

SydneyOlympicPark 

# Environmental Guidelines

Sydney Olympic Park Authority

July 2025



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**Environmental Guidelines**

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## Acknowledgement to Country

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The Sydney Olympic Park Authority acknowledges the Traditional Owners, Knowledge-holders and Custodians of the land, air and waters of this place we now call Sydney Olympic Park and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise First Nations Peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and the rich contribution made to society. First Nations People take a holistic view of land, sky, water and culture and see them as one, not in isolation from each other. Sydney Olympic Park's commitment to Country is based on the premise upheld by Aboriginal people that if we care for Country, it will care for us.

We embrace, recognise and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture as the world's oldest continuous living culture, which imparts belonging and richly contributes to a vibrant and sustainable future that can be shared by all Australians.

### ***The story of Wangal Country...***

The lands and waterways of the Wangal extended along the southern side of the Burramattagal waters, the Parramatta River from Gadigal country, Darling Harbour to Baramada today known as Parramatta.

The river continues to have a deep relationship with the Cadigal, Wangal, Toongagal, Wallumdegal, Wategora and the Burramattagal people. All enjoyed the river as an important source of cultural activities, food gathering, spiritual practice and trade over thousands of years. The salt marshes were shelter for the waterbirds. At high tide crabs would be caught and fish easily speared. Ducks inhabited the creeks that fed into the river.

According to the Lore of the Iyura, the people of this place, it is said Biiami was responsible for shaping the land. He created the rivers, creeks, mountains, the bush and forests. Biiami raised up his arms and sang everything into being. He looked about the land he had created and called it Bembul-ra. Then he created Iyura setting humans in his place of creation. Lores were put in place, so people lived the right way for the continuation of life.

Ceremonies and practices, song, dance and rules of behaviour brought balance and protected a way of life.

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# 1 Introduction

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Sydney Olympic Park Authority (the Authority) was established as a statutory body of the NSW Government under the NSW *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001* (SOPA Act) on 1 July 2001. The Authority is responsible for managing and developing the 640 hectares that comprise Sydney Olympic Park and maintaining it as a lasting legacy for the people of NSW.

Sydney Olympic Park comprises of extensive parklands surrounding an urban centre. It is a place for people to live, work, learn, relax, exercise, socialise and attend events. It is also a place that supports a high abundance and diversity of wildlife, extensive wetlands, endangered ecological communities, and significant cultural heritage places.

The environmental sustainability of an urbanised place like Sydney Olympic Park is highly influenced by good initial design of built assets, the selection of materials for construction, the efficiency of operating regimes, and the demands of ongoing maintenance. The sustainability of natural assets is affected by the levels of impact by the community and visitors, management activity, the intensity of use, the standards of presentation required, and the resilience of the natural systems.

The legislative framework for managing Sydney Olympic Park, includes the Environmental Guidelines, Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018, the Parklands Plan of Management (Parklands PoM), and the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 (Master Plan 2050). The SOPA Act describes them as separate layers with different, but overlapping, roles in the statutory and strategic management of the Authority.

The Environmental Guidelines were initially designed to ensure future development is consistent with the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Sydney 2000 Games) legacy of the 'Green Games'.

Their principal objective is to set out a general framework of environmental priorities and commitments with regards to the care, control, management, and development of Sydney Olympic Park.

The Parklands PoM is an operational document with statutory powers through the SOPA Act. It sets out the rules for managing the various spaces of the Parklands in a manner that enables appropriate community and operational uses and activities.

Master Plan 2050 ensures that a coordinated, long term development plan is prepared for the whole of Sydney Olympic Park and outlines detailed precinct controls to guide sustainable growth.

The SOPA Act requires that both the Parklands PoM and Master Plan 2050 be consistent with the Environmental Guidelines. However, the Environmental Guidelines are not prescriptive in the sense of rigidly specifying actions that must be taken, and they do not attempt to address all environmental issues. Rather, they focus on:

- highlighting key environmental issues for Sydney Olympic Park,
- assisting SOPA to achieve (or meet) ESD as an intended outcome in all decision making,
- defining the major challenges these issues present to the Authority,
- state the various commitments that the Authority has made to progressively enhance the sustainability of Sydney Olympic Park, and
- providing a framework for maintaining a 6 Star Green Star Community certification through the Green Building Council of Australia.

The Authority takes a 'Country First' approach with design, environmental, and social aspects rooted in Connection with Country aspirations. These include a deep respect for the landscape and water systems of Wangal Country. Embedding principles of reciprocity and generosity in the way the place is designed and built is vital not only to preserve and celebrate the important environmental and cultural significance of Wangal Country. It also reflects a need to design with the local environmental conditions to ensure that Sydney Olympic Park is resilient and adaptive in the face of climate change.

The Authority is committed to making Sydney Olympic Park one of the most liveable suburbs in NSW. This goes beyond the commitment to net zero emissions and aims to make Sydney Olympic Park a great place to live, work and play while delivering best practice sustainability across the precinct.

## 2 Objectives and Status

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### 2.1 Principal Objective

The principal objective of the Environmental Guidelines is to set out a general framework of environmental and sustainability objectives and guidance to implement the requirements of the SOPA Act with regards to the care, control, management, climate resilience and development of Sydney Olympic Park.

Object C of the SOPA Act requires the Authority *to make all reasonable attempts to ensure that any new development carried out under or in accordance with this Act accords with best practice accessibility standards and environmental and town planning standards.*

### 2.2 Statement of Environmental Policy

In carrying out all its functions, the Authority is committed to the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) within the meaning of the NSW Local Government Act (1993), and as applied in these Environmental Guidelines.

Through implementation of the Environmental Guidelines, the Authority seeks to set a high standard of environmental performance and work to continually improve the sustainability of Sydney Olympic Park and the business activities of the Authority. Sydney Olympic Park Authority aspires for Sydney Olympic Park to be recognised locally, nationally and internationally as a place that champions sustainable development and achieves excellence in environmental management.

The Authority also seeks to enhance the ecosystem function of Sydney Olympic Park. Priority will be given to undertakings that move towards carbon net zero; achieve no net loss of public open space; prevent pollution; conserve habitat and species; reduce resource consumption; preserve unique features and heritage; build community awareness and custodianship of the natural environment through education for current and future generations; demonstrate best practice by example; and comply with statutory and regulatory requirements.

Sydney Olympic Park will be managed to become Sydney's beating green heart, a Country-first nature positive place with thriving ecosystems that form a significant piece of living infrastructure in Greater Sydney. It is a place where Wangal Country is honoured through sustainability and regeneration, and where parklands nourish the community by providing the green lungs for Sydney.

The Environmental Guidelines enable Sydney Olympic Park to play a role in supporting Greater Sydney's complex environmental challenges including habitat fragmentation, social cohesion and the opportunity for regenerative development. The Authority is required to comply with all relevant state and national statutes and international biodiversity conservation treaties.

As part of the Authority's community service obligations, it will continue to facilitate environmental programs and activities and continue to produce an annual State of Environment report in accordance with Section 50 of the SOPA Act.

### 2.3 Status, application and commencement

The Sydney Olympic Park Environmental Guidelines (2024) are the Environmental Guidelines referred to in Section 4 (Definitions) of the SOPA Act.

- **Section 18** of the SOPA Act requires the Authority to prepare and maintain a master plan for Sydney Olympic Park that is consistent with the Environmental Guidelines.
- **Section 20** of the SOPA Act requires the Authority to consider whether any proposed development is consistent with the Environmental Guidelines, before carrying out such development.
- **Section 35** of the SOPA Act states that the PoM must be consistent with the Environmental Guidelines.

In accordance with **Section 49** of the SOPA Act, the Authority may, with consent of the Minister, amend the Environmental Guidelines. Accordingly, this Policy supersedes the Environmental Guidelines for Sydney Olympic Park (2008) and meets the requirements of Section 49(5) in that the subject Environmental Guidelines improve the environmental outcomes provided for in the 2008 Environmental Guidelines.

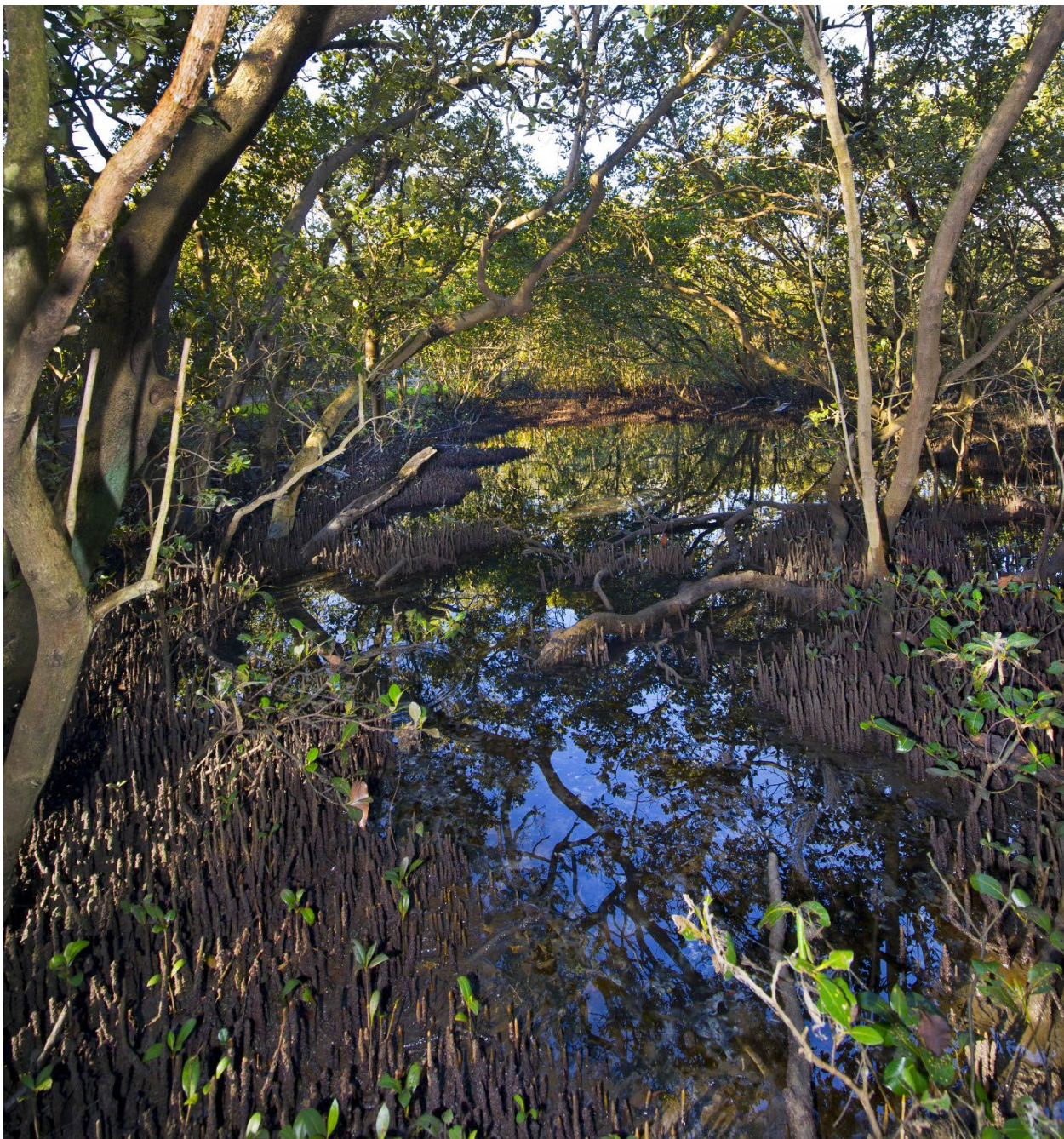
The revised Environmental Guidelines reflect current practices and NSW Government policies and guidelines as well as Sydney Olympic Park's Place Vision and Strategy. The Environmental Guidelines, like the Place Vision and Strategy, aspires to be nature positive and has a Country-first approach to placemaking.

The Environmental Guidelines will inform decisions made in realising Master Plan 2050 and the Parklands PoM and build on the legacy of the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Sydney 2000 Games) also known as the 'Green Games'.

The Environmental Guidelines were adopted by [INSERT] on [INSERT DATE] and came into effect on [INSERT DATE].

## 2.4 Revocation Date

The Environmental Guidelines have no expiry date. They may be amended at any time in accordance with the requirements of Section 49 of the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001*.



## 2.5 Where these Environmental Guidelines apply

These Guidelines apply to land shown in Figure 1, being Sydney Olympic Park.



Figure 1 Land to which the Environmental Guidelines applies outlined in red



## 3 Implementing the Environmental Guidelines.

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### 3.1 Overview

The Environmental Guidelines operate within a broader state, federal and international framework of sustainable development obligations, legislation and policies.

They are the Authority's 'roadmap' for translating environmental objectives into planning and policy documents, actions and practical results. They provide users with a practical application of environmental sustainability objectives, guidelines and base requirements as they apply to managing Sydney Olympic Park, and to conducting business, events or development at the park.

They seek to provide the Authority with specific guidance to cater for ongoing sustainable development, taking into account:

- all of the future roles established for Sydney Olympic Park as envisaged through its Master Plan,
- a more contemporary and holistic understanding of ecologically sustainable development as new research, approaches and technologies evolve,
- lessons learned through the practical application of previous Environmental Guidelines, and
- Connection to Country to guide design, preservation and restoration.

The Environmental Guidelines address the key issues of significance for Sydney Olympic Park and set particular goals and guidance for each of the key issues (Section 4).

Through implementation of the Environmental Guidelines, the Authority seeks to continually improve the environmental sustainability of Sydney Olympic Park and the business activities of the Authority.

### 3.2 How to use these Guidelines

The Environmental Guidelines must be fully integrated into decision-making for all policies and activities that take place at Sydney Olympic Park. Relevant documentation must be kept to confirm compliance. Users are encouraged to go beyond the minimum requirements to exceed sustainability goals, targets and guidelines. Detailed policy and technical documents listed in the Environmental Guidelines Appendix provide further information about requirements.

### 3.3 Who should use these Guidelines (Roles and responsibilities)

- **Staff of the Authority** should refer to this document in undertaking all aspects of the Authority's business including but not limited to procurement, planning, policy making, design, open space management, asset and facilities management, review of work permit applications, drafting commercial and non-commercial licences, developing community and visitor engagement programs, venues management, and office administration.
- **Developers and their advisors** (including but not limited to urban designers, planners, architects, landscape architects, engineers and construction companies) should refer to this document to understand the principles and requirements for all development and works at Sydney Olympic Park and demonstrate compliance in development applications and accompanying environmental assessments.
- **Sydney Olympic Park business community, industry representatives, and current and future contractors who conduct business in the precinct** should refer to this document to follow the principles of facility, land and event management required at Sydney Olympic Park.
- **Consent authorities** should refer to this document to check the adequacy of development proposals in delivering environmental sustainability outcomes (as required by the SOPA Act).
- **Government organisations** at Local, State and Federal level can use the Environmental Guidelines to examine the application of ecologically sustainable development principles at Sydney Olympic Park.
- **Community members** can refer to the document to understand the environmental objectives, targets and credentials of Sydney Olympic Park.

## 4 Sustainability and Resilience Goals

Key topics	Goal
1. <b>Nature Conservation</b>	Nature is protected, nurtured, valued and enhanced.
2. <b>Community Wellbeing</b>	The values of place are celebrated to build a strong local identity with a focus on community growth, resilience, social cohesion, custodianship, connection to nature, heritage and culture and conserved for future generations.
3. <b>Design of Place</b>	Continue to develop Sydney Olympic Park as a vibrant, Country-first and nature-positive precinct.
4. <b>Sustainable Transport</b>	Public and active transport modes are prioritised and provide easy public/commuter access to and from Sydney Olympic Park.
5. <b>Pollution Prevention</b>	All forms of environmental pollution are minimised or prevented through a proactive risk management approach.
6. <b>Circular Economy</b>	A circular economy approach is applied to sustainable product choices, waste minimisation and resource recovery.
7. <b>Integrated Water management</b>	Water is conserved, demand for potable water is minimised and aquatic ecosystems are protected.
8. <b>Energy Efficiency</b>	Energy is used efficiently, and an increasing proportion of energy demand is met by renewable sources to reach carbon net zero by 2050.
9. <b>Climate Resilience</b>	Enable the precinct to become resilient to climate impacts and extreme weather events so that both the community and nature thrive.
10. <b>Asset Functionality</b>	Built and natural physical assets will be designed and maintained at high quality standards.

## 4.1 Nature Conservation

**The Authority is committed to protecting and enhancing the natural heritage of Sydney Olympic Park and is working to shape resilient urban ecosystems that will endure into the next century and beyond, providing long-term security for native plants and animals that depend upon the Parklands for their survival. The Parkland habitats support over 250 native animal species, over 400 native plant species and three endangered ecological communities. They also provide opportunities for people to connect with nature. Sydney Olympic Park will continue to be managed as Sydney’s beating green heart, a Country-first, nature positive place with thriving ecosystems that form a significant piece of living infrastructure in Greater Sydney.**

### 4.1.1 Goal: Nature is protected, nurtured, valued and enhanced.

#### 4.1.2 Commitments to Nature Conservation

- Ensure the condition and integrity of lands zoned for environmental conservation and management are protected and enhanced over time with no net loss, fragmentation or degradation.
- Deliver on-ground conservation, restoration and management works guided by the SOPA Biodiversity Management Policy.
- Protect the habitats of focal species and communities to assist their populations to remain stable or increase over time.
- Manage the lands adjoining Newington Nature Reserve in sympathy with and as a buffer to the reserve.
- Provide training to staff and contractors working in ecologically sensitive habitats.
- Provide opportunities for people to connect with nature at scales and locations compatible with conservation objectives.
- Facilitate the delivery of environmental education programs and activities.
- Mainstream biodiversity considerations into decision-making that affects ecological systems and minimise activities incompatible with the conservation of nature.
- Ensure landscape species palettes are consistent and appropriate for the ecosystems within the Authority’s land.
- Minimise overshadowing of habitats by new buildings, particularly where adjacent lands are zoned for environmental conservation and management.
- Protect aquatic habitats that may be impacted by urban runoff and new development.
- Minimise light pollution from external lighting to wildlife and conserve remaining ‘dark’ habitats whilst still providing safe environments for people at night.
- Manage Parklands activation and visitation to avoid or minimise disturbance to wildlife.
- Care for Country with a focus on enabling mutual benefit and sharing of opportunities and people living in harmony with nature.

## 4.2 Community Wellbeing

**Sydney Olympic Park will be characterised by people-friendly, green spaces and natural landscapes which maximise opportunities for social interaction for all within unique passive and active recreation spaces. These spaces will allow daily activities and equitable community building, complementing Sydney Olympic Park’s role of providing residents, workers, and visitors with a valued community setting. Public spaces will celebrate Country through meaningfully embedding Country into the design of public spaces.**

**4.2.1 Goal: The values of place are celebrated to build a strong local identity and social connections with a focus on community growth opportunities, connection to nature, heritage and culture and conserved for future generations.**

### 4.2.2 Commitments to Community Wellbeing

- Encourage the appropriate use, benefit and enjoyment of the Sydney Olympic Park for the community and establish indicators to measure social cohesion.
- Design and deliver a master plan and social infrastructure for a liveable, connected and safe community across the Olympic Peninsula.
- Progress the creation and enhancement of spaces in the urban centre to meet the everyday needs of local residents, as well as providing for large-scale events.
- Embed ongoing community engagement and participatory design processes into planning and design for establishing and activating public spaces for the community.
- Encourage a high level of community involvement and strong sense of community identity through opportunities such as volunteering.
- Establish a biophilic environment that provides regular immersion in and contact with nature and natural systems and activities to breathe in and out.
- Implement conservation management plans for heritage places as well as the adaptive reuse of heritage places and landscapes while preserving and celebrating their significance.
- Manage and enhance the Parklands in accordance with the approved plan of management and with recognition of capacity limits and appropriate uses within ecologically sensitive areas and areas of natural, heritage and cultural significance.
- Support connection to Country through art, cultural activities and learning.
- Plan and design with Country informed by local First Nations knowledge and expertise.
- Prioritise multiuse places and spaces including a range of smaller spaces and events that cater to local interest for creative and cultural experiences and avoiding where possible the occupation or disposal of public space for purely private purposes.
- Enrich places through planning and design that celebrates environment, heritage and culture through inclusion of the Arts to enhance the community’s cognitive, physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.
- Continue support for research, learning and studies to better understand and facilitate improvements to environmental performance in the built and natural areas of Sydney Olympic Park.

## 4.3 Design of Place

**The Authority is obliged and committed to the ongoing development of Sydney Olympic Park as a modern and sustainable urban centre, while preserving a robust capability as a major events precinct and maintaining, enhancing and protecting the natural environment of the Parklands for present and future generations. A Country-first approach to design and place making is important in the development of place strategies. This requires a holistic understanding of the social and environmental context that Sydney Olympic Park is shaped by and creates a more balanced and equitable approach to development, where ecological functions are as important as human needs. Acknowledging Country, through a process of action and emotion, in planning, design and delivery will fundamentally enhance the identity and place making outcomes.**

### 4.3.1 **Goal: Continue to develop Sydney Olympic Park as a vibrant, Country-first and nature-positive precinct.**

### 4.3.2 **Commitments to Design of Place**

- Promote Country-focused design that is mutually beneficial for people and Country and will provide long term sustainable and enriching outcomes.
- Acknowledge and incorporate Aboriginal cultural elements and protect the ecology of the area as a key design objective.
- Ensure meaningful engagement with Aboriginal groups is undertaken during the development, planning and design process.
- Celebrate Aboriginal culture and language through public art and placemaking across the site.
- Ensure design and development caters for a growing and changing population.
- Promote a high standard of design, built form and materiality.
- Design places that are flexible and multifunctional, supporting a diversity of uses and people.
- Promote visual interest in building and public space design.
- Protect and enhance public spaces within the urban centre and the Parklands.
- Ensure community engagement is undertaken during the design process to ensure the local community requirements are reflected and the design is embraced by the community.
- Designs will be focused on creating a place that is grounded in the local environmental conditions and responsive to future changes.
- Continuously respond to and /or anticipate the changing needs and values of the place and its environment over time.
- Adhere to obligations to manage the evolution of place through a formal Master Plan.
- Ensure maximum pedestrian priority and permeability to, through and around the precinct including through-site links and pathways.
- Ensure pedestrian links are of quality design, safe, well lit, accessible and promote public use.

## 4.4 Sustainable Transport

**The strategic direction for Sydney Olympic Park is to be connected, pedestrianised and intuitive, to support initiatives for sustainable transport. These initiatives will support the goal for carbon net zero by 2050, as well as a vibrant and liveable community which is well-connected to greater Sydney, improving Sydney Olympic Park’s attraction as a destination.**

### 4.4.1 Goal: Public and active transport modes provide easy public/commuter access to and from Sydney Olympic Park.

### 4.4.2 Commitments to Sustainable Transport

- Design new developments to be as ‘walkable’ as possible and prioritise pedestrian movement.
- Provide active transport connections between Sydney Olympic Park and adjacent neighbourhoods.
- Facilitate access to the park by train, metro, light rail, bus, ferry, and active transport.
- Connect transport nodes to active transport routes and ensuring cycleways and walkways accommodate the needs of recreational pedestrians, bicycle riders, workplace commuters and residents.
- Implement an integrated response to transport at Sydney Olympic Park focusing on public and active transport.
- Promote efficient and reliable public transport services and increasing the proportion of visitors and workers arriving by public transport to reduce private vehicle road traffic demand.
- Encourage public transport use and discourage excessive private car access to Sydney Olympic Park by applying ‘travel demand management’ techniques<sup>1</sup> – particularly during peak commuting times and major events periods.
- Promote and support innovative transport modes, such as micro-mobility, active transport circuits through the Parklands, energy-efficient and clean-fuel technologies.
- Investigate shared schemes and innovations in transport.
- Maximise a car-lite urban centre supported by major public transport and demand management initiatives, including reduced and decentralised on-site parking provision.
- Integrate ticketing for major events with public transport.
- Connect to regional bicycle networks.

<sup>1</sup> Travel demand management is the application of targeted, people-oriented and data-led activities to change travel patterns and manage demand. It includes encouraging customers to change travel times or routes or to change modes say from car to train or even remove a journey altogether where a task can be done remotely, such as working from home.

Targeting travel demand activities to specific areas or precincts is an effective way to improve the efficiency of the transport network and our customer’s journeys and experiences.

<https://www.future.transport.nsw.gov.au/strategy-highlights/maximising-use-our-network>

## 4.5 Pollution Prevention

**Sydney Olympic Park is downstream of a highly urbanised catchment and its waterways are greatly affected by activities and incidents upstream. The Authority holds two environment protection licences issued under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, which regulate discharge of wastewater from leachate bioremediation and from recycled water production and is the “appropriate regulatory authority” for major event noise at Sydney Olympic Park.**

### 4.5.1 Goal: All forms of environmental pollution are minimised, mitigated or prevented through a pro-active risk management approach.

### 4.5.2 Commitments to Pollution Prevention

- Take a due diligence approach to managing the risk of environmental pollution within Sydney Olympic Park through avoidance measures – including contamination of surface waters; groundwater; soil; air; noise or light pollution; glare; vibration – in accordance with regulatory and best-practice standards.
- Management and ongoing containment of legacy waste, remediated landfills and leachate systems to ensure their integrity is maintained, human health and the environment is protected, and statutory compliance is achieved.
- Implement effective sediment controls and dust suppression programs at all construction sites.
- Validate all soil and fill materials proposed to be imported into Sydney Olympic Park and reject those that are not compliant with relevant regulatory requirements.
- Manage a comprehensive network of stormwater improvement devices that capture pollutants generated within and upstream of the park. Intercept upstream pollution entering the park’s waterways to the extent practicable and collaborate with other agencies in developing catchment-based management approaches.
- Treat urban stormwater generated in Sydney Olympic Park prior to discharge to creeks, rivers and natural wetlands.
- Provide and maintain all public litter collection under the Authority’s control to protect the park’s waterways, habitats and streetscapes from litter.
- Minimise major event noise impacts to park residents through building design techniques.
- Provide an awareness of likely major event impacts through positive covenants on land titles within Sydney Olympic Park and share information through regular communications with the community and stakeholders.
- Maintain the Sydney Olympic Park Noise Management Guidelines supported by the Environment Protection Authority and major venues to manage noise impacts from events.
- Limit light spill and use of lighting at inappropriate times, locations, and intensities to avoid loss of habitat values and/or loss of natural ambience in open spaces.

## 4.6 Circular Economy

**Achieving a circular economy requires collaboration among Sydney Olympic Park stakeholders to seek opportunities for innovative practices to improve waste avoidance and maximise resource utilisation. The key factors in the Authority’s procurement decision-making are the selection of materials that do not harm the environment in their manufacture or use; that are resource-efficient to produce; have recycled content and longevity.**

### 4.6.1 Goal: A circular economy approach is applied to sustainable product choices, waste minimisation and resource recovery.

### 4.6.2 Commitments to Circular Economy

- Promote opportunities for circular economy development, product stewardship and climate positive actions that consider whole-of-life impacts to the environment by applying the ‘avoid-reduce-recycle’ hierarchy to purchasing decisions and waste management.
- Embed sustainable procurement and prioritising the use of responsibly sourced and sustainable primary construction materials.
- Maximise resource value, longevity and ease of resource recovery.
- Promote source-separation of waste through provision of suitable waste separation facilities and user education to maximise the quality of recycled materials.
- Ensure waste management for both construction and operational sites is designed to achieve or exceed regulatory and best-practice waste diversion targets.
- Maximise waste diversion from landfill for all construction projects through procurement specifications for sustainable construction materials.
- Improve resource recovery from Sydney Olympic Park’s largest waste streams of food and food packaging, generated by individual visitors, by implementing best practice waste management.
- Implement strategies to improve diversion of public domain and SOPA Venue waste from landfill.
- Engage businesses, sports venues, residents and visitors to improve waste management efficiency and minimise waste generation at a precinct-scale through the development of a sustainability model.
- Transition to non-industrial treatment of leachate.



## 4.7 Integrated Water Management

**The Authority operates a locally integrated approach to water conservation and management based on wastewater reprocessing, stormwater harvesting, and reducing water demand. Recycled water is produced from sewage and stormwater in the Water Reclamation and Management Scheme (WRAMS), which has been operating successfully since 2000.**

### 4.7.1 Goal: Water is conserved, demand for potable water is minimised and aquatic ecosystems are protected.

### 4.7.2 Commitments to Integrated Water Management

- Apply best-practice design principles, innovative technology, water-sensitive urban design and water demand management techniques to all new developments and building refurbishments, facility upgrades and to public domain works.
- Connect all new development to recycled water, where available, for all approved uses of recycled water.
- Optimise local collection, storage and use of stormwater in catchments that are not part of a centralised stormwater harvesting system.
- Use recycled water or rainwater where potable water quality is not required, wherever possible.
- Maximise water use efficiency and long-term water savings in day-to-day activities.
- Protect aquatic habitats by managing the volume and quality of stormwater discharge to creeks and natural wetlands
- Protect and manage constructed wetlands and ponds, balancing their multiple functions as aquatic habitat, stormwater treatment, stormwater harvesting and public amenity.
- Achieve efficient water use in the public domain through water sensitive urban design and optimised demand management.
- Explore options to expand capacity, where practicable for recycled water production.
- Prioritise and maximise the use of recycled water from harvested water supplies for water consumed in the Authority's operations.
- Recognise and reflect on Aboriginal connection to Country by protecting and enhancing the natural waterways of Wangal Country within Sydney Olympic Park.

## 4.8 Energy Efficiency

**In line with the NSW Government target, Sydney Olympic Park will be carbon net zero by 2050. Net zero emissions will be achieved through a built environment, public spaces and infrastructure which exemplify leadership in sustainability and create places which are healthy, resilient and equitable.**

**4.8.1 Goal: Energy is used efficiently, and an increasing proportion of energy demand is met by renewable sources to reach carbon net zero by 2050.**

### 4.8.2 Commitments to Energy Efficiency

- Deliver high performance buildings that, use environmental design principles and technologies including passive energy design, natural light and ventilation, and energy-efficient materials.
- Identify appropriate applications for on-site renewable energy and battery power storage.
- Improve energy efficiency in existing buildings.
- Minimise overall operational energy demand, including venues, office, public domain lighting and reduce peak load demand levels across all of Sydney Olympic Park.
- Incorporate energy-efficient heating and cooling systems, energy-efficient lighting, and low energy demand devices and appliances in all new projects and retrofits.
- Provide electric vehicle charging stations.
- Explore offsite renewable energy such as GreenPower and power purchase agreements.

## 4.9 Climate Resilience

**The Authority is committed to the creation of a resilient community that is adaptable to climate change. Climate change risks will be continually monitored to anticipate, prepare for and respond to hazardous events. Through optimal design, development and management, Sydney Olympic Park will be a climate resilient precinct for not only our residents, visitors and workers, but also for the natural environment. It will also be an emergency response hub for the greater Sydney area.**

### 4.9.1 **Goal: Enable the precinct to become resilient to climate impacts and extreme weather events so that both the community and nature thrive.**

### 4.9.2 **Commitments to Climate Resilience**

- Design and deliver a Master Plan for a liveable suburb and rich natural environment that is adaptable and resilient to climate change.
- Protect and maximise the urban tree canopy cover to provide cooling, amenity and habitat without compromising public safety and security measures.
- Apply the Urban Greening Policy for the Sydney Olympic Park.
- Protect First Nations and European heritage places, buildings and landscapes to the changing climate so that they are preserved and suitable for adaptive re-use.
- Support resilient ecosystems by protecting natural areas, refuges and expansion zones, and ecological connectivity
- Ensure all new buildings to have an independently certified environmental rating.
- Target zero work, health, safety and community incidents relating to extreme heat, storms or flooding.
- Commit to climate change mitigation and Carbon Net Zero by 2050.
- Manage visitors, programs and events to ensure both people and nature are protected and safe during extreme weather events, particularly in relation to managing crowds during heat waves or extreme storms.
- Consider ways to go beyond the minimum requirements to exceed sustainability goals, targets and guidelines.
- Continue habitat protection and enhancement of the natural areas of the Park.
- Protect areas identified as 'refuges' including wetlands, waterways, Newington Nature Reserve and the Brickpit.
- Protect and restore areas identified as important for habitat connectivity.
- Care for Country using a Country-first approach that considers local environmental conditions to deliver a precinct that is resilient and adaptive in the face of climate change.

## 4.10 Asset Functionality

**The built and natural physical assets of a place are the foundation to its character, resilience, fitness for purpose, and overall contribution to its roles in support of society. The environmental sustainability of a place like Sydney Olympic Park is highly influenced by good initial design of the built assets, the selection of materials for their construction, the efficiency of their operating regimes, and the demand for ongoing maintenance. For natural assets the levels of impact from visitor and management activity, the standards of presentation required, the resilience of the natural systems, and the intensity of uses impacts greatly on the sustainability of the environment.**

### 4.10.1 Goal: Built and natural physical assets will be maintained at high quality standards.

#### 4.10.2 Commitments to Asset Functionality

- Ensure quality of maintenance and servicing of assets are continued to be carried out at a high level, subject to available funding.
- Deliver holistic and pro-active asset management strategies.
- Where possible, restrict over-use of assets where future capacity is at risk.
- Facilitate timely asset replacement and refurbishment, with reference to available funding
- Maximise asset lifecycles commensurate with service level demands and funding.
- Annually review and update asset management plans to ensure a robust asset management program, and an effective asset operations regime.
- Where required, align with *NSW Asset Management Policy for the NSW Public Sector*

## 5 Appendix 1

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### Key Reference Documents (links and overview)

**Abattoir Heritage Precinct Sydney Olympic Park Conservation management plan**

[Microsoft Word - AbattoirHeritagePrecinct\\_CMP.docx \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Apartment Design Guide NSW Planning and Environment**

[Apartment Design Guide \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Australia's Strategy for Nature 2019 to 2030 (Commonwealth of Australia 2019)**

[Australia's Strategy for Nature 2019-2030 | Australia's Nature Hub \(australiasnaturehub.gov.au\)](#)

**BASIX**

[BASIX | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Biodiversity in Place framework – NSW Government Architect**

[Biodiversity in Place \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Burra Charter; the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013**

**Burra Charter & Practice Notes | Australia ICOMOS**

**Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**

[Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 \(EPBC Act\) - DCCEEW](#)

**Future Gas Strategy**

[Future Gas Strategy | Department of Industry Science and Resources](#)

**GBCA Strategy 2022 – 2025 Green building council of Australia**

[Our strategic focus | Green Building Council of Australia \(gbca.org.au\)](#)

**Government Resource Efficiency Policy - NSW Climate and Energy Action**

[NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy](#)

**Greener Places framework - NSW Government Architect**

[Greener Places \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Major Event Impact Assessment Guidelines**

[CORPORATE INFORMATION \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**NABERS (National Australian Built Environment Rating System)**

[Home | NABERS](#)

**National light pollution guidelines for wildlife DCCEEW**

[National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife \(dcceew.gov.au\)](#)

**National Waste Policy Action Plan**

[National Waste Policy Action Plan - DCCEEW](#)

**Newington Armament Depot and Nature Reserve Sydney Olympic Park Conservation Management Plan**

[newington\\_armory\\_conservation\\_management\\_plan\\_\(volume1\).pdf \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016**

[Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 No 63 - NSW Legislation](#)

**NSW Climate Change Adaptation Strategy**

[NSW Climate Change Adaptation Strategy | AdaptNSW](#)

**NSW Contaminated Lands Management Act 1997**

[NSW Contaminated Lands Management Act 1997 No 140 - NSW legislation](#)

**NSW EPA Waste classification guidelines**

[Classification guidelines \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/epa/waste-classification-guidelines)

**NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994**

[Fisheries Management Act 1994 No 38 \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/fisheries-management-act-1994)

**NSW Government Greener Neighbourhoods Guide**

[Greener neighbourhoods guide \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/greener-neighbourhoods-guide)

**NSW Government Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020 - 2030**

[Net Zero Plan. Stage 1: 2020-2030 \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/net-zero-plan-stage-1)

**NSW Government procurement policy framework**

[NSW Government Procurement Policy Framework | NSW Treasury](https://www.nsw.gov.au/government-procurement-policy-framework)

**NSW Government The Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023**

[The Climate Change \(Net Zero Future\) Act 2023 | NSW Climate and Energy Action](https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-climate-change-net-zero-future-act-2023)  
[Climate Change \(Net Zero Future\) Act 2023 No 48 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/climate-change-net-zero-future-act-2023)

**NSW Heritage Act 1977**

[Heritage Act 1977 No 136 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/heritage-act-1977)

**NSW Local Government Act 1993**

[Local Government Act 1993 No 30 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/local-government-act-1993)

**NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974**

[National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 No 80 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/national-parks-and-wildlife-act-1974)

**NSW State Heritage Register**

[State Heritage Inventory | Heritage | Environment and Heritage \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/state-heritage-register)

**NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041: Stage 1 2021 – 2027 - NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment**

[NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041](https://www.nsw.gov.au/waste-and-sustainable-materials-strategy-2041)

**Plan of Management for the Parklands of Sydney Olympic Park**

[Microsoft Word - POM\\_Final\\_Minister Approved\\_9 Nov 2010.DOC \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/pom-final-minister-approved-9-nov-2010.doc)

**Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 No 156 NSW Government**

[Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 No 156 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/protection-of-the-environment-operations-act-1997)

**State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021**

[State Environment Planning Policy \(Biodiversity and Conservation\) 2021 - NSW legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/state-environmental-planning-policy-biodiversity-and-conservation-2021)

**State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018 under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979**

[State Environmental Planning Policy \(Coastal Management\) 2018 \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/state-environmental-planning-policy-coastal-management-2018)

**State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts-Central River City) 2021**

[State Environmental Planning Policy \(Precincts – Central River City\) 2021 - NSW legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/state-environmental-planning-policy-precincts-central-river-city-2021)

**State Environmental Planning Policy (Sustainable Buildings) 2022**

[State Environmental Planning Policy \(Sustainable Buildings\) 2022 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/state-environmental-planning-policy-sustainable-buildings-2022)

**Stormwater Management & Water Sensitive Urban Design**

[Stormwater Management & Water Sensitive Urban Design \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/stormwater-management-water-sensitive-urban-design)

**Sydney Olympic Park Authority Access Guidelines**

[Access Guidelines \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sydney-olympic-park-authority-access-guidelines)

**Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001 No 57**

[Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act 2001 No 57 - NSW Legislation](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sydney-olympic-park-authority-act-2001)

**Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018**

[Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Sydney Olympic Park Authority Remediated Land's Management Plan**

[environmental\\_management\\_remediated\\_lands\\_management\\_policy.pdf \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Sydney Olympic Park Urban Greening Policy**

[Urban Greening Policy \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Framework for Valuing Green Infrastructure and Public Spaces – NSW Department of Planning**

[Framework for Valuing Green Infrastructure and Public Spaces \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

**Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2050 (Draft)**

**Sydney Olympic Park 2050 Place Vision and Strategy**

Asset Management Policy for the NSW Public Sector (October 2019 TPP 19-07)

[Policy and Guidelines Paper TPP \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)