



Council Policy Manual

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY	
PLAY SPACE POLICY	Policy No:
	Adopted by Council: 18 May 2022
	Next review date: 18 May 2026
Senior Manager:	Director Infrastructure Development & Works Director Corporate and Community Services
Responsible Officer:	Assets and GIS Coordinator
Functional Area:	Early Years, Sport & Recreation, Tourism, Economic Development, Assets and Works
Introduction & Background	<p>Council supports the view that play space facilities help develop and improve the experience for all users, young and old. There is a need for play spaces that are unique and exciting, spaces that provide a range of engaging play experiences that are accessible to users of all ages, abilities, cultural and social backgrounds where practicable.</p> <p>There is a need for a balance of facilities to cater for the progression of the users through their development stages. The contribution the play spaces provide for liveability in our municipality is acknowledged, as is their importance to visitors to our region.</p> <p>With the adoption of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, and the Access and Inclusion Plan, the link with public health and healthy eating, physical activity and social connectivity must be considered, along with other Council Plan aspirations and objectives.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the provision of play space meets contemporary access and development needs for users of the play spaces. • To show Council's commitment to the provision of accessible, enjoyable, stimulating, and challenging play spaces that enhance the users learning, development and access to opportunities for physical activity. • To develop a balanced approach to the provision of play spaces (and sport & recreation) opportunities. • To ensure a direct link to the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Access and Inclusion Plan, Early Years, Health Ageing, and the Council Plan.



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Definitions	<p>Play Spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play spaces, including equipment in public spaces and skate parks. • Outdoor play spaces in Council managed kindergartens. • Exercise equipment and facilities under Council management. • Open space areas.
Policy Details	
1.	<p>Facilities</p> <p>A balance needs to be provided across the Council to cater for the various ages and capabilities. Economic and social benefit, including health and wellbeing will be considered in Council's determination of play space assets.</p>
2.	<p>Management</p> <p>Council has responsibility to develop and ensure play spaces are installed and maintained in accordance with the Australian Standards.</p> <p>Council will endeavour to develop a maintenance plan in response to the annual independent audit undertaken for all of Council's play spaces. The plan should be achievable and within Council's allocated annual play space and skate park maintenance budget.</p>
3.	<p>Inspections</p> <p>Council has responsibility to ensure play spaces are inspected in accordance with the appropriate Australian Standards.</p> <p>Council will ensure the inspections are completed by trained and competent staff, and a documented record is retained by Council.</p> <p>The inspection program identifies all the known risks associated with play spaces and generally takes one of the following forms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactive Periodic Scheduled Inspections • Annual inspection by external consultant • Reactive Inspections



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4.	<p>Review of Play Spaces</p> <p>Council will review the design, provision, and purpose of individual play spaces as funding opportunities arise and prior to replacement of non-compliant or outdated items of equipment</p>
5.	<p>Australian Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AS 1428 – Design for Access and Mobility• AS 4685 – Playground Equipment• AS 4422 – Playground Surfacing• AS 2890 – Parking Facilities• AS 1158 – Exterior Lighting• AS 4685.0:2017 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Development, installation, inspection, maintenance, and operation• AS 4685.1:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - General safety requirements and test methods• AS 4685.2:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Additional safety requirements and test methods for swings• AS 4685.3:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Additional safety requirements and test methods for slides• AS 4685.4:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Additional safety requirements and test methods for cableways• AS 4685.5:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Additional safety requirements and test methods for carousels• AS 4685.6:2021 Play Equipment and Surfacing - Additional safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment• AS 4685.11:2021 Play Equipment - Additional safety requirements and test methods for spatial network• AS 4422:2016 Play Surfacing - Safety requirements and test method• AS16630:2021 Permanently Installed Outdoor Fitness Equipment - Safety requirements and test methods
6.	<p>References</p>



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- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- West Wimmera Council Plan 2021-2025
- Sport and Recreation Victoria

Policy Adopted:	Ordinary Meeting 13/06/02	Minute Book Page 10145	
Policy Reviewed:	Ordinary Meeting 06/04/06	Minute Book Page 13682	
	Ordinary Meeting 11/03/10	Minute Book Page 17759	
	Ordinary Meeting 16/07/15	Minute Book Page 31431	RecFind 15/002907
	Ordinary Meeting 16/05/18	Minute Book Page 37939	RecFind 18/001835
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	Council Meeting 18/05/22		E22/000164