



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

1000 play STREETS Toolkit

for Australian Local Government

Empowering Australian communities to reclaim their quiet residential streets as places to connect and play.





1000 Play Streets is a movement championed by Play Australia powered by Australian Sports Commission and inspired by Playing Out, UK.



This is a Play Australia publication co-authored by:
Gavin Fairbrother, Physical Activity Consultant
Kieran Brophy, Play Australia; and
Dr Erica Randle, Centre for Sport and Social Impact,
La Trobe University
3rd edition © June 2023

PlayAustralia.org.au

Disclaimer: Whilst every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that this document is correct at the time of publication, Play Australia, disclaims any and all liability to any person in respect of anything or the consequences of anything done or omitted, to be done in reliance or upon the whole or any part of this document.

Play Australia's Mission

**To promote the
value of play
and support all
Australians to play
every day**

An aerial photograph of a residential street during a '1000 Play Streets' event. The street is closed to traffic and filled with people, including children playing hopscotch and a man with a stroller. A sign in the foreground reads '1000 Play Streets Toolkit'. The background shows houses and trees.

1000 play
STREETS
Toolkit

Our road to get here

1000 Play Streets is movement for all Australians championed by Play Australia and powered by the Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission.

We also recognise the support of the South Australian Government through the Office for Recreation, Sport & Racing to further expand this resource and build our focus on connecting to our hard-to-reach communities.

The movement builds on the amazing groundwork of various street play projects around Australia, including CoDesign Studio's community-led Play Streets in VIC, the Opal Sunday Street Play project in SA, and the Rae Street Play Street in WA.

This resource has been developed with the help of six Local Governments from QLD, WA, VIC & SA alongside community organisations, volunteers and communities, who trialled 23 Play Street gatherings between September 2019-April 2021 and provided invaluable feedback to inform this resource.

We also thank the Centre for Sport & Social Impact, La Trobe University who supported our research and evaluation.

Lastly, we're grateful to receive inspiration and insights from our global neighbour in Playing Out, who initiated the world-wide resident led street play phenomenon in 2009 and have successfully scaled the movement to over 1500 street communities in the UK.

We thank you all for your diverse and thoughtful contributions.



Some words of welcome



Robyn Monro Miller
Chief Executive Officer – Play Australia

Play Australia is committed to expanding the 1000 Play Streets movement across all of Australia. Our vision is to build healthier communities through play. Play Streets serve as a

catalyst for community engagement and wellbeing. The Play Streets model has shown outcomes of improved social cohesion and mental health for participants.

This toolkit is designed for Local Governments across Australia. We hope it will support work within their local communities to create their own play streets and in doing so create a more playful, healthy community.

Our thanks is extended to the many Local Governments, communities and advocates who have travelled this journey with us to date and we look forward to welcoming many more in the years ahead!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robyn M.M.".



Alice Ferguson and Ingrid Skeels
Co-Directors – Playing Out CIC

Playing Out has scaled the resident led play streets movement from one road to over 1000 street communities across the UK over the past 10 years.

We know from experience that the success of play streets hinges on valuing the needs and involvement of children and residents in making them happen.

Play streets are an important step towards safer streets and other longer-term changes that children need us to make so they can play out every day. We celebrate the growth of the movement in Australia and are proud to be Play Australia's Global Neighbour.

“We found a real sense of community for the children that hadn’t been established yet. The children feel confident and happy when they see each other now, they are no longer strangers to each other.”

Play Street Attendee, 2021





Contents

08	Introduction
11	Our principles
12	How to use this toolkit
14	Step 1: Get ready
15	for the BIG picture
16	to work together
17	for impact
18	to make it easy for communities
19	<i>Neighbour Support</i>
20	<i>Traffic</i>
21	<i>Public Liability</i>
22	<i>Risk Benefit Assessment</i>
23	<i>Play Streets Register</i>
26	Step 2: Connect
27	with Play Street Hosts
29	and support Play Street Hosts
30	with neighbours
31	and PLAY
33	Step 3: Grow
34	the story
35	the good
37	system change
38	the movement
39	Get in touch

Introduction

1000 Play Streets is a movement for Australians to reclaim their quiet residential streets as places for neighbours of all ages to connect and play regularly, and to ultimately improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

Children need to play outside every day to support healthy development, which means they need access to local outdoor spaces every day for play.

In Australia we have some of the best playgrounds and parks in the world that support children and families to be active, however if children don't live next door to these kinds of spaces, they can often be reliant on a parent/guardian for transport, and this can be problematic.

Today, in many suburban communities around Australia, outdoor spaces for play are limited due to lack of adequate green space in easy walking distance from home and shrinking backyards.

Interestingly, it has been reported that our Australian backyards today are less than a third of the size of backyards in the 1980s, and we are seeing more children residing in apartments and units than ever before, as our density of living increases.

Due to population growth and increases in living density, we are also seeing cars taking over our roads, both in terms of numbers of vehicles and the way streets are now seen as 'just for driving' rather than the shared spaces of years gone by. This means we now have a generation of parents who fear for their child's safety even on the quietest of residential roads, to the extent that children will be kept inside to keep them as safe as possible.

Overlay that with other parental fears over safety outdoors – including potential injuries, 'stranger danger' and going against current parenting social norms, equals a generation of children with less opportunity to go outside and play. Add in the rise of technology in homes and our children now spend far too much time sitting inside on screens.



Hear why Local Governments around Australia are getting involved in 1000 Play Streets.



And get inspired by Play Streets at City of Canning in WA.

DO YOU NEED
EVIDENCE FOR
ACTION?
WE HAVE
YOU COVERED!
CLICK THE
ICONS BELOW



Take a look at the outcomes of our national 1000 Play Streets pilot.



Or read our South Australia Community Impact Summary.



Download our evidence review "How Play Streets supports the development of physical literacy in children."

In combination, these factors are having dire impacts on the health and wellbeing of our children, in fact experts are worried that with the rise of sedentary lifestyles and higher rates of obesity, we will have a generation of children who are facing a shorter life expectancy than their parents.

And the evidence for action is clear when we consider...

The way Australians used to play is changing, and not for the better, with 73% of adults saying they played on the street when they were young compared to only 24% of their kids (Planet Ark 2011)

Australians have a problem with their physical health with 1 in 4 children (2-17 years) and 2 in 3 adults being overweight or obese (AIHW, 2019)

And our communities are disconnected and our mental wellbeing is suffering with 1 in 3 people having no neighbours they see or hear from monthly, and nearly 1 in 2 people having no neighbours they can call for help (APS, 2018)

Play Australia is seeking to turn this tide by leading the 1000 Play Streets movement, recognising that in days gone by, children played on residential streets regularly which contributed to more active lifestyles and better relationships with neighbours.

This is WHY the movement is so important – to improve the health and wellbeing of Australian children and communities.

This toolkit is specifically designed to provide planning advice (prompts and templates) to Australian Local Governments who are interested in using temporary street closures for Play Streets and who are seeking to build the capacity of their local communities to get involved.

Included in this resource are a series of case studies across a range of different states and neighbourhoods, so there is no need for you to re-invent the wheel.

So what is a Play Street?

A Play Street is a simple concept, it is a quiet residential street where neighbours of all ages connect and play together, normally lasting 2-3 hours.

IMPORTANT – *Play Streets are not large-scale community events, they are small-scale gatherings for neighbours, ideally coordinated by residents themselves.*

Our Principles

1000 Play Streets is underpinned by the following six principles – all of which are inter-connected and essential factors to support local street play.

1

CONNECTIONS ARE KEY

Forming quality connections between neighbours is so important to bring people together and create places where people look out for one another and help each other ...which means Play Streets are much easier to organise.

2

LET THE CHILDREN PLAY

Fostering quality play experiences for children to support their healthy development is an essential aspect of Play Streets. We must allow children the freedom, time and space to play their way.

3

LEAD FROM THE STREET

Local resident Play Street Hosts play a critical role in connecting with neighbours and leading Play Streets- including helping to define WHAT their Play Street looks like and HOW they meet the local needs of neighbours.

4

HELP THOSE WHO NEED IT

We must always support equity of opportunity for all interested communities in Australia to become involved in Play Streets, which means offering additional help for those who need it.

5

BALANCE SAFETY ALWAYS

This means ensuring the safety of children and communities at all times when using streets as shared spaces. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

6

BUILD ON LOCAL SUPPORTS

Lastly, it's important to identify existing opportunities to help fast-track or improve local efforts to organise and sustain Play Streets. This could be an existing policy, program, partnership or resource.

How to use this toolkit

Follow these three steps to design and implement your Local Government's Play Streets model:



IMPORTANT

This toolkit lives online and as such links to a number of online case studies, templates and resources designed to help you on your Play Streets journey.

Look for the icons located in this section that indicates there are further resources to be found.

Use the 1000 Play Streets Toolkit tab to return to the Contents page. You can also use the Contents page to navigate directly to key sections. Good luck!



CLICK ME!



“For me it definitely helped everybody in the community, it wasn’t just something that benefited the children, it benefited the whole family and also individuals without children ...I felt connected to the whole community.”

Play Street Attendee, 2021

Step 1 Get ready

This section is about planning, building internal relationship and working together to review relevant documents so you can:

- Be clear on what you want to achieve with Play Streets and how it aligns to your strategic plan; and
- Know where the existing resources, policy and procedural supports and gaps are within your Local Government.

Once these key foundations are set, you're well placed to tailor an approach to make it as easy as possible for your communities to get involved in Play Streets.



Is your LGA ready to support Play Streets?



Do you need a planning checklist? We've got you covered!

Step 1 Get ready

for the BIG picture

Building healthy, happy, connected, liveable local streets and neighbourhoods requires a long-term approach.

Ideally your big picture goals combine direct improvements to your community's wellbeing alongside improvements to your Local Government System; including developing a collaborative internal culture that unlocks people-centred policymaking, for improved community outcomes.



Do you understand your big picture?



Here are some questions to help you define your big picture goals.

Step 1
Get ready

to work together

It's best to engage early and ongoing with your relevant Local Government colleagues – including traffic management and control; risk management; volunteer management; community engagement; community development; place activation and marketing.

You can formalise your approach by establishing a Play Streets working group or embed Play Streets into an existing relevant working group. And don't forget that informal chats can be a powerful approach to engage your internal people as well.

We recommend you also invite senior staff, elected members, and key staff to Play Streets gatherings in your Local Government. It's a great way to showcase the many benefits of a temporary street closure:

- Supporting children to play;
- Supporting social connection amongst neighbours; and
- Influencing a more balanced approach to risk management.



Is your LGA ready to work together?



Do you need a Terms of Reference template for your internal working group? Here's one to get you started.



Picture credit: Office for Recreation, Sport & Racing

Step 1 Get ready

for impact

Do you want Play Streets to be a catalyst for improving social connection and play in your most disadvantaged streets and neighbourhoods?

This is an important decision because it will guide your approach to community engagement, promotion, and support.

Research shows those most likely to be isolated and inactive live in disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

We also know if you improve the quality of local streets and parks, combined with activities to encourage social and physical activity, you can improve the wellbeing of residents.

Align your activity to your Local Government's strategic commitment to equity. This will ensure you have the necessary resources to support your communities to thrive in the long-term. As we recognise that building trust and community capacity within neighbourhoods takes time.



Picture credit: Office for Recreation, Sport & Racing



Is your LGA taking a lead or support role for Play Streets?



CASE STUDY
Read about how two LGAs embraced two very different Play Street approaches to benefit communities.

Step 1 Get ready



Do your Play Street policies take the pressure off your local residents?



Do you want to see an example of a simple Play Streets Application Form? Check this out.

to make it easy for communities

The best Local Government policies and procedures go beyond compliance and place local needs at the centre of all your decision-making. This is all about making it as easy as possible for local residents to get involved and feel empowered, by having a balanced approach to risk management.

It is important you develop easy-to-follow guidelines and support for residents – including:

- ✓ Clear parameters on suitable streets, activities, and times.
- ✓ A simple application process with a short approval time frame.
- ✓ A customer focussed contact person who is easily available to take enquiries, provide support and coordinate liaison within your Local Government. This person will go the extra mile to build the confidence and capability of residents to host a successful Play Streets event.
- ✓ A simple planning checklist for local Play Street Hosts – in the lead up and on the day.
- ✓ A clear process internally so new Local Government staff can follow the system you have created, which includes how your Local Government organises traffic and risk management planning, traffic control and public liability.

Step 1 Get ready

We recommend you start by reviewing your existing policies. For example, you may find your Local Government has an existing Street Party Policy and those procedures can be adapted for Play Streets.

Keep in mind 1000 Play Streets is about building community connection and play on quiet residential streets. These are not major events and therefore require a “keep it simple” approach to risk, traffic & event management to ensure Play Street Hosts are inspired to get involved, rather than overwhelmed by red tape.

Neighbour Support

Generally speaking temporary street closures will require neighbour support for the closure before permit requests are approved. Some Local Governments require proof of this support.



Here's a 'Neighbour Support Register' that may be useful for your communities.

Step 1 Get ready

Traffic Management

Play Streets are only suitable on quiet local streets. This means streets with:

- ✓ 1000 cars or less per day.
- ✓ Minimal through traffic.
- ✓ Not on a bus or commercial route.
- ✓ An easy alternate route provided.
- ✓ No road or footpath works scheduled at time of the Play Street.

Traffic Control

Legislation requires a suitably accredited person(s) to implement a Local Government's traffic management plan and supervise the temporary street closures. There are three models of traffic control for you to consider:

- 1 Local Government staff are responsible for all traffic control.
- 2 Local Government staff are responsible for delivering traffic control signage, whilst residents trained in basic traffic control are responsible for set up and pack up of sign as per the Local Government's traffic management plan.
- 3 Local Government outsources traffic management and control to a third-party traffic management company.

1000 Play Streets is about learning how we better share our streets, so for all models, we recommend that if a resident living within the temporary street closure needs to use their car, they should be able to do so. However, they will need to drive at walking pace, guided by a Traffic Marshall.



Do you understand your legislative requirements?



Looking for more information and examples of traffic management plans. [Click here.](#)



CASE STUDY
Hear how Local Governments in our national pilots handled traffic control.

Step 1

Get ready

Public Liability

Public liability insurance cover ensures Play Streets organisers are protected against personal injury or property damage claims by residents and members of the public who attend. Generally, coverage is for an amount of \$20 million however we recommend Local Government obtains their own legal advice.

Play Australia recommends that your Local Government covers the cost of Public Liability insurance for Play Streets in your communities.

One way you can do this is by setting a target for the number of Play Street gatherings you would like to support within a financial year, then contact your Local Government insurance scheme (or relevant insurance body) to seek permission to include a number of these small-scale community gatherings under the insurance policy.

Remember to review attendance numbers each year with your insurer to check if additional coverage is required.



How is your LGA covering public liability for Play Streets?

CLICK ME!

Step 1
Get ready

Risk Benefit Assessment

When considering risk in the context of street play (or any play for that matter) there are positive implications to risky situations and risk-taking, especially when it comes to our children’s healthy development. Risk-taking is an essential component of play and supports children’s learning, builds self-confidence, and contributes to their overall resilience.

Play Streets are not risk free, and participants need to be aware that they are responsible for the behaviour and safety of themselves and their children. This includes respect towards other people and their property.

Cars and disgruntled residents are the main factors to consider in your safety and risk assessment planning. Generally, how these factors are controlled are dealt with in your approaches toward traffic management, traffic control and neighbour engagement.



Here’s an example risk assessment template to help Local Governments and Play Street Hosts.



Step 1
Get ready

Play Streets Register

A register of who attends (including children) is recommended for each Play Street gathering.

This is a great way for your Local Government to build a network of Play Street supporters, to help further increase local support PLUS the register will be useful for follow up interviews or surveys when evaluating your Play Streets strategy and for photo/filming permissions.

We also recommend that you check your State/Territory regulations for compliance with COVID rules for public activities and communicate these through early promotion and on the day of your Play Street.



See an example Play Streets Register with some ideas about how you could embed your evaluation approach.





Picture credit: Office for Recreation, Sport & Racing



**If you've gotten this far,
CONGRATULATIONS! Now
the fun really begins!**

“There was an elderly lady who lives a few doors down and we had never seen her before, we had no idea that she lived there on her own, and she came across and introduced herself which was lovely, and now when we walk past we say ‘hi’ and I told her if something ever happens and you are on your own we are always home and and you can call on us, don’t be frightened to knock on our door if you need something.”

Play Street Attendee, 2021



Step 2

Connect

This section is about developing an understanding of your communities' needs, by taking the time to invest in relationship building. We need to recognise there is an abundance of skills and interest within your communities that is waiting to be unlocked.

This section also provides you with guidance on your community engagement efforts and how to help your local Play Streets Hosts by developing the 4 C's – commitment, capacity, connection, and confidence – to support Play Streets.



Are you ready to connect your communities with Play Streets?



CASE STUDY
Find out more about the 4 C's and why they are important.

Step 2

Connect

with Play Street Hosts

Play Street Hosts are so important to provide leadership within communities involved in Play Streets. There are many ways you can recruit Hosts – including mainstream and targeted recruitment.

A MAINSTREAM RECRUITMENT APPROACH

1000 Play Streets is a national campaign led by Play Australia and is part of a growing international movement. As awareness of the campaign increases, you may get enquiries from residents.

If you are already supporting 1000 Play Streets and looking to recruit Play Street Hosts, we recommend you talk to your Marketing team. Other Local Governments have found their Facebook page is an effective way to promote and generate strong community interest.

A TARGETED RECRUITMENT APPROACH – WHERE IS THE GREATEST NEED?

The reality for many parents, grandparents, and care givers, particularly those living in our more disadvantaged communities, is that through no fault of their own, they experience additional barriers to achieving positive health and wellbeing. This is a common story in our communities.

Now imagine these parents as the Play Street Hosts who will thrive with Local Government support. Remembering it's likely they will not respond to mainstream promotion, and it will take time to build their trust and confidence.



CASE STUDY
Take time to understand the touch points that can make or break the experience of your Play Street Host.



Check out some example social media posts here that have supported Host (and street) recruitment.

Step 2

Connect

with Play Street Hosts *continued*

HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY AND CONNECT WITH YOUR TARGETED COMMUNITIES?

There are a number of ways to do this - including:

- Talking to your Local Government colleagues about where the need is greatest.
- Reviewing local demographic data. Where is the greatest concentration of families and children in low socio-economic neighbourhoods?
- Talking to local leaders in your community centres, library services, children centres, playgroups, kindergartens, and primary schools to support targeted engagement. They will already have rich insights and relationships that you can build on.

In our experiences, the best results come from when Local Government staff visit communities, rather than expecting communities to come to the Council Office.



CASE STUDY
Read how Local Governments in our pilot connected with targeted communities – for further advice and inspiration

Step 2

Connect

and support Play Street Hosts

Once you have your potential contacts, your next step is to sound out their readiness to take on a Play Street Host role and what support your Local Government can provide. Think about it as a long-term investment in building community commitment, capacity, connection, and confidence.

Through effective relationship building you will soon get a sense of how much support they need – for example you may need to help them with;

- ✓ Street and neighbourhood engagement.
- ✓ Play Street Planning.
- ✓ Creating a welcoming environment at their Play Streets.

Remember to make it as easy as possible for your Play Street Hosts to thrive in delivering their own Play Streets.



How are you supporting your Play Street Hosts?



Here's some helpful checklists you can use for your Play Street Hosts to support planning and action.

Step 2
Connect

with neighbours

Taking time to connect with neighbours in a meaningful way early, can often save time and hurdles later. It's also fun to get neighbours involved in the planning and can help build the confidence of Play Street Hosts.

Door knocking or holding a street meeting is a great way to get started. This can be a big step for some, so think about what mentoring role your Local Government can provide.

By taking the time to support Play Street Hosts to consult with their neighbours you will get a strong sense of whether there is widespread support on the street and what further support they require.

Go the extra mile to build the commitment, capacity, connection, and confidence of your Play Street Hosts.



Check out our video on how Play Streets supports healthy communities.



Photo credit: Moreland City Council



Step 2

Connect and PLAY!

One of the best features of Play Streets is that it creates an engaging environment for spontaneous fun, socialisation between neighbours and play for all.

Children have an innate ability to create their own play using their imaginations and through the cues of others. Importantly, these types of opportunities are vital for their wellbeing, in often over-scheduled and over-structured lifestyles.

Just remember when supporting Play Streets:

- Make time for unstructured play, where children are free to engage in activities as they choose. The ideal play is led by children on their street and is only supported by adults as needed.
- Children and families are encouraged to bring their own street play gear. Popular items are bikes, scooters, chalk, skipping ropes, bats & balls. However, don't forget about nature's loose parts, being sticks, rocks, leaves and dirt – it all adds to the fun!
- Encourage creative play or pretend play.
- Support physical fitness and fundamental movement skills by giving children space and equipment to; run, jump, hop, balance, throw or ride/scoot.

- You can also facilitate fun and inclusive minor games (with few rules) led by adults or children that can further promote play. These can be great ice breakers (particularly for adults) to get people interacting and talking.
- Your Local Government may also consider investing in a Play Streets kit ...but keep it simple, as Play Streets should be easily replicable, not festival events with jumping castles or costly entertainment.

Furthermore, we recommend that there is an obvious social gathering area to ensure all residents, regardless of whether they have children, feel welcome to join in Play Streets.

Having a welcoming registration table, chairs, tea and coffee station are important elements to signal that “this is a space for all”.

Have fun!



Download our FREE Connect & Play Guide to help your Play Street Hosts with ideas.



Check out our video on how Play Streets supports healthy children.

“We have arranged to meet in the park at the same time next week so the kids could play. Thank you very much.”

Play Street Attendee, 2021

Step 3

Grow

This section is about taking the time to review your original plan and de-brief on the 1000 Play Streets gatherings in your communities as part of your continuous improvement approach.

It is an important process and can include:

- ✓ Thanking others for their effort and support.
- ✓ Celebrating & promoting success.
- ✓ Listening to a diversity of experiences and perspectives.
- ✓ Reporting – numbers and stories.
- ✓ Re-planning your next Play Streets.

Ideally your review involves listening to the views of your communities. This should include children, families and other residents involved, your Local Government colleagues and key contacts within supporting community organisations.

It's also about taking the time to report to your senior management and elected members.

Remember, the success of 1000 Play Streets in your Local Government can be a catalyst for more sustained changes to your local streets, to make them more liveable and child friendly.



Are you ready to
grow the good
from Play Streets?

Step 3

Grow

the story

It is important when investing in these kinds of community interventions that we take time to tell the story of our successes and learnings along the way, so they are not lost.

How you tell your story and the evidence you provide will depend on your available resources (time and budget). Involving a university researcher is a terrific way to give you an independent perspective on your work and build useful case studies for future reference.

If this is not possible, we recommend you go back to your Step 1 plan and reflect on progress:

- What changes were you hoping to see in your communities?
- What changes were you hoping to see in your Local Government system?
- Did you achieve those changes?
- What evidence do you have to validate your review?

Talk to participating children, families, residents, Play Street Hosts, Local Government staff and elected members, for a rich diversity of perspectives.

It is an extremely rewarding part of your work that can inform your next phase of planning. The best environment to get honest feedback is away from the office – it's amazing what you can learn when you listen to others over a cup of tea or coffee.

Think about a positive line of questioning that encourages celebration of success, a collegiate approach to recognising mistakes and learning from them, as part of a continuous improvement approach.



How are you growing the story of Play Streets?



CASE STUDY
Read La Trobe University's report on Play Streets in Hectorville SA, for ideas on how you tell your story.



Do you need further support? Try our action research prompts to help develop your own review approach.

Step 3

Grow

the good

1000 Play Streets is designed to build the health and wellbeing of communities, however as we've discovered through the pilots, there can be a mix of both intended and unintended outcomes.

What we do know is that many good things can start from a Play Street – for example:

- Communities may feel more connected to each other through their participation in Play Streets. In practice this may mean neighbours make more eye contact and say hello to each other in the neighbourhood.
- Play Street Hosts may feel more confident to coordinate more Play Street gatherings or others may step up into volunteer roles.
- Residents may shift attitudes toward being more supportive of children's play in the streets and view quiet residential streets as a space to be shared.
- Play Streets may be a catalyst for motivating children, families and neighbours to informally connect and play together outside - in and around their streets or broader community.

It is important Local Government recognises the good (whatever it is) and takes steps to nurture these positive shifts in behaviour, particularly when working with targeted communities.



How are you helping to sustain the positive impacts of Play Streets?



CASE STUDY
Are you adopting a targeted community approach for Play Streets? If yes, please read this important key learning from our national pilot.



“Change and collaboration within a large organisation can be challenging and is generally more successful if the outcomes of the proposed project align to multiple departments objectives. Success will depend on understanding these various objectives and articulating the benefits for all the stakeholders – Regulatory departments included.”

Play Street Local Government Representative, 2021

Step 3

Grow

system change

As stated at the start of this toolkit, ideally your big picture goals combine direct improvements to your community's wellbeing alongside improvements to your Local Government System; including developing a collaborative internal culture that unlocks people-centred policymaking, for improved community outcomes.

Take time to review your initial goals for system change – were you seeking to influence culture, infrastructure, policies, procedures or something else?

As part of your review process, it's important to talk to key staff in your Local Government to understand what worked well and what you would do differently next time.

It's also vital to place your communities at the centre of your review process, to effectively assess how changes to your Local Government system have improved conditions for children, volunteers, families and broader residents.

- How easy is it for residents to lead 1000 Play Streets in your Local Government?
- What evidence do you have?
- Are your senior managers and elected members more supportive of temporary street closures to encourage community development?

- Is there a clear alignment to your Local Government strategic plan? ...and is it documented?
- How have you safe-guarded your Play Streets model to ensure you're not dependant on a single staff member?

System change can be difficult however it needs to be a priority if we are ever going to improve practices and create stronger Local Government levers for sustainable impact.



How are you helping to sustain the positive impacts of Play Streets?



Try using a quadrant map to help you sharpen your system change focus.

Step 3

Grow

the movement

Play Australia invites Local Governments across Australia to join the 1000 Play Streets movement and help empower communities to reclaim their quiet residential street as places for neighbours of all ages to connect and play.

If you believe children, families, neighbours, pedestrians, bike riders and motorists should be given equal priority on our quiet residential streets – to share these important community spaces in a safe and respectful manner, so more children can play outside every day – then we welcome your involvement in the movement.



Do you need Play Australia's support with your Play Streets roll out?



Do you have a question about 1000 Play Streets? Read our Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Become a

1000 Play Streets Local Government Partner today

to help us grow the movement PLUS get access to our new evaluation toolkit, 1-on-1 consulting, community engagement resources, LGA networks and much more.

[READ OUR MoU](#)

PLUS purchase equipment packs and street signage for your communities.

[READ MORE](#)

And don't forget to promote the movement to your Local Government networks and communities.



Remember to tag Play Australia and use **#1000PlayStreets** when promoting Play Streets on your favourite social media platforms.

***Note:** if you are sharing pictures or videos, please make sure you have permission before posting content*

Get in touch

For Local Governments who wish to discuss partnership opportunities, please get in touch with Play Australia today.

Contact:

Play Australia
info@playaustralia.org.au
PlayAustralia.org.au

Thank you for reading our 1000 Play Streets Toolkit for Australian Local Government.



1000 play
STREETS
Toolkit

