

#### 4. PROPOSED RECREATION AND SPORT FACILITIES STRATEGY

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##### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to outline the process to develop a Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy.

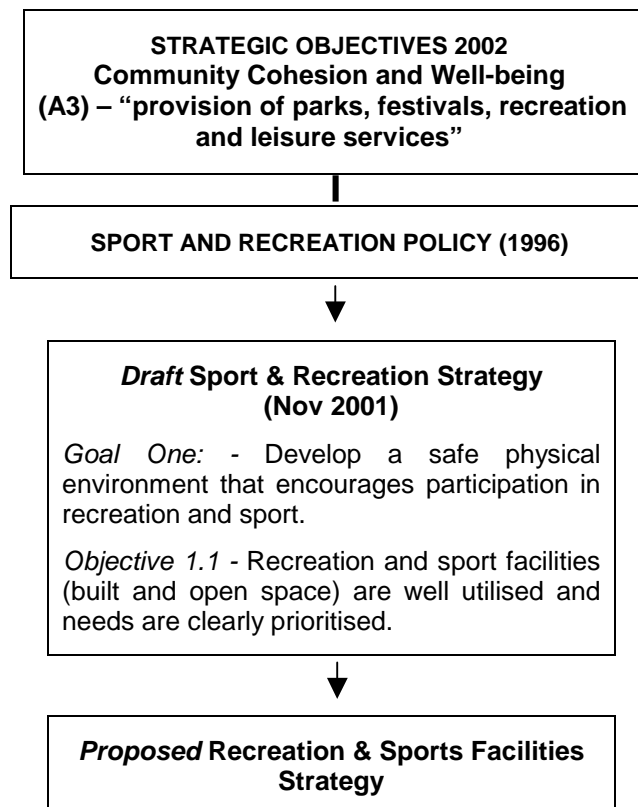
##### CONTEXT

During the process to develop the Recreation & Sport Strategy for the city, the need to prioritise the city's needs for sport and recreation facilities was highlighted. The Christchurch City Council has carried out planning for some facilities, such as swimming pools. However, no evaluation and prioritisation of recreation and sport facilities needs has been carried out across a broad range of facilities.

The Christchurch City Council and other funders are regularly approached for facility funding requests and have to make decisions based on no clear priorities or strategy for the development of facilities in Christchurch City. Research to establish future needs for sport and recreation facilities for Christchurch, will enable the development of a strategy to identify and prioritise these needs.

##### POLICY PICTURE

Strategic Objective A of the Council's 2001/2002 Annual Plan is the enhancement of community cohesion and well-being. This objective is addressed by the Sport and Recreation Policy (1996), which is a key policy from which existing plans and strategies link for the proposed Recreation and Sport Facility Strategy.



The proposed Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy will also need to take into consideration the plans of other facility providers and other strategies being developed by the Council such as the Open Space Strategy and the Port Hills Recreation Strategy.

## DESCRIPTION

The purpose of developing a Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy is to develop a framework to identify the priorities for the provision of sport and recreation facilities over the next 10–15 years. Within the scope of this study are major facilities provided by commercial operators, clubs and associations, schools, trusts and Council owned facilities. The geographic scope recognises that many recreation and sport areas outside the city are also very significant. Assessment of the major recreation and sport facilities will be defined in the context of what is available regionally. It is not intended to address within the proposed Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy the issues of small local community based facilities and open space planning (these are considered to be separate but related processes), although consideration of these may influence parts of the strategy.

The proposed process for the development of Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy is divided into several stages.

- Stage 1      Identify sport and recreation facility needs.  
                  Identify existing major facilities and their level of utilisation.
- Stage 2      Match needs identified with capacity of existing facilities.  
                  Develop sport and recreation facility priorities for the city.
- Stage 3      The Council to identify its strategy and priorities for Recreation and Sport facilities.

It should be emphasised that Stages 1 and 2 are focused on identifying the city's priorities for sport and recreation facilities. Stage 3 is about the Council determining the role(s) it wishes to play in helping to meet those priorities and will largely be a matter for political decision-making. It is suggested that Stage 3 become a matter for consideration by the Pools and Stadia Subcommittee.

The timetable for this project is currently estimated at a minimum of one year to complete all three stages, with completion of Stage one within four months of the start date.

### Content of the Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy

Primarily, the proposed Strategy should aim to identify and prioritise recreation and sport facility needs. It is envisaged the Recreation and Sport Facilities Strategy would need to address and include the following:

- An overview of current sport and recreation facility needs over the next 10–15 years.
- The potential for existing facilities to meet identified needs.
- An indication of gaps in current provision.
- Prioritisation of the identified recreation and sport facilities needs for the city.
- Identified roles for the Christchurch City Council and other providers for developing facilities.
- Christchurch City Council priorities established for these needs.
- Other identified funding sources and potential partnerships for the provision of recreation and sport facilities.
- Funding implications for established priorities.
- Criteria for guiding future CCC funding allocations.

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION - STEERING GROUP AND PROJECT CONTROL GROUP

It is suggested a core in-house "Project Control Group" is established for the ongoing work and management of the project, responsible for implementing key steps of the process. The proposed membership of the Project Control Group would consist of four staff from the Leisure Unit. It is also proposed a consultant be engaged for ongoing advice in conjunction with this control group.

As the proposed Strategy is to prioritise sport and recreation facility needs of Christchurch City, rather than only those of the Council, a "Steering Group" is also suggested to guide the process. In particular the Steering Group would guide Stages 1 and 2, with members contributing a range of different skills and perspectives for the development of the Strategy. The proposed membership of the Steering Group is a mix of external representation from the industry, Councillors and the Leisure Manager. It is envisaged that maximum numbers for the Steering Group would be 8-10 people. The Steering Group would operate informally and not qualify for any meeting allowances. The following composition is suggested for the Steering Group:

## **External**

- Representative of Sport Canterbury
- Representative of the Community Trust
- Representative of School Principals Association
- A sports journalist
- Non-aligned community representative
- A former international sports person

## **Internal**

- Leisure Unit Manager
- Two Councillors

The establishment of the Steering Group is the first priority to enable commencement of this project as soon as possible.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the process to develop the Recreation and Sport Facility Strategy be approved.
  2. That the Steering Group composition be endorsed and members be invited by the Leisure Manager and Chairperson of the Community and Leisure Committee.
  3. That two representatives of the Community and Leisure Committee be selected for the Steering Group.

## **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted, and that Councillors Ganda and Stonhill be appointed as this Committee's representatives on the steering group.