



# 2025 Strategic Plan

## Murrumbateman Recreation Ground

**This strategy guides the future development and maintenance of Murrumbateman Recreation Ground within Yass Valley local government area**

Adopted by Council 27 November 2025



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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1.	Background	3
2.	Purpose	4
3.	Consultation	4
4.	Current Facilities	5
5.	Strategic Mapping	6
6.	Plan of Management	10
7.	Council Policies, Strategies and Plans	11
8.	Management Zones	12
9.	Sports Field Remediation Program	14
10.	Vegetation and Tree Management	15
11.	Action Plan	16





# 1. BACKGROUND

The Yass Valley local government area is home for multiple recreational facilities which each host a range of various passive and dynamic activities.

The facilities are:

- Binalong Recreation Ground
- Bookham Recreation Ground
- Bowning Recreation Ground
- Gundaroo Recreation Ground
- Murrumbateman Recreation Ground
- Sutton Recreation Ground
- Wee Jasper Recreation Ground
- Joe O'Connor Park, Yass
- Victoria Park, Yass
- Walker Park, Yass

Each facility is uniquely identified by its own features (including but not limited to) playgrounds, sporting fields, community halls, swimming pools, skate parks and passive open spaces.

It is important that Council owned/managed facilities are well managed, maintained and developed to meet the growing needs and expectations of both community members and visitors to Yass Valley.

To provide a methodical approach Council will develop site specific strategic plans to assist with the development activities.



## 2. PURPOSE

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The strategic plan will provide direction and support delivery of planning, development, and management of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground.

Murrumbateman Recreation Ground is a multi-use facility located along the Barton Highway within the town of Murrumbateman. The facility is approximately 45 hectares in size and includes an equestrian precinct, sporting field, tennis courts, playground, dog park, community hall, public toilets and passive open space areas. The strategic plan seeks to:

- Provide quality sporting and recreational space for the community
- Provide a management approach that delineates and integrates activities within the site and surrounding recreational areas
- Provide a priority program for the development of the site
- Enhance the aesthetics for the natural environment of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground.

## 3. CONSULTATION

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Public consultation is a critical component of strategic planning, ensuring that decisions are informed by the perspectives and needs of the community. Engaging stakeholders throughout the process promotes transparency, inclusivity, and shared ownership of outcomes. By incorporating diverse insights and feedback, the organisation can identify opportunities, anticipate challenges, and develop strategies that are both practical and broadly supported. This collaborative approach enhances accountability, builds trust, and strengthens the overall effectiveness and sustainability of the strategic plan.

Yass Valley Council will consult with internal and external stakeholders to understand and develop assets that are identified within the strategic plan.

To assist with community consultation council has established the Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds Focus Group. The purpose of the focus group is to identify maintenance priorities and standards and identify priorities for new or upgraded facilities. Membership is represented by current and prospective user groups.

Agendas and minutes from focus group meetings can be found on councils website [here](#).

Council has worked extensively with the focus group and local sporting bodies to gain an understanding of the requirements for the Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds. This is reflected in the actions list within this strategic plan.

Yass Valley Council acknowledges, encourages and supports the initiatives from community/sporting groups in delivering community-led projects that provides long-lasting positive benefits for the area.

## 4. CURRENT FACILITIES

Murrumbateman Recreation Ground is a multiuse facility comprising of the following infrastructure:

- Community Hall
- Men's Shed
- Public toilets
- Sports amenities building
- 5 bay storage shed
- Scout Hall
- Sporting oval (with lighting and irrigation/water tank)
- Pavillion
- Stage
- Equestrian clubhouse/storage
- Equestrian precinct (sand arenas, round yard, cross country course, horse yards, bridleway access – Dundoos estate)
- Moon shed
- Tennis courts
- Community Gardens
- Cricket net
- Local/village category playground
- War Memorial
- Enclosed dog park
- BBQs/seating/table settings
- Winery trail
- Village green
- Long jump pit

Murrumbateman Recreation Ground is a facility that is utilised for active and passive recreation. The local activities undertaken include:

- Tennis
- Cricket
- Equestrian activities
- AFL
- Little Athletics
- Scouts
- Dog shows
- Dancing
- Karate
- Community gathering and events
- Men's Shed
- Yoga
- Parent & Children's Playgroups
- Village Markets
- Film Evenings
- Christmas Carols
- Field Days
- Cycling
- Dog walking
- Community meetings
- MCA office
- Professional and educational courses
- Running groups
- Memorial events
- Public rest stop
- Winery trail
- Rural Fire Brigade training
- Commercial events (e.g. Rodeos, singers)

The recreation ground has designated passive recreation areas. This includes Jones Park (local/village park), the Village Green and significant open space areas. Service levels for Jones Park are identified in Council's adopted [2017 Parks and Playground Strategy](#).

The recreation ground also includes an off-leash dog exercise area, details of which can be found on Council's website [here](#).



5. STRATEGIC MAPPING

Figure 1 – Aerial Overview

Note: Cross country course indicative only





Figure 2 – Aerial Facility Overview

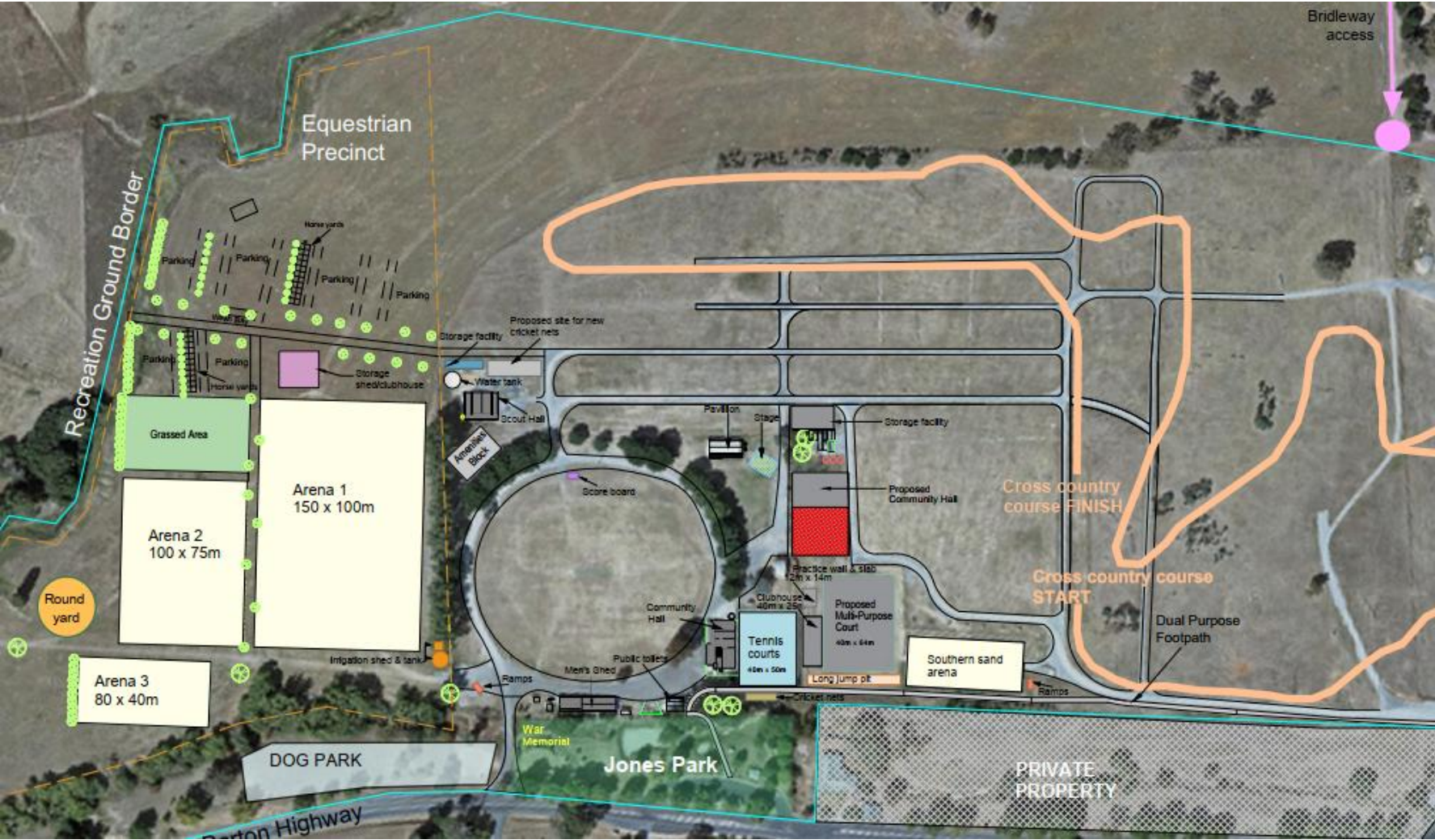
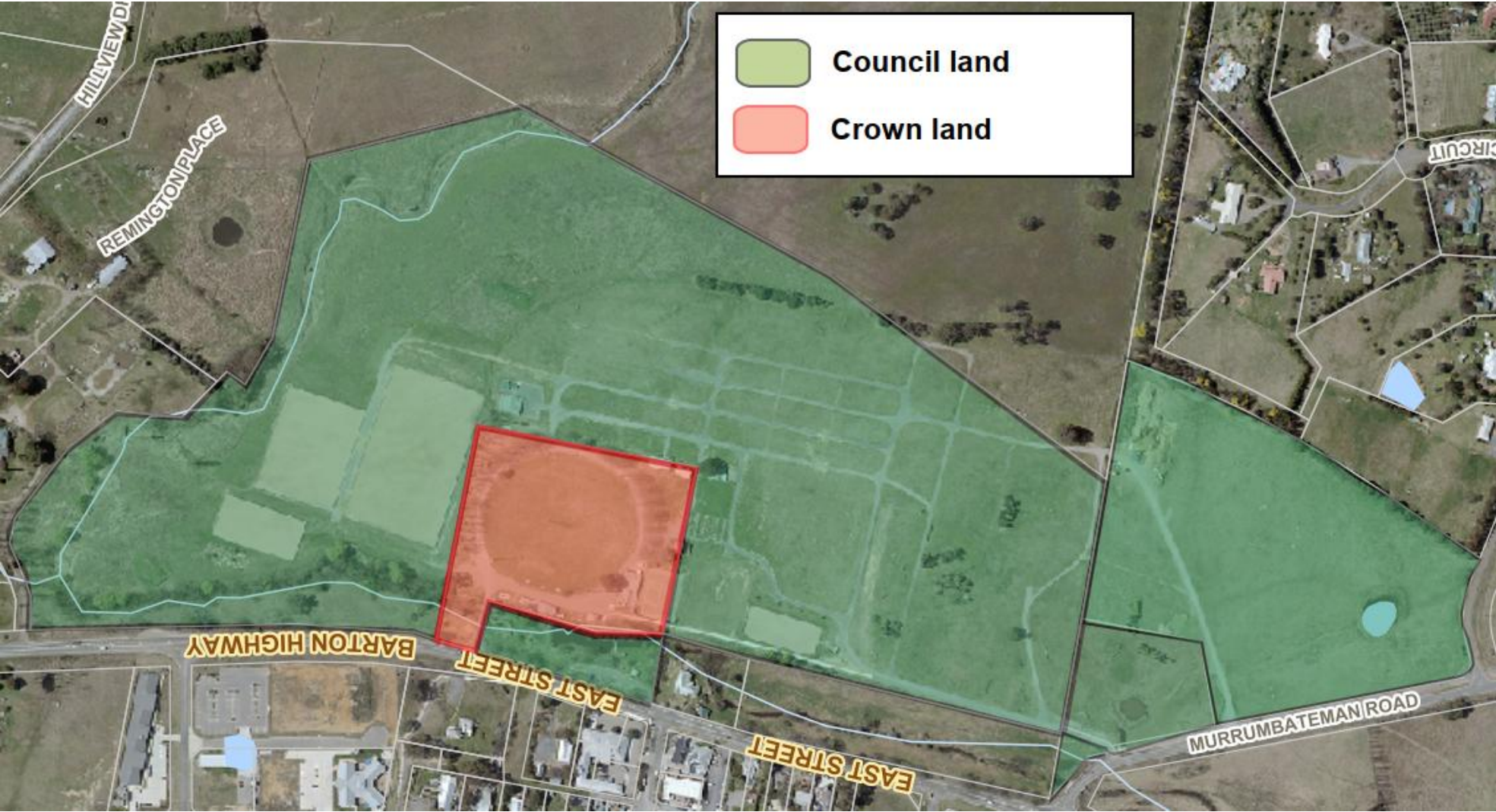




Figure 3 – Lot Description Overview





**Figure 4 – Proposed Barton Highway Bypass**

Note: Proposed Barton Highway bypass indicative only – for more information visit the [Barton Highway | Transport for NSW](#) website.





## 6. PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

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Under Section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council must prepare Plans of Management for community land.

The Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Plan of Management is currently in a draft format. This plan of management will incorporate the following attributes:

- The plan of management will identify the category of the land
- The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management
- A current description of the natural and cultural resources
- Planning considerations relevant to the land
- A statement of the long-term objectives for the reserve and the associated management targets for the specified period
- Method of assessment of organised objectives and targets
- Authorises leases, licences and other estates





## 7. COUNCIL POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PLANS

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Yass Valley Council has implemented the following documents to assist with its management and operation of recreational facilities.

These are:

### Policies

- Community Sports Facility Booking Policy
- Sports Facility Closure Policy
- Access Through Parks Policy

Policies are located on Councils website:

<https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/Our-Council/Policies-Plans-and-Reports/Council-Policies>

### Strategies

- Yass Valley Open Space Strategy 2024-2036
- Park and Playground Strategy 2017

Strategies are located on Councils website:

<https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/Our-Council/Policies-Plans-and-Reports/Council-Strategies-and-Plans>

### Plans

- Parks and Recreation Asset Management Plan

Plans may be accessed from Councils website:

<https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/Our-Council/Policies-Plans-and-Reports/Council-Strategies-and-Plans>

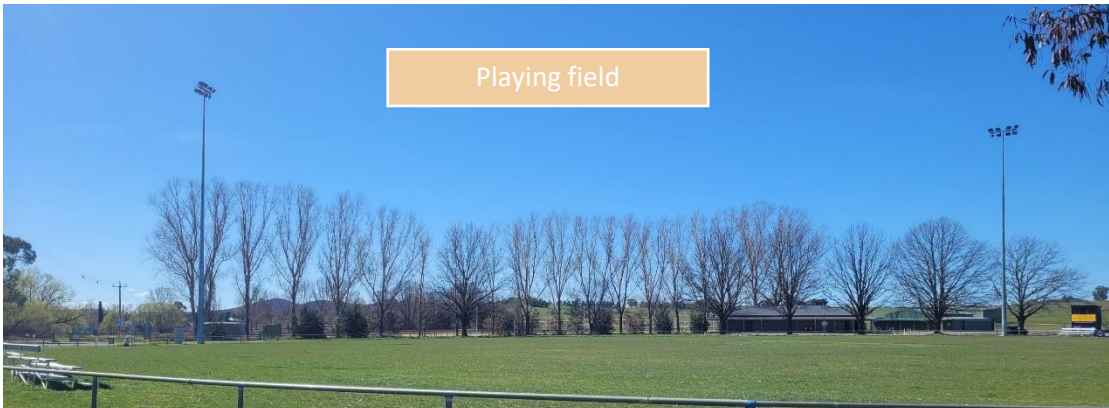
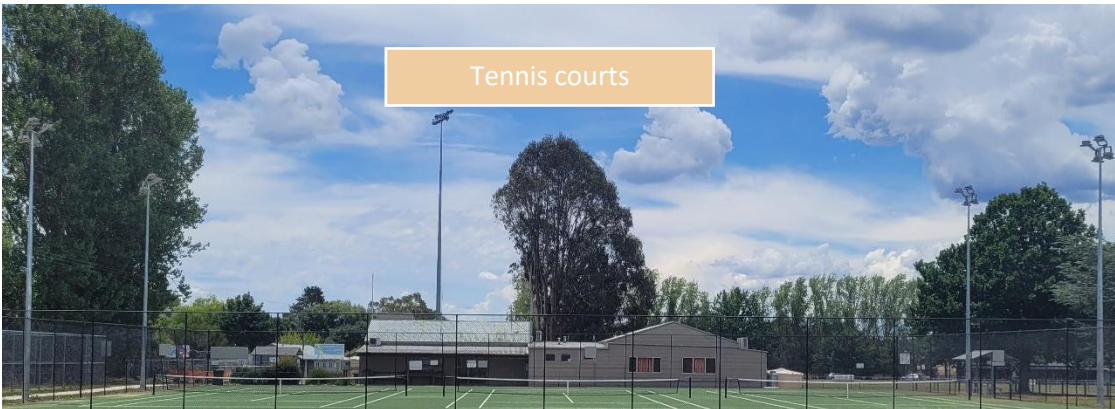
### Documents under development

- Plan of Management – Murrumbateman Recreation Ground (including Jones Park)
- North Murrumbateman Masterplan
- Tree Management Strategy
- Parks and Play Strategy 2025

# 8. MANAGEMENT ZONES

## Sporting and Active Zones

These areas can be used for both sporting and active recreation and includes the playing field, cricket net, tennis courts, multiple equestrian arenas and the cross country equestrian course.





Passive Recreational Zone

This zone includes Jones Park and the large passive open space areas including the village green, the cross country area, the war memorial site and the enclosed dog park.

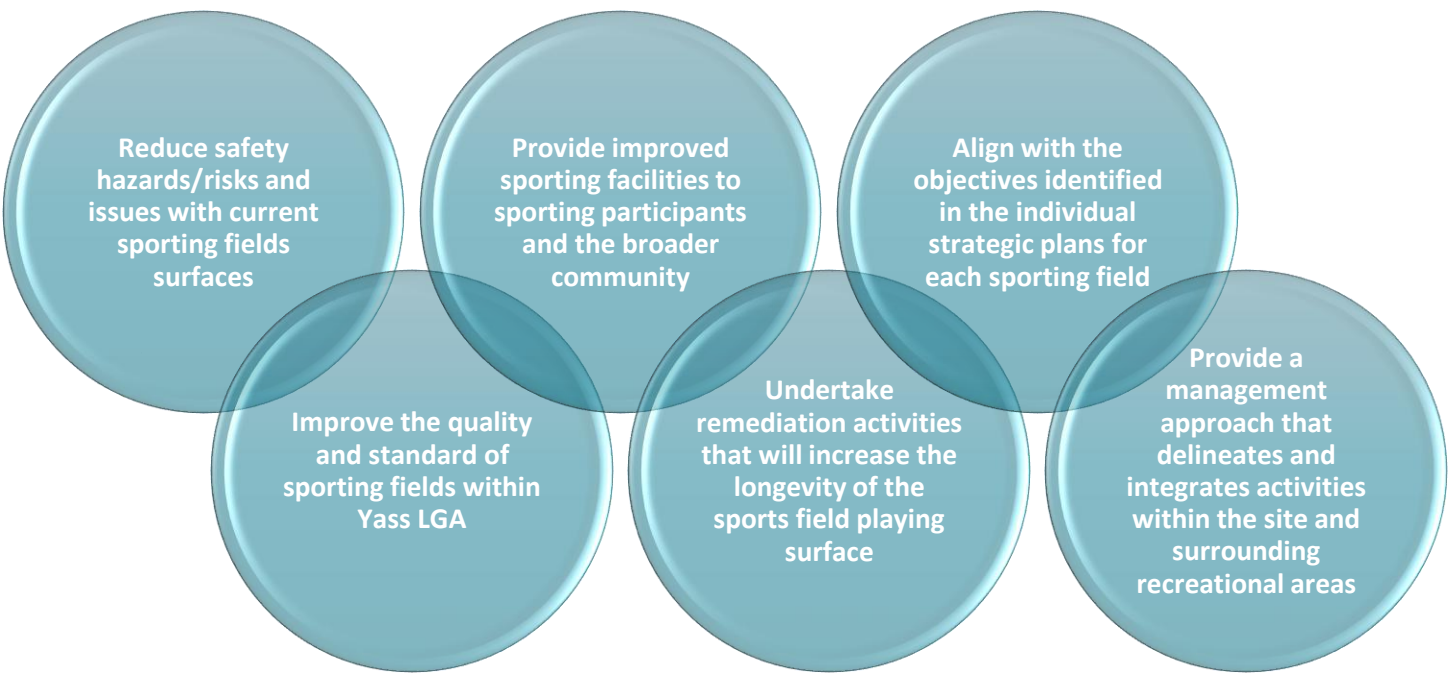


## 9. SPORTS FIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAM

Council has implemented a Sports Field Remediation Program which outlines Council’s vision for maintaining sports fields within the Yass Valley Local Government Area (LGA).

Yass Valley Council has multiple established sporting fields that form an integral part of the LGA and essential to the quality of life of its residents. They are a key community asset bringing everyone together, encouraging social interaction and providing the community with opportunities for social and physical development.

The program aims to:



The program provides long-term cost efficiencies and long-lasting benefits for Council, sporting participants and the broader community.

The sports field within the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground was recently renovated in 2024 in partnership with the Murrumbateman Football Club from grant funding under the Australian Football Facilities Fund. Future renovations will be actioned through Councils Sports Field Remediation Program.



## 10. VEGETATION AND TREE MANAGEMENT

We as a Council value our vegetation and trees as they improve our urban environment, provide shade, habitat and assist in air purification.

Development of a Tree Management Strategy is identified in Councils 2025/26 Operational Plan.

The Tree Management Strategy will outline how Yass Valley Council plans to manage and maintain trees located on council owned/managed land including road reserves, open space and recreation facilities.

Currently council proactively and reactively manages trees and vegetation with routine maintenance tasks carried out by qualified Council staff and/or a Council appointed contractor.



## 11. ACTION PLAN

It is important to develop Murrumbateman Recreation Ground in a sequential and detailed approach. This allows the proposed activities to be identified, resourced and programmed as appropriate. Priority projects will be considered annually by Council through its Operational Plan Process and identified for grant funding where applicable.

The priority action plan has been developed in consultation with members of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Focus Group.

The proposed actions as outlined below will provide the guidelines for the enhancement and development of Murrumbateman Recreation Ground and its immediate surrounds.

SPORTING PRECINCT				
Item	Activity	Priority	Project Owner	Completed items
1	Install new cricket nets (demolish old nets)	HIGH	YVC/Sporting Groups	
2	Undertake feasibility study to construct new enclosed all weather multipurpose sports courts and clubhouse	MEDIUM	Murrumbateman Tennis Club	
3	Relocate internal fencing to increase parking around sporting field	LOW	YVC	
4	Upgrade sporting field boundary fence	LOW	YVC/Sporting Groups	
5	Repurpose existing cricket net area	LOW	YVC/User groups	
EQUESTRIAN PRECINCT				
Item	Activity	Priority	Project Owner	Completed items
1	Remediate sand within equestrian arenas	MEDIUM	YVC/Equestrian User Groups	
2	Install power to Storage Shed/Clubhouse	MEDIUM	Equestrian User Groups	



3	Development of southern sand arena in accordance with broader community consultation and subject to Council endorsement	MEDIUM	YVC/Murrumbateman Community Members	
4	Upgrade open space area (dedicated training area left side of arena 3)	LOW	Equestrian User Groups	
5	Install horse manure waste collection site	LOW	Equestrian User Groups	
6	Additional horse yards/car parking – equestrian precinct	LOW	Equestrian user groups	
7	Develop a Horse Manure Waste Management Plan	LOW	Equestrian user groups	
<b>GENERAL PURPOSE</b>				
Item	Activity	Priority	Project Owner	Completed items
1	Prepare a Traffic and Parking Plan	HIGH	YVC	
2	Investigate power upgrade to recreation grounds	HIGH	YVC	
3	Construct improvements to Barton Highway entrance into recreation ground (including culvert crossing of watercourse)	HIGH	YVC	
4	Community Hall – maintenance improvements	HIGH	YVC	
5	Completion of Scout Hall – internal fit out	HIGH	1 <sup>st</sup> Scouts Murrumbateman	
6	Install directional signs for facilities & reduced speed signs around sporting field	MEDIUM	YVC	
7	Install remote supervision signs throughout the recreation grounds	MEDIUM	YVC	
8	Construct new Community Hall (old hall to be demolished to accommodation additional parking)	MEDIUM	YVC/MCA	

9	Install new playground at Jones Park - <i>To be revisited if required once all-abilities playground completed</i>	MEDIUM	YVC	
10	Install power to moon shed	MEDIUM	MCA/Murrumbateman Field Days	
11	Upgrade existing PA system	MEDIUM	User groups	
12	Install water tap in dog park	MEDIUM	YVC	
13	Construct linked pathway to dog park / winery trail	LOW	YVC	
14	Relocate shipping container located next to moon shed to equestrian precinct	LOW	Equestrian user groups	
15	Install drinking fountains around the recreation grounds.	LOW	YVC	
16	Install Outdoor Fitness Equipment	LOW	User Groups	

NB: Action Plan revised June 2025.

### Approval History

Review Date	Report to Council	Minute No.	Exhibition Period	Adoption
	23 September 2020	147	28 days	28 July 2021
10 September 2025	25 September 2025	387	32 days	27 November 2025