



Kibble Park : **PLACE PLAN**

Central
Coast
Council

FINAL
October 2020

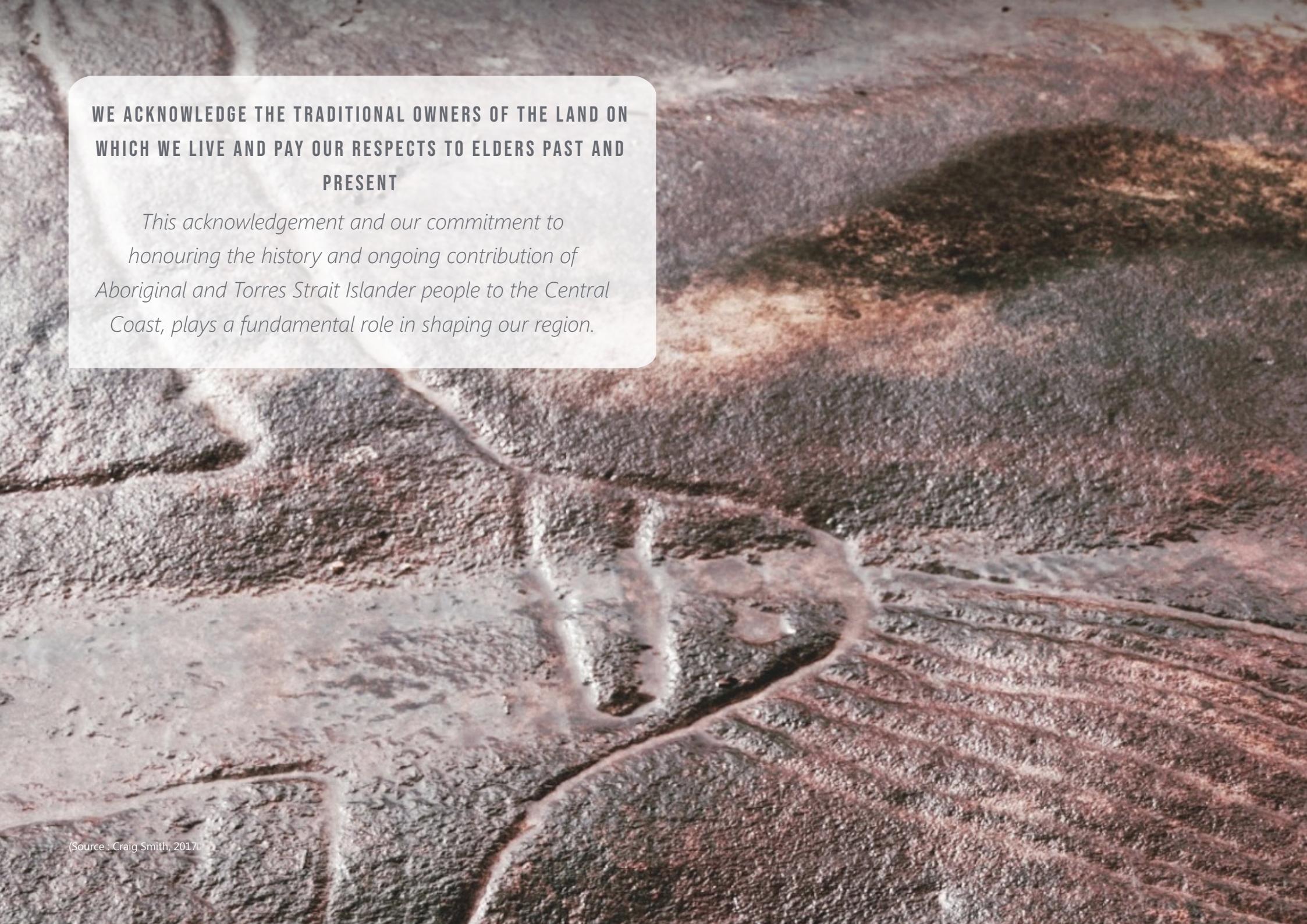
Contact Details

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In collaboration with Central Coast Council



**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND ON
WHICH WE LIVE AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST AND
PRESENT**

This acknowledgement and our commitment to honouring the history and ongoing contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to the Central Coast, plays a fundamental role in shaping our region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A FACELIFT FOR KIBBLE PARK

"A place for celebration, learning and exchange. It is a central meeting place that brings the character of the bushland hillsides into the heart of the city."

– Government Architect for New South Wales

Kibble Park is located in the heart of Gosford and an important place for residents, workers and visitors. It's an escape from the 'hustle and bustle' and a refuge for people wanting a quiet and green space in the city.

Despite being well-used, the community have made it clear that Kibble Park needs a facelift. The current design creates the perception that it is unsafe, impacting on people's enjoyment and use of the park.

As more people call Gosford and the Central Coast home, the importance of Kibble Park to community wellbeing grows.

The Government Architect for New South Wales has identified the park as the civic heart of Gosford and *"a place for celebration, learning and exchange. It is a central meeting place that brings the character of the bushland hillsides into the heart of the city."* The community have further supported this statement by contributing to this Place Plan and the development of a people's vision for the park.

The people of Gosford have spoken and want a green living room where everyone feels welcome and safe and people can connect, share and celebrate in the heart of growing Gosford. This Place Plan provides a roadmap for how we can work together to achieve this vision.

OBJECTIVES

1. Give people the opportunity to shape the future of their park
2. Continue to build on previous studies and consultation with community
3. Define a vision for where we want to be and a set of actions for how we can achieve it
4. Identify priorities to help guide the preparation of a Concept Plan for the park

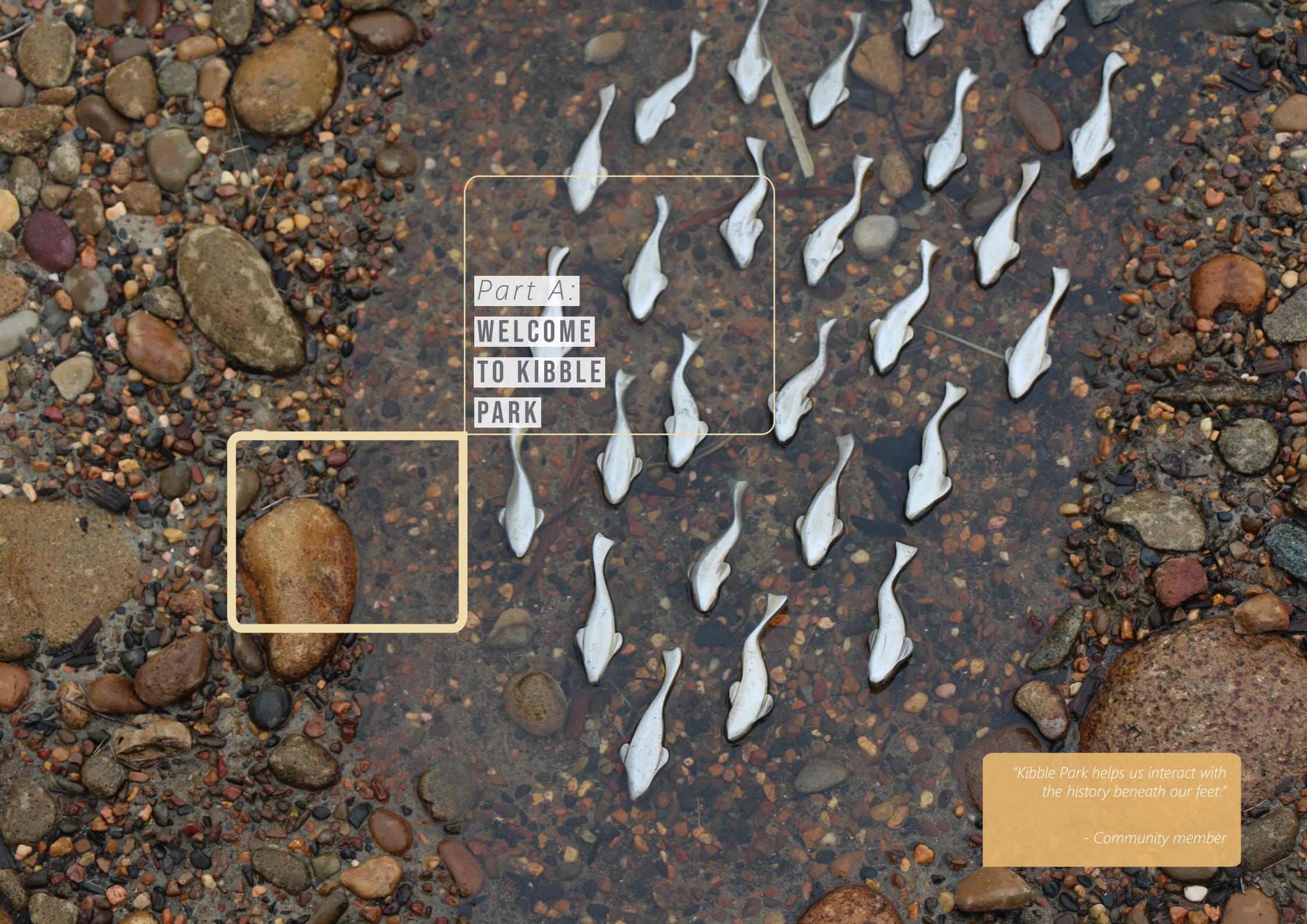
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"Community spaces are so important. Gosford city needs this new space for its residents and children"

- Community member



Part A:
**WELCOME
TO KIBBLE
PARK**

"Kibble Park helps us interact with the history beneath our feet."

- Community member

ABOUT THIS PLAN

A Place Plan is a road map for how to achieve the community's vision through management, activation and design improvements. It has been shaped by the community and provides strategic direction to guide decision making, for today and into the future.

Kibble Park has had a long history of transformation and the community have been generous in sharing their ideas for improving the space. Now is the time to turn those ideas into reality.

This Place Plan draws on community aspirations and previous studies undertaken for the Park by technical experts, Council and the Government Architect for New South Wales (GANSW).

The Kibble Park Place Plan sets a vision and outlines the ways we can achieve it, including design considerations to inform the preparation of a Concept Plan.

The Place Plan is structured around the following place principles that will help achieve the vision:

-  **1. WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE**
-  **2. GREEN AND RELAXING**
-  **3. CONNECTED AND FLOWING**
-  **4. SHARING AND CELEBRATING**
-  **5. GATHERING AND FUN**

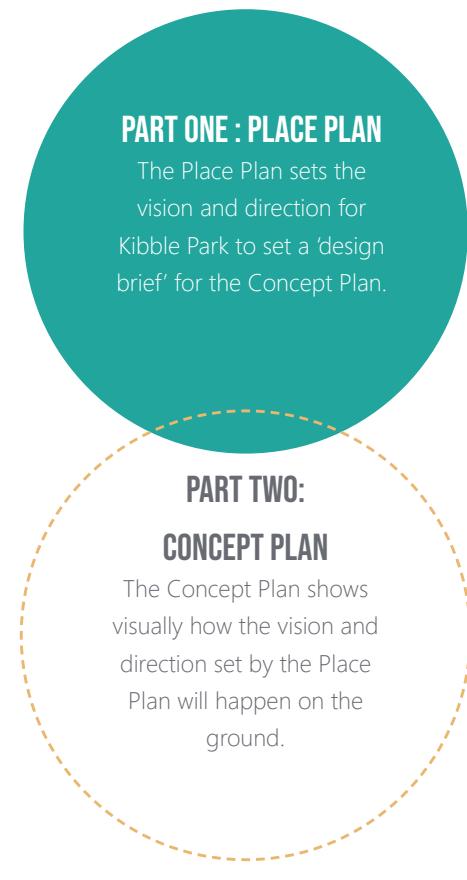


Figure 1 - The Place Plan and Concept Plan

THE PLANNING CONTEXT

Both state and local planning requirements influence the Kibble Park project. The planning context and relationship between the NSW Government strategic directions and the Council planning is shown in Figure 2. For all levels of planning, community engagement has played a central role and has informed this Place Plan.

The key strategic directions guiding the Kibble Park project include:

- Premier's Priority to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes walk of quality green, open and public space by 10 per cent by 2023
- Government Architect for New South Wales - Gosford Urban Design Framework
- Council's Community Strategic Plan
- Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Council's Economic Development Strategy
- Council's Youth Strategy
- Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP)
- Council's Gosford CBD Heritage Interpretation Strategy
- Council's Town Centre Review
- Council's Cultural Plan
- Council's Community Engagement Framework]
- Gosford City SEPP and DCP



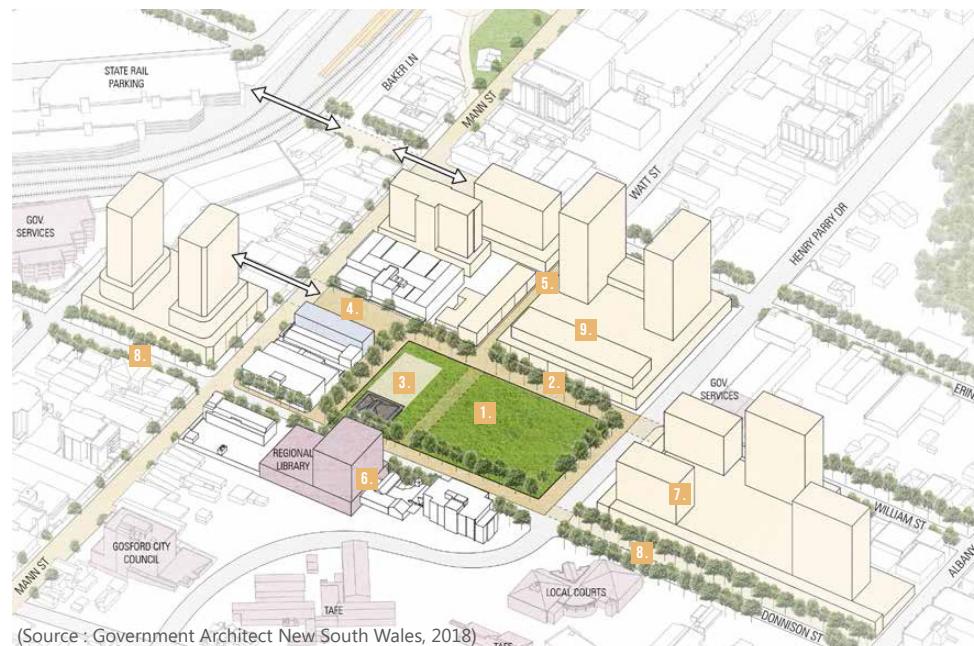
Figure 2 - Planning Context of Kibble Park

GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT FOR NSW

GOSFORD URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

In 2018, the Government Architect for New South Wales prepared the Gosford Urban Design Framework (UDF) following a detailed design process and community engagement. This set a high-level direction for how the design of Gosford CBD should be approached, including Kibble Park. Kibble Park was identified as the 'Civic Heart' of the City and nine design principles were established to direct the revitalisation of the park and its relationship with the surrounding city.

The Kibble Park Design principles developed by GANSW have laid foundations and inspired this Place Plan. This Place Plan will take the direction from the GANSW, especially principles 1 to 4, which relate specifically to the boundaries of the Park, and will create tangible outcomes on the ground by setting out clear actions and practical concept designs.



KIBBLE PARK DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- 1.** Create a green room – respite for the growing city
- 2.** Relocate activity to the edge and activate where people move
- 3.** Re-purpose library as a public building – possible Town Hall, meeting place, flexible exhibition space. Investigate upgrade or new cafe integrated with park
- 4.** Create a civic plaza and connect to Mann Street with active edges. Increase visual connection between Mann St and the park. Streetscape upgrade to Mann Street
- 5.** Establish through connection street at Watt Street
- 6.** Align connection to new regional library. Explore secondary connections between regional library, TAFE, Conservatory of Music and Council
- 7.** Investigate opportunity to retain public parking in part of future development behind an active edge to Henry Parry Drive
- 8.** Connect park to reserves with tree planting along Donnison Street
- 9.** Locate development height to minimise overshadowing of Kibble Park

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

ALIGNING WITH THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

This Place Plan is aligned with Councils CSP objectives within the following theme areas: and has informed this Place Plan.

Our Community Is Our Strength

- Work within our communities to connect people, build capacity and create local solutions and Initiatives
- Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life

A Growing And Competitive Region

- Revitalise Gosford City Centre, Gosford Waterfront and town centres as key destinations and attractors for businesses, local residents, visitors and tourists

Creativity, Connection And Local Identity

- Support reconciliation through the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures
- Promote and provide more sporting, community and cultural events and festivals, day and night, throughout the year
- Activate spaces and places to complement activity around town centres, foreshores, lakes and green spaces for families, community and visitors.

Cherished And Protected Natural Beauty

- Promote greening and ensure the wellbeing of communities through the protection of local bushland, urban trees, tree canopies and expansion of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS)
- Address climate change and its impacts through collaborative strategic planning and responsible land management and consider targets and actions



THE PROCESS

A number of steps make up the process with a series of opportunities for community involvement helping to keep the project on track.

A deep dive on years of planning and community engagement for the park and city centre help paint a picture of what the community wants and needs. These insights were tested and further refined with the community who generously shared their ideas and feedback.

The process has also helped identify areas for further investigation including the views and opinions of young people and working with the Aboriginal community to identify opportunities for celebrating local culture, stories and language in Kibble Park. Further engagement will take place with these groups at the Concept Plan stage.

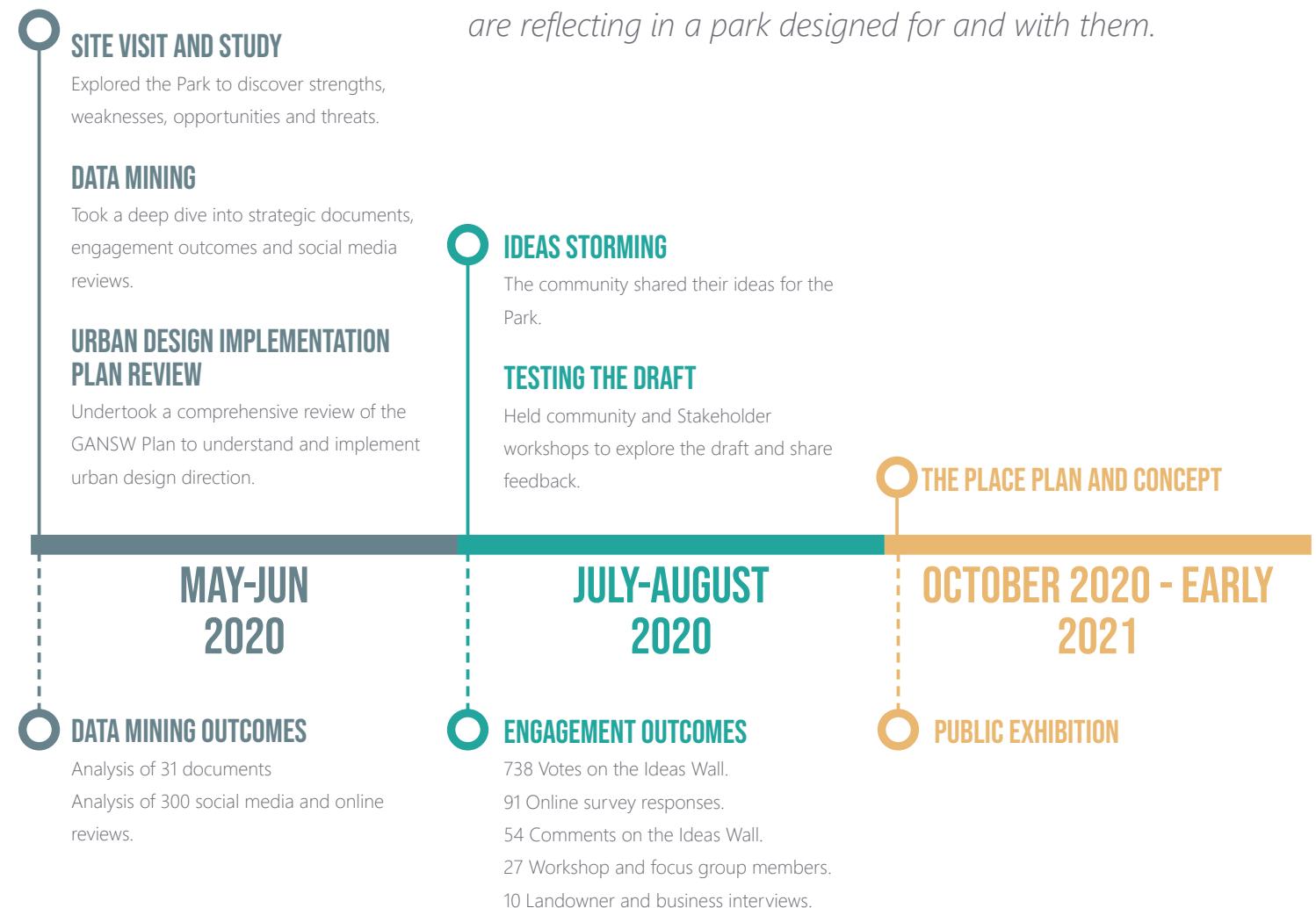


Figure 3 - The Kibble Park Project

THE PLACE CONTEXT

HISTORY OF KIBBLE PARK

Kibble Park is located on the lands of the coastal Darkinjung people, who are the traditional custodians of the area.

They are saltwater people whose Country stretches from north of Sydney Harbour along the coast to the lower reaches of Lake Macquarie. The Darkinjung people use their intimate and complex knowledge of Country to sustainably manage the land and its cultural significance.

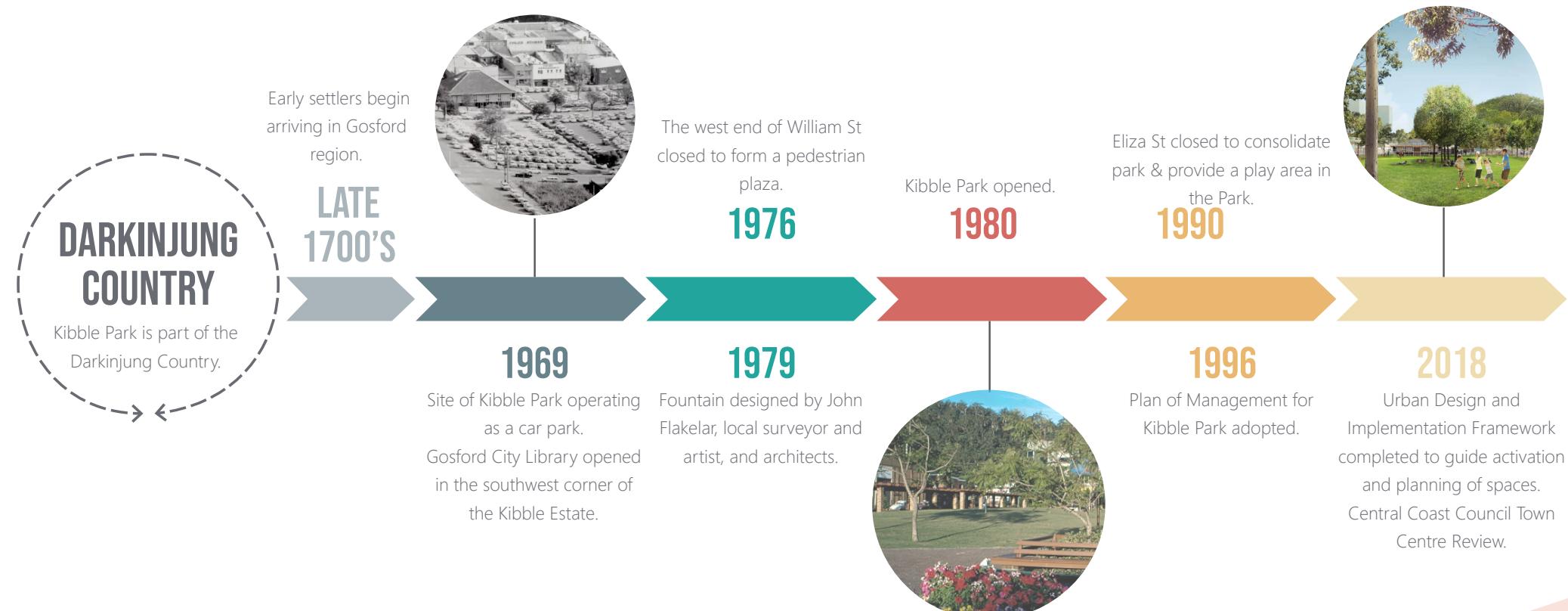
In the 1920's Gosford Sandstone was quarried 10 minutes from Kibble Park at Mt. Mouat and Rumbalara Reserve to help support the local economy. The city's heritage sites were built using the sandstone from these quarries. The development of the railway and roads into the late 19th and early 20th century drew tourists to Gosford, where the tourism industry boomed in the 1950's and 60's.

In the 1960's the Kibble Park site was the site of a car park in the centre of the central business district. It was redeveloped into open space in the 1980's to better accommodate the growth in Gosford and provide open space for the community.

In 2013 Kibble Park was given a major upgrade. This was followed by the Gosford Town Centre being placed under the control of a State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) and Draft Development Control Plan (DCP) in 2017.

In 2018 the Government Architect for New South Wales (GANSW) completed the Urban Design Framework (UDF) to provide a guide to the future planning and activation of spaces within Gosford, including Kibble Park. The UDF provides key strategic guidance for the Kibble Park Place Plan and Concept Plan. The Kibble Park Place Plan is motivated by the UDF and Council's Town Centre review completed in 2019 which focused on holistic place management and activation.

Kibble Park has since grown to be the civic heart of Gosford and used for a variety of activities such as community events, recreation, lunch time breaks, playing, relaxing and socialising.





Part B:
**UNDERSTANDING
KIBBLE
PARK**

"Whenever we do family activities in the park we're amazed how many people come"

- Resident

IN THE HEART OF GOSFORD

KIBBLE PARK CONTEXT

Located in the centre of Gosford, Kibble Park is a natural meeting place.

1. Hospital
2. Train Station
3. Presidents Hill Lookout
4. Central Coast Stadium
5. Gosford Waterfront
6. TAFE
7. Regional Library
8. Rumbalara Reserve
9. Kibble Park



Figure 5 - Context Plan

THE SITE

Today Kibble Park is a 1.2 hectare open space nestled in the centre of the Gosford CBD and located just a few hundred meters from the main street, Mann Street, via the Williams Street Mall.

The park is surrounded by roads on all sides with associated noise and safety issues affecting the experience and impacting on people's sense of comfort. These roads also contribute to Kibble Park feeling like it's an island, disconnected from the main street and other important areas of the city centre.

The Park has many different features added to it gradually over time. The furniture including shading options, seating, the fountain (pin 1), clock, public artwork and heritage kiosks make the space feel cluttered.

Kibble Park's open green space offers an inner city refuge to workers and shoppers and a place for young people to play and mingle. The shaded playground is a fun place for young families visiting or living in the city centre (pin 3) but provides minimal play opportunities for older children or children with disabilities. The stream running from the southern edge of the park is a playful reference to the tidal creek that once flowed to the Brisbane Water Shoreline (pin 12).

The southern edge of Kibble Park is dominated by the existing Gosford Library (pin 8), former restaurant building (pin 10) and a car parking lot (pin 9) which services the library. These underutilised spaces present opportunities for greater open space or community spaces that are integrated into the Park.



Figure 6 - What is Working and What isn't Working

KIBBLE PARK TODAY

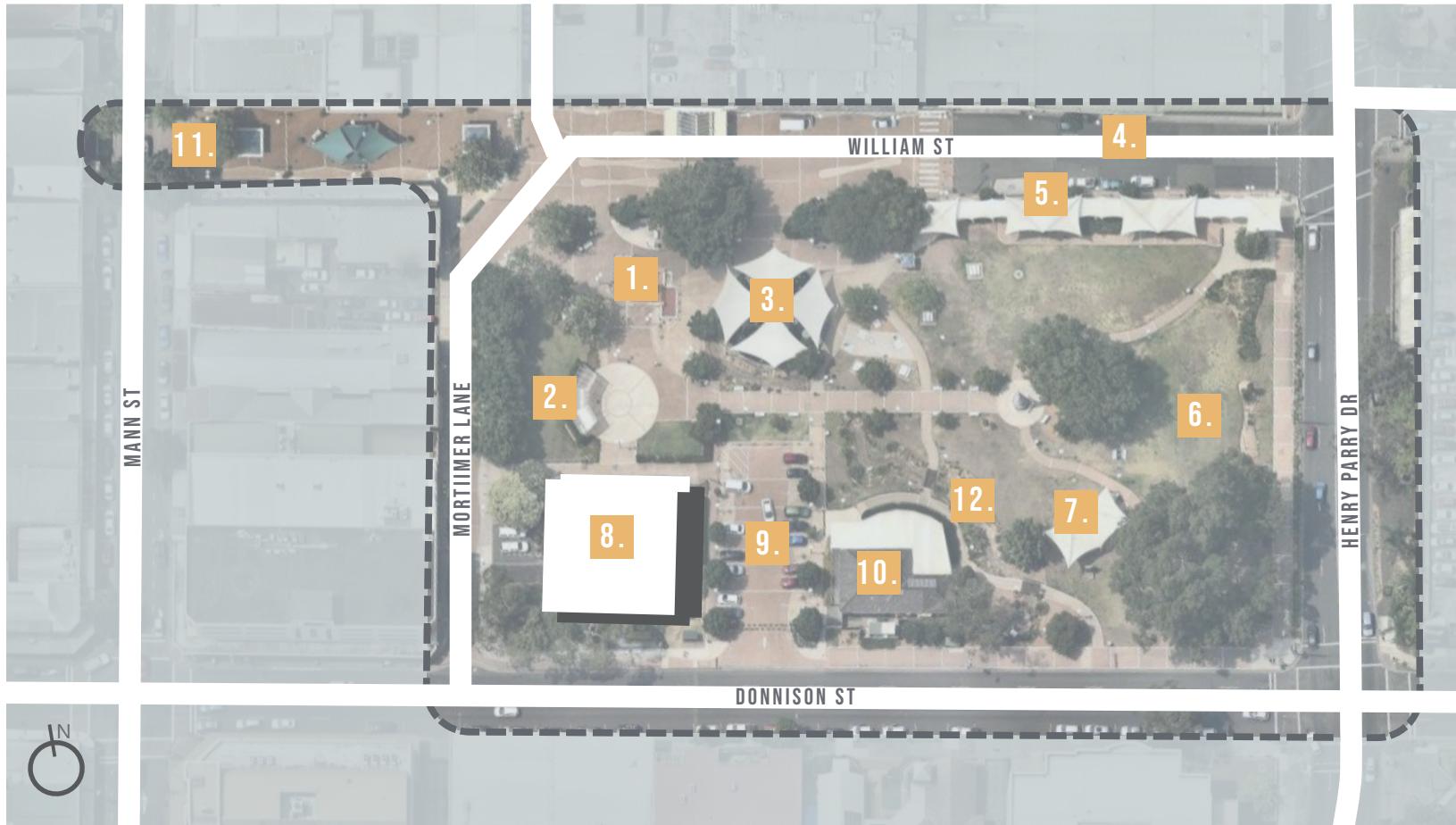


Figure 7 - Kibble Park Today Plan

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Fountain | 5. Shaded Walkway & Seating | 9. Carpark |
| 2. Shaded Seating | 6. Green Space | 10. Restaurant |
| 3. Playground | 7. Event Space | 11. William Street Mall |
| 4. Service Entry | 8. Gosford Library | 12. Urban Creek |

0 25 50 100m



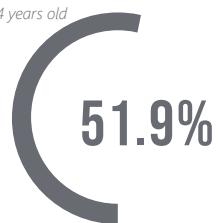
A PARK FOR THE COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

FAMILIES

Over half of the community are in working and family age groups of 24-54 years old.
This is a 9% increase from 2006

■ 24-54 years old



YOUNG PEOPLE

The younger population is decreasing with 4.3% fewer people under 24 in 2016 than 2006



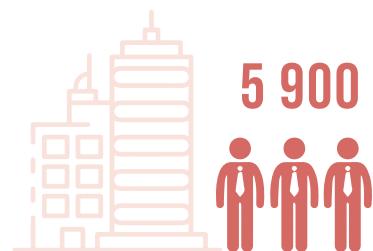
POPULATION

Central Gosford population has increased by about 15% over the last decade



CITY JOBS

Approximately 5900 jobs are located in the City Centre (Pre Covid figures)



LANGUAGES

Language diversity has grown rapidly with 22.7% of people speak a language other than English at home. This is a 110.2% increase from 2006.



DIVERSITY

The community is becoming more diverse with 6% more born overseas in 2016 than in 2006



² Unless otherwise stated all data is collected from the 2016 and 2006 census. Please note that the boundaries for the Gosford SSC vary slightly between 2006 & 2016

THE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

INSPIRED BY THE COMMUNITY

The Kibble Park Place Plan is inspired by the needs and aspirations shared by the community throughout this project and the ongoing transformation of Gosford.

The community shared their ideas for Kibble Park by:

- Attending 2 Workshops
- Submitting 91 Survey responses
- Leaving 54 ideas on the Ideas Wall
- Casting 738 votes on the Ideas Wall
- Taking part in landowner and business interviews including :Stakeholder workshop with representatives from Chamber of Commerce, Region Youth SS, Police, NSW Department of Planning, Transport for NSW and many more.
- One walk-shop with local youth
- Design workshops with Darkinjung representative

The generous input from the community reconfirmed the findings from previous engagement projects relating to the Park and have lead to the five place principles for Kibble Park.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Targeted engagement with young people have identified new and exciting opportunities for Kibble Park

INSIGHTS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people are an important part of the community and key users of Kibble Park. Their ideas have inspired actions to create an active, safe and vibrant place to gather and learn.

Young people want Kibble Park to be:

Safe – Improving the feeling of safety and reputation of Kibble Park is a priority for youth. Young people, and their parents, want a safe and welcoming place to get together in the city centre.

Clean and green – Being connected to nature is important to young locals. Youth want to enjoy a relaxing pocket of green space, filled with native plants and shade, in the city centre.

Dynamic – Kibble Park's central location means it is an ideal place for youth events and activities. Young people want to see regular, varied events and things to do together in an accessible place.

Smart – Youth identified opportunities for introducing technology to make the park a more interesting and usable space. Ideas include lighting, wayfinding, smart recycling, WiFi, security and charging spots.

Kid friendly – Young people are passionate about spaces where everyone is welcome. Kibble Park is an important place for young people of all ages and young people to play, gather, exercise and study.



Image from Youth Engagement 'Walkshop' Session Image credit: Moir Landscape Architecture 2020

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

'The story of Baimi and Yhi is a story about creation and how we came to be. It's not just an Aboriginal story, it is a story for all'

- Kevin Duncan (Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council (DALC)

INSIGHTS FROM KEVIN DUNCAN (DALC)

Moir Landscape Architecture engaged with Kevin (Gavi) Duncan from the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council (DALC). During these sessions, Gavi provided valuable insights into the history of the Darkinjung in the area: both good and bad. The main component of the conversations were the sharing of stories and customs important in the beliefs and way of life of the Darkinjung and the wider tribal groups of the area.

Gavi sees the Kibble Park upgrade as providing a wonderful opportunity to share stories and acknowledge the original inhabitants of the land as well as the meetings with early European settlers that have shaped Gosford and the wider Central Coast we know today.

It was recognised during the sessions that in the theme of reconciliation, it would be fitting to have a story for all, the story of Baimi and Yhi as the main story line for the Kibble Park (identified during the Community Engagement as being a place for all). It was also discussed that a number of stories and histories both good and bad could be woven through the site. This may include, the story of Boongaree, James Webb, the Whale story, the Emu in the night sky, the tools and medicinal plants used in the day to day lives of the Darkinjung.



Image Credit: Karlangu Aboriginal Art Centre



Image Credit: Walkabout Park



Image credit: Gosford Heritage Interpretation Strategy, 2019



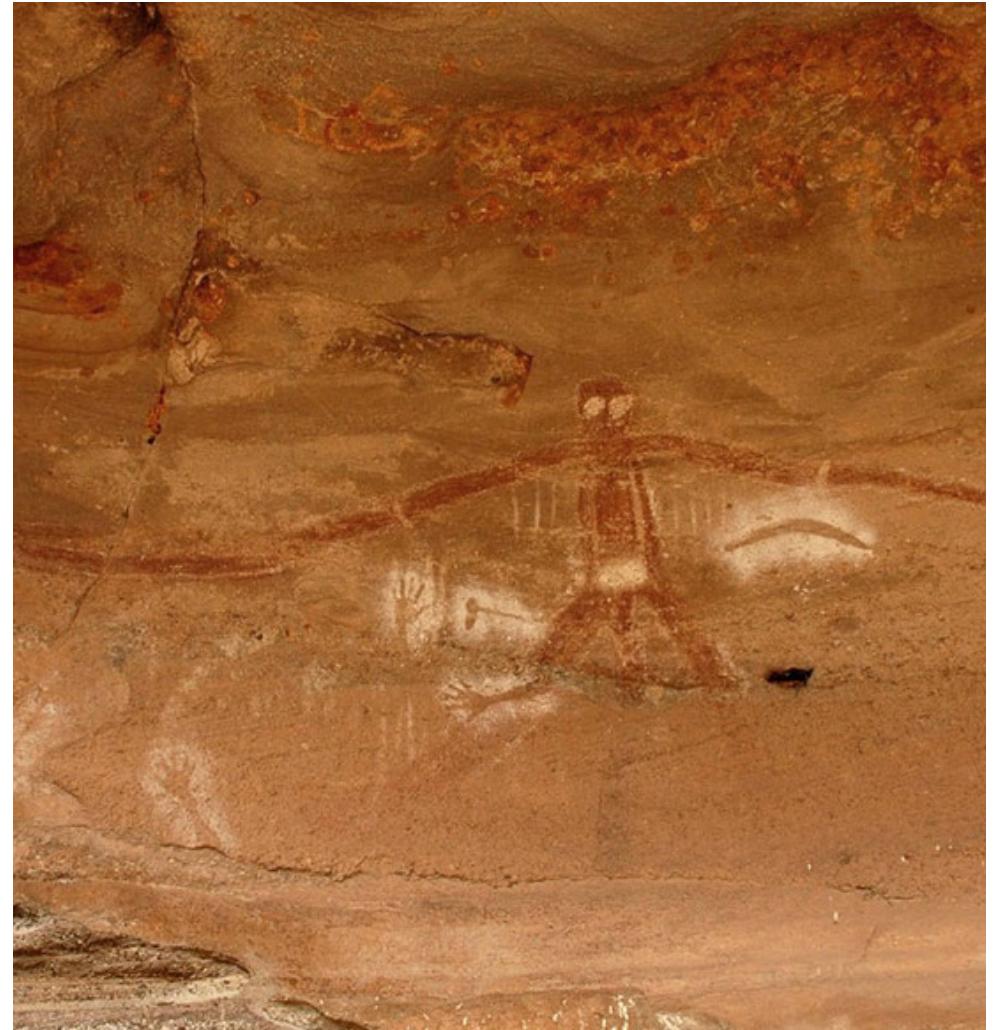
Central to these was the story of Baimi and Ye, the creators of people and the earth. Baimi and Yhi is story of creation and a story for all. It is the story of humankind and how we all came about on earth. It is also about life, death and its circular nature in the environment and family. It is a story central to the belief systems for other tribal groups in the area, with rock art depicting Baimi present as far away as Milbrodale in the Hunter Valley and carvings at Bulgandri in the Central Coast.

The manifestation of these stories will be created in collaboration with Gavi and may include the inclusion of architectural features and designs woven into the site, interactive signage and wayfinding at key locations, place naming, public art, playful implements and native medicinal planting design.

The following outlines the Story of Mount Yango, Baimi and Yhi (Taken from the Gosford CBD Heritage Interpretation Strategy, 2019, adapted from Kevin Duncan's input into the 'Darkinjung Resource' p6):

Mount Yango is the most sacred site for Darkinjung people, the Ceremonial site is where the great dreaming story is told of the Great God Creators Baiyami Father and Yhi Mother had come from the morning star and had arrived on Mount Yango from the Mirrabooka (Milky Way). With their arrival, they had awoken the spirit of the earth, which was the awakening of the Rainbow Serpent as they crushed the top of the mountain, flattening the surface as we view it today. As Baiyami and Yhi journeyed across the land leaving their footprints in their wake at various places on the land interacting with our Ancestral beings of the environment creating the sacred and special story places which we find today on country.

Baiyami and Yhi journeyed back to the Mirrabooka back to the morning star using Mt Yango and other mountains as stepping-stones. Baiyami and Yhi had left a lore of Kinship creating our family relationships and connections and through our ceremonial sites of carvings, engravings, stone arrangements, rock art, etc that are all based around our education and stages of learning in life.



The painting of creator being Biaime shows a figure with elongated arms, stretched wide in a gesture of protection.
Image credit: Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation

Part C:
**PLACE
PLAN**



"I would love to see the park set up to facilitate festivals celebrating our local produce."

- Community member

THE VISION

KIBBLE PARK - THE HEART OF GROWING GOSFORD

“A safe and welcoming gathering place for the whole community, Kibble Park offers a green respite that beats with vibrancy.

THE VISION

"A safe and welcoming gathering place for the whole community, Kibble Park offers a green respite that beats with vibrancy"

The community wants to see a facelift for Kibble Park. This section outlines the vision and place principles that will guide the Place Plan and Concept Plan.

Kibble Park will showcase cultural heritage, local stories, creativity and sustainable design, bringing the past into the future; adapting and evolving to meet the changing needs of a diverse and growing community.

New green spaces, an abundance of native vegetation, high-quality local materials and new green-technology will connect the park with the hills and soften the hard materials of the City Centre. Well designed and connected spaces will make it easier to walk through the park while defined activity areas

will make you pause for a while, like those young at heart who will interact with the Park's unique playscape.

Kibble Park will be a vibrant place of activity where people come together to enjoy a wide range of events and festivities. Night-time activations will bring vibrancy while a dedicated, fit for purpose and flexible event space will host diverse and accessible celebrations at any time of the day or year. Kibble Park will be known as a safe and accessible place through creative lighting, clear views across the park, adaptable furniture and play equipment that is for everyone. The distancing of cars from the edges will provide a more comfortable, uninterrupted pedestrian connection to the CBD.

Entwined heritage, culture and learning will foster a unique pride of place and provide the community with a link to the past, present and future. Aboriginal culture, history, language and stories will be represented along with artwork by local creatives to respectfully tell the stories of the area as a way of expressing and celebrating community.

It is the City Centre's outdoor living room that will increasingly play an important role for the health and wellbeing of the community.

THE ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is all about making the vision happen! The actions are structured and guided by the place themes and provide the practical to-do's that will guide the Concept Plan.

ACTION TYPES

- A** Activation - Actions relating to revitalisation and enlivening the Park
- M** Management - Actions relating to use, maintenance or layout
- P** Promotion - Actions relating to brand Kibble Park

TIMING

- S** Short term
- M** Medium term
- L** Long term

UDF

- # Urban Design Framework references the Kibble Park Design Principles
(Refer to page 9)



THE PLACE THEMES

These place themes guide the Place Plan and are informed by the community and GANSW design principles. Each theme connects to the aspirations of the community and complements the design principles to enhance Kibble Park

1. WELCOME AND INCLUSIVE



Kibble Park is a safe, inclusive and welcoming place

Creating a place where people feel safe, included and welcome inspires unique ideas that respond to the needs of this place. A focus on ensuring safety and comfort through creative lighting, accessible paths, adaptable furniture and new amenities will welcome all members of the community, looking after unique needs of all park users. Everyone will be welcome in Kibble Park.



THE ACTION PLAN

WELCOME AND INCLUSIVE

Action Type	Timing	UDF
A Activation	S Short	#
M Management	M Medium	
P Promotion	L Long	



- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 1. | PROVIDE ADAPTABLE AND VERSATILE SEATING
Provide a mix of seating and picnic places throughout the park (potentially in the form of 'outdoor rooms') that invite social interaction, sharing of food, and a diversity of uses and abilities.

A
1 | 2. | INSTALL CREATIVE LIGHTING
Incorporate creative lighting, to create a sense of safety and activation.

A
1 | 3. | INSTALL MULTI-PURPOSE SHELTERS
Install creative, adaptable structures that can also provide shade from the sun and shelter from rain.

A
1 | 4. | CONSTRUCT NEW MODERN AND INCLUSIVE TOILET AMENITIES
Provide new accessible toilet facilities that include a parents' room and adult change facilities (to cater for people living with disabilities). Access and entry to toilet facilities should be visible from the park and clearly signposted.

A
1 |
| 5. | INSTALL UNIVERSALLY DESIGNED PATHS
Provide flat, sealed, slip resistant and light-coloured paths for easy wheelchair or pram access throughout the park.

A
1 | 6. | CREATE PEOPLE-FRIENDLY FURNITURE AND AMENITIES
Ensure all facilities and street furniture accommodate all visitors to the park and do not discriminate against uses (e.g. allowing rough sleeping on benches, skateboarding).

A
1 | 7. | INSTALL CREATIVE PAVING
Install colourful crossings and paving to prioritise space and guide pedestrians throughout the site.

A
1 | 8. | INVEST IN KIBBLE PARK PATRONS
Rebrand and retrain security guards as 'Park Patrons' to take a more positive, guiding (rather than enforcing) role in park surveillance.

M
1 |

ESTABLISH KIBBLE PARK KINSHIP

Establish a 'Kibble Kin' community group (made up of business owners, workers, nearby organisations, students and community members) that can be involved in community guardianship and promotion of the Park.

**9.****CREATE A DISTINCT SENSE OF WELCOMING**

Create visible and welcoming entry points to the park to create a distinct sense of arrival and welcome.

**10.****INCORPORATE CREATIVE WAYFINDING WITH LOCAL STORIES**

Provide clearly visible wayfinding, maps and signage and tactile devices for navigation within the park and understanding the connection to wider Gosford through stories that link the park to region. Bespoke design and content suggestions from the Gosford Heritage Interpretation Strategy and the Wayfinding Strategy should be considered.

**11.**

THE PLACE THEMES

2. GREEN AND RELAXING



Kibble Park is a green living room for play and relaxation

Kibble Park encourages respite, relaxation and play in the heart of a bustling, growing city. Using local, natural materials and vegetation and creating spaces for play, relaxation and study, the community will be free to explore the green living room in the city.



(Source: Andrew Lloyd, 2013)

THE ACTION PLAN

GREEN AND RELAXING

Action Type	Timing	UDF
A Activation	S Short	#
M Management	M Medium	
P Promotion	L Long	



- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>12. USE NATIVE PLANTS
A 1
Use native and deciduous trees and natural landscaping to provide screening from noise, heat and drought resistance and shelter from wind and sun all year round. This should also include working with Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council to identify opportunities for small scale local food production and sensory natural landscaping (e.g. native herb beds, fruit trees, flowers).</p> | <p>13. CREATE A CALM OASIS
A 1
Establish quiet zones suitable for relaxation, meditation or prayer within the park to accommodate diverse personal relaxation practices.</p> | <p>14. CREATE A SMART PARK
A 1
Enable study zones with outdoor street furniture, power, Wi-Fi and lighting powered by solar to take advantage of hot summer nights (and considering close location to library). Install smart recycling bins near seating areas, event space and playground.</p> | <p>15. INTRODUCE DIFFERENT TEXTURES
A 1
Incorporate sensory areas and elements throughout the park that provide a variety of things to touch and feel such as native vegetation, wood, stone, sand and water.</p> |
| <p>16. UPGRADE THE PLAYGROUND
A 1
Establish an iconic playground that stimulates imagination and creative play for all age groups and abilities, and includes sensory and inclusive play elements that achieve the State Government's Everyone Can Play Guidelines. All play spaces require clear delineation and enclosures for safety. Sightlines to and from the spaces should also be unencumbered.</p> | <p>17. ENCOURAGE PLAY, ACTIVITY AND EXPLORATION
A 2
Provide opportunities for diverse activities and games for all ages throughout the park such as sports equipment, oversized board games, ping pong tables, badminton nets, and fitness equipment.</p> | <p>18. CREATE A SENSE OF CALM WITH WATER
A 1
Ensure the stream remains operational to maintain a sense of relaxation cooling and connection to nature in the middle of a bustling city centre.</p> | <p>19. CHOOSE LOCAL MATERIALS
M 1
Where safe and appropriate, use natural, local and durable materials such as timber and Gosford Sandstone for installations such as furniture, railings, shade structures and play equipment.</p> |

CREATE A RESOURCE EFFICIENT PARK

M



T

Apply water sensitive urban design
to manage runoff and recycle water
collection.

20.

THE PLACE THEMES

3. CONNECTED AND FLOWING



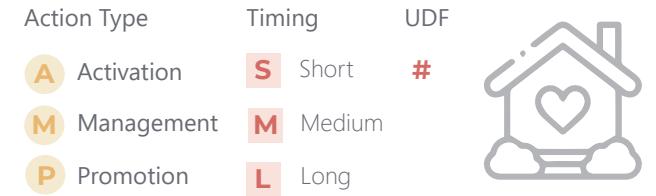
Kibble Park is a civic heart with good flow and activity

Kibble Park holds pride of place in the heart of Gosford, its location and role connects people to place. Decluttering, simplifying and creating edges that are alive with activity will create a beating civic heart that is connected to the city. Clear sightlines and views of the hills will link Kibble Park and users to their surroundings.



THE ACTION PLAN

CONNECTED AND FLOWING



CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR THE RESTAURANT BUILDING

Options may include:

- Repurpose for community use and outreach (e.g. hall or centre with accessible facilities such as lockers).
- Remove and reinstate as open space

A

3

21.

CONNECT TO THE HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT LIBRARY BUILDING

Options may include:

- Repurpose into community space and re-orientate so it opens it up to the rest of the park

A

3

22.

CREATE A PARK CONNECTED TO TRANSPORT OPTIONS, ESPECIALLY THE TRAIN STATION

Establish good connectivity to the park from public transport hubs (namely the train station) through e.g. pedestrian crossings, accessible paths, way finding and appropriate kerb and guttering.

A

4

5

23.

CREATE A CAR FREE ZONE CONNECTING THE PARK TO MANN STREET

Create a car-free zone that continues the pedestrianisation of William Street Mall and the immediate surrounds of the park that connects the Park to Mann St. This could involve closing both William Street and Mortimer Lane to traffic and converting to paved open space that connects seamlessly to the Park.

A

4

5

24.

CREATE GRASSED MOUNDS FOR NOISE MITIGATION AND VIEWS

Install noise mitigation barrier mounds on the Henry Parry Drive edge to subtly sculpt places of respite that can double as open space and elevated views across the park and to the hills.

A

1

25.

TRANSFORM THE CAR PARK TO GRASSED MOUNDS AND OPEN SPACE

Remove car parking lot accessed from Donnison Street and convert to open space.

A

1

26.

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTDOOR DINING

Enable and encourage outdoor dining by allowing the cafes and restaurants adjoining the park to extend dining into the Park after 5pm.

A

2

27.

REMOVE SIGHTLINE OBSTRUCTIONS

Remove structures like the market kiosk structures in Williams Street Mall and heritage kiosks that obstruct sightlines and create a sense of clutter.

M

1

28.

INSTALL MULTIFUNCTIONAL SHELTERS

Replace market kiosks in Williams Street Mall with modern shelters that can function as both seating, shelters and market stalls when needed.

29.**REMOVE THE FOUNTAIN**

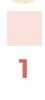
Remove the decommissioned fountain and if appropriate upcycle the materials elsewhere (for example to create public art or lighting feature within the Park).

30.**REPOSITION AND UPGRADE THE CLOCK**

Reposition the clock to open the sightlines into the Park from Williams Street Mall.

31.

Also, Investigate upgrading the clock to incorporate natural materials like wood and Gosford Sandstone so the design is cohesive with the rest of the Park.

32.**REMOVE THE STAGE**

Remove the existing stage structure.

THE PLACE THEMES

4. SHARING AND CELEBRATING

Kibble Park is a place for stories and making memories

Celebrating the past, present and future is central to Kibble Park.

Expressing cultural identity and storytelling through the park will add a new layer of meaning. Artists and performers will have an active place in telling the stories of this place while the community make new memories in the city.



(Source : Edwina Richards, 2020)



THE ACTION PLAN

SHARING AND CELEBRATING

Action Type	Timing	UDF
A Activation	S Short	#
M Management	M Medium	
P Promotion	L Long	



CELEBRATE LOCAL ART AND CREATIVITY

Integrate public art that is carefully curated and fairly commissioned with preference to local artists, that aligns with overall park design (e.g. considering elements that are interactive, climbable, moveable, multi-purpose, sensory, and tell local stories.)

33.

CELEBRATE LOCAL ABORIGINAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Work with local Aboriginal communities to co-create features that express and celebrate local heritage, language, stories and culture.

34.

CREATE A NATURAL AMPHITHEATRE

Create a natural, informal amphitheatre style gathering place for story-telling and community gatherings. This could also act as a sound barrier.

35.

CONNECT AND ALIGN WITH THE LIBRARY

Create connections to the Library with both accessible pathways and maintaining a line of sight, but also with creative references that encourage a theme of learning and adventure throughout the park.

37.

CREATE PROCESSES TO ENCOURAGE AND MANAGE PUBLIC ART AND PERFORMANCE

Review existing event management and approval processes to provide clear guidelines, a streamlined planning approach and a framework for public art implementation that are consistent with the Cultural Plan. Investigate ways for Council to better enable and encourage busking and other artistic expressions to create memorable moments in the park by removing or minimising 'red-tape' that make expression difficult.

38.

CELEBRATE STORIES OF THE OLD AND NEW

Collaborate with libraries and not-for-profit organisations (e.g. Gosford Family History Society, 'Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council, multi-cultural groups) to provide events that tell the new and old stories of the Central Coast in Kibble Park and promote 'Arts in the Park' type activations to encourage local storytelling through temporary art installations and performances. Refer to the Gosford Heritage Interpretation Strategy for more details and inspiration for the stories to celebrate.

39.

THE PLACE THEMES

5. GATHERING AND FUN



Kibble Park is a dynamic and flexible space for community gathering

Kibble Park is where people gather to experience new celebrations and embrace traditions. Creating dedicated spaces for events that enable togetherness and vibrancy will give the community an inner city hub of activity and connection while contributing to the local economy.



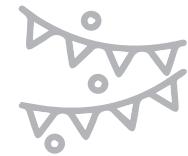
(Source : Sébastien Roy, 2017)



THE ACTION PLAN

GATHERING AND FUN

Action Type	Timing	UDF
A Activation	S Short	#
M Management	M Medium	
P Promotion	L Long	



CREATE A DEDICATED EVENTS SPACE WITH APPROPRIATE SERVICING AND FACILITIES TO HOST A RANGE OF EVENTS

40. Create a dedicated, accessible space on the north-western edge to host a range of events and community outreach both day and night. The space will be equipped with appropriate facilities including paving, shade, signage, power, potable water, Wi-Fi, heavy vehicle access, lighting and portable event structures such as staging and pop up market capabilities.

A
2

ENABLE POP-UPS AND MARKETS
Provide facilities and services for food trucks or other mobile pop-up food/beverage opportunities (e.g. accessible space for parking of a van or truck, powered sites, water access, rubbish disposal).

A
2

41.

REVIEW, REUSE OR RECYCLE MARKET SHADING
Review market shading on Williams Street to ensure it is fit for purpose and consider moving to the event space. If the structures are no longer appropriate in Kibble Park the materials can be repurposed elsewhere in the LGA.

M
2

42.

STREAMLINE EVENTS PROCESSES
Ensure Council policies and procedures are streamlined and do not limit or hinder community based events in the Park (e.g. review insurance and development application policies). This should also include processes to invite, enable and promote community led activities in the Park by removing unnecessary paperwork (e.g. 'red tape'), providing assistance with promotion of community led events and if required, provide funding options for events.

M

43.

CREATE A COMMUNITY CALENDAR
Develop a Kibble Calendar of events, community outreach and activations in the Park organised by Council and the community

P

44.

SUPPORT IN REACHING OUT
Enable not-for-profit organisations to lead safe and supported community outreach (e.g. soup kitchens, community lunches, wellness checks, etc) within the park by providing required utilities and partnering where appropriate.

P

45.



Part D:
**CONCEPT
DESIGN**



"Most importantly, it needs to give people a reason to come into Gosford"

- Community member

WHAT'S NEXT

CONCEPT PLAN

The community are the heart of Kibble Park!

This project is made up of two key components; the Place Plan and the Concept Plan.

The Place Plan sets the direction for the Park and the Concept Plan lays out how the direction will come to life on the ground. In other words, the Concept Plan will visually show how community and stakeholder ideas and aspirations expressed in this Place Plan will look and feel on the ground.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

- 1. JOIN A WORKSHOP** - Keep an eye out for opportunities to join community workshops to share your feedback on the Concept Plan
- 2. MAKE A SUBMISSION** - The Place Plan and Concept Plan will be on exhibition for community feedback via submission. Check out Your Voice Our Coast for more information
- 3. SEE SOMETHING YOU LIKE?** - Reach out to Council to see how you or your community group can work together on one or more of the actions
- 4. SAY HI!** - Next time you're in Kibble Park make sure to share a smile and help create a friendly city centre

DIRECTION FOR CONCEPT PLAN

The actions come to life in four co-ordinated zones to create the 'green heart of a growing Gosford'.

The actions of this Place Plan will roll out across four distinct, yet integrated zones:

1. Park Edge
2. Events and Gathering
3. Play and Adventure
4. Green Relaxation

The Concept Plan, the next stage of this project, will provide more detail on how the actions within each of the four zones work together to improve Kibble Park.

1. PARK EDGE

A pedestrian focused edge to the park and an extension to the events and play zones. A vibrant space that could become an 'eat street' that spills out to the Park

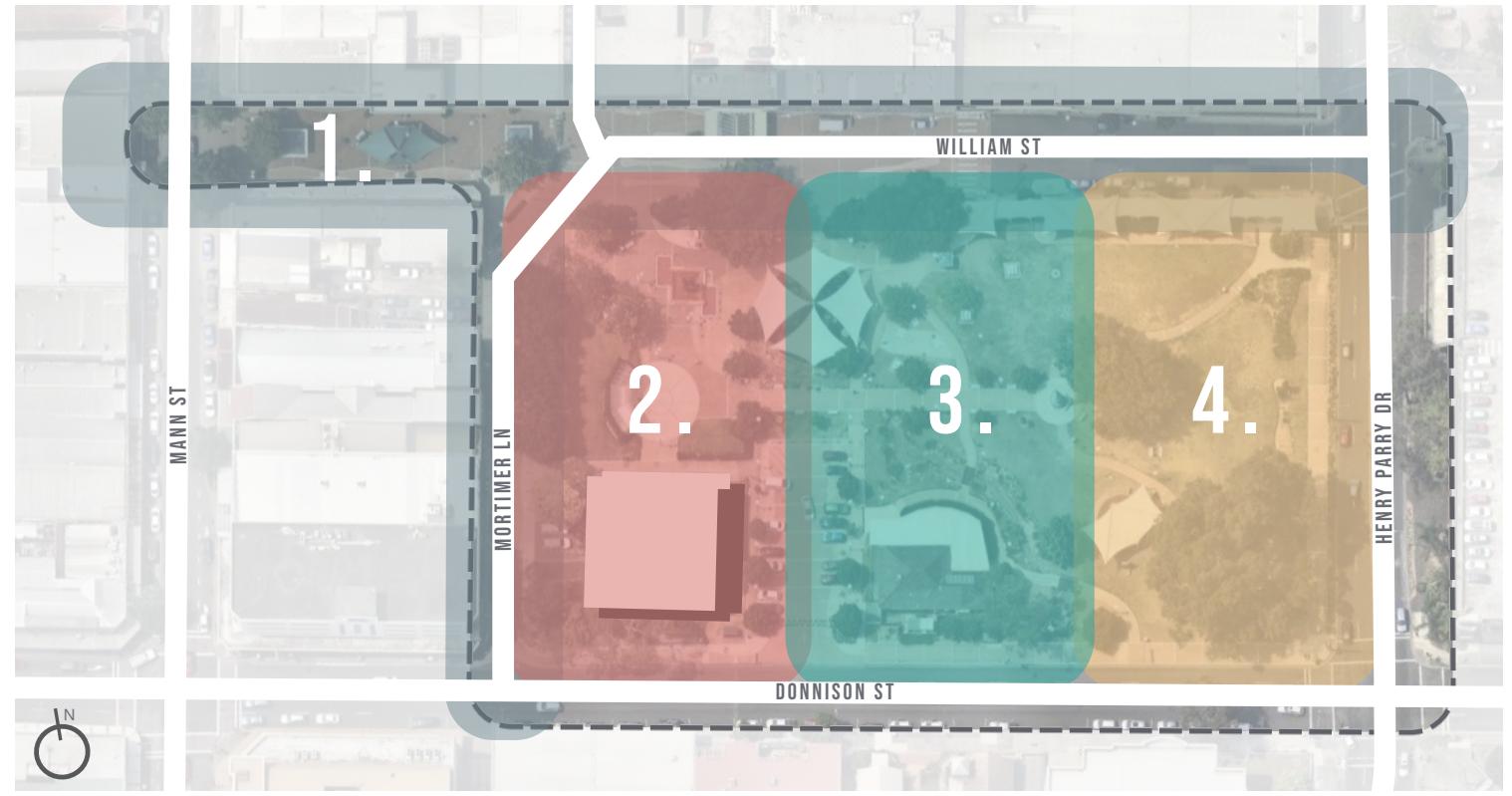


Figure 8 - Kibble Park Concept Direction Plan

2. EVENTS AND GATERING

A multi-functional and adaptable space for big and small activations.

3. PLAY AND ADVENTURE

A creative and active space for daily use. Perfect for families and youth.

5. GREEN RELAXATION

A green retreat for city dwellers and workers wanting to relax in nature.

MEASURING PROGRESS

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

This section shows how we'll monitor the progress of Kibble Park over time.

Measuring the progress of the Place Plan will help Council understand the success of the project as a whole and identify areas for improvement. The following success indicators will show the community and Council how the Park has changed and where improvements could be made over time. Appendix 2 provides detail on how this information will be gathered and evaluated.

WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE

- Reduced rate in crime annually
- Less personal safety complaints annually
- Increase in accessible and adaptable park facilities
- Reduced reports of vandalism and maintenance requests
- Improved perception of Kibble Park

1.



GREEN AND RELAXING

- Increased native vegetation plantings
- Increase in m² of open space
- Reduction in summer air temperature in the park
- Increased playground users annually
- Increase in open space users

2.



CONNECTED AND FLOWING

- Reduction in built structures obscuring sightlines
- Reduction in car parking on edges of the park
- Increase in evening outdoor dining extending into the Park
- Upgraded furniture and installations

3.



SHARING AND CELEBRATING

- Increase in public art by local artists
- Increase in the representation of local Aboriginal culture and heritage
- Increase performances annually

4.



GATHERING AND FUN

- Increase in events annually
- Improved processes for event permissions
- Increase in event patronage annually

5.



APPENDIX 1

KEY TERMS GLOSSARY

Activation - Interventions (from simple to complex) encouraging life and vibrancy to turn underutilised spaces into more energetic and active spaces.

Concept Plan - A plan that looks out how a place plan will be implemented, in this case it is a scaled drawing that conceptually displays what the space will look like i.e. the function, context and attributes of a space.

Connectivity - The way in which we are connected to places in our city. This applies in both the physical sense, e.g. better walking and transport options, or digitally, e.g. social media which allows us to participate in local, national and international discussions.

Night-time economy - Activities that happen after dark which stimulate the local economy and can include anything from eating out, shopping, galleries, cinemas, markets to pubs and clubs. A vibrant night-time economy makes a place more attractive and helps diversify the economy.

Placemaking - Improving a space in partnership with the community. It makes the most of the local community's assets, inspiration, and potential with the intention of creating public spaces that elevate people's health, happiness and wellbeing.

Place perception - How people see and feel about places and the impression it leaves. This influences how people use and connect to a space.

Place Plan - A document frames in broader terms how a place will be improved along with key actions and goals.

Sense of place - A collection of qualities and characteristics (visual, cultural, social and environmental) that gives meaning to a location. It provides authenticity, establishes the relationships people have with a place and shapes the perceptions people have of a place.

Sustainable Design - Design that reduces the impact of urban development on the environment and helps to withstand the pressure of climate change and population increases in the region.

Vibrancy - The liveliness and general feeling of a space. For a space to be vibrant, two elements must be met - population, and a reason to visit.

Universal design - Designing a space so that it can be used by all people without the need for specialised design.

APPENDIX 2

MONITORING AND EVALUATION TOOL

Measuring the progress of the Place Plan will help Council understand the success of the project as a whole and identify areas for improvement. The following success measures and indicators will show the community and Council how the Park has changed and where improvements could be made over time:

	WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE	GREEN AND RELAXING	CONNECTED AND FLOWING	SHARING AND CELEBRATING	GATHERING AND FUN
What success looks like	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced rate in crime annually - Less personal safety complaints annually - Increase in accessible and adaptable furniture - Reduced reports of vandalism and maintenance requests - Improved perception of Kibble Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased native vegetation plantings - Increase in m2 of open space - Reduction in summer air temperature in the park - Increased playground users annually - Increase in open space users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction in built structures obscuring sightlines - Reduction in car parking on edges of the park - Increase in evening outdoor dining extending into the Park - Upgraded furniture and installations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in public art by local artists - Increase in the representation of local Aboriginal culture and heritage - Increase performances annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in events annually - Improved processes for event permissions - Increase in event patronage annually
Indicators	# of crimes committed in Kibble Park # of complaints received for Kibble Park # of accessible and adaptable furniture installations # of vandalism or maintenance reports # of positive online reviews or comments # of negative online reviews or comments	# of native plantings #m2 of open space # of children observed using park # of people observed using open space	# of built structures # of parking spaces adjoining park # of licenses for outdoor dining # of new or upgraded furniture # of new or upgraded installations	# of art pieces by local artists # of installations representing local Aboriginal culture and heritage # of performances	# events hosted # of event applications # of event patrons

APPENDIX 3

COLLECTING DATA

Reliable and regularly collected data is required to track the change in Kibble Park over a long period of time. The Kibble Park Place Plan is also an opportunity for the Central Coast Council to measure the tangible and intangible benefits of public space revitalisation and establish a model for the LGA.

The following comprehensive data collection program will be undertaken to measure and understand the impact of the Kibble Park project and where changes need to be made. Council will collect base data for each indicator of the year prior to ‘turning the first sod’ and for each year after. This will mean Council can identify what does and doesn’t work by comparing data and identifying correlations over time.

The following will be undertaken on an annual basis:

Annual site observation

On the same day every year Council will conduct a site observation survey to assess the following indicators:

- Head count of users
- Observations of user type (e.g. youth, children, single adults, elderly, homeless etc)
- Children using the playground
- People using open space
- Air temperature
- Observed vandalism or maintenance needs

Crime data analysis

- Number and type of crimes committed in Kibble Park
- Number and type of complaints received by Council and Police for Kibble Park
- Collation of observed changes by security guards

Annual site audit

At the end of each financial year Council will conduct a site audit to measure and record the physical changes to the Park. The following will be reported on:

- m2 of native vegetation plantings
- m2 of open space
- Number and type of built structures
- Number and type of public art pieces
- Number and type of accessible and adaptable furniture installations
- Number and type of events
- Number of vandalism or maintenance reports
- Number and type of play equipment (both formal and informal)

Annual survey

Council will undertake an annual survey of surrounding businesses, stakeholders and community members to gain an understanding of satisfaction with the Park overtime. Key questions to be asked on an annual basis include but are not limited to:

- How satisfied are you with Kibble Park overall?
- How safe does Kibble Park feel?
- Do you enjoy using Kibble Park and why/why not?
- What changes have you observed in the Park over the past 12 months?
- What further improvements are required?

Council may add questions that are only relevant to one year to measure the effects of particular events such as construction. Council may also review social media and Google reviews to track changes in perceptions and identify common themes.

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