
Service and Operational Matters - 26 October 2021

ITEM 8.1 Sports Facilities Strategic Plan

AUTHOR City Future

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

To inform Council of the draft Sports Facilities Strategic Plan and seek endorsement to publicly exhibit the draft Plan to obtain community feedback. A report outlining any feedback received during the exhibition period will be reported back to Council.

ISSUE

The draft Sports Facilities Strategic Plan is the first for the City of Canterbury Bankstown and will provide Council with the overarching strategic direction to guide the provision, maintenance and upgrade of sporting infrastructure across the city. The Plan establishes a hierarchy for each sporting code and identifies the adequacy of the existing sports facilities to meet current and projected future needs. In doing so, the Plan identifies priority projects for each sporting code and will assist Council in its planning for sporting facilities across the city.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorse the draft Sports Facilities Strategic Plan for public exhibition.
2. A further report be submitted to Council at the conclusion of the public exhibition period to consider any submissions received.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment](#)

- A. Draft Sports Facilities Strategic Plan

POLICY IMPACT

The Sports Facilities Strategic Plan supports the aspirations of the Community Strategic Plan and contributes to the Healthy and Active destination. The Plan will also provide a new strategic approach for the whole of Canterbury-Bankstown.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Sports Facilities Strategic Plan will not have an immediate financial impact. Implementation of priority actions will be considered in the preparation of Council's annual Operational Plan and budget process.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Sporting facilities contribute to the community's quality of life and overall well-being. The adoption of the plan will provide a clear strategic direction and will assist Council in working with sporting clubs, associations and other sporting bodies in the prioritisation of projects.

Public exhibition of the plan also provides the community with the opportunity to engage and participate in decision making and contribute to planning sports facilities to service current and future residents.

DETAILED INFORMATION

There is an extensive network of sports facilities in Canterbury-Bankstown, with the majority catering for grass-roots sports, and some for elite level sport. With 75 sporting complexes, incorporating over 122 sporting fields, these facilities provide different levels of service for varying uses, forms and functions. Many are multipurpose and promote the shared use of facilities between multiple clubs and sporting codes, particularly across the summer and winter sporting seasons.

The draft Sports Facilities Strategic Plan (the Plan) is the first for the City of Canterbury Bankstown and will provide Council with the overarching strategic direction to guide the provision, maintenance and upgrade of sporting infrastructure across the city. It also acknowledges the need for a collaborative approach to sports facilities planning with community and sports associations to achieve equitable access for grass roots sporting opportunities for local level community sport.

The actions in the Plan support a vision to provide a range of different sports facilities, contributing to our City's vibrancy and sense of place whilst promoting an active and healthy community. The following six principles will support Council to deliver on this vision:

1. Create accessible, sustainable and connected sports facilities.
2. Provide safe and clean facilities.
3. Promote equal opportunities to participate and spectate for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
4. Ensure a collaborative approach to sports facilities planning and development with community and sports associations.
5. Prioritise an improvement in the grassroots sporting experience for local level community sport.
6. Ensure functional, multi-purpose and adaptable facilities.

Consistent with Council's approach to open space planning, a hierarchy of facilities is established to inform the typical infrastructure that may be considered at each of the different level facilities.

An analysis of 16 sports codes was also undertaken and considers facility distribution, participation trends and Council's strategic position for each sport. Strategic actions are also identified for individual sports which will:

- help guide future works within Canterbury-Bankstown's forward capital works program;
- support Council's grant funding applications;
- guide Council's response to requests from sporting groups for facility upgrades; and
- align with the future needs of Sport Infrastructure Study currently under development by the New South Wales (NSW) Office of Sport.

Community Engagement

The exhibition period will be an opportunity to continue conversations with state sporting organisations, local sporting clubs and associations, as well as the broader community to confirm priority actions. It is proposed that an extended public exhibition period be undertaken. Community consultation will be conducted using the Have Your Say platform and promoted via social media and local newspaper. Targeted consultation will be planned for sporting associations and key stakeholders to ensure they are informed on the proposal and have the opportunity to provide feedback to Council. A further report will be prepared for Council following the close of the exhibition period to consider any submissions received.