be flexible and able to accommodate a large number of children (100+);
- Has sufficient complexity to support an hour or two of play;
- Is supported with infrastructure that provide opportunity for parents to stay comfortable for extended periods of time, i.e. cafe, parking, lighting etc;
- Is designed in a way that provides challenging and engaging play for children of all ages; and,
- Is accessible and inclusive throughout.

Budget: $600,000+

Examples:

- Scarborough Beach Playground
- Bibra Lake Playspace (pictured)
- Briathwaite Park, Mt Hawthorn.

TIER TWO PLAYGROUND

'Neighbourhood Playspace'

A playground that services a large population of mostly local residents. Local playgrounds will usually:

- Reflect their local context;
- Include a combination of off-the-shelf and custom elements,
- Provide more specific play opportunity, such as having a focus of sensory play;
- Accommodate 10-30 children;
- Is less structured and may include elements that children can move/amend to create different outcomes to maintain interest after multiple visits;
- Provides a base level of infrastructure to support parents, i.e. seating, shade, water fountains;
- Can be tailored to a specific age group;
- Is accessible and inclusive.

Budget: $200,000-$500,000

Examples:

- Subiaco Theatre Garden (pictured)
- Oxford Street Reserve Leederville
- Yokine Playground

TIER THREE PLAYGROUND

'Local Playspace'

Playgrounds to service the nearby neighbourhood, these playgrounds will usually:

- Reflect the context of the park;
- Mostly off-the-shelf equipment;
- May only have 1 or 2 formal play elements and also includes spaces that are unconstrained and allow children to take ownership over (cubbies, construction, loose parts etc);
- Accommodate less then 10 children;
- May have a bench seat and shade, but is otherwise unserviced and strongly supports independent play for older children;
- Has less design intent and is more child led, as such age is flexible;
- Is accessible and inclusive.

Budget: <$150,000

Examples:

- Webber Reserve Willagee
- Russell Brown Adventure Park (pictured)
- Rannoch Tay Reserve Hamersley

3.6.5 SUPPLY SUMMARY

Key Findings:

- There are no Tier One Regional Playspaces in the Town of Cottesloe, despite the foreshore reserve being collectively a 'Tier One' POS;
- There are 4 Tier Two Neighbourhood playspaces 6 Tier Three Local playspaces;
- Whilst some spaces have been rated Tier Two Neighbourhood they are lacking equipment and supporting infrastructure;
- There is a lack of diversity in the current playground hierarchy, with many playgrounds offering similar play opportunity for a similar age group; and,
- There is no discernable pattern to location or provision within ToC.

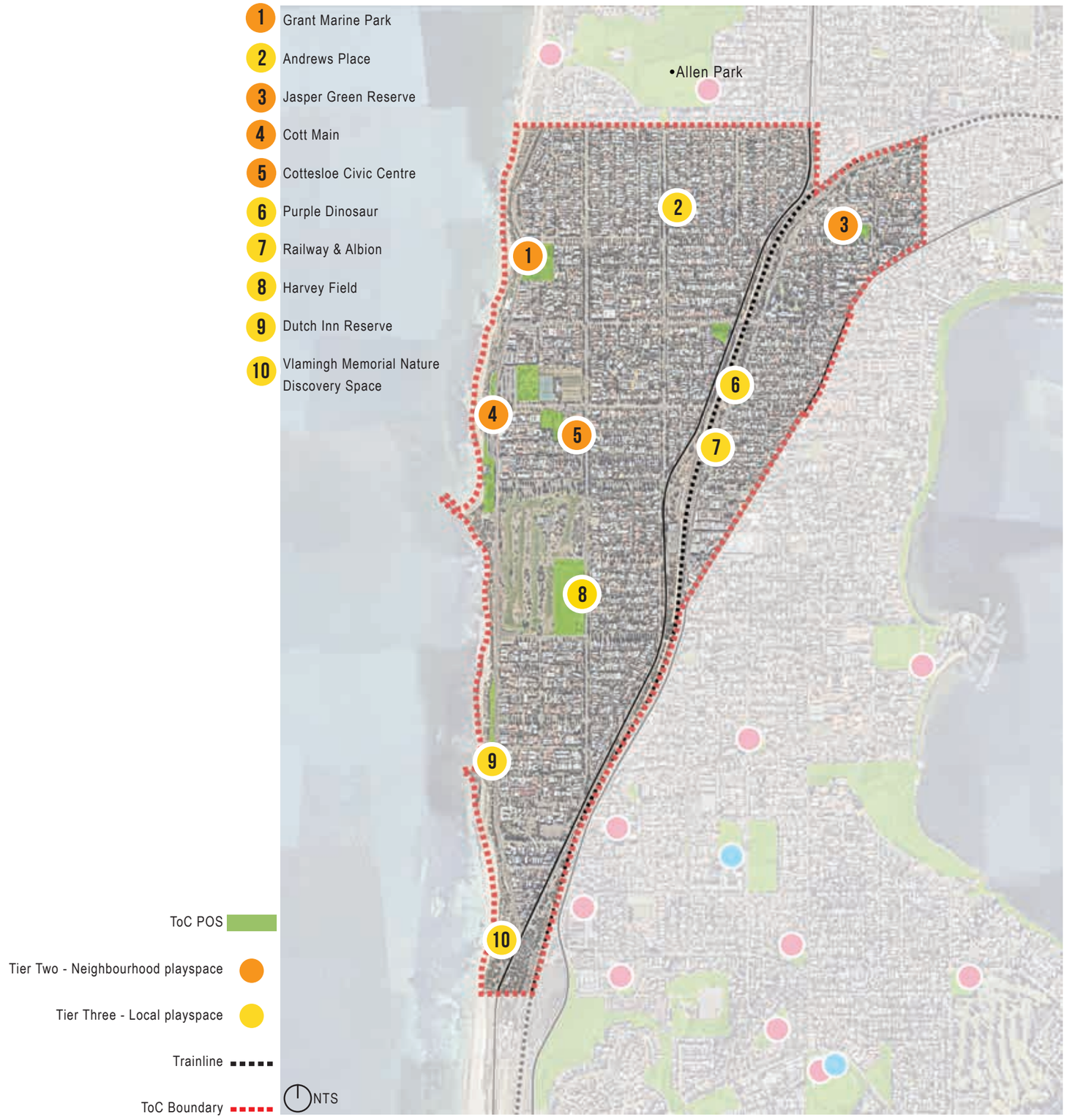


Figure 22. Existing Playground Ratings

3.6.6 PLAYGROUND USERS

Broad assumptions may be made on a population using data, but there will always be localised community needs that cannot be ascertained through demographic data. Community engagement can provide this place specific collection of knowledge and assist in delivering highly usable spaces that address a community's needs alone. Data has been used based on the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics census gathered from the Town of Cottesloe and compared to the State average.

Cottesloe has a lower population in comparison to the WA average of children aged 0-4 and 5-9 years old, but a higher proportion in the 10-14 age bracket. There is also a higher percentage of those 85 years and over in Cottesloe in comparison to the State average.

Diversity in user groups will mean differences in expectations and uses of playgrounds across the Town. These considerations may include perceptions of safety, cultural expectations, requirements for elderly with mobility issues and young family's need for playgrounds and bike paths.

Key Findings:

- Whilst a number of playspaces in the Town of Cottesloe are aimed at children aged 3-7 years old, statistics show us that there is currently a greater number of 10-14 year old children residing in the Town, indicating a need for improved play opportunities for older children;
- There is a relatively high population of people aged 85 years and over in the Town of Cottesloe, which indicates a need to provide accessible spaces and potentially all ages play opportunities;
- There are significantly less babies and toddlers and a higher percentage in the 10-14 age bracket in the Town than the WA average; and,
- Assuming a population of 7,375 people (2016 census) there are approximately 1,300 people aged 14 and younger. With 9 playgrounds in the Town this roughly indicates that each playground supports 144 children.

AGE	COTTESLOE	WA	COMPARISON
0-4	4.6%	6.5%	↓
5-9	6%	6.6%	↓
10-14	7%	6.1%	↑
15-19	6%	6.1%	—
20-24	5.4%	6.5%	↓
25-29	6.5%	7.5%	↓
30-34	6.2%	7.9%	↓
35-39	5.6%	7%	↓
40-44	5.6%	7%	↓
45-49	7.7%	7%	↑
50-54	7.3	6.6%	↑
55-59	7%	6.1%	↑
60-64	6.8%	5.3%	↑
65-69	5.6%	4.7%	↑
70-74	4.8%	3.4%	↑
75-79	2.8%	2.5%	↑
80-84	1.8%	1.7%	—
85+	2.9%	1.7%	↑

Table 5. Town of Cottesloe and WA age demographics comparison. Based on 2016 Census

3.7 KEY PLAYGROUND FINDINGS

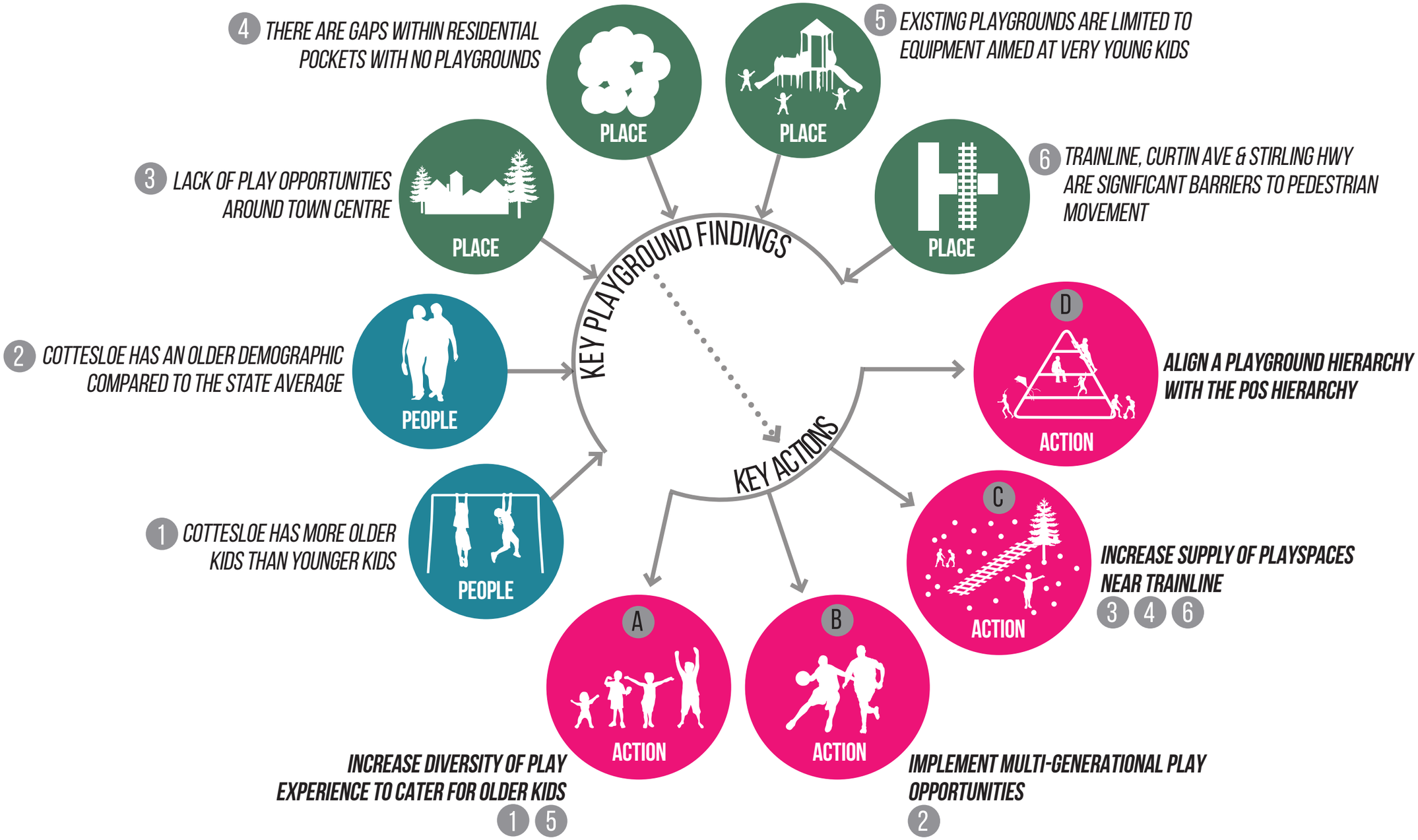


Figure 23. Key Playground Findings

3.8 PLAYGROUND OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

Given that the existing playground infrastructure is starting to age and lacks diversity of play opportunity it is recommended that holistic upgrades to the playgrounds in the Town will be required. Therefore it is important to consider the best location for playgrounds, which may or may not be in their current locations.

In order to provide direction to the placement of future playgrounds the review of opportunities and constraints assists in highlighting supporting infrastructure and services.

Observations:

- There are two main areas where services are clustered, the Town Centre and the Cottesloe Main Beach. These clustered services indicate a higher proportion of visitors and would provide benefits to visitors of a playground. These two locations would be suitable for a Regional playspace;
- The Cottesloe main beach is a regional attractor, a Tier One Regional playspace in this location will assist to activate the foreshore at times when the beach is a less popular destination (e.g. winter), this will also benefit nearby businesses;
- The linear nature of infrastructure and visitors to the foreshore also lends to a number of playspaces to support the popularity of the foreshore along its entire length;
- Co-locating playgrounds with public toilets should be a key consideration;
- Cafes provide opportunities for co-location and should be a driver for Tier Three Local park locations;
- Co-locating coffee carts or mobile food vendors adjacent to playgrounds provides opportuny for further activation of playspaces; and,
- The train line provides opportunity for parents with limited mobility, or without access to a vehicle to visit a playground. Co-locate Tier Three Local playspaces with train stations, consider these playgrounds for higher accessibility provision.

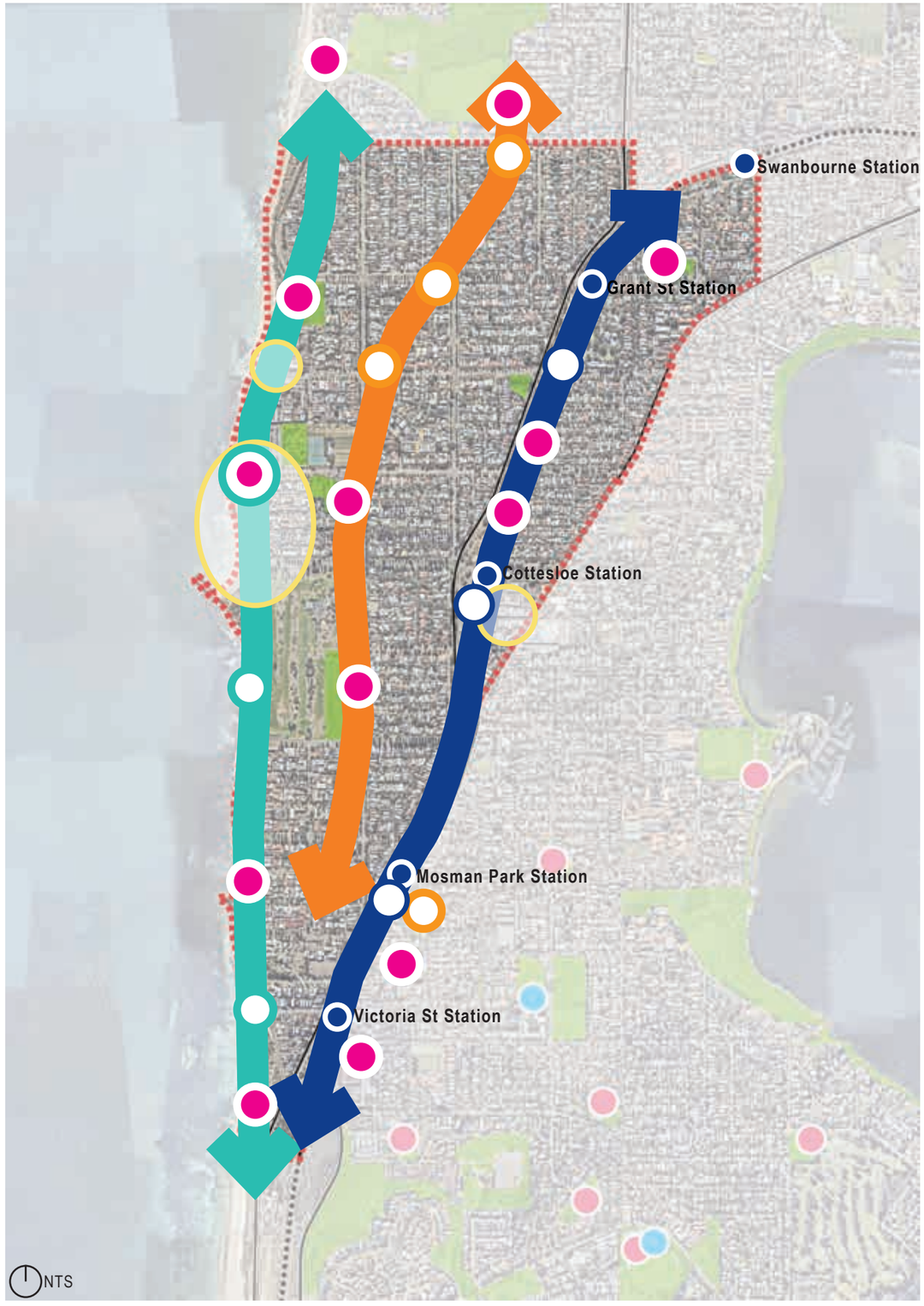


Figure 24. Playground location opportunities

3.9 EXISTING PLAYGROUND UPGRADES

The first stage of the playground approach will be to upgrade existing playgrounds. Playgrounds in the Town are for the most part, well located. Therefore, it is primarily a case of upgrading these playspaces to provide for an improved play outcome.

The upgrades are suggested as follows:

- Improve diversity of playground offerings by reviewing hierarchy;
- Ensure the minimum quality of every playground is over 80% according to the assessment tool;
- Dutch Inn playground should be moved northwards from the beach access area in order to reduce conflict with kite/wind surfers;
- Harvey Field playground will be replaced by a new facility when the Masterplan for this site is enacted; and,
- Cott Main playground is to be completely replaced. The new playground is to be a Tier One Regional playground.

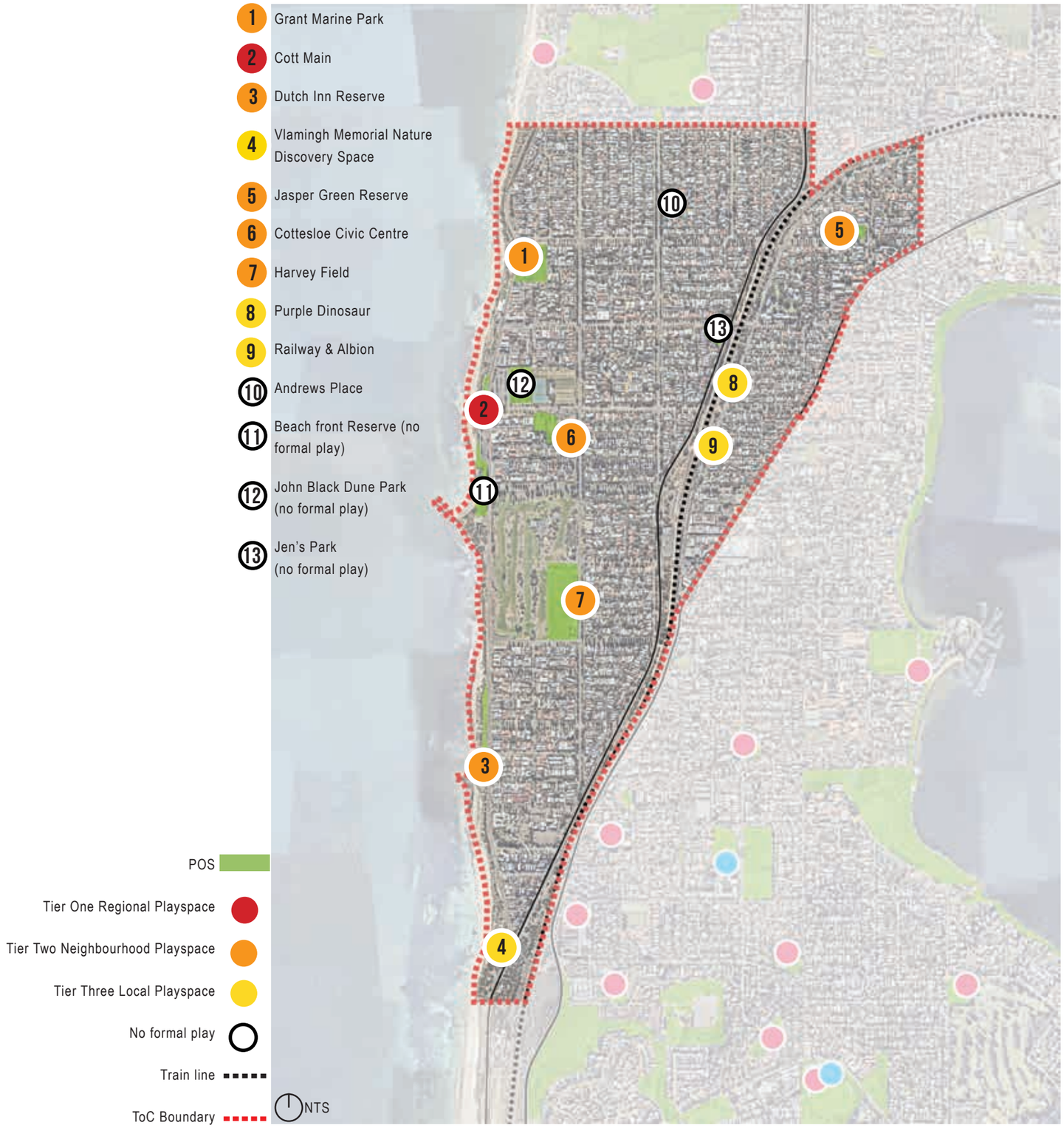


Figure 25. Proposed Playground Upgrades

3.9.1 GRANT MARINE PARK

GRANT MARINE PARK

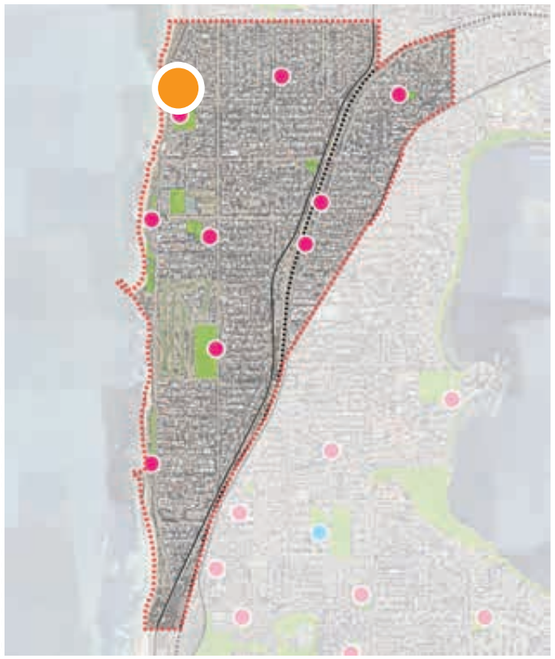
EXISTING OVERVIEW

Grant Marine Park is located to the North of Cottesloe and is on the corner of Marine Parade and Grant Street.

The playground is located at the lower turfed area adjacent Marine Parade secured by low limestone walls and paths.

The space provides basic play opportunities that targets very young kids. There is ample seating for parents and excellent ocean views.

A lack of theming or obvious style is evident and the play opportunities provided are very one dimensional.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO- NEIGHBOURHOOD

The playground is **situated in a prime position** along Marine Parade and it part of a Neighbourhood level Park, however, the space provides little opportunity suitable to a POS of this size.

QUALITY

50%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Grant Marine Park playspace a rating of **7 points or 50%.** Points allocated are as follows:

1 - **Context**: excellent ocean views, situated on lower level.

1 - **Connectivity**: well connected to transport networks.

2 - **Clarity**: the intended uses are legible, clearly navigated.

2 - **Challenge**: very young kids can control the challenge, play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-6 YEARS

The existing playground is **limited to very young kids** with a lack of opportunities for older children. The upper level turf area provides recreation for older kids, however, there is no clear connection to the playspace to integrate older play.

SITE PHOTOS

Play fort, rubber soft fall ,shade sails

Climbing/balance system, rubber soft fall

Duel-seat swing, sand soft fall

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

GRANT MARINE PARK

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO- NEIGHBOURHOOD

With such a prominent position on the Foreshore it is recommended that the Grant Marine playground is retained as a Tier Two Neighbourhood playground. Provision of public toilets and parking should be taken into account.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will be required to meet an **additional 4 points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-12+

A space that provides for the current age of 0-6 and also provides play for older kids who may utilise the recreation area at the upper level of the park.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

CHARACTER

The playground currently lacks any character. Opportunities to implement in the playspace include: The existing dunal revegetation by creating a nature play element; The Whadjuk Trail Network checkpoint sign could be expanded beyond just a sign; The strong marine look and feel should inform the overall style of the space and play theme.

CONNECTIVITY

The play elements should be consolidated to reflect one whole playspace. The playground is to have a direct connection to the recreational area on the upper level of the park.

CHANGE

Play opportunity that responds to changes in environment is recommended. This can be achieved through a nature play element that utilises winter rains or unique shade structures that provide shadow castings that change with the movement of the sun.

CHANCE

Play elements that contain moveable objects and the opportunity to build structures/cubbies will provide users with a sense of ownership and the ability to modify how they play to reflect their own needs.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

ACTIONS

GRANT MARINE PARK

STRATEGY

1. Nature play/bike trail area
2. Extend & upgrade existing playground
3. Open turf ball sports area
4. Retain existing trees
5. Upgrade car park

PLAY

1. Play space for younger age group
2. Shade structures throughout park
3. Open turf picnic area with ocean lookout
4. Marine themed play space with shipwreck
5. Interactive/educational trails throughout dunes
6. Fort and slides to take advantages of level changes

GRANT MARINE PARK

KEY MOVES

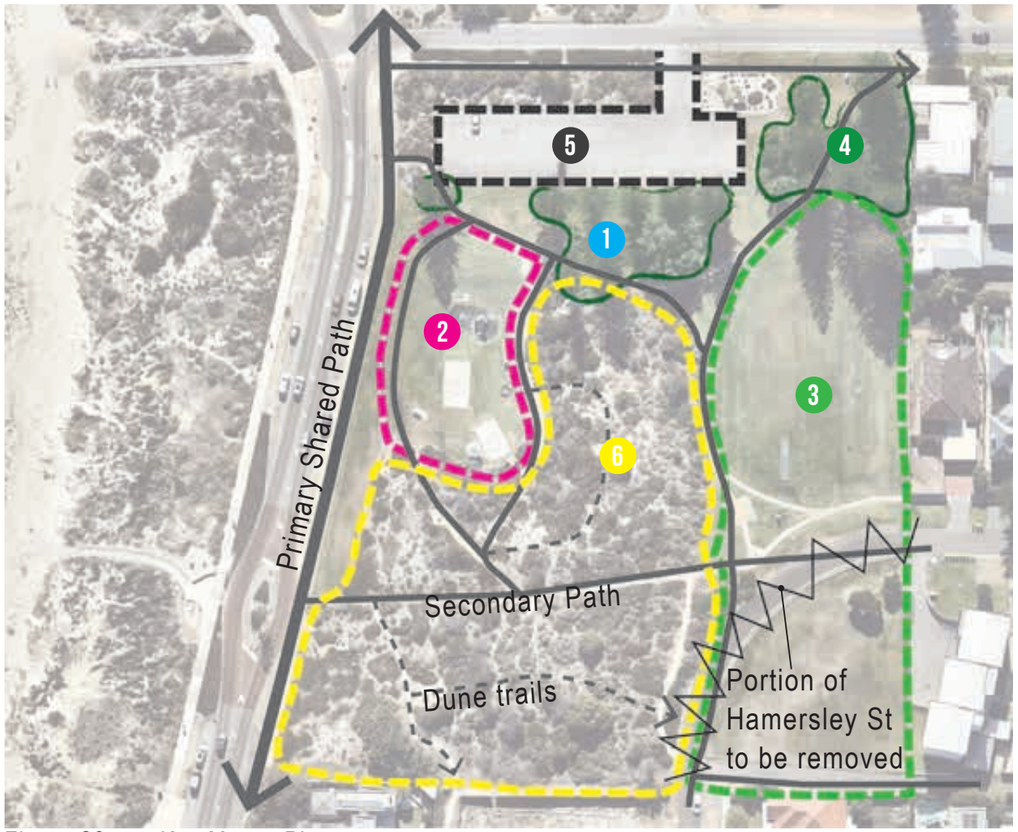


Figure 26. Key Moves Plan

NTS

1. Nature play/bike trail area
2. Extend & upgrade existing playground
3. Open turf ball sports area
4. Retain existing trees
5. Upgrade car park
6. Dune interaction and connections

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

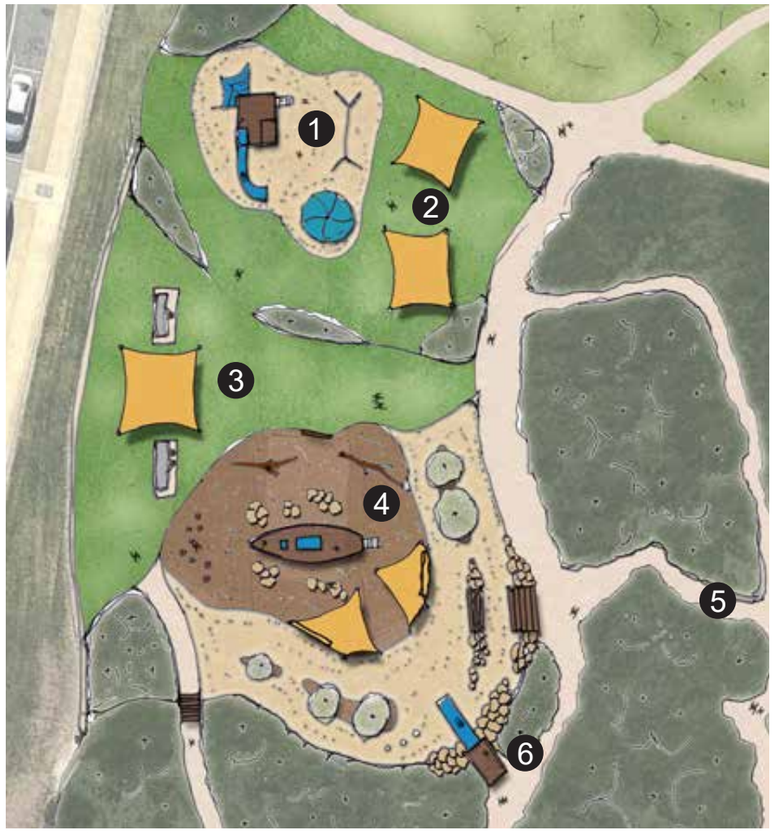


Figure 27. Grant Marine Park Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

1. Play space for younger age groups
2. Shade structures throughout park
3. Open turf picnic area with ocean lookout
4. Marine themed play space with shipwreck
5. Interactive/educational trails throughout dunes
6. Fort and slides to take advantage of level changes

*Playground concepts are indicative.

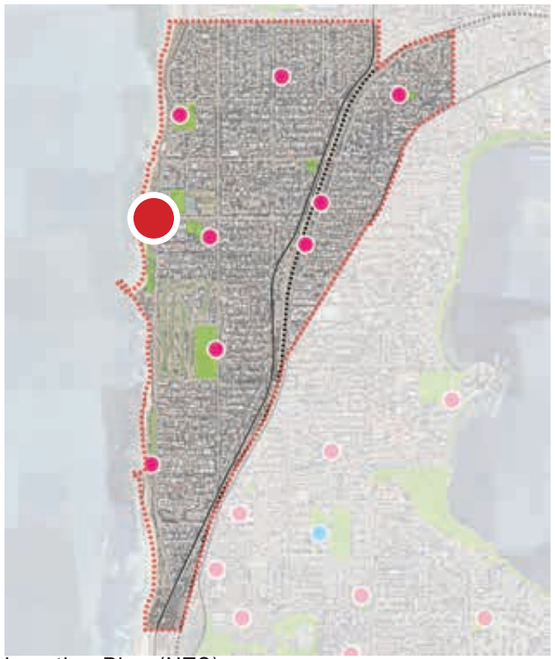
3.9.2 COTT MAIN

EXISTING OVERVIEW

Cott Main is located in the prime position of Cottesloe Beach along Marine Parade, adjacent to the cafe/restaurant strip and well connected to public transport and parking.

The playground is located at the south portion of the POS. There are two playspaces separated by a central path linking Marine Parade to the Foreshore.

The playspaces are similar in function, both with off the shelf equipment. There is minimal appeal, other than it being the main playground at the beach precinct.



COTT MAIN

Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO - NEIGHBOURHOOD

The playground currently functions as a Tier Two Neighbourhood playspace. There is a large amount of play equipment which **provides for a high number of users** at the same time.

QUALITY

50%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given the Cott Main playspace a rating of **7** points or **50%.** Points allocated are as follows:

2 - **Context**: there are excellent ocean views available, the fencing addresses the road as a constraint.

1 - **Connectivity**: well connected to transport routes.

1 - **Change**: the is a variety in play opportunity for very young kids.

1 - **Clarity**: the uses are legible.

2 - **Challenge**: play fort provides challenge to very young kids, play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-4 YEARS

The existing playgrounds are limited to **very young kids** with a lack of opportunities for older children. The **two spaces function very similarly** and cater for the same age groups.

SITE PHOTOS

Swing with basket seat

Basic play window

Play fort, faded colours

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

COTT MAIN

HIERARCHY

TIER ONE-REGIONAL

Being in the heart of the beach precinct of Cottesloe, this playground requires a thorough approach to reflecting the feel of a key, iconic destination, which requires sufficient infrastructure to support a Regional playground.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will **require 4 points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-12+

The playground is currently not suitable for older kids and adult play. Being in a very populated area which attracts people of all ages, play opportunities should cater for this diversity with areas allocated appropriately.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

CHARACTER

The playground lacks a clear theme and scores zero points. It is recommended that the playspace is upgraded to reflect the unique, relaxed beach front location. Being a popular destination, key stakeholders, of which there are many, should be considered when developing concepts. The Final design should be iconic.

CONNECTIVITY

The equipment lacks a visual connection and responds poorly to different elements. Constructing a playground that is coherent in that each element responds to one another and encourages play in-between elements is essential to creating an iconic space.

CHANGE

This playground is often exposed to harsh weather, particularly in winter but also in the peak of summer. It is recommended that the playground should respond positively to changes in the environment and provide opportunity for play throughout the year. Potential for use of pop-up play in short term with play items stored at the surf lifesaving club or similar.

CLARITY

There is currently a lack of clearly negotiable play elements. It is recommended that the playground is designed strategically to provide a easy navigation and journey throughout while also allowing people of all abilities to access and utilise the space.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

3.9.3 DUTCH INN RESERVE

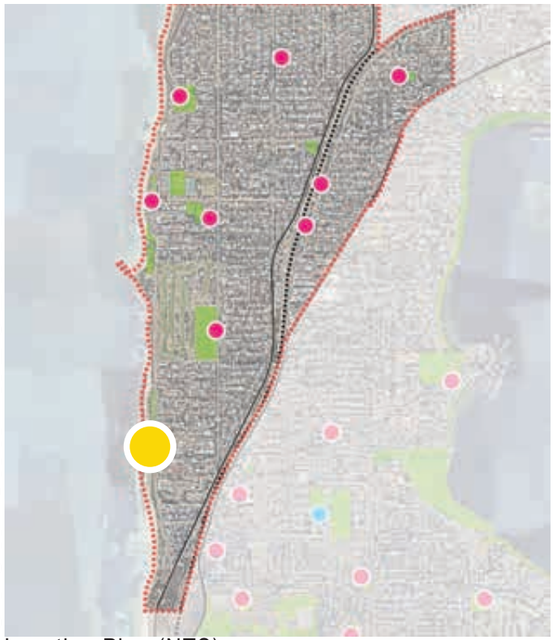
EXISTING OVERVIEW

The Dutch Inn Reserve playspace is located at the south end of the Town along Marine Parade on the beach front. It is the Towns only playground that services the southern-most residents.

The play equipment is poorly located with the play fort separate from the swing and spring seat.

The fort lacks shade and there appears to be a slide missing with the rubber fall remaining empty.

Surfers utilise the turf adjacent to the fort which causes significant user conflict.



Location Plan (NTS)

DUTCH INN RESERVE

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE- LOCAL

The playground currently services immediate residents, however, the **infrastructure is lacking any cohesion** and there are elements missing. The space requires a consolidated suite of play equipment that responds to the users and the sometimes harsh environment.

QUALITY

36%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Dutch Inn Reserve playspace a rating of **5 points or 36%**. Points allocated are as follows:

1 - **Context**: excellent ocean views.

1 - **Connectivity**: bus stop on Marine Parade.

1 - **Clarity**: the existing play equipment have clear use.

2 - C**hallenge**: play fort provides challenge to very young kids, play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-4 YEARS

The existing playground is **limited to very young kids** with a lack of opportunities for older children. The space caters for a variety of users including surfers and kite surfers, which identifies that the targeted age should be for young kids up to older adults.

SITE PHOTOS

Dual-seat swing, sand soft fall, shade sail

Spring seat, rubber fall, shade sail, missing slide

'Pause' by April Pine

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

DUTCH INN RESERVE

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE-LOCAL

The playground currently services immediate residents, however, the infrastructure is lacking any cohesion and there are elements missing. The space requires a consolidated suite of play equipment that responds to the users and the sometimes harsh environment.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will **require 6 additional points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-12+

A space that caters for the current age groups of 0-4 while also providing play opportunities for older kids.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

CHARACTER

The existing playground lacks any theme or character, however its location and the April Pine sculpture presents a strong opportunity for a 'surfy' sculptural theme.

CONTEXT

The overall space is a linear layout that stretches approximately 400m long. It is recommended that the playspace is relocated to a more suitable position at the north end of the Dutch Inn POS, consolidated with the exercise equipment and separate from the area where kite surfers frequently set up & wash down.

CHANGE

The playground is often exposed to harsh weather, particularly in winter. It is recommended that there be an opportunity for nature play or play opportunity that is active year round, whether is be shaded in summer or sheltered in winter.

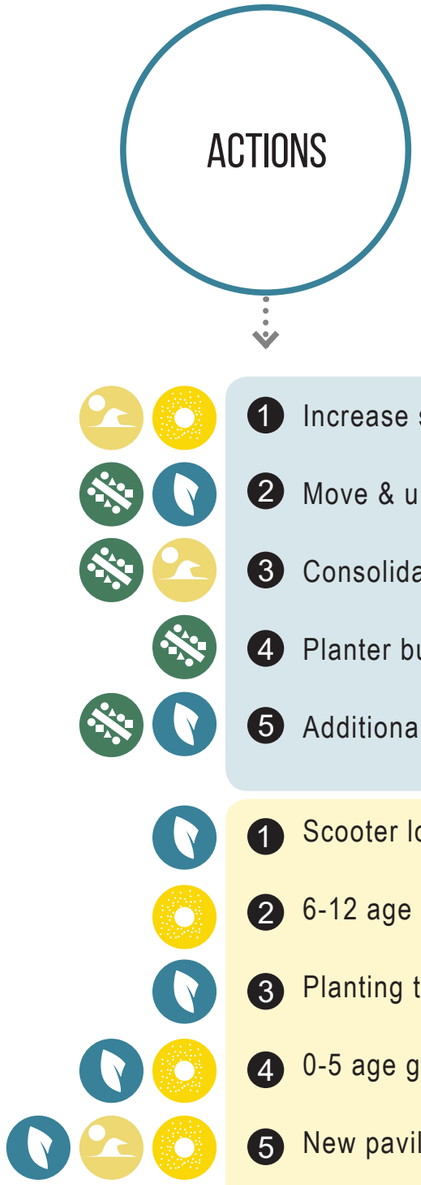
CLARITY

It is recommended to relocate the playspace to the north end of the POS and consolidated as one space. The space must be navigated clearly by all users.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

ACTIONS

DUTCH INN RESERVE



STRATEGY

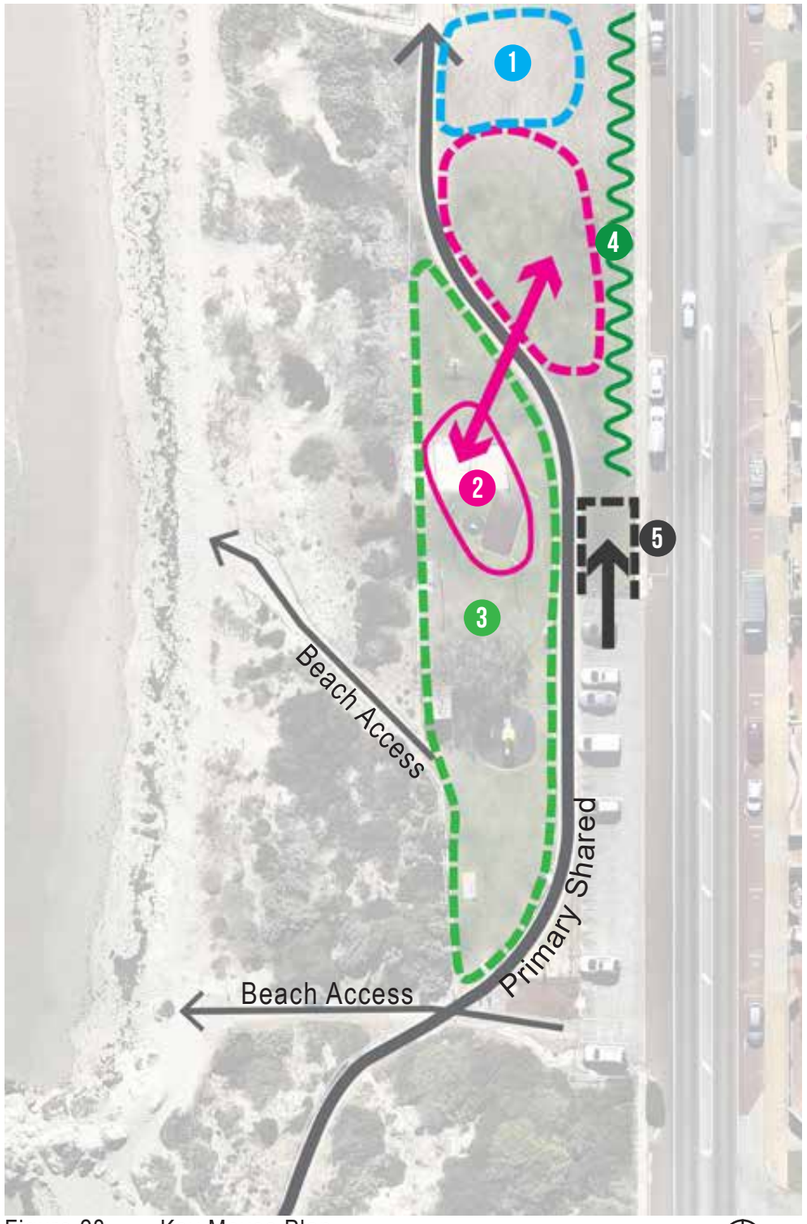
1. Increase shade & seating opportunities
2. Move & upgrade existing playground
3. Consolidate surf rigging area with seating & respite
4. Planter buffer zone
5. Additional parking bays

PLAY

1. Scooter loop track
2. 6-12 age group 'kite/surf' themed playspace
3. Planting to provide shade and nestled playspaces
4. 0-5 age group nature playspace
5. New pavilion seating and lookout spot

DUTCH INN RESERVE

KEY MOVES



1. Increase shade & seating opportunities
2. Move & upgrade existing playground
3. Consolidate surf rigging area with seating & respite
4. Planting buffer zone
5. Additional parking bays

Figure 28. Key Moves Plan

NTS

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Scooter loop track
2. 6-12 age group 'kite' themed playspace
3. Planting to provide shade and nestled playspaces
4. 0-5 age group nature playspace
5. New pavilion seating and lookout spot

Figure 29. Dutch Hill Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

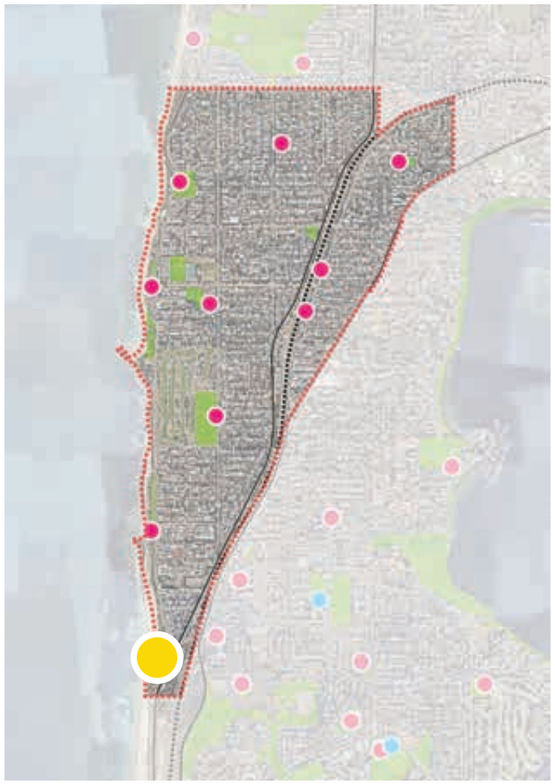
*Playground concepts are indicative.

3.9.4 VLAMINGH MEMORIAL NATURE DISCOVERY SPACE

VLAMINGH MEMORIAL NATURE DISCOVERY SPACE

RECENT ADDITION
OVERVIEW

The Vlamingh Memorial Nature Discovery Space is a recent addition (2019). The playspace has a strong nature play theme with timber, boulders and informal paths. The concept drawings appear to take advantage of the existing vegetation and slope of the site.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE- LOCAL

The playground will service immediate residents.

QUALITY

?%

Vlamingh Memorial Nature Discovery Space has only been awarded 4 points thus far based criteria that is evident in the concept drawings. It is expected it will achieve higher once constructed

AGE

?%

Is appears to be aimed at the <12 age bracket, however nature play is generally good for engaging a range of ages due to the flexibility with custom equipment.

It is recommended to assess the playground against the 7 Cs criteria, in particular:

Context: How does the playground address the constraints of the site such as the busy road and round-about of Marine Terrace and Curtin Avenue to east and path to west (well used by runners, dog walkers etc).

Connectivity: The accessibility and connections from the surrounding area should be considered. The closest parking is 100m street parking to the north and 200m off-street parking to the south. The closest train station, Victoria Street Station, is 450m away.

Change: Does the playspace allow for use in all seasons? and,

Clarity: Can all users navigate the space?

VLAMINGH MEMORIAL NATURE DISCOVERY SPACE

Figure 30. Site plan and conceptual imagery provided by the Town of Cottesloe and Nature Based Play

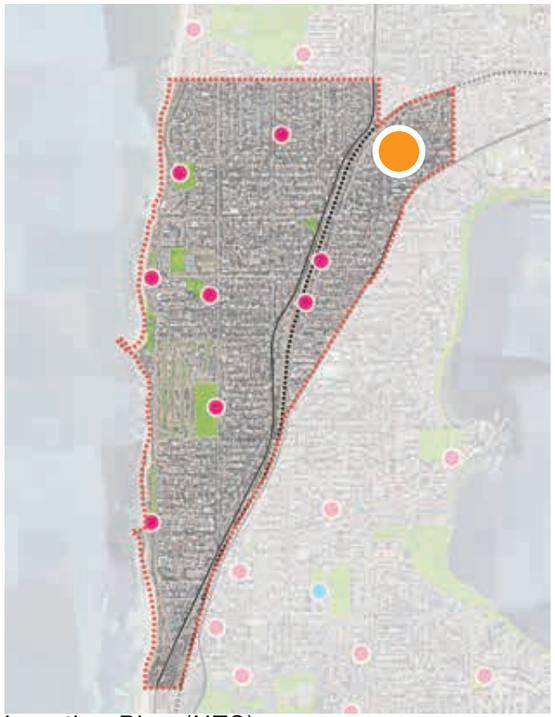
3.9.5 JASPER GREEN RESERVE

JASPER GREEN RESERVE

EXISTING
OVERVIEW

Jasper Green Reserve is located in the north-east portion of the Town. It is one of three playspaces servicing the Town east of the railway. It is in close proximity to Grant Street Station to the east, Swanbourne Station to the north, and Stirling Highway to the south.

The playground is situated at the western edge of the park. There are multiple sport/ recreation opportunities within the reserve that connect well with the playspace by the central path and the expansive open turf.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO - NEIGHBOURHOOD

The playground at Jasper Green Reserve is **the Town's best functioning playspace** and provides a significant quantity of infrastructure and amenity.

QUALITY

64%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Jasper Green Reserve playspace a rating of **9 points or 64%.** Points allocated are as follows:

2 - **Connectivity**: the play elements are located within close proximity to each other, Grant Street Station (west), Swanbourne Station (north) and Stirling Highway (south) located nearby.

2 - **Change**: different play equipment provides variety, play opportunity is variable throughout the year.

2 - **Clarity**: the existing play equipment has legible use and is clearly navigated.

3 - **Challenge**: play fort provides challenge and ability to control challenge to very young kids, play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-7 YEARS

The playground **lacks play opportunities for older kids**, it does provide sufficient play opportunity for young children.

SITE PHOTOS

Climbing bars, slide, rubber soft fall, drink fountain

Large play fort, shade sail, rubber soft fall

Flying fox, rubber soft fall

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

JASPER GREEN RESERVE

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO- NEIGHBOURHOOD

The playground has a prominent elevated position with ocean views and is supported by a high quality, well appointed POS.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will be required to meet an additional **2** points to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

12+

There is opportunity to cater for older children through the inclusion of social and community type play. Social engagement for users can become an over arching theme for the playground and associated POS.

CHARACTER

CHANCE

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

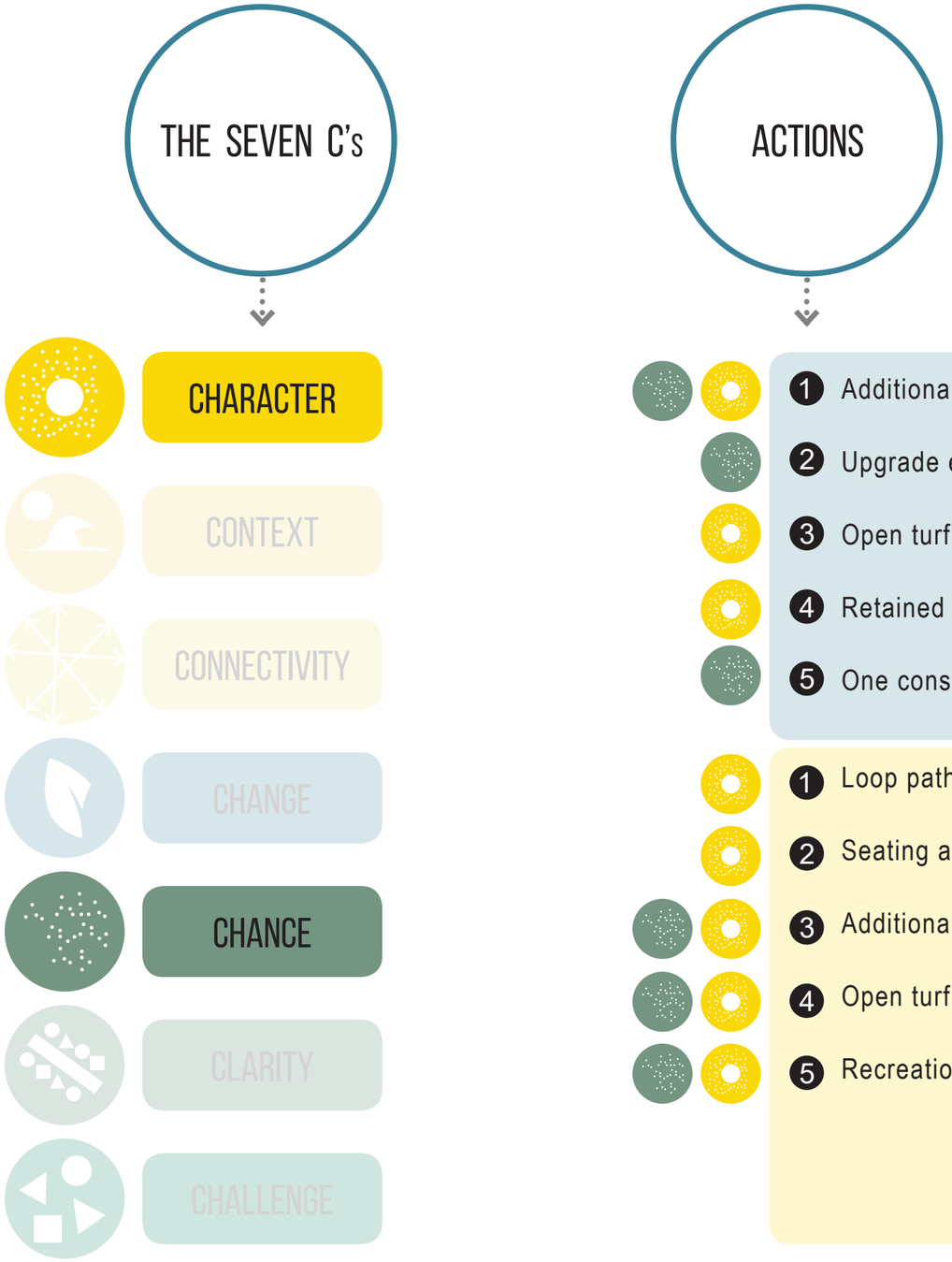
Jasper Green Reserve already has a number of play elements that provide diverse play outcomes. The playspace could incorporate art and interpretive opportunities to provide a sense of place and connection to the Town. Opportunity for more elevated play elements that take advantage of the ocean view and can provide social hang out spaces for teenagers.

Improve opportunities for older children and adults to engage in play, take risks and engage with their environment and each other.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

ACTIONS

JASPER GREEN RESERVE



STRATEGY

1. Additional play space
2. Upgrade existing playground
3. Open turf ball sport area
4. Retained existing trees
5. One consolidated paved recreation area

PLAY

1. Loop path with seating spots
2. Seating adjacent to playgrounds
3. Additional play space with varied play elements
4. Open turf ball sports area
5. Recreation area with multi-sport options

KEY MOVES

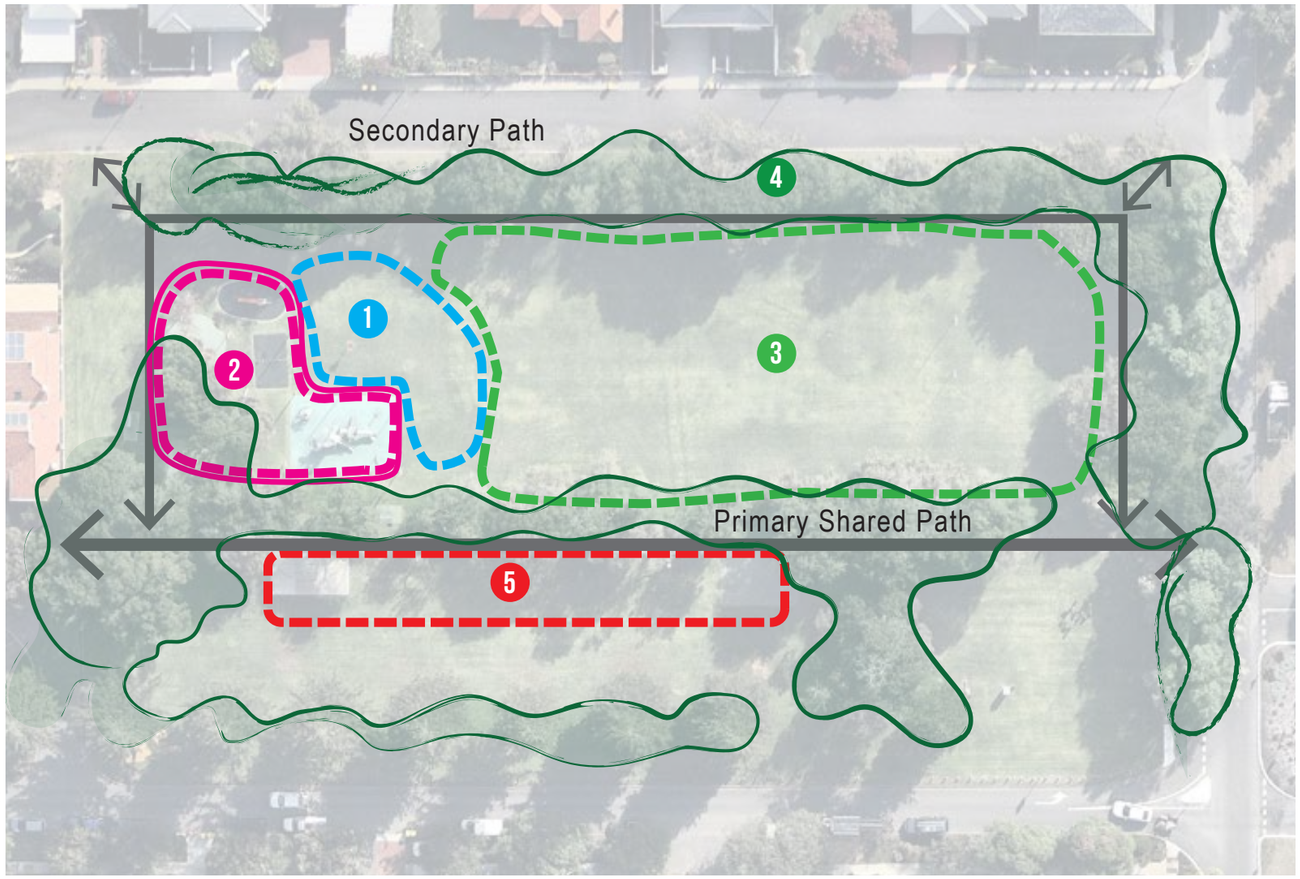


Figure 31. Key Moves Plan

NTS

1. Additional play space
2. Upgraded existing playground
3. Open turf ball sport area
4. Retained existing trees
5. One consolidated paved recreation area

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

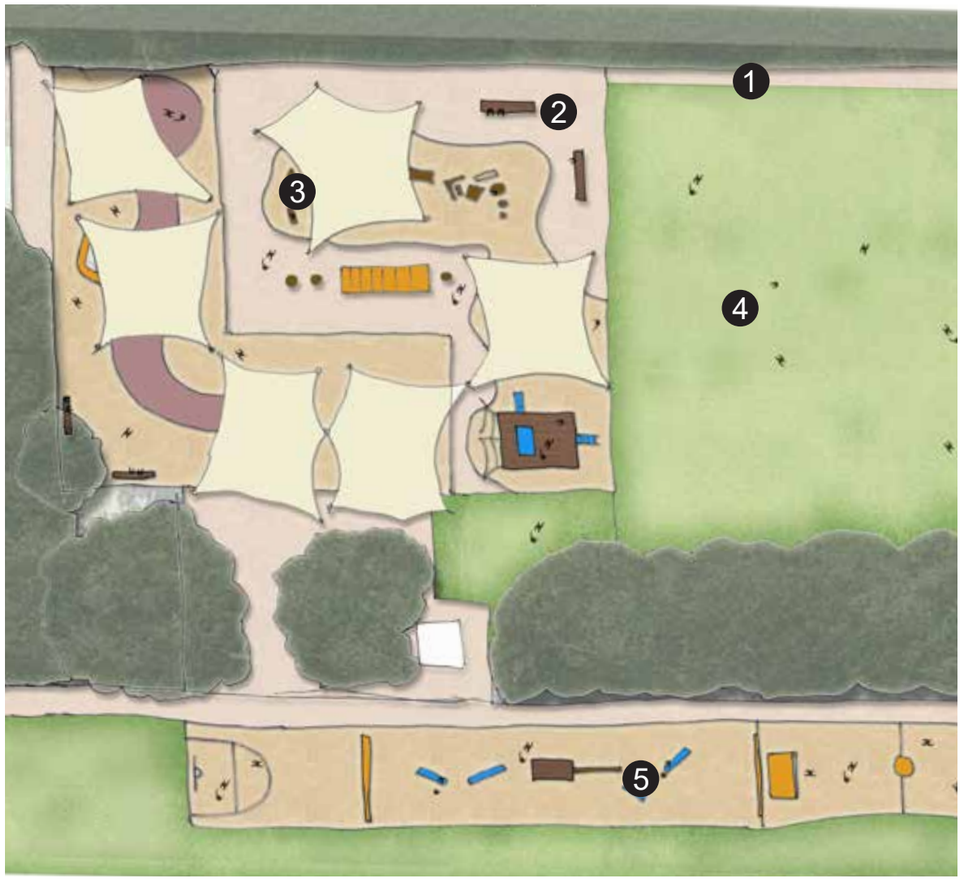


Figure 32. Jasper Green Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

1. Loop path with seating points
2. Seating adjacent to playground areas
3. Additional play space with varied play elements
4. Open turf ball sports area
5. Recreation area with multi-sport options

*Playground concepts are indicative.

3.9.6 COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE

COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE

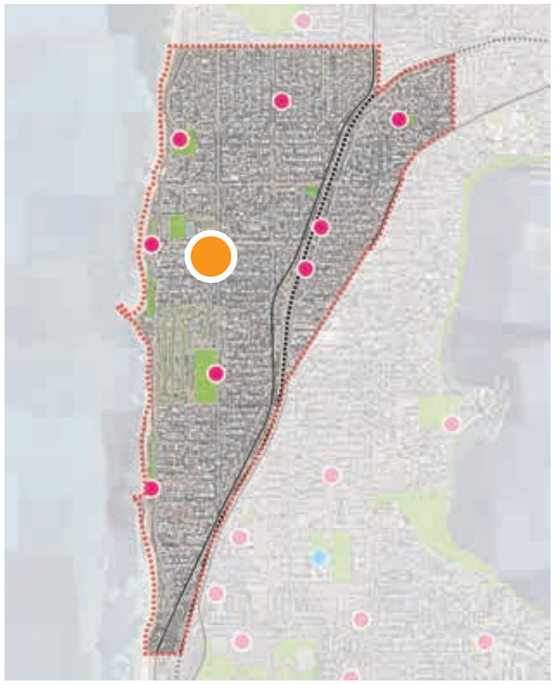
EXISTING
OVERVIEW

Cottesloe Civic Centre is located at the corner of Broome Street and Napier Street.

The playground is located at the south portion of the grounds on a lower level retained by limestone walls and shaded by large pines. there is also a slide located at the south-west corner separate from the main playground.

The space is very well maintained and reflects a playground within a garden.

It is well connected, however, quite hidden in a sunken area not clearly visible from the street.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO - NEIGHBOURHOOD

The playground at the Civic Centre functions as a Tier Two - Neighbourhood Playspace that provides basic play infrastructure and is used mostly by local residents.

QUALITY

57%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given the Civic Centre playspace a rating of **8 points or 57%.** Points allocated are as follows:

1 - **Character**: the playspace is designed holistically with the surrounds.

2 - **Context**: the large pines provide ample shade in summer, addresses the sloping land form with retaining walls.

1 - **Connectivity:** the existing play elements connect with each other.

2 - **Clarity:** the setting and playspace is legible.

2 - **Challenge**: play fort provides challenge and ability to control challenge to very young kids, play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-4 YEARS

The playground is limited to very young kids and provides little opportunity for older kids to play.

SITE PHOTOS

Play fort & climbing/balance system, rubber soft fall

Four-seat see-saw

Dual seat swing, rubber soft fall

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE

TIER TWO - NEIGHBOURHOOD

HIERARCHY

The playground at the Civic Centre is set within very well maintained gardens. An approach to an improved playspace would be to take advantage of this garden setting and create a suite of infrastructure that reflects the heritage garden feel of the space.

80%

QUALITY

The playground will require an additional **3** points to achieve sufficient improvement.

0-9+

AGE

The Town is recommended to provide a space that caters for the immediate residents surrounding the space, the Kindergarten south on Broome St and the older child demographic of the Town.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

CHARACTER

The playground is set within a unique heritage garden space. The character of the playground should reflect this and build on an adventure-type garden setting, taking advantage of the terraces and level changes.

CONNECTIVITY

Improve the visibility of the playground from the street and introduce inviting signage located at the entrance and wayfinding throughout the Town enticing children to 'discover & explore' the playspace.

CHANGE

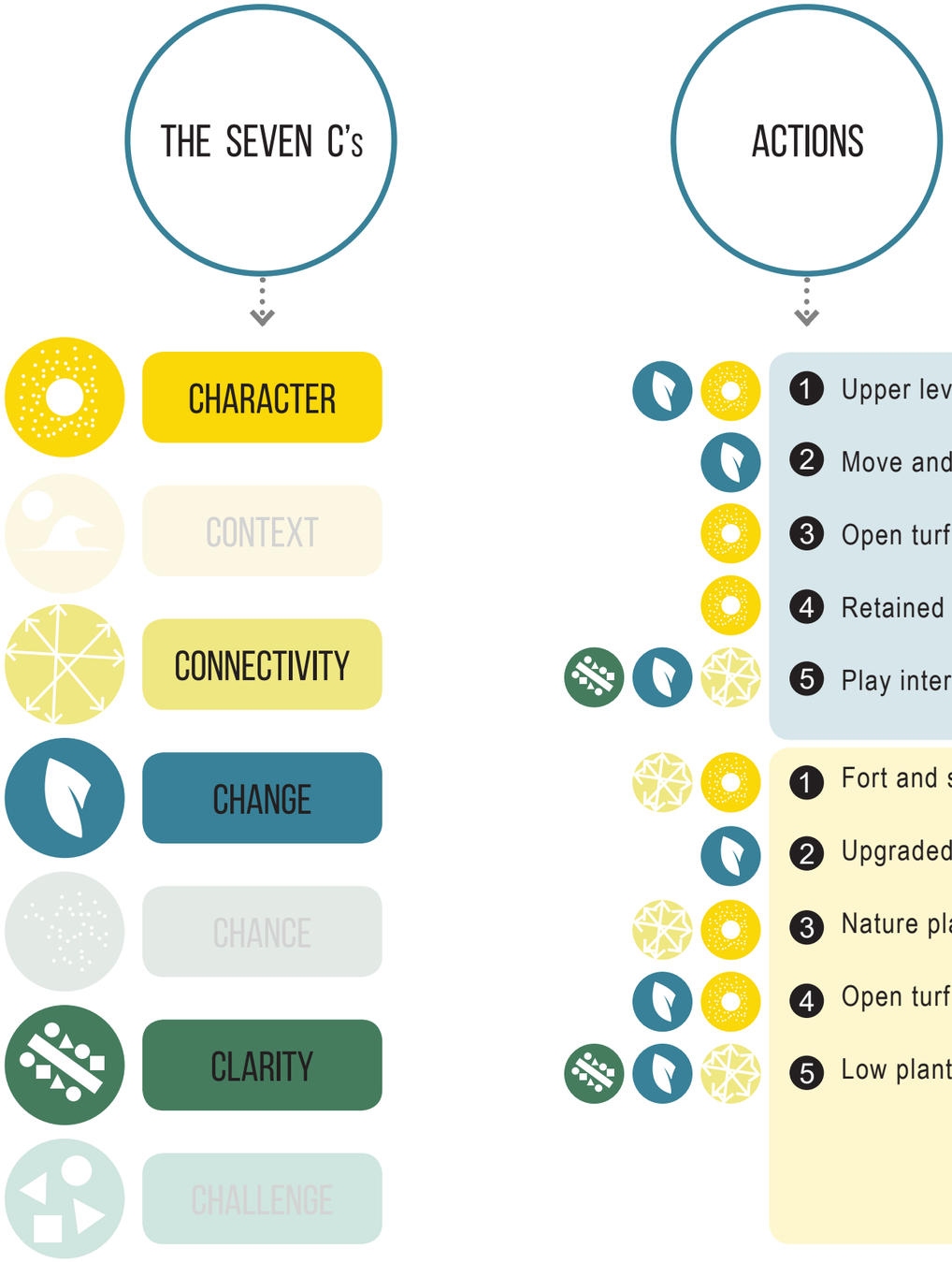
Implement a series of play elements that provide a variety in play opportunities to achieve continued interest. Use of the surrounding environment (slopes, trees, garden beds) can facilitate this variety. Opportunity for inclusion of 'loose parts' equipment or pop up-play elements which can be managed during ToC office hours.

CLARITY

Provide play elements that give users an opportunity to take ownership over the space and modify it to suit their needs. This can be achieved by providing moveable infrastructure or nature play elements.

ACTIONS

COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE



STRATEGY

1. Upper level additional play space
2. Move and upgrade existing play space
3. Open turf picnic area
4. Retained existing Tree's
5. Play interaction between upper and lower levels

PLAY

1. Fort and slides to interact with existing level change
2. Upgraded garden themed play space
3. Nature play space
4. Open turf picnic area
5. Low planting buffer

KEY MOVES

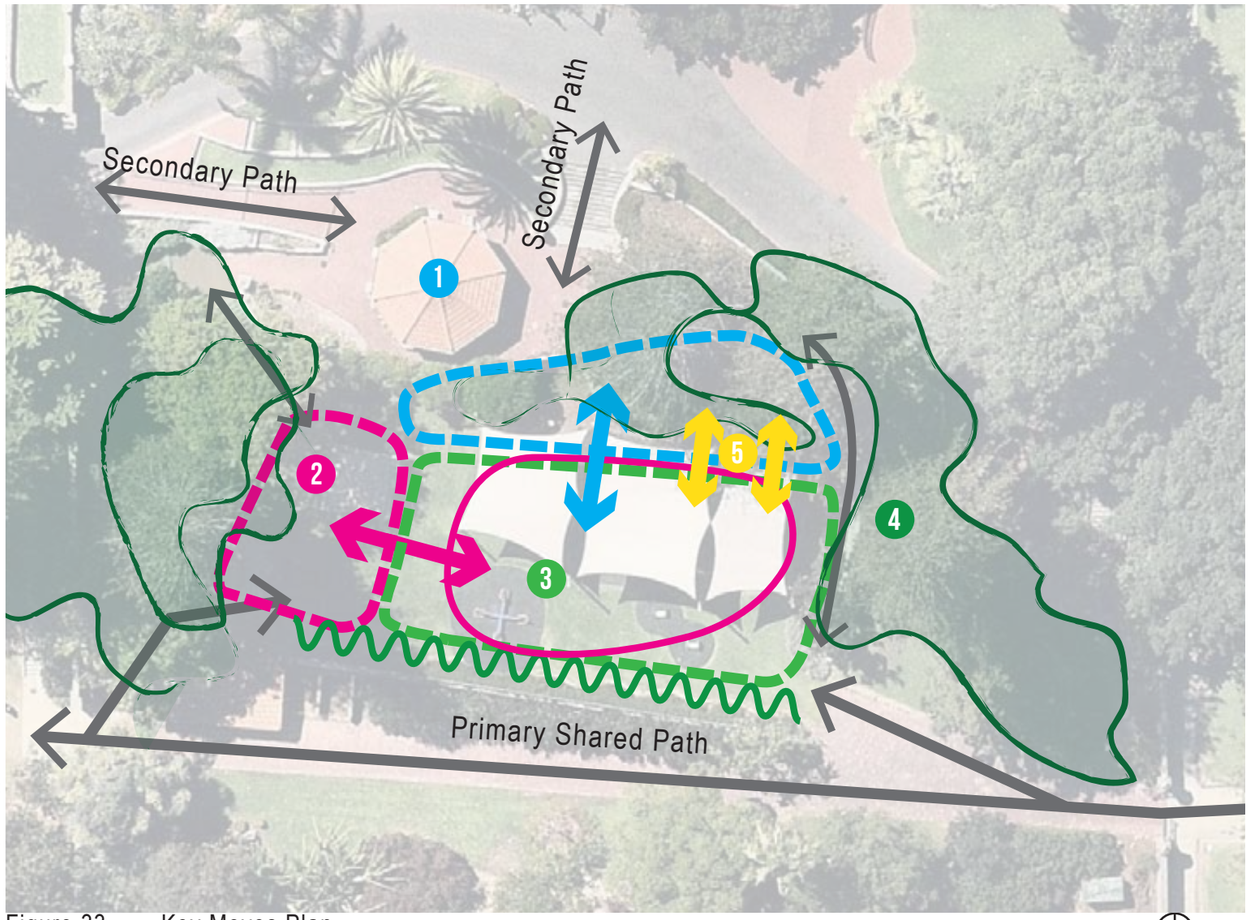


Figure 33. Key Moves Plan

NTS

1. Upper level additional play space
2. Move and upgrade existing play space
3. Open turf
4. Retained existing trees
5. Play interaction between upper & lower level

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

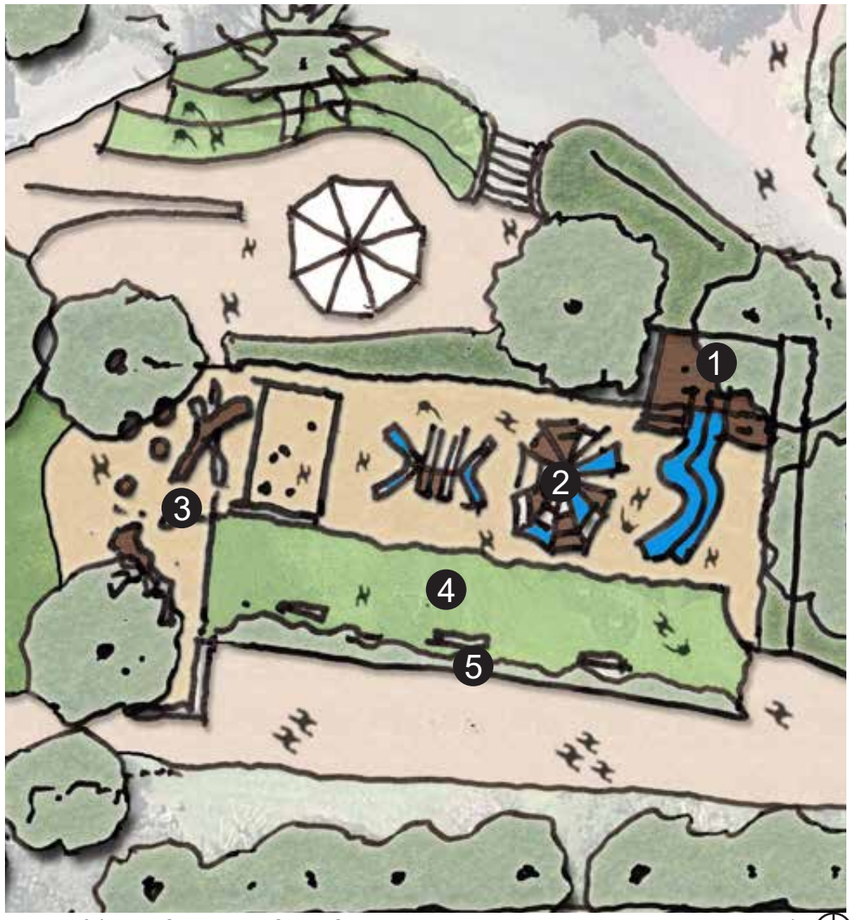


Figure 34. Cottesloe Civic Centre Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

1. Fort and slides/climber to interact with existing levels
2. Upgraded garden themed play space
3. Nature play space
4. Open turf with seating
5. Low planting buffer

*Playground concepts are indicative.

3.9.7 HARVEY FIELD

HARVEY FIELD

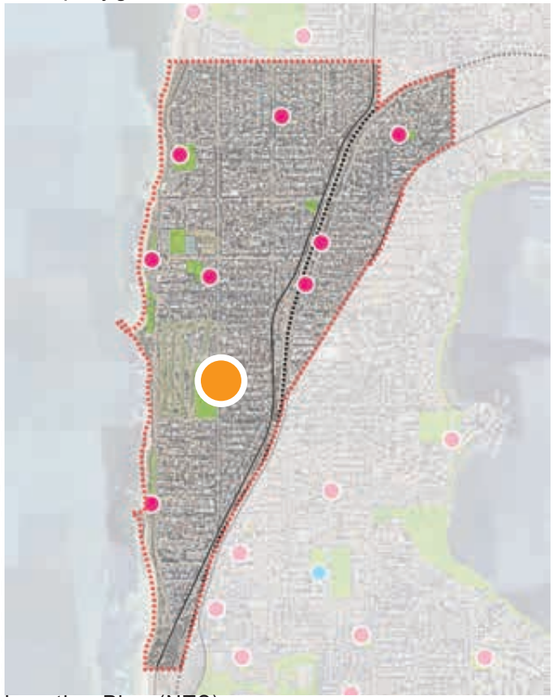
EXISTING OVERVIEW

Harvey Field is located along Broome St and is bound by the Sea View Golf Club to the north-west.

The playground is situated on the Broome Street verge between the two ovals.

The playspace has good shade from the large trees and excellent ocean views.

Due to a conceptual masterplan currently being delivered for Harvey Field, the existing playground will be assessed and recommendations will be made for the future theming of the relocated proposed new playground.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE - LOCAL

The playground provides sufficient basic play infrastructure to compliment a Local level playspace.

QUALITY

50%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Harvey Field playspace a rating of **7 points or 50%.** Points allocated are as follows:

2 - **Character**: there is a purple theme, designed holistically to maintain ocean views.

1 - **Context**: utilises the shade cast down by the tall pines.

1 - **Connectivity**: the existing play elements connect with each other on the same surface.

2 - **Clarity:** the playspace has legible uses and is clearly navigated.

1 - **Challenge**: very young kids can control the level of challenge they wish to undertake.

AGE

0-4

The playspace is caters very well for young kids. The space is fully enclosed with a low fence which enhances the playability for very young kids.

SITE PHOTOS

Dual-seat swing, play forts

Spring seat, periscope

Entrance gate & fence, bike parking

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

HARVEY FIELD

HIERARCHY

TIER TWO-NEIGHBOURHOOD

Harvey Field is in a good position to be upgraded to a Tier Two Neighbourhood playground. The use by visitors to the sporting clubs and surrounding residents, as well as planned upgrades warrant this. A Tier Two Neighbourhood Playspace will require infrastructure that can cater for 10-30 children at once and a range of play opportunities that comes from both off the shelf and custom equipment. There should also be infrastructure that caters for adults, as per recommendations made in the 'Cottesloe Recreations Precinct Masterplan'

QUALITY

80%

In its current situation, the playground would require an additional **4** points to achieve sufficient improvement. Due to plans to relocate the playspace, this provides opportunity to 'start from scratch' and obtain a high quality space.

AGE

0-14+

The proposed new playground should cater for a diverse age range with opportunities for children and teenagers.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

CHARACTER

The new playground will require a strong theme that is 'of place' and informed by genuine engagement with key stakeholder. A recommendation is to build on the existing significance of sport (rugby, football, golf etc) and implement a coastal/natural feel as a solid theme.

CONTEXT

The site is significantly undulating which presents an opportunity to utilise the sloping land form when designing a sport-themed playspace.

CONNECTIVITY

The future location is at the west end of Jarrad Street. It is recommended to address the connectivity to the surrounding community so that users can access the playspace easily, and is not limited to people utilising the sporting fields for organised events or other sporting pursuits.

CHALLENGE

It is recommended that the playground provides opportunities for challenging play and learning/education so that users remain engaged for continued periods, particularly for the benefit of parents or carers who may be watching sport at the ovals and prefer children to remain occupied for longer.

3.9.8 PURPLE DINOSAUR

PURPLE DINOSAUR

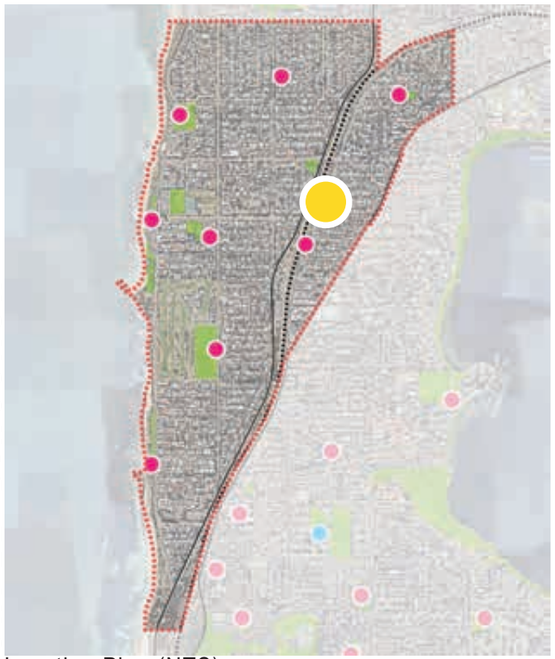
EXISTING
OVERVIEW

Purple Dinosaur is a unique playground in that it is a fenced sandpit with moveable toys and a plastic purple dinosaur sculpture.

It is located along the railway, adjacent a dense residential area and currently caters for ages 0-3 years old.

The spaces provides a 'Free Little Library' and a seat for parents/carers.

The space is very one-dimensional and lacks any design coherence, however has been personalised by the local users.



Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE - LOCAL

Purple Dinosaur is at the very lowest level of Tier Three Playspaces due to its very **minimal infrastructure** and limited variety/play opportunity.

QUALITY

21%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Purple Dinosaur playspace a rating of **3 points or 21%.** Points allocated are as follows:

1 - **Character:** the playspace has an obvious 'Purple Dinosaur' theme.

1 - **Chance:** the moveable toys provide opportunity for kids to take ownership and modify their play needs.

1 - **Clarity:** the intended uses are clear and legible.

AGE

0-3

The playspace is caters very specifically for **very young children** with no opportunity for play catered to kids older than 3 years old.

SITE PHOTOS

The Purple Dinosaur, toys & toy box, fence

The toys available, leaf litter in the sandpit

No visual separation from the trainline

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

PURPLE DINOSAUR

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE- LOCAL

The Purple Dinosaur will remain a Tier Three Local Playspace, however it requires much **improved infrastructure and additional equipment/amenity** to support a unique space next to the railway.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will require an **additional 8 points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-9

The playground currently caters for a very limited age group of very young children. To increase the playability and diversity it is recommended to target **children up to 9 years old**.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

CHARACTER

There is opportunity to enhance the Purple Dinosaur theme to become the overarching theme of the playspace, not just a statue sitting in the sandpit. A playground sign identifying Purple Dinosaur as the name of the space is one such approach

CONNECTIVITY

Enhance the connectivity to Cottesloe Station and the Town Centre and utilise the Purple Dinosaur theme into wayfinding or interpretative elements leading people to the space. A small designated parking area and bike parking would benefit this space.

CHANGE

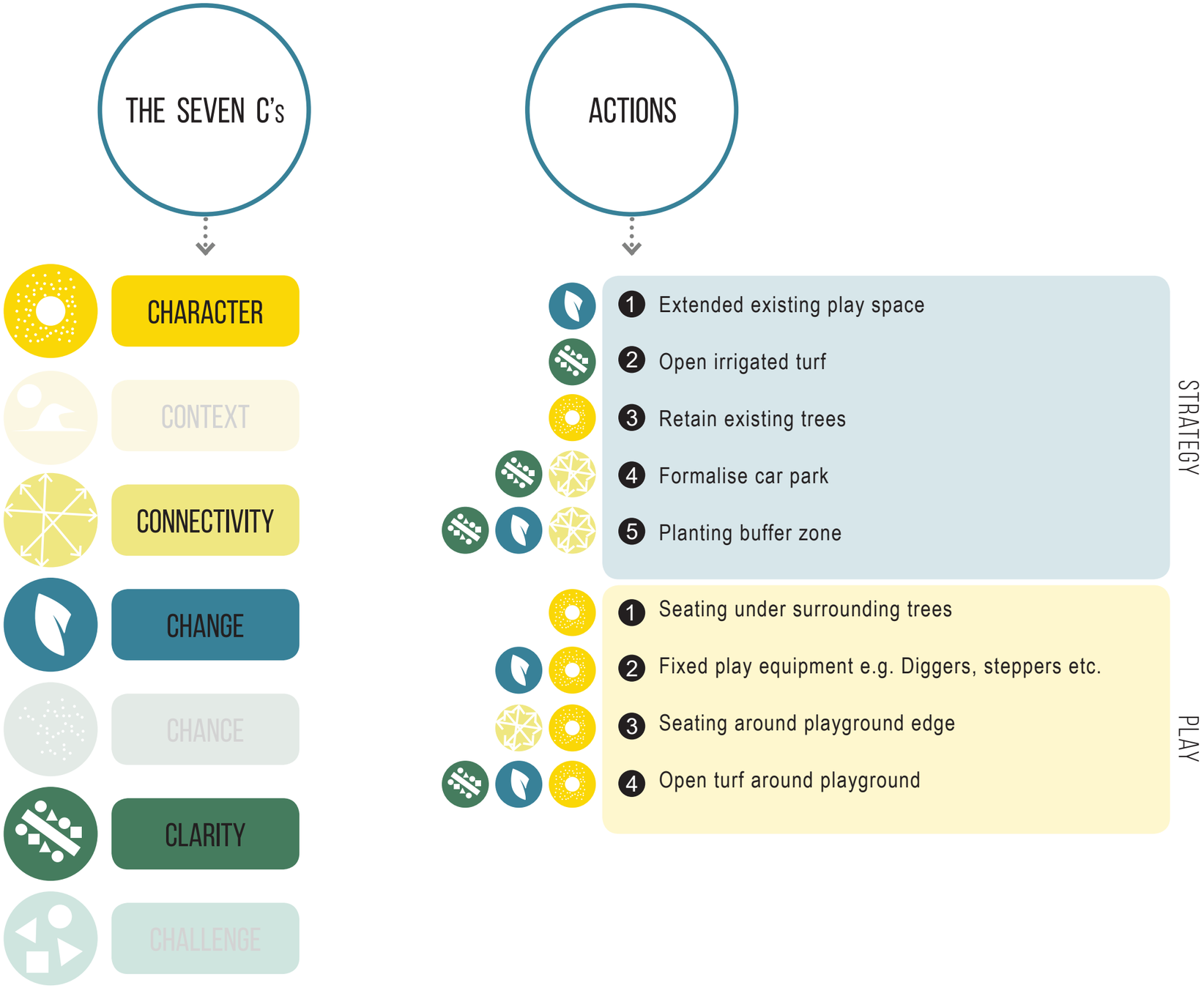
The playground lacks a variety of play opportunities. To achieve a significant improvement to this criteria, it is recommended to introduce a basic play element that reflects the uniqueness of the existing playspace as well as a small hands-on, nature play element.

CLARITY

While retaining a secure barrier around the sandpit, it is recommended to investigate an improved simplistic design to provide access for children of all abilities and potentially be a multi-use barrier with play elements incorporated into it.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

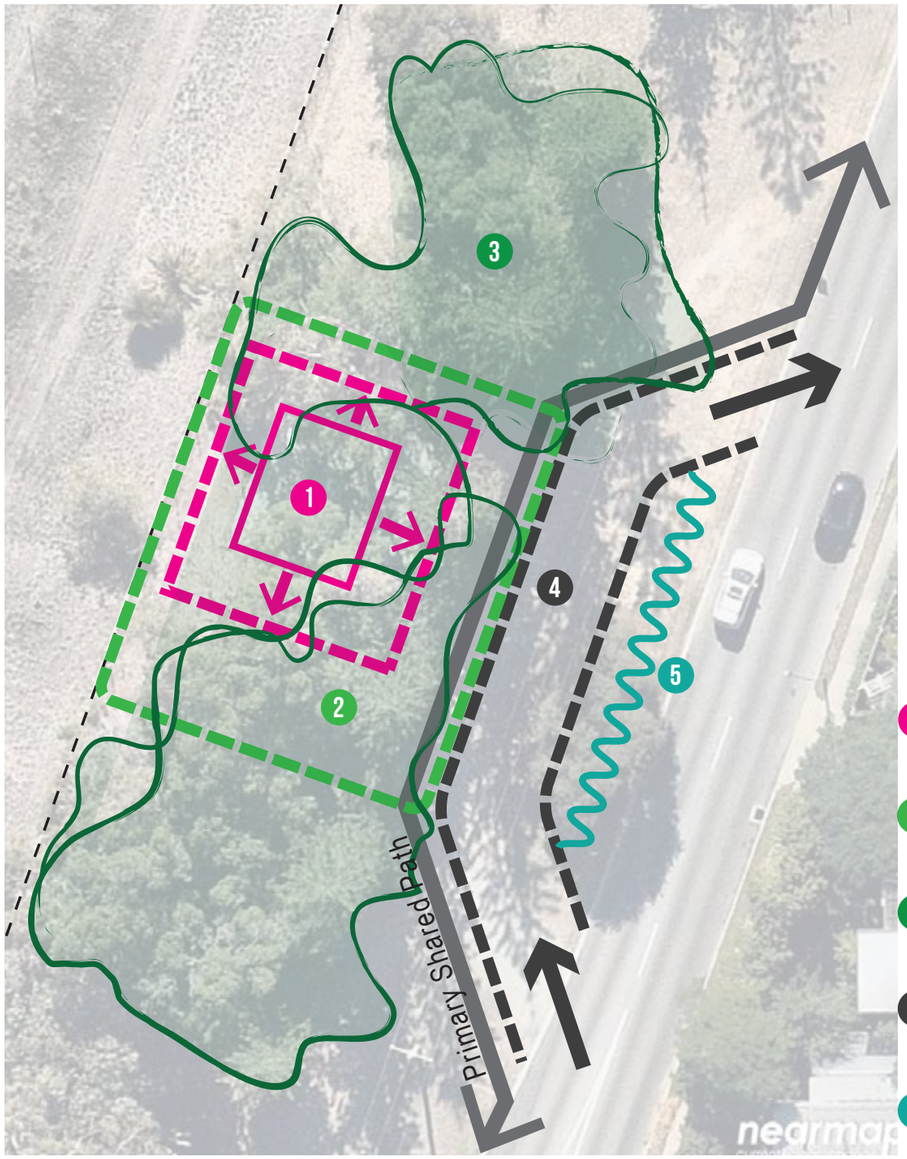
ACTIONS



PURPLE DINOSAUR

PURPLE DINOSAUR

KEY MOVES

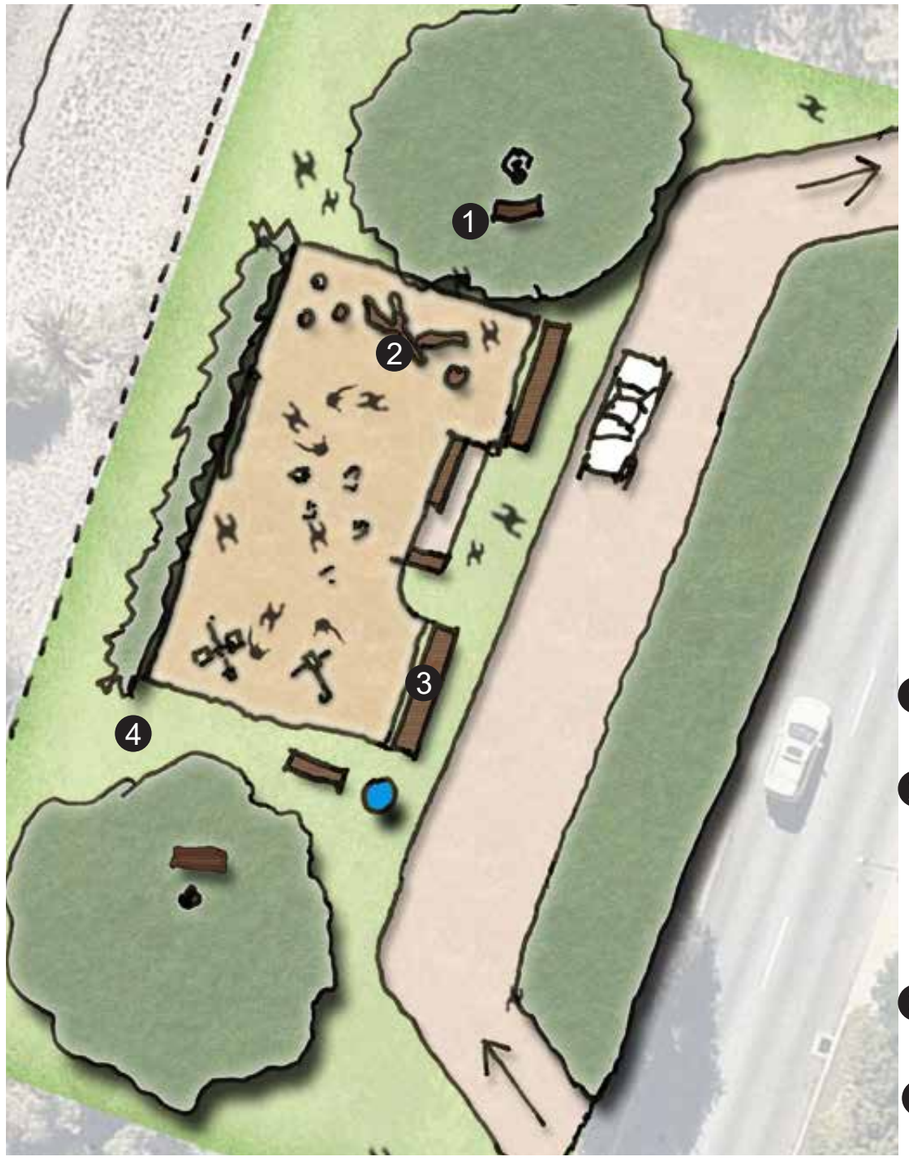


1. Extend existing play space
2. Open irrigated turf
3. Retained existing trees
4. Formalised car park
5. Planting buffer zone

Figure 35. Key Moves Plan

NTS

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS



1. Seating under surrounding trees
2. Extended play area with fixed equipment e.g. Diggers, steppers etc.
3. Seating along playgrounds edge
4. Open Turf around playground

Figure 36. Purple Dinosaur Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

*Playground concepts are indicative.

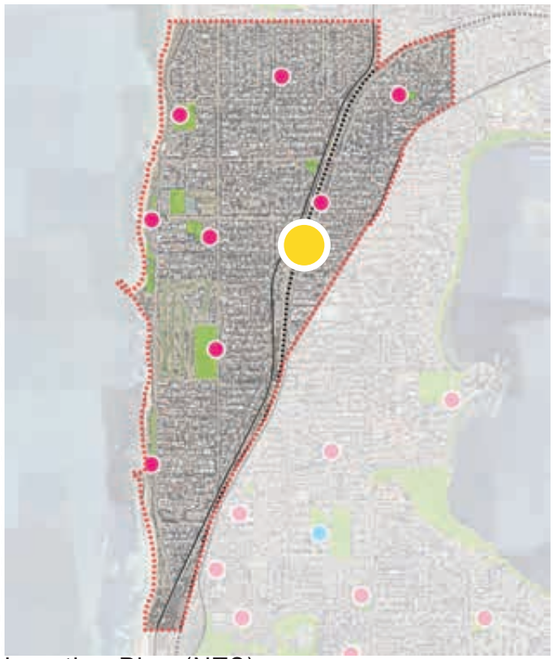
3.9.9 RAILWAY & ALBION

EXISTING
OVERVIEW

Railway & Albion is located, as the unofficial name suggests, along Railway Street and opposite Albion Street and Burt Street.

The Playground at Railway & Albion is in close proximity to Cottesloe Station (3 minute walk) and services immediate residents.

The playspace is very close to Purple Dinosaur and is the closest playground to the Cottesloe Town Centre.



RAILWAY & ALBION

Location Plan (NTS)

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER 3-LOCAL

Although it is located in very close proximity to the Town Centre, it only functions as a Tier Three Local playspace. It has very basic and minimal infrastructure to support play opportunities, of which there is a lack of variety.

QUALITY

36%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Railway & Albion playspace a rating of **5 points or 36%**. Points allocated are as follows:

1 - **Connectivity**: the playspace is nearby Cottesloe Train Station (4min walk) and Stirling Hwy (3min walk) to the east.

2 - **Clarity**: the intended uses are clear and legible, users can clearly navigate the space.

2 - **Challenge:** Very young children can control the level of challenge they wish to undertake and play equipment can be used relatively safely.

AGE

0-4

The playspace **caters for children of very young age** with there being a slide and climber with minimal challenge and a double swing with one toddler seat.

SITE PHOTOS

Slide with rubber soft fall areas

Climber with rubber soft fall

Double swing with rubber soft fall

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

RAILWAY & ALBION

HIERARCHY

TIER 3-LOCAL

The playground currently services immediate residents, however, being in close proximity to the Town Centre, Cottesloe Station and Stirling Hwy, a suite of safe, coherent, diverse infrastructure is required to cater for a potentially diverse range of users.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will **require 5 additional points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-14+

The playground currently caters for a very limited age group with minimal play for older kids/young teenagers. It should be upgraded with an intent to cater for older kids.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

CHARACTER

It is recommended that an appropriate, coherent theme is implemented with the consideration of the key stakeholders, of which are the immediate residents and surrounding community. For example a 'train' theme could be explored.

CONTEXT

Improve how the playground responds to the existing coastal planting scheme. A nature play element where users can build cubbies and have ownership over the space would enhance this characteristic.

CHANCE

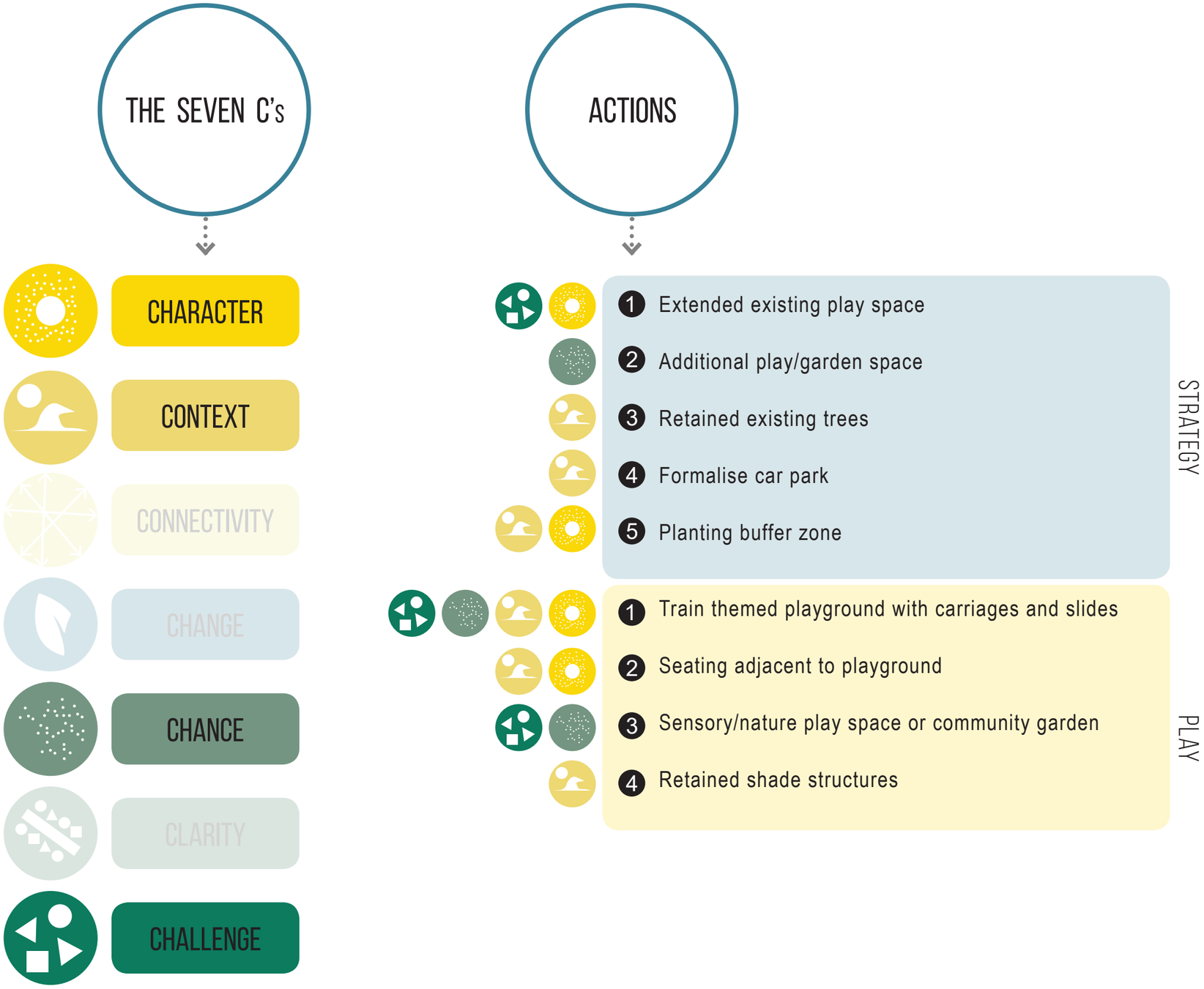
It is recommended that the playground has infrastructure and/or play elements that provide opportunity for there to be a sense of ownership over the space and the ability to modify play to suit the user. This can be achieved by including nature play elements or moveable infrastructure.

CHALLENGE

The current play equipment lacks opportunities of challenging play for all users. It is recommended that there be educational/ learning elements or challenging play equipment for use by children of different ages and abilities.

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

ACTIONS



RAILWAY & ALBION

KEY MOVES

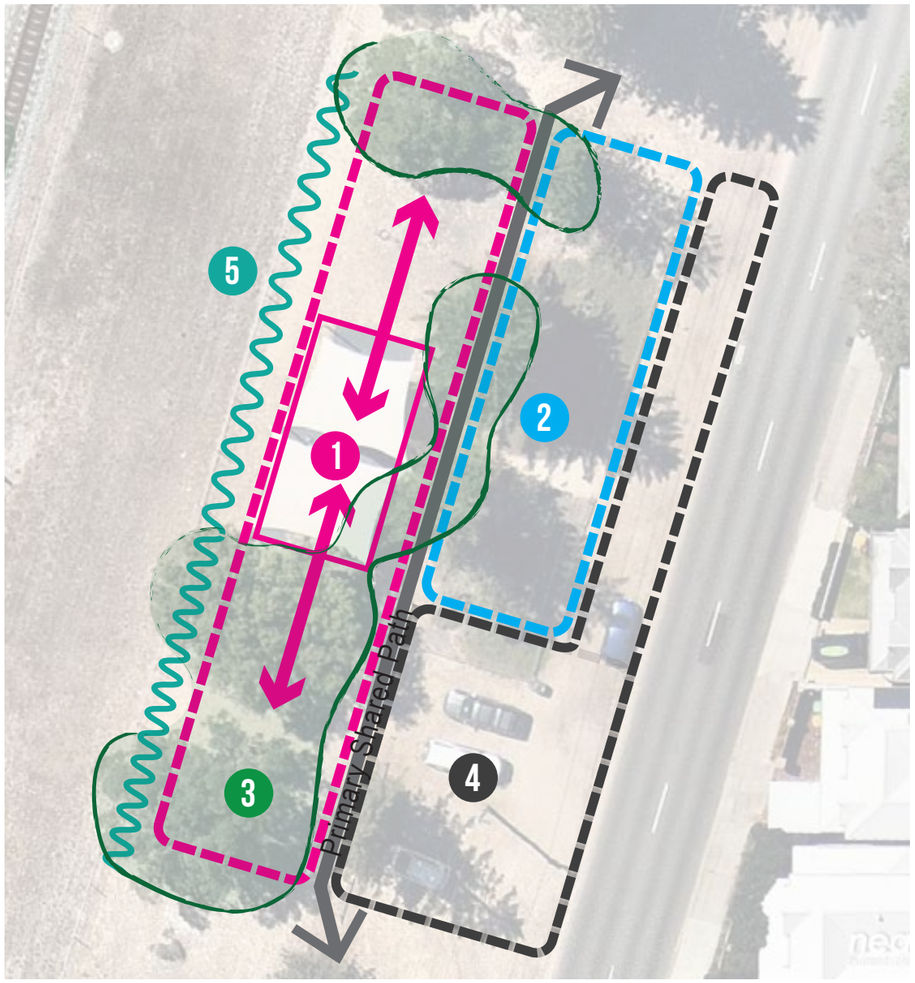


Figure 37. Key Moves Plan

NTS

1. Extend existing play space
2. Sensory/nature play area
3. Retained existing trees
4. Formalised car park
5. Planting buffer zone

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

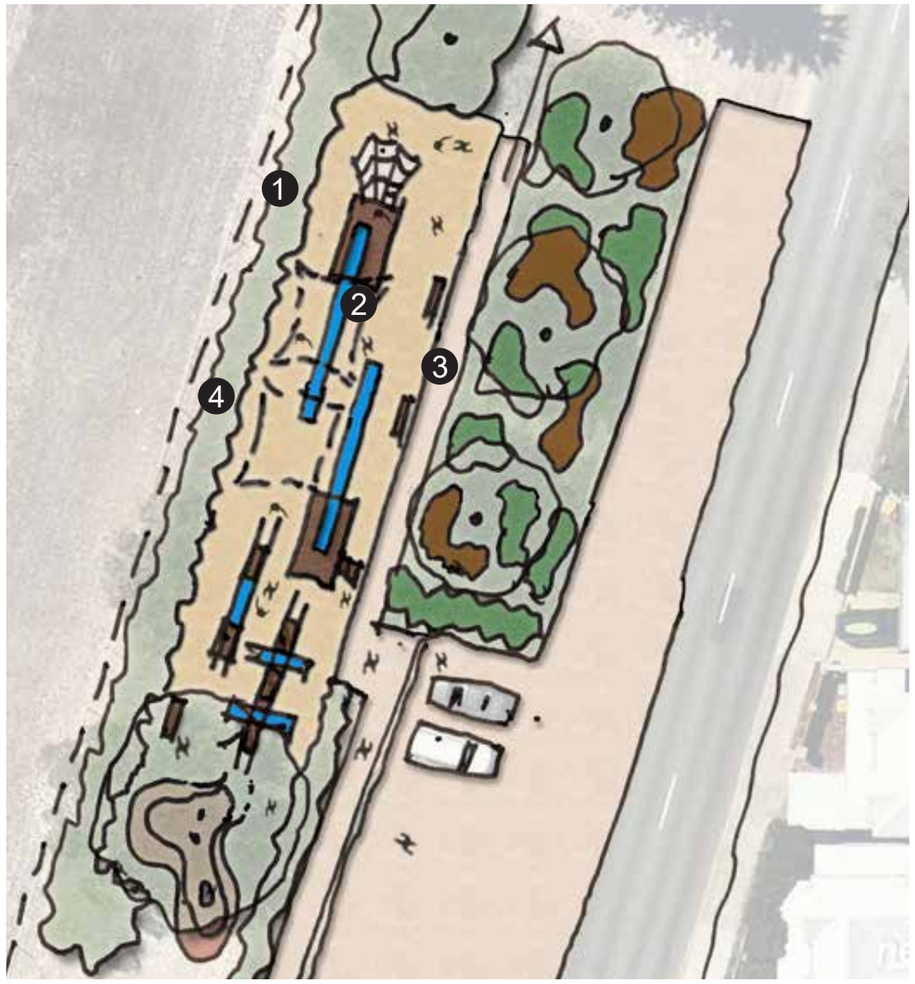


Figure 38. Railway & Albion Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

1. Train themed playground with carriage and slides
2. Seating adjacent to playground
3. Sensory/nature play or community garden
4. Retained shade structures

*Playground concepts are indicative.

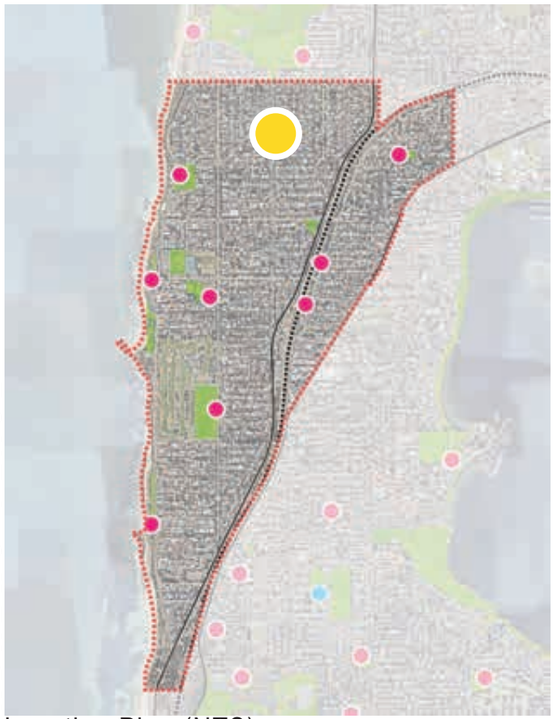
3.9.10 ANDREWS PLACE

EXISTING
OVERVIEW

Andrews Place is situated in the north of the Town at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac that adjoins Marmion Street.

The playspace in set in the middle of the park and services the immediate residents very well, however it is significantly disconnected from people outside of immediate residents.

There is a child care centre located at the north-west corner of the park with a footpath joining the two.



Location Plan (NTS)

ANDREWS PLACE

CURRENT SITUATION

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE - LOCAL PLAYSPACE

The playspace at Andrews Place is a low level Tier Three Local playspace. The infrastructure is very basic and there is a lack of amenity to support the space.

QUALITY

28%

The Seven C's assessment criteria has given Andrews Place playspace a rating of **4 points or 28%.** Points allocated are as follows:

2 - **Clarity**: the uses of the play equipment are legible and navigating the space is sufficient for its users.

2 - **Challenge**: the infrastructure provides challenge play and control over the amount of challenge very young children wish to undertake.

AGE

0-4 YEARS OLD

Andrews Place playground **caters for very young children** with a considerable lack of play opportunity for older children. This is a concern as the space is utilised **predominantly by the immediate residents** and relies on there being children of this low age bracket residing in the surrounding homes without considering if there are older children also living nearby.

SITE PHOTOS

Slide with minimal rubber soft fall

Climbing system, rubber soft fall, limestone edge

Dual-seat swing, sandpit soft fall, large grass trees

PROPOSED
FUTURE VISION

ANDREWS PLACE

HIERARCHY

TIER THREE-LOCAL

As one of the only playspaces to the north it is important to provide sufficient & appropriate infrastructure to this park to allow not just very young children with play opportunities, while retaining the requirements of a Tier Three Local Playspace.

QUALITY

80%

The playground will be required to meet an **additional 6 points** to achieve sufficient improvement.

AGE

0-7+ YEARS OLD

Play opportunities should be diversified to meet the needs of a broader age group.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

EXAMPLES AND PRECEDENTS

CHARACTER

It is recommended that the space is upgraded with opportunity to take inspiration from the grass trees and gums and implement a nature theme. Genuine engagement with key stakeholders is critical before implementing a theme.

CONNECTIVITY

Consolidating the playspace into one area on the same surface will create a more connected space. Wayfinding signage at Marmion Street and Andrews Place to direct people to the park would enhance the connectivity.

CHANGE

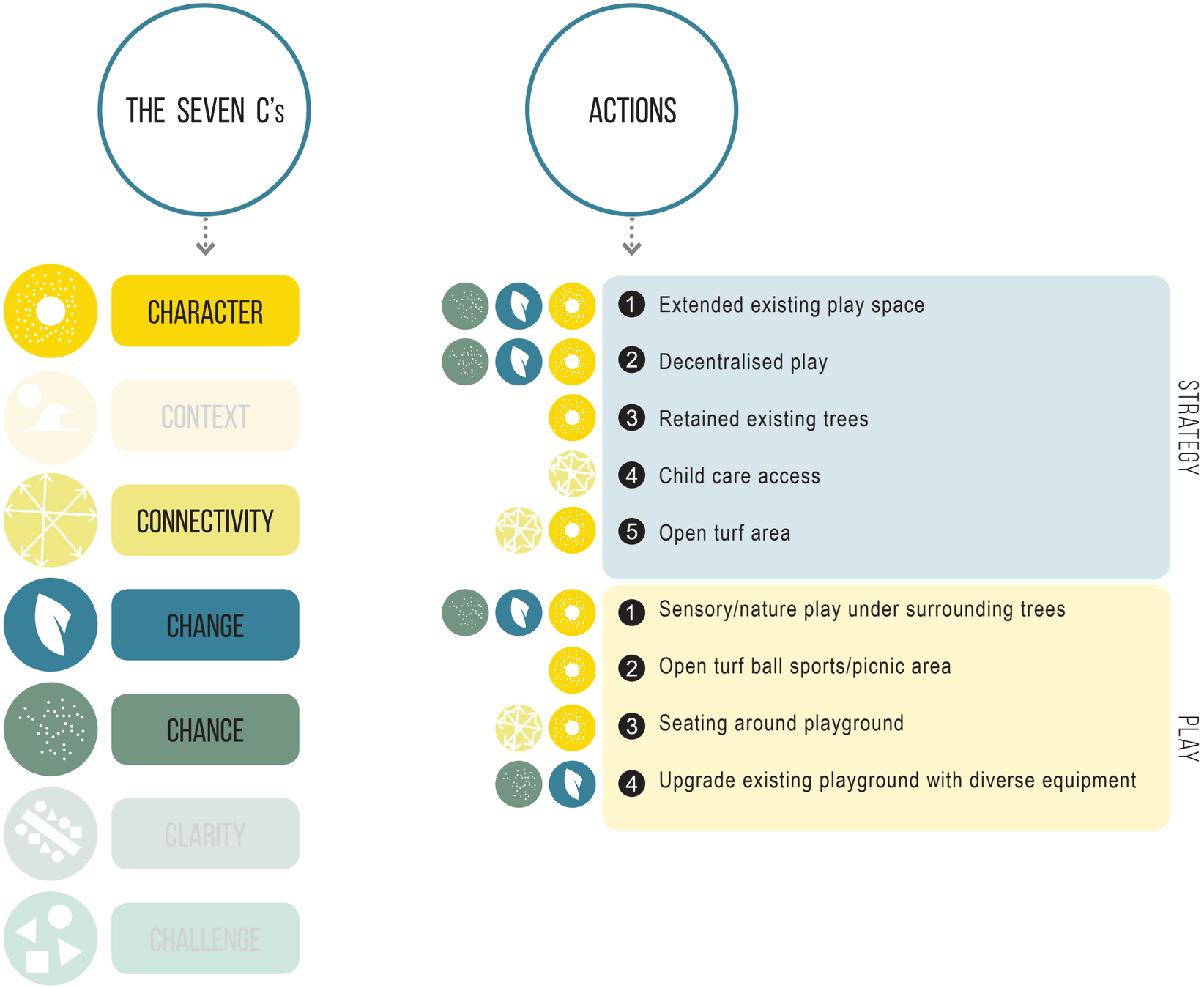
Provision of new equipment should include variety of custom and off-the-shelf equipment that provides a variety of play outcomes. A child should be able to go to the park on a rainy day and still find opportunity to play, this could be done through nature elements or integrated shelter.

CHANCE

It is recommended that there be play elements that provide opportunity for children to modify the space to reflect their play needs and to take ownership over the space. This can be achieved by providing opportunity to dig, build, climb and engage in imaginative play.

ACTIONS

ANDREWS PLACE



ANDREWS PLACE

KEY MOVES

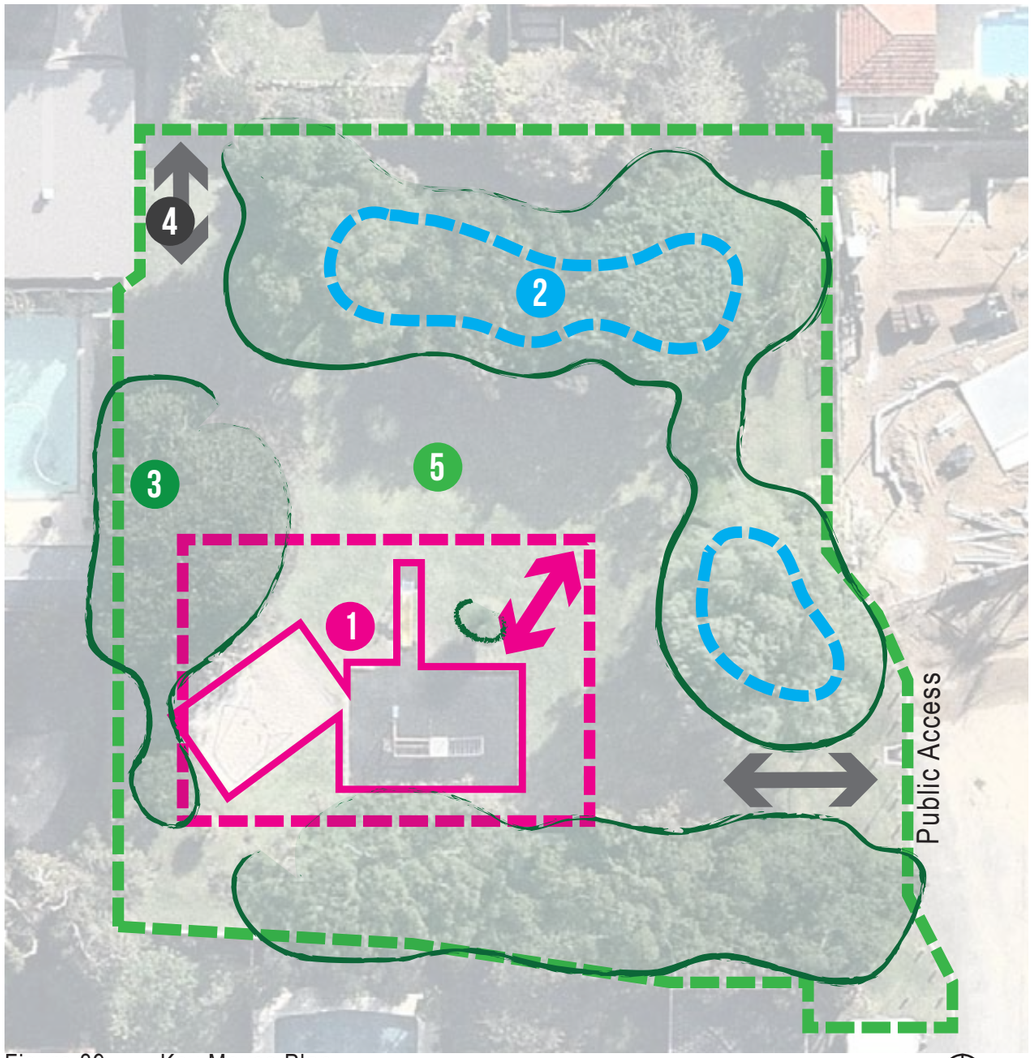


Figure 39. Key Moves Plan

NTS

1 Extend existing play space

2 Decentralised play

3 Retained existing trees

4 Child care access

5 Open turf area

PLAYGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS

Figure 40. Andrews Place Playground Recommendations Plan*

NTS

1 Sensory/nature play under surrounding trees

2 Open turf ball sport/picnic area

3 Seating around playground

4 Upgrade existing playground with diverse play equipment

*Playground concepts are indicative.

3.10 SITES FOR NEW PLAYGROUNDS

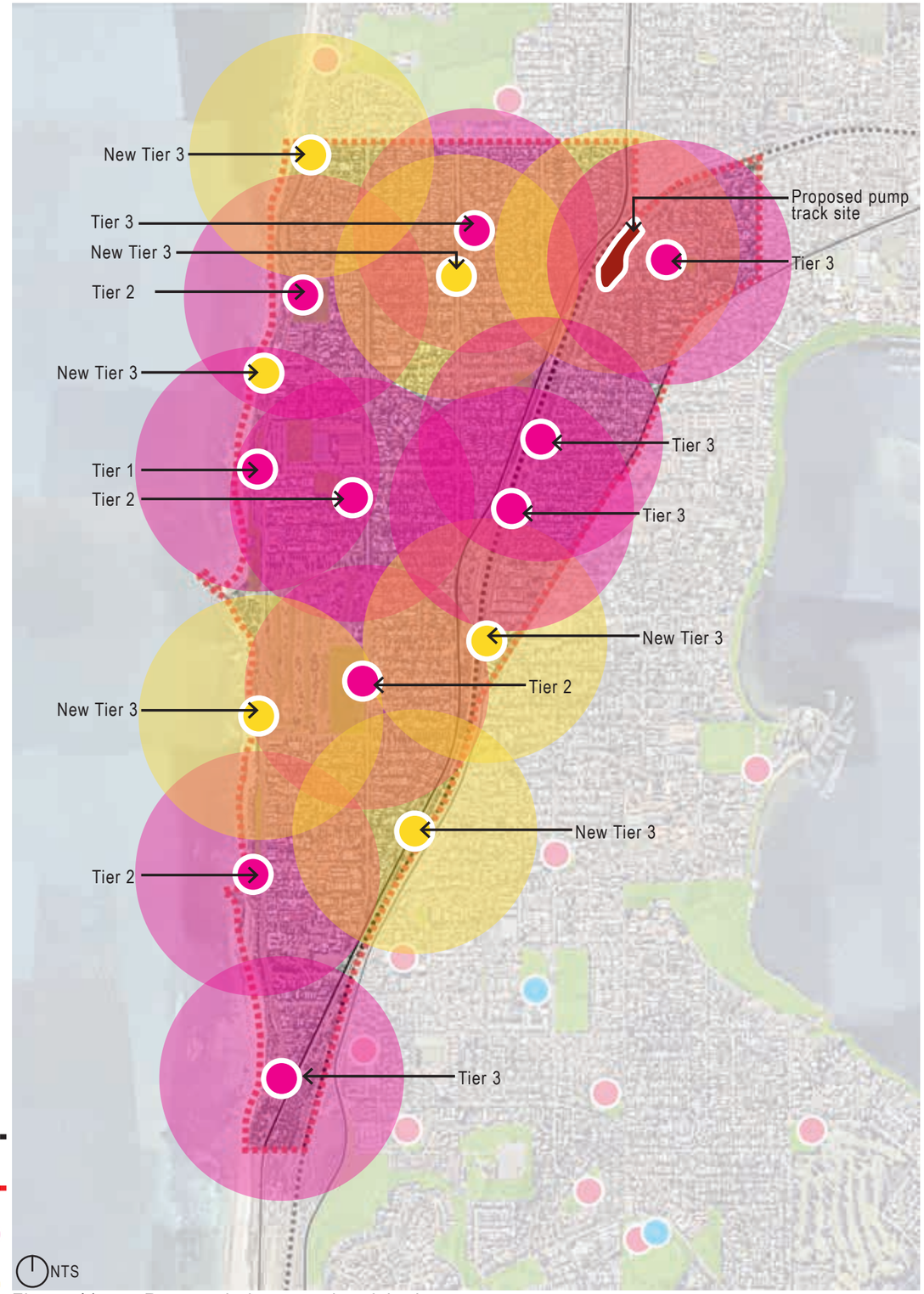
Sites for new playgrounds have been determined by:

1. Applying hierarchical upgrades to existing playspaces; and

2. Considering new playgrounds in strategic locations as follows:

- Near town centre;
- Pump track/youth space near Grant Street train station;
- Additional Tier Three-Local play opportunities along foreshore reserve, especially North Cottesloe;
- Small Tier Three-Local playground near Daisies cafe associated with Grant Street median; and,
- Vlamingh Memorial Nature Discovery Space currently undergoing construction will cover the very southern edge of the Town which was previously identified as a gap.

This approach ensures no 'gaps' remain when using 400m/5 minute pedsheds across the whole of Cottesloe.



Proposed Tier Three-Local Playspace
Existing playground- To be Upgraded
Train line
ToC Boundary
Existing playground 400m pedsheds
Proposed playground 400m pedsheds

Figure 41. Proposed playground pedsheds

3.11 RECOMMENDED PLAYGROUND HIERARCHY

The proposed playground hierarchy includes upgrades to existing playgrounds and several new playgrounds. The hierarchy is structured in a pyramid form with the majority being Tier Three Local playgrounds, followed by half that number of Tier Two Neighbourhood playgrounds, and one Tier One Regional playground for Cottesloe.

- Foreshore reserve to contain a sequence of new and existing playgrounds. These can be located near pathways, car parks and close to amenity.
- The wide verges and medians around Grant Street, Broome Street and key nodes such as Eric Street shops and 'Daisies' can provide space and context for new Tier Three Local playground.
- The road reserve to the East of the railway line contains under utilised, unmaintained play equipment. The proximity to the train line and stations present opportunity for these spaces to be much better utilised and mitigate the rail line as a barrier to access. The playgrounds should be upgraded to provide exciting and engaging play opportunities that address the needs of older and young children.

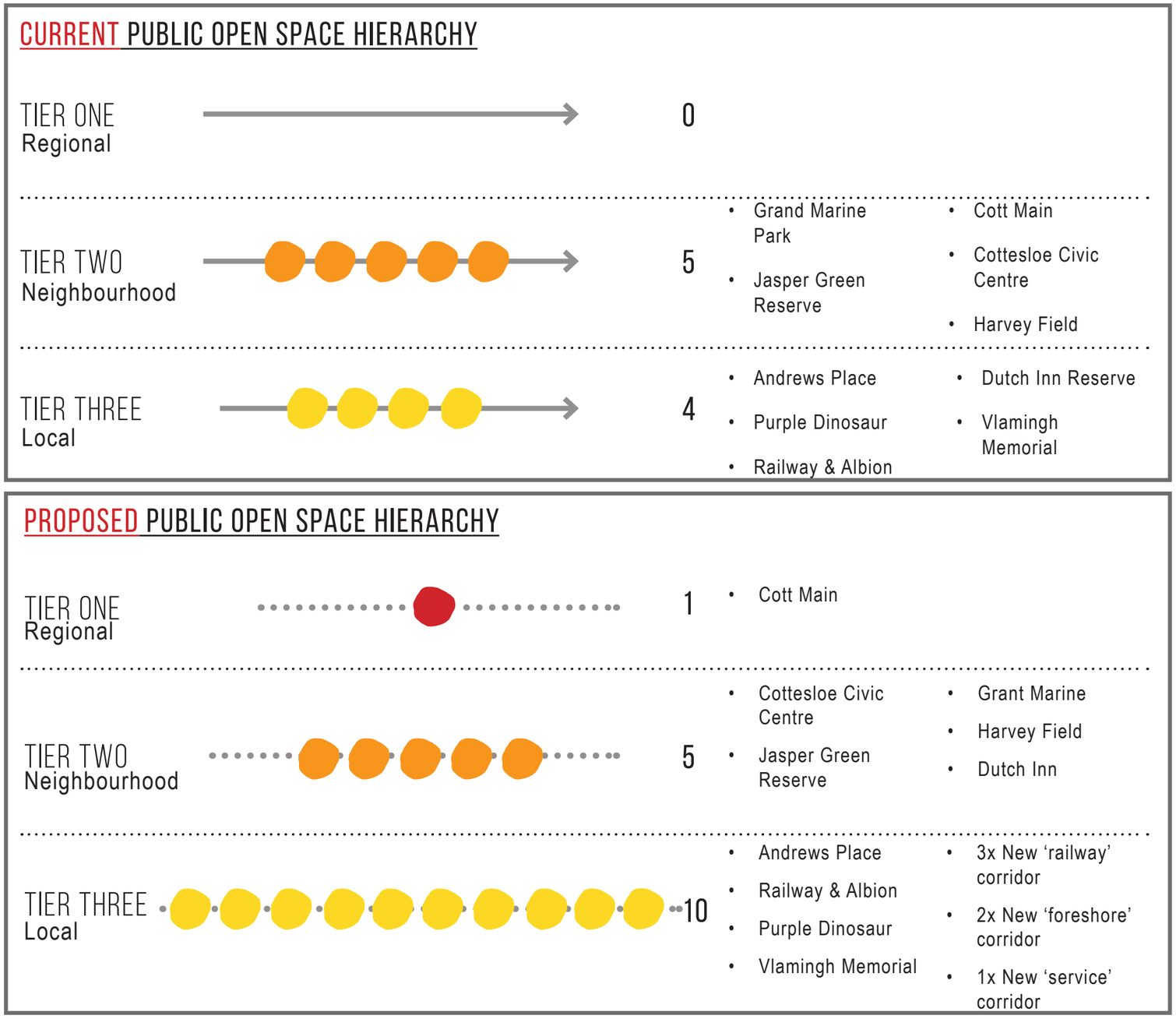


Figure 42. Playground Hierarchy, existing and proposed

3.12 PRIORITISING EXISTING PLAYGROUND UPGRADES

The nine existing playgrounds have been grouped into high / medium / low priorities for consultation, design, and delivery of improvements. Rationale for higher priority versus lower priority is as follows:

- **Safety** – conflicting user groups, unsafe and ageing equipment and/or environment.
- **Opportunity** – ToC are undertaking numerous designs and plans for various areas especially in relation to the foreshore. Where existing or nearby playgrounds fall into the sphere of influence of priority projects being developed, the opportunity to improve the playgrounds should be undertaken in conjunction.
- **Distribution** – need to balance rate of upgrades to ensure that one area of Cottesloe isn't neglected in favour of another
- **Cost & Complexity** – need to balance the cost and staging of upgrades to ensure ToC's annual budget can accommodate upgrades

Refer Appendix B for indicative costs and staging.

High Priority

Playground	Tier	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Dutch Inn	2-Neighbourhood	Safety of users, Age of equipment, lack of Provision.	0-1 year	Low
Cott Main	1-Regional	Opportunity to design a Regional level iconic playground as part of the current Foreshore Design works. Project will take time to plan, design, fund and implement.	0-4 years	High
Purple Dinosaur	3-Local	General amenity, Safety, Lack of Provision.	0-2 years	Low
Vlamingh Memorial and Nature Discovery Space	3-Local	Currently under design and construction. Fills a significant gap in the south of the Town	0-1 years	Low

Medium Priority

Playground	Tier	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Civic Centre	2-Neighbourhood	Age and Condition of equipment, lack of Provision. Need to strongly consider heritage context.	2-3 years	Medium
Railway & Albion	3-Local	Opportunity to develop further the playground towards the south and assist with lack of provision with the vicinity of the Town Centre. Opportunity to consider incorporating a Pump Track.	2-5 years	Low
Grant St Marine	2-Neighbourhood	POS is ripe for further activation. Existing play equipment due for replacement. Doesn't cater to wider age group. Opportunity for dedicated Nature Play.	3-5 years	Medium

Low Priority

Playground	Tier	Reasoning	Timeframe	Cost & Complexity
Harvey Field	2-Neighbourhood	Requires design of new facilities to be developed and implemented in order to properly address the playground. Existing playground to be left as is until decommissioned.	2-5 years	Medium
Jasper Green Reserve	2-Neighbourhood	Playground and park is well catered to. Small progressive improvements to play structures and elements can be added in stages. Recommend small annual budget for yearly additions for next 5 years.	2-5 years	Low
Andrews Place	3-Local	Small playground with limited access. Benefits immediate residents only. Equipment should last another 5 years before replacement warranted.	3-5 years	Low

Image 13. Cottesloe Foreshore, udla

4.0 CONCLUSION

The Strategy Document provides a vision for Cottesloe's POS, effectively grouping existing spaces according to character, location and type. This has resulted in four 'linear' bands of linked POS (three that run north/south, one that runs east/west) that collectively respond to the themes of:

1. Coast and Beach;
2. Sport and Recreation;
3. Informal Play and Exploration; and,
4. Ecology and Biodiversity.

The Playground Strategy establishes a three tiered hierarchy of provision for the ten existing playgrounds and recommends the level of service and location of future playgrounds. Generally all playgrounds need improvement in the following areas:

1. Age diversity;
2. Overall challenge and replayability;
3. Relevance to Cottesloe's sense of place and character; and,
4. Supporting amenity and infrastructure for carers and parents.

Image 14. Cott Main, udla (opposite)

NEW IDEAS THROUGH
SHARED DESIGN-THINKING