

Forward - Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand aims to get more young people and adults into sport and active recreation and produce more winners on the worlds sporting stage. It does this through its strategic approach for Community Sport and High Performance Sport outcomes. Spaces, places, and facilities for sport is one of five strategic priorities in the Community Sport Strategy with a goal to develop and sustain a world leading community sport system where the need of the participant and athlete is the focus.

With leadership from the network of Regional Sports Trusts. Sport NZ is actively supporting better

With leadership from the network of Regional Sports Trusts, Sport NZ is actively supporting better decision making and investment for future sporting spaces and places through a collaborative regional approach with local and regional government, education, Iwi, funders, national and regional sports organisations.

The drivers for taking a regional approach to facility planning can be one or more of the following:

- The desire of funders to invest wisely in identified priority projects that will make the most impact
- An ageing network of facilities needing refurbishment, re-purposing, replacement or removal
- Changing demographics within a community, such as an increase in the population.
- Changing participation trends nationally and within a region requiring new types of facilities, or a new use of an existing facility
- Increasing expectations of users and user groups
- A growing acknowledgement that there is a hierarchy of facilities regional, sub-regional and local – and that regional collaboration is the only fair and reasonable way to build and manage regional and sub-regional facilities.
- The risks inherent in focussing on and responding to the wants rather than the priority needs within a region.

Sport Manawatu and its local government and funding partners are to be commended for collaborating and developing a strategic region-wide view and identifying the priorities for future spaces, places and facility needs.

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Contents

1.0	Introduction	Δ
	lan Purpose	
Us	sing this Plan	4
М	1ethodology	4
Lir	mitations	5
Fa	acility Hierarchy Definitions	6
2.0	Our Challenges	7
3.0	Our Choices for the Network	9
4.0	Our Key Principles	10
5.0	Decision Criteria, Facility Evaluation, Funding	11
5.0	Potential Facility Optimisation Approaches	16
Re	ecommendations	21
Pr	roposed Priority Actions	22
App	pendix 1: Summary Proposed Facility Approach	23
Apr	pendix 2: Higher Status Facilities Summary	33

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Plan Purpose

The purpose of the Manawatū Regional Sport Facility Plan is to provide a high level strategic framework for regional sport and recreation facility planning. It is designed to provide direction on what should be done and crucially, what should not be done. The plan is designed to focus thinking at a network wide sport and recreation facilities level with emphasis on national, regional and sub-regional assets, while also capturing local level facility data.

Using this Plan

Like all high level plans, especially those as ambitious in scope, both geographically and in terms of content as this plan, additional more detailed planning will be required (at both the regional and local level). The plan should not be seen as a replacement for this detailed focused research and analysis. As additional sports codes undertake, or update their existing national and regional facility plans, it is envisaged that this plan will require updating.

This plan does not set a standard level of service for sport and recreation facilities across the Region. Individual Council's determine their own, specific levels of service through strategies, policies and Long Term Plan processes. However, it is intended that this plan provide a framework to help guide regional provision and individual Council's levels of service for sport and recreation facilities.

Given the plan is trying to examine issues based on available evidence at a network wide level, some specific code aspirations may not align. The plan is envisaged to be used as a tool to assist the coordination of sport and recreation facility provision and optimisation.

Methodology

The information summarised in this plan was collected using a mix of survey, engagement, and secondary data sources. This triangulated approach provided the best means to get the most comprehensive data coverage possible with available resources. The specific approaches used are briefly summarised below:

Primary Facility Survey

A general inventory survey was developed with Sport Manawatū and Manawatu-Whanganui Region Councils for distribution to sport facility owners and/or managers to identify what facilities were available, what their regional roles were, and what their associated needs or issues were. These surveys were distributed to local contacts by staff coordinators at each of the Region's Local Authorities. To maximise the survey response a range of follow-up processes were implemented. Council staff also provided survey entries for facilities associated with council or council lands. This process generated over 350 individual survey responses during the specific survey period, which in turn represented over 500 individual facility responses. This was supplemented by an extensive post-survey working group review process which generated further entries of relevant additional facility information.

School Facility Survey

A supporting survey was developed to identify the complementary facility resources available in the primary and secondary education sector, and to identify issues affecting community sport use of school facilities. This was coordinated through Sport Manawatū and circulated to schools in the Manawatu-Whanganui Region. This process generated 61 survey returns, including 70% of all secondary schools. The gap in survey responses was addressed in part through the use of Ministry of Education data on school pools and gymnasiums (where it was available).

Regional Sports Organisations' Input

Sport Manawatū engaged with Regional Sports Organisations (RSO) to gain their insight on code participation trends and facility issues. These perspectives were considered during the development of the plan. RSO input was also sought through the consultation process.

Engagement

Ongoing engagement was conducted with the Technical Working Group and Project Steering Group. This was undertaken to define the investigation scope, to review responses and identify gaps and priorities for follow up. In some cases specific approaches were made to selected groups to provide additional post-survey information.

Secondary data

A secondary data review was undertaken within the scope of the project brief to identify available strategic documents. Current council strategies, plans and long term plan documents were reviewed for relevant data as part of this process. Secondary data was also sourced where gaps in the inventory database were identified. The main example of this was the Ministry of Education pools and gymnasiums data. In some cases specific approaches were made to sports groups for facility information; internet and document sources were also searched.

Database

All of this information is being compiled into a data base resource. The survey results provide the primary database, which is being refined and added to for follow up uses by Sport Manawatū and Territorial Authorities as required. Additional or updated information is being incorporated when provided.

Limitations

The Strategy is based on available data at the time of writing. Given the reliance on secondary data and primary data from third parties it is likely that some data omissions do exist (especially given the project's significant scope). However, the Strategy represents the most comprehensive regional facility data source currently available.

This Strategy does not replace the need for additional focused planning and analysis at a code and specific facility level. As additional sports codes and recreation groups undertake, or update, their existing national and regional facility plans it is envisaged that this Strategy will require updating. However, given the Strategy is trying to examine issues based on available evidence at a network wide level for a diversity of sports some individual code aspirations may not align with the strategy.

Facility Hierarchy Definitions

The following general facility hierarchy definitions have been used within the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan:

International: A facility with the ability to host international competitions / events (i.e. between nations)

National: A facility with the ability to host regional representative competitions (including professional and semi-professional franchise competitions involving teams from outside New Zealand) and / or to serve as a national high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes.

Regional: A facility with the ability to host inter-regional and internal regional competitions and /or serves as a regional high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes.

Sub Regional: A facility with the ability to draw significant numbers of participants/ teams/ competitors from across adjacent territorial authority boundaries for either competition or training purposes.

District: A facility with the size and ability to cater for and serve an entire district. This type of venue would often be the central hub for a specific activity type.

Local: A facility which often facilitates people's introduction to sports and recreation and primarily serves a town or suburb (or potentially two suburbs) only.

Note: It is important to understand that a facility at a higher hierarchy level may also meet the needs all the way down to a local level.

Acceptable Drive Times

Acceptable drive times for each facility hierarchy level are:

International: No drive time limit

National: No drive time limit

Regional: 90 mins

Sub Regional: 60 mins

District: 35 mins

Local: 20 mins

2.0 OUR CHALLENGES

The Manawatū-Whanganui sports and recreation facility network faces a number of challenges. These challenges include:

Population Distribution and Changing Demographics:1

The Manawatū-Whanganui Region is a large area with an unevenly distributed population of around 220,000 (2013 estimate, Statistics NZ). Most are residents of Palmerston North City (~80,000) and Whanganui District (~42,000), with others more spread out in Horowhenua (~30,000); Manawatū (~27,000); Tararua (~17,000); Rangitikei (~14,000) and Ruapehu (~12,000).

Some Districts are very geographically extensive and have relatively low population densities spread over multiple small towns (i.e. Tararua, Rangitikei, Ruapehu). Others have much larger concentrated urban populations (i.e. Palmerston North, Whanganui), and the remaining have moderate populations largely in main District towns (i.e. Horowhenua, Manawatū). The population capacity to support different facility types is highly varied in different parts of the Region.

Potential facility needs associated with substantial population growth only appear likely at a significant level in parts of Palmerston North City, areas of Manawatū District close to Palmerston North, and any 'new development' area of Horowhenua District targeted to receive a population influx associated with new roading developments (i.e. Levin, Foxton). Careful attention will be required on any planning provisions for new growth areas, along with monitoring of any evolving population growth patterns associated with wider developments to confirm assumptions (i.e. Horowhenua growth).

Irrespective of overall growth, projections indicate population will also be aging in all districts, with only relative age-group growth being among those aged over 65 years. All other age-groups show a relative decline. The location and types of sport and recreation facilities and services offered will therefore need to adapt over time so they are not mismatched with community needs.

The demographics figures outlined in this report are generally based on Statistics NZ data as this is available for the whole region based on a consistent, national methodology. It is expected that when significant new structural change is planned in an area or where specific, more detailed planning tasks such as needs, options and feasibility analyses are undertaken for specific projects, that the most up to date, renewed local data will be used². Sport NZ has an online insights tool³ which provides sport, recreation, health, population and schools data. A more detailed version for sector professionals provides further information including participation trends and other metrics at a regional level.

Maintaining Assets, Facility Sustainability and Service Levels:

Community sport and recreational assets are provided by a range of entities including, territorial authorities, charitable trusts, the Ministry of Education (via schools), tertiary education providers, and community groups and clubs. Maintaining aging assets, current service levels and facility sustainability is likely to become increasingly difficult in some geographic locations, especially for areas with decreasing and / or aging populations.

In some instances, complying with building code requirements, meeting earthquake standards and avoiding functional obsolescence will also be very real challenges. Duplication and underutilisation of sports and recreational facilities will become increasingly unaffordable over time; and so some rationalisation will be required. New or non-traditional sources of facility provision will need to be considered, such as those available in retirement villages for example.

7

 $^{^{\}mbox{\tiny 1}}\mbox{See}$ Appendix 1 of the Reference Report for a demographics main point summary

² This may include any new, up-to-date reports and/or customized population projection data that becomes available reflecting significant local changes and monitoring directions. See Appendix 1 of the Reference Report for further details on customized projections.

³ Available to view at <u>www.sportnz.org.nz/insights</u>

The ability to secure appropriate funding levels (from various sources) for ongoing maintenance and operations is a challenge. Often funding for upgrades and new capital developments is easier to obtain than funding for ongoing operations. This contributes to overall sustainability issues for many sport and recreation facilities.

Changing Sport Participation Preferences:

Sports participation preferences are constantly changing (as illustrated by the rise of 'pay for play' sport). As community needs change future sport and recreation facilities will need to be more adaptable and resilient to allow for new and changing demands, and have less of a reliance on single-activities. This is especially the case for facilities at the more local, district and sub-regional levels. The facility network will need to adapt to change and be more flexible. This may see a greater mix in private provision and partnerships between different stakeholders to compliment traditional Council delivery approaches.

Improving Collaborative Approaches:

Historical decision making in respect of new or replacement facilities has often been undertaken on an ad-hoc basis. Population growth in certain areas and the desire to replace or refurbish existing aging facilities (particularly in areas with an aging and/or decreasing population) will place demands on capital funding budgets. It will become increasingly important for all stakeholders to work collaboratively in order to improve delivery and sustainability of sport and recreational facilities.

The education network is an important part of the solution to providing sustainable sport and recreation facilities in local communities. School partnerships are becoming increasingly important and are supported by the Ministry of Education's Community and Shared Use Principles Policy.

Legislative Challenges:

The sports and recreation sector faces a number of legislative challenges many with potentially significant impacts. For example, the Reserves Act 1977 has largely failed to keep pace with a changing sporting and social environment. Many aspects of the Act inhibit the sustainability of sport and recreation facilities.

Liquor licensing changes and the lowering of the breath alcohol level have also had dramatic impacts of sports club revenue. Recent changes to health and safety legislation are impacting sport and recreation organisations with additional compliance and liability requirements.

The impact of the legislative environment needs to be taken into consideration when examining the future sustainability of the facility network.

3.0 OUR CHOICES FOR THE NETWORK

With regards to the Manawatū-Whanganui sport facility network our future approaches / choices for the facility network can be generally summarised as:

Retaining the Status Quo - Maintaining the assets we have and maintaining existing service levels

Retaining the status quo will likely require either increasing territorial rates, increasing costs to participate through user fee increases and diverting funding from other budget areas (or a combination of the three) in order to maintain existing facilities and service levels. This could be achieved by developing both new facilities and by maintaining existing ones. This would also mean a continuation of the current ad-hoc approach to facility provision with the potential that new facilities do not actually address strategic gaps and issues.

Halting New Facility Development

This would involve stopping any new development and investing only in the maintenance and refurbishment of existing assets. As a result of this approach service levels would likely decline in some population growth areas and increase in other more established areas. Over time the facility network would be less likely to meet the needs of the changing population and will experience ongoing capacity issues.

Undertaking Strong Asset Rationalisation

Under this approach all assets, which did not meet certain viability or community need criteria, would be rationalised over a period of time. Funding would then be prioritised to facilities that fulfilled an identified community need and promoted a best practice approach (in terms of design, materials, governance, management and sustainability).

Implementing a Mixed Rationalisation and Development Model

Under this approach a mix of coordinated facility rationalisation, optimisation (refurbishment), and new development would be required. This would likely involve capital development and operational partnerships between multiple stakeholders (such as territorial authorities, community funders, Sport Manawatū, Sport New Zealand, Regional and National Sports Organisations, sports clubs, and any other relevant potential facility/service providers such as the Ministry of Education, Tertiary sector, government agencies and health providers).

Our Regional Approach

This strategy has adopted a mixed rationalisation and development approach. It is believed that this will deliver the best outcomes for the Region given factors such as its population and demographic projections, existing sports facility stock and geography.

4.0 OUR KEY PRINCIPLES

The key principles underpinning this plan are summarised as:

Sustainability

Our network of facilities and the individual facilities themselves need to be sustainable in order to maximise benefits for residents⁴.

Multi Use

Where appropriate facilities should be designed to enable multiple uses.

Accessibility

Our facilities should be accessible to all residents regardless of income, ages and physical ability.

Partnerships / Collaboration

Working together with partners to plan, develop and operate sport and recreation facilities will become increasingly important in order to optimise our network and maintain its sustainability.

Adaptability / Functionality

It is important that our facilities be as adaptable and functional as possible as sport and recreation demands will likely change in the future.

Community Return on Investment

It is important that any capital investment delivers a justifiable community return (measured both socially and economically) to residents.

Avoid Overprovision / Duplication

Over provision or unnecessary duplication of facilities should be avoided.

Appropriate Maintenance

Our existing and planned sport and recreation facilities need to be appropriately maintained throughout their projected lifespan to ensure they deliver benefit to the community.

⁴ For us sustainability means well utilised sport and recreation facilities with strong governance and management that are able to meet their operational costs (able to meet their operational costs while having robust asset management planning including covering depreciation, renewals and maintenance).

5.0 DECISION CRITERIA, FACILITY EVALUATION, FUNDING

Decision Criteria

The Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan has adopted a series of criteria to ensure a robust, transparent and fair process in determining the type of facility which is likely to be required, and/or the development priority given to different facilities. The purpose of these criteria is to ensure all projects are evaluated in a structured way. These criteria are aligned to those used in neighbouring regions so that cross boundary facility discussions can be more easily facilitated.

These criteria should be considered in conjunction with the proposed facility investment decision making process (see facility investment decision making process framework). The criteria outlined below should be considered at all levels of this evaluation and decision-making process. However, at the initial evaluation stage/s level one criteria should assume prominence, while other levels of criteria would be considered in more detail should a proposal progress.

The Sport New Zealand National Facilities Framework and Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Development Guide are useful documents that can help inform this evaluation and decision-making process.

Our evaluation criteria are as follows.

Level One/Gateway Criteria:

- The degree of alignment a facility or proposed facility has with national, regional and local plans and strategies, such as code specific national facility plans and those concerned with urban planning, infrastructure development, tourism / economic development, and transport networks.
- The degree to which any existing or proposed facility matches the projected needs of the community within its core catchment area. In the case of facilities with wide utilisation (such as aquatics facilities) this involves consideration of all potential and existing users from general recreational users through to organised sports codes (memberships).
- The track record and ability of the proponent organisation. This can be assessed through an independent review of an organisation's governance, management, operations (including financial viability), and membership levels.⁵

Level Two Criteria:

- The potential for operational and/or capital partnerships between multiple stakeholders.
- The degree to which a facility or proposed facility compliments (avoids duplication) / optimises the existing or proposed facility network, and builds on the Manawatū-Whanganui region's strengths.

⁵ Sport Manawatu and Sport Whanganui are able to undertake these types of assessments for clubs and regional sports organisations.

- The degree to which demand exceeds supply (once all existing facilities are being run
 at an optimal operational level) and the facility or proposed facility is capable of
 meeting the identified gap.
- The degree to which the existing or proposed facility is operationally sustainable (taking a whole of lifecycle approach which looks at operational and maintenance costs throughout the facility's life).
- The return on investment (measured in terms of community benefit) that the facility, or proposed facility, can generate.
- The ability of the facility, or proposed facility, to reflect international and national best practice in its location, design and subsequent operation.
- The ability of the facility, or proposed facility, to progress the competitive sporting objectives of the Manawatū-Whanganui region and wider New Zealand society.

Given the Strategy is a high level strategic document it is acknowledged that all proposed facility approaches identified in the Strategy will need to be tested in more detail. This will involve the presentation of verified facts and evidence-based decision making (as outlined in the proposed facility investment decision making process below).

Facility Investment Decision Making Process

A proposed facility investment decision making process framework has been developed to assist collaboration (Figure 5.1). The process is envisaged to involve community funders, territorial authorities, education providers, regional sports organisations, clubs, and Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui acting in a collaborative manner to ensure facilities reflect the needs of their communities, while also fitting within a regional network of facilities.

This process is not intended to replace the legislative requirements and decision-making processes of individual stakeholders. Rather it is an overall framework that can be used either alongside, or be integrated into stakeholder decision making processes related to sport and recreation facilities.

All proposed facilities, whether new build or redevelopments, should go through this process. However, the scale of the proposed project and its likely ongoing operational costs will dictate how detailed the analysis in each stage of the process will need to be. For some smaller projects, the process can likely be truncated. For example, a small, local level facility development proposal may require less detailed analysis than a District, Regional or National level facility development proposal. Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui, as the process facilitators, will be able to provide guidance on this.

The process has six key work stages which are punctuated by phases for stakeholder review. At each of these review stages stakeholders may choose to suggest ways the facility concept could be optimised, suggest proceeding to the next work stage (if the facility concept is considered feasible), or even decide to decline or withdraw their support. The decline or withdrawal of support by certain stakeholders may not necessarily terminate a project. However, it may require the project to be reconceptualised.

The process is designed to reduce time and cost for both the project proponents and potential stakeholders by only requiring the minimum amount of work to be undertaken at each stage in order to inform the next stakeholder review stage.

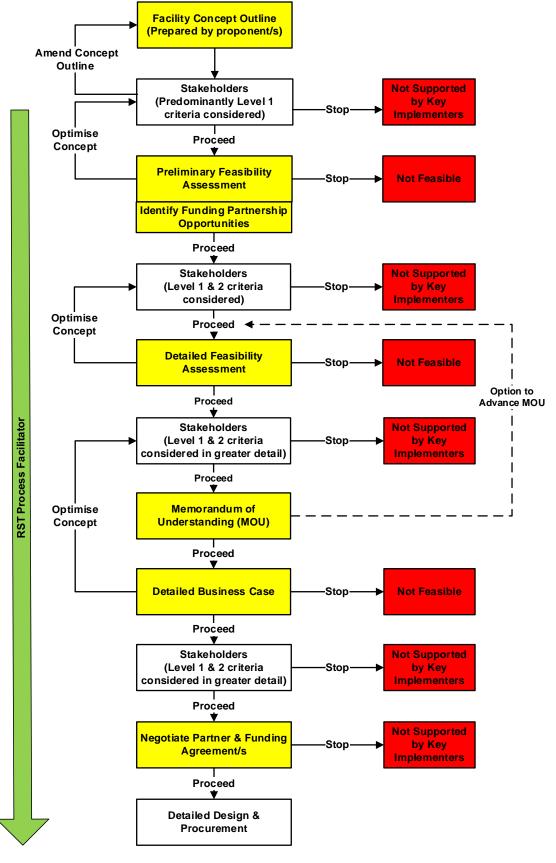
The key work stages are:

- 1. **Facility Concept Outline:** A short outline (under 4 pages) which summarises the proposed project and key facts. This should include a brief facility description, an indicative cost (based on a GFA rate), a proposed location, a potential governance and management structure, an outline of the perceived need for the facility, and its degree of alignment with strategic documents. No architectural plans are required at this stage.
- 2. **Preliminary Feasibility Assessment**: A high level assessment which tests the viability of the facility concept. This work should confirm any immediate challenges and opportunities; and on balance whether progressing further is warranted. Part of the assessment will involve identifying funding partnership opportunities (for example between territorial authorities). <u>No</u> architectural plans are required at this stage beyond simple bulk and location analysis.
- 3. **Detailed Feasibility Assessment**: A detailed assessment which examines holistically all areas of the potential facility development. This will require professional input from a range of consultants and involve such things as sports planning, demographics, business planning, preliminary concept design (including addressing accessibility issues), governance, and management.
- 4. **Memorandum of Understanding:** A MoU will set out what different partners expectations are, provided they have decided to progress examining the project further (and particularly if they are contributing seed funding to assist with undertaking further analysis). If stakeholders are contributing funding towards a detailed feasibility assessment this MoU stage can be brought forward.
- 5. **Detailed Business Case:** This analysis examines the financial implications of the proposed development in greater detail and builds on earlier work undertaken in the detailed feasibility assessment. Particular emphasis will be placed on operational and capital issues.
- 6. **Negotiate Partner and Funding Agreements:** Should the project be supported following the earlier analysis stages, partnership and funding agreements will need to be negotiated between the parties. Only once these have been successfully agreed should the project be initiated and detailed design and procurement be commenced.

Note: Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui will be able to guide proponents through the facility investment decision making framework and direct them towards useful resources (such as business case templates). The time taken to implement this framework will vary depending on the nature of the project.

Proponents and stakeholders alike should consider at each stage how a project aligns with the principles, criteria and recommendations of the Manawatū-Whanganui regional sport facilities plan. The principles and criteria should be used to structure stakeholder decision making.

Figure 5.1: Full Facility Investment Decision Making Process



Note:

Stakeholders may include the likes of Local Authorities, Sport Manawatu, Sport Wanganui, Department of Conservation, Community Funders, SNZ, RSO, NSO, Schools, and MOE.

Preliminary Funding Approach

To assist with implementing the Sports Facility Strategy a preliminary funding approach has been prepared for discussion. The approach outlines each facility level (from international to local facilities) and the potential funders which align with each level (Figure 5.2). Certain potential funders, such as the Ministry of Education, are likely to be more active at the regional, sub regional and district/local facility category levels (via facility partnerships on Ministry land) while others, such as central government, are more likely to be focused on international and national facilities. The remaining funders have the potential to operate over all facility category levels.

Figure 5.2: Preliminary Funding Approach



The approach outlined in Figure 5.2 would enable cross boundary facility partnerships between territorial authorities (and other partners). This approach will likely require both capital and operational funding being transferred between territorial authorities. Determining how this is done would need to be negotiated between the parties involved on a case by case basis (most likely aligned with catchment population and anticipated or demonstrated utilisation levels).

Determining the level of interest in such partnerships would initially begin to be assessed no later than at the preliminary feasibility stage in the decision-making process and would then continue throughout the process.

Coordinating the funding approach would be assisted by both:

- a) A regional facility partnership funding policy which has the support of territorial authorities, community funders, and Sport New Zealand.
- b) A coordinated funding MOU / accord between territorial authorities, Sport Manawatū, Sport Whanganui, community funders, and Sport New Zealand, which sets out funding priorities for a set period (and which should be regularly reviewed).

The Ministry of Education, School Boards, community and other funders would also be able to allocate funding as they desired across all facility levels. Ideally this funding would be guided by the proposed funding MOU / accord between all potential funders (which in turn would be based on the principles, criteria and recommendations of the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional sport facilities plan).

5.0 POTENTIAL FACILITY OPTIMISATION APPROACHES

The Regional Sport Facilities Plan has identified facility gaps, facility over supply challenges (such as with clubrooms) and a number of areas where partnership approaches can be explored. Examples include partnerships between two local authorities and other partners, such as schools. Appendix 1 provides a summary of proposed approaches, by facility type, across local authorities. The plan assumes that a combination of asset rationalisation, refurbishment, and new development will be required.

Based on available data the Plan's high priority projects in the next ten years are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: High Priority Projec	ts (capex and planning) - by Council areas
Indicative Timeframe (Funding Dependent)	Proposed Optimisation Approach
1 – 3 years	 Manawatū District As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising Netball Court capacity (e.g. accessing other court spaces, times or developing new space, potentially in partnership). Explore multi use tennis court options and configurations (tennis / netball and tennis / junior, social and high school hockey). Formalise tennis facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality community access (particularly in areas where community court rationalisation or population growth has occurred). Assess cricket facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. Formalise cricket facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access. Tararua District Assess other current community indoor court facilities (including schools) for potential future changes in use due to population and demand changes. Assess indoor court facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities (when assets nearing the end of their life). Monitor existing pool use and rationalise assets as required. Potentially in line with an asset's working life. As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising certain aquatic facilities, potentially in partnership. Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual use of small localised school facilities. Formalise cricket facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality community access. Assess cricket facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access as demand requires. Explore multi use tennis court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any new developments are proposed by tennis. Assess current netball facilities for potential future changes in use because of the aging population. Formalise netball facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access on an as required basis.<!--</td-->

- Undertake a needs assessment/feasibility study of the local aquatics network to determine the need (or otherwise) for a new or redeveloped pool facilities.
- Complete current cricket facility upgrades at Fitzherbert Park and Manawaroa and Ongley Parks.
- Prioritise the investment in the development of multi-code artificial turf surfaces at Arena Manawatū and at one other City location.
- Explore developing a regional or sub-regional hub for gymsports.
- Assess options available for optimising outdoor bowls (including assessment of a Bowls Centre option).
- Undertake an indoor court networking programming assessment, or options assessment that could include exploring partnerships with the education sector should demand at peak use periods remain.
- Formalise facility partnerships with Massey University and secondary schools to ensure quality community access.
- Ensure existing facilities at Hokowhitu Lagoon for water sports are maintained and monitored.

Rangitikei District

- Reroofing Taihape Swim Centre (in LTP)
- Assessing options for Taihape Memorial Park

Whanganui District

- Consolidate sport activity and management facilities at the Springvale hub towards creating a Whanganui 'home of sport'.
- Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access (Indoor Courts).
- Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the aging population (Indoor Courts, Bowls, Netball).
- Upgrade the Whanganui East aquatics facility as planned, but consider options longer term.
- Monitor demand as population ages. (Cricket)
- Whanganui Assess cricket facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including indoor options at the developing Springvale hub.
- Assess netball facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including potential court relocation from Laird Park to the developing Springvale hub.
- As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities (Bowls, Bicycle).
- Assess feasibility of velodrome covering at Cooks Gardens.
- Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.

Horowhenua District

None specified at this level.

Ruapehu District

• None specified at this level.

4 - 10 years

Manawatū District

- Assess shooting sport facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.
- Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.

- As demand warrants it, assess equestrian facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- As demand warrants it, assess squash facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- Formalise playing field facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality access (as required by anticipated demands and gaps).
- Formalise aquatic facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Feilding High School) to ensure quality community access.

Tararua District

- Formalise indoor court facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access as required.
- Assess playing field facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.
- Explore school community playing field partnerships in strategic areas.
- Formalise playing field facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access (as required by anticipated demands and gaps).
- Formalise athletics facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required.
- As demand warrants it, assess golf facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- As demand warrants it, assess bowls facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- As demand warrants it, assess squash facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- As demand warrants it, assess equestrian facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
- Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
- Assess shooting facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.

Palmerston North City

- Formalise cricket facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access.
- Undertake an options assessment for optimising Athletics Track capacity.
- Assess current aquatic facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population.
- Explore partnership opportunities for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
- Assess current indoor courts, tennis and netball facilities for potential future changes in use because of the aging population and sports participation trends.
- Maintain Colquhoun Park as a regional softball facility.
- Explore multi use court opportunities of tennis and netball facilities at the time of court renewals.
- Maintain existing outdoor basketball court assets and monitor use
- Formalise partnerships with targeted schools to ensure enhanced quality community access to sportsfields should any capacity issues arise.
- Assess all sports facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and participation trends.
- Existing roller sport facilities at Memorial Park should be maintained and monitored.

Rangitikei District

None specified at this level (refer to LTP)

Whanganui District

- Undertake a programming assessment when demand pressure dictates (e.g. aligning the right activities with the right facilities) to ensure optimisation of the current indoor court network.
- Develop a general aquatic strategy for longer term planning directions, including Splash Centre options in support of developing the Springvale hub
- If indoor court demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options assessment for increasing indoor court capacity (e.g. access other court spaces or developing new space, potentially partnership).
- Assess current aquatic facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population (demand for warmer recreational water, hydrotherapy etc).
- Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual use of small localised school facilities across the city.
- Assess sports field facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities (lowering or increasing the specification of fields in different areas). This can relate to changing the ongoing roles of current artificial turfs (i.e. Gonville Domain).
- Explore school / community partnerships and hubbing opportunities for sports fields in strategic areas (such as Springvale Park).
- Where required formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access. (Cricket)
- Assess tennis facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including shared options with proposed new netball centre courts at the developing Springvale hub.
- Formalise indoor/tennis/netball/athletics facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.
- Explore multi-use court opportunities for tennis at the time of renewals or when any new developments are proposed by tennis.
- Investigate athletics facility development needs potentially associated with any general venue developments at Cooks Gardens.
- Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use allowing for population changes and changes in demand (Sports fields, Tennis, Golf, Shooting sports).
- As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. (Golf, Squash, Equestrian, Shooting Sports)
- Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends (Squash, Equestrian).

Horowhenua District

• None specified at this level.

Ruapehu District

None specified at this level.

Note: See Appendix 1 for additional detail.

In many instances the Plan also identifies that existing assets should have lifecycle models prepared (including building condition surveys) to determine their useful lifespan. This will enable maintenance to be optimised so that facilities are not overinvested in beyond their useful life.

Some of the greatest facility challenges regionally exist at the local level (particularly with clubroom facilities). Club room sustainability is anticipated to be a growing challenge that will impact equally on the sports sector and territorial authorities. Detailed direction on local facilities is not possible within the scope of this strategic document. However, local facility data have been captured to assist planners and funders where possible. Local level facilities in particular will likely require rationalisation and optimisation. This will potentially involve approaches such as amalgamations, sharing facilities between clubs and community groups and between clubs and schools. Local facility partnerships are also likely to become even more essential.

It will become increasingly important that every funding grant be evaluated carefully to optimise the investment and to not perpetuate duplication and a suboptimal facility network that may not meet the changing local community needs.

Recommendations

The Regional Sport Facility Plan recommends that:

- 1. The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan is adopted as a high level strategic document to assist the optimisation of the Region's sport and recreation facility network.
- 2. The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan is reviewed every three years.
- 3. All local authorities, Sport Manawatū, charitable funders, and Sport New Zealand work together to determine the viability of establishing:
 - a) A regional funding approach to assist with the development and operation of international, national, regional, and sub-regional status facilities,
 - b) A regional facility partnership funding policy which has the support of local authorities, charitable funders, the MOE, and Sport New Zealand.
 - c) A coordinated funding MOU/accord between local authorities, Sport Manawatū, charitable funders, the MOE, and Sport New Zealand. This accord would set out funding priorities for a set period (and should be regularly reviewed).
 - d) Cross boundary facility partnerships between local authorities. This will likely require both capital and operational funding being transferred between authorities.
- 4. Sport Manawatū is funded to offer additional facility optimisation support to partners, in particular through the provision of a Regional Facilities facilitator role.
- 5. Asset owners are supported/encouraged to look at developing lifecycle models, maintenance plans and identifying future community needs to inform their planning decisions (prior to seeking grant funding).

Proposed Priority Actions

The Plan's proposed priority actions for the next 1-3 Years are:

- Develop and implement a roadshow for the Regional Sport Facility Plan to promote the plans proposed approach and outcomes to the community and key stakeholders.
- Develop a regional funding approach, facility partnership funding policy and funding MOU (this would cover key principles such as prioritisation of funding to multiuse facilities, partnerships and priority asset types).
- Develop a school partnerships framework to help inform facility planning with the MOE (this
 would cover key principles of potential partnerships and identify specific areas/asset types that
 the MOE is interested in partnering in such facilities as aquatic facilities, playing fields, indoor
 courts, hockey turfs, and multiuse outdoor courts.
- Explore all the Plan's identified potential facility partnerships (with relevant potential partners) to the 'Facility Concept Outline' stage in accordance with the proposed Investment Decision making Process.
- Progress at least three potential facility partnerships to the 'Preliminary Feasibility' stage in accordance with the proposed Investment Decision making Process.
- Explore the development of a multiuse court development model (including specifications) that can be implemented regionally when opportunities arise.
- Explore the potential to develop a partnerships approach with retirement villages.
- Regional undertake a regional club sustainability strategy to assist amalgamation, rationalisation and optimisation of assets. It is anticipated that individual TA's will then prepare more detailed implementation plans at a district / city level.
- Determine an implementation date for all priority sport and recreation facility projects.
- Review the Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility plan.

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY PROPOSED FACILITY APPROACH

Note: This appendix provides a summary of the 'Proposed facility Approach' information provided for each facility type by Council Area in the full Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan.

Table 1: Summary of Indoor Courts Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority.

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Indoor Courts
Horowhenua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging
District	population.
	Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to
	accommodate projected new residents, and the emergence of any new
	peak-use capacity issues at existing key facilities.
	Investigate the extent to which enhancing court network capacity via
	programming and partnerships can minimise any potential 'new demand'
	pressures (because of NZIER projected population growth).
	Formalise and invest in facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality
	community access and a suitable asset specification.
Manawatū	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
District	aging population.
	Explore future provision opportunities at Feilding High School in conjunction
	with a wider options and optimisation assessment.
	Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High' or
	'medium' series Statistics NZ projections.
	 As required formalise and invest in facility partnerships with high schools to
	ensure quality community access and a suitable asset specification (based on
	projected demand).
Palmerston	 Undertake a programming assessment (e.g. aligning the right activities with
North City	the right facilities) to ensure optimisation of the current indoor court network,
	especially given any perceived capacity issues with Arena Manawatū.
	If demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options
	assessment for increasing indoor court capacity (e.g. accessing other court
	spaces or developing new space, potentially in partnership with high schools
	or the university).
	Formalise facility partnerships with the university and high schools to ensure
	quality community access.
	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use (because of the
	aging population and sports participation trends).
Rangitikei	Assess other current community facilities (including schools) for potential
District	future changes in use (allowing for population changes and changes in
	demand).
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.
	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community
	access.
Ruapehu	Assess current facilities (including schools) for potential future changes in use
District	allowing for population changes and changes in demand.
District	 Formalise facility partnerships with high schools / NZ Defence to ensure quality
	community access.
Tararua	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Assess other current community facilities (including schools) for potential future changes in use due to population and demand changes.
District	future changes in use due to population and demand changes.
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities (when assets
	nearing the end of their life).
	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community
	access as required.
Whanganui	Consolidate sport activity and management facilities at the Springvale hub
District	towards creating a Whanganui 'home of sport'.
	Undertake a programming assessment when demand pressure dictates (e.g.
	aligning the right activities with the right facilities) to ensure optimisation of
	the current indoor court network.
L	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

•	If demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options assessment for increasing indoor court capacity (e.g. access other court
	spaces or developing new space, potentially partnership).
•	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community
	access.
•	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
	aging population.

	ry of Pools / Aquatic Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority
Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Pools/Aquatic
Horowhenua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population (demand for warmer recreational water, hydrotherapy etc). Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality community access and secure potential options for expansion. Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual use of small localised school facilities in smaller centres. Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to accommodate projected new residents, and the emergence of any new peak-use capacity issues at existing key facilities. Investigate the extent to which enhancing network capacity via programming and partnerships can minimise any potential 'new demand'
Manawatū	pressures (because of NZIER projected population growth).
District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population (demand for warmer recreational water, hydrotherapy etc). Complete any further required upgrade of Makino Aquatic Centre and hydrotherapy facilities. Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual
	 use of small localised school facilities. Subject to completing a recreational pool strategy, assess need to upgrade Rongotea Pool. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Feilding High School)
	to ensure quality community access. • Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High' or 'Medium' series from Statistics NZ.
Palmerston North City	 Undertake a scheduling analysis across the local network. If demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options assessment for increasing aquatic capacity (e.g. accessing new pool space, potentially in partnership). This would potentially free recreational use of Council pools and structured swimming/water sports into school partnership pools. Strategically review the overall network to identify long term infrastructure needs (this could include development of a 'recreational pools' plan that examines casual use of school facilities in across the city and include entering into facility partnerships with targeted schools to ensure enhanced quality community access. Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population.
Rangitikei District	 Monitor existing pool use and rationalise assets as required. Potentially in line with an asset's working life. As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising certain facilities, potentially in partnership (if/when other assets are rationalised). Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei High School) to ensure quality community access. Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual use of small localised school facilities in smaller centres.
Ruapehu District	 Monitor existing pool use and rationalise assets as required. Potentially in line with an asset's working life. As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising certain facilities, potentially in partnership (when other assets are rationalised).

	Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual use of small localised school facilities.
Tararua	Monitor existing pool use and rationalise assets as required. Potentially in line
District	with an asset's working life.
	As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising certain
	facilities, potentially in partnership.
	Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual
	use of small localised school facilities.
Whanganui	Upgrade the Whanganui East aquatics facility as planned, but consider
District	options longer term.
	Develop a general aquatic strategy for longer term planning directions,
	including Splash Centre options in support of developing the Springvale hub
	Formalise facility partnerships with targeted schools to ensure enhanced
	quality community access.
	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging
	population (demand for warmer recreational water, hydrotherapy etc).
	Develop a 'recreational pools' strategy catering for more casual individual
	use of small localised school facilities across the city.

Table 4: Summary of Playing Fields Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

[<u>able 4: Summai</u>	ry of Playing Fields Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority
Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Playing Fields
Horowhenua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access as required. Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to accommodate projected new residents, and the emergence of any new peak-use capacity issues. Investigate the extent to which enhancing network capacity (via improving facility specification, programming and partnerships) can address any potential 'new demand' pressures (because of NZIER projected pop growth).
Manawatū District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population. As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising Playing Field capacity (e.g. accessing other field spaces, times improving specification, potentially in partnerships). Consider as part of MDCs Sports Provision Plan. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality access (as required by anticipated demands and gaps). Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High' or 'Medium' series from Statistics NZ.
Palmerston North City	 Should capacity issues arise form formalised facility partnerships with targeted schools to ensure enhanced quality community access to fields. Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends.
Rangitikei District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population (including rationalisation / reduced service levels in certain areas). As demand warrants it, undertake an options assessment for optimising Playing Field capacity (e.g. accessing other field spaces or developing new space, potentially in partnership). Continue the emphasis on hubbing / clustering. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei College, Nga Tawa Diocesan School) to ensure quality community access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.
Ruapehu District	 Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. Explore school community partnerships in strategic areas. Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access (as required by anticipated demands and gaps).

Tararua District	 Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. Explore school community partnerships in strategic areas. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access (as required by anticipated demands and gaps).
Whanganui District	 Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities (lowering or increasing the specification of fields in different areas). This can relate to changing the ongoing roles of current artificial turfs (i.e. Gonville Domain). Explore school / community partnerships and hubbing opportunities in strategic areas (such as Springvale Park). Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the aging population.

Council	ry of Cricket Wicket/Nets Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority Proposed Facility Approach - Cricket Wickets/Nets
Horowhenua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population Assess facility rationalisation and optimisation opportunities. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access (in areas where rationalisation is adopted or higher demand emerges). Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to accommodate projected new residents, and the emergence of any new peak-use capacity issues at existing key facilities. Investigate the extent to which enhancing network capacity via
	programming and partnerships can minimise any potential 'new demand'
	pressures (because of NZIER projected population growth).
Manawatū District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an aging population Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access. Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High' or
	'Medium' series from Statistics NZ.
Palmerston North City	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities to maintain an efficient facility network. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality community access. Complete current upgrades at Fitzherbert Park and Manawaroa/ Ongley parks
Rangitikei District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities to maintain an efficient facility network. Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.
Ruapehu	Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community
District	access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.
Tararua	 Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality
District	 rollialse facility partnerships with high schools to ensure origining quality community access. Assess facility rationalisation and optimisation opportunities.
Whanganui District	 Monitor demand as population ages. Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including indoor options at the developing Springvale hub. Where required formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community access.

Table 6: Summary of Tennis Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an agir population	
District population Explore multi use court options and configurations (tennis / netball and to / junior and social hockey).	
Explore multi use court options and configurations (tennis / netball and to / junior and social hockey). Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality community access (particularly in areas where community court rationalisation or population growth has occurred). Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to accommodate projected new residents, any other indicators of potential population growth, and the emergence of any new peak-use capacity issues at key facilities. Investigate the extent to which enhancing facility network capacity through the enhanced programming and partnerships can minimise any potential redemand' pressures (as a result of NZIER assumed new population growth Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to an agir population Explore multi use court options and configurations (tennis / netball and to / junior, social and high school hockey). Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure ongoing quality community access (particularly in areas where community court rationalisation or population growth has occurred). Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High 'Medium' series from Statistics NZ. Palmerston North City Palmerston North City Monitor the network and as required formalise facility partnerships with targeted organisations/ schools to ensure quality community access. Explore multi use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any developments are proposed by tennis. Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the aging population. Explore multi use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any developments are proposed by tennis. Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei High School Nga Tawa Diocesan) to ensure quality community access as required to ensure quality community access as demand requires. Pormalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure	ng
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Tararua • Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.	
District • Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community	
access as demand requires.	
Explore multi use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any	ıy new
developments are proposed by tennis.	
Whanganui • Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the	ne
District aging population.	
Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including share	red
options with proposed new netball centre at developing Springvale hub	
Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community	
access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.	
Explore multi use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any	ıy new
developments are proposed by tennis.	

Table 7: Summary of Netball (outdoor courts) Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Netball Courts
Horowhenua	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community
District	access.
	Closely monitor the location and scale of any development plans to
	accommodate projected new residents, any other indicators of potential
	population growth, and the emergence of any new peak-use capacity
	issues at key facilities.
	Investigate the extent to which enhancing facility network capacity through
	enhanced programming and partnerships can minimise any potential 'new
	demand' pressures (as a result of NZIER assumed new population growth).
Manawatū	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community
District	access.
	As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising Netball
	Court capacity (e.g. accessing other court spaces, times or developing new
	space, potentially in partnership).
	Monitor population growth to determine if it is tracking along the 'High' or
	'Medium' series from Statistics NZ.
Palmerston	Monitor the outdoor court network and as required formalise facility
North City	partnerships with targeted organisations/ schools to ensure quality
	community access.
	Explore multi use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any new
	developments are proposed by netball.
	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends.
Rangitikei	 population and sports participation trends. Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
District	aging population.
District	 Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei High
	School) to ensure quality community access on an as required basis.
Ruapehu	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
District	aging population.
District	Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei High
	School) to ensure quality community access on an as required basis.
Tararua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
District	aging population.
	Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools (i.e. Rangitikei High
	School) to ensure quality community access on an as required basis.
Whanganui	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use because of the
District	aging population.
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including potential
	court relocation from Laird Park to the developing Springvale hub.
	Formalise facility partnerships with schools to ensure quality community
	access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.

Table 8: Summary of Athletics Track Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Athletics
Horowhenua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required. Continue current funding support for a regional facility base for athletics in Palmerston North.
Manawatū District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required. Continue focusing development to Manawatū Community Athletics Track, recognising contribution to MCAT development for community.
Palmerston North City	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends.

	 As demand warrants it, undertake an options assessment for optimising Athletics Track capacity (e.g. accessing other spaces, times or developing new space, potentially in partnership). Formalise facility partnerships with strategic schools to ensure quality access as required by anticipated demands and gaps.
Rangitikei District	Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required.
Ruapehu District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required.
Tararua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access where required.
Whanganui District	 Investigate athletics facility development needs potentially associated with any general venue developments at Cooks Gardens (the Regions premier athletics venue). Formalise facility partnerships with high schools to ensure quality community access if required.

Table 9: Summary of Golf Courses Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

able 9: summar	y of Golf Courses Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority
Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Golf
Horowhenua District	 Examine the potential for additional partnerships on golf club sites between golf and other sports clubs / community organisations. Examine the potential for partnerships and amalgamations between golf
Manawatū	 clubs on an as required basis. Examine the potential for additional partnerships on golf club sites between
District	golf and other sports clubs / community organisations.
	Examine the potential for partnerships and amalgamations between golf clubs on an as required basis.
Palmerston North City	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
Rangitikei District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
Ruapehu District	 Examine the potential for additional partnerships on golf club sites between golf and other sports clubs / community organisations. Examine the potential for partnerships and amalgamations between golf clubs on an as required basis.
Tararua District	 Assess other current facilities for potential future changes in use allowing for population changes and changes in demand. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.
Whanganui District	 Assess other current facilities for potential future changes in use allowing for population changes and changes in demand. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.

Table 10: Summary of Bowling Greens Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Bowls						
Horowhenua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	 As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunitie 						
Manawatū	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Palmerston	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
North City	population and sports participation trends.						

	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities, (including assessment of Bowls Centre options).					
Rangitikei District	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Ruapehu	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Tararua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Whanganui	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					

Table 11: Summary of Squash Courts Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Squash					
Horowhenua	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging 					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Manawatū	Monitor facility use.					
District	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Palmerston	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
North City	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Rangitikei	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Ruapehu	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Tararua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					
Whanganui	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging					
District	population and sports participation trends.					
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.					

Table 12: Summary of Equestrian Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Equestrian						
Horowhenua	• Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Manawatū	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Palmerston	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
North City	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Rangitikei	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Ruapehu	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						
Tararua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging						
District	population and sports participation trends.						
	As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.						

Whanganui	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging
District	population and sports participation trends.
	 As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.

Table 13: Summary of Bike Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Bike
Horowhenua District	 As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities (particularly with the two outdoor asphalt velodrome tracks). Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Manawatū District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing and aging population, and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities (particularly with the asphalt velodrome). Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Palmerston North City	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing and aging population, and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. Look at partnership opportunities for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Rangitikei District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Ruapehu District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Tararua District	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.
Whanganui District	 Assess feasibility of velodrome covering at Cooks Gardens. Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends. As demand warrants it, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities. Look at partnership options for BMX/Pump tracks with schools and MTB/Touring tracks with clubs.

Table 14: Summary of Shooting Sport Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Council	Proposed Facility Approach - Shooting Sports						
Horowhenua	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing						
District	and aging population, and sports participation trends						
	 Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. 						
Manawatū	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing						
District	and aging population, and sports participation trends						
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.						
Palmerston	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing						
North City	and aging population, and sports participation trends						
	 Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities. 						
Rangitikei	Utilise facilities in neighboring districts.						
District							
Ruapehu	Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing						
District	and aging population, and sports participation trends						

	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.					
Tararua	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing 					
District	and aging population, and sports participation trends					
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.					
Whanganui	 Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the growing 					
District	and aging population, and sports participation trends					
	Assess facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities.					

Table 15: Summary of 'Other Facilities' Proposed Facility Approaches by Local Authority

Specialised Indoor Venues

- Maintain existing public assets as required and liaise with operators of strategic private assets.
- Optimise gymsports facilities in line with Gymsports New Zealand's national facility strategy, which states 'explore developing a regional hub and a sub-regional hub in either Wanganui or Palmerston North (Wanganui Boys and Girls Gym Club facility and Manawatū Gymsports facility Palmerston North). 2. Review and monitor the sustainability of community facilities. If required investigate changing the facility delivery approach. This will involve exploring the applicability of different delivery models'.
- Whanganui District council states in its LTP that it will investigate creation of a new indoor cricket
 nets facility in currently underutilised space at Jubilee Stadium. This would align with proposed
 actions towards creating a Whanganui 'home-of-sport' hub at the Springvale site, including
 potential facility upgrades at the Springvale, Jubilee and Boys and Girls Gym stadiums, and
 potential facility relocations to the site for Netball, Tennis, Hockey and Sport Whanganui.

Artificial Turf Surfaces

- Investigate school community partnerships to enable artificial surfaces at schools to be
 developed and used by both the schools, sports clubs and the general community. These
 surfaces (ideally in the configuration of three artificial tennis courts side by side) can
 accommodate junior hockey, social hockey small-sided football (futsal), and football/rugby
 training in winter. This has the potential to elevate some training pressure in localised areas (see
 Section 9 Playing Fields).
- Monitor existing turf surfaces to ensuring appropriate maintenance approaches are implemented to lengthen asset life.
- Investigate the feasibility of relocating hockey from Gonville Park to a new specialised turf near an existing multi-use turf (e.g. at a secondary school), and changing the old Gonville Park turf to a more multi-use all-weather facility.
- Undertake a needs analysis and feasibility assessment to investigate the need for and viability of multi-code artificial turf/s in Palmerston North.

Softball Diamonds

Maintain Colquhoun Park as a regional facility with Playford Park as a secondary base.
 Determine the status of demand for softball facilities in the other Districts (noting Manawatū has Victoria Park).

Petanque / Croquet

- Existing facilities should be maintained and monitored.
- As demand warrants, assess facility rationalisation /optimising opportunities.

Outdoor Basketball

Maintain existing assets and monitor use

Outdoor Watersport

Existing facilities should be maintained and monitored.

APPENDIX 2: HIGHER STATUS FACILITIES SUMMARY

This Appendix briefly lists those facilities in the Region (by council area) which have a minimum designation as 'Regional'.

Council	Facility name	Facility Type	Description from strategy (summarised)	Status in strategy
Palmerston North City	Manawatu Arena (Central Energy Trust)	Indoor Courts /Stadium	 Very large well used multi-venue multi-sports and events complex including the following specific indoor venues: Arena 2 (Rainbow Stadium) multipurpose sport/event venue with up to 4x Basketball courts (2x permanently marked - 1 as major game venue), 3x netball, 5x Volleyball, 20x badminton and multiple futsal Arena 3 (Pascal St Stadium) indoor sports and events centre with courts marked for 2x basketball, 2x netball, 4x volleyball, 8x badminton Arena 4 (B&M Centre and Ball room) providing up to 7 multi-purpose courts combined, including 7x basketball, 7x netball, 25x badminton, 11x volleyball, 4x tennis and multiple tab tennis and futsal Arena 5 (Waldegrave St) including indoor sports/gym spaces (i.e. Bell Hall, Barber Hall, Waldegrave Hall and Gym) giving venues/sites for table tennis, skating, indoor bowls, archery and a dedicated Gymsports space. Together these are currently meeting many needs and have capacity but may need expansions and/or developments if participation growth occurs or there is increased peak time competition. A Master Plan guides future development of the complex. 	International
Palmerston North City	NZCT Cricket Centre (PNBHS)	Indoor Courts /Stadium (specialised)	Unique natural grass all-weather cricket training facility, includes 4 grass blocks. On PNCC park adjoining PNBHS school grounds but owned/operated by Manawatu Cricket. Not designed for 100% use, but as a training complement, so needs careful use/ maintenance.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Lido Aquatic Centre	Aquatic/Pool	Large 6 pool complex, with indoor 25m 6 lane lap pool, large learn to swim pool, toddler pool leisure pool, hydroslides, spa and fitness centre. Also an outdoor 50m 7 lane pool, dive pool and outdoor slides. Changing room and fitness centre refurbishments planned. Lane pressures	Regional
Palmerston North City	Freyberg Community Pool	Aquatic/Pool	Mid-sized Indoor pool complex at Freyberg High School with a 25m 6 lane lap pool and a heated learn to swim toddlers pool. Owned by school but operated for community by CLM in partnership with council. Well used year-round. Lane pressures. Also, constraints on canoe polo.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Arena Manawatu Back Fields	Grass fields	3x multi-use fields (Rugby, League, Football), 1x Small rec/training field, Drainage issues, considering artificials. A Master Plan guides future development of the complex.	Regional
Palmerston North City	CET Arena	Grass fields	1x main field 'Oval' for Premier Games. In Arena Manawatu complex.	National
Palmerston North City	Fitzherbert Park Oval	Grass fields	1x League field on premier Cricket Oval. No capacity issues noted. Manawatu Cricket Association plan to return Park to premier status to hold first class matches. Upgrades possible.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Memorial Park	Grass fields	1x premiere football field inside skating track (with small grandstand). Well used. No capacity issues noted.	Regional

Palmerston North City	Massey Sport & Rugby Institute	Grass fields	3x rugby fields	Regional
Palmerston North City	Ashhurst Domain	Grass fields	Larger Park with 5x Football fields plus 1 training area, 1x Cricket pitch. Well used but no capacity issues. Options to expand if needed.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Fitzherbert Park/Oval	Cricket	3x grass wickets/blocks on premiere 1st Class cricket-only oval, grandstand and pavilion facilities. No issues noted.	National
Palmerston North City	Vautier Park	Netball	Main Manawatu facility, 17x courts (6 coated asphalt, 11 concrete), also marked for summer tennis, some lighting, pavilion with changing rooms. Heavily used. Some capacity issues noted. Considering feasibility work on better provision options.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Fitzherbert Park (Twin Turfs)	Artificial Turf	2x full water-based hockey turfs with high-level lighting, used at national/international levels.	International
Palmerston North City	Massey University Turf	Artificial Turf	A new 3 rd hockey turf is planned for Palmerston North. It is to be located alongside the Sport and Rugby Institute and existing tennis/netball courts at Massey. Massey have a long-term development plan that proposes another hockey turf, football and rugby fields as part of a sports precinct. PNCC are key partners and contributing financially to the 3rd hockey turf.	National
Palmerston North City	Colquhoun Park	Softball	7x diamonds - 2x skin and 5x grass, pavilion. High summer use, regional events. No issues noted.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Rose Gardens Croquet	Croquet	6x croquet lawns, clubrooms, summer seasonal, in Victoria Esplanade park complex. Hosts larger national/ international events in collaboration with the Takaro club.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Hokowhitu Lagoon	Outdoor Watersport	A range of access points for entry into Hokowhitu Lagoon for flatwater activity such as outdoor canoe polo and kayaking.	National
Palmerston North City	Manawatu Community Athletics Track (Massey)	Athletics	A 400m 8 lane all-weather track built to IAAF standards. Includes throwing circles, jump runway and pits, pole vault and high jump areas, steeplechase water jump, centre field, practice throwing area changing and shelter facilities. Encloses an area which could be a football facility, but field requires drainage attention. Option being investigated. Track resurfacing is being planned.	Regional
Palmerston North City	Manawatu Golf Club	Golf	18-hole course, multiple Tee system allowing 7 different courses. Well used (especially weekends). No issues noted.	National
Palmerston North City	Inspire Net Squash Gym	Squash	8x glassback courts (2x doubles), large bar/lounge area, kitchen, gym. Has held international competitions. Centrally located by Cosmopolitan Club and Palmerston North Bowling Club adjacent. Well used, especially winter. No issues apart from general maintenance.	National
Palmerston North City	Tielcey Park Events Centre	Equestrian	Tielcey Park is one of the largest equestrian facilities in the lower North Island. It has an indoor arena, 2x outdoor arenas (including a full showjumping course), grazing, stables, yards, a cafe, events, shows, fun days, clinics, lessons, schooling, and horses/ponies for lease. Heavily used in winter. Meets needs but maintenance is an ongoing issue.	Regional
Whanganui City	Springvale Stadium	Indoor Courts /Stadium	Main Hall - 2x Basketball Courts size, also marked for 2x netball, 3x volleyball, 8x badminton and multiple indoor bowls. Springvale Extension - 1x Basketball Court, also marked for 1x volleyball, 4x badminton and multiple indoor bowls. Part of shared complex with adjacent Jubilee Stadium, separate sports facilities and pool in hub area and Whanganui Collegiate.	Regional
Whanganui City	Jubilee Stadium	Indoor Courts /Stadium	Main Hall - set up for multiple roller sports (international standard) and also marked for 4x volleyball and multiple indoor bowls. Jubilee Extension - 12x table tennis tables (also capable for multiple indoor bowls). Part of shared complex with adjacent Springvale Stadium, separate sports facilities and pool in hub area, and Whanganui Collegiate.	Regional

Whanganui City	Cooks Gardens	Grass fields	Main rugby field, grandstand for 4000, lighting towers, corporate boxes, media and function rooms, inside the 400m artificial athletics track.	Regional
Whanganui City	Cooks Gardens	Athletics	400m artificial athletics track, surrounds main rugby field, grandstand for 4000, lighting towers, corporate boxes, media and function rooms. Part of wider event venue complex.	International
Whanganui City	Cooks Gardens	Cycling	250m wooden cycling velodrome, cycling clubrooms and support facilities, lighting towers, viewing areas. Plans to install a roof.	Regional
Whanganui City	Gonville Turf	Artificial Turf	Water-based hockey turf and association clubrooms, on Gonville Domain by golf course and tennis courts	Regional
Whanganui City	Braves Softball Park	Softball	2x enclosed diamonds and clubrooms, with viewing facilities	Regional
Whanganui City	Whanganui Croquet Club	Croquet	3x croquet lawns and clubrooms on Victoria Park	National
Whanganui City	Whanganui River Rowing Course	Outdoor Watersport	200m Rowing Course plus extensive training water along the river.	National
Horowhenua District	Donnelly Park (Halliway Turf)	Artificial Turf	Full water-based hockey turf, pavilion and lighting (needing upgrade). Horowhenua Hockey Association base. Well used for hockey, especially winter. Also, some football practice.	Regional
Horowhenua District	Horowhenua Petanque Club	Petanque	Large 25 terrain fenced facility and clubrooms by Western Park in Levin. Well used.	Regional
Horowhenua District	National White-Water Centre	Outdoor Watersport	Unique white-water slalom and recreational facility in channel below dam control gates. Wide range of community, club and commercial uses.	Regional
Manawatu District	Manfeild Park	Equestrian	Significant non-racing equestrian facilities serving the region. Part of a larger multi-use facility (e.g. motorsports). Lit, indoor riding arena, outdoor gravel riding arenas, jumps, stables and stand areas. Significant planned upgrades to the main entrances, arena areas, motorsport areas and agricultural areas. Previously held Horse of the Year.	National
Manawatu District	Johnston Park Western Riding Arena	Equestrian	Large gravelled riding area in Johnston Park for Western Riding activities only. Uncovered, unlit and no yards/sheds. Currently hold significant regional meets.	Regional
Tararua District	Dannevirke A&P Showgrounds	Equestrian	Large space and facility mix. Hosts a range of events, including equestrian events, and the Dannevirke Social Riding Club. Has hosted NZ show jumping contests.	Regional
Tararua District	Rangatira Croquet Club	Croquet	6x croquet lawns in Dannevirke, summer seasonal use. Has held national championships and some international events.	National
Ruapehu District	Hillary Outdoors Centre	Outdoor Adventure	Outdoor Education Centre with 155 beds and multiple support facilities (including a 30m canoeing pool). Heavily used mostly by school groups. Upgrade planning underway. Open to community groups using facilities subject to main uses.	Regional
Rangitikei District	Marton Swim Centre (Rangitikei Active)	Aquatic/Pool	Seasonal complex with indoor 50m pool and smaller learners pool. Planning a splashpad. Well used by public, clubs, local schools and national swim schools in season.	Regional