



Our reference  
F19/13/03-D21/26182

20 March 2024

**Extraordinary, Hearing and Policy and Services Committee Meetings**

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford** on **Tuesday 26 March 2024** beginning at **1.00pm**.

This will be followed by Policy and Services Committee meeting to hear and consider submissions to the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan and then the monthly Policy and Services Committee meeting.

**Timetable for 26 March 2024 as follows:**

1.00pm	Extraordinary Meeting - To release the Long Term Plan Consultation Document and supporting information for public consultation.
2.00pm	Policy and Services Committee (Hearing) - King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan
2.45pm	Afternoon Tea for Councillors
3.00pm	Policy and Services Committee (monthly)

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne  
**Chief Executive**

# 2024 - Agenda - Policy and Services - March

26 March 2024 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM



<b>Agenda Topic</b>	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">Notice of Meeting</a>	1
<a href="#">Agenda</a>	3
1. Welcome	5
1.1 <a href="#">Opening Karakia</a>	5
1.2 <a href="#">Health &amp; Safety Message</a>	6
2. Apologies	
3. Announcements	
4. Declarations of members interest	
5. <a href="#">Attendance Schedule</a>	7
6. Acknowledgement of Submissions	
7. Submitters To Be Heard	
8. <a href="#">Decision Report - King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan - Hearing and Deliberation</a>	8
9. <a href="#">Closing Karakia</a>	96

# AGENDA

## Policy and Services Committee



F22/55/05-D24/10468

Date: Tuesday 26 March 2024 at 2.00pm  
 Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

To hear and consider submissions to the Draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan

### 1. Welcome

- 1.1 **Opening Karakia**  
D21/40748 Page 5
- 1.2 **Health and Safety Message**  
D21/26210 Page 6

### 2. Apologies

### 3. Announcements

#### Speakers to Submissions

The Chairman welcomes everyone to the Policy & Services Committee meeting. It is reinforced to Councillors that the purpose of this meeting is to hear submissions on the Draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan. Councillors are asked to hear all submissions with an open mind, to restrict their question time to the submitters to points of clarification or issues pertaining to subject matter. Councillors are requested not to get into direct dialogue with submitters. The timeframe scheduled for the day is tight. Councillors may take notes whilst submitters are speaking.

### 4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

### 5. Attendance Schedule

Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings, including Hearings.

### 6. Acknowledgement of Submissions

Submissions – Pages 17-44

Attached are the 11 submissions received.

#### **Recommendations**

1. **THAT** the submissions to the draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan be received.
2. **THAT** the submitters be advised of the outcome of their submission and notified that the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting, and subsequent meetings, will be available on Council's website.

#### **Recommended Reason**

So that each submission is formally received and the submitter provided with information on decisions made.

/  
 Moved/Seconded

7. Submitters To Be Heard

There are four submitters wishing to speak.

Each submitter will be allocated five (5) minutes to present their submission and allowed five (5) minutes for questions.

Submission #	Name	Organisation	Page Number	Time
3	Bruce Jamieson	Stratford Scouts	21	2.05pm
10	Judy Drummond	Stratford Croquet Club	36	2.15pm
11	Nathan McDonald	Stratford Eltham Rugby and Sports Club	43	2.25pm
7	Marina Healey	Sport Taranaki	27	2.35pm

8. Decision Report – King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan – Hearing and Deliberation

D24/7187 Page 8

Council needs to consider submissions as part of the consultation process.

<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>THAT</u> the report be received</li> <li>2. <u>THAT</u> the committee considers submissions received on the <i>draft</i> King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan.</li> <li>3. <u>THAT</u> the committee adopt the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan with recommended changes.</li> <li>4. <u>THAT</u> the commencement date of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan be July 2024.</li> </ol> <p><b>Recommended Reasons</b></p> <p>The <i>draft</i> King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan has gone through the public consultation process, required by Sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002. Eleven submissions were received. The committee is now required to hear and consider these submissions to inform their decision to adopt (or not) the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan .</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ /_____ Moved/Seconded</p>
--

9. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 20



**Our reference**  
F19/13/03-D21/40748

### **Karakia**

Kia uruuru mai  
Ā hauora  
Ā haukaha  
Ā haumāia  
Ki runga, Ki raro  
Ki roto, Ki waho  
Rire rire hau Paimārire

I draw in (to my being)  
The reviving essence  
The strengthening essence  
The essence of courage  
Above, Below  
Within, Around  
Let there be peace.



**Our reference**  
F19/13/03-D22/17082

### **Health and Safety Message**

In the event of an emergency, unless guided to an alternative route by staff, please exit through the main entrance. Once outside the building please move towards the War Memorial Centre congregating on the lawn area outside the front of the council building.

If there is an earthquake, please drop, cover and hold where possible. Remain indoors until the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit or remain where you are until further instruction is given.

**5. Attendance schedule for 2024 Policy & Services Committee meetings (including Hearings).**

Date	23/1/24	30/1/24 **	27/2/24	27/2/23	26/3/24	26/3/23	23/4/23	28/5/24	4/6/24	25/6/24	23/7/24	27/8/24	24/9/24	22/10/24	26/11/24
Meeting	PS	PS	H	PS	H	PS	PS	PS	H	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS
Neil Volzke	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Steve Beck	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Grant Boyde	✓	✓	A	A											
Annette Dudley	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Ellen Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Vaughan Jones	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓											
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Clive Tongaawhikau	A	A	✓	✓											
Mathew Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓											

\*\* The Policy and Services Committee meeting held on 30 January 2024 was a continuation of the January meeting.

Key	
PS	Policy & Services Committee Meeting
H	Hearing (heard by Policy & Services Committee)
✓	Attended
A	Apology/Leave of Absence
AB	Absent
S	Sick
AV	Meeting held, or attended by, by Audio Visual Link

\*\*\*\*\*

# DECISION REPORT



F22/55/04 – D24/7187

**To:** Policy and Services Committee  
**From:** Parks and Reserves Officer  
**Date:** 26 March 2024  
**Subject:** King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan - Hearing and Deliberation

## Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received
2. THAT the committee considers submissions received on the *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan.
3. THAT the committee adopt the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan with recommended changes.
4. THAT the commencement date of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan be July 2024.

## Recommended Reasons

The *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan has gone through the public consultation process, required by Sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002. Eleven submissions were received. The committee is now required to hear and consider these submissions to inform their decision to adopt (or not) the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan .

\_\_\_\_\_  
Moved/Seconded

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Council approved the release of the *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan on 12 December 2023 for public consultation. The public consultation period started on 8 January 2024 and closed on 16 February 2024. Eleven submissions were received as part of the consultation process.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is for the Council to consider the public submissions, make amendments to the *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan if desired and subsequently adopt the Management Plan.

## 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 In 1984, the Council first developed and adopted the Reserve Management Plan for King Edward Park. Subsequently, to fully comply with legislative requirements, the plan was replaced in 2017. This plan is now due for review, particularly given the changes to parts of the reserve in the last few years.
- 2.2 The Reserves Act 1977 in Section 41(4), requires administering bodies, in this case, Council, to keep their Reserve Management Plans under continuous review. It is considered appropriate that the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan, as Stratford's premier reserve, is updated and maintained to support the operation, maintenance and future development of the park.



3. **Local government Act 2002 - Section 10**

Under Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council's purpose is to "enable democratic local decision making by and on behalf of communities; as well as promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities now and into the future"			
Does the recommended option meet the purpose of the Local Government 4 well-beings? And which:		Yes	
Social	Economic	Environmental	Cultural
✓		✓	

The proposal herein relates to the provision of good quality local infrastructure giving the local community an opportunity for input into the reserve's management and development.

4. **Background**

4.1 King Edward Park is depicted in the area within the yellow-edged shape in **Figure 1**. It is a recreation reserve, comprising several distinct spaces, used for various activities, including, but not limited to, the:

- Page Street playground;
- Carrington Walkway;
- Three Bridges Trail;
- Trees of Significance; and
- Malone Gates.



Figure 1: King Edward Park

4.2 Section 41 of the Act requires a *Reserve Administering Body* to prepare, adopt and continuously review a management plan for all reserves under its control. The management plan must "provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation...and the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purpose for which it is classified".

- 4.3 The King Edward Park Management Plan was prepared and adopted in 2017. To comply with the legislative requirement to keep the plan under continuous review, a comprehensive review of the *King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan* was undertaken to enable a more detailed public scrutiny of the current plan regarding this reserve and a more focused community input into the review.
- 4.4 Several changes have occurred to the reserve in the last few years. For example, with the imposition of Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre on the reserve, situated next to the Hockey Turf, there is the need to understand to what use the remaining adjacent space should be put.
- 4.5 As required by Section 41 of the Reserves Act, Council Officers sought feedback from the community in August 2023, to inform the *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan development. Feedback received from Elected Members in a workshop in October 2023 was also incorporated into the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan development.
- 4.6 On 12 December 2023, the Council approved the release of the *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan for public consultation. The public consultation period started on 8 January 2024 and closed on 16 February 2024. Eleven submissions were received. Details of the consultation and submission are provided in Section 5 of this report.
- 4.7 The report seeks the adoption of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan by Elected Members, with or without amendments.

## 5. Consultative process

### 5.1 Public Consultation - Section 82

Section 41(5) of the Reserves Act 1977 prescribes the necessary consultation for preparing a management plan. It requires that Council, in carrying out a comprehensive review of the management plan, give public notice of the intention to conduct the review and invite interested parties to make written submissions to the plan. In addition to the public notification, feedback was sought from the following interest groups:

- Taranaki Regional Council
- Local Iwi
- Sport Taranaki
- Te Whatu Ora
- Stratford Tennis Club
- Stratford Cricket Club
- Stratford Eltham Rugby Sports Club
- Stratford Croquet Club
- Stratford Primary School
- Taranaki Hockey Association
- Netball Taranaki
- Stratford Scouts and Guides Association
- Commissioner of Crown Lands

The submissions received are documented in **Appendix 1** and highlight the following:

- Communities continued request for a Dog Park
- Concern around unleashed dogs, in leashed areas
- More seating within parks and walkways
- Three Bridges lighting trail
- Consider integrating Collaborating for Active Spaces and Places (CASP) into the document
- Continue to work with TRC with the two environmental programmes within KEP.
- For council to continue to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
- Create new opportunities for local sports clubs to utilise open spaces within KEP.

**5.2 Māori Consultation - Section 81**

At a hui held in April 2023, Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāruahine and Ngāti Maru indicated their interest in this plan, particularly in relation to the site's proximity to the Patea River. As per 5.1 above, feedback was sought from Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāruahine and Ngāti Maru, with no submissions received.

**6. Risk analysis**

This report relates to the following risks in Council's public Risk Register:

- **Risk 3 Statutory Reporting Commitment**  
By not meeting statutory commitments (reporting to national monitoring system) then it may be acting illegally
- **Risk 4 Bylaws and Policies**  
If there is failure to keep bylaws, strategies, plans and policies up to date, then they may become unenforceable and irrelevant and council could be acting illegally.
- **Risk 7 Property and Parks – Non-Compliance**  
By not complying with obligations under legislation (resource management act, building act, health & safety at work act), then administrative fines and penalties may result.

No further risks are identified, and no legal opinion is required.

**7. Decision making process - Section 79**

**7.1 Direction**

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	The proposals herein link appropriately to Council's activities and community outcomes in relation to parks, reserves and cemeteries as outlined in the Long Term Plan 2021-31

**7.2 Data**

The proposal herein is a legal requirement based on reliable data and no assumptions have had to be built in.

**7.3 Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	
Is it:	No	
• considered a strategic asset; or	No	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	No	
• impacting on a CCO stake holding; or	No	
• a change in level of service; or	No	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	No	

In terms of the Council's Significance Policy, is this proposal of high, medium, or low significance?		
High	Medium	Low
		✓

#### 7.4 Options

The following options are available to the Council:

##### Option 1

Adopt the *draft* King Edward Park Reserves Management Plan with recommended amendments.  
**This is the recommended option.**

##### Option 2

Decline to adopt the *draft* King Edward Park Reserves Management Plan with recommended amendments.

If so, the current Management Plan will remain which does not reflect the changes made the King Edward Park in the last few years. The implication is that Officers will not be able to effectively support the operation and maintenance of the park. This is not recommended.

##### Option 3

Delay to adopt the *draft* King Edward Park Reserves Management Plan with recommended amendments.

There is no advantage or benefit to deferring the decision to adopt the plan. This is not recommended.

#### 7.5 Financial

It is proposed that much of the work on the review will be conducted with “in house” resources although some external graphic design may be required to complement aspects of the plan. However, it is anticipated all production costs will be absorbed within current budgets.

#### 7.6 Prioritisation & Trade-off

There is no issue relative to capacity to deliver. The matter of deferring a decision has been addressed in 7.4 above.

#### 7.7 Legal Issues

No legal opinion is required in this instance.

#### 7.8 Policy Issues - Section 80

There are no policy issues inherent herein.

#### **Attachments:**

**Appendix 1** – Submissions Summary Table - *draft* King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan;

**Appendix 2** – Submissions

**Appendix 3** – Draft King Edward Reserve Management Plan



M McBain  
**Parks and Reserves Officer**



[Endorsed by]  
V Araba  
**Director, Assets**



[Approved by]  
S Hanne  
**Chief Executive**

**DATE:** 19 March 2024

## Appendix 1

Item	Name	Submission Summary See Appendix 2 for details	Officer Comments
1	Gabrielle Chand	<p>What is the intended plan for the old TSB Pools? Technically they are a part of the King Edward Park, or if the council has decided they are not, surely something needs to be done with the building/space as it sits at the entrance to the King Edward Park.</p> <p>As a resident who lives opposite the TSB Pools, I am concerned the council is going to let the building go to waste, further encouraging unsavoury behaviour at nighttime.</p> <p>As a resident I have also had the opportunity to observe the frequent use of the car park, many people park there and head into the Walkway for a stroll or run or even heading down to the den for a fish. I am not proposing the car park is removed as it is still providing a use to the community. My concern is the building itself. Any update you can provide would be appreciated.</p>	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>There is high public interest in the future of the old TSB Pool. The Council resolved in the December Ordinary Meeting to demolish the TSB Pool Complex and return the underlying land to the park. This resolution is found in the link below.</p> <p><a href="#">Ordinary Meeting – December 2023</a></p>
2	Gary Ammundsen	<p>I am generally very impressed with the King Edward Park facilities, and the effort that Stratford District Council makes to upkeep the facilities is worthy of praise. I would as a user and dog owner encourage the development of the Dog Park, both as an asset to the people in Stratford, and an attraction for those passing through our District, encouraging more tourism hours.</p> <p>I am also a Leader in the Stratford Scout Group and would encourage the recognition of the contribution to Stratford Youth Development of the Scout and Guide hall, which is used by other recreational users as well. The Inclusion of the Scout and Guide Hall in the plan, seems a little cold.</p> <p>Suggestive of previous Councils comments about wishing to remove the hall and better using the existing space. Thank you.</p>	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>The Council is aware that there has been much community discussion around a dog park for Stratford. While Council Officers have requested a Dog Park in the past, Elected Members have declined to approve this project due to, amongst other reasons, funding restriction.</p> <p>All Council buildings are maintained by the Property department of the Council. Council appreciates the hard work users put into maintaining these facilities.</p>
3	Bruce Jamieson Stratford Scouts	<p>Dog control round the Scout Den and surrounding areas.</p> <p>Having issues with dog excrement in the grass and round the trees continually. Freedom campers round the Scout Den.</p> <p>Both issues have been brought to the council's attention, but nothing happens.</p>	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>As behaviours such as these cannot be monitored 24/7, Council relies on the public to report such incidents. Council employs a Compliance Officer to enforce the Bylaw requirements.</p>

Item	Name	Submission Summary See Appendix 2 for details	Officer Comments
4	Maree Liddington	<p>I have read your very comprehensive plan and congratulate the committee on its thoroughness. I have no disagreement with any part of the plan.</p> <p>I agree with:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keeping the Western Loop to a Grade 3 track</li> <li>- Improving some danger spots on the Western loop but maintaining its integrity as Gd 3</li> <li>- Replacing steps by Fenton St, and some near Brecon Rd north</li> <li>- Keeping the Bush to native species; eradicate exotics where possible; though some may be stabilizing river banks.</li> <li>- Continuing a spray programme especially for convolvulus, blackberry, &amp; bracken.</li> <li>- Improving Three Bridges walk in some parts, so more can enjoy this walk.</li> <li>- Keeping the reserve 'dog friendly'</li> </ul> <p>Overall, I am very happy with the Councils &amp; contractors work in the reserve. thank you.</p>	<p>Thank you very much for your submission.</p> <p>Your comments are noted as appreciated.</p>
5	Alison Caskey	<p>That all dogs are appropriately leashed when walking through King Edward Park. As a walker and runner through the park I am constantly having unleashed dogs running up to/around me and often their owners are some ways back from them (cannot even see them), also some dogs are on very long leashes that get tangled around my feet as I try to pass.</p> <p>Not everyone is comfortable around dogs, but a lot of these owners seem to think it's OK for their dogs to run up and around other people.</p> <p>A large number of owners do walk their dogs with leashes through the park, and this works well.</p> <p>The parks should be utilised by all ages, but I'm sure a lot of older people and younger mums with toddlers/babies would think twice under the current system.</p>	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>The Council is aware that there has been much community discussion around a dog park for Stratford. While Council Officers have requested a Dog Park in the past, Elected Members have declined to approve this project due to, amongst other reasons, funding restriction.</p> <p>As behaviours such as these cannot be monitored 24/7, Council relies on the public to report such incidents. Council employs a Compliance Officer to enforce the Bylaw requirements.</p>
6	Elle Forbes	<p>Solar lighting along three bridges walk - maybe incorporate a Stratford festival of lights to be held in conjunction with the Shakespeare festival.</p> <p>Install picnic tables and seats along all walkways where none currently exist i.e. western loop.</p> <p>Create additional access points to the river throughout the whole park and walkways.</p> <p>Create a community garden within the park.</p>	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>

Item	Name	Submission Summary See Appendix 2 for details	Officer Comments
7	Sports Taranaki	See Appendix 2	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>
8	Taranaki Regional Council	See Appendix 2	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>
9	Te Whatu Ora	See Appendix 2	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>
10	Stratford Crochet Club	See Appendix 2	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>
11	Stratford Eltham Rugby & Sports Club	See Appendix 2	<p>Thank you for your submission.</p> <p>Elected Members will have the opportunity to consider these suggestions at the Hearing scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.</p>



## Appendix 2 1

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



### Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Gabrielle Chand
<b>Organisation name</b>	N/A
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

**What age group do you fit into?** 30-39

### Submission details

**Write your submission here**

What is the intended plan for the old TSB Pools?

Technically they are a part of the King Edward Park, or if the council has decided they are not, surely something needs to be done with the building/space as it sits at the entrance to the King Edward Park.

As a resident who lives opposite the TSB Pools I am concerned the council is going to let the building go to waste, further encouraging unsavoury behaviour at nighttime.

As a resident I have also had the opportunity to observe the frequent use of the car park, many people park there and head into the Walkway for a stroll or run or even heading down to the den for a fish. I am not proposing the car park is removed as it is still providing a use to the community. My concern is the building itself.

Any update you can provide would be appreciated.

### Speaking to your submission

**Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024**

I do not wish to speak to my submission

## Declaration

By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our [privacy statement](#) and that the information you have provided is accurate.

Yes

reCAPTCHA

True

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



## Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Gary Ammundsen
<b>Organisation name</b>	N/A
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

**What age group do you fit into?** 50-59

## Submission details

### Write your submission here

I am generally very impressed with the King Edward Park facilities, and the effort that Stratford District Council makes to up keep the facilities is worthy of praise. I would as a user and dog owner encourage the development of the Dog Park, both as an asset to the people in Stratford, and an attraction for those passing through our District, encouraging more tourism hours.

I am also a Leader in the Stratford Scout Group, and would encourage the recongization of the contribution to Stratford Youth Development of the Scout and Guide hall, which is used by other recreational users as well. The Inclusion of the Scout and Guide hall in the plan, seems a little cold.

Suggestive of previous Councils comments about wishing to remove the hall and better using the existing space.

Thank you.

Gary Ammundsen

### Speaking to your submission

**Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024** I do not wish to speak to my submission

## Declaration

**By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our [privacy statement](#) and that the information you have provided is accurate.** Yes  
reCAPTCHA True

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



## Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Bruce Jamieson
<b>Organisation name</b>	Stratford Scouts
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

<b>What age group do you fit into?</b>	60 or older
--	-------------

## Submission details

<b>Write your submission here</b>	Dog control round the Scout Den and surrounding areas. Having issues with dog excrement in the grass and round the trees continually.
	Freedom campers round the Scout Den.
	Both issues have been brought to the council's attention but nothing happens.

## Speaking to your submission

<b>Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024</b>	I would like to speak to my submission
--	--

## Declaration

<b>By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our <a href="#">privacy statement</a> and that the information you have provided is accurate.</b>	Yes
<b>reCAPTCHA</b>	True

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



## Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Maree Liddington
<b>Organisation name</b>	N/A
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

**What age group do you fit into?** 60 or older

## Submission details

**Write your submission here**

I have read your very comprehensive plan, and congratulate the committee on its thoroughness.

I have no disagreement with any part of the plan.

I agree with:-  
Keeping the Western Loop to a Grade 3 track  
Improving some danger spots on the Western loop but maintaining its integrity as Gd 3  
Replacing steps by Fenton St, and some near Brecon Rd north  
Keeping the Bush to native species; eradicate exotics where possible; though some may be stabilizing river banks.  
Continuing a spray programme especially for convululos, blackberry, & bracken.  
Improving Three Bridges walk in some parts, so more can enjoy this walk.  
Keeping the reserve 'dog friendly'

Overall, I am very happy with the Councils & contractors work in the reserve.  
thank you.

## Speaking to your submission

Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024

I do not wish to speak to my submission

## Declaration

By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our [privacy statement](#) and that the information you have provided is accurate.

Yes

reCAPTCHA

True

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



## Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Alison Caskey
<b>Organisation name</b>	N/A
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

**What age group do you fit into?** 50-59

## Submission details

**Write your submission here**

That all dogs are appropriately leashed when walking through King Edward Park.  
As a walker and runner through the park I am constantly having unleashed dogs running up to/around me and often their owners are some way back from them (cannot even see them), also some dogs are on very long leashes that get tangled around my feet as I try to pass.  
Not everyone is comfortable around dogs, but a lot of these owners seem to think it's OK for their dogs to run up and around other people.  
A large number of owners do walk their dogs with leashes through the park, and this works well.  
The parks should be utilised by all ages, but I'm sure a lot of older people and younger mums with toddlers/babies would think twice under the current system.

## Speaking to your submission

**Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024** I do not wish to speak to my submission

## Declaration

**By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our [privacy statement](#) and that the** Yes



**information you have provided is accurate.**

**reCAPTCHA**

True

Stratford District Council  
61-63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford  
Taranaki

Telephone 06 765 6099  
Email stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz  
Website www.stratford.govt.nz



## Contact details

We're asking for your email, phone or postal address to inform you about hearing times and decisions. Only one is required and your email is preferred.

<b>Contact name</b>	Elle Forbes
<b>Organisation name</b>	N/A
<b>Contact phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email address</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Postal Address</b>	[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2022, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of this decision making process. If you have any concerns please contact our Privacy Officer on 06 765 6099.

<b>What age group do you fit into?</b>	I'd prefer not to say
--	-----------------------

## Submission details

<b>Write your submission here</b>	Solar lighting along three bridges walk - maybe incorporate a Stratford festival of lights to be held in conjunction with the Shakespeare festival. Install picnic tables and seats along all walkways where none currently exist i.e. western loop. Create additional access points to the river throughout the whole park and walkways. Create a community garden within the the park.
-----------------------------------	---

## Speaking to your submission

<b>Let us know if you'd like to speak to your submission at the hearing on Tuesday 26 March 2024</b>	I do not wish to speak to my submission
--	---

## Declaration

<b>By ticking this box and clicking submit, you confirm that you have read our <a href="#">privacy statement</a> and that the information you have provided is accurate.</b>	Yes
<b>reCAPTCHA</b>	True



To Stratford District Council,

Sport Taranaki, as the lead agency in sport and recreation for the region is grateful for the opportunity to provide the following feedback on the draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan, to support its review.

King Edward Park is certainly a gem in the crown of Stratford and offers an abundance of physical activity and social connection opportunities for the community. Sport Taranaki congratulates Stratford District Council for this draft version of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan and the feedback that has been incorporated into this iteration. The document certainly acknowledges the immense role that the Park plays in contributing to community health, wellbeing, and connection.

Sport Taranaki would especially like to show our support for the following plan content:

- The mention of the Collaborating for Active Spaces and Places (CASP) Strategy and how future development could align to this document.
- The use of information and data contained in CASP's predecessor, the Taranaki Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy in regard to Netball and Tennis.
- Walkway grading and signage to support user enjoyment of the park.
- Allocated cycleways to support active transport options for the community.
- Ensuring buildings are justified by need and that size and scale is considered through development.
- Additions to park amenities that support accessibility for all users.
- Encouraging optimum use and activation of facilities.
- Wording in 4.4 Playgrounds - suggests playground developments could look beyond traditional playgrounds and playground equipment by continuing to develop varied (water, sand, sensory) and interesting play spaces, that are inclusive for all, giving young people opportunities to socialise, imagine, and be challenged while experiencing nature throughout the park. Sport Taranaki has a play advisor that can support by providing examples of best practice if this is helpful.

While this draft of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan provides well for sport, active recreation and play users, further reinforcement of the following points would support continued movement towards collaboration, accessibility, and sustainability within the park.

- Externally funded user groups with sport, active recreation and play related facility projects should be directed to the Taranaki Facilities Consortium (TFC).
- Any development of ancillary facilities particularly at Page Street Sportsground should be approached collaboratively to ensure the park doesn't become covered in individual facilities owned by single entities. An enhanced approach would see a single storage, change and toilet facility that meets the needs of all current and future user groups, that are disability and gender diverse accessible and integrated with existing facilities if possible.

- There should be consideration the of placement of family picnic areas in relation to areas where dogs are off leach to ensure safe and enjoyable user experiences.
- Given the challenges we are facing in terms of climate change it would be pertinent to consider how existing facilities or future developments at the park could address environmental sustainability through water capture, solar power, LED lighting, resilient planting, and any other measure that council determines to be advantageous.

In summary, we are impressed by this version of the draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan and the updates that have been made thus far. As additional enhancements to the plan, our feedback seeks to see policy that promotes collaboration of external organisations that points them towards reducing duplication and creating efficiency at the park. We are also hopeful that the final plan can provide additional thinking towards community experience and environmental sustainability practices that address climate challenges.

Sport Taranaki applauds all the work you do to support sport, active recreation and play in your district and thanks you for the opportunity to provide this feedback.

We would like to speak to our submission on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Our preference would be to attend an afternoon session on this day if this is at all possible.

For further comment or discussion please contact:

Marina Healey

Spaces and Places Lead

Sport Taranaki



### King Edward Park Reserves Management Plan

Feedback from Taranaki Regional Council, Environment Services

Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) is a neighbour and stakeholder in King Edward Park (KEP) through two environmental programmes; the Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme and Towards Predator Free Taranaki (TPFT). However, this is the first time we have provided feedback on the draft Reserves Management Plan for KEP.

We support collaboration between stakeholders for the benefit of Taranaki's communities, environment and economy. A Biodiversity Plan was developed for KEP in 2016, in partnership with Stratford District Council (SDC). The Condition Assessment (CA) in 2015 recorded the health of the indigenous ecosystem in KEP as Fair (15.2). A repeat CA, five years later, assessed the health as Good (15.7) with improvements seen as a result of targeted weed control in some areas. At this point the Biodiversity Plan was reviewed and an Implementation Plan developed for 2022-2027. The focus of the Implementation Plan includes:

- a) Routine checking of predator traps and bait stations, especially for possum control by SDC funded contractor.
- b) Facilitating public involvement and volunteering to help manage the trap network within the site.
- c) Supporting neighboring properties of the KNE through TPFT urban trapping program (Restore Stratford).
- d) Monitoring and biocontrol of *Tradescantia* and further control of invasive plants.
- e) Providing plants to infill blanks after weed control and support SDC's upcoming 'Trees of Significance' project.
- f) Installing KNE signage as well as designing a 'public info sign'.
- g) Provision of advice and technical support as required
- h) Condition Assessments (CAs) to identify change in condition, identification of new species, monitoring of pest species populations.

We collect and store data for KEP as part of State of the Environment Monitoring and the Towards Predator Free programme i.e rodent tracking tunnel results, CAs, Photo points and Five Minute Bird Counts (5MBC). The predator trap catch data is available from Trap NZ.

Implementation of the Biodiversity Plan will be ongoing into the future (*not complete as per page 7 of the KEP Reserves Management Plan*). The long-term goal is for landowners to continue management initiated by Biodiversity Plans to maintain biodiversity. It would be valuable to include the approval of the Biodiversity Plan into *Table 2, Page 6, the Chronological time line* of KEP.

#### Objectives

The draft KEP Reserves management plan mentions the protection and preservation of 'natural values' and 'natural landscapes'. We support the inclusion of objectives relating to the protection and maintenance of biodiversity within KEP. Suggestions include;

- Protect and preserve, as much as possible, the indigenous flora and fauna.
- Remove, as far as practicable, the immature exotic species of plants that have established themselves naturally within the indigenous forest areas and discourage the growth of further exotic seedlings and saplings.
- Take all practicable steps to control, to low density, all pest plants and animals that threaten the ecological values

[26 February 2024](#) ~~14 February 2024~~

### Ecological values

We support the inclusion of a description of ecological values. The indigenous ecosystem remnant within KEP is MF7-2 Rātā, tawa, kamahi podocarp forest. There are some areas of primary forest and some areas are regenerating. There is also a mix of exotic and introduced native species throughout the reserve. The indigenous forest ecosystem buffers the Pātea river & Paetahi stream. It is an important biodiversity stepping stone in the corridor along the Pātea river connecting Taranaki Maunga, the eastern hill country and the moana. The location is classified as an acutely threatened land environment. Less than 10% indigenous cover remains in these areas making any remnant vegetation highly important habitat for threatened species. In particular, the reserve provides habitat for kārearea/NZ falcon (occasional), para/king fern (planted), pirita/scarlet mistletoe (planted), ramarama (planted), Tainui/NZ hazel (planted), titipounamu/rifleman (occasional), mapunga black shag (feeding, roost site), tuna/longfin eel and waiwaka/swamp maire. A number of more common small native forest birds also use the remnant i.e. tūī, riroriro/grey warbler, piwakawaka/fantail, kererū/NZ pigeon, korimako/bellbird and tauhou/wax eye.

### Threats to Ecological values

We support the inclusion of information on the threats to ecological values and how these will be managed across all areas of KEP. This includes high use public areas like Stratford Holiday Park and Centennial Restrooms. Possums are being detected around the Holiday Park and there is an ongoing problem with feral cats living around the Restrooms. Cat prints have been recorded in the tracking tunnels within KEP.

Pest plants have been identified as a significant threat to the indigenous flora of KEP and the associated walkways. KEP contains Regional Pest Management Plan weeds <https://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Environment/Pest-Management/RPMP-4-Taranaki-Plants-Animals-summary-split.pdf> and priority ecological weeds <https://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Environment/Pest-Management/Weedbusters-Taranaki-guide-2022.pdf>

It is a large ongoing task to control the pest plants to low densities due to the number of species, the size of the infestations and the rate of re-colonisation and reinvasion. While natural (manual) weed control is a worthy goal we do not consider it a cost-effective option for the scale of the problem. Natural weed control is slow and very labour intensive. It will cost a lot more, and take a much longer time period, to achieve control to the required level for the ongoing health of the ecosystem.

We support the development and use of a Priority weed control programme as suggested in the Biodiversity Plan. A tool like Field Maps could be used to map the infestations of pest plants to assess the scale of the problem and guide management. It could also be used for monitoring to determine the effectiveness of control. Eradication is unlikely to be achievable for some species. Surveillance should include ornamental plants i.e. Hydrangea, Rhododendrons which can spread into native areas and displace native species.

Possums, as a browser and predator, are a threat to the indigenous flora and fauna of KEP. KEP is within an urban area excluded from the Self Help Possum Programme but it is advisable to keep possums down to low densities (at least 10%, preferably under 5% RTC) to maintain biodiversity values. Philproof bait stations have been set-up on trees in KEP. We recommend these are regularly utilised by a contractor. There is a legal requirement to erect warning signs to alert the community to the presence of toxic bait when the stations are filled. In addition, possum traps have been installed which are currently serviced by volunteers and/or a contractor. The traps continue to catch possums and fresh possum sign is regularly seen in KEP. We recommend wax tag monitoring to

26 February 2024 14 February 2024

check possum numbers and determine when further control is needed. Monitoring could potentially be supported by TPFT as part of the annual urban possum monitoring.

Mustelids (ferrets, stoats, weasels), hedgehogs and rats are a threat to the indigenous fauna of KEP. TRC Environment Officers, in particular the Urban/Engagement staff from TPFT, have been working with the Stratford community to support predator trapping within KEP. The initial agreement was a SDC contractor would check and reset the traps 6x yearly and community volunteers, supported by TPFT staff, 6x yearly. It is timely to review the agreed level of service. The level of support provided by TPFT staff is being reduced and volunteer effort has been inconsistent. We recommend an MOU be developed between TPFT and SDC which covers requirements and resources. This could include maintenance of signs and traps as some have been vandalized and some are missing. We recommend recording the trap catch results in Trap NZ. On an annual basis the results should be analysed to support improvement and efficiency.

The use of vehicles, machinery and equipment, and the introduction of rock, soil, bark and plants into KEP, can introduce and spread new pests and diseases i.e. Argentine ants, plague skink, weeds, myrtle rust. It is important checks for new pest species are carried out at the point of origin and for contractors to check and clean their machinery.

#### Restoration Planting

Restoration planting should be carried out in conjunction with pest plant control to fill the 'weed shaped' holes created. Bare areas will quickly be recolonised unless native species are planted to assist with suppression of weeds.

We support restoration planting of native species from the indigenous ecosystem type (MF7-2) of KEP, according to the Egmont Ecological District Restoration Planting Guide (<https://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Guidelines/Land/Restoration-Guide-Egmont-Ecological-District.pdf>) (Rimu-rātā/tawa forest pg. 21).

We also support:

- i. Replacement of exotic species with native species in the indigenous forest remnant
- ii. Planting of riparian species i.e. *Carex*, harakeke, toetoe to assist with stabilisation of the river banks to prevent the disintegration of the walkways into the river (*Pg 24*).
- iii. Preferential planting of native species for shade and shelter in recreational areas.
- iv. Use of plant ID signs to raise awareness of indigenous plant species  
<https://www.metalimage.co.nz/products/flora-and-fauna-id/>

#### General

- Consideration should be given to the identification and remediation of any in stream structures i.e. culverts, weirs, fords in both the Pātea river & Paetahi steam within KEP which impede the passage of native fish.
- Interpretation signage within KEP should include information on ecological values, threats and management being undertaken to maintain biodiversity. This could be supported via the Biodiversity Plan.
- To aid understanding it would be valuable to provide information on the location and purpose of the Trees of Significance Trail.



National Public Health Service Taranaki  
Private Bag 2016  
New Plymouth 4342

15 February 2024

Stratford District Council  
[submissions@stratford.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@stratford.govt.nz)

Tēnā koe

Re: Draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan.

We **DO NOT** wish to speak to our submission.

Te Whatu Ora leads the day-to-day running of the health system across Aotearoa New Zealand, and either provides or commissions services at local, regional and national levels. Under the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022, one of the key objectives of Te Whatu Ora is “to promote health and prevent, reduce, and delay ill-health, including by collaborating with other agencies, organisations, and individuals to address the determinants of health.” The National Public Health Service (NPHS) is a division of Te Whatu Ora and leads the delivery of Health Protection, Health Promotion and Prevention services, as well as working with the Public Health Agency and Te Aka Whai Ora on intelligence, population health and policy. As a Tiriti o Waitangi partner, NPHS advocates for equitable health outcomes, by striving to eliminate health differences, particularly for Māori, and build towards Pae Ora (healthy futures) for everyone.

National Public Health Service – Taranaki welcomes the opportunity to submit on the **Draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan**.

For the National Public Health Service (NPHS), Pae Ora also includes promoting and supporting *mauri ora* (healthy individuals and ways of living), *whānau ora* (healthy families), and *wai ora* (healthy environments)<sup>1</sup>.

In terms of environments that promote and support health and wellbeing, natural spaces, such as parks and reserves, can make a significant contribution through:

- increasing people’s contact with nature and spaces of cultural significance (cultural or spiritual wellbeing – *te taha wairua*)
- promoting social interaction and cohesion (social wellbeing – *te taha whānau*)
- promoting physical activity (physical wellbeing – *te taha tinana*)

---

<sup>1</sup> Te Pae Tata Interim New Zealand Health Plan 2022. <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/publications/te-pae-tata-interim-new-zealand-health-plan-2022/>



## Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

- reducing stress and promoting relaxation (mental wellbeing – *te taha hinengaro*)<sup>2</sup>.

It is recognised that parks that are more effective in promoting health and wellbeing are those that:

- are developed in partnership with the community
- conserve and promote cultural heritage
- provide a variety of functions including opportunities for physical activity, access to the natural environment and play for children
- respect and provide for a diverse range of cultures, ages, and abilities
- build on natural features to inspire a deep connection to place
- create safe and healthy places for connecting with others, recreation, and mental relaxation
- provide diverse habitats for appropriate species to enhance biodiversity<sup>2</sup>.

There is increasing evidence that regular connection with nature and opportunities to interact with and experience healthy ecosystems, natural environments and native species are beneficial for health and wellbeing<sup>3</sup>. In particular, a biophilic public health perspective recognises the innate human affinity (or our inborn ‘love, awe and respect’) for nature. For our physical and mental health and wellbeing, we need the natural world to be thriving and healthy and we need to interact with and experience healthy thriving nature in our daily lives<sup>4,5</sup>.

Providing high quality natural spaces that people can access and enjoy is important in supporting and promoting population health and wellbeing. This strongly aligns with the purpose of local government “to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future”<sup>6</sup>.

The development of plans that are co-designed with iwi and hapū represent an important opportunity for the Stratford District Council to contribute to health equity in ways that uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi. A key component of such plans is the recognition of the crucial cultural and historical relationships that mana whenua have with te taiao (the environment). This aligns with the understanding that promotion and representation of local indigenous identities in public spaces has significant benefits for population health and wellbeing.

<sup>2</sup> Regional Public Health (2010). *Healthy Open Spaces: A summary of the Impact of Open Spaces on Health and Wellbeing*. <https://www.rph.org.nz/resources/publications/healthy-open-spaces-a-summary-of-the-impact-of-open-spaces-on-health-and-well-being.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> van den Bosch, M and Bird, W. (Eds) (2018). *Oxford Textbook of Nature and Public Health: The role of nature in improving the health of a population*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/med/9780198725916.001.0001>

<sup>4</sup> de Wet, N. (2018). *Biophilic Public Health: Re-imagining Public Health for the 21st Century*. [https://toiteora.govt.nz/assets/Toi-Te-Ora-Public-Health/Publications-and-Resources/Medical-Officer-of-Health-Reports/20180529\\_MOH\\_CPHAC\\_Biophilic\\_Public\\_HealthFINAL.pdf](https://toiteora.govt.nz/assets/Toi-Te-Ora-Public-Health/Publications-and-Resources/Medical-Officer-of-Health-Reports/20180529_MOH_CPHAC_Biophilic_Public_HealthFINAL.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> MacKinnon M, MacKinnon R, Pedersen Zari M, Glensor K, Park T. *Urgent Biophilia: Green Space Visits in Wellington, New Zealand, during the COVID-19 Lockdowns*. *Land*, 2022; 11(6):793. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11060793>

<sup>6</sup> Local Government Act 2002. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/whole.html#DLM171803>

## Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

It is recognised that King Edward Park is a highly valued and treasured space within Stratford, providing a range of recreational and amenity benefits, as well as a place of refuge and connection with nature.

The overall intent and objectives of the Draft King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan are supported by the National Public Health Service – Taranaki. Considering the range of potential benefits to health and wellbeing, the following are specifically noted and supported:

- Improvements to accessibility and wayfinding
- Consideration of how the new 2023 Collaborating for Active Spaces and Places Taranaki Strategy can align to the plan
- The retention of the recreational space next to Wai O Rua to meet the recreational needs of the community
- Improved management and coordination of modes – walking, jogging, cycling
- The development of the park as a social hub for community activities to contribute to the diversity and vibrancy of the community
- The emphasis on native planting and biodiversity, while retaining botanical collections/significant exotics as a feature
- Consideration to phase out the current methods of weed control and replace them with natural weed control.

To further strengthen the public health value and aspects of the proposal, the following suggestions are provided for consideration:

- Enhance engagement with mana whenua and mana whenua involvement in the design and management of the park, demonstrating Stratford District Council's commitment to Tiriti o Waitangi, and as an acknowledgement of the importance of the relationship between mana whenua and the Crown to population health and wellbeing.
- Review of the plan and design elements in terms of universal design principles so as to enhance access and use by all regardless of age, ability or disability - this may include, for example, further development of walkways, number and suitability of ablution facilities, as well as picnic table facilities and seating.
- Improving signage for park users, particularly cyclists, including highlighting crossing points and a safety-focused speed limit.
- Signage clearly communicating the designation of the park as smokefree and vape free, in accordance with the Smokefree Environments – Public Spaces and Community Events Policy.
- Increase the provision of drinking water fountains to increase access to freely available drinking water.
- In relation to the development of the park as a social hub and hosting events, consider policy to guide the availability of alcohol at public events, particularly those where children will be present.
- Review the provision of shade in playgrounds or other more open areas. This could include the planting of trees for providing shade or physical infrastructure.

## Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

- Explore and develop strategies and initiatives for how the park can contribute to the overall biodiversity, the health of native species, and ecological health of Stratford district - including opportunities for ecological restoration within the park and other ecologically connected areas of the town.
- The development of signage, information boards and art that informs, educates and celebrates native and curated exotic species, ecology, and cultural history and significance to enhance the connection of people to nature, place, history and culture.

Ngā mihi



Dr Neil de Wet  
Medical Officer of Health  
National Public Health Service | Taranaki

**STRATFORD CROQUET CLUB  
SUBMISSION ON THE  
DRAFT KING EDWARD RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024**

- 1.1 This submission is made by the Stratford Croquet Club (“SCC”).
- 1.2 The SCC was established in 1906, currently has 30 members and 2 courts. SCC plays on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturday mornings. The season starts in September and runs through to May. **We have outgrown our current facilities.**
- 1.3 Membership of the club has grown substantially over the last 14 years, and we expect this growth to continue. We need to provide for future growth of the club and would **like to move to the empty green space next to Wai-O-Rua , where there is sufficient space to build 4 courts and a new clubhouse/pavilion.** This upgraded facility will then be able to hold regional and nationwide tournaments which will bring economic benefits to Stratford.
- 1.4 We support the objective on page 28 of the Draft King Edward Reserve Management Plan 2024 (“DKERMP”), which relates to the empty green space next to Wai O Rua and states that additional recreational facilities be provided where Council is satisfied there is sufficient demand, and a benefit to the community.
- 1.5 We also support the proposed Level of Service on page 28 of the DKERMP, which states that the open space adjacent to the Wai O Rua will be maintained to a standard that meets the recreational needs and aspirations of the community, in accordance with an appropriate master plan. We support master planning to determine the optimum design and layout of the space.
- 1.6 We submit that the section relating to Future Projects on page 28 of the DKERMP be amended as follows (deletion in ~~strike through~~, and addition underlined):

~~“No projects planned~~ **Stratford Croquet Club to relocate to the empty green space next to Wai O Rua”**

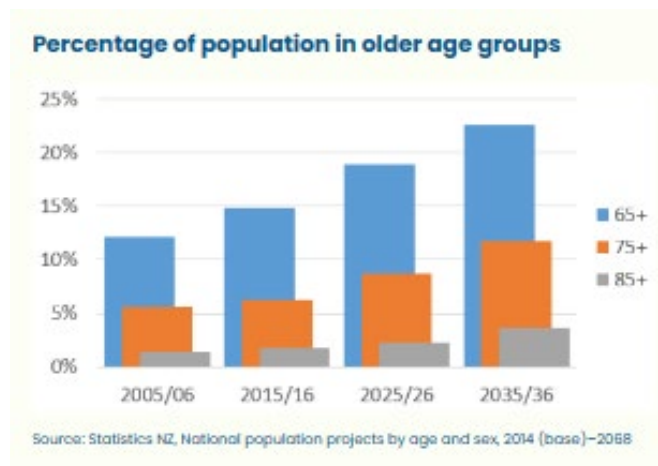
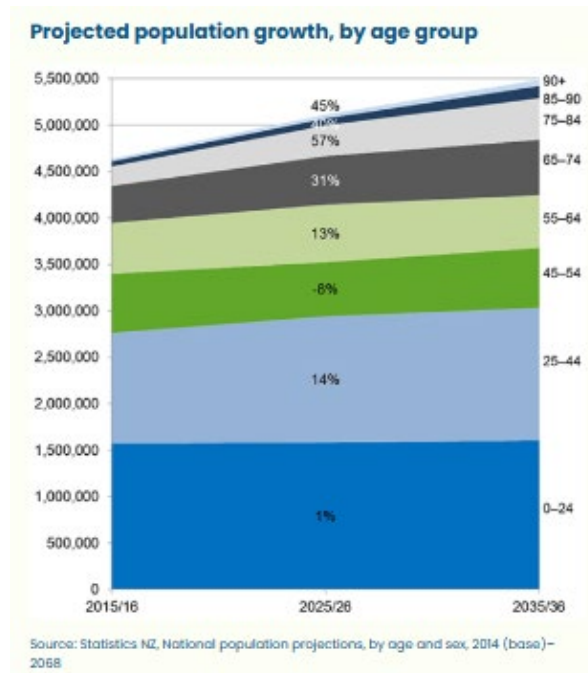
1.7 The reasons for our submission are as follows:

- **Association Croquet** has been played in Stratford since 1906. It is played by young and old throughout the world. Around 2002, **Golf Croquet** was introduced to respond to modern day, time short lifestyles. This is a shorter version of the game which takes about 1 hour to finish, versus up to 3 hours for Association games.
- **Since 2010 membership of SCC has grown by 425% from 8 to 34**, as the graph below demonstrates. (Source: NZ Croquet Yearbook No's 89 to 101).



- **We expect this growth to continue** as croquet (and particularly golf croquet) is growing in popularity, and the aging population is growing faster than any other cohort. People are also living longer, and therefore able to play croquet longer. Further, Stratford has a slightly higher than average percentage of people over 65 according to Statistics NZ (Source: 2018 Census). We do not expect the membership to stagnate.

- The graphs below from Statistics NZ demonstrate the growth in the older population.



- If SCC were to move to adjacent Wai O Rua, it would not only be the popularity of the sport and aging population that grow our club. This new site is highly visible and will raise general awareness of the club. We are currently tucked out of site behind a tin fence.
- The current SCC clubhouse started its life as the Stratford Taxi HQ on Miranda St. **It is 38m<sup>2</sup> in area and although it has been adequate as SCC clubrooms, this is no longer the case.** There is no room for



expansion on the current site, and we have investigated joining in with other sports clubs to share facilities, but as submitted to SDC in 2022 this is not a viable option (we are happy to comment on this further at the DKERMP hearing).



- We often have in excess of 25 club members turn up on club days and we can only accommodate 16. We have to limit regional competitions to 16 entries. We are unable to hold national competitions for this reason. **We are in need of 4 courts and a larger clubhouse.** An enlarged SCC complex would enable more national and regional tournaments to be held which brings economic benefits to Stratford and the wider area.



- The vacant land area adjacent to the Wai O Rua swimming complex has space for 4 courts, a new pavilion and ancillary buildings to store equipment. **It is the perfect location for expanded new SCC pavilion and courts and will further enhance the sports precinct along Portia St.**
- There is adequate parking nearby.
- Depending on the exact design and layout of courts, the SCC requirements for 4 croquet courts, a new clubhouse and ancillary buildings will be between 3,800m<sup>2</sup> and 4,000m<sup>2</sup>. The GIS image below indicates that there is enough space for SCC and other uses such as pétanque courts and an outdoor BBQ area.



- **An added bonus is that if SCC relocate to this vacant area , the existing SCC court area can be utilised to enhance the adjacent children’s play precinct which is very popular with the younger age groups.**
- SCC is in no doubt that this a huge undertaking for the club. Its financial resources are not large ( **Currently \$7000 +/- in the bank account**), and a project of this magnitude is beyond our financial resources. We would therefore be relying on the benevolence and support of the likes of TOI Foundation, TET Trust, Lotteries Grant Board, and NZCT. We will also engage with the Taranaki Facilities Consortium to look for the



most sustainable solution for this new facility. We also understand that mana whenua engagement is required and would action this at an early stage.

- We have done some preliminary investigations on costs (GST Inc)
  - 4 new courts estimated at **\$53,745.**
  - A new clubhouse/pavilion of **80m<sup>2</sup>** would be approx. **\$280,000** at current build costs of \$3,500m<sup>2</sup>.
  - Ancillary buildings for equipment storage , and courtside shelters (8) for players will be needed. Say 50m<sup>2</sup> @\$2000sqm=**\$100,000.**
  - Working drawings, building permits etc will also be required.  
**Estimate \$15,000.**
- SCC would be willing to share the facilities with other community groups where suitable for example, the pavilion could be used for meeting rooms.
- If Council did agree that the SCC relocate to the empty green space next to Wai O Rua, but SCC was unable to secure the funding for the greens and clubrooms within the life of the Reserve Management Plan, SCC would accept that the space should be made available for alternate uses.

1.8 We wish to speak to our submission.

Eileen Judd (President)  
Judy Drummond (Secretary)

Stratford Croquet Club  
15 February 2024



**Erin Bishop**

---

**From:** Melanie McBain  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 February 2024 7:44 AM  
**To:** Stratford Submissions  
**Cc:** Natalie McLeod  
**Subject:** FW: Submission - Draft KING EDWARD PARK - RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024

---

**From:** Nathan McDonald <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 8:25 PM  
**To:** Melanie McBain <mmcbain@stratford.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Nathan McDonald <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Submission - Draft KING EDWARD PARK - RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Evening Melanie, below is our submission from the Stratford Eltham Rugby & Sports Club in reference to the draft King Edward Park – Reserve Management Plan 2024.

Submission points -

- Section 4.3.1 = Stratford Aquatic Centre
  - The open space adjacent to Wai o Rua is not used – could we put power to the light poles and transfer the light bulbs from Victoria Park up there
- Section 4.5 – can you amend the club name to Stratford Eltham Rugby Sports Club
  - Can the fees please be reviewed for the casual user(ie an event for 1 day, as currently its between \$150 to \$180 for a 6hr event, where a winter season is ~\$400?
  - I see at the bottom of page 36 it says toilet & storage facilities are approved for construction – does that mean we can do drawings, find funding and then apply for permit?
  - Objectives (page 37 – Provide high quality sports field for both senior & junior sport. We agree with this
    - But can you define what is a high quality sports field?
    - Need to determine/be clear on what is going to happen each year to maintain this quality field
- Section 5 – number 14 – it is only ticked as maintained – this should have an increase for an extra year of 2, to complete the following;
  - Top up all low areas with top soil (stone free) and grass seed – to stop pooling of water
  - Aerate the fields 2 times a year
  - De thatch field
  - Under sow field
  - Complete Hydrologist report on fields – as really wet up the camp ground end (West end of the fields)

We can come and talk to these points if required.

Any questions about these please contact me.

Nathan McDonald  
Club Captain  
SERSC

---

**From:** Melanie McBain <[mmcbain@stratford.govt.nz](mailto:mmcbain@stratford.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 11:50 AM  
**Subject:** Draft KING EDWARD PARK - RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024

Good morning

As someone who is a key stakeholder in regards to the King Edward Park – Reserve Management Plan 2024, I wanted to give you the most recent update.

This *draft* is now on-line and public consultation will open on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 and close on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

<https://www.stratford.govt.nz/our-council/have-your-say?item=id:2oi8etc7o17q9s481ago&ed-step=1>

I hope that you will find some time to look at the *draft* and provide a submission before the 16<sup>th</sup> of February.

Ngā mihi

Melanie McBain  
Parks and Reserves Officer  
Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Whakaahurangi | Stratford District Council

63 Miranda Street  
PO Box 320  
Stratford 4352

P.06 765 6099  
M. 027 717 4607  
[stratford.govt.nz](http://stratford.govt.nz)



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
WHAKAAHURANGI  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



The content of this email is confidential and may contain copyright information and/or be legally privileged. The information contained in this email is intended only for the recipient named in the email message. If this email is not intended for you, you must not use, read, distribute or copy it. If you have received this email message in error please notify the sender immediately and erase the original message and any attachments from your system. Thank you. Statements in this email and any attachments do not necessarily reflect the views of Stratford District Council. For more information about Stratford District Council, visit our website at [www.stratford.govt.nz](http://www.stratford.govt.nz)

---

**DISCLAIMER**

This email contains information that is confidential and which may be legally privileged. If you have received this email in error, you may not read, use, copy or disclose this email or its attachments in any way. In that event, please notify the sender immediately by reply email and delete the email from your system. While we use standard virus checking software, we accept no responsibility for viruses or anything similar in this email or any attachment after it leaves our information systems.





Appendix 3

Appendix 3 – *Draft* King Edward Reserve Management Plan



**CONTENTS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....II**

**1 INTRODUCTION .....1**

    1.1 PURPOSE..... 1

    1.2 OBJECTIVE ..... 1

    1.3 SCOPE ..... 2

    1.4 STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT..... 2

**2 KING EDWARD PARK .....4**

    2.1 LOCATION AND ACCESS ..... 4

    2.2 LAND STATUS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION ..... 5

    2.3 HISTORY..... 5

**3 PROGRESS SO FAR .....8**

    3.1 WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED? ..... 8

    3.2 REVIEW PROCESS ..... 9

    3.3 STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ..... 10

**4 MANAGEMENT LEVELS OF SERVICE ..... 13**

    4.1 INTRODUCTION..... 13

    4.2 WALKWAY LEVEL OF SERVICE..... 16

    4.3 FACILITIES..... 29

    4.4 PLAYGROUNDS ..... 36

    4.5 SPORTS FIELDS..... 38

**5 PROPOSED LEVELS OF SERVICE .....43**

**6 ACTION PLAN.....44**

**APPENDIX 1 – KING EDWARD PARK PLAN .....45**



# King Edward Park

## TABLES

TABLE 1: LAND STATUS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION .....	5
TABLE 2: CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY .....	6
TABLE 3: 2017 ACTIONS AND PROGRESS STATUS.....	8
TABLE 4: WEED CONTROL.....	15

## FIGURES

FIGURE 1: RESERVE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK .....	3
FIGURE 2: KING EDWARD PARK.....	4
FIGURE 3: WORKERS USING HIGH PRESSURE HOSE IN KING EDWARD PARK (1902) .....	6
FIGURE 5: CENTENNIAL BRIDGE (2003).....	7
FIGURE 6: REVIEW PROCESS .....	10
FIGURE 7: WALKING THE DOG IN KING EDWARD PARK .....	14
FIGURE 8: KING EDWARD PARK WALKWAY SIGN .....	16
FIGURE 9: KING EDWARD PARK SWING BRIDGE.....	18
FIGURE 10: CHARLIE CLEMOW WALK.....	20
FIGURE 11: McCULLOUGH RHODODENDRON DELL & LAKE.....	21
FIGURE 12: SUMMER NIGHTS EVENT .....	21
FIGURE 13: TREES OF SIGNIFICANCE .....	23
FIGURE 14: TREES OF SIGNIFICANCE .....	24
FIGURE 15: WESTERN LOOP WALKWAY .....	25
FIGURE 16: CENTENNIAL PARK.....	27
FIGURE 17: KAURI PLANTED IN 1954.....	28
FIGURE 18: WAI O RUA – STRATFORD AQUATIC CENTRE.....	29
FIGURE 19: EMPTY GREEN SPACE NEXT TO WAI O RUA .....	30
FIGURE 20: STRATFORD HOLIDAY PARK.....	31
FIGURE 21: MALONE GATES.....	32
FIGURE 22: TET MULTI SPORTS CENTRE .....	33
FIGURE 23: CENTENNIAL REST ROOM & FRONT GARDENS.....	34
FIGURE 24: SCOUT AND GUIDE DEN .....	35
FIGURE 25: PAGE STREET PLAYGROUND .....	36
FIGURE 26: PAGE STREET SPORTSGROUND.....	38
FIGURE 27: NETBALL & TENNIS COURTS .....	40
FIGURE 28: HOCKEY TURF.....	42



## Executive Summary

---

### Executive Summary

The Stratford District Council (SDC) manages 20.7446 hectares of reserve land known as King Edward Park. The management and preservation of this reserve delivers, for both current and future generations, the following:

- Community use and enjoyment
- Recreational and sporting pursuits
- Protection of the environment

Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 requires the Stratford District Council (SDC) to prepare a management plan for King Edward Park. SDC is required to keep this management plan under continuous review. This document is the second edition of the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan and supersedes all previous reserve management plans.

The King Edward Park Reserve Management 2024 will focus on goals and outcomes for this reserve. The preparation of this management plan allows Council, together with the community, to establish the desired mix of uses and values for this reserve and set in place a consistent policy to guide the day-to-day management, as well as the long-term development.

King Edward Park began its journey as a public reserve over 130 years ago when 21 hectares of Crown Land between Regan and Page Streets was reserved for recreation purposes under the provisions of the Land Act 1877. It has undergone many changes over time, including:

- A large portion being subdivided off in 1942 to establish the Stratford Primary School and other areas being added to the original reservation.
- The construction of the Malone Gates in memory of Lieutenant Colonel WG Malone in 1923.
- The development of Centennial Park to celebrate 100 years of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1940.
- The development of numerous sporting facilities, walking tracks and the McCullough Rhododendron Dell.

The Reserve Management Plan contains policies and objectives for effective management, which is aimed at maximising use, enjoyment, and continuing development, while balancing biodiversity and ecological sustainability. These objectives and policies are also guided by other planning documents and processes such as the Long Term Plan and the Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries Asset Management Plan.





## Introduction

---

### 1 Introduction

Section 41 (Reserves Act 1977) requires the Stratford District Council (SDC) to prepare a management plan for King Edward Park. SDC is required to keep this management plan under continuous review.

The result is the development of the Parks Activity Management 2006. A district wide Reserves Management Plan 2011 was developed, with the 1<sup>st</sup> King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan 2017 created to focus solely on the management and future development of King Edward Park.

This is the 2nd edition of the King Edward Park Management Plan.

#### 1.1 Purpose

This management plan is a community document. It is intended to provide the community with certainty about the function and management of this reserve.

The King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan (the Plan) focuses on goals and outcomes for this reserve. The preparation of the Plan allows Council, together with the community, to establish the desired mix of uses and values for this reserve and set in place a consistent policy to guide the day-to-day management, as well as the long-term development.

Council has prepared the Plan to:

- Satisfy the statutory provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.
- Provide a comprehensive planning document with clear policies and objectives to enable it to manage the reserve for the purpose it is set aside for.
- Provide the community with an opportunity to have quality input into the future of the reserve.

#### 1.2 Objective

The objectives of the Parks, Reserves and Cemetery Activity are to:

- Provide an attractive and functional reserve that satisfies community social and recreational needs.
- Provide appropriate, safe, accessible, and exciting outdoor areas that inspire people to undertake appropriate passive and active recreational activities.
- Plan for, and forecast, the cost-effective investment to anticipate demand trends that may affect this investment.
- Maintain adequate management systems for all matters to ensure King Edward Park is maintained to meet adequate service and safety standards.
- Provide for informed community consultation on all matters regarding King Edward Park.



## Introduction

---

- Include Iwi in any future development of King Edward Park.
- Protect any sites discovered within the park that potentially could be of significance to Māori and afforded appropriate protection as required by the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

### 1.3 Scope

The Plan addresses all activities that occur within the reserve. It is envisaged to read in conjunction with all of Council's Activity Management Plans.

Activities and operations identified in this plan feed into the Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries Asset Management Plan and District Plan.

### 1.4 Strategic and Legislative Context

Stratford District Council has been appointed by the Crown to control and administer King Edward Park pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977. The Act empowers Council to carry out certain actions, impose rules relative to the use of the reserve and develop objectives and policies regarding its future development.

In 2011, in accordance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 ("the Act"), Stratford District Council prepared and adopted a District-wide Reserve Management Plan for all reserves owned and/or administered by Council. That plan outlined Council's general intentions in respect of the use, development, maintenance, protection, and preservation of reserves. It also established policies in this regard and referred to the Parks Activity Management Plan 2006 for details of planned developments.

Section 41(4) of the Act requires Council to:

*"Keep its management plan under continuous review so that ....the plan is adapted to changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge".*

The Plan contains policies and objectives for effective management which is aimed at maximising use, enjoyment, and continuing development, while balancing biodiversity and ecological sustainability. These objectives and policies are also guided by other planning documents and processes, such as:

- Asset Management Policy
- Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries Asset Management Plan



## Introduction

- Taranaki Regional Council’s Regional Walkway and Cycleway Strategy for Taranaki 2007 (currently under review)

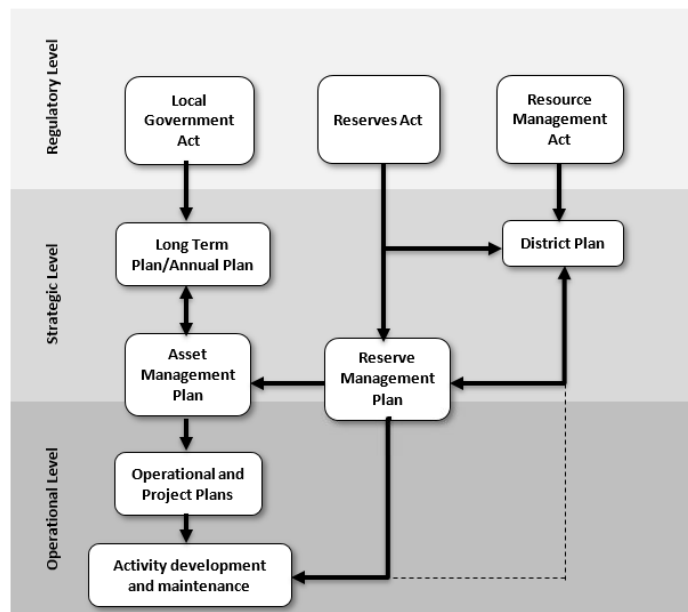


Figure 2: Reserve Management Strategic Framework



# King Edward Park

## 2 King Edward Park

### 2.1 Location and Access

King Edward Park (**Figure 2**) is bordered to the north by Stratford Primary School and Regan Street, to the east by Portia, Fenton, and Miranda Streets, to the south by Page Street and to the west by Brecon Road (formed and unformed). In total it comprises over 20 hectares and is the largest park in the Stratford township.



**Figure 3: King Edward Park**

King Edward Park is located approx. 250 metres from the retail centre of Stratford and contains the following features:

- Carrington Walkway
- Charlie Clemow Walk
- Malone Gates
- Page Street Playground
- Scout Hall
- McCullough Rhododendron Dell
- The Three Bridges Trail
- Wai o Rua (Stratford Aquatic Centre)
- Centennial Park
- Hockey Turf
- Netball & Tennis Courts
- Page Street Sportsground
- Stratford Holiday Park
- TET Multi Sports Centre
- Trees of Significance Trail
- Western Loop Walkway

Detailed description and usage of each space are provided in Section 4.



## King Edward Park

There are numerous pedestrian entrances into the park, the main being through the historic Malone Gates on Portia Street. Entrance can also be gained at various points off all the surrounding streets. There are two public car parks within the park, these being off Regan Street servicing primarily the sporting facilities in this area, off Page Street servicing the sportsground.

### 2.2 Land Status and Legal Description

King Edward Park occupies land that is contained within three certificates of title as detailed **Table 1** below. All three areas are recreation reserve subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 and are zoned Protected Area under the Stratford District Council's district plan.

**Table 1: Land Status and Legal Description**

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
<b>Legal Description</b>	Lot 1 DP494685	Lot 2 DP494685	Sections 125 and 126 Block I Ngaere Survey District and Sections 470 – 484, 508 – 518, 781, 858, 935, 936, 1024, 1036 – 1038 Town of Stratford.
<b>Area</b>	1.2308 hectares	13.3554 hectares	6.1584 hectares
<b>Status</b>	Recreation Reserve – NZ Gazette 1982 p.184		
<b>Zone</b>	Protected Area		
<b>Primary Use</b>	Holiday Park	Bush, sportsfields and passive recreation	Sport and active recreation

### 2.3 History

King Edward Park began its journey as a public reserve over 130 years ago when 21 hectares of Crown Land between Regan and Page Streets was reserved for recreation purposes under the provisions of the Land Act 1877. It has undergone many changes over time, including:

- A large portion being subdivided off in 1942 to establish the Stratford Primary School and other areas being added to the original reservation.
- The construction of the Malone Gates in memory of Lieutenant Colonel WG Malone in 1923.
- The development of Centennial Park to celebrate 100 years of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1940.
- The development of numerous sporting facilities, walking tracks and the McCullough Rhododendron Dell.

**Table 2** outlines the chronological history of King Edward Park.




## King Edward Park

**Table 2: Chronological History**

Date	Action
1885	Section 28 Block I Ngaere Survey District and Sections 781, 858, 935 and 936 Town of Stratford were reserved for recreation purposes by Gazette 1885 page 508.
1892	Sections 470-484 and 509-518 were brought under the Public Domains Act 1881 by Gazette notice 1892, page 1653 and the Stratford Town Board was named as the Domain Board.
1894	New athletics track developed on what was then known as the East Recreation Ground.
1897	Two oaks planted for Queen Victoria's 60 <sup>th</sup> jubilee.
1902	By resolution of the Domain Board, on 10 July 1902, in commemoration of the coronation of King Edward VII, a variety of trees were planted, and a suspension bridge constructed to link the 'Page Street Reserves' with the town side of the Patea River. The planted area became affectionately referred to as 'King Edward's Park' and later the entire mass of reserved areas, both sides of the river, became collectively known as King Edward Park.
	 <p><i>Figure 4: Workers using high pressure hose in King Edward Park (1902)</i></p>
1920 - 1921	Preparation of land and construction of the children's playground on Page Street.
1920's	Development of a camping ground on the site of the Stratford Holiday Park.
1923	Malone Gates were officially opened on 8 August 1923, eight years to the day after the death of Lieutenant Colonel WG Malone at Chunuk Bair.  Monument is thought to be one of the country's largest to an individual soldier and was paid for by the men of the Wellington Regiment.
1930's	Development of playing fields in the northeast corner of King Edward Park by relief workers.
1937	Construction of the first Municipal Swimming Pool Complex (now the TSB Pool Complex).
1939	Decision made that Stratford's memorial for the centennial of New Zealand should be the constitution of a Centennial Park. The site chosen was an area straddling the Patea River, from Page Street to Fenton Street. The new park was to include play equipment, a bridge across the river and planting. Later in 1939 the Women's Rest Rooms were added to the proposal and given priority for funding.
1941	Learner's swimming pool was added to pool complex.
1942	15 acres subdivided off from the park for the new Stratford Primary School.
1945	Centennial Bridge (adjacent to the TSB Pool Complex) constructed as part of Centennial Park.
1948	Centennial Rest Rooms constructed at the entrance to Centennial Park on Fenton Street.



## King Edward Park

Date	Action
1951	Rugby grounds and clubrooms developed on Page Street.
1950's	Rhododendron plants from the Exbury Estate in Southampton were planted in the 1950s along with seeds from the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh.
1953	New netball / tennis courts developed adjacent to the Malone Memorial Gates on Portia Street on the site where, in earlier years, a rock crushing plant had been situated.
1953	A native arboretum was established and named the Charlie Clemow Walk.
1954	Kauri planted near the Swing Bridge in recognition of the visit to the town by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip.
1960's	Rhododendron Dell was formed during this period following the felling of old pine trees
1960	Parts of Hamlet and Portia Streets stopped and formally added to the park.
1966	Pine planted from a seedling taken off Lone Pine Hill in Gallipoli planted by Malone Gates in the presence of around 100 Gallipoli veterans from Taranaki and Wanganui.
1970	Rhododendron Dell was named after the former chairman of the Parks and Reserves Committee, Mr. Edward Wallace McCullough and to be known as "The McCullough Rhododendron Dell".
1973	Centennial Bridge replaced. 
1996	Development of the synthetic hockey turf on Portia Street.
2000	The TET Multi Sports Centre was constructed adjacent the synthetic hockey turf.
2015	Demolition of Page Street gymnasium (former rugby clubrooms).
2016	Re-development of the Stratford Holiday Park under new lease.
2017	Development of an amenities block at Page Street Sportsgrounds.
2017	Upgrade of netball/tennis courts playing surface.
2020	Refurbishment of Centennial Rest Rooms toilets and meeting rooms. Funding obtained through Provincial Growth Fund.
2021	New pool development commenced with the new location situated next to the Hockey Turf on Portia Street.
2022	Disestablishment of TSB Pool Complex and opening of Wai O Rua (Stratford Aquatic Centre).
2022	Management of the TET Multi Sports Centre transferred to a newly constructed Trust with a lease of 10 years.
2022	Trees of Significance trail incorporated into the King Edward Park walkways.



## Progress So Far

### 3 Progress So Far

This section sets out how we have progressed so far, including:

- What we have achieved since 2017.
- Review process
- Stakeholder feedback.

#### 3.1 What have we achieved?

**Table 3** provide a summary of our achievement so far in terms of actions that were identified in the King Edward Park Reserve Management Plan 2017.

**Table 3: 2017 Actions and Progress Status**

No.	Proposed Action	Who	Progress Status
1	Develop and formalise dual walking/cycling tracks	SDC	Ongoing
2	<b>Develop and implement biodiversity plan</b>	<b>SDC/TRC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
3	<b>Replace Page Street Drinking Fountain</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
4	Upgrade Rhododendron Dell	SDC	Ongoing
5	Further development of TET Multi Sports Centre	SCSS/SDC	Ongoing
6	<b>Refurbish Centennial Rest Rooms toilets</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
7	<b>Upgrade Page Street playground slide</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
8	<b>Upgrade Page Street sportsground lighting</b>	<b>SRC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
9	Upgrade Netball lighting	NT	Not yet Started
10	<b>Uplighting of Malone Memorial Gates</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
11	Pathway lighting through Rhododendron Dell	SDC	Not yet Started
12	<b>Upgrade park and walkway signage</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
13	<b>Seal Page Street sportsground car park</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
14	<b>Develop wheelchair accessible track</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
15	<b>Extend lime chip track into Rhododendron Dell</b>	<b>SDC</b>	<b>Complete</b>
<p><i>SDC – Stratford District Council</i>  <i>TRC – Taranaki Regional Council</i>  <i>SCSS – Stratford Community Sports Society</i>  <i>NT – Netball Taranaki</i></p>			





## Progress So Far

---

### 3.2 Review Process

The review process is outlined in Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and summarised below:

*Before preparing a management plan for any reserve, SDC Council shall:*

- *Give public notice of its intention to do so.*
- *In that notice, invite persons and organisations interested to send to the administering body at its office written suggestions on the proposed plan within a time specified in the notice.*
- *In preparing that management plan, give full consideration to any such comments received.*

SDC has started undertaking the steps shown in the flow chart in **Figure 5**.



## Progress So Far

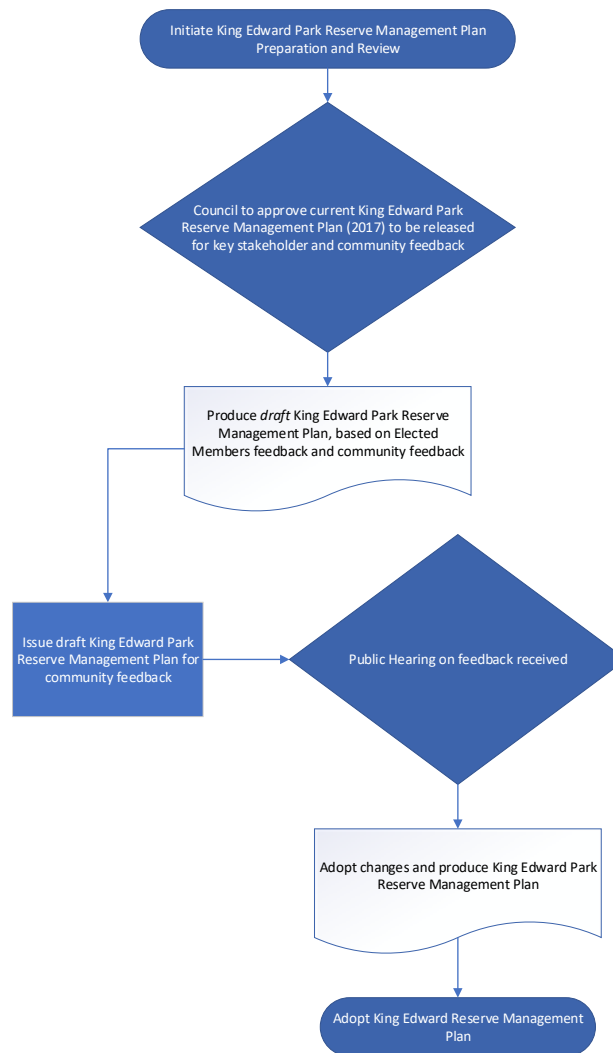


Figure 6: Review Process

### 3.3 Stakeholder Feedback

Stakeholder feedback includes:

- Feedback from Iwi as per the engagement of 27 April 2023.
- Community feedback sought in July and August 2023.
- Feedback from Elected Members obtained in a Council workshop on 10 October 2023.
- Community Survey requests over the years.
- Officer recommendations.



## Progress So Far

---

This feedback has informed the proposed Levels of Service for different spaces within the reserve, as outlined in Section 4 of this report.

### 3.3.1 Iwi Feedback April 2023

Summary of Iwi includes:

- To provide feedback on the first *draft* and provide submissions/input into the plan review

### 3.3.2 Community Feedback through July and August 2023

Summary of Community Feedback includes:

- Collaboration with Partners  
The consideration of how the new 2023 Collaborating for Active Spaces and Places Taranaki strategy can align to the Plan.
- Cycling:  
There is a need for more challenging trails for mountain bikers - make existing wide tracks for dual usage.
- Dog Control:  
Please keep some of the park dog friendly; Refillable water bowl for dogs; dog playground in a fenced off area.
- Entertainment  
More concerts in the park.
- Facilities / Amenities:  
Provide more seating in park and in Western Loop walkway; toilet on the north side of the river, behind the primary school; electric BBQs for families to enjoy; provide areas for recreation, sporting activities, physical welfare, and enjoyment of the public (exercise stations); more lighting in the reserve.
- Natural Beauty.  
Planting of new native plants; remain as natural as possible, that is the beauty, attraction, enjoyment, and peacefulness of it.
- Walkways:  
Make more pathways non-slip; maintaining walkways and structures; Western Loop to have an access point in Elizabeth Grove; bridge connection at the top of the track to access the other side of the river.
- Weed Control:



## Progress So Far

---

Remove / reduce the use of Glyphosate, serious weed management.

### 3.3.3 Elected Members Feedback October 2023

Summary of feedback from Elected Members includes:

- Future of the green space (next to Wai o Rua – Aquatic Centre)
- Future of Page Street Playground (Elephant Park)
- Use and maintenance of chemicals within King Edward Park
- Potential location of Dog Park

### 3.3.4 Community Survey Feedback over the Years

Summary of feedback from Elected Members includes:

- Request of a Dog Park
- Lighting throughout Three Bridges Trail
- Upgrade of current sportsgrounds
- Replace the current footbridge between the Centennial Rest Rooms and old TSB Pool

### 3.3.5 Officer Recommendations

Officer Recommendations includes:

- Replace the old staircase on the Regan Street/Brecon Road walkway
- Re-route of walkway to include the Trees of Significance
- Obtain power connection - from Three Bridges lighting trail and add power box to space
- Install up-lighting to enhance the Malone Gates
- To create an accessible walkway on the Three Bridges Trail



# Management Levels of Service

## 4 Management Levels of Service






### 4.1 Introduction

The different spaces in King Edward Park are described in detail within this section. Policies and Objectives for each of those spaces are also noted.

Management Levels of Service for King Edward Park are described under five categories and future projects identified to achieve the proposed Levels of Service are identified for the spaces in each category:

- **Walkway Grading**

To assess user needs, walkway tracks are graded using the Australian Walking Track Grading System. The grading system assesses a walk's difficulty based on several criteria, including experience required, steps, gradient, path quality and signage. The walk's final grade is based on the most difficult of these 5 criteria, rather than an average.

	<b>Grade 1</b>	No bushwalking experience required. Flat even surface with no steps or steep sections. Suitable for wheelchair users.
	<b>Grade 2</b>	No bushwalking experience required. The track is hardened or compacted surface and may have a gentle hill section or sections and occasional steps.
	<b>Grade 3</b>	Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface, and many steps.
	<b>Grade 4</b>	Bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may be long, rough, and very steep. Directional signage may be limited.
	<b>Grade 5</b>	Very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills, including navigation and emergency first aid. Tracks are likely to be very rough, very steep, and unmarked.

- **Cycling Control**

As per the Council's Parks and Reserves Bylaw, cycling is prohibited within any of Council's parks and reserves "... *except where special approval is granted and then on those areas set aside specially for such purpose.*"

Currently there is no special approval in place for cycling within King Edward Park, nor is there any area specially set aside for such purpose. However, various trails are used on an ad hoc basis



## Management Levels of Service

by cyclists which warrants a measure of coordination and regulation. Both walking, jogging, and cycling have many health benefits, however cycling can also create conflicts with other users and may adversely impact areas of a reserve.

	<b>Cycling Permitted</b>	Walking paths that are deemed to be suitable for cycling.
	<b>Cycling not recommended</b>	Walking paths that are not suitable for cycling due to terrain, tree roots, stairs etc

- Dog Walking**

The Stratford District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw 2020 addresses the control of dogs in public places. Amongst others, the bylaw recognises the need to:

- Minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community.
- Avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places frequented by children, whether or not children are accompanied by adults.

	<b>Unleashed</b>	Dogs may be unleashed but under Continuous control in this area.
	<b>Leashed</b>	Dogs must be controlled on a leash in this area.
	<b>Dog Prohibited</b>	Dogs are not permitted in this area.



Figure 7: Walking the dog in King Edward Park

- Seating**

This assesses whether there is seating in the reserve.

	<b>No Seating</b>	Accessible seating is unavailable
	<b>Seating</b>	Accessible seating is available (back rest, arms etc.)



## Management Levels of Service

- Weed and Pest Control**

Pest Traps are located throughout the Carrington Walkway and checked, emptied and re-set monthly. This trapping programme works in conjunction with the Taranaki Regional Council's Biodiversity Implementation Plan for King Edward Park and Carrington Walkway. Stratford District Council uses the following methods for control of weeds and pests.

**Table 4: Weed Control**

Name of Chemical	What is it used for?	Frequency of Application
<b>Agpro Green Glyphosphate 510</b>	General weed control in gardens, reserve & footpath edges & walkways	Spot application – Weekly Main application - Quarterly
<b>Agpro Picloram Gel</b>	Stump gel used for cut & pasting on selective weed trees	Monthly
<b>Agpro Moss &amp; Mould Killer</b>	Control the growth of moss & mould mainly on hard surfaces such as paved areas	Quarterly
<b>Agpro Organosilicone</b>	Help plants absorb chemicals (useful for hard to kill weeds such as gorse & broom)	Quarterly
<b>Agpro Terbutylazine 500</b>	General weed control in reserve & footpath edges & walkways	Quarterly
<b>Agpro Terminate</b>	General weed control in reserve & footpath edges & walkways	Quarterly
<b>Agpro Haloxyfop</b>	Control selective monocotyledon weeds such as bamboo	Twice yearly
<b>Agpro Lawnclean</b>	Control selective dicotyledon weeds in lawns such as thistles (usually only sports fields)	Twice yearly
<b>Agpro Triclop 600</b>	Control woody dicotyledons such as gorse or broom	Twice yearly
<b>Ken-Zon Herbicide</b>	Control selective dicotyledon weeds in lawns such as thistles (usually only sports fields)	Twice yearly
<b>Kiwicare Lawnguard</b>	Control selective dicotyledon weeds in lawns such as thistles (usually only sports fields)	Twice yearly
<b>Dupont Acelepryn Insecticide</b>	Control grass grub in sports turfs namely the croquet green.	Annually

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Weed Control – phase out the current use of chemicals within KEP, to a natural weed control option. Further investigations and costings will be required in the first instance.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2 Walkway Level of Service

Walking through King Edward Park could range from simply strolling undefined paths admiring the gardens, exercising a dog, walking, or jogging the network of bush trails for exercise or using the paths or trails as a route from one end of town to the other. The paths throughout King Edward Park are maintained to their natural condition, in keeping with the surroundings. Walkway materials also range from lime-chip to concrete shared paths, where safety requirements are needed.



#### 4.2.1 The Carrington Walkway



Figure 8: King Edward Park Walkway Sign

The Carrington Walkway is approximately 12 km long, of which, 4 km is within King Edward Park. The walkway starts on Regan Street to the northwest and meanders through the park to Page Street, linking with:

- The Carrington Walkway west extension (Regan Street to Brecon Road).
- the Three Bridges Trail (Brecon Road to Page Street Playground).
- the River Walk (Portia Street to Page Street) - through Centennial Park

#### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

Irrespective of any stipulation found in the Dog Control Bylaw, dogs shall only be permitted, if controlled by a leash or lead on the areas around the Netball Courts.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Provide and maintain a walk and cycle way network within King Edward Park consistent with Taranaki Regional Council’s Regional Walkway and Cycleway Strategy for Taranaki.
- Protect and preserve, as much as possible, the indigenous flora and fauna within the reserve.
- Remove, as far as practicable, the immature exotic species of tree that have established themselves naturally within the indigenous forest areas and discourage the growth of further exotic seedlings and saplings.
- Take all practicable steps to eradicate all pest plants and animals that threaten the ecological values.





## Management Levels of Service

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>The Carrington Walkway west extension (Regan Street to Brecon Road) – Grade 3.</b></p> <p>Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface, and steps. Cycling is prohibited, dogs are required to be on leashes, and no seating is available along this walkway.</p>	<p><b>The Carrington Walkway west extension (Regan Street to Brecon Road) – Grade 3.</b></p> <p>Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface, and steps. Cycling is prohibited, dogs are required to be on leashes, and no seating is available along this walkway.</p>
<p><b>Three Bridges Trail (Brecon Road to Swing Bridge) – Grade 2</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>	<p><b>Three Bridges Trail (Brecon Road to Swing Bridge) – Grade 1</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>
<p><b>The River Walk (Swing Bridge to Page Street, including Centennial Park) – Grade 2.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of grass, lime chip, and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating (picnic tables) is available in Centennial Park.</p>	<p><b>The River Walk (Swing Bridge to Page Street, including Centennial Park) – Grade 1.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating (picnic tables) is available in Centennial Park.</p>

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Replace lime chip path to concrete from Netball Courts to Rhododendron Dell, ensuring path will not wash away, or be a risk to users.
- Replace the old staircase on the Regan Street/Brecon Road walkway.
- Provide alternative mobility access where required for all users.
- Weed Control – phase out the current use of chemicals with a natural weed control option.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.2 The Three Bridges Trail



The Three Bridges Trail links Brecon Road with the TET Multi Sports Centre and weaves its way across three footbridges and both sides of the Patea River.

The trail also extends to the Playground on Page Street.

This stunning walking track provides visitors of all abilities a chance to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life.

#### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Encourage and maximise the public use of King Edward Park in accordance with its reserve classification as a Recreation Reserve.
- Maintain and enhance access to and along the Patea River and the Paetahi Stream where practicable.
- Maintain the existing network of paths and bush trails in a safe, clean, and readily accessible state.
- Preserve for future generations all known significant cultural, historical, heritage or commemorative features.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>Grade 2</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>



Figure 9: King Edward Park swing bridge.



## Management Levels of Service

---

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Bridge replacements x2 – from wooden (which have deteriorated over time) to aluminium and widen.
- Upgrade trail where necessary to remove tripping hazards caused by tree roots.
- Provide an alternative route for accessibility users to the stairs at the Page Street Playground.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.3 Charlie Clemow Walk



The Charlie Clemow Walk (named after Charles Clemow, Stratford County Councillor - 1938-1956) is in the northwest corner of King Edward Park. It is and acts as an entry point into the McCullough Rhododendron Dell from Brecon Road.

Other minor off-shoots link these main trails that are either natural or metalled and meander through a mixture of native and exotic bush, planting of which commenced in the 1890's.

#### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.



Figure 10: Charlie Clemow Walk

Any trees that need to be removed due to failing health from areas primarily in native forest cover will be replaced with, or the areas left to revert to, appropriate native vegetation.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Ensure the ecological values and the Key Native Ecosystem Inventory ranks the parks.
- Continue to note all flora and fauna in terms of rarity and distinctiveness, noting that it contains indigenous vegetation classified as “acutely threatened”.
- Maintain the existing network of paths and bush trails in a safe, clean, and readily accessible state.
- Developing native species that is in keeping with the rest of the Reserve.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>Grade 2</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of grass, lime chip, and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along the walkway.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Install compacted lime chip path, joining Brecon Road to the McCullough Rhododendron Dell.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.4 McCullough Rhododendron Dell



The McCullough Rhododendron Dell (the Dell) is in the northwest section of King Edward Park. It is named after Edward Wallace (“Ted”) McCullough, Stratford Borough Councillor from 1947 to 1953 and 1956 to 1968 and former chairman of the Parks and Reserves Committee.

The Dell includes a small lake, a selection of rhododendron hybrids, azaleas, and hydrangeas around the edge of the dell with other assorted shrubs and trees, both native and exotic. It is a more intensively gardened area than the rest of the park and includes under plantings with perennials such as hostas.

There is also a small but outstanding grove of Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and Cryptomeria trees with a selection of specimen trees planted on the lawn area and along the lake edge. A Japanese cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*) is also located within the Rhododendron Dell that is considered to be the best-known specimen in the district.

The Dell also features annually in the Taranaki Rhododendron Festival. While providing an attractive setting within the centre of the reserve and featuring a duck pond, there is scope for its further development.

As the premier park within Stratford, King Edward Park holds high cultural significance to the community. The park features prominently in the history of Stratford, and this is reflected in the number of commemorative features within the reserve that contribute to a vibrant local culture.

The park is also developing into a social hub for summer activities such as the Summer Nights Movies and the Summer Nights Music events. Events such as these, whether organised by Council or privately with Council approval, contribute to the diversity and vibrancy of the community.



Figure 11: McCullough Rhododendron Dell & Lake



Figure 12: Summer Nights Event



## Management Levels of Service

### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

Public or private events in the park will always be subject to Council’s approval and conditions of use will be imposed on private events to minimise disruption to the general public’s use of the reserve.

Opportunities will be taken to enhance views of Mt Taranaki and both waterways from within the reserve provided this does not involve the removal of native flora. No further development of the reserve will be approved that impacts negatively on the view of Mt Taranaki from within the reserve.

### OBJECTIVES

- Permit the use of passive recreation areas within the park for social/cultural events subject to any policy/bylaw relative to the use of public places contained in the Reserves Act 1977.
- Preserve and maintain the existing mature native and exotic specimen trees and to consider landscape implications and planting opportunities as trees are removed from time to time due to their failing health.
- Maintain the Dell as a public garden and further develop it in accordance with the concept development plan attached to this plan.
- Maintain the existing surfaces to a safe, clean, and readily accessible state.
- Prevent activities from occurring that have an adverse impact on the natural environment and amenity values of King Edward Park or detract from the enjoyment of other park users.
- Enhance the scenic value of both waterways by creating view shafts in appropriate locations through the removal of exotic tree and pest plant species.
- Ensure any building development, earthworks or future plantings do not compromise any outstanding natural landscapes.

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>Grade 2</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Grass surface. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along the walkway.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of grass and lime chip surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available along this walkway.</p>

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Compacted lime chip path on northern side of lake to connect to the Charlie Clemow Walk.
- Obtain power connection (from Brecon Road) and add power box to space.
- Add stairs to section of walkway, to eliminate slips and trip hazards – from Rhododendron Dell to the river (alternative route is available for accessibility users).





## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.5 Trees of Significance Trail



The newly created Trees of Significance Trail is located within the park starting at the swing bridge and looping around a section of the walkway, which then runs parallel to the Page Street Sportsground. These trees signify the importance of their stature and highlights what the trees were utilised for historically.

The main forest canopy comprises the following tree specimens:

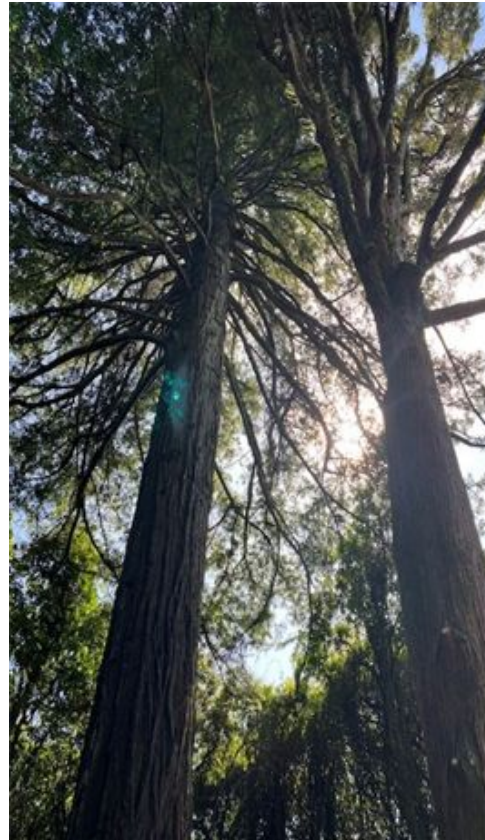
- Tawa
- Totara
- Miro
- Kamahi
- Kahikatea
- Rimu

Below the canopy, the forest comprises of:

- Lacebark
- Pate
- Mahoe
- Climbing rata
- Kiekie
- Variety of ferns.

This provides a habitat for resident native forest birds such as:

- Grey Warbler
- Fantail
- Native Pigeon
- Tui
- Bellbird
- Silvereye.



*Figure 13: Trees of Significance*

Other birds witnessed in the area include the bush falcon, North Island rifleman and black shag.



## Management Levels of Service

In terms of ecological values, the Key Native Ecosystem Inventory ranks the parks, flora, and fauna “medium” in terms of rarity and distinctiveness and “high” in terms of representativeness, noting that it contains indigenous vegetation classified as “acutely threatened”. The native species within the park could provide an important nucleus for restoring a riparian ecological corridor along the Patea River to reconnect Egmont National Park with eastern Taranaki reserves.

### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

### OBJECTIVES

- Provide further paths and trails or upgrade the existing where Council is satisfied there is a demand for more or better facilities.
- Protect and preserve the large, mature exotic trees of cultural significance. Specimen native and exotic trees will be inspected regularly by a qualified arborist and to ensure their ongoing health.
- Maintain the existing network of paths and bush trails in a safe, clean, and readily accessible state.
- Maintain and, where practical, further develop the existing formal cultivated areas in keeping with established or carefully considered new landscape themes.
- Protect, preserve, and highlight any known cultural, historical, heritage or commemorative features.



Figure 14: Trees of Significance

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>Grade 2</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and natural surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed, and seating is available.</p>

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Re-route walkway to include the Trees of Significance.
- Compacted lime chip path – parallel to Page Street sportsground.





## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.6 Western Loop Walkway



The bush walking tracks which includes the Western Loop Walkway, are substantially developed, and most have good, metalled surfaces. The path goes along private grazing land and provides views of Taranaki Maunga in many places.

Any replacement or new plantings within the remnant forest area will be of indigenous species only, sourced and planted where possible in accordance with the Taranaki Regional Council publication “Restoration Planting in Taranaki: A Guide to the Egmont Ecological District”.



Figure 15: Western Loop walkway

#### POLICIES

This walkway is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

Management for this walkway is guided by the agreement conditions between Council and the Department of Conservation.

Council has a signed agreement with the Department of Conservation, as they are the owners of this land. Within the Agreement it stipulates that all dogs must be on leashes, while in this area of the walkway.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Existing paths to be kept in a natural state rather than being paved as this is more in keeping with the environment. Walkway materials also range from lime-chip and metal to concrete shared paths, where safety requirements are needed.
- Maintain the Biodiversity Plan for the preservation of this key native ecosystem and implement that plan accordingly.
- Protect and preserve, as much as possible, the indigenous flora and fauna within the reserve.
- Remove, as far as practicable, the immature exotic species of tree that have established themselves naturally within the indigenous forest areas and discourage the growth of further exotic seedlings and saplings.



## Management Levels of Service

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>Grade 3</b></p> <p>Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface, and many steps. Cycling is prohibited, dogs are required to be on leashes, and no seating is available along this walkway.</p>	<p><b>Grade 3</b></p> <p>Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface, and many steps. Cycling is prohibited, dogs are required to be on leashes, and no seating is available along this walkway.</p>

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Addition of retaining walls to certain areas of walkway to stop the disintegration of the walkway into the river.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.7 Centennial Park



As part of New Zealand’s Centennial celebrations in 1940, Stratford developed the Centennial Park – containing the facilities of a swing bridge, play area, the pools, rest rooms, and the scout den. The area around the den has been identified as an outdoor entertainment pavilion.

#### POLICIES

Trout fishing in the Patea River is an approved activity, however the taking of any native fish species will remain a prohibited activity.

No activity on the reserve will be approved if there is any possibility of any measurable adverse effect on water quality and/or aquatic ecosystems.



Figure 16: Centennial Park

#### OBJECTIVES

- Maintain the existing network of paths and surfaces to a safe, clean, and readily accessible state.
- Ensure that any additions or alterations to any existing buildings are justified in terms of demand for them, the design and scale is suited to the environment and appropriate to facilitate public recreational use of the reserve and their location and construction is such that they do not impact adversely on any landscape features and natural, social, or cultural values.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>The River Walk – Grade 2.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of grass, lime chip, and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating (picnic tables) is available in Centennial Park.</p>	<p><b>The River Walk– Grade 1.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating (picnic tables) is available in Centennial Park.</p>

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Replace Centennial Bridge and widen to 2.4 m.
- Regrade approach from Fenton Street to a maximum of 1 in 14.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.2.8 Historical Trees



An Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) located adjacent the walking track between the Malone Gates and the TET Multi Sports Centre that was planted in 1965 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli. A Kauri (*Agathist australis*) located adjacent the TET Multi-sports Stadium that was planted in 1954 in honour of Queen Elizabeth II.



Figure 17: Kauri Planted in 1954

#### POLICIES

In view of its historical importance, in the event of its demise, the Aleppo Pine will either be replaced with another propagated from cuttings or seeds from the same tree in accordance with Council’s Notable Tree Management Plan if appropriate or another specimen of the same species or provenance stock if known elsewhere in New Zealand.

No encroachments into King Edward Park beyond the legal title boundaries will be permitted other than the one minor existing encroachment by the Stratford Primary School discus circle.

Use of the driveway off Regan Street by staff of the Stratford Primary School may continue as long as it does not impact adversely on the public use of King Edward Park or unless the land is required for some other purpose relative to the reserve.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Preserve the amenity value of King Edward Park by preventing unnecessary and/or inappropriate encroachments beyond the legal boundaries.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p><b>The River Walk – Grade 2.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Mixture of lime chip, and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating Is not available. The condition of the trees is recorded annually.</p>	<p><b>The River Walk– Grade 1.</b></p> <p>Suitable for all abilities. Mixture of lime chip and concrete surfaces. Cycling is allowed, dogs can be unleashed except for around the Netball Courts, where dogs are required to be on a leash. Seating Is not available. The condition of the trees is recorded annually.</p>

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- No projects planned.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.3 Facilities

The public facilities within King Edward Park serve to cater to the multifaceted needs of the community. These facilities stand as symbols of Stratford's community spirit.

#### 4.3.1 Wai o Rua (Stratford Aquatic Centre)

Wai o Rua is Stratford's newly developed aquatic centre and is located on Portia Street, next to the Hockey Turf. Please refer to the Wai o Rua Management Plan for the management of this facility.



Figure 18: Wai o Rua – Stratford Aquatic Centre

Within the reserve, the lawns and gardens surrounding Wai o Rua are maintained by contractors under the Open Space Maintenance Contract.

#### POLICIES

This area surrounding Wai o Rua is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw. In approving any future developments within the reserve, due consideration will be given to the principles outlined in the National Guidelines for Crime Prevention Through Engineering Design (CPTED).



## Management Levels of Service

### OBJECTIVES

- Provide additional facilities where Council is satisfied there is sufficient demand, and it is clear they will be of benefit to the



Figure 19: Empty Green Space next to Wai O Rua

### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
<p>This open space adjacent to the Wai o Rua is currently unused open spaces shown in <b>Figure 17</b>. Landscaping in front of the Wai o Rua, currently maintained as part of the OSM contract.</p>	<p>To maintain the open space adjacent to the Wai o Rua to a standard that meets the recreational needs and aspirations of the community, in accordance with an appropriate master plan.</p>

### FUTURE PROJECTS

No projects planned.





## Management Levels of Service

---

### 4.3.2 Stratford Holiday Park

The site has provided holiday accommodation since the mid-1920's, starting out as simply a camping ground before being developed over time into what we know today as a holiday park. It has recently undergone a major upgrade of facilities including new accommodation units and an indoor heated swimming pool.



**Figure 20: Stratford Holiday Park**

The Stratford Holiday Park is in the southwest corner of King Edward Park on Page Street. Although incorporated within King Edward Park, the campground facilities are privately owned, and it is operated under a long-term ground lease. Council is not involved in the management of this part of the Reserve, therefore no levels of service are discussed, and no future projects are proposed.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.3.3 Malone Gates

The Malone Memorial Arch and Gates forms the main entrance to the park at the junction of Portia and Fenton Streets. This was constructed in 1923 and opened on 8 August of that year, eight years to the day after the death of Lieutenant Colonel W G Malone at Chunuk Bair. This monument is thought to be the country’s largest to an individual soldier and is included in the Heritage New Zealand List as an “Historic Place – Category 2”.

The Malone Memorial Arch and Gates, the Aleppo Pine and the lone Kauri, and the swing bridge feature in the Stratford Heritage Trail, a walk that incorporates 23 heritage structures throughout the town.

#### POLICIES

Ensure the gates are in keeping with Heritage New Zealand List as an “Historic Place – Category 2”.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Ensure that any further development of King Edward Park does not impact adversely on any landscape features, natural values or built heritage, meets the needs of reserve users while having no adverse effects on neighbouring properties and is environmentally sustainable in terms of its design, construction, long term maintenance and intended function.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the Malone Gates ensuring they are well-preserved and continue to meet Heritage New Zealand standards.	To maintain the Malone Gates ensuring they are well-preserved and continue to meet Heritage New Zealand standards.

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Install up-lighting (originally from the Bell Tower on Miranda Street) to enhance the gates.



Figure 21: Malone Gates





## Management Levels of Service

### 4.3.5 TET Multi Sports Centre

The Stratford Community Sports Society Lease expired on 30 June 2019 at which time, in accordance with the terms of the lease, ownership of the building reverted to Council. Management of the TET Multi Sports Centre transferred to a newly constructed Trust with a lease of 10 years.



Figure 22: TET Multi Sports Centre

#### POLICIES

This area surrounding the TET Multi Sports Centre is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Maintain facilities to a service that meets public expectation.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the landscaping around the TET Multi Sports Centre to a standard that meets the needs of the community.	To maintain the landscaping around the TET Multi Sports Centre to a standard that meets the needs of the community.

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- No projects planned.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.3.6 Centennial Restrooms

New Zealand celebrated its centennial in 1940, and as part of these commemorations, Stratford developed the Centennial Park – containing the rest rooms.

The Centennial Rest Rooms building was officially opened in 1948, and its conveniences were (and still are) much used and enjoyed by the women of Stratford district. The rooms became not only an equipped and much needed area, but also a place where women could meet and socialise.



Figure 23: Centennial Rest Room & Front Gardens

#### POLICIES

This area surrounding the Centennial Restrooms is governed by the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and the Control of Dogs Bylaw.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Maintain facilities to a service that meets public expectation.

#### LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the landscaping around the Centennial Restrooms to a standard that meets the needs of the community.	To maintain the landscaping around the Centennial Restrooms to a standard that meets the needs of the community.

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- No projects planned.



## Management Levels of Service

---

### 4.3.7 Scout Den

New Zealand celebrated its centennial in 1940, and as part of these commemorations, Stratford developed the Centennial Park – containing the Scout and Guide Den.

The Scout and Guide Den is owned by the Scout and Guides Association jointly, with no formal lease currently in place relative to this. The management of the Reserve is incorporated within Centennial Park.



Figure 24: Scout and Guide Den



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.4 Playgrounds

Public playgrounds are vibrant, inclusive spaces that foster creativity, physical activity, and social interaction among children. They provide a safe and stimulating environment where kids can explore, play, and learn while promoting community engagement and a sense of belonging for families. These dynamic spaces offer diverse and well-designed equipment that encourages both fun and development, promoting physical fitness, imaginative play, and the development of essential social skills in a joyful and inclusive setting.

#### 4.4.1 Page Street Playground



A children's playground is in the southeast section of King Edward Park on Page Street. The playground is accessible from Page Street and from Fenton Street by way of Centennial Bridge across the Patea River. This is the only Council-owned playground on the western side of SH.3.



*Figure 25: Page Street Playground*

There are currently six pieces of play equipment. It is intended that this facility will remain with the play equipment maintained, replaced, upgraded, or added to as appropriate and in accordance with use demand.

Located within the reserve are the old stock ford across the Patea River near the bend in the river below the Page Street playground and the bubble water fountain constructed in 1946 near the playground.

This latter structure however is not considered particularly significant, has not been operative for some years and has fallen into disrepair. Investigations into its restoration are currently being carried out, however the cost of repairing and recommissioning it may be disproportionate to its significance, and it may be replaced with a more functional drinking fountain.

#### POLICIES

All play equipment shall be maintained to meet the requirements of New Zealand Standard 5828 as updated.

The Page Street playground shall be maintained and developed in such a manner to provide a challenging and interesting environment for children and to encourage community use.



## Management Levels of Service

Dogs are not permitted within 20 metres of children’s play equipment (but are permitted within the park), provided they are under the continuous control of a responsible handler.

### OBJECTIVES

- Ensure that the play equipment in King Edward Park meets the needs of reserve users and is maintained in safe working order.
- Provide a variety of play equipment as appropriate to meet the demands of reserve users.

### CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the playground to a standard that meets the needs of the community.	To maintain the playground to a standard that meets the needs of the community.

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Replace older playground equipment that no longer meets playground standards or has aged.
- Provide accessible seating in key locations.



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.5 Sports Fields

Providing sports fields in public areas is an invaluable investment that encourages community health, fitness, and social interaction. These fields offer versatile spaces where individuals of all ages can engage in a wide array of physical activities and team sports. They serve as vibrant hubs for friendly competition, fostering a sense of community and inclusivity.

#### 4.5.1 Page



#### Street Sportsground

The Page Street Sportsground currently comprising of two rugby grounds with some minimal lighting for evening training and a new amenity building incorporating toilets, changing and storage rooms.

These fields are secondary to those provided at Victoria Park; however, they are required both for training and match purposes to mitigate over-use of and the resulting damage to the Victoria Park facilities.



Figure 26: Page Street Sportsground

Permits are granted seasonally to the Stratford Rugby Club for the use of the Page Street Sportsground (winter).

Season permits may also be issued to any other sport that is considered appropriate. On-off permits may also be issued to organisations or individuals for privately organised activities that are considered appropriate to the primary purpose of the reserve.

Fees and charges for these permits are determined by Council on an annual basis.

#### POLICIES

Liaison will be maintained with sporting organisations at local, regional, and national levels to ensure the use of the current sports fields is optimised or to determine whether it is appropriate that an alternative code be given use of any facility.

Current sports fields will be maintained to ensure the requirements of sporting organisations to, at least, a local level is met.

Liaison will be maintained with sporting organisations at local, regional, and national levels to determine what, if any, ancillary facilities are necessary to optimise the use of the current sports fields and to explore funding opportunities for such developments.



## Management Levels of Service

Toilet and storage facilities are approved for construction at the Page Street Sportsground for use by sports clubs in association with the sports fields.

### OBJECTIVES

- Encourage the optimum use of developed sports fields by local clubs, associations and regional and national sporting bodies in a manner that does not negate any informal uses of such facilities.
- Provide high quality sports fields for both senior and junior sport.
- Maintain the current provision of sports fields providing the current demand levels are at least maintained.
- Allow codes to develop facilities ancillary to the current sports fields such as storage facilities, changing rooms and/or toilets and sports field lighting.

### CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the sportsground to a standard that meets the needs of the community.	To maintain the sportsground to a standard that meets the needs of the community.

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Upgrade Page Street Sportsground facilities (Stratford Eltham Rugby Sports Club).
- Replace Field 1 turf (Stratford Eltham Rugby Sports Club).





## Management Levels of Service

### 4.5.2 Netball and Tennis Courts



Netball enjoys the use of six hard courts that during the winter months are used to capacity, particularly on weekends. This creates a few issues around parking notwithstanding the adjacent reserve carpark is supplemented by on-street parking and the public carpark across the road. However, at this stage, there is no indication from



*Figure 27: Netball & Tennis Courts*

hockey or netball organisations that playing and/or parking capacity will be exceeded in the foreseeable future, as concluded by the Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy. Two of the courts have lighting for evening use but Netball Taranaki has indicated a desire to light further courts in the future.

Tennis is catered for in summer with the use of four of the netball courts which are dual marked for both codes and four synthetic courts that are available all year round. The Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy determined that this is ample provision for tennis's needs into the foreseeable future, however there would be benefit to the sport if the dual-use netball courts were floodlit for evening play and practice.

The lighting of the dual netball/tennis courts is old, inefficient, and insufficient for adequate training let alone competition play. The Stratford netball satellite competition is strong with over 70 teams competing on weekends and requiring good quality training facilities mid-week. This lack of adequate floodlighting has been identified as a factor holding back the development of the sport in Stratford with the result that Netball Taranaki proposes upgrading the lighting soon.

The land on which the synthetic tennis courts have been laid is leased to the Stratford Tennis Club for a term of 15 years, expiring on 30 April 2028 with a right of renewal in favour of the lessee for a further term of 15 years.

Permits are granted seasonally for the use of the Portia Street sports fields (summer), the Stratford Tennis Club for the use of the four front hard courts (summer) and the Taranaki Netball Association for the use of the four front hard courts (winter) and the two back courts (winter and summer).

Season permits may also be issued to any other sport that is considered appropriate. On-off permits may also be issued to organisations or individuals for privately organised activities that are considered appropriate to the primary purpose of the reserve.





## Management Levels of Service

Fees and charges for these permits are determined by Council on an annual basis.

### POLICIES

Liaison will be maintained with sporting organisations at local, regional, and national levels to ensure the use of the current courts are optimised or to determine whether it is appropriate that an alternative code be given use of any facility.

Current courts will be maintained to ensure the requirements of sporting organisations to, at least, a local level is met.

Liaison will be maintained with sporting organisations at local, regional, and national levels to determine what, if any, ancillary facilities are necessary to optimise the use of the current courts and to explore funding opportunities for such developments.

Dogs are not permitted at this facility (service dogs are allowed).

### OBJECTIVES

- Encourage the optimum use of the developed courts by local clubs, associations and regional and national sporting bodies in a manner that does not negate any informal uses of such facilities.
- Provide high quality courts for both senior and junior sport.
- Maintain the current provision of courts providing the current demand levels are at least maintained.
- Develop or allow codes to develop facilities ancillary to the current courts such as storage facilities, changing rooms and/or toilets and sports field lighting.

### CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE

Current	Proposed
To maintain the Netball and Tennis Courts to a standard that meets the needs of the community.	To maintain the Netball and Tennis Courts to a standard that meets the needs of the community.

### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Upgrade of lighting (Netball Taranaki).



## Management Levels of Service

### 4.5.3 Hockey Turf



A synthetic hockey turf of international standards to the south of the playing field with lighting for evening training and competition play.

Four synthetic tennis courts to the west of the multi-sport centre with lighting for evening play, also used as a “warm-up” facility for the hockey turf.



*Figure 28: Hockey Turf*

The land on which the synthetic hockey turf has been laid is leased to the Taranaki Synthetic Turf Trust for a term of 21 years, expiring on 31 January 2038. This lease is a renewal of the original lease granted in 1996.

Dogs are not permitted at this facility (service dogs are allowed).

These courts are maintained by the Taranaki Hockey Federation to support hockey local, national, and international tournaments.



## Proposed Levels of Service

### 5 Proposed Levels of Service

No.	Categories	Description of Space	Proposed Levels of Service	
			Maintenance	Increased
1	Walkways	The Carrington Walkway west extension (Regan Street to Brecon Road).	✓	
2		Three Bridges Trail (Carrington Walkway)		✓
3		The River Walk (Swing Bridge to Page Street, including Centennial Park)		✓
4		Charlie Clemow Walk		✓
5		McCullough Rhododendron Dell		✓
6		Western Loop Walkway	✓	
7		Trees of Significance Trail		✓
8	Facilities	Wai o Rua – landscaping		✓
9		Malone Gates	✓	
10		Historical Trees	✓	
11		TET Multi Sports Centre	✓	
12		Centennial Restrooms – landscaping	✓	
13	Playgrounds	Page Street Playground	✓	
14	Sports Fields	Page Street Sportsground	✓	
15		Netball and Tennis Courts	✓	



## Action Plan

### 6 Action Plan

The following proposed actions do not commit Council or any other organisation in any way but simply “flag” them as developments approved in principle in terms of the Reserves Act 1977, enabling public input and discussion and subsequent Annual and Long-Term Plan processes.

No.	Proposed Projects / Actions	Priority Status
1	Replace lime chip path to concrete from Netball Courts to Rhododendron Dell.	P2
2	Replace the old staircase on the Regan Street/Brecon Road walkway.	P1
3	Provide alternative mobility access where required for all users.	P1
4	Weed Control – phase out the current use of chemicals with a natural weed control option.	P1
5	Bridge replacements x2 – from wooden to aluminium and widen.	P2
6	Upgrade trail where necessary to remove tripping hazards.	Status Quo
7	Provide an alternative route for accessibility users to the stairs at the Page Street Playground.	P1
8	Compacted lime chip path in the Charlie Clemow Walk	P2
9	Compacted lime chip path on northern side of lake in Ted McCullough Rhododendron Dell.	P2
10	Obtain power connection - from Three Bridges lighting trail and add power box to space.	P1
11	Add stairs to section of walkway from Rhododendron Dell to the river	P2
12	Re-route of walkway to include the Trees of Significance.	P1
13	Compacted lime chip path – Trees of Significance (parallel to Page Street sportsground).	Status Quo
14	Addition of retaining walls along the Western Loop Walkway	P1
15	Regrade approach of path in Centennial Park from Fenton Street to a maximum of 1 in 14.	P1
16	Install up-lighting to enhance the Malone Gates.	P1
17	Replace older playground equipment that no longer meets playground standards or has aged.	Status Quo
18	Upgrade Page Street Sportsground facilities (Externally Funded – User Groups)	
19	Upgrade of lighting (Externally Funded – User Groups)	
20	Replace Field 1 turf at the Page Street Sportsground (Externally Funded – User Groups)	
<b>Status Quo – Ongoing; P1 – Priority for 2024 – 2034 LTP; P2 – Priority for 2027 – 2037 LTP</b>		



## Appendix 1

---

### Appendix 1 – King Edward Park Plan



Appendix 1









TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
**WHAKAAHURANGI**  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Our reference**  
F19/13/03-D21/40748

### **Karakia**

Kia uruuru mai  
Ā hauora  
Ā haukaha  
Ā haumāia  
Ki runga, Ki raro  
Ki roto, Ki waho  
Rire rire hau Paimārire

I draw in (to my being)  
The reviving essence  
The strengthening essence  
The essence of courage  
Above, Below  
Within, Around  
Let there be peace.