

Open Space Acquisition Strategy

Ku-ring-gai Council

Prepared for:

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I.0 INTRODUCTION

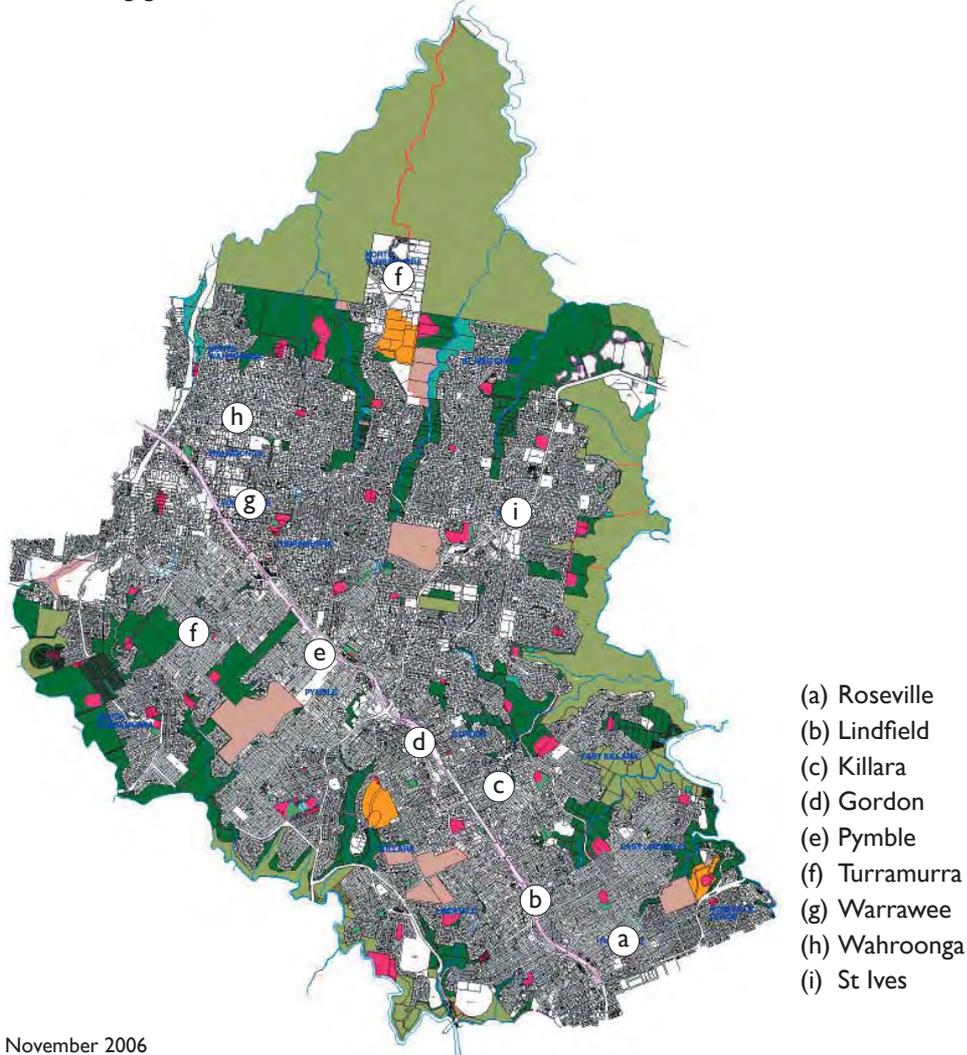
I.1 Purpose of the Strategy

This Strategy has been prepared to establish a series of principles for acquisition of open space within Ku-ring-gai, from which open space provision opportunities and priorities for acquisition can be identified.

The 2005 Ku-ring-gai Open Space Strategy identified that the LGA has a relatively low provision of both local and district level open space. Further the distribution of these open spaces is moderately uneven with low per capita provision in some areas. The study identified that approximately 35% of households are beyond reasonable walking distance to any high quality neighbourhood open space. It also notes that it is predicted that the Ku-ring-gai population is set to increase by approximately 26,000 people over the next 20 years, which will place further demand on the open space system.

Given these shortfalls and the increased demands in provision of open space for the new population, Council has adopted the Section 94 Contributions Plan - Residential Development (2004-2009) with approximately \$29 million to be collected towards open space acquisitions and a further \$4.2 million for existing park embellishment. The earlier Section 94 Plan for Residential Development (2000-2003) had also identified \$9.2 million for acquisition of open space. The 2004-2009 Section 94 Plan identified that this Acquisition Strategy should be prepared as part of the acquisition program to identify priority sites for acquisition. This is to also ensure that the new open space is appropriately configured to meet the open space needs to new residents. The Ku-ring-gai Town Centres Planning Program (RDS Stage 2) will also result in significant population growth - a developer contributions strategy including S94 is also being prepared to cater for the increased demand for open space from the new development.

The Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area is shown below:



- (a) Roseville
- (b) Lindfield
- (c) Killara
- (d) Gordon
- (e) Pymble
- (f) Turramurra
- (g) Warrawee
- (h) Wahroonga
- (i) St Ives

I.0 INTRODUCTION

I.2 Strategy objectives

- To develop strategies that Council can utilise now and into the future to guide decision making in relation to acquisition of open space
- To acquire open space as efficiently as possible in terms of investment versus open space area, location and quality of space acquired
- To assess the existing open space system and identify implications of increased population
- To assess priorities based on new population and development trends identified in Council planning
- To develop a decision making rationale that will ensure that acquisition of open space will meet the needs of the new population without further exacerbating existing deficiencies in the open space system
- To identify priorities including 'hot spots' for acquisition of open space
- To ensure provision of quality open space - not solely focused on quantity
- To examine potential of other open space improvements such as enhancement of existing open space, as a mechanism to improve open space provision and quality
- To make recommendations regarding embellishment of open space in terms of facilities and recreation opportunities
- To be able to respond appropriately to opportunities to acquire specific sites for open space