## CAMDEN COUNCIL Media Release



27 July 2016

## **Camden Council Opens New Merino Reserve Playground**

Elderslie residents can see how their ideas have translated into action, at a new nautical-themed playground in Merino Drive.

The Merino Reserve Playground project has involved the installation of new park and play equipment, paths, fencing and landscaping.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak said "Council is extremely proud of the new playground and we thank Elderslie residents for their contribution to its development."

"It is vital that residents have input into community projects. Prior to completing the Merino Reserve Playground design in October 2015, Council consulted with the Elderslie community through the Your Parks Your Voice project."

"Locals were invited to complete a survey and participate in pop-up activities, which were fun and engaging, particularly for children."

"The responses from the survey and the pop up activities gave us insight into what improvements or additions people desired."

"We are delighted that many children and families have been making use of the space since its recent completion."

With a project budget of \$317,400, the Merino Reserve Playground includes:

- Additional paths
- Two picnic settings within a shelter
- Dedicated outdoor fitness area with a five station gym
- A cable ride
- A multi swing set and small basket swing
- Pirate's crows nest
- A children's play unit, HMAS Merino
- Two embankment slides
- A post and rail fence
- Landscaping including the planting of several trees

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The project underlines Council's commitment to providing facilities for the local government area's growing population of younger residents. This demographic is forecast to grow dramatically over the next 30 years.

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