



Playspace Policy

Policy Type:	Policy		
Approved By:		Decision No:	0585/2020
Approval Date:	22/06/2020	Last Reapproval Date:	
Review Date:	June 2022	Internal Reference No.:	
Department:	City Infrastructure	Division:	Parks and Open Space Assets
Function:	Infrastructure	Responsible Officer:	Team Leader Parks and Open Space Assets

A - PREAMBLE

1. Council acknowledges that outdoor play is an important part of a child’s development and wellbeing. The City of Salisbury is committed to providing opportunities for accessible intergenerational and intercultural interactions in formal and informal fun ways of improving personal wellbeing and contributing to a more inclusive community by the provision of playspaces across the City.

B - SCOPE

1. This policy provides guidance to Council for;
 - a. The distribution of playspaces across the City.
 - b. Hierarchy of playspaces across the City
 - c. The upgrading and renewing playspaces.
2. This Policy provides the core principles supporting the informal recreational section of the Place Activation Strategy
3. This policy covers playspaces which includes irrigated local reserves without or without a playground.
4. The policy does not specifically address the provision of other open space areas such as non-irrigated reserves, sporting fields (ovals and pitches etc.), or undeveloped open spaces alongside waterways or biodiversity sites.

C – POLICY PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES

1. Establish the distribution of playspaces in a hierarchical framework across the City i.e. Local, District and Regional.
2. Ensure an equitable distribution of both local and district level playspaces across the City.
3. Provides a set of principles for the Place Activation Strategy which provides for the establishment of playspaces across the city
4. Set a standard of development required for new playspaces (covering both open irrigated space and playground) in new residential areas to ensure equitable provision across the City.

D - DEFINITIONS

- i. **Playspace** - An area or environment where play can take place. May include an irrigated open space or reserve, or a playground containing a range of play equipment.
- ii. **Play equipment** – equipment specifically designed for outdoor play such as slides and swings, could also include natural elements.
- iii. **Local Playground** - is located on a small reserve (<0.6 Ha) generally within a 500m (walking distance) catchment of the surrounding residential properties, this distance is identified as walkable.
- iv. **District Playground** - is located on a large reserve (0.6 - 8 Ha) within a catchment of 2.5 kilometres (walking distance) of the surrounding area, will also acts as a Local Playspace for residences within 400m of the site.
- v. **Regional Playground** - is a bespoke/ unique space, located on a larger reserve (> 8 Ha) area with a wide catchment which can extend beyond Council boundaries.
- vi. **Universal Design** – is the design and composition of an environment so that it can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by the community regardless of their age, size, or ability.
- vii. **Inclusive Playground** – a playground which is developed to cater for the diverse needs of the community regardless of their age, size, or abilities.
- viii. **Accessible** – providing access for all to and within a playspace no matter a persons age or abilities.
- ix. **Playground Upgrade** – the addition, subtraction or changing of play equipment and/or structures.
- x. **Playground Renewal** – the replacement of aging play equipment with new play equipment with the items retained where it is feasible to do so and community support this.

E - POLICY STATEMENT

1. That 500 metres be utilised as a guide, in consultation with the Ward Councillors and the Mayor, for the accessible distance to an irrigated open space/ playspace from a household. This is known as a local playspace with the minimum components being a small irrigated open space area, a bench/ seat and a bin.
2. That 800 metres be utilised as a guide, in consultation with the Ward Councillors and the Mayor, for the accessible distance to a playground from a household. That a three tier hierarchy be utilised for playgrounds, these being local, district, and regional.
3. That the minimum playground site components be defined as per the below:
 - 3.1 **Local playground**
 - Irrigated open space area (2000-3000 sq.m),
 - seating and bin,
 - swing set of which one bay is accessible, with surfacing beneath to allow access for all abilities,
 - multi-function playground which includes a slide, play panels and climbing elements
 - nature play elements to be considered
 - shade to be provided to the whole playground

- metal 1.2m high fencing to be installed where the playground is within 20 metres of a roadway or other hazard and no alternate treatment, such as plantings or other landscape features, is possible,
- optional site specific elements such as barbecues, lighting, drinking fountains and toilets be considered in discussion with Ward Councillors.

3.2 District playground

- irrigated open space area (3000sq.m or greater),
- a bin, seating and shelter accessible from the local footpath network,
- swing set of which one bay is accessible, with surfacing beneath to allow access for all abilities,
- multi-function playground which includes at least one slide, play panels and a climbing element
- nature play elements to be installed
- shade to be provided to the whole playground
- metal 1.2m high fencing to be installed where the playground is within 20 metres of a roadway or other hazard and no alternate treatment, such as plantings or other landscape features, is possible,
- optional site specific elements such as barbecues, lighting, drinking fountains, hard courts and toilets be considered in discussion with Ward Councillors.

3.3 Regional playground

- irrigated open space (10,000sq.m or greater)
- multiple shelters, seating and bins.
- swing set/s of which one bay is accessible, with surfacing beneath to allow access for all abilities,
- a bespoke multi-function play station/s, which includes slides, play panels, and climbing elements. Sites of this hierarchy classification could be considered for the installation of high tech, high energy playgrounds if site has good passive surveillance.
- nature play elements to be installed
- shade to be provided to the whole playstation/s
 - metal 1.2m high fencing to be installed where the playground is within 20 metres of a roadway or other hazard and no alternate treatment, such as plantings or other landscape features, is possible,
- site specific elements such as barbecues, lighting, drinking fountains, hard courts and toilets be considered.

4. All Playspaces will have an area of irrigated open space associated adjacent to it.
5. The design of District and Regional Playgrounds is to consider Universal and Inclusive Design principles in association with the commentary received from community consultation and local demographic data for the location.
6. Playgrounds will be renewed in accordance with the useful life specified in the Parks & Streetscapes Asset Management Plan. Where appropriate equipment will be retained and incorporated into the renewed or redeveloped site.
7. Additional information will be considered for a playspace to be upgraded where it can be demonstrated that the changing demographics of an area requires an upgrade to meet the community needs and aspirations.
8. Fitness Equipment & Inclusive Playgrounds are considered based on equitable distribution throughout the City.
9. Playspaces will not be fenced unless a special need for fencing is demonstrated or the location has been identified as an inclusive playspace.
10. Fencing alternatives will be considered where fencing is to be installed, so that the amenity of the local area is not impacted on, such as planting in association with post and rail fence installation e.g. Cokers Reserve, Brahma Lodge.
11. Where fencing is to be installed, the fence is to be 1.2m high and of metal construction.

12. In an area where an oversupply of playground assets is identified, the removal of a Playground will be considered following public consultation. Where consultation results in the retention of the playspace the decision can be reviewed again after 5 years or the playspace is renewed in accordance with the criteria in the Parks and Streetscape AMP.

F - LEGISLATION

1. AS 4685 Set:2014 : Playground equipment and surfacing Set.
2. AS4422:2016 Playground surfacing – specifications, requirements and test methods.
3. AS 4685.0:2017 Playground equipment and surfacing.

G - REFERENCES

1. AS4422:2016 Playground surfacing – specifications, requirements and test methods.
2. AS 4685.0:2017 Playground equipment and surfacing.
3. AS 4685 Set:2014 : Playground equipment and surfacing Set.
4. Parks & Streetscapes Asset Management Plan.
5. City of Salisbury Ability Inclusion Strategic Plan.
6. Inclusive Play: Guideline for accessible playspaces. Department of Human Services, Government of South Australia.

Document Control

Document ID	
Prepared by	Craig Johansen
Release	1.00
Document Status	Endorsed
Date Printed	08/07/2020