

# Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan 2008



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## 1. Purpose of the Plan

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A management plan is a working document which sets out the objectives and policies for managing an area and how these will be achieved. It is a reference point for consistent everyday management and future planning by the administering body. It is also a public statement that explains the governing principles and reasons for decisions to interested parties.

While the management plan provides the overall direction for ongoing management, there is generally a need for more detailed development planning and an annual schedule of special works to be drawn up and priorities assigned. This, too, is available to the public and should be incorporated into financial programming and budget allocations (e.g. Annual Plan). This is an effective way to regularly review the detail of the management plan (as required by the Reserves Act 1977), taking account of changing circumstances or increased knowledge. The management plan is continually under review. However, a more comprehensive review is also required at regular intervals, within 10 years, and this should be signalled in the Long Term Council Community Plans of the Nelson City Council and the Tasman District Council.

The management plan should also be a reference source for relevant background information about Saxton Field.

## 2. Plan Evolution

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Nelson City Council (NCC) and Tasman District Council (TDC) have been jointly planning the development of Saxton Field. A Joint Working Party has been operating for a number of years focused on the development of Saxton Field. A major milestone was the approval of the Saxton Field Concept Plan in December 2003. Elements within the Concept Plan have been included in the management plan. However, much of the content is more appropriate for a development plan. It is the intention of the Joint Working Party to prepare a development plan which would be regularly reviewed.

## 3. Management Plan Format

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The management plan consists of two parts:

### Part 1 Background and Description

This describes Saxton Field and its uses, including physical and natural features, recreational uses and history of its development.

### Part 2 Strategic Vision, Aims, Objectives and Policies

The *Strategic Vision* states the overarching purpose of the management plan. Underlying this are the fundamental *Aims*, which are the principles that guide the management of Saxton Field. The *Management Objectives and Policies* address issues that are common to the whole of Saxton Field, as well as more site specific issues identified in these management areas. The policies determine how the objectives will be met.

## 4. Part One: Background and Descriptions

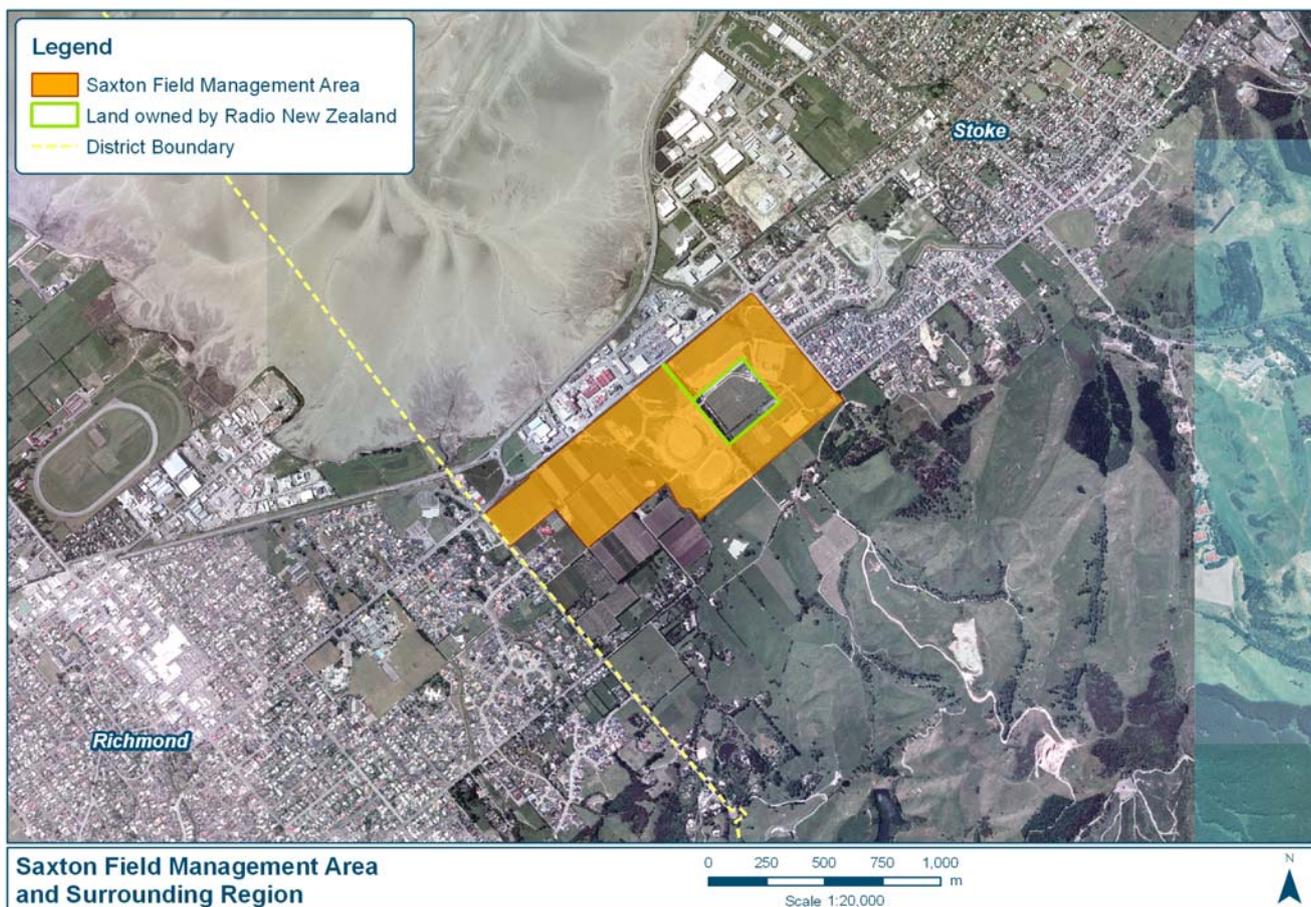
### 4.1. Introduction

Saxton Field represents an iconic recreation asset to the people of Nelson and Tasman.

### 4.2. Location, Ownership and Legal Description

Saxton Field is the name given to the area of land bounded by Saxton Road, Main Road Stoke, Champion Road and privately owned land to the east as shown in Figure 1. The land is located between two growing urban areas, Nelson and Richmond.

Figure 1 Saxton Field Management Area and Surrounding Region



The Saxton Field site (72ha) is owned by three parties, as described in Table 1. However the land owned by New Zealand on Air, which is leased by Nelson City Council, is not subject to the provisions of this Management Plan. The total land in the site to be covered by this Management Plan is 65.45ha, comprising Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council land.

Table 1 Land Ownership

Owner	Area	Legal Description	Status
Nelson City Council	47.75 ha	Lot 1 DP 3926, Lot 2 DP 3926, Pt Sec 75 Waimea East DIST, Pt Sec 76 Waimea East DIST, Pt Lot 2 DP 2553, Pt Lot 1 DP 3173	Recreation Reserve.
New Zealand on Air	7.14 ha	Pt Sec 75 Waimea East DIST, Pt Sec 76 Waimea East DIST	The land is leased by NCC and currently under negotiation with New Zealand on Air. This land is not covered by the Management Plan.
Tasman District Council	4.53 ha	Lot 1 DP 20000	Recreation Reserve.
Tasman District Council	9.27 ha	Lot 1 DP 8366, Lot 2 DP 8366, Lot 1 DP 361671	Recreation Reserve. The 9 ha has been bought and leased back to the previous owner. The land will return to TDC in two blocks. The front block located next to Salisbury Road will be available in 2008 and the back block in 2012/2013. See Note below.
Tasman District Council	3.9 ha	Lot 2 DP 326169	Recreation Reserve. The block includes the top portion of the lake.

Note: The above timeframes are the latest dates the land can be leased. After these dates the area will be recreation reserve. If the lease holders choose to release themselves from the agreement then the land will revert back to TDC sooner and the timeframes for developing linkages through to Champion Road reduced.

Garin College is outside the management area but has verbally committed to allowing the public access to its playing fields.

### 4.3. Statutory Framework

All 65.45ha of land covered by this Management Plan has been gazetted as Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 to give it long term protection.

#### 4.3.1. Resource Management Act 1991

Approximately 30ha of the land within the Saxton Field site is Open Space and Recreation Zone, as per the **Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP)**. The remaining 42ha is under Rural zone. Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council plan to progress the planning applications for re-zoning of the remaining land from Rural to Open Space and Recreation.

The Open Space and Recreation Zone Schedule of the NRMP allows for a range of permitted activities. Saxton Field is scheduled as a Regional Reserve, where the following activities, and facilities and buildings associated with them, permitted on a regional reserve, subject to compliance with the Open Space and Recreation Zone Rule Table, include:

- *Service buildings*
- *Aerials*
- *Informal recreation activities*
- *Play equipment*
- *Performance*
- *Civil Defence*

- *Living quarters for a resident custodian*
- *Regional, national and international sporting and other events and tournaments*
- *Festivals, displays, bazaars, fairs, galas, exhibitions, ceremonies and outdoor sales of programmes, refreshments and souvenirs*
- *Conferences and conventions*
- *Any activity listed in any management plan approved for the land under the Reserves Act*
- *Temporary structures for the purposes of military training*

Any activity that is not a permitted activity in the schedule is a non-complying activity<sup>1</sup>. Any permitted activity that does not meet the permitted conditions of the rule table is discretionary<sup>2</sup>.

A resource consent from the NCC is required to allow an activity that is not a permitted activity.

While the Open Space and Recreation zoning provides clear guidelines as to the permitted activities and use of the land, these guidelines are very broad and are subject to change, particularly in differing political climates.

### **4.3.2. Reserves Act 1977**

Land gazetted under the Reserves Act (the Act) is given long term protection under the legislation specifically focused on the provision of public reserve land. This provides extra level of protection over and above the NRMP, which remains in place.

One of the principal benefits of Reserves Act status is that in most cases a management plan is required and this gives much more detailed and site specific guidance than the NRMP.

All Reserves gazetted under the Act (except Local Purpose Reserves) are required to have a management plan (prescribed in the Act).

Section 17 of the Act specifies that recreation reserves are for the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.

Recreation Reserves are to be managed so that the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, and where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve.

Those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be conserved. To the extent compatible with

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<sup>1</sup> The Resource Mgt Act defines non-complying as an activity: *(not being a prohibited activity) which -*

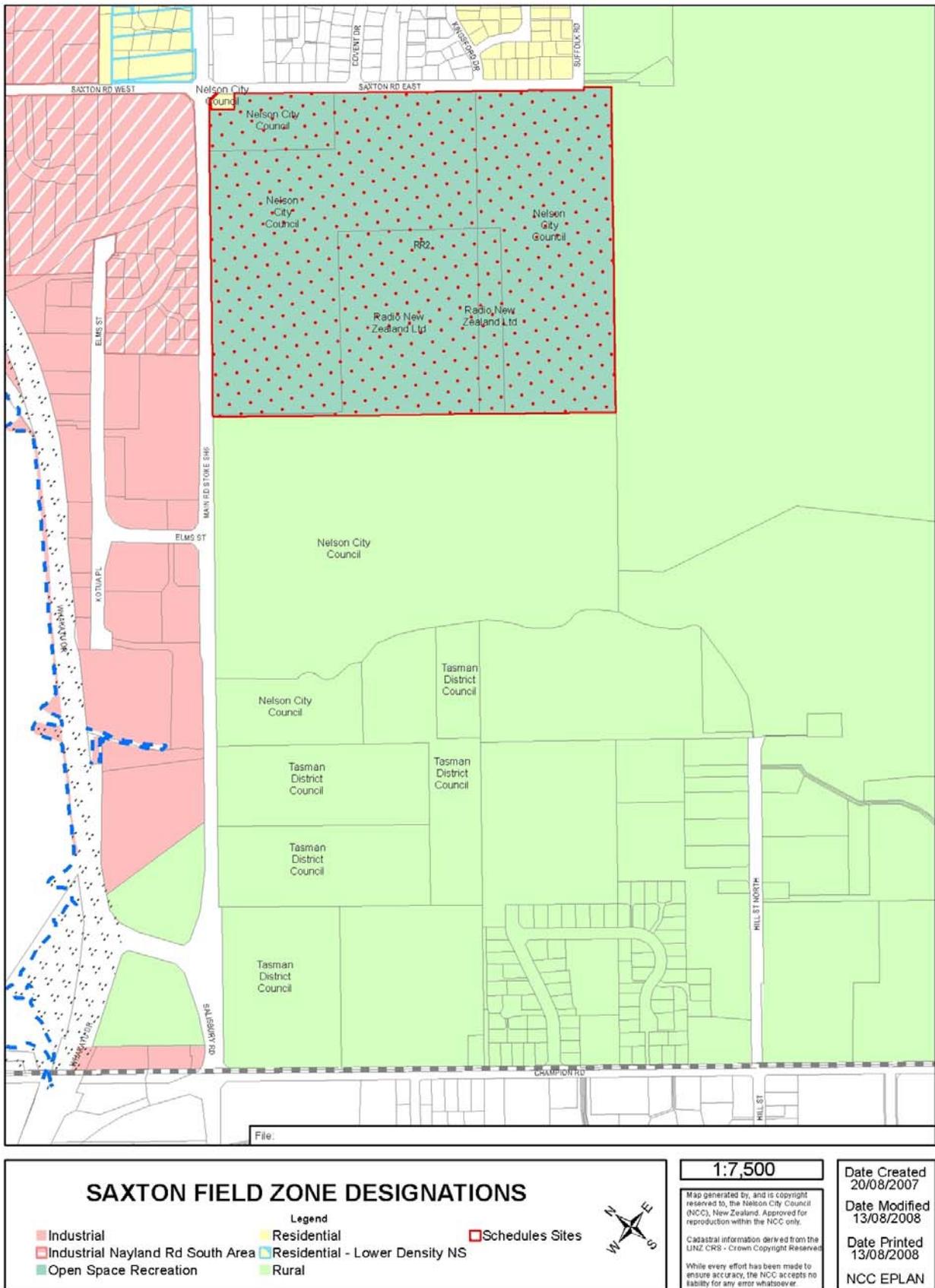
- (a) *Contravenes a rule in a plan or proposed plan; and*
- (b) *Is allowed only if a resource consent is obtained in respect of that activity.*

<sup>2</sup> The Resource Mgt Act defines discretionary as an activity -

- (a) *Which is provided for, as a discretionary activity, by a rule in a plan or proposed plan; and*
- (b) *Which is allowed only if a resource consent is obtained in respect of that activity; and*
- (c) *Which may have standards and terms specified in a plan or proposed plan; and*
- (d) *In respect of which the consent authority may restrict the exercise of its discretion to those matters specified in a plan or proposed plan for that activity*

the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.

Figure 2 Saxton Field Zone Designations



### **4.3.3. Local Government Act 2002**

The Local Government Act empowers Local Authorities to make bylaws. A bylaw is a rule or regulation made by a local authority that affects the public, which orders something to be done, or in some cases, something not to be done. It provides penalties for not complying, including fines imposed by a District Court. Bylaws under the Local Government Act are able to apply to any public place in which the local authority controls or manages.

## **4.4. Site Description**

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### **4.4.1. Landform**

The Department of Conservation Landscape classification for Saxton Field, made under the Reserves Act, is an area categorised as “*coastal flats and alluvial terraces*”. The flat land of the site lies between coastal hill country to the east, and the Waimea Estuary to the west.

The land is generally sloping towards the estuary away from foothills that rise behind the site. The existing land in Saxton Field is well used by sporting groups, the remainder of the land under consideration is under orchard or is being grazed by livestock. Two sets of overhead transmission lines and an underground transmission cable traverse the site in a NW-SE direction. The land has good natural drainage qualities. Land around the site is rapidly being subdivided for housing.

### **4.4.2. Vegetation**

Landscape planting has been established in areas controlled by NCC; these plantings are approximately six metres in height with some relatively young shelter and shade tree plantings. Vegetation is a mix of exotic trees (mostly oak) and native shrubs. There is a concentration of native plantings in the vicinity of the waterways and associated man made ponds. A large irrigation lake is located within the site. The balance of the undeveloped land within the management area is currently used for orchard purposes.

### **4.4.3. Waterways**

Two creeks run through the site, Saxton Creek and Orphanage Creek. Both flow from the hills behind Stoke and Richmond through rural, residential and industrial areas to Waimea Inlet. These creeks have been highly modified by past land use changes, but they still possess some freshwater and riparian values that can be improved. In particular, Orphanage Creek contains a number of freshwater fish, including longfin and shortfin eels, common bully and inanga. A number of birds can also be found on these creeks, such as mallard and paradise ducks, pūkeko and whiteface heron.

Appendix 28.4 in the Nelson Resource Management Plan classifies and identifies the values of various water bodies in Nelson City. Saxton Creek has a water quality classification of “E” (very degraded) and Orphanage Creek is “D” (degraded), while both creeks are listed as “Second” priority for improvement.

### **4.4.4. Recreational and Sport Uses**

Saxton Field represents a major recreation asset to the people of Nelson, Richmond and the wider region. It is primarily used for organised sport in the evening and weekends by netball, soccer, hockey, softball and archery. When not in formal use these areas are used as informal recreational open space, including use as a hang-glider landing area. Saxton Field also hosts a number of events such as the Opera in the Park and the circus. Other

recreational users may be located at Saxton Field in the future. These will be allowed if they conform to the aims and objectives of Saxton Field and do not adversely affect existing users.

Type of use	Existing uses	Planned additions
Informal recreation	Walking Running/jogging Dog walking Landing area for hang gliding and paragliding Playing (both on playground and other areas) Radio yacht events	Picnic/BBQ.
Sport	Netball Soccer Hockey Softball Archery Junior Cricket	Indoor sport (basketball, netball, volleyball, table tennis). Senior Cricket. Athletics.
Events	Opera in the Park Circus	Sports events.

**FIGURE 3 : SAXTON FIELD ACTIVITY AREAS**



**Legend**  
 Boundary

1:4,500

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#### **4.4.5. Leases**

Nelson City Council leases 7.14 hectares from New Zealand on Air.

Tasman District Council leases two blocks of just over 9 hectares to the previous owners of the land.

## **5. Part Two: Strategic Vision, Aims, Objectives and Policies**

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### **5.1. Vision**

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**Saxton Field provides an iconic regional park and green space.**

### **5.2. Aims**

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Several aims or principles have been identified that will strengthen the positive attributes of Saxton Field. They recognise the mixed use of land required within Saxton Field to meet current and future community need for health and enjoyment, exercise, spectating, competition and relaxation through sporting and recreational activities and events. In order to realise the 'Vision' the following aims must be achieved. They apply to all of the land and facilities within Saxton Field and fall within the three broad areas of sustainable and balanced development, green space protection and management.

#### **Sustainable and balanced development**

1. Balanced development between the needs of formal organised sport and informal recreation activities.
2. Protection and enhancement of areas for passive recreation with appropriate facilities and services, to provide spaces for relaxation and enjoyment of natural surroundings and ecology.
3. Changes in demand for specific sport and recreation activities will occur and the allocation of land and facilities will need to reflect these changes over time.
4. Eco friendly design in future developments at Saxton Field including energy efficiency, waste reduction and water collection and use.
5. Manage Saxton Field to support healthy lifestyles, including the prohibition of smoking throughout the Saxton Field Reserve area.

#### **Green space protection**

1. Protect and enhance the areas of established trees and bush as parkland for recreation.
2. Minimise the land area covered in artificial surfaces and structures to meet recreation and sport needs and to mitigate the impact on the green space landscape of Saxton Field.
3. Be as efficient as possible in the provision of hard surface areas to mitigate the impact on the green space landscape of Saxton Field.

#### **Management**

1. Maximise public use of land and facilities at Saxton Field.
2. Saxton Field in its entirety will be governed and managed as a regional reserve through a single organisation and set of policies.
3. The Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan will specify the objectives and policies for the development and management of the reserve.
4. The Saxton Field Development Plan will specify planned future developments in accordance with the Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan and the Nelson Tasman Regional Facilities Plan.
5. The unique identity of Saxton Field is strengthened through consistent application of a design manual.
6. Alternative locations away from Saxton Field may be considered as an option for any future use.
7. Crime prevention design policies and practices will be used in the management of Saxton Field.

### 5.3. Land Status

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
7.14 hectares of New Zealand on Air land remains outside the coverage of this Plan. It is desirable that this land be acquired by Council and gazetted as Recreation Reserve.	To acquire remaining Saxton Field land from New Zealand on Air and gazette as Recreation Reserve.	Gazette all land within Saxton Field as Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

### 5.4. Informal Recreation

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>Informal recreation activity is increasing primarily due to the promotion of active lifestyles and the desire for greater flexibility for the individual on the timing and increasing intensity of activity.</p> <p>Catering for informal recreation demand will be critical to the effectiveness of Saxton Field as recreation open space. The iconic status attracts informal recreation users. The large-scale of the land area is also attractive, particularly to users wishing to avoid contact with motor vehicles whilst undertaking their informal recreation activity. Passive recreation users seeking quiet and reflective spaces or to picnic or to observe others need to be catered for.</p> <p>Areas of Saxton Field will need to be identified for predominantly informal recreation use to ensure a balanced approach to provision between informal recreation and formal sport is realised.</p>	To promote Saxton Field as a venue for passive and active informal recreation activities.	<p>Informal recreation activities shall be encouraged in Saxton Field.</p> <p>Areas predominantly for informal recreation will be designated and protected.</p> <p>The 'natural' environment which is used by informal passive and active recreational users shall be protected and opportunities for these activities shall be enhanced.</p> <p>Facilities for picnic areas (including toilets, picnic tables, barbecues, seating and shelters) shall be of a consistently high standard.</p> <p>A development programme for the installation of facilities to support informal recreation use will be completed and implemented.</p> <p>Play opportunities for children will be provided and will include a major regional playground catering for children of all ages.</p> <p>Quiet and reflective spaces will be identified and protected from interference.</p>
<p><b>Dog walking</b></p> <p>Saxton Field is a desirable area for dog walking. Nelson City dog bylaws will apply. The soiling of sports fields and play facilities is a concern so dogs are excluded from these areas. A dedicated dog exercise area is needed and the "circus oval" area in the north west corner of Saxton Field has advantages of separation from these sports field areas by Orphanage Creek and pond.</p>	<p>To provide designated areas for dogs to be exercised.</p> <p>To ensure that Saxton Field is doggy-doo free.</p>	<p>Nelson City Council dog bylaws will apply.</p> <p>Dogs are excluded from all playgrounds and marked sports fields.</p> <p>Dogs will be allowed off the leash in the "circus oval" area when not in use for other purposes.</p> <p>Provide clear signage at entry points to the dog exercise area and Saxton Field to inform owners about where dogs can be exercised.</p> <p>A network of doggy-doo bag dispensers and bins are provided.</p>
<p><b>Golf</b></p> <p>Informal golf practice is not considered a suitable activity at Saxton Field for the safety of other users (from flying golf balls) and to prevent damage to the turf on the sports fields from golf irons.</p>	To prohibit use of Saxton Field as an informal golf practice area.	Nelson City Council bylaws will apply.
<p><b>Horse/equestrian</b></p> <p>Horses should not be allowed on Saxton Field to ensure the safety of other users and protect the turf on the sports fields.</p>	To prohibit horses on Saxton Field.	Horses are not allowed on Saxton Field except as authorised for involvement in events such as the circus.

## 5.5. Sport

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>Saxton Field enables sport to be showcased at this prominent and iconic site in the region. Many of these sports require specialised facilities or surfaces and often exclude public to protect the asset or for safety reasons. A strength of Saxton Field is the size of the land area and the ability to freely roam the park as a key value. Managing demand from sports to be located at Saxton Field is a major challenge, particularly when balancing the needs of informal recreation users.</p> <p>Saxton Field is a place to nurture younger people into constructive and patterned activity offered by sport.</p> <p>The large scale of Saxton Field provides for a variety of different sports and enables the significant concentration of a sport at one location (such as for tournaments) as well as efficiency for the code.</p> <p>Ideally, flexibility to cater for changing needs should be maintained into the future. In order to cater for changing demand and for development of new sports facilities on Saxton Field, consideration will be made on the opportunity to reallocate land used for sport. This will ensure that a minimum of land in Saxton Field is occupied by buildings or artificial surfaces, and that those there properly meet the needs of sports and other park users and are not retained for limited use and value.</p>	<p>To maximise public use of land and facilities at Saxton Field.</p> <p>To manage demand from sport to locate at Saxton Field.</p> <p>To cater for participants of a broad range of ability levels.</p> <p>To protect the capability of Saxton Field to host major sports events and tournaments requiring a single site.</p>	<p>Minimise fenced areas of land and facilities in order to maximise public use.</p> <p>Alternative locations away from Saxton Field may be considered as an option for any proposed sports use.</p> <p>Councils retain the right to temporarily reallocate facilities and sports fields for major sports events and tournaments.</p> <p>Councils retain the right to monitor use and to reallocate facilities and sports fields.</p> <p>To maintain the flexibility necessary to allow such reallocation Councils will, where possible, have ownership of Saxton Field facilities.</p>
<p><b>Sports Field Management</b></p> <p>The increasing overlap of demand from sport users for access to fields needs to be carefully managed through the allocation process. Interruptions in access to fields are likely to increase as fields are used more intensively by users. Councils need to specify the number of days required to undertake turf maintenance and renewal and negotiate with sporting codes appropriate season dates to enable these works to be undertaken.</p>	<p>To promote a flexible turf management programme, and sports field allocation, which is compatible with this programme.</p>	<p>An annual review of sports field allocations shall be carried out to ensure that sustainable levels of use and frequency of games are maintained.</p> <p>Sports field allocation staff shall liaise with the sports turf managers to ensure that sports fields use and the turf management programme are coordinated.</p> <p>The current turf management programme shall continue to be implemented until such time that the programme is revised by Councils including spray programmes for pest and weed control.</p> <p>Sports allocation shall be compatible with the turf management programme.</p> <p>Sports field allocations shall take into consideration the potential car parking demand generated by the sport and the likely impact on Saxton Field's car parks.</p>

## 5.6. Entertainment and Events

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>The central location and large scale, minimising impact within the local neighbourhood, means Saxton Field is a desirable site for events. Control of the frequency and type of events and forms of entertainment will remain with Councils. While these events can generate problems from overuse and associated car parking issues, it is important that, as part of the Region's cultural and sporting heritage, events take place on Saxton Field. These effects can be mitigated through prudent management and maintenance of the event areas as necessary.</p>	<p>To promote and use Saxton Field as a venue for events and selected forms of entertainment.</p>	<p>There should be appropriate provisions in the Nelson Resource Management Plan to support Saxton Field's use as a key regional facility for hosting of cultural and sporting events. Pursue changes to the Nelson Resource Management Plan to maximise opportunities for the region to make full use of Saxton Field for entertainment and events.</p>

## 5.7. Landscape

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
A critical reason for the establishment and expansion of Saxton Field was to provide a significant green space between the urban areas of Nelson and Richmond. Need to promote this as a major objective of the plan.	To protect the landscape character, atmosphere and scenic amenity of Saxton Field.	Protect the open spaces of Saxton Field and the visual amenity of people viewing Saxton Field from neighbouring areas or while walking, cycling and travelling by motor transport.
The large scale of Saxton Field lends itself to use of woodlands to create liveable scale spaces and provide structure to the parkland landscape. Exotic tree plantings presently predominate within Saxton Field in keeping with the English parkland backdrop of the Raine homestead. It is envisaged that a mix of plantings, including fruit and nut trees, appropriate to the particular areas of Saxton Field will be implemented to enhance both landscape and recreation values.	To manage the Saxton Field woodland areas on a sustainable basis and to ensure that the existing parkland character is conserved.	Actively enhance the appearance of the existing woodlands.  Reinforce the existing woodlands where the adjacent open spaces are poorly defined.
Saxton Field has several distinct areas including waterways that are well suited to native plantings.	To incorporate native vegetation in selected areas of Saxton Field where this will not compromise the essential overall parkland landscape character.	Develop and implement a planting strategy including site tolerant plant selection.

## 5.8. Leases, licences and rights to occupy land and facilities

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>It is important that Saxton Field, is primarily available for optimum public use and that this use reflects current needs. The occupancy of prime sites by sports groups should be viewed as a privilege and not a right to be enjoyed in perpetuity. In the context of this, uses that are compatible with the purpose of Saxton Field do have a stake, although not an irrevocable right, in the use of Saxton Field. The principle that Saxton Field is for the overall public recreational benefit first shall prevail.</p> <p>Over time, a number of sports facilities, such as club buildings, have been built on Saxton Field. Leases are under negotiation for some of these facilities. Over time, certain occupancies or buildings may no longer have a justifiable use.</p>	To maximise public use of land and facilities at Saxton Field.	<p>All occupations of Saxton Field for organised sport shall be assessed as to how each contributes generally to the benefit the public is able to gain from use of Saxton Field and shall be compatible with the prime purpose of Saxton Field to provide areas for (a) recreation and sporting activities, and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public and (b) the protection of Saxton Field's open space character and natural environment, prior to the issue or renewal of any formal lease or occupation agreement.</p> <p>Formal lease agreements shall be required where sports clubs occupy land and/or buildings in Saxton Field.</p> <p>Complete leases with any occupiers without a current lease arrangement.</p> <p>Prior to any new or renewed lease agreement being put in place, the policies of this plan apply.</p> <p>All leases shall be reviewed prior to expiry.</p> <p>No automatic rights of renewal clauses shall be provided in leases in the future.</p>
Liquor licensing needs to be consistent with the sport and recreation purpose of Saxton Field and the policies applied elsewhere in Nelson City. The issuing of licences should look to minimise the impact on other users of Saxton Field.	To monitor and minimise the impact of club and special event liquor licences on Saxton Field.	Liquor licences will be issued by the Liquor Licensing Authority to support sport and recreation activities within Saxton Field where the impact on other users and park infrastructure will not be significant.
Some low level gambling activity such as raffles should be permitted where it supports recreation and sport users in their use and enjoyment of Saxton Field. However, the location of Class 4 gaming machines ("pokies") is not considered appropriate for an area with extensive use by young people.	To limit gambling activity to low level activity such as raffles and exclude Class 4 gaming machines ("pokies") at Saxton Field.	<p>Class 4 gaming machines ("pokies") are not permitted at Saxton Field.</p> <p>Low level gambling activity such as raffles organised by users of Saxton Field should be permitted.</p>

## 5.9. Buildings and Structures<sup>3</sup>

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p><b>Facilities</b></p> <p>Saxton Field is a highly desirable location for new recreation and sport facilities. Sports organisations with direct links to Saxton Field shall be encouraged to consolidate clubrooms on Saxton Field in favour of fewer buildings that can better provide for user needs.</p>	<p>To keep to a minimum the number of new buildings and structures on Saxton Field.</p>	<p>Minimise the number of buildings on Saxton Field through multi use design and shared use of facilities.</p> <p>Any proposal for new buildings and structures shall take into account the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The effect of the building on the provision for needs of recreation and sport users.</li> <li>(b) The effect of the building or structure on the Saxton Field environment. All designs (including external materials, colour scheme, and associated landscaping) must be approved by the Councils to ensure the facility building or structure is properly integrated into the Saxton Field environment.</li> <li>(c) The possible increased demand for car parking in or adjacent to Saxton Field, as a result of the new building or structure, and the possible detrimental effect this may have on the Saxton Field environment.</li> <li>(d) The effect of the additional facilities and resulting requirements on the convenience and well-being of other Saxton Field users.</li> <li>(e) Feedback received during public consultation from affected and interested parties.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pavilion and Ablution Facilities</b></p> <p>Several pavilion and ablution facilities exist or are planned for Saxton Field and more are likely to be proposed in the future. An appropriate level of service needs to be determined through a hierarchy approach specifying the scale and distribution of facilities at Saxton Field.<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Attention shall be given to the siting and design of ablution facilities for good natural lighting, ventilation, safety, public convenience, ease of cleaning and to minimise damage from vandalism.</p>	<p>To coordinate and integrate new buildings and structures with the existing buildings and structures within Saxton Field.</p>	<p>Establish a hierarchy of pavilion and ablution facilities to assist with appropriate provision of toilets for all users and social facilities for formal sport on Saxton Field and develop a programme for implementation.</p> <p>Use the hierarchy to assess appropriateness of any proposed development of a pavilion or ablution facility on Saxton Field.</p> <p>Where practical, public toilets shall remain unlocked. Where toilets must be locked, a notice shall be displayed on them indicating the location of the nearest open toilet.</p>
<p><b>Colour Schemes for Buildings</b></p> <p>Saxton Field is intended as a green belt of natural landscape between the urban areas of Richmond and Stoke. The use of appropriate colour schemes can significantly reduce the impact of the building or structure on the landscape and enhance visual amenity.</p>	<p>To minimise the visual impact of buildings and structures on the landscape environment.</p>	<p>Colour schemes shall be required that are complementary to the Saxton Field environment, appropriate to the architectural character of each building and structure and be in harmony with the adjoining buildings and structures as per a design manual.</p>

<sup>3</sup> Use of the term “structures”, in the context of the above policy, is taken to mean all physical constructions, developments and objects on, and adjoining, Saxton Field, including recreation facilities such as stadiums, pavilions, hard courts, artificial playing surfaces, goal posts and pathways, and other facilities such as roads, car parks, gateways, memorials and plaques, artworks and bridges

<sup>4</sup> The Saxton Field Pavilion with its large capacity lounge should be designated as the main social facility for major gatherings by sports codes located at Saxton Field. A limited number of smaller second-tier pavilions will be needed that provide lounge, kitchen, change and toilet facilities. A limited number of third-tier facilities that provide some form of shelter from the weather, possibly a hot water source for making drinks as well as change and toilet facilities will be needed. A limited number of fourth-tier facilities with only change and toilet facilities will be needed.

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
		<p>A review of the colour schemes of all of the buildings and structures on Saxton Field shall be undertaken. Clubs with buildings on Saxton Field shall seek Councils' approval of the proposed colour scheme prior to undertaking any repainting works.</p> <p>All Council owned buildings and structures within Saxton Field shall be repainted in accordance with the colour scheme(s).</p> <p>Where the appearance of an unattractive building cannot be significantly improved by the use of an integrated colour scheme, provision shall be made to screen the building with appropriate planting.</p>

### 5.10. Utility Services

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>In order for Saxton Field to meet its objectives there will need to be a variety of services delivered to it. Necessary utilities should be provided by Councils in a low impact way.</p>	<p>To provide adequate utility services for the necessary servicing of Saxton Field and minimise the visual and physical impact of the services in Saxton Field.</p>	<p>Utility services necessary for the servicing of Saxton Field, its buildings and other facilities or developments beyond the boundaries of the Reserve, shall be permitted so long as they are carried out in a way which minimises the visual and physical impact on the services in Saxton Field.</p> <p>All utility services shall be placed underground unless exceptional circumstances make it impractical to do so.</p> <p>Underground utility services shall be carefully sited, having regard to existing features, including trees, waterways and paved surfaces.</p> <p>Existing overhead utility services shall be progressively replaced with underground services.</p>

### 5.11. Commercial Activity – includes circus, concerts

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p><b>Commercial Activities and Vendors</b></p> <p>Recreation facilities on Saxton Field, in principle, shall be able to be used for public and limited commercial activities that are sympathetic to its surroundings and compatible with the purpose for Saxton Field.</p> <p>Commercial vendors providing services needed to support recreation and sport users in their enjoyment of Saxton Field should also be permitted. Some of these vendors operate from mobile facilities and authorised sites need to be specified.</p>	<p>To permit commercial activities which will enhance the public enjoyment of Saxton Field and which are compatible with the principal purposes, uses and character of Saxton Field.</p>	<p>Commercial activity may be permitted subject to Councils' approval within premises leased by sporting organisations where the activity is sympathetic with the Saxton Field environment and designed primarily to support sporting and recreational activity and organisations located at Saxton Field.</p> <p>Concessions may be granted by Councils for commercial vendors to supply services for the enjoyment of users of Saxton Field that support informal recreation and formal sport activities.</p> <p>Councils shall specify authorised sites for commercial concession vendors with mobile facilities as well as the number of vendors.</p> <p>Councils may require payment of a share of the profit from commercial activities and these funds shall be expended on improvements to Saxton Field.</p>

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
		<p>Councils to regularly undertake a formal review of the list of approved vendors to ensure it is consistent with the policies in this plan.</p> <p>Circus, trade exhibitions, concerts and other commercial activities shall be permitted subject to Councils' approval.</p>

### 5.12. Charges for Not-for-Profit Purposes

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>Not-for-profit organisations such as sports clubs and associations and events held for charitable purposes should be permitted. Charges related to events provide an important source of income to support not-for-profit organisations and activities that benefit the community. Charging for access to event areas designated and approved for exclusive use should be allowed. Charging for event car parking should also be allowed within designated areas approved by Councils.</p>	<p>To enable Saxton Field to host events to generate income for not-for-profit purposes.</p>	<p>Charging for access to event areas designated and approved by Councils for exclusive use for not-for-profit event purposes is permitted.</p> <p>Charging for car parking for not-for-profit event purposes should also be allowed within designated areas approved by Councils.</p>

### 5.13. Circulation networks, transport and parking

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p><b>Pathways Network</b></p> <p>The internal network of pathways and tracks will need sufficient variety to meet the specific needs of cyclists, pedestrians, joggers, rollerblading and people in wheelchairs or mobility scooters. Pedestrians are the most vulnerable users of circulation networks and all other users must give way to pedestrians within Saxton Field.</p> <p>Some pathways will need to be dedicated to a particular type of user to minimize potential conflicts. Shared pathways will need to be of appropriate scale to enable shared use without significant interference between types of users. In some situations installation of parallel pathways and tracks could be an option to avoid conflict between users.</p>	<p>To provide safe, logical access and circulation within Saxton Field for cyclists, pedestrians, joggers and people in wheelchairs or mobility scooters.</p>	<p>The circulation network within Saxton Field will be a combination of shared pathways and tracks dedicated for specific types of users.</p> <p>Pedestrians have priority over other users of shared pathways.</p> <p>Walking and cycling pathways shall be provided throughout Saxton Field that conform to accepted shared pathway standards.</p> <p>The design manual will specify the purpose, level of service and design of the various types of pathway and track.</p> <p>Dedicated informal jogging tracks may be provided within Saxton Field and be retained as natural paths.</p> <p>Dedicated informal mountain bike tracks may be provided within Saxton Field and be retained as natural paths.</p> <p>Drinking fountains shall be located and maintained in close proximity to the pathway and track network.</p> <p>Seating shall be provided throughout Saxton Field and in close proximity to the pathway and track network.</p>
<p><b>Vehicle networks within Saxton Field</b></p> <p>The existing and planned circulation network has been designed to provide efficient, logical and safe movement of vehicles within Saxton Field. The hierarchy of priority use needs to reflect the recreation and sporting focus of Saxton Field. Design innovations are intended to restrict vehicles to the circulation network and limit the speed of vehicles. However, provision for barriers and traffic calming is needed if unauthorised access to sports fields and parkland or excessive speed occurs.</p>	<p>To develop an efficient logical and safe vehicle circulation network within Saxton Field.</p> <p>To restrict vehicles to the formal roadways and car parking areas and to minimise the visual impact of vehicle barriers on the Park.</p>	<p>The vehicle circulation network provides adequate access to major destinations within Saxton Field.</p> <p>Pedestrians and cyclists have priority over vehicles at all crossing points within Saxton Field and vehicle traffic is calmed accordingly.</p> <p>Roadways are designed to prevent unauthorised access to grass areas and limit speed of vehicles to the maximum authorised vehicle speed within Saxton Field.</p>

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
		<p>Vehicle barriers may be installed to prevent inappropriate use.</p> <p>Cars shall be restricted to the roadway and carpark network by a barrier appropriate for maintaining the character of the area.</p>
<p><b>Car parking</b></p> <p>Existing and planned formed car parking should meet average demand for parking. However, the events will create peak demands that will exceed the capacity of formed car parks. Overflow parking will be required on sports field and parkland areas.</p>	<p>To provide adequate formed parking space for average use and managed overflow parking for peak periods.</p> <p>To restrict car parking to the formed car parks.</p> <p>To minimise the visual impact of parking areas.</p>	<p>Car parks will be maintained to an appropriate standard.</p> <p>Parking on berms within Saxton Field shall not be permitted.</p> <p>Overflow parking on designated areas of sports field and parkland will be permitted for events, subject to Councils approval.</p> <p>Utilise the planting strategy to minimise the visual impact of parking areas.</p>
<p><b>Transport mode shift</b></p> <p>Encouraging use of non-motorised modes of transport is promoted in national and regional transport planning. Saxton Field is well positioned in relation to the public transport routes and the cycleway/walkway network that has been developed by Councils and Transit New Zealand. The Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan recognizes and encourages alternative modes of transport. Further development of off-road linkages to Stoke and Richmond is desirable.</p>	<p>To facilitate a shift in Saxton Field users away from private motor transport to alternative forms of transport.</p>	<p>Off-road linkages to the main cycleway/walkway network will be completed.</p> <p>Install an underpass under Main Road Stoke to complete an off-road link of Saxton Field to main cycleway and walkway network.</p> <p>Cycle parking shall be incorporated into all major parking areas and in close proximity to significant facilities.</p> <p>Scheduled public bus services will be encouraged to locate bus stops within Saxton Field.</p>

## 5.14. Signs

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>There is a need for adequate signage within Saxton Field to guide and inform visitors of key information such as location of facilities, sports fields, pathway and track networks, car parking and dog exercise areas.</p> <p>Signage can be used to reinforce the iconic identity of Saxton Field and should not dominate the green space landscape.</p>	<p>To develop a comprehensive, consistent and user friendly signage system in Saxton Field that unifies and reinforces the iconic identity for Saxton Field.</p>	<p>New and improved signage, which meets the design manual requirements, shall be provided at key entry and way-finding points within Saxton Field.</p> <p>Information and way-finding signage shall be installed to assist informal recreation users to use pathway and track networks and other informal recreation areas appropriately and with consideration for other users.</p>
<p>Permanent and temporary advertising and sponsor signage should be permitted that is consistent with the aims and objectives of the Saxton Park Management Plan. Councils should maintain careful control in approvals.</p>	<p>To allow appropriate advertising and sponsor signage consistent with the aims and objectives of Saxton Field.</p>	<p>The size, type, appearance and location of advertising and sponsor signage to be controlled by Councils as per the design manual.</p>

## 5.15. Flood Lighting

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>Floodlighting of sports fields and artificial playing surfaces for competition and training purposes is in response to the need for competition and training in the evenings. The demand for flood lit fields is increasing. Generally flood lights are owned and installed by sport organisations. The large scale of Saxton Field has enabled the location of most floodlighting away from boundaries reducing potential conflict with neighbouring residential properties. Improved technology is reducing light spill that is the most common cause of conflict.</p>	<p>To enable installation and operation of flood lighting for evening sports activity.</p>	<p>Evening sporting activity is a permitted activity within Saxton Field.</p> <p>The installation of floodlighting by a sports organisation is subject to Councils' approval.</p> <p>Councils may allocate use of unused flood lit fields and the floodlights to sports users other than the owner of the floodlights.</p>

## 5.16. Safety of Users and Crime Prevention

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>The management of Saxton Field should follow the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design of territoriality, natural surveillance, activity support, and access control. Planning features should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Surveillance of recreational /gathering areas from adjoining uses</li> <li>▪ Activity generators</li> <li>▪ Design of landscaping to enhance the natural amenity, but allowing for natural surveillance and good sightlines</li> <li>▪ Safer routes through open space and parks (i.e. well lit, signed to assist people along paths and good sightlines)</li> </ul> <p>Crime prevention through environmental design principles and practices has been adopted in the installation of safety lighting at Saxton Field.</p>	<p>To reduce the opportunity for crimes to be committed against people and property at Saxton Field.</p> <p>To provide lighting for the safety and convenience of the public and to enhance the amenity value of Saxton Field.</p>	<p>Promote the development of open spaces, which enhance the visual amenity of an area but which do not unduly jeopardise the safety of users.</p> <p>Reduce opportunities for assault, vandalism and other inappropriate behaviour by avoiding the planning of isolated buildings and open spaces.</p> <p>Crime prevention through design principles and practices will be used for lighting provision.</p> <p>Implement the safety lighting requirements within the Saxton Field design manual.</p>

## 5.17. Sustainability

Issues and Background	Objectives	Policies
<p>Potential exists to reduce the cost to ratepayers of the ongoing maintenance and running costs of the development through use of eco-friendly design. Given the escalating cost of water and the potential for the park to be a major user particular attention should be paid to opportunities for reducing water use and recycling. There are also activities that can be undertaken to maintain and enhance water quality and fish passage in Saxton and Orphanage Creeks as they pass through Saxton Field.</p> <p>As an iconic asset with many visitors, Saxton Field also provides opportunities to demonstrate to the public sustainability principles that Councils are promoting more generally.</p>	<p>To reduce ongoing costs through minimisation of water requirements.</p> <p>To reduce energy needs through improved design.</p> <p>To encourage users of Saxton Field to adopt sustainable practices.</p> <p>To reduce waste.</p> <p>To manage the flow of storm water and enhance water quality in creeks.</p> <p>To inform and educate about sustainability.</p>	<p>Building design and management of green areas should take opportunities to reduce water use including, where appropriate, through rainwater collection, use of recycled water and sensible prioritisation of water use.</p> <p>Park structures should be designed for maximum energy efficiency including, where possible, through passive solar heating and solar heating for water.</p> <p>Opportunities should be taken to reduce the waste produced by the park including through provision of adequate recycling facilities at appropriate locations.</p> <p>Events organisers, sports codes and other users of Saxton Field should be encouraged to consider sustainability in their operations and activities and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>Innovative design, such as swales and rain gardens, should be used to cleanse storm water of sediment and pollutants and reduce the risk of downstream flooding.</p> <p>Where practical and workable, hard surfaces should be permeable to enable storm water absorption to reduce run-off.</p> <p>Water quality and the habitat of creeks in Saxton Field should be maintained and enhanced by planting the riparian margins with appropriate native species and providing for fish passage.</p> <p>Where innovative design or management features exist interpretation panels should be used to educate visitors on their benefits.</p>