

Zone 02 George Watson Park

Focus area



Coastal path towards George Watson Park



Detail - GWP West



Detail - GWP East

Present Issues

Key Actions



	Key Issues/ Considerations	Short-Term	Mid to Long-Term
General	› Most visitors to the area staying in holiday accommodation are not aware of George Watson Park.	1 › Opportunity exists to prepare and distribute some information to local accommodation houses to draw attention to George Watson Park.	
	› Weeds (asparagus, paspalum) impacting on the ecological values of the park.	2 › Prepare temporary signs to promote volunteer involvement and weeding session - dates and times.	3 › Opportunity for other members of the community to become involved in volunteer activities.
	› The lack of way-finding signage within George Watson Park is contributing to lack of use by visitors to the area.		4 › Install improved way-finding (directional) signage within George Watson Park to safely guide visitors around a circuit within the park.
	› Lack of interpretive signage a missed opportunity to educate visitors on the parks history and ecological value (birds, butterflies vegetation).		5 › Install improved interpretive signage within George Watson Park to draw users into the park to experience the natural values of the area – birds, butterflies etc.
	› Stormwater runoff into George Watson Park from buildings fronting McIlwraith Street has created some very wet areas within the park that are now dominated by Melaleuca vegetation community.		6 › Continue to manage the wetter areas in George Watson Park as a Melaleuca vegetation community. › Upgrade sections of trail within park impacted by waterlogging.
GWP - East	› Condition (width, grade and edge conditions) of coastal path within George Watson Park is no longer catering for the volume and type of path users.		7 › Upgrade of the coastal path is currently prioritised as 'medium' and greater than 10 years before investment. › Review the current coastal path prioritisation to consider bringing forward the upgrade of coastal path within George Watson Park.
	› Increasing levels of e-mobility conflict on steep and narrow section of coastal path within George Watson Park is leading to an increased level of conflict between users.	› Need for e-mobility device use education and at limited key points of conflict potential signage to ask e-mobility users to slow down and respect other Coastal Path users.	› Ensure future e-mobility device users and hire companies are informed of Coastal Path use expectations and ensure speed limited zones.
	› Lack of interpretive signage on coastal path to help inform and educate users to the history and values of the area.	8 › Incorporate interpretive signage at key points on coastal path to celebrate: history, cultural heritage, ecology.	
	› The lack of interpretive signage is failing to draw users off the coastal path to experience the natural values of George Watson Park.		
	› The single bench seat in George Watson Park does not realise the activation potential of the park.	9 › Design and install low key activation space in the north-east corner of George Watson Park to help draw coastal path users into the park, to provide a place to stop, rest and learn about the cultural heritage and ecological values of the area.	
	› The condition and management of vegetation in the eastern 20% of George Watson Park is currently poor.	10	
	› Small number of informal access tracks from the coastal path east to the coast are contributing the erosion and safety issues in the park.	11 › Close and rehabilitate informal access track (located on the eastern side of George Watson Park and coastal path).	
	› Slope and cliff face on eastern side of coastal path is steep and in places unstable.	12 › Continue weed management and vegetation rehabilitation to help stabilise cliff face within the limitation of steep slope and limited safe access.	

Additional background

Given the size of council's environment reserve network (600+ reserves) Council generally does not develop Reserve Management Plans for individual reserves of this size/ classification as per the defined services levels in the Environment Reserve Network Management Plan.

The Draft George Watson Park Management Plan 1995 provides useful background information to support the Park's ongoing management.



Mown path in George Watson Park