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# **PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL**

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## **AGENDA**

# **PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE**

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**1PM, WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL 2022**

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR,  
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,  
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

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# MEMBERS

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**Billy Meehan (Chairperson)**

**Leonie Hapeta (Deputy Chairperson)**

**Grant Smith (The Mayor)**

**Brent Barrett**

**Patrick Handcock**

**ONZM**

**Zulfiqar Butt**

**Karen Naylor**

**Vaughan Dennison**

**Bruno Petrenas**

**Low Findlay QSM**

AGENDA ITEMS, IF NOT ATTACHED, CAN BE VIEWED AT

[pncc.govt.nz](http://pncc.govt.nz) | Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square

City Library | Ashhurst Community Library | Linton Library

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**Chris Dyhrberg**

**Acting Chief Executive | PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL**

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# **PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE MEETING**

27 April 2022

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **1. Apologies**

### **2. Notification of Additional Items**

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson's explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7) must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received or referred to a subsequent meeting for further discussion. No resolution, decision or recommendation can be made in respect of a minor item.

### **3. Declarations of Interest (if any)**

Members are reminded of their duty to give a general notice of any interest of items to be considered on this agenda and the need to declare these interests.

### **4. Public Comment**

To receive comments from members of the public on matters specified on this Agenda or, if time permits, on other Committee matters.

(NOTE: If the Committee wishes to consider or discuss any issue raised that is not specified on the Agenda, other than to receive the comment made or refer it to the Chief Executive, then a resolution will need to be made in accordance with clause 2 above.)

5. **Presentation - Manawatū Triathlon Festival** Page 7
  
6. **Confirmation of Minutes** Page 9  
 "That the minutes of the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee meeting of 23 February 2022 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record."
  
7. **Manawatū GymSports' Facility Concept Outline for a Proposed New Gymnastics Facility - Regional Sport Facility Plan Steering Group's Recommendation on Next Steps** Page 13  
 Memorandum, presented by Julie Macdonald, Strategy & Policy Manager.
  
8. **Manawatū GymSports' Regional Facility Proposal - Council Land Options** Page 31  
 Memorandum, presented by Kathy Dever-Tod, Group Manager - Parks and Logistics.
  
9. **Results of the 2022 Audit of Shade Provision in Parks** Page 53  
 Memorandum, presented by Kathy Dever-Tod, Group Manager - Parks and Logistics.
  
10. **Progress Report: Sport Manawatū - Six-month Report (1 July - 31 December 2021) to the Palmerston North City Council** Page 63  
 Memorandum, presented by Julie Macdonald, Strategy & Policy Manager.
  
11. **Committee Work Schedule** Page 105

## 12. Exclusion of Public

To be moved:

"That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

Also that the persons listed below be permitted to remain after the public has been excluded for the reasons stated.

*[Add Third Parties]*, because of their knowledge and ability to assist the meeting in speaking to their report/s [or other matters as specified] and answering questions, noting that such person/s will be present at the meeting only for the items that relate to their respective report/s [or matters as specified].



## **PRESENTATION**

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Presentation - Manawatū Triathlon Festival

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### **RECOMMENDATION(S) TO PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE**

1. That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive the presentation for information.
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### **SUMMARY**

Mr Mark Evans, Race Director, Manawatū Triathlon Festival will outline the 3-day multi-sport event which will be held in various locations across Palmerston North from 16-18 December this year.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil



## **PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 23 February 2022, commencing at 1:02 pm.**

**Members Present:** Councillor Billy Meehan (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Leonie Hapeta, Brent Barrett, Zulfiqar Butt, Vaughan Dennison, Patrick Handcock ONZM, and Bruno Petrenas.

**Non Members:** Councillors Rachel Bowen, Renee Dingwall, Lorna Johnson and Orphée Mickalad.

**Apologies:** Councillors Karen Naylor and Susan Baty (late arrival on Council business), Councillors Rachel Bowen (early departure) and Aleisha Rutherford.

Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 1:44 pm during consideration of clause 2. She was not present for clauses 2 to 6 inclusive.

Councillors Karen Naylor and Susan Baty entered the meeting at 2:06 pm during consideration of clause 3. They were not present for clauses 1 and 2.

#### **1-22 Apologies**

Moved Billy Meehan, seconded Patrick Handcock ONZM.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 1-22 above was carried 13 votes to 0.

#### **2-22 Presentation Manawatū Cricket Association**

Presentation by James Lovegrove, General Manager.

Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 1.44 pm.

James Lovegrove gave an overview of Manawatū Cricket Association's Strategic Plan: 2020-2023, he commented on the following:

- 125 years of partnership and a 10-year project to bring First Class Cricket back to Palmy
- 10 Year project: achievements

- Participation, Development, Enjoyment, Success
- The future projects
- Challenges for community sport

Moved Billy Meehan, seconded Patrick Handcock ONZM.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 2-22 above was carried 12 votes to 0.

**3-22**

**Presentation - Manawatū Rugby Union community updates**

Presentation by Andrea Jackson, Chief Executive and Shaun Eade, Business & Marketing Development Manager.

Councillors Karen Naylor and Susan Baty entered the meeting at 2.06 pm.

Andrea Jackson and Shaun Eade outlined the Manawatū Rugby Union's (MRU) three strategic priorities, she highlighted:

- the importance of the 5,550 community rugby players, including coaches, referees, families, and the two performance teams, the Cyclones and Turbos
- the community connections who support the MRU and make sure our teams, players and whanau continue to strive
- on and off-field winning means the leadership in our community goes far beyond the scoreboards and results, it is all about people and their work in the community
- the Community Rugby statistics

Moved Billy Meehan, seconded Patrick Handcock ONZM.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 3-22 above was carried 12 votes to 0.

**4-22**

**Presentation - Sport Manawatū updates**

Presentation by Trevor Shailer, Chief Executive and Brad Cassidy, General Manager- Partnerships.

Trevor Shailer and Brad Cassidy updated the Committee on the following:

- the impact of COVID 19 on local and national sport and the

challenges and changes required to comply with health restrictions

- the decrease in participation and funding applications due to the impact of Covid.
- review of the Safety Plans to resume the community activities and the national events plans
- Sport Manawatū updates on staff appointments such as new board members and the increase of the staff numbers to 34; virtual event planning; and healthy active learning

Moved Billy Meehan, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 4-22 above was carried 14 votes to 0.

## **5-22 Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved Vaughan Dennison, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee meeting of 20 October 2021 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 5-22 above was carried 14 votes to 0.

## **6-22 Committee Work Schedule**

Moved Billy Meehan, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive its Work Schedule dated February 2022.

Clause 6-22 above was carried 14 votes to 0.

The meeting finished at 2:30 pm.

Confirmed 27 April 2022

**Chairperson**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Manawatū GymSports' Facility Concept Outline for a Proposed New Gymnastics Facility - Regional Sport Facility Plan Steering Group's Recommendation on Next Steps

**PRESENTED BY:** Julie Macdonald, Strategy & Policy Manager

**APPROVED BY:** David Murphy, Chief Planning Officer

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### RECOMMENDATION(S) TO COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee receive the Regional Sport Facility Plan Steering Group's report on the assessment of the Manawatū GymSports' Facility Concept Outline for a regional gymnastics facility in Palmerston North, presented to the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee on 27 April 2022.

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### 1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Manawatū GymSports Inc. (GymSports) has finalised a Facility Concept Outline (FCO) for a proposed new regional-level gymnastics facility. The requirement to prepare an FCO is the first stage of the investment decision-making process in the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan (the RSFP).
- 1.2 GymSports indicated in a presentation to the Committee in April 2021 that it would like Council's support for its facility proposal through the provision of a land lease.
- 1.3 As the proposal is for a regional-level sports facility, the RSFP Steering Group has assessed the FCO using the RSFP guidance. Following this assessment, the RSFP Steering Group recommends that the proposal proceeds to the next step of the investment decision-making process - a Preliminary Feasibility Assessment.
- 1.4 The RSFP Steering Group's assessment, which includes GymSports' FCO, is attachment 1.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council endorsed the RSFP in 2018 to guide sports facility planning and to coordinate sport and recreation facility provision across the region. It provides a high-level strategic framework and takes a network-wide approach.

- 2.2 The RSFP includes a facility investment decision-making process which provides a mechanism to assess all potential facility projects so that decision-makers (e.g. funders and the Councils) have access to independent, detailed and accurate information. This process reinforces a 'needs-based' planning approach (rather than one that responds to 'wants').
- 2.3 The Council contributes an annual operational grant to Sport Manawatū to coordinate the implementation of the RSFP. This grant is included in the funding agreement between the Council and Sport Manawatū.
- 2.4 The RSFP Steering Group is made up of staff from the seven Councils in the region, Regional Sports Trust staff from Whanganui and Manawatū, and Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa.
- 2.5 Sport Manawatū is the lead organisation overseeing the implementation of the RSFP. It guides proponent groups (in this case, GymSports) through the process when a proposal meets the definition of a 'regional facility'. A regional facility is one 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. These types of facilities service a catchment from within a 90-minute drive time.
- 2.6 The investment decision-making process contributes to broader decision-making processes for sports facility planning. In summary, this process involves:



1. Facility Concept Outline – this is a high-level summary of the proposed facilities' key facts. It includes an assessment of the degree of strategic alignment with key sports facility plans, demonstration of the perceived need for the facility (outlining membership and participation numbers and facility challenges), an indicative facility cost, preferred location and proposed governance and management structures.
2. Preliminary Feasibility Assessment – this work further tests the viability of the Facility Concept Outline. This work is often referred to as a 'needs assessment' or 'demand assessment' and confirms any immediate challenges or opportunities. Part of the assessment also looks at identifying partnership funding opportunities.
3. Detailed Feasibility Assessment – a holistic examination of all areas of the proposed facility development. This requires a range of inputs from

specialists in demographic analysis, sports facility planning, business planning, concept design, governance and management.

4. Business Case – an analysis of the financial implications of the proposal, such as capital and operational costs.
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- 2.7 The feasibility stages of the process (the blue arrows) test the facility proposal in more depth using specialist and independent sports facility consultant advice. At the end of each stage of work, the RSFP Steering Group is required to assess the work against specific 'gateway' criteria to decide if there is merit in proceeding with the facility proposal. The purpose of applying these criteria is to ensure all sports facility proposals in the region are evaluated in a structured and consistent way using the facility investment decision-making process.
  - 2.8 The RSFP process is needed because regional sports facilities are multi-million dollar projects involving a wide range of stakeholders. The ongoing operational and asset management costs also need to be considered alongside other investment priorities. Importantly, if a facility proponent group is seeking external funding then the evidence of a need for the facility demonstrated through the feasibility assessments provides critical supporting information for funding applications.
  - 2.9 The RSFP Steering Group assessed the proposal against the gateway criteria outlined in the RSFP. These criteria provide the basis for a recommendation on whether the proposal should proceed to the next stage of the process (i.e. the preparation of a Preliminary Feasibility Assessment) or if further exploration of the proposal outlined in the FCO should stop.

### **GymSports approach to the Council**

- 2.10 GymSports made a presentation to the April 2021 meeting of the Play, Sport and Recreation Committee outlining its achievements and current facility challenges. GymSports is working on a regional gymnastics facility project that aligns with the Gymnastics NZ National Facilities Strategy and will provide better local and regional opportunities for competitive and recreational gymsports.
- 2.11 In October 2021 staff gave an update to the Play, Sport and Recreation Committee on progress with an initial FCO prepared by GymSports. A subsequent recommendation was:  
  
*"That the Chief Executive report back to the Play, Recreation and Sport Committee with options of suitable Council land for Manawātū GymSports to build on."*
- 2.12 A report responding to the recommendation on suitable Council land options is provided separately to the Committee.

- 2.13 Since late 2021, Council and Sport Manawatū staff have been working with GymSports, and Gymnastics New Zealand (GNZ), to finalise the FCO to ensure the RSFP information requirements are met.

### **3. RSFP STEERING GROUP ASSESSMENT OF THE FACILITY CONCEPT OUTLINE**

- 3.1 The RSFP Steering Group's assessment is attachment 1. The following criteria were applied to assess the FCO:
- Degree of alignment the facility proposal has with national, regional and local plans and strategies (including the Regional Sports Facility Plan).
  - Degree to which the projected needs of the sport are met.
  - Track record of the proponent organisation.
- 3.2 Staff have reviewed the RSFP Steering Group's assessment of GymSports' FCO and agree with its recommendations that the FCO should progress to the next stage of feasibility for further exploration.

### **4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 GymSports is not requesting specific financial support from the Council at this time, to either fund future feasibility/investigative stages required by the RSFP process, or to contribute to the facility's capital costs. GymSports has indicated that it will seek external funding for the feasibility stages of work identified in the RSFP process.
- 4.2 Should the GymSports' facility proposal proceeds to the preliminary and/or detailed feasibility assessment stages, Council staff will provide advice from a number of activity areas. Staff may also be involved in a project working team for any future feasibility assessments alongside Sport Manawatū, GymSports and Gymnastics NZ (the national sports organisation). This collaborative stakeholder approach has been adopted with the feasibility work for a regional level artificial football turf and the covered bowling green.
- 4.3 If the proposal proceeds to the feasibility assessment stages, the findings from other sports facility planning programmes may inform the decision-making processes. These programmes are:
- The current review of the City sections of the Regional Sport Facilities Plan
  - the upcoming Arena Manawatū Master Plan review
  - a needs assessment for indoor sports scheduled to start in 2023/24.
- 4.4 Staff will continue to be involved as a member of the RSFP Steering Group. At the completion of the Preliminary Feasibility Assessment, the Steering Group will further consider the proposal's merits and make a recommendation to the proponent group about continuing to the next stage. The Committee will receive an update on these future stages of work as necessary.

## 5. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide? If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual 167.2	<b>Yes</b>
Are the decisions significant?	<b>No</b>
If they are significant do, they affect land or a body of water?	<b>No</b>
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	<b>No</b>
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	<b>No</b>
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?	<b>Yes</b>
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans?	<b>No</b>
The recommendations contribute to Goal 2: A Creative and Exciting City	
The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Active Communities	
The action is: Contribute to pre-feasibility or needs assessment work (as required by Council's commitment to the Regional Sports Facilities Plan)	
Contribution to strategic direction and to the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	The RSFP was endorsed by Council in 2018 and since then the investment decision-making process has guided several sports facility proposals. Applying this process consistently ensures that the Council's strategic direction is a key consideration. Sports facilities contribute to social well-being as they provide spaces for people to be physically active.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan Steering Group – Assessment of Manawatū GymSports' Facility Concept Outline [↓](#) 

**MANAWATŪ-WHANGANUI REGIONAL SPORTS FACILITY PLAN**  
**STEERING GROUP – ASSESSMENT OF MANAWATŪ GYMSPORTS FACILITY CONCEPT**  
**OUTLINE**

**Introduction**

**Manawātū GymSports Inc (MGI) have submitted a Facility Concept Outline (FCO) to the Regional Sports Facility Plan (RSFP) Steering Group which is the first step in the RSFP investment decision-making process (the process) within the RSFP.**

**MGI are a Palmerston North based sports club and are the proponent group for a proposed regional level gymnastics facility.**

**The RSFP Steering Group is made up of officers in the seven territorial authorities in the region, Regional Sports Trust staff representing Sport Manawātū and Sport Whanganui, and an Ihi Aotearoa Sport NZ Spaces and Place representative.**

**The Steering Group is chaired and coordinated by Brad Cassidy, General Manager of Partnerships at Sport Manawātū.**

**As the Steering Group is representative of key stakeholders, one of its roles under the RSFP implementation plan MoU is to review and recommend key regional facilities projects based on the key principles, assess FCOs for regional level facilities against the process and make a recommendation for the proposal to either proceed to the next process step or stop.**

**MGI's Facility Concept Outline**

**The FCO is attached as Appendix 1. Key points from the FCO are:**

- **MGI have outgrown their current facility and is now struggling to accommodate growing numbers and meet the gymnastics equipment requirements for high-level skill development.**
- **A new purpose-built facility is required to meet the club's growing membership and casual participation.**
- **Gymnastics NZ, the national sports organisation, supports the proposed facility as it supports the action to develop a regional facility (gap in provision/network).**
- **MGI is the 4th largest Gymnastics NZ member club and is the largest non-metro club in NZ.**
- **The constraints on the current facility have resulted in the club turning away school bookings, delivering trampolining at another location and capping the competitive programme.**
- **The facility's floor area requirements are between 1400-1900m<sup>2</sup> with the proposal identifying the upper range to accommodate more activities and potential partnership opportunities. Space in addition to the building footprint is required for carparking; a total area of 7,600 m<sup>2</sup> is required.**

- An estimated cost for the facility is \$3.4 - \$5.7 million (taken from the Gymnastics NZ National Facility Strategy 2017); this cost excludes further planning and investigation, consenting, relocation and equipment costs.
- The facility proposal aligns with a number of strategic documents – most importantly the GNZ National Facilities Strategy that identified a need for a regional facility in the Manawatū-Whanganui region.
- MGI have presented membership and participation data that show strong growth.

#### Assessment criteria

The criteria the Steering Group has used to assess the FCO are:

- Degree of alignment the facility proposal has with national, regional, and local plans and strategies (including the Regional Sports Facility Plan).
- Degree to which projected needs are met.
- Track record of the proponent organisation (MGI).

The purpose of applying these criteria is to ensure all sports facility proposals in the region are evaluated in a structured and consistent way.

The process also assists with future decision-making on the level and nature of support that may be required from funders such as the Councils in the region, or external funding agencies.

#### FCO alignment with key planning and strategy documents

##### National level planning

The Gymsports National Facility Strategy (GNFS) identified that there are no regional facilities in the Manawatū-Whanganui region. The current MGI facility is categorised as a community level facility.

The participation analysis identified some overall projected decline in gymnastics across the region but noted any regional membership increase is likely to occur in Palmerston North.

Facility issues such as not meeting needs or capacity constraints were identified in this report (although the individual facilities were not specified).

**The recommendation in the Strategy is that:** “Manawatū-Whanganui requires a regional hub and a sub-regional hub facility in Palmerston North or Whanganui, and the retention of a capable network of community facilities to support delivery. Specifically: Explore developing a regional hub and a sub-regional hub in either Whanganui or Palmerston North (Whanganui Boys and Girls Club and Manawatū Gymsports facility – Palmerston North).”

#### Notes:

1. The GNFS did not prioritise the exploration of facility development in the region as greater needs were identified in metro centres in NZ (high population growth and therefore high demand areas).

2. The GNFS was due for review in 2020 however GNZ has advised that this did not happen and that the recommendations made in 2017 still stand.
3. The GNFS was based on surveys and demographic analysis undertaken in 2016/17. Since then, there has been higher population growth in the region than projected and the delivery of Gymsports in the region, and particularly in Palmerston North, have changed.

**Code-specific strategic alignment at a national level has also been checked against Gymnastics New Zealand's Strategic Plan (2017) which has the vision of: "Growing great New Zealanders through gymnastics". It also has the vision to 'Create Great Places' and accessing fit-for-purpose facilities and equipment.**



**Sport New Zealand's 'Towards 2032' strategic direction is broken into four-year Strategic Plans for the period 2020-24. For this period, Sport NZ is focusing on tamariki (5-11 years) and rangatahi (12-18 years) through play, physical education, active recreation, and sport. This focus aims to reduce the drop-off in physical activity levels of rangatahi throughout their teenage years. During this period there is also a focus on the commitments made through the government's Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation Strategy, along with the government's Disability Plan.**

#### **Regional level planning**

**The RSFP reinforces the direction in the Gymsports National Facility Strategy 2017 for specialised indoor facilities:**

*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 Manawatu Gymsports facility -Palmerston North).*

#### **Whanganui and Feilding Gymsports Facility Plans**

**The steering group notes that there are other proposed Gymsports facility projects being considered within our Manawātū-Whanganui boundary. The Whanganui Gym club operated by Sport Whanganui have expressed a desire to upgrade its premises, while the Feilding club are trying to secure a permanent home for its members. These facilities have been assessed and identified as sub-regional (GNFS/RSFP) and community (GNFS) or local (RSFP) level**

assets based on the facility hierarchy outlined in the RSFP. Importantly, the RSFP approach details specific facility types to be investigated in order to avoid potential duplication and to contribute to an overall network.

#### **Local level planning**

MGI has demonstrated good alignment with City Council's Creative and Liveable Strategy, and Active Communities Plan. The Recreation Needs Assessment 2016 has also been referred to which identified a potential facility need for Gymsports.

The proposal aligns well with Sport Manawātū's draft strategic plan. Everyone Active–Kia Mātātou Tatou is Sport Manawātū's 4-year strategy that sets the foundation to lead, empower, engage, and achieve equity for our community through play, active recreation, and sport. The proposal aligns with one of four strategic priority areas which are Opportunities to Participate. A high-level outcome is for communities, stakeholders, and participants to report greater satisfaction with the choices offered to them.

Manawatu GymSports has outlined how a new facility would enable it to deliver on its strategic plan through the FCO. The area in the plan that closely aligns with the proposed development is its mission to grow the sport. A new facility would enable this code to achieve this aspiration and the committee have indicated that the scale of the project will require further resourcing including greater prominence in its revised strategy due to be undertaken next year.

#### **Degree the facility will meet projected needs**

##### **National**

Participation projections based on Gymnastics New Zealand's trend data back in 2013 inferred that growth in the youth population was not expected, in fact, a decline in participation was likely in most areas (4%).

In 2013, Gymnastics NZ indicated that planning for future investment and programming needed to capture a greater proportion of the population if the then current user levels (and trends) were to be sustained. It was believed that the sport needed to diversify its product offering to attract and retain different users to their sport as clubs wouldn't be able to rely on general population growth to sustain or grow its current numbers.

As a result, Gymnastics New Zealand set about making systemic changes in its strategic approach with greater emphasis to support club health and grow its relationships with regional partners. This saw:

- The disestablishment of regional boards in 2010 who were delegated to support clubs. This change grew club capability in the regions to service local needs and grow demand.
- Emphasis on training to grow quality coaches who were responsible for attracting new participants to the sport and supporting those already involved on talent pathways.
- Providing more consistency and continuity with Gymnastics NZ staff who worked with clubs. Key benefits included improved relationships which created more stability than was previously in place.

In 2013 when the Gymnastic NZ facility strategy was developed, participation numbers nationally totaled 236,088.

In 2021 national participation had seen this drop to 195,556 which is a decrease of 17%. A significant factor to the decrease during the last two years has been the impact of COVID on facility access due to 100 people limits indoors.

### **Regional**

Regional membership numbers were primarily taken from MGI based on their affiliation to Gymnastics NZ. The other territories who contribute to regional membership numbers include: Taihape, Whanganui, Feilding and Levin. Pop Up Play activities that use gym type equipment to teach fundamental movement skills also exist among the network of providers however the activities are often run by private groups or commercial providers.

The impact on the local region with Gymnastics NZ shift in its strategic approach saw larger centres benefit. Factors contributing to the improvements included:

- Facilities started to change in appearance. Gymnastics NZ noticed that clubs needed to start small and progress through each development stage (stability) as the club matured to a point that could be sustained. Where clubs previously operated from a windowless building, efforts were made to make buildings more attractive, therefore creating a space where people were happy to come and visit.
- The culture of regional organisations changed. They started behaving more professionally, put training programmes in place for staff to improve quality and started remunerating accordingly.
- Gymnastic membership and participation trends in many areas have illustrated sustained growth over the last 5 years, even in areas with low to negative youth population growth
- there are suggestions that there are latent demands for Gymnastic activities that can be released by new initiatives such as facility development and programme delivery
- The COVID pandemic affected most sports in some way however numbers locally have been stable. MGI has been able to deliver to both vaxed and non-vaxed participants safely which has allowed them to play a critical role in keeping whanau engaged and active.

Gymsport numbers across the region appear to have grown at a steady rate since the 2013 projections which anticipated a decline. The clubs have adapted their competitive activities to cover play and active recreation options which have been supported by the National Sporting Organisation. While we have made efforts to assess actual participations numbers at this stage in the process, Gymnastics NZ data is reported as a requirement by Sport NZ however it is 100% reliant on clubs honest, available time and accurate data, and it is not unusual when looking at a specific club that additional participation numbers are not counted. The preliminary feasibility assessment will interrogate the number in more detail and investigate what impact a new development will have on participation numbers in the future.

#### **Local**

As outlined in the FCO, the physical constraints that the current facility have resulted in the club turning away school bookings, delivering trampolining at another location and capping the competitive programme. MGI is experiencing rapid growth in its recreational programmes as evidenced by the second graph on page four of the FCO.

Membership growth since 2016 has been strong however Covid-19 restrictions have noticeably impacted gymnastics participation both nationally and locally.

GMI have diversified its services and products as a way to remain relevant in the eyes of the community. This has included Play 'Drop ins' or 'Pay to Play' models that allowed the participant to choose what he or she wanted to do.

In a presentation to the Council in April 2021, MGI reported that they provided participation opportunities for approximately 17,500 people per year. It has been identified through an initial assessment of the FCO and in consultation with Gymnastics NZ that the Gymsport Manawātū numbers may not be an actual representation of participation as they haven't reported figures on open days and 'have a go' sessions they coordinate.

#### **Track record of the proponent organisation**

MGI operates under a governance committee with a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Committee is re-elected annually and is guided by a strategic plan.

The Committee has strengthened over the last four years, with a versatile range of skills and knowledge including business backgrounds. There a number of paid staff including a Club Manager (30 hours a week) and four head coaches.

The club moved to Malden Street in 2018 (1190m<sup>2</sup>) enabling the Club to quickly achieve the results they have experienced as the previous Downing St venue also presented constraints. Due to its successful operating model, the Club is now facing similar constraints such as limited parking and seating. It is not able to meet the rising demand for its activities so the aspiration to move into a new purpose-built facility is a logical one that will allow the Club to be future-proofed.

The Club has managed well through Covid interruptions, including being one of the first clubs to return to activities after each lockdown. Good communication allowed the Club to

**grow during the pandemic through innovative offerings using technology such as on Zoom and livefeeds. The Club used the downtimes to work on areas of the club's operation:**

*Specifically, in terms of the Top 10 clubs in NZ between Term 3 of last year and Term 1 of this year, we are the only one that did not decline in numbers, and we are now sitting at number 3 with Auckland and Christchurch ahead of us. {Kim Fenn, Club Manager}*

**MGI have indicated that the Club's president is stepping sideways to lead the building project with a dedicated team. This will be essential given the time and energy required to progress the development of the scale.**

**The Club has a solid reputation in the community and is seen as an exemplar in terms of its operating model, and efforts to deliver on national strategies including Sport NZ's Balance is Better philosophy. The philosophy addresses the need to provide young people with a range of quality experiences, therefore a considered shift away from early specialisation in sport which has led to preventable injuries including burnout, and fatigue from all sporting activities. Gymsports has seen an increase in participant numbers based on its application of the Balance is Better principles.**

#### **Steering Group recommendation**

**The Steering group have reviewed the FCO from MGI and recommended that the next steps of the process be initiated i.e. progression to a preliminary feasibility assessment that looks at independently at a range of areas including demand (which will test the viability of the FCO and confirm any immediate challenges and opportunities, and crucially balance whether progressing further is warranted).**

**This recommendation is made due to:**

- **The proposal demonstrates a high level of alignment with national, regional, and local plans and strategies.**
- **The National Sport Organisation (Gymnastics NZ) has endorsed our regional approach to investigate a regional facility development.**
- **Current Facility constraints are limiting growth in membership and participation opportunities for Gymsports locally and regionally.**
- **The proponent organisation, MGI have demonstrated that it has good governance and management structures in place to be able to lead the proposal through the next stages of the planning and investigation processes.**
- 

**In addition, the Steering Group:**

- **Agrees in principle for PNCC to explore land options for the project however advises the Council not to commit land to MGI at this stage of the process until the**

preliminary, followed by the detailed, feasibility assessments are concluded. This is to mitigate risks in terms of predetermining the assessment findings and potential implications on the high-level investment requirements anticipated for this project.

- Should the preliminary followed by the detailed feasibility assessment findings be endorsed, consideration should be given to including a Council contribution to this project during a long-term planning process as national funders are known to put more weight behind Council-supported regional developments.

**Brad Cassidy – GM Partnerships**

On behalf of the RSFP Steering Group

## APPENDIX 1

## Facility Outline – Manawatu GymSports

8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**Description of Proposal and Key Facts**

Manawatu GymSports is a not for profit (incorporated society) gymnastics club looking to build a purpose-built facility, to meet the club's growing membership and casual participants over the next 5 years. By building such a facility it would allow for further growth in both numbers and programmes, as well as providing the club to consolidate the current programmes into one facility. As part of the new facility the club would include an in-ground training pit (dramatically reduces injuries while learning larger and more difficult skills, as well as providing a fun space for your children to learn agility, landing and explore movement) and additional permanently set up equipment.

The club is run by a formidable team of volunteers who form the club's governance committee. The club has a strong strategic plan which has been implemented over the past 5 years and is due to be reviewed in 2022. This team works closely with the club's paid management team, which is made up of a full-time Club Manager, Recreational Head Coach, Junior Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) Head Coach, Senior WAG Head Coach and Men's Artistic Gymnastics (MAG) Head Coach. Financially the club is remarkably successful with funding applications and continues to be an active and successful fundraiser. The committee is continuing to build the club's savings and currently has healthy reserves of \$280,000 in a building saving fund, and continue to add to this. The club understand this fund needs to continue to grow to make sure a build is an option for the club.

The club currently has 956 enrolled members (Quarter 3 2021), with an additional average of 336 per week attending casual sessions, based on Term 2 2021 membership data (Term 3 is unreliable due to Auckland Lockdowns) Manawatu GymSports was the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Gymnastics NZ member club (1<sup>st</sup> North Harbour – Auckland (4 facilities) 2<sup>nd</sup> Christchurch School of Gymnastics, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri Star – Auckland). This makes us the largest non-metro club in NZ. The club has also had 2,473 one-off attendances during Term 2 for holiday programmes, schools, and birthday parties. These numbers have grown since 2011 when the club only had 938 members across a whole year when located at Downing Street. The current facility is utilised 7 days a week from 9 am to late each day, with our latest class finishing at 9.30 pm. In the club's current facility, we have had to turn away school bookings due to constraints in the gym and currently deliver of trampolining in a secondary location due to lack of space. The club has had to cap their competitive programme due to the risks associated with not having a landing pit solution, this also limits the club in being able to support international level athletes.

**Indicative Costs**

The 2017 Gymnastics NZ Facility guide suggests the club operating as a Regional Facility would require a floor area of between 1400m<sup>2</sup> and 1900m<sup>2</sup> noting this does not include car parking. The indicative build cost for this size facility taken from the 2017 guide, was estimated at between \$3,420,000 and \$5,700,000. (Excludes additional costs or considerations for a feasibility study, concept drawings, moving costs, additional or replacement equipment costs and council consents or requirements around building products). Gymnastics New Zealand clubs require sole occupancy of facilities due to their delivery of programmes throughout the day, afternoon, and evening; in addition to having fixed equipment that cannot be easily uplifted to share space.

The club is currently working with Palmerston North Council to identify space between 2000m<sup>2</sup> and 2500m<sup>2</sup> with an additional 50 – 75 carparks bringing the total square meterage to 7,608m<sup>2</sup>. The GNZ recommendation for a regional facility is 1900m<sup>2</sup> but MGI is working on a larger size to provide more daytime activities with schools and have concurrent preschool programmes running. The club continues to investigate partnership and shared-use facilities, and has continued to research other

building options to see if a current build could be a suitable option. We remain open to all opportunities.

#### **Degree of Alignment with Strategic Documents**

Manawatu GymSports facility proposal aligns with the following strategic plans and key points:

##### *Palmerston North City Council*

- Creative and Liveable strategy
  - Creating a city that has great places for all people
  - Be one of the most active communities in New Zealand
- Transport plan, Economic Development plan, city growth plan, innovative and growing city strategy
  - Create and enable opportunities for employment and growth
  - Provide infrastructure to enable growth
- Recreation Needs Assessment
  - As stated in the RNS from 2016, "Gymnastics needs a larger indoor space with particular dimensions for height and length to enable apparatus use. Manawatu GymSports has approached council a couple of times over the last 10 years (2006 - 2016) for the use of a council provided facility."
- Play Policy

##### **Sport New Zealand – Everybody Active 2020 – 2024**

- All tamariki, rangatahi\* and adults being physically active through Play, Active Recreation and Sport.
- No one missing out on the benefits of Play, Active Recreation and Sport, regardless of factors such as gender, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation or where in Aotearoa New Zealand they live.
- Every New Zealander is able to access a quality experience at home, within their neighbourhood and across their community.
- Communities are collaborating, generating ideas, and owning the creation and promotion of opportunities for all New Zealanders to be active.

##### **Sport Manawatu - Strategic Plan 2021- 2025**

- Regional Sports Facility Plan identifies specialised facilities states Optimise Gymsports facilities in line with the Gymnastics New Zealand national facility strategy, which states – explore developing a regional hub and a sub-regional hub in either Whanganui or Palmerston North
- Opportunity to Participate – communities live more active lives through play, active recreation and sport
- Partnership Development
  - o Key Stakeholders work together to identify spaces and places priorities at a local, regional and national level
  - o Work in partnership with communities for the planning, development, provision and operation of spaces and places

##### **Gymnastics New Zealand - Strategic Plan**

- Grow Participation
- Achieve National and international success
- Grow sustainable clubs and businesses with diverse revenue streams
- Access to fit for purpose facilities and equipment
- Develop coaches, judges, administrators, and support team
- Gymnastics is recognised by all New Zealanders as a great sport

##### **Gymnastics New Zealand National Facility Strategy 2017 (reviewed 2021)**

- Explore developing a regional hub in either Palmerston North or Whanganui

#### Manawatu GymSports - Strategic Plan

- The club has had the need for a facility outlined in their strategic plan since 2019. Under the 2020 plan, the club committee has an indicative target – Growth Reviewed, investigate space and growth. Although delayed as a project for the committee the club has continued to track their growth internal and in comparison, to other clubs across the region and country. Manawatu based on term 3 2021 was the largest club in the Central Region (Wellington to Gisborne and as far west as Whanganui).
- As per the 2018 RSFP to explore developing a regional hub for gymsports.

#### **Gymnastics New Zealand**

Gymnastics New Zealand supports Manawatu GymSports application to pursue the development of a Regional Facility under the Gymnastics NZ Facility Guide – 2017, please note the facility guide was reviewed in 2020 by Gymnastics New Zealand and due to the effects of Covid 19 on facilities, participation numbers and internal staff resources it was agreed the recommendations in the facility guide still stand. It is also important to note that the two largest clubs in the area have had a change in management and board structure since 2017 which has seen exceptional growth in membership. In addition, Manawatu has moved its operation to a new facility and Feilding Gymnastics (Manfield Hall via Rata St) became a member of Gymnastics NZ increasing delivery to three days a week 4 terms a year.

#### **Need for a purpose-built facility in Palmerston North**

Gymnastics New Zealand Data for the past three years is as below:

GNZ member clubs' total membership across three terms of 2021 are shown below, it is important to note Auckland / Northland was unable to run during Term 4 due to lockdown which dramatically reduced the numbers delivered nationally. Regionally clubs were also unable to run during lockdowns which impacts these numbers.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2021	22369	23541	23550	16847

Year on year total membership across Gymnastics New Zealand Codes were as follows, once again noting the effects of Covid 19 across 2020 and 2021 and the impact of numerous lockdowns.

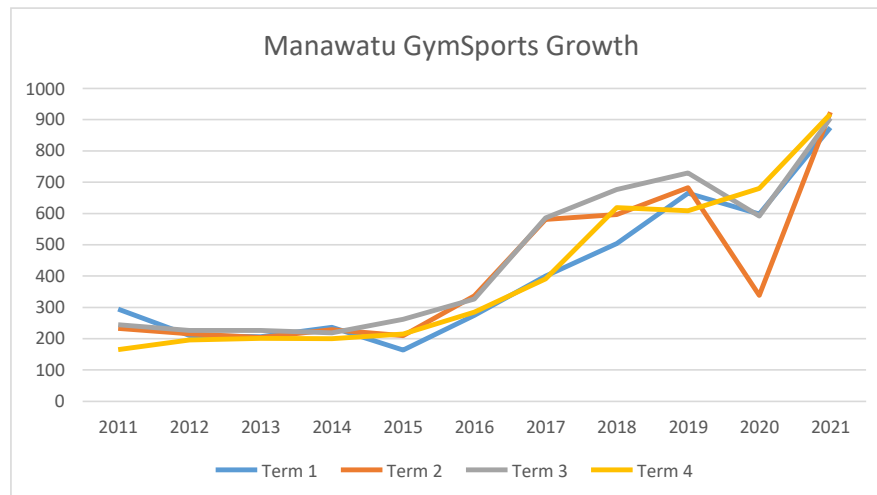
2019	39,970
2020	35,250
2021	36,853

Gymnastics New Zealand member clubs' total participation for 2019 through to 2021. Note: Figures reflect delivery from Term 1,2 and 3 only.

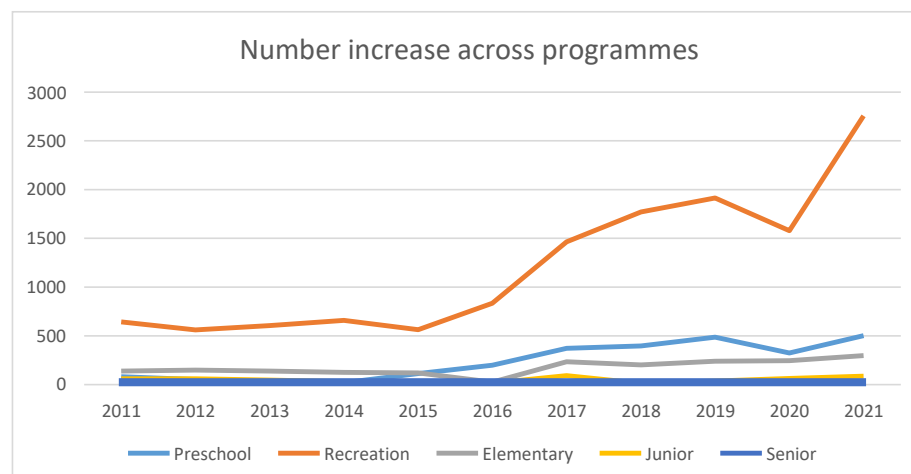
2019	208,494
2020	209,728
2021	117,951

Gymnastics New Zealand is unable to comment on the health of the sport against other sports in the country as Sport New Zealand is not reporting this data due to Covid –19. Gymnastics continues to be a healthy sport due to its ability to adapt (Parkour, Trampoline, SnowSports more recreation programmes), provide Fundamental skills which are transferable to all other sports. Although data is hard to paint a picture of the last two years of membership. Manawatu GymSports has been able to retain and continue to grow through their ability to connect to their membership virtually and provide a safe space for their members to participate.

### Outline of Manawatu GymSports Numbers and Growth 2011- 2021



The graph above shows increasing membership over time indicates the club's ability to grow. Without the club being able to find a suitable increased space or build a purpose-built facility this club's membership will be unable to continue to increase membership due to the lack of space in the current facility.



What is important to note from this graph the increase in preschool and recreation in Manawatu GymSports members who actively participate in weekly classes which build fundamental skills (they are not competitive code specific programmes) This is important as these members are where the club is able to increase their income into the club (shorter class times, large numbers per class)

\*Dips in numbers in 2020 are due to the Covid 19 pandemic

### Impact of Covid 19

It is important to note that Covid-19 has influenced both Gymnastics NZ and Manawatu Gymsports overall membership and potential for growth. From a Gymnastics NZ perspective numbers have decreased due to a number of factors such as: facility constraints placed on clubs by private or council hirer, large facilities without separate ventilation spaces meaning you could have a 2000m2 building and only 100 in the building, governance committees having the time and skill set to make quick and decisive decisions, committees reducing casual classes within the club to ensure member class's have priority to the timetable.

**Timeline of project**

2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>Jan</b> - Meet with PNC staff to discuss location options to include with FCO  <b>End of Feb</b> - Completed FCO Presented to PNC  <b>April</b> – Decision from PNC based on FCO and land option report  <b>May/ June</b> -Preliminary Feasibility Assessment - Sport Manawatu (depending on the FCO decision and land options)  <b>August / September</b> – Application to Lotteries to fund the clubs feasibility study  <b>Dec</b> - Decision from Lotteries regarding Feasibility funding	Either – Re application to Lotteries with a June deadline  Start and end Feasibility study  November – Draft Memorandum of Understanding with Gymnastics NZ and clubs from Whanganui and Manawatu Region	<b>Feb</b> - Completed Memorandum of Understanding with Gymnastics NZ and clubs from Whanganui and Manawatu Region  <b>August meeting</b> – Detailed business case  <b>Sept/ Oct</b> – Negotiate Partner and Funding Agreement	<b>Jan</b> – Detailed design concept drawings, agreed plans and procurement of the build	Potential build year depending on costs and funding etc
Ongoing: Club Funding, fundraising plan to build towards the cost outlined in 2025.				

**Summary**

Gymnastics New Zealand has identified the need for a regional facility in the Whanganui and Manawatu Region. Through consultation with the two largest clubs, it is clear Manawatu GymSports are in the best position to be the host club of this facility. The closest regional facilities are in Hutt Valley (Wellington), Waitara (New Plymouth) and Auckland.

Manawatu GymSports have outgrown its current facility and is now struggling to accommodate growing numbers and meet the equipment requirements for high-level skill development. All of their 7-9-year-old classes are full of a large waiting list, with other age groups about to also be in this position. They have overstretched the current facility for the numbers that they are operating at in the hope it was short term; parking continues to also be a safety concern. They are also now operating out of the Arena on a Saturday morning to cater to overflow.

This facility concept outline shows a good level of alignment to relevant Sport New Zealand, Gymnastics NZ, Manawatu Gymsports and Palmerston North City Council plans.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Manawatū GymSports' Regional Facility Proposal - Council Land Options

**PRESENTED BY:** Kathy Dever-Tod, Group Manager - Parks and Logistics

**APPROVED BY:** Sarah Sinclair, Chief Infrastructure Officer

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### RECOMMENDATION(S) TO COUNCIL

1. That Council note the identified Council land options for the Manawatū GymSports' Regional Facility Proposal.
  2. That Council include the list of identified Council land options in any future decision-making process for the Manawatū GymSports' Regional Facility Proposal.
- 

### 1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Manawatū GymSports (GymSports) presented to Council in October 2021, seeking space for a facility of up to 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> with up to 70 associated carparks.
- 1.2 This report assesses possible Council land options, at a desktop level, and identifies the strengths and constraints of those options.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In October 2021 Council resolved to assess suitable land options that Council may have to accommodate the regional level facility GymSports are planning for, as follows:

*"That the Chief Executive report back to the Play, Recreation and Sport Committee with options of suitable Council land for Manawatū GymSports to build on."*

- 2.2 This report addresses the above recommendation.
- 2.3 In addition to this report, the wider needs and aspirations of GymSports are contained within a separate report on the agenda of the April 2022 Play, Recreation and Sport Committee titled "Manawatū Gymsports Facility Concept Outline for a proposed new gymnastics facility - Regional Sports Facility Plan Steering group recommendation".

### 3. CRITERIA AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 A working party was established to look at the criteria and assess options. The working party was made up of representatives from:

- Sport Manawatū,
- GymSports New Zealand,
- Manawatū GymSports and
- Palmerston North City Council officers.

3.2 The criteria established by the working party were:

1. Space – up to 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> depending on specific location factors
  - Building - 2,500 m<sup>2</sup>,
  - 75 carparks –2,750 m<sup>2</sup>
  - building setbacks to sensitive adjoining uses of 10 m to 15 m and 4 m off any road frontage to minimise the risk of resource consent issues.
2. Location/accessibility – GymSports were open to options but preferred the city's northern side and ideally in the northeastern suburbs.
3. Site – GymSports preference to have some profile and community presence so the site would ideally have some road frontage or be situated in a positive and well-frequented space.
4. Adding value – sites with other activities such as schools, playgrounds, pools or other community recreation facilities would add value to GymSports holiday programmes, their members/users' experience and improve accessibility for schools.

3.3 A high-level desktop assessment was conducted. It was noted that options if any, and their effects on other activities, would be considered in more detail at later stages in the Regional Sports Facilities Decision Making Process.

3.4 The working party considered land currently occupied by other activities, assuming the sites were a viable option if the existing activities could potentially be relocated at a relatively low cost, or through reorganisation of an overall network of use, and the overall impact on the activity was acceptable.

### 4. FINDINGS

4.1 **Stormwater Portfolio** - Stormwater reserves were discounted as the primary purpose of stormwater management would be impacted. No large unoccupied areas not already serving a stormwater purpose were identified.

4.2 **Water Portfolio** – Water properties are fully utilised for their primary purpose of water supply and no land holdings with the space required are available.

- 4.3 **Wastewater Portfolio** – The area of Totara Road wastewater/industrial land, which has a series of community leases on it, has a large area currently unoccupied. This site is constrained by major sewer lines but could potentially accommodate a GymSports facility.

The wastewater treatment plant consent team advises it will be up to 9 months before the required footprint for the new Wastewater Treatment plant is firm enough to consider this location. No other wastewater properties were identified.

- 4.4 **Resource Recovery Portfolio** - no resource recovery or waste properties have 50,000 -10,000 m<sup>2</sup> of unoccupied land in a suitable location.

- 4.5 **Transport Portfolio** - Transport hold several properties for road improvements. These sites all have purposes such as intersection upgrades and/or are too small to accommodate a facility requiring 5,000 - 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

- 4.6 **Strategic Investment and Operational Properties Portfolio**

- 4.6.1 The feasibility of relocating The Depot and developing housing is being assessed in 2022 under Programme 2040. The site is 3.4 ha including the recycling facility and community centre. The GymSports facility would require 25 to 30% of the site.

- 4.6.2 No other investment or operational properties were identified as having the space in a suitable location.

- 4.7 **Arts and Culture Portfolio** – No Arts and Cultural properties were identified as having a space suitable.

- 4.8 **Parks and Reserves Portfolio**

- 4.8.1 Neighbourhood, Historic/Cultural, Suburb and City Reserves are not suitable locations due to the primary purpose of the land, and the size and nature of the facility proposed.

- 4.8.2 Summerhill Reserve was discounted as it was acquired as open space as mitigation to avoid environmental court action against a subdivision.

- 4.8.3 Land purchased for future extensions of the Kelvin Grove Cemetery was considered. The land is unsuitable due to lack of a road frontage, requiring 300 m plus access and services provision, a poor fit with the cemetery activity and the impacts on the future capacity of the cemetery.

- 4.8.4 Some sports fields were identified with the potential to accommodate the GymSports facility. None were a clear and straightforward fit with the criteria.

- 4.8.5 All sports fields options would need careful consideration for effects on activities at the location in question and/or effects on the overall capacity of the sports fields network.

4.8.6 The assessment of the sports field needs presented to the Council in October 2020 to inform decisions on the proposed artificial turf found:

- Population growth will generate increased participation in winter sports codes and changes in approach that will encourage greater participation.
- Football and rugby union sporting codes currently must compromise their delivery as they cannot consistently access enough training venues.
- Modelling of future field requirements shows an undersupply in current and future weekday training capacity.

4.8.7 Council has planning underway that may increase the supply of sports fields through Programme 1906 – Artificial turf detailed feasibility assessment and Programme 1133 for design and construction of an artificial field<sup>1</sup>.

4.9 Sports fields that could be explored in more detail are:

Sports field	Location	Comment
Alexander Park	Awapuni	Not currently used as a sports field. No changing or toilet facilities. No street frontage and not preferred by GymSports.
Bill Brown Park	Takaro	Would affect training and/or playing field space.
Celaeno Park	Kelvin Grove	Requires on-site assessment and to-scale drawings to determine if affects the playing field. May conflict with other field organisation/community centre options assessment.
Colquhoun Park	Milson	Affect a training/playing field or 2 tennis courts. May conflict with softball development plans.
Coronation Park	Takaro	Would affect training and/or playing field space.
Hokowhitu Domain	Hokowhitu	Would affect a playing field space and a bowling green
Manawaroa and Ongley Parks	Awapuni	Would affect training and/or playing field space
Vautier Park	Roslyn	Tight for space (in front of Redsox or between car parking areas). Traffic

<sup>1</sup> Subject to the outcome of the feasibility study and 50% external funding.

		and car parking assessment critical. Implications for sightlines and visibility.
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4.9.1 Aerial photographs and an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of the options are shown in Attachment 1.

4.10 Arena Manawatū - The Arena Manawatū Masterplan is to be reviewed. Consideration should be given to the potential for GymSports to relocate to Arena. It is noted that the GymSports facility space requirements for a regional facility are significantly greater than previous conversations with Arena Manawatu management indicated, and the GymSports requirements do not allow for multi-sports use.

4.11 Urban Growth areas

4.11.1 Council could consider future land planning in urban growth areas.

4.11.2 The urban growth areas likely to progress in the next 2 to 5 years are Kikiwhenua, Ashhurst, Whakarongo, and Aokautere. Private plan changes at Whiskey Creek or subsets of Kakatangiata may also progress if private development progresses.

4.11.3 Purchasing new reserve land in residentially zoned greenfield areas in the order of \$225 per m<sup>2</sup> or \$1.58 million for 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> would be a less cost-effective option than purchasing vacant industrially zoned land at approximately \$60 per m<sup>2</sup> or \$420,000 for 7,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

## 5. LAND OWNED BY OTHERS

5.1 During the assessment some Ministry of Education (school) sites and private land e.g. industrial properties were discussed.

5.2 No assessment of these sites was undertaken as they were outside the scope of this report. These options would be properly considered in future stages of the Regional Sports Facilities Plan Decision Making process.

## 6. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

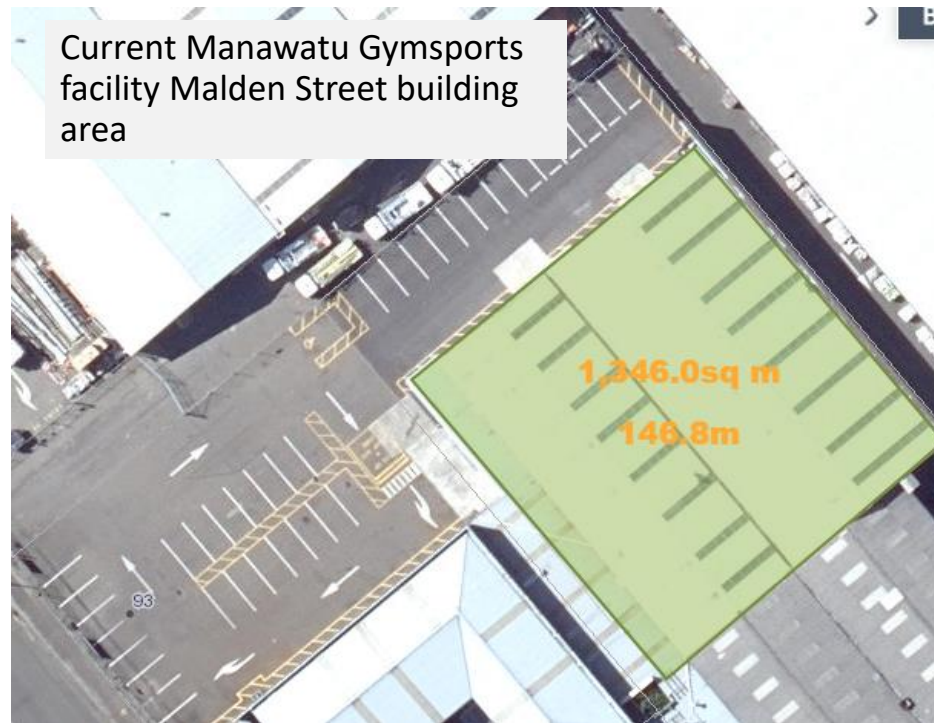
Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide	<b>No</b>
Are the decisions significant?	<b>No</b>
If they are significant do, they affect land or a body of water?	<b>No</b>
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	<b>No</b>
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	<b>No</b>
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?	<b>No</b>

Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of the Council's policies or plans?		<b>No</b>
The recommendations contribute to Goal 2: A Creative and Exciting City		
<p>The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Active Communities</p> <p>The action is: Work with other sport and recreation providers and adjoining Councils Partner with Sport Manawātū to deliver play, active recreation and sport services to meet community outcomes sought by the Council including the co-ordination of the Regional Sports Facility Plan, Active Communities and the Sports Event Partnership Funds</p> <p>Contribute to pre-feasibility or needs assessment work (as required by Council's commitment to the Regional Sports Facilities Plan)</p>		
Contribution to strategic direction and the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	<p>Provision of council-owned land options supports consideration of a regional gymsports facility for the community that enjoys and benefits from that health and social connectivity the facility supports.</p> <p>A regional facility may attract some economic benefit as a destination for regional activities.</p>	

## ATTACHMENTS

1. GymSports site assessment summaries [↓](#) 

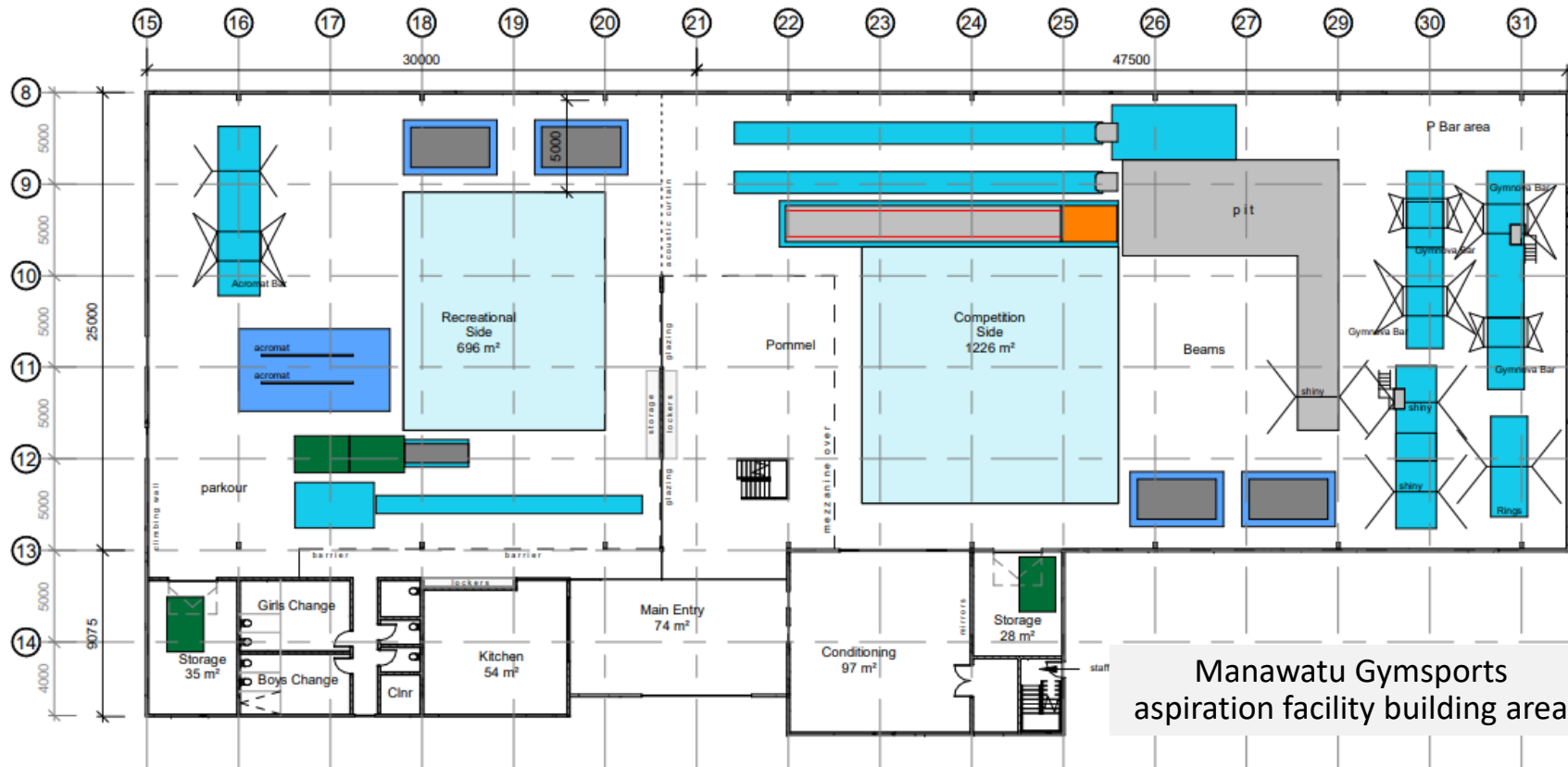
## ATTACHMENT 1: Indicative areas

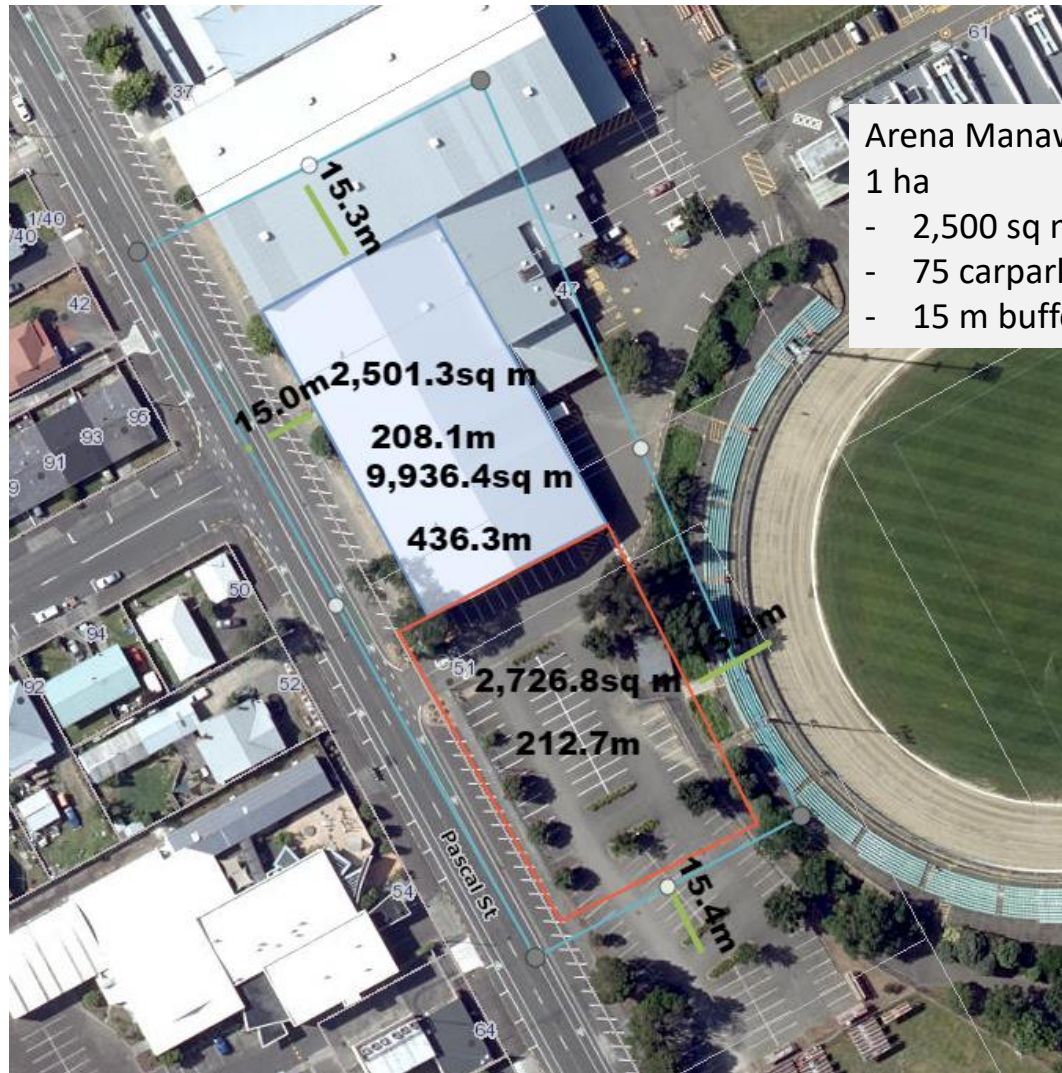


Total 2,682 sq m

78 m

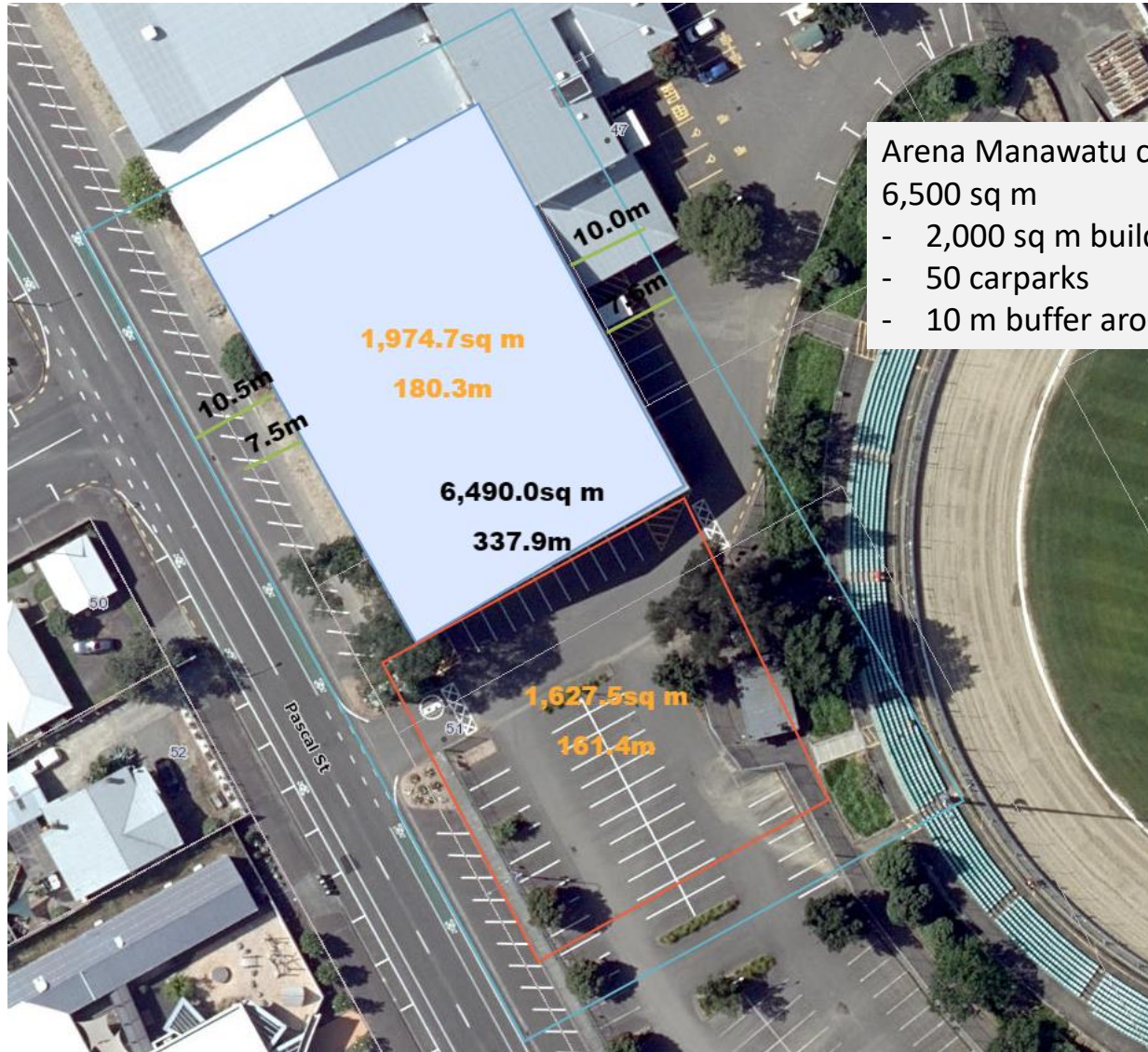
34 m





Arena Manawatu Comparative example  
1 ha

- 2,500 sq m building
- 75 carparks
- 15 m buffer around building



Arena Manawatu comparative example  
6,500 sq m

- 2,000 sq m building
- 50 carparks
- 10 m buffer around building



Buildings and carpark  
example areas

2,500 sq m would include  
allow for climbing gym.

Otherwise smaller building  
might be possible where  
site constrained.

# Alexander Park



Open Space – formerly used as sportsfield but not for some time. Has hosted Awesome Awapuni Day in the past.	
Strengths and Opportunities	Next to school and early childhood education. Does not displace an existing recreational activity.
Threats and Weaknesses	Require building over a sewer main. Existing carpark Ministry of Education owned. No street frontage. Proximity to residential – some consenting risk.
Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments	Awkward access a long way from current location. Not a preference.

# Arena Manawatu



Stadium and indoor sports venue. Arena Masterplan implementation programme to be reviewed.

## Strengths and Opportunities

Central and accessible. Cluster of activities. Potential breakout spaces for major events.

## Threats and Weaknesses

Fit with Masterplan. Priority with Arena projects and priorities? Building ownership vs tenancy decisions - Implications for fundraising.

## Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments

Must be sole occupier, can't be multiple use. Can't uplift and shift equipment. Effect of stockcars. Good location

# Bill Brown Park



Sportsfield, community centre, playground, courts.	
<b>Strengths and Opportunities</b>	Hub of playground and community centre. Possible coordination with programme to improve car parking.
<b>Threats and Weaknesses</b>	Likely to require one playfield to be displaced for either building or carparking. Might require relocation of courts. Difficult position building to avoid impact sight lines across the park and still have relationship to existing car parking. Pacifica Centre aspirations and impacts need to be understood.
<b>Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments</b>	Good park and access. Reservations about affecting other users. Could timetable gym use to co-exist with parking. Liked having playground and open space.

# Celaeno Park



Sportsfield and neighborhood reserve with playground.	
Strengths and Opportunities	Hub of playground and community centre. Possible coordination with programme to improve car parking.
Threats and Weaknesses	Would displace one playfield and impact setup for tournaments. Proximity to housing may mean consenting risk. Past proposals for new community centre – significant impacts if both proceeded.
Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments	Ranked highly. Further than ideal from population centre. Good playground and open space.

# Colquhoun Park



Sportfields and neighborhood reserve functions. Softball diamonds, clubrooms, playground, tennis and outdoor basketball courts.

## Strengths and Opportunities

Distance from residential housing can be managed. Hub of activity. Potentially reduced new carparking requirements. Good vehicle access. In northern part of city preferred by Gymnastics.

## Threats and Weaknesses

Conflicts with softball aspirations to reorganise diamonds. May require relocation or removal of courts or relocating training field.

## Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments

Courts and playground good for holiday programme. May be able to manage programming to work in with sportsfield use reducing carparking needs.

# Coronation Park



Sportfields. Cricket, rugby and rugby league use.	
Strengths and Opportunities	Distance from residential housing can be managed. Potentially reduced new carparking requirements.
Threats and Weaknesses	No added value e.g. playground. Current pressure on use with league relocation from Fitzherbert Park, rugby and touch.
Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments	Already issues with traffic congestion and parking. Not discounted.

# Hokowhitu Domain



Sportfields and neighbourhood reserve functions. Football and cricket fields. Bowling Club. Hokowhitu School occupy part. Protected bush.

## Strengths and Opportunities

Close to two primary schools. Playground and open space add value.

## Threats and Weaknesses

Impacts on sight lines into reserve, limited street frontage. Either affects two playing fields or bowling green. Congestion and traffic issues. Difficult to add parking. Growth in women's football and cricket means use has been increasing.

## Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments

Concerned about levels of traffic and congestions with the schools.

# Manawaroa/Ongley Parks



Sportfields including cricket, rugby and hockey use. YMCA, Cricket Centre. Tournament venue. Triathlon venue.

## Strengths and Opportunities

Added value in proximity to other activities, esplanade and YMCA.

## Threats and Weaknesses

Affects one cricket and playing field and tournament hosting capacity. Relocation of cricket nets for western option. Western option irrigation relocation required. Sightlines into park reduced, particularly for western option. Effects on events e.g. Super 7s. Additional parking awkward to accommodate without further effects on other activities.

## Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments

Didn't rank highly, concerned about conflict with other activities.

# The Depot (Albert St)



Council Depot - water, civil, garage, nursery, horticulture and parks, stores.	
Also recycling centre and community centre.	
Strengths and Opportunities	<p>Large area available if Depot redevelopment planned.</p> <p>Could be associated with new neighbourhood reserve and Community Centre if residential development occurred on balance of site</p>
Threats and Weaknesses	<p>Would use nearly 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the site once carparking and road access included.</p> <p>May be significant delay until property available, if at all.</p>
Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments	Most supported of option providing car parking accommodated.

# Tip Road (Totara Road)



Industrial zoned property – Small bore rifle, deaf society, brass band, archery, corrections gardens, radio club,	
Strengths and Opportunities	Large area unoccupied so layout choices.
Threats and Weaknesses	<p>Location option cannot be considered for 12 months- until footprint of best practical option of Wastewater upgrades confirmed.</p> <p>Unless other activities reconfigured access off Tip Road. Stop bank proximity. Contaminated soil disposal costs.</p>
Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments	Not in preferred location. Lack of profile. Poor environment for regional level facility.

# Vautier Park



Netball Centre, tennis courts, Redsox Clubrooms.	
<b>Strengths and Opportunities</b>	Central, hub of activity including playground and swimming pool. Close to Freyberg High, Ross Intermediate and St Marys.
<b>Threats and Weaknesses</b>	Additional costs for retaining wall structures vs flat site. Interrupts visibility across the park. Option by Redsox major interruption to their outlook and visibility. Need consideration of carpark use timing vs gymnastics carparking demand. Need assessment vs netball proposals for covered courts.
<b>Gym Club and Sport Manawatu Comments</b>	Busy carparking.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Results of the 2022 Audit of Shade Provision in Parks

**PRESENTED BY:** Kathy Dever-Tod, Group Manager - Parks and Logistics

**APPROVED BY:** Sarah Sinclair, Chief Infrastructure Officer

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### RECOMMENDATION(S) TO PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Results of the 2022 Audit of Shade Provision in Parks' presented to the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee on 27 April 2022.
- 

#### 1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Council adopted a Sun Protection Policy in 2010.
- 1.2 One of the actions within the policy is a three-yearly shade audit of council-owned parks, gardens and recreational facilities.
- 1.3 This report presents the results of the 2022 audit of shade in parks.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The aim of the Sun Protection Policy is for the council to contribute to a reduction in the incidence of skin cancer within Palmerston North by improving shade and other sun protection measures throughout the City.
- 2.2 The policy outlines that by acting in three key areas the City Council will minimise the incidence of excessive and harmful patterns of Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) exposure to residents of Palmerston North, namely.
  - Council as a consent authority
  - Parks, gardens and recreational facilities owned and operated by the City Council
  - Promotion and education of sun protection.
- 2.3 Council policy is to establish shade trees in parks and reserves, especially where children's play areas are being provided.

- 2.4 The shade audit is the mechanism by which the level of shade provided is assessed. Recommendations arising from shade audits are prioritised and incorporated into the triennial Asset Management Plan process.

### 3. PARK SHADE AUDIT METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 In January 2022 parks were assessed and the level of shade was categorised as follows:

- Plenty of shade
- Some shade
- No shade

The type of shade, natural or artificial, was recorded.

- 3.2 Shade provision of playgrounds was assessed and recorded as follows:

- Some Shade
- No shade

- 3.3 Newly planted shade trees within parks were noted.

### 4. SHADE AUDIT RESULTS

- 4.1 The 2022 park shade audit assessed 79 neighbourhood parks and sports fields, and 47 playgrounds within these parks. The list of parks audited is contained in Attachment 1.

- 4.2 A summary of the shade audit results is presented in Table 1.

Shade	Number of Parks	Artificial shade	Sports fields
Plenty	30	2	4
Some shade - with new trees	32	2	8
Some shade- with no new trees	9	1	1
No shade - with new trees	5	0	0
No shade and no new trees	3	0	1
<b>Total Parks</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>

Table 1: Whole Park Shade Audit Results 2022

- 4.3 Of the 79 parks audited, 38% (30) were assessed as having plenty of shade. Only 3 parks were assessed as not having 'plenty' of shade and no newly planted shade trees:

- Bunnythorpe Recreation Grounds

- Clausen Reserve
- Dahlstrom Reserve.

- 4.4 5 of the parks audited have artificial shade. All parks with artificial shade also have natural shade, except Raleigh Reserve.
- 4.5 14 of the 79 parks audited have sports fields. All sports fields were assessed as having plenty or some shade except for the Bunnythorpe Recreation Grounds.
- 4.6 A summary of the playground shade audit results is presented in Table 2.

Shade	Playgrounds	New Trees Planted	No New Trees Planted
Some	31	22	9
None	16	13	3
Total Parks	47	35	11

Table 2: Playground Shade Audit Results 2022

- 4.7 2/3 of playgrounds audited have some shade. All playgrounds have either some shade and/or new trees planted within the park; except the following three parks:
- Raleigh Reserve (has artificial)
  - Clausen Reserve
  - Dahlstrom Reserve
- 4.8 The audit confirms that 49 parks and 16 playgrounds require tree growth and/or more trees to meet council policy of 'establishing shade trees in parks and reserves, especially where children's play areas are being provided'.

## 5. SHADE TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME

- 5.1 Improvements to shade provision in parks are funded through Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 Programme 1099 - Parks and Reserves – Shade Development.
- 5.2 Council policy is to provide natural shading options where new shade opportunities arise, as well as when replacing existing artificial shade.
- 5.3 The policy direction is consistent with council strategy regarding the environment. Replacing artificial shading with trees reduces reliance on materials containing fossil fuels, such as shade cloth. Trees help reduce atmospheric CO<sup>2</sup> and stormwater runoff.

- 5.4 Each year \$10K within Programme 1099 is set aside for tree planting. Over the past three years, the funding has been used to plant new trees in several parks.
- 5.5 The audit results have been used to prioritise shade tree planting in parks based on the current level of shade, and prioritising parks in the following order: playgrounds, sports fields than all other parks. The objective is for all parks to have 'plenty' of shade.
- 5.6 Table 4 provides a summary of the number of parks within each tree planting priority group. Attachment 1 lists the 79 parks audited in tree planting priority order.

Priority	Shade Category	Number of Parks
1	Playgrounds NO shade and no trees planted	3
2	Sports fields NO shade and no trees planted	1
3	Other parks NO shade and no trees planted	0
4	Playgrounds NO shade (some trees planted)	13
5	Playgrounds SOME shade (no trees planted)	9
6	Playgrounds SOME shade (some trees planted)	22
7	Sports fields SOME shade (no trees planted)	1
8	Sports fields SOME shade (some trees planted)	1
9	Other parks NO shade (some trees planted)	2
10	Other parks SOME shade (no trees planted)	5
11	Other parks SOME shade (some trees planted)	6
12	Plenty of Shade	16
	<b>Total Parks</b>	<b>79</b>

Table 3: Park prioritisation for tree planting to achieve 'Plenty of Shade'

- 5.7 The average cost to plant a large specimen shade tree in a park, including labour, plant and materials (fertiliser, mulch, stakes and ties), is \$250. The current budget provision of \$10,000 per annum enables Council to plant 40 new trees each year.
- 5.8 Priority 1 parks will be planted with new trees in Autumn 2022. The priority 2 park, Bunnythorpe Recreation Grounds, will be included in the 2022/23 programme, to allow time for officers to consult with the Bunnythorpe Community Centre Association on a planting programme for the wider park. Priority 4 parks will be addressed over the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years.
- 5.9 On average, it takes five years of growth before a new tree provides a noticeable level of shade in a park. Once planted, the operating budget is

used to water trees over the summer months and to undertake other tasks such as staking and mulching, to optimise tree growth.

- 5.10 There is an ongoing need to replant young trees due to the high rate of loss, largely because of theft and vandalism. Other factors contributing to the loss of young trees include adverse weather and damage whilst undertaking other parks maintenance activities, such as mowing. Tree replacements are funded annually from Programme 1827 Local Reserve Renewals and Programme 1829 – Sports field Renewals.
- 5.11 On average, the minimum level of trees required to shade the playground and seating in a small neighbourhood or special character reserve, in addition to existing vegetation, is 4 trees and a larger suburb reserve or sports fields park requires an additional 14 shade trees.
- 5.12 Based on the 2022 audit results, 432 new shade trees are required to meet the objective of plenty of shade in parks and reserves; 180 trees in small reserves and 252 in larger reserves and sports fields. At the current level of funding in Programme 1099, it will take 10 years to complete the planting programme and a further five years of growth before all parks and reserves could be assessed as having plenty of shade.
- 5.13 The shade audit results will be used to inform shade tree funding options (short, medium and long term), for consideration as part of the asset management planning process.
- 5.14 The shade audit methodology will enable Council to cost-effectively assess the changing level of shade in parks over time, including the impacts of the shade programme.

## **6. NEXT STEPS**

- 6.1 Attachment 1 used the order of priority for the planting of new shade trees in parks and reserves.
- 6.2 Programme 1099 was used to plant shade trees in Priority 1 and 4 parks in Autumn 2022.

## **7. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide? If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual	<b>Yes</b>
Are the decisions significant?	<b>No</b>
If they are significant, do they affect land or a body of water?	
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	<b>No</b>
Does this decision require consultation through the Special	<b>No</b>

Consultative procedure?		
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?		<b>Yes</b>
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of the Council's policies or plans?		<b>No</b>
The recommendations contribute to Goal 2: A Creative and Exciting City		
The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Active Communities		
The action is: to provide and maintain city reserves, local reserves and sports fields		
Contribution to strategic direction and to the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	Shade enables park users to be active outdoors for long periods of time without undue exposure to ultraviolet radiation. The provision of shade in reserves therefore directly supports priority 5 of the Council's Active Communities Plan, namely 'be one of the most active communities in New Zealand'.	

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix 1: Parks Shade Audit Results 2022 [↓](#) 

**Appendix 1: Shade Tree Audit Results 2022**

Park	Park/Reserve Type	Shade	Shade	Shade	Shade Type	Shade Type	Play ground	PG	PG	New Shade Planted	New Shade Planted	Priority
	type	Plenty	Some	None	Natural	Artificial	yes no	None	Some	Yes	No	
Clausen Reserve	Neighbourhood			✓			Yes	✓			✓	1
Dahlstrom Reserve	Small Neighbourhood			✓			Yes	✓			✓	1
Raleigh Reserve	Special Character		✓			✓	Yes	✓			✓	1
Bunnythorpe Recreation Ground	Sports Field			✓	✓		No				✓	2
Awapuni Park	Suburb	✓			✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Celaeno Park	Suburb + Sportsfield		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Clearview Reserve	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Farnham Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓	✓	Yes	✓		✓		4
Franklin Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Jefferson Reserve	Neighbourhood			✓			Yes	✓		✓		4
Missoula Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Pacific Drive Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Parnell Heights Reserve	Neighbourhood			✓	✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Peace Tree Reserve	Special Character			✓	✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Rangiora Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Skoglund Park	Suburb		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Waterloo Park	Sports Field		✓		✓		Yes	✓		✓		4
Apollo Park	Special Character		✓		✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Atawhai Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Cambridge Ave Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Gloucester Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Kimberley Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Rangitane Park	Suburb	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Riverdale Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Takaro Park	Suburb	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5
Tui Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓		✓	5

Park	Park/Reserve Type	Shade	Shade	Shade	Shade Type	Shade Type	Play ground	PG	PG	New Shade Planted	New Shade Planted	Priority
	type	Plenty	Some	None	Natural	Artificial	yes no	None	Some	Yes	No	
Bill Brown Park	Suburb + Sportsfield		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Bunnythorpe Playground	Suburb		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Campbell Street Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Chippendale Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Cloverlea Park	Suburb + Sportsfield		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Colquhoun Park	Suburb + Sportsfield		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Crewe Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
David Spring Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		yes		✓	✓		6
Hokowhitu Domain	Sports Field		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Kaimanawa Park	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Kelvin Grove Park	Suburb	✓			✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Lakemba Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Langley reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Mahanga Kakariki	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Marriner Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Milverton Park	Suburb + Neighbourhood	✓			✓	✓	Yes		✓	✓		6
Newton Reserve	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Owen Street Park	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Papaioea Park	Suburb + Sportsfield		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Peren Park	Suburb + Neighbourhood		✓		✓	✓	Yes		✓	✓		6
Savage Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Totaranui Park	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		Yes		✓	✓		6
Alexander Park	Sports Field		✓		✓		No				✓	7
Coronation Park	Sports Field		✓		✓		No			✓		8
Fairs Acres Square	Small Neighbourhood			✓			No			✓		9
Leander Reserve	Small Neighbourhood			✓			No			✓		9
Hardie street Park	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No				✓	10
Hulme Street Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No				✓	10
Kennedy Park	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No				✓	10
Lancewood Reserve	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No				✓	10
Norton Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No				✓	10

Park	Park/Reserve Type	Shade	Shade	Shade	Shade Type	Shade Type	Play ground	PG	PG	New Shade	New Shade	Priority
	type	Plenty	Some	None	Natural	Artificial	yes no	Shade	Shade	Planted	Planted	
Durham Street Reserve	Small Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Kanuka Grove Park	Special Character		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Matheson Reserve	Special Character		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Opie Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Robert Park	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Whitten Reserve	Neighbourhood		✓		✓		No			✓		11
Amberley Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Balmoral Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Campbell Street Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Dalfield Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Edwards Pit Park	Special Character	✓			✓	✓	No				✓	12
Erin Reserve	Small Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Jickell Park	Small Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Lincoln Park	Sports Field	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Marriner Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Monrad Park	Sports Field	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Paneiri Park	Sports Field	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Railway Land Reserve	Special Character	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Salisbury Street Reserve	Small Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Summerhill Reserve	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No			✓		12
Wallace Park	Sports Field	✓			✓		No				✓	12
Willowbank	Neighbourhood	✓			✓		No				✓	12



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Progress Report: Sport Manawatū - Six-month Report (1 July - 31 December 2021) to the Palmerston North City Council

**PRESENTED BY:** Julie Macdonald - Strategy & Policy Manager

**APPROVED BY:** David Murphy, Chief Planning Officer

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### RECOMMENDATION(S) TO PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Progress Report: Sport Manawatū – Six-month Report (1 July to 31 December 2021) to the Palmerston North City Council' presented to the Play, Recreation and Sport Committee on 27 April 2022.
- 

#### 1. ISSUE

- 1.1 This memorandum updates the Council on the first six months (1 July to 30 December 2021) of the third year of the funding agreement between Sport Manawatū and the Council. Attachment 1 is Sport Manawatū's six-month report to the Council.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council has supported Sport Manawatū through an operational grant since the early 1990s.
- 2.2 In July 2019 a new three-year funding agreement, to the end of June 2022, was entered between Sport Manawatū and the Council. A strategic partnership plan forms part of this agreement and includes outcomes aligned to Council's strategic direction.
- 2.3 The funding agreement outcomes, based on Council's 2018 strategic direction, are:
  1. *Palmerston North has the most active community in New Zealand.*
  2. *People have the skills to safely and confidently cycle, and walk, on our active transport network and system (roads, footpaths, shared paths, cycleways).*
  3. *Everyone is encouraged to be active by playing and being active in sport and recreation facilities (places and spaces) across our City.*

4. *Sports and community sport events create social and participation opportunities as well as economic benefits.*

These outcomes guide Sport Manawatū's reporting to Council.

- 2.4 Six and twelve-month reports are required under the agreement between Sport Manawatū and the Council. The 2020/21 Annual Report, to the end of June 2021 (at the end of year two of the agreement), was presented to the Committee in October 2021.
- 2.5 Sport Manawatū presented a 'sector update' to the Committee at its February 2022 meeting, highlighting some of the key points in the six-month report.
- 2.6 It is noted that the six-month report includes some additional commentary and analysis from Sport Manawatū on the previous two years' activities. This has been provided to assist with upcoming discussions on a new funding agreement (as this agreement needs to be in place before the end of this 2021/22 financial year).

### 3. **SIX MONTH REPORT FOR 2021/22 YEAR: KEY ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTING TO FUNDING AGREEMENT OUTCOMES**

#### 3.1 **Outcome 1: Palmerston North has the most active community in NZ.**

- The Covid-19 pandemic continued to disrupt the delivery of activities and events to the community (noting a national lockdown in September 2021 was within the reporting period) by Sport Manawatū and the wider sector. Sport Manawatū highlights the impact of the pandemic on its scheduled programme of work and notes the role of staff in guiding the sector through the impacts of the Alert Level System and then the Covid-19 Protection Framework (traffic lights) introduced by the Government in December 2021. One key demonstration of Sport Manawatū's organisational responsiveness was implementing the 'return to play' guidelines and reviewing 22 safety plans for sports codes.
- Despite the ongoing disruptions, Sport Manawatū still held a well-attended governance workshop in November 2021 to strengthen the capability of the sector and collaborated with various codes on a holiday programme for delivery in January 2022.
- Sport Manawatū has noted that it has included in its Strategic Plan a goal of reducing inactivity rates by 2% over a four-year period. This target will help focus efforts on the areas of the community facing the greatest barriers to being physically active. Sport Manawatū has highlighted the progress with programmes in Roslyn in partnership with existing community providers, and the insights work underway in Awapuni to identify similar opportunities.
- Sport Manawatū has been an active participant in a range of Council planning and policy projects including making a submission to the draft support and funding policy.

- Sport Manawātū continued to drive the implementation of the Regional Sport Facility Plan and initiated an evaluation of the plan in late 2021. The Council contributed funds to the development of this plan. This year there is a 10-year plan programme (#1913) to review the City parts of the plan and next year the Council will contribute to an overall review of the plan. Council and Sport Manawātū staff continued to work together on sports facility proposals generated by the sporting community using the Plan's investment decision-making process.

**3.2 Outcome 2: People have the skills to safely and confidently cycle, and walk, on our active transport network and system (roads, footpaths, shared paths, cycleways).**

- Sport Manawātū has noted in its report that the Bike Ready (the national cycle skill education programme) funding from Waka Kotahi was withdrawn in June 2022. This programme is now supported through Council road safety budgets. This ensures continuity of the delivery of cycle skills instruction to year five and six students and supports Council's aim to increase active transport participation (see the Transport Plan).
- In late 2021 Sport Manawātū ran a second 'Walk and Wheels Week' in two primary schools and reported that one of the success factors was linking this initiative with schools that have had Bike Ready delivery.

**3.3 Outcome 3: Everyone is encouraged to be active by playing and being active in sport and recreation facilities (places and spaces) across our city.**

- The key activity highlighted by Sport Manawātū was the localised pop-up play initiatives in various locations around the City. These activities support actions in Sport Manawātū's Play Action Plan and the Council's Play Policy. Activation in different parks and reserves also raised awareness of the range of play locations in the City.

**3.4 Outcome 4: Sports and community sport events create social and participation opportunities as well as economic benefits.**

Sport Manawātū note the impact of the pandemic on the events supported through the Sports Event Partnership Fund. Initially, 22 events were planned to be supported through the fund, however, only one event was successfully delivered. Sport Manawātū hope that the remaining 13 approved events will take place before the end of June 2022. A number of events were cancelled and this will have a resultant impact on the economic benefits expected to be derived from these events.

**4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1** Discussions on a new funding agreement and partnership plan have begun. Sport Manawātū will present its next Annual Report, covering year three of the agreement with the Council, towards the latter part of 2022. Further staff commentary on progress will also be provided at that time.

## 5. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide? If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual 167.2	<b>Yes</b>
Are the decisions significant?	<b>No</b>
If they are significant, do they affect land or a body of water?	<b>No</b>
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	<b>No</b>
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	<b>No</b>
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?	<b>Yes</b>
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of the Council's policies or plans?	<b>No</b>
The recommendations contribute to Goal 2: A Creative and Exciting City	
The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Active Communities The action is: Carry out regular monitoring and reporting with Sport Manawatū	
Contribution to strategic direction and to the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	A strong working relationship with Sport Manawatū is essential in meeting a range of strategic outcomes sought by the Council. The delivery of actions, priorities, and outcomes in the Active Community Plan requires close collaboration with Sport Manawatū who are well-positioned in the community to deliver relevant activities and services. The funding agreement and strategic partnership plan guide services and activities delivered to the community contributing to its social well-being.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Sport Manawatū Six Month Report for July to December 2021 [↓](#) 



## Palmerston North City Council

Six-monthly report

July - December 2021

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The role of Sport Manawātū is to support Palmerston North City Council (Council) to achieve its aspiration of having a connected, vibrant, and thriving city, through the mediums of play, active recreation, and sport.

We start this report by sharing some highlights from the last six months. In addition, we have included supporting evidence of our impact on our activities dating back to July 2019. This is a result of Council and Sport Manawātū negotiating the renewal of our three-year partnership agreement which will expire 30 June 2022.

The report provides highlights of annual activities, and multi-year activities that have made a genuine impact on community wellbeing. We provide an analysis of our achievements during the length of the contract period assessed against the four outcomes areas highlighted below:

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PALMERSTON NORTH IS THE MOST ACTIVE COMMUNITY IN NEW ZEALAND

- 90% of responses agreed that Sport Manawātū staff responses to code safety plans were helpful to deliver code sport or activities safely during the COVID alert level restrictions.
- 39 residents involved in sport governance attended the November workshop facilitated by Manawātū governance leader and Board of Directors' trainer Rodney Wong.
- 153 residents have been supported financially through the Active Communities Fund.
- 367 young people have attended Sport Manawātū holiday programmes.
- 278 people participated in the Workplace Challenge.
- The Healthy Active Learning team was established and will be working in six decile 1-4 Primary schools in the Palmerston North region from 2022 to 2025

### PEOPLE HAVE THE SKILLS TO SAFELY AND CONFIDENTLY CYCLE AND WALK ON OUR ACTIVE TRANSPORT NETWORK AND SYSTEM

- 487 students received BikeReady instruction during the period.
- 77% of participants who attended the BikeReady programme felt their skills improved.
- 400 primary school students took part in the two Walk and Wheels Week events held in 2020 and 2021.
- 31 Teachers from the Bikes and Schools project received Cycle Skills training between 1 July 2019 and 31 December 2021.

### EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO BE ACTIVE BY PLAYING AND BEING ACTIVE IN SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES ACROSS OUR CITY

- 11 community pop-up 'Places to Play' aimed at promoting play as well as promoting local parks and reserves were held.
- Sport Manawātū, through the Workplace Challenge, increased the number of residents using the many fantastic open spaces and walkways we have in the city.

### SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- National sporting events contributed \$14,903,209 to Palmerston North's economy.

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## 1. PALMERSTON NORTH IS THE MOST ACTIVE COMMUNITY IN NEW ZEALAND

The Palmerston North City Council (Council) has a vision of 'He iti rā, he iti pounamu – Small city benefits, big city ambition' and this outcome highlights activities we've led or been involved in that contribute to Palmerston North City being the most active community in New Zealand. We provide information on progress during the last six months including an analysis of our impact and the growth of physical activity across the city.

This area focuses on getting our community active using play, active recreation and sport. Sport Manawātū's role is to strengthen our sector, increase use of parks and open spaces, assist decisions on facility developments that grow membership and participation opportunities, and empower our community to be active for life. We know that people are generally healthier and happier when physically active and that being active contributes to all aspects of health – te whare tapa whā.

We begin this report sharing some insights from the global Covid-19 pandemic and its impact locally. During the last six months, a number of scheduled programmes were either cancelled or rescheduled due to the 2021 lockdown, which significantly hampered efforts to deliver activities promoting physical activity. Following lockdown, Sport Manawātū mobilised to support and advise our sector on the Covid-19 Protection Framework (otherwise known as the traffic light framework). This unpredicted and unscheduled work consumed considerable staff time and resourcing.

### ***The impact of Covid-19 lockdowns***

Sport NZ commissioned a review in 2020 to understand the impact of the 2020 Covid-19 lockdown on physical activity participation. The findings indicated the following:

- There was an overall drop in number of activities and duration during the March 2020 lockdown (regardless of age).
- All participation dropped post-lockdown.
- There appeared to be early signs of recovery on participation from July to September 2020. However, in April 2021 a large deficit in all indicators persists.
- Inequities increased across older adults in higher deprivation areas.
- Sales in camping equipment increased.
- Sport participation and membership in tennis and golf increased.
- Sport participation across tamariki showed a slight decrease.
- Recreational activities like walking (29% to 47%), cycling (35% to 46%) and workouts (15% to 25%) showed marked increases.

Fast forward to September 2021. Anecdotal feedback from school principals across our region suggests the following:

- Rangatahi participation in sport dropped sharply, with some students not returning to school following the 2021 lockdown.
- The cancellation of high profile national secondary school events for a second year has negatively impacted on participation numbers across the region.
- The choice to not vaccinate has seen a decrease in sport participation by rangatahi and, in some cases, tamariki. This may be due to restricted spectator access.
- Rangatahi engagement in physical activity following the lockdowns is slow, with lack of motivation, being too tired, and lacking energy being cited as reasons.

- Concerns on the welfare of rangatahi (mental health issues and increased anxiety) have surfaced.
- There has been a decline in time (hours each week) spent being physically active.

Sport Manawātū activities impacted by the 2021 lockdown includes the following:

- Cancelled:
  - the Governance breakfast in October
  - eight events supported through the Sport Event Partnership Fund (Marist FB, NZ Basketball x2, Softball Fast45, Sir Gordon Tietjen's rugby 7s, NZ Barbarians 1<sup>st</sup> XV, Lower North Island Hockey, and NZ-Muslim Inter-district championships)
  - the Everyone Active Festival as Sport Manawātū wants to understand the implications of supporting vaccine-only delivery, while considering how we achieve our vision of 'Everyone Active'.
- Postponed cycling skills delivery in schools.
- Rescheduled:
  - two pop-up play activations around the city
  - suburb engagement activities (stakeholder meetings with community groups).

When analysing this information, the following commentary can be considered:

- The decline in physical activity for 18 to 34-year-olds, and existing high rates of adult mental illness, may increase the relevance and importance of physical activity interventions for this demographic.
- The reduction in activity of rangatahi 15 to 17-years-old requires further insights to understand what has impacted this change. From the Active NZ 2020 results we know that 46% of young people had a drop in an organised sporting context.
- Long-term changes in physical activity behaviours are less clear. Future insights captured regularly will help us to identify opportunities to sustain/mitigate inactivity.
- Going from no activity to some activity has well-evidenced wellbeing benefits. Therefore, the 2% increase of adults at a population level becoming active is important.
- Walking is low cost, has low barriers for participation, and has played an important part in individuals' physical activity through lockdown. The value of recreational facilities and outdoor recreation assets cannot be overstated.

Sport Manawātū believes there is a silver lining within our current operating environment and raises potential opportunities. This comes in the form of residents recognising the 'health and wellbeing' benefits of being physically active. Therefore, Sport Manawātū will continue emphasising how important physical activity is for improving wellbeing, exploring innovative ways to support our community.

## Deliver Training, Seminars, and Programmes to the Sector

### Sector Leadership – Supporting and Growing Play, Active Recreation and Sport Opportunities

In 2019, Sport Manawātū established a regional sport organisation (RSO) support group involving paid members of sporting organisations. This occurred because of Sport Manawātū seeking efficiencies and juggling operational demands. The RSO group provided a platform for staff to share learnings and address challenges. In addition, Sport Manawātū used the platform to deliver information to key sector partners. The RSO group started by meeting monthly following a set agenda. The meetings proved invaluable. A notable area of achievement was the growth in stakeholders participating in the group. We started with six codes meeting fortnightly. This has now increased to involving 12 codes, recreation organisations (including the YMCA), and facility managers (including CET Arena staff). As a result, Sport Manawātū has noted improved collaboration and an ability to develop mutually beneficial solutions to emergent issues.

A shared calendar of seasonal activities was put together following the 2020 lockdown. This was expanded in conjunction with the secondary school principals' group in the 2021 winter season to consider shorter seasons and stricter start and end times to seasons. Between codes and Council. The Council parks team is also involved in regular RSO discussions that have led to revised service level agreements with code users of Council owned facilities. Monthly meetings continue for the General Managers (GM) RSO group.

A key measure has been proof of up-skilling and innovation in the sector through training initiatives, opportunities, and activities. An example of the strength of relationships and improved collaboration was the 2020 July Holiday programme which involved codes working together to promote the benefits of sport and being physically active, and integrating the Balance is Better philosophy which supports a variety of opportunities rather than early specialisation in sport.

### Regional Leadership – Establishing the Multi-sport Holiday Programme

The GM group had been in place for almost six months, with meetings taking place monthly, before the first Covid-19 lockdown took place. When New Zealand entered lockdown in March 2020 those monthly meetings moved to once a week to keep up with the ever-changing world of sport and recreation we were living in at the time.

These meetings included discussions about the financial struggles RSOs were going through due to the loss of income with not being able to run competitions, who was receiving the Government wage subsidy, and what competition could look like in the future. As New Zealand came out of lockdown, the need for collaboration came up during these discussions, which is where the idea of the holiday programme came from. Manawātū Cricket took the initiative by developing a proposal and planning began quickly after that. The codes mobilised to deliver an indoor programme and an outdoor programme.

The objectives of the programme were as follows:

1. Promote collaboration: Engage RSOs and other activity and service providers to deliver a quality product to our tamariki and rangatahi.
2. Increase active participation: Engage 250+ participants.

3. Provide quality coaching experiences: Engage and develop local coaches.
4. Support diversity and inclusion: Actively include participants that would not traditionally be involved in this type of programme because of either income or socio-cultural backgrounds.
5. Promote play: Include and feature 'play' as an important part of the curriculum of activities.

The outdoor programme involved Hockey Manawatū, Manawatū Rugby, Manawatū Cricket, Netball Manawatū, and Central Football. The inaugural event attracted 117 young people in the outdoor programme and 116 for the indoor programme. The success of the winter programme resulted in a summer programme held in January 2021 with 250 young people registering. A third summer programme involving 10 codes is scheduled for January 2022, with 200 spots available.

*"Manawatū Cricket Association was proud to be part of the team that delivered the collaborative holiday programme delivered in July 2021.*

*We felt the benefits of this experience included:*

- *quality coach development opportunities*
- *an excellent overall experience*
- *variety of experiences for the participants*

*And, importantly, we achieved one of our strategic priorities of getting tamariki active and engaged in sport.*

*The participants were engaged, felt safe and really did have a fantastic time. The logistics and organisation from Sport Manawatū were essential to the success of the programme. We felt it was well coordinated and the process from start to this review has been well structured by Emma and the team at Sport Manawatū. We felt the initial goal of providing increased access/removing barriers for priority participants was not achieved. The initial idea of making it free for all was lost midway through the planning process because of a change of budget parameters. The compromise solution of providing 50 places for these priority tamariki or rangatahi was a good solution but, even then, we did not achieve this target as we did not engage strategically with those communities to ensure the opportunity available was communicated. This is an area we all need to take responsibility for and was not the fault of any one sport or Sport Manawatū, but it is something we need to do better next time. We also need to review our marketing strategy to ensure opportunities like this are well publicised and we engage with our schools and community groups earlier to build awareness. Budget, time and expertise need to be allocated to do this.*

*This pilot programme was satisfying to be a part of. The challenges presented by time and Covid-19 made our success limited if we were to judge the success of the programme purely on numbers. If we were to judge the success on the quality of the programme delivered, I think it was a massive success. More importantly for each RSO, the opportunity to build relationships between RSOs, both at a strategic level and delivery level, were real positives to come out of the project and make this project a success for the MCA and something we would be interested in being part of in the future. It was great to get our coaches together for a debrief at the end and it was very positive for them to build relationships with people in similar roles within our region." Stakeholder feedback – Manawatū Cricket Association.*

## Sports Partnerships – Collaborating with Sports to Enhance Participant Experience

Beginning in 2019, Sport Manawātū developed formal partnership agreements with seven priority sports across the Manawātū that focused specific Sport Manawātū support to each of the codes involved. The intention was to move away from ad hoc support, rather drilling down into key areas of their business, to grow a healthy and sustainable code.

Sport Manawātū partnered with the following sports:

- Manawātū Rugby League: Governance support to the board and coach development training (upskilling all representative coaches).
- Manawātū Netball: Governance support, financial assistance, and coach development training.
- Manawātū Basketball: All of Basketball Plan and governance support.
- Manawātū Hockey: Governance support, HR assistance and coach development training.
- Softball Manawātū: HR support and assistance during the Under-18 World Softball Championships.
- Cricket Manawātū: HR support and coach development training.
- Volleyball Manawātū: Governance support and coach development training.

The impact of the formal agreements with codes led to a pilot project involving the appointment of an independent chair to Hockey Manawātū, with Sport Manawātū employing Mark Cleaver to the Board for 12-months. The independent chair appointment brought a strong governance skill set to the Board and shared learnings to impart to other sport partners. Hockey Manawātū went through some significant changes following an employment dispute and the Chair provided stability during a period of rebuilding. The other impact of this work resulted in the formation of the RSO General Managers group, with key learnings from the pilot shared as part of a presentation during the Regional Play, Recreation and Sport Conference.

*Immediate benefits from the pilot expressed by Hockey Manawātū.*

- *“Meetings becoming more focused, improved systems including record keeping such as Board minutes.*
- *Meetings becoming very functional, and a greater focus on governance issues as opposed to an operational focus. For example, Board minutes used to be in a word file or excel spreadsheet and files were difficult to find.*
- *BoardPro has been introduced. This has made it easier to find files and has supported a more streamlined process for sharing files.*
- *Board members felt that having an experienced Chair had enabled making these improvements faster than would have otherwise been possible.*
- *Improved processes and greater support for the General Manager.*

### **Governance workshop – Governance and purpose – Rodney Wong**

In August 2021, a limited number of boards from a cross-section of organisations involving paid staff and volunteer-only models provided feedback on the value of governance in sport. Interviews were conducted with seven Chairpersons and committees across RSOs in the Manawātū Region:

- Paid Staff – Hockey, Cricket, Basketball, Netball and Badminton.

- Volunteer – Rugby League and Softball.

The governance project team conducted the interviews and found that two distinct areas were identified for support – the operational level and the thought leadership level. All those that were interviewed were interested and supportive of collaborating across both levels.

As a result of these insights, a workshop was held on 18 November 2021, in the form of breakfast and presentation at the Manawātū Golf Club. The objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- Sport Leadership: Ensure that key stakeholders are respected and credible and that they also promote 'Balance is Better' principles.
- Investigate and continue to provide and promote opportunities to work collaboratively with RSOs at governance and leadership level.

One of the main goals for the workshop was networking and providing opportunities for RSOs to develop at a governance and leadership level. The presenter for the workshop was Rodney Wong, covering 'Governance and Purpose', which helped organisations to gain clarity around their organisation's inspiring and compelling purpose.

Rodney brings more than 25 years' experience across the private and public sectors. Rodney presented at the Sport Manawātū Regional Conference in 2020, and his presentation on governance was well received by all participants. As a result, the Sport Manawātū governance project team brought Rodney into the governance series discussion and his insights moulded the topical direction for the workshop.

A total of 39 individuals representing several organisations registered for the workshop. The workshop was well received so much so that a substantial number of participants asked for the session to be longer. This was a result of the content being extracted from a five-day workshop and summarised to be taught in the space of 30 minutes.



**Photo:** attendees to the Governance breakfast listen intently to Rodney Wong

A full report can be obtained by contacting Nick Fee (Community Partnerships Advisor – Sport) [nickf@sportmanawatu.org.nz](mailto:nickf@sportmanawatu.org.nz)

## Sector Response Plan: Mobilising Efforts to Support the Sector During Covid-19

In 2020, Sport Manawātū developed a sector recovery plan for providers and partners in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The plan was developed using stakeholder feedback, national and local information, and insights from our March 2020 sector survey (including direct feedback from sports administrators (paid and unpaid) across the city, Manawātū, and Tararua districts). The plan was deliberately flexible to adjust to the changing needs of the sector and to respond quickly to accommodate the respective alert levels. We focused our efforts on addressing the following key areas:

1. Business continuity for the sector.
2. Resumption of sport and active recreation – participant-focused – return to play.
3. Sector collaboration and partnerships.
4. Supporting innovation and leading change.

Our strategic partnership status with Council also meant that we were able to be involved in a range of discussions around regional sport and recreation support and recovery. Council had tasked Sport Manawātū to coordinate and review codes' Return to Sport safety plans. This involved analysis of the play protocols of each code and seeking clarity on how they would meet the Government's criteria for play at alert level 2. This enabled Sport Manawātū to assist codes where needed in the development of safety plans while also ensuring winter sports were 'game ready' to resume seasonal competition.

The impact from the sector recovery plan is highlighted in this stakeholder feedback from Central Football:

*"Firstly, I would like to praise the work the Sport Manawatu staff have done since the pandemic outbreak. Their forward thinking saw them convene the sporting sector just one week into the event. These hui's have been invaluable to ensuring the winter and summer codes have aligned thinking. I speak with absolute confidence that all codes have discussed and largely agreed that moving the dates to allow mutually beneficial outcomes for all is simply a given."*

During the last six months, Sport Manawātū once again mobilised staff to provide guidance to our sector in response to Return to Play guidelines and to provide sector guidance on code safety plans under the Government's traffic light framework. Sport Manawātū reviewed 22 safety plans. The impact of our work to support the sector is captured here:

- 50% of respondents felt we assisted them a lot to a moderate amount.
- 90% of responses agreed that Sport Manawātū staff responses to code safety plans were helpful to deliver code sport or activities safely.

*Direct feedback included the following:*

- *We appreciated the bi-weekly meetings to discuss what we were doing and how we interpreted Covid measures were a great help in planning a consistent approach.*
- *Was well organised and clear support.*
- *Great help and awareness of what we were all trying to achieve.*

## Club membership and participation data

Code	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Netball	5,116	3,097	3,687	2,549	3,312	4,200	3,750
Manawatū Rugby Union	4,231	4,231	3,385	3,945	3,629	3,669	4,562
Central Football	4,003	4,052	1,969	2,223	2,686	3,200	3,353
Futsal			2,653	1,788	317	288	350
Manawatū Cricket	3,561	2,123	2,343	1,531	1,018	1,460	1,460
Golf	3,415	1,165	1,051	1,638	1,589	1,516	1,779
Touch Rugby	2,958	3,072	2,578	2,452	3,342	3,330	3,572
Hockey Manawatū	2,388	2,388	2,455	2,560	3,007	5,100	5,684
Basketball Manawatū	2,296	2,296	2,660	2,450	2,632	3,180	3,010
Central Squash	2,186	2,186	278	396	398	402	424
Swimming Manawatū Inc	775	775	441	544	860	676	518
Tennis Manawatū	732	450	450	299	401	244	487
Manawatū Gymsports	621	327	332	535	1,045	750	1,146
Rugby League (MRL)	577	667	320	502	646	698	425
Bike Road	300	550	278	168	134	151	146
Bike MTN			722	787	843	576	559
PN Athletic and Harrier	280	251	251	363	210	190	321
Special Olympics	275	177	259	173	277	147	149
Kiwi Canoe Polo Club	263	259	285	249	321	316	283
Triathlon	198	292	290	889	1,050	99	158
Badminton Manawatū	189	352	218	492	186	199	180
Manawatū Striders	184	184	191	176	133	100	75
Orienteering	50	42	30	43	43	22	44
Volleyball			1,040	950	975	1,156	1,828
Softball Manawatū						1,327	1,122
Tae Kwon Do						200	105
Surf Lifesaving						82	55
Table Tennis						120	350
Bowls	735	664	332	309	309	272	355
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,333</b>	<b>29,779</b>	<b>28,498</b>	<b>28,011</b>	<b>24,982</b>	<b>33,912</b>	<b>36,399</b>

**Membership analysis**

This membership count tracks trends and identifies areas of concern. When we compare 2020 figures with 2019 figures, the top three growth sports appear to be Volleyball, Gymsports and hockey. On the opposite side of the ledger badminton, rugby league and swimming have all experienced decreased numbers. Some caution, however, must be applied to these figures as the information requested from codes during the data capture is not always gathered or collated in the same way across codes. The numbers requested included both membership (paid or affiliated) and participant (those who attended programmes) numbers. We can also extrapolate based on SM observations and insights that the top three sports listed above have also done well to increase membership/participation having diversified their product offering, adapted delivery and improved capability to respond to the needs of individual

participants. These adaptations are the growing face of sport, as some codes continue to explore new ways of refining their product offering. We may find that the codes with decreased membership may not have been able to offer variations on the traditional delivery model at the time of reporting.

### ***Sport readiness tool***

To address some of the challenges the city faces around changing participant preferences and facility demands, significant progress has been made working with Council on a project to improve data capture that will inform future facility planning needs for the city. A range of sources are currently used to assist parties with verifying community demand of facilities.

This piece of work will contribute to information required to assist with understanding user demands of Council facilities across the region. The value of the approach should see improvements in the way information is captured.

The Sport Readiness Tool has been tested using targeted groups and we will be using this model from January 2022 to capture summer code information from the 2021 calendar year. This will have an impact on how membership and participation data will be captured and presented in the future.

The Tool will enable us to:

- assist in a fair and needs-based allocation of resources
- show where current and future demand is greater than supply
- identify growth centres and areas of decline
- provide a factual context when codes lobby for additional resources or investment
- adjust data collection e.g. numbers of teams should be the basis for team sports rather than membership numbers
- identify incentives/mechanisms to ensure data provision by codes.

## **COORDINATE AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY FORUM**

### **Facilitate Bringing Together Stakeholders to Improve Physical Activity Levels**

#### ***Women and girls' forum***

In 2019, Sport Manawātū hosted the first-ever Festival for Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation, which contributed to a multi-year commitment to plan and deliver festivals for women and girls. The festival was designed to improve opportunities, experiences, and outcomes for women and girls engaged in sport and active recreation. This first festival involved interaction with 15 regional sporting organisations, including active recreation facility operators, with 'Have a go' experiences running throughout the week (150 attendees were involved across the activities in the first year). Unfortunately, the following years have been impacted by Covid-19. The festival saw the launch of The Changing Room series, with local adventure racer Kym Skerman. These have continued with regular sessions held during the year.

In 2020, the See Her Be Her programme was developed as result of participant engagement, supporting a multi-year programme focusing on inspiring, creating, partnering, and delivering quality opportunities in sport and active recreation for females. This is based on the three pillars of the women and girls' strategy – Leadership, Value and Visibility, and Participation.

A series of three workshops examined female experiences in sport and active recreation:

- Andrea Jackson (Manawātū Rugby Union(MRU) CEO spoke about her role in governance and her journey to get to where she is now.
- Kelly Evans discussed the business of athlete management.
- Varina Wolfgramme from NZ Rugby talked about her role as New Zealand participation manager.
- Brittany Andrews discussed her role as referee development officer for MRU.

### ***The Changing Room***

This was designed as a continuation series aimed at showcasing local women doing amazing things in sport and active recreation. On 18 October 2021, Sport Manawātū held a Changing Room event that attracted 24 registered attendees. The guest speaker for the evening was Rachael Rakatau. Rachael was named co-captain of the Manawatu Cyclones for 2021, just weeks before her transition to becoming an associate at Allan McNeill Chartered Accountants. On top of that, Rachael cares for her two toddlers, aged 3 and 1. During the evening, in a well received, informal chat setting, Rachael shared how her upbringing and goal driven nature helped her succeed and how she juggles mum life, a career and being a high-performance athlete.

Anecdotal feedback indicates that the female sport and recreation network has:

- improved social connections
- provided a platform to discuss and support wellbeing
- showcased what is available across the region
- resulted in a growth in awareness of positive role models and opportunities for young women to give things a go.

### ***2020 sector conference***

Sport Manawātū hosted the inaugural Play, Active Recreation and Sport (PARS) sector conference in 2021.

Key themes for the conference included ***Balance is Better*** and ***Thinking Differently***. Sixty-five attendees representing sports, territorial authorities, schools, clubs, tertiary, cultural and active recreation providers participated on the day. Feedback from attendees indicated that:

- the community has an improved understanding of the Balance is Better (BiB) approach, and the sector has indicated a willingness to collaborate to embrace the BiB principles.
- more work is required to understand the needs of young people (Rangatahi).

A key Council outcome from the conference was for the sector to build its capacity and capability while becoming more self-sustaining. Anecdotal feedback and Survey Monkey results indicate that the conference was well received, with a desire to hold these on an annual basis. Ninety-seven percent of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with their experience.

*“I have been to most of the Sport Manawātū conferences over the last few years which have been really good. This year I was engaged all day. I really enjoyed it, and it was the best I’ve been to” (MW Golf)*

*“The youth panel hit us between the eyes telling us what we have got wrong” (conference participant) Thinking Different*

*“Awesome to have a play section in between all the speeches” (conference participant).*

*“Very strong consistent message throughout, but the two that stuck with me the most was the Rodney Wong presentation and the physical activity session”.*

*“Skateboard Bailey was very articulate and the Rodney Wong session was different and challenging and a strong finish with president of NZF”.*

*“Interaction with different codes. Rodney Wong's presentation in understanding other people”.*

### **Healthy active learning**

A new direction for Sport Manawatu and our approach to support inactive tamariki in the last six months is the Healthy Active Learning initiative, an action under New Zealand's Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. It is a new joint initiative between Sport New Zealand and the Ministries of Health and Education with the intention of supporting schools, kura, and early learning services to improve child and youth wellbeing through healthy eating and drinking, and quality physical activity. The criteria to become a Healthy Active Learning School during the initial phase of the initiative was to be a decile 1-4 primary or intermediate school.

Following a period of building relationships with the senior leadership team in each school that fit the criteria six schools in the Palmerston North region opted into the initiative:

- Awapuni Primary.
- Cloverlea School.
- Longburn School.
- Milson School.
- Te Kura o Takaro.
- Terrace End School.

The initiative will last a period of three years before the criteria expands to include more schools in the region. More information regarding this initiative can be obtained by contacting Murray Te Huki at [murrayt@sportmanawatu.org.nz](mailto:murrayt@sportmanawatu.org.nz)

### **Coach development**

Sport Manawātū's role is to support partners to develop systems to recruit, develop and retain quality coaches across all levels. A key component of this support is our Coach Developer and Coach Development programmes. The programmes have been developed to deliver initiatives that support the impact of paid and volunteer coaches in our region.

The coaching pathway is broken down into coaching, participant and athlete pathways. Highlights include the following:

- Coach development sessions involving more than 175 coaches across 15 codes (reaching an estimated membership of 12k).
- Community Coach Advance programme involving 22 coaches representing 12 codes (reaching and estimated membership of 8k).
- Coach Developer programme involving 20 coaches (Train the Trainer programme working across different codes).

A result of our coaching plan was the development of the Festival Week for Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation. The inaugural festival was held in October 2019a highlight of the week-long event

was the successful launch of the Women Inclusive Coaching Keeping Engaged in Development (WICKED) initiative. This is a co-designed coaching course with 22 female coaches involved. This initiative has resulted in more than 40 women coaches contributing to sport across our region.



**Image:** WICKED programme attendees

*“Being a part of the Sport Manawātū Coach Developer Training in 2019 has been invaluable to my development in the Coach Developer space. Although I had some past experience through Sport Specific CD training, the Sport Manawātū training created an environment where I was comfortable enough to take risks and in return learn from/with developers from different sports codes. This training has facilitated my own personal growth, with not only the confidence to network across sports codes, but with an understanding of the Coach Developer role and the confidence that I can still assist coaches in their development without being a top-level coach. The training also allowed me to identify the specific need for coach development within my own sport and was the underlying basis for the development of the 2018 NM Coaching Development Plan—with emphasis on creating a coaching community and regular reflective practices. I highly recommend the Sport Manawātū CD training to anyone associated with the Coach Developer role (experienced or not) within their sport—with effective questioning and reflection there will be learnings for everyone.”* Impact Statement from Netball Manawātū

## DELIVER ACTIVITIES THAT ARE COMPLEMENTARY INITIATIVES AIMED AT INCREASING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Tracking physical activity levels

In 2020, Sport Manawātū recruited an Insights specialist from Allen and Clarke to undertake a research project to understand participation preferences across play, active recreation, and sport. As an organisation, we needed to develop a deeper understanding of what people wanted, and why, as we understand the requirement for our sport and recreation sector to adapt and be responsive to the needs of participants (participant-focused).

To be adaptive and responsive, the sector and our region needed to be able to:

- target participants with the right services and approaches to respond to the changing trends in participation
- deliver quality experiences that engage our community in sport and active recreation for life.

Sport Manawātū previously had limited insight expertise and, furthermore, access to reliable data to enable us to benchmark physical activity preferences. However, we anticipated an increase in resident activity through well planned and structured interventions and allowed us to achieve our vision of 'Everyone Active', while also contributing positively to the Council's strategic goal of exceeding the national average for physical activity.

Table 1 (below) represents a snapshot of resident activity behaviours measured over a seven consecutive day period (captured at a point in time during 2020). Based on Table 1, 28.5% (between 28,000 and 32,000) of Palmerston North residents are inactive. This is 1.6% higher than the national population and 4.5% higher than the best performing regional sport trust catchment (North Harbour). However, this difference varies across demographic groups, with the gap in inactivity between Palmerston North and North Harbour being:

- better for the tertiary population (4.5% lower)
- slightly worse for young adults (1.4% higher)
- moderately worse for primary-aged children (3.9% higher) and young families (4.8% higher)
- much worse for older families (5.9% higher), secondary (7.2% higher) and older adults (9.1% higher).

% Inactive	Palmerston North City	North Harbour	Nationally
Primary (5 – 12)	11.6%	7.7%	7.2%
Secondary (13 – 17)	17.3%	10.1%	10.8%
Young Adults (18 – 34)	27.2%	25.8%	28.0%
Older Adults (35 – 64)	35.5%	26.4%	32.8%
Tertiary (PTEs, ITPs, wānanga, uni, workplace training)	27.5%	32.0%	26.8%
Young Families	33.9%	29.1%	30.8%
Older Families	30.2%	24.3%	28.0%
Low (1-3)	28.4%	23.5%	26.9%
Medium (4-7)	28.7%	24.7%	26.9%
High (8-10)	28.3%	23.9%	26.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.5%</b>	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>26.9%</b>

**Table 1.** % Inactive across key demographic groups (low, medium, high).

One of the ongoing challenges we have as a regional sports trust is accessing reliable information on an annual basis. A key tool used in the development of the current benchmark has been the Active NZ survey commissioned by Sport NZ. However, an issue we have with the survey is that it is only conducted every two years, with 2022 being the follow up to the 2020 survey. Other negative factors include that the resident sample sizes are extremely small, meaning that results are not statistically robust for individual Council requirements, and so the survey itself can be onerous to complete with feedback heavily reliant on residents completing the paper-based survey forms. The Active NZ survey is also expensive to coordinate and only appears suitable as a way of assessing high-level national trends.

Sport Manawatū and Council are exploring opportunities to improve regular data capture using the annual resident survey to pose questions that would enable us to understand attitudes, behaviours, and understand whether we're meeting activity guidelines. The new data system will be included as a joint approach between Sport Manawatū and Council.

Sport Manawatū's Strategic Plan aims to reduce inactivity rates by 2% over a four-year period among those residents who are more vulnerable than the general population. Our work has focused on those less active using platforms such as Green Prescription, Active Families, Workplace Challenge, and the Everyone Active Festival. In addition, we've grown key relationships with community champions, grown sport capability, and issued funding to support tamariki and rangatahi, families and older adults into physical activity. Sport Manawatū believes that we've been directly involved with getting more than 2,550 residents into physical activity.

Following are some responses to a recent survey on our active programmes for those over the age of 18 years:

- 73% of attendees agreed they were more active after attending our programmes.
- 80% of respondents felt they had adopted improved nutritional habits.
- 87% of respondents felt the choice of activities were relevant or appropriate to their needs.
- When asked how active residents were following the programme, 35% of respondents indicated they exercise two to three times a week for 30 minutes or more while 22% of respondents exercise four to six times a week for 30 minutes or more.
- The top three exercises were walking, water activities and household exercises (gardening).

## IDENTIFY UP TO THREE PRIORITY SUBURBS TO MONITOR AND PROGRESS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

In 2019, we started work to address inactivity levels in targeted suburbs with higher levels of inactivity. One of those suburbs was Roslyn. To begin our journey, we carried out an analysis of groups operating in the suburb that supported physical activity, mapping activities along with facilities. We also engaged with a community group (Roslyn Reach) and other stakeholders to understand what they do in the area. We soon discovered several groups coordinating bespoke activities. However, there was little coordination or promotion.

We discussed various intervention models with the Roslyn Reach group, while members also shared some of the challenges they face, e.g. that residents expressed a mistrust of external organisations coming into the community without being invited. Sport Manawatū then set about developing a logic model that would guide how we would work.

This resulted in a series of community hui and the identification of key organisations and champions – notably the team from the House on Vogel (HoV). A joint project was conceived that focused efforts on supporting a 'Playstreets' concept involving neighbourhoods facilitating 'play based' activities within cul-de-sacs. Sport Manawatū, along with staff from the Council Placemaking team, and other local agencies, partnered with the Roslyn Reach Group and Neighbourhood Support to help pilot the model. While some residents were not happy to play host to the concept, which resulted in an event being cancelled, a partnership between the HoV and Sport Manawatū blossomed.

In addition to the Playstreets work, the team at HoV was working with local youth, offering after school programmes. With assistance from Tū Manawa funding, several access barriers that previously existed were eliminated e.g., play and sporting equipment including funding to cover coordinator resource costs.

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The partnership with HoV has resulted in:

- a team of four youth leaders now supporting more than two after school programmes that support 30 young people
- fortnightly youth group activities engaging 35 young people
- a regular holiday programme supporting tamariki and rangatahi
- weekly programmes supporting a minimum five hours of weekly physical activity
- weekly adult fitness classes supporting up to 10 participants
- funding activity programmes (three) and resources worth more than \$60k
- connecting residents to the Council's Active Communities Fund, which has included the purchase of a table tennis table (leading to the formation of a community club and regular competitions)

Key to the success of the HoV club was the existing relationships between youth workers and mentors and the youth of Roslyn. These relationships were vital in encouraging the young people to try something new without fear of being judged. The HoV club provided opportunities for the youth to:

- connect with positive mentors and role models,
- develop their sense of belonging in a safe space where altercations between youth and challenging behaviour could be managed well
- develop their confidence to participate in physical activity through play.

### Physical Activity Plan

A stakeholder list capturing community activities was developed to help us identify gaps in provision, some of which have been supported through the HoV activations listed above. Additional programmes targeting Roslyn residents are outlined below:

Programme	Description	Status
Green Prescription targeting inactive residents over the age of 18	SM delivery at Freyberg and Lido	In Place
Active Families (4 – 17 years)	Alternate Ed programme at Vautier	In Place
Community Strength and Balance (50 plus)	HoV	2022
Healthy Active Learning	Targeted schools across the city	2022
Play/Community Pop Ups	Park and Reserve activations	In place
Community Newsletter detailing	HoV publication	2022

Activations across Roslyn will continue to be supported and monitored (using our logic framework) by our Palmerston North recreation advisor, in collaboration with members from the Roslyn reach group and HoV staff.

### Active Awapuni

In July 2021, our Palmerston North Recreation advisor started gathering insights on Awapuni suburb, firstly connecting with the Chair of the Awapuni Rotary Group to identify organisations and community champions willing to partner with us to explore physical activity opportunities. Meetings with different stakeholders e.g. the team from Awapuni Community Centre have since taken place. They have indicated that there is a possibility to support the community by leveraging services Sport Manawātū currently provides (Strength and Balance, GRx and Active Families) and the Tū Manawa fund. To

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progress this project we will become familiar with the needs of the community and establish relationships with key stakeholders who can become (or currently are) community champions that can drive programmes requested by Awapuni residents.

### **REPLAY sport**

REPLAY started in February 2017, founded by the McLean family in Palmerston North. Replay is an organisation that collects and redistributes new and used sports gear to reach kids and families, increasing their opportunity to be active & involved in their sport.

2021 has been a bumper year, despite Covid-19, with sports gear steadily coming in and going back out. In the Manawātū region we distributed more than 2,400 items of sports gear to 25 different organisations. Now, four years since its inception, more than 14,000 pieces of sports equipment (balls, boots, bats, sticks, shin pads and sneakers) have been received and redistributed within the city, Manawātū, Whanganui, Rangitikei and Ruapehu districts.

The McLean's still have the same goal – to reduce barriers to being active, help keep kids stay happy and healthy and help the environment along the way, too. Replay Sport continues to support our programmes by donating equipment for use at home, in parks, or within alternative education programmes. The opportunity to practise with donated equipment at home or in parks encourages our whānau to start looking to participate in organised sport.

### **WORKING WITH RANGITĀNE O MANAWATŪ TO DEVELOP A PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE WHĀNAU TO BE MORE ACTIVE**

In March 2020, Sport Manawātū began working on a Māori Participation Framework to support play, recreation and sporting aspirations for whānau, hapu and iwi. This framework supports our Board's commitment to our Tiriti of Waitangi and diversity and inclusion policies.

The framework will help shape the future direction of SM approach to achieve mutually supportive outcomes in partnership with Rangitāne, including iwi from within our wider region. Initial investigations have provided a general view of Māori participation in physical activity at a broad level, and we have begun of capturing participant feedback from whānau involved in our Whānau Fit programmes. With endorsement from the DHB Mana whenua group including the appointment of Dr Jeremy Hapeta to the SM board in September 2021, work has been completed involving research into Māori participation insights across the Manawātū.

A series of questions investigating cultural responsiveness is in development to identify key Māori values in physical activity. A survey will then be developed to help identify gaps in cultural knowledge and understanding. Sport Manawātū is actively recruiting for an advisor who will assist Dr Hapeta gather insights needed to develop the regional Māori participation plan to support Māori aspirations and opportunities.

### **COORDINATE THE ACTIVE COMMUNITIES FUND**

Established by the Council in 2018, the Active Communities Fund aims to remove financial barriers to enable individuals, families, caregivers, children and youth the opportunity to be more active, more often. The fund aims to remove barriers to participation through the provision of:

- activity-related costs
- activity-related equipment not provided through a club, school, or activity provider

- uniforms, clothing, or footwear
- facility fees or event costs
- access to one-on-one or small group coaching
- opportunities that support a life-long love of being physically active
- travel-related costs.

Active Communities Fund	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (first six months)	Total
Recipients	80	61	12	153
Amount Funded	\$10,900	\$11,447	\$4,230	\$26,577

*As an example of the benefit of this funding, the majority of recipients have reported that the fund has had a “hugely positive impact” on their ability to be active (survey feedback). In general, as attendance levels improved, recipients appeared to be healthier (more activity more often) and less stressed. Fund recipients also showed more involvement during training time and formed better relationships through the extra time spent doing the activity that they love. Their understanding and performance also improved based on their examination scores at an in-house evaluation. Finally, they started competing more often because access to the fund allowed them to purchase necessary uniforms and equipment to do so. All fund recipients were very grateful for the opportunities the fund provided to them”. Extracted from the final report of the Kung Fu Academy recipients.*

## PROVIDE LEADERSHIP ADVICE ON PLANS AND PROJECTS THAT ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITIES TO BE ACTIVE AND ENHANCE DECISION MAKING

### Work with Council Staff and Stakeholders, Including Presenting to Council’s Play, Sport and Recreation Committee on Issues/projects Impacting the Sector or Community

#### Consultation

Sport Manawātū provided feedback on the Summerhays site draft development proposal in August 2020. We felt that, given its recreation zone status, a small development on the Summerhays site may be considered special character and add significant value to the area. We were of the view that Council should retain a portion of the recreation zone, to involve residents in the future design and development of a green/activity space. We felt that Council could make use of a neighbourhood ‘Playstreets’ model to engage with residents once a decision had been made. This, in our view, would allow Council to use the policy to help guide its ‘Urban design response’ to public space infrastructure development, particularly given several probing questions sought our view on nearby property fencing and future options. We believe our submission encouraged councillors to investigate options for a green space to be investigated as part of the future design of the development.

#### CET Arena – the city’s major indoor sports venue

Sport Manawātū continues to engage with operations staff from CET Arena on a quarterly basis to discuss facility use and address initiatives that support national sporting events and community sport.

Sport Manawatū partnered with the facility manager from CET Arena to clarify 'Return to Play' requirements for indoor user groups. This was followed up by the manager joining the scheduled weekly network meetings with general managers from other codes.

In addition, CET Arena staff have been involved with the RSO meetings and providing much needed clarity on the facility's Safety Plan approach. This has included the following:

- Investigating how we might support regional sporting priorities to offset the cancellations occurring with national sporting events in the city (volleyball, basketball) due to Covid-19.
- Managing activities under Covid-19 level 2 restrictions to maximise benefits to community sport. This included a roll in/roll out system that appeared to work well.
- Partnering with the facility manager to confirm the requirements of the Government's traffic light framework.

### ***Kahuterawa outdoor recreation plan***

Sport Manawatū was involved in the review of the Council's Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan (KORP). The KORP sets the direction for the management of the Kahuterawa outdoor recreation area, including the key asset of Woodpecker Forest, and detailed implementation for recreation and conservation. The KORP was developed in 2006 and this review will enable the Council to refresh its goals and develop an implementation plan and align budgets to progress future KORP projects.

### ***Draft support and funding policy review***

Sport Manawatū submitted on the Council's draft Support and Funding Policy review held in December 2021.

Key points included Sport Manawatū supporting:

- the policy objectives and proposed principles
- the proposal to establish 'partnership agreements' with sector leads
- the proposal to direct funds from the strategic priority grants to fund partnership agreements.

Sport Manawatū also supported the proposed criteria for the fund supporting major events. However, we feel that the selection of some of the major events (specifically those with a sport focus) cross over in areas that can also be funded through Sports Event Partnership Fund (SEPF). A Council officer appointed on the major funds committee and the SEPF committee would decrease the potential of 'double dipping'.

Having said that, we believe that combining the funds under one administrative process would risk the SEPF being considered transactional by applicants. Sport Manawatū staff have been able to use the SEPF application process to contribute to the growth of local sporting associations capability and capacity. It has taken considerable time and energy to build and grow these relationships that, in some cases, have led to long-term legacy pieces including the Softball facility at Coronation Park.

Importantly to us, the fund is no longer viewed as simply covering event costs for some codes. Rather, it has enabled the committee to secure multi-year agreements, with provisions put in place that benefit our grassroots communities. The SEPF panel, which includes Council, CEDA, and Sport Manawatū, has made significant strides to align SEPF decisions to Council strategies, while key stakeholders i.e., facility managers have a better understanding of their role in helping to consider 'value add' models to attract and retain events to the city.

Sport Manawātū expressed concerns that the strategic opportunities created through the SEPF may be lost if it were to be pooled under the one funding administration. Our thinking considers the recommendations identified from the Sport Event Partnership Fund review which investigated the benefits and support for an attraction and retention plan.

The review also highlighted the need for the panel to take a more strategic approach to event attraction and retention with measures to be assessed as part of our up-coming contract renegotiation with Council. One of the most important retention tools we have is the ability to sign sports events under a multi-year agreement of which we've made some positive communications with Basketball, Volleyball and Badminton.

## PROVIDE INSIGHTS/RESEARCH ON LOCAL TRENDS AND ISSUES IMPACTING ON THE COUNCIL'S SPACES AND PLACES

### ***Aquatic facilities***

Sport Manawātū has continued to communicate with aquatic groups to address concerns relating to facility access, demand challenges and the impact of local facilities not being fit for purpose to meet national standards to host events. Swimming clubs have highlighted issues regarding pool scheduling in the 10-year plan. Respondents have suggested that while swimming membership numbers are positive, increasing numbers are prohibitive as facilities are struggling to cope with the current demand. Sport Manawātū is interested to work with aquatic users seeking feedback on the 2018 regional sport facilities plan (RSFP) stocktake list as part of the upcoming 2022 RSFP review.

## ACT AS THE 'SHOP FRONT' FOR THE COMMUNITY TO BETTER ACCESS SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

### ***Maintain a website and social media presence that is up to date***

Sport Manawātū provides information to our communities through several communication channels – website, Facebook, Instagram, and e-newsletter. The website continues to be a key avenue for providing information to users.

Alongside the website, we post regularly on Facebook, and we are working to increase our profile on Instagram.

Key statistics over the last 2.5 years include the following:

Social Media and Website	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 (first six months)
Facebook followers	7,400	7,872	8,022
Instagram followers	-	1,092	1,139
Website users	28,000	30,340	10,633
Website visitors	72,305	80,147	24,268

### ***Maintain online database of clubs and facilities***

Sport Manawātū maintains a database of clubs on its website, ensuring our community can connect directly with our regional sport and activity providers. The site provides information relevant to specific groups including sports seeking assistance with governance training, parent and teacher support, and organisations seeking funds for programmes/initiatives. Website analytics provide information relating

to user demand with the home page naturally drawing in the largest number of users. The next two highest pages are 'Locate a sport' and 'Events' which draw more than half of all visits/users.

## PROVIDE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, RATIONALISATION, OR OPTIMISATION OF SPORT FACILITIES

### *Regional sport facilities plan*

Sport Manawātū believes it has continued to fulfil its responsibilities and demonstrated its value in delivering the implementation plan that has been agreed by the Regional Sport Facilities Plan (RSFP) Steering Group. Sport Manawātū is in a unique position to oversee a number of regional and sub-regional projects, share valuable learnings that are benefiting the sector in the long-term and, crucially, playing our part in making sure every Council dollar including third party funding is invested wisely for maximum return in benefits to the community.

Over the last 30 months, Sport Manawātū has led a 'one region' approach to facility planning and decision making, ensuring that projects are assessed and agreed by the steering group. This has involved coordinating steering group meetings and funders' network forums, collaborating with Council officers involved with facility projects, and supporting groups through the RSFP decision making process. More recently, Sport Manawātū, with assistance from Allen and Clarke, has led an evaluation of the RSFP. We have also been addressing the bigger challenge, that of the global pandemic and the impact on our community and sector. We acknowledge the need to respond in ways that will require collective thinking and to revisit programmes that may no longer be relevant in supporting play, recreation, and sport outcomes. This year alone, we have progressed the following Council programmes:

- Sat on the steering group involved with the CET Arena Masterplan phase 2 developments, which were completed in March 2021.
- Provided guidance on the feasibility assessment of artificial turf, which is proposed within the upcoming 10-year plan.
- Provided advice to Council and guidance to groups involved with the proposed demand assessment of indoor sport users in Palmerston North (proposed 10-year plan).
- Provided guidance for netball and tennis RSOs on their concept outline for a covered facility at Vautier Park and Huia St tennis courts (proposed 10-year plan).
- Developed the scope and appointed the consultants responsible for completing the bowls detailed feasibility assessment to investigate a new covered facility for the bowling centre.
- Coordinated meetings between Council staff, Gymnastics NZ and Gymsports to progress the proposed development for a regional gym sports facility.
- Supported the CET Arena facility manager and the sector to navigate the Government's traffic light framework.
- Negotiated for swimming and other aquatic users to assist in the review of the RSFP.
- Developed and tested the Sport Readiness Tool.
- Coordinated a series of regional presentations on the Sport NZ Hub Guide.
- Investigated the availability of Visitor Solutions to undertake the review of the RSFP.
- Submitted letters of support and been successful in securing funding for facility-related projects.

The RSFP has enabled us to support and influence key decisions for council and the sector, notably the reestablishment of the bowls detailed feasibility assessment of a covered facility. We have also

coordinated several stakeholder meetings involving National Sport Organisations ensuring projects can be assessed and aligned to national facility strategies. This includes Bowls and Gymnastics.

### ***RSFP evaluation***

To inform the development of an RSFP tool, in particular templating and/or decision rubrics, the RSFP evaluation has collected data from a survey of the steering group, a focus on grouping key themes, and a preliminary document review. An RSFP-specific evaluation tool with assessment criteria has been developed and two follow-up surveys were collected in December 2021 (for decision makers, n=7 and organisations, n=5, as at 20 December 2021). Further interview/focus group work is to be done in early 2022. Findings at this stage indicate that decision makers apply the RSFP in two main ways – as a principle-based assessment and as a process tool (i.e., applications must follow the RSFP steps). Stakeholders all agreed that the RSFP is very useful as “It provides a great structure and rationale, as well as driving consistency when assessing proposals”, however uptake of the investment decision making process is variable among individual Councils.

The evaluation should provide a list of recommendations which will inform changes to the RSFP when it is reviewed late 2022. Sport Manawātū have approached Visitor Solutions following advice from Sport NZ to investigate their availability to complete the 2022 review. Using Visitor Solutions will ensure we can maintain continuity and share vital learnings with the next iteration of the RSFP.

### ***Manawātū Gymsports***


Council, along with Sport Manawātū, facilitated a meeting with Kim Fenn, facility manager of Manawātū Gymsports, to progress the development of a concept stage outline. The code has been extremely successful in the last 18 months with membership and participation growth now placing greater demands on the current facility. The facility has become too small, and the club is wanting to know whether Gymsports is included within any future indoor sport development at CET Arena. Gymsports has been given guidance on the information needed to assist the group understand what level of support and resourcing it is wanting from the Council.

### ***Multisport netball and tennis covered facility***

Sport Manawātū, with support from Council staff, has engaged Netball New Zealand to discuss the Netball Manawātū/Tennis Manawātū proposal submitted to the Council as part of the 10-year plan submissions. The parties are seeking clarity on the strategic direction of their codes and alignment of the proposal with Netball New Zealand's 2011 national facility strategy. The up-coming facility review of Palmerston North sporting facilities may allow us to explore the proposal in more detail and examine whether we need to explore additional developments alongside our existing network of indoor facilities. This would ultimately validate the codes' position for it to be considered a viable proposal.

### ***City climbing wall project***

Following the closure of the Vert-X Indoor climbing wall located on Park Road, in March 2020 Sport Manawātū led a meeting of community members to assess whether there was support for another facility. Sport Manawātū made enquiries with various organisations around the country to investigate a range of operating models. In April 2021, a follow-up meeting was held with individuals based in the city to transition the project from Sport Manawātū to a community group with a desire to champion the facility concept outline. Further discussions have occurred between Sport Manawātū and the project group, along with the operations manager of Y Central, to look into rehoming the climbing infrastructure currently in place at the old site.



Sport Manawatū has also engaged a contact with the New Zealand Army who we hope will assist the group with the disassembly and storage of the infrastructure on a short to medium-term basis.

Sport Manawatū has assisted the group with guidance on the regional sport facility plan key work stages and decision making framework, including assistance on using the new Sports Hub guide (<https://www.thehubguide.org.nz/#get-started>), which has been developed by Sport NZ to help groups identify hub opportunities, support shared use facilities, increase use, and identify mutually beneficial partnerships.

## 2. PEOPLE HAVE THE SKILLS TO SAFELY AND CONFIDENTLY CYCLE ON OUR ROADS, SHARED PATHS, AND CYCLEWAYS

This outcome area details our activities which contribute to more city residents walking, cycling, or using other active transport modes to move around and explore our amazing city. We investigate the impact of cycle skills instruction for school aged children, using events that promote cycling and active transport, including infrastructure designed to get more residents riding a bike.

### Facilitate and Promote Cycle Skills Education Programmes

Over the last 2.5 years, Sport Manawātū and Council have continued to progress actions within this outcome area relating to becoming a He Waka Kotahi BikeReady national cycle skills region. The He Waka Kotahi BikeReady programme centres on quality standards and measures, which includes spending more instructional time with individual participants. The programme includes an increase in funding that will greatly assist with building local capacity (developing more quality cycle skills instructors and getting more children riding a bike).

Sport Manawātū, with feedback from He Waka Kotahi, prioritised Year 5 and 6 students believing they had the required maturity and mental acumen to benefit from the BikeReady programme. We gained valuable insights through school pre-programme and post programme surveys to support this rationale.

The BikeReady programme was previously funded through NZTA until it withdrew it's funding in June 2021. This placed significant pressure on our ability to continue delivering BikeReady outcomes and we are grateful to PNCC who have confirmed budget for the next contract period, ensuring residents will benefit from BikeReady delivery.

<b>Bike Ready Participants</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>Jul – Dec 2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
Total primary/intermediate school participants	543	1,317	487	<b>2,347</b>
Total adult (high school aged or above) participants			32	<b>32</b>
Participating (primary/intermediate) schools	7	11	6	<b>24</b>
Total teachers involved			23	<b>23</b>

A total of 2,347 students received cycle skills instruction in Palmerston North during the last 2.5 years, of which 1,590 students completed Grade 2 (on road skills) BikeReady instruction.

The schools we partnered during the period included:

- Parkland School
- Riverdale School
- Longburn School
- Winchester School
- Somerset School\*
- Hokowhitu School
- Ashhurst School
- College Street School
- Winchester Street School

- Awapuni School
- Palmerston North Intermediate Normal School

\*Denotes school that is in the process of developing, or has developed, a school travel plan with assistance from the Council and contractor Via Strada.

### ***Student insights and the value of cycling***

To understand the impact of the BikeReady programme on participant skills, attitudes to cycling and behaviours, Sport Manawātū sought feedback from past students. BikeReady participants from six schools as far back as 2018 responded to the survey with key findings from the survey presented below.

- 70% of respondents own a bike with bike use higher on weekends – 74-82% use their bike on a Saturday and Sunday.
- 77% of participants felt their skills improved following the programme.
- 26% of respondents said safety was a factor in stopping them riding a bike.
- When asked what would motivate you to ride a bike, common answers included:
  - if my parents would let me ride
  - I live near a busy road, so it is a little dangerous
  - not being scared
  - love trails and riding cool places with friends and having fun.
- When asked if feeling unsafe is a reason you don't ride, what are some things we can do to support you, common answers included:
  - less traffic on the road
  - making sure people know the rules
  - make cycle lanes more smooth
  - more cycle paths.
- When asked the main reasons for riding a bike:
  - 65% ride for play or fun
  - 38% ride to get to and from school
  - 7% don't ride at all.
- When asked whether they feel confident riding a bike, 98% respondents agreed.

The survey results indicate that from the total number of BikeReady participants who have received cycle skills instruction in the last 2.5 years:

- 1,525 ride for play or fun
- 891 ride to and from school
- 164 don't ride beyond the programme
- 2,300 feel confident riding a bike.

### ***NZTA BikeReady programme review***

Sport Manawātū hosted representatives from NZTA in 2020 as part of a review of our BikeReady instruction. The review involved two and half days of observations assessing instructor delivery and student development. The review panel believed the programme was delivered by a great team of instructors who had good rapport with the students, the teachers, and each other.

### ***Ensure there is coordination of walking and cycling-related events and activities***

In 2020 and 2021, Sport Manawātū collaborated with the Greasy Chain Charitable Trust to support a community participation initiative alongside the Gravel 'n' Tar UCU event scheduled in January 2021.

The family fun ride took place from the He Ara Kotahi bridge, following the Bridle Track to Memorial Park where a variety of activities led by Council took place. Unfortunately, there was an extremely poor turnout on both occasions (fewer than 50 participants), which resulted in a broader discussion on the value of the initiative. Subsequently, a consensus was reached that supported a broader campaign. The Greasy Chain Trust is keen to lead this work while Sport Manawātū has recently recruited an active transport advisor to work with other community stakeholders on activities encouraging adult cycling. A key focus for the group will be formalising a suite of activities in February 2022 as part of Bike promotion month in the city.

### ***Walk and Wheels Week 2021***

The second Walk and Wheels Week took place from 29 November to 3 December 2021. One hundred and ninety-five students from two different schools participated in this Sport Manawātū run initiative (slightly down on the 210 from 2020) that aims to give continuity to the BikeReady programme so that children can become familiar with Palmerston North's active transport network. Walk and wheels is not only about putting the children's cycle skills into practice – it also allows for other means of self-propelled transportation like roller skating, roller blading, skateboarding, scootering, walking, and even running.

Most of Terrace End School's children preferred the scootering option, while Parkland School had a mix of cyclists, scooters, and walkers. Runners up this year were Parkland room 7, with an 87% participation rate. They fell short by the slightest of margins, to Parkland Room 12, with an 88% participation rate.



**Photos:** Parklands school students (left) and Terrace End students (right) receiving their awards

Things that we did well:

- Targeting schools that have gone through the BikeReady programme.
- Opening the week up to other schools to enhance inclusivity.
- Motivating teachers to push the programme next year.
- Rewarding the winning classes, which gave it a competitive edge, while acknowledging everyone's efforts.

Things that could be improved on:

- We had to change the dates for the week at short notice, which left us in an uncomfortable situation with some schools.
- It is important to set the dates 'in stone' and give schools plenty of notice so that they can add it to their calendars.
- Use Healthy Active Learning (HAL) advisors to push the programme to their schools.

***Provide support for teachers involved with the Bikes in Schools programme***

The cycle skills advisor works with teachers to support their professional development using Grade 1 skills instruction to get more children within selected schools riding a bike. A total of 31 teachers from the Bikes and Schools project received cycle skills training between 1 July 2019 and 31 December 2021. The training provided teachers with skills they could apply to encourage their students to use the new bikes. More work is required as part of refresher training for the teachers (as some staff have moved on from their respective schools), which the newly appointed active transport advisor will facilitate. This encourages greater promotion of riding a bike or scooter in schools and physical activity.

### 3. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO BE ACTIVE BY PLAYING AND BEING ACTIVE IN SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES ACROSS OUR CITY

This outcome area examines our activities that encourage our community to use local parks and reserves for play, active recreation, and sport. We highlight community activations that promote access to safe, affordable, and healthy ways to experience and appreciate nature and our great outdoors.

#### **Increase Awareness of Opportunities to be Active in Council's Sport and Recreation Facilities, Parks, and Reserves**

#### **Develop a Play Action Plan to Implement Actions from the Council's Play Policy Play Framework**

In 2019, Sport Manawātū conducted a survey to identify the behaviours of children and beliefs of teachers involved with a play-based learning model. Further insights were gathered to help identify the importance of play as a cornerstone to being physically active for life. Discussions with Council and our regional sports trust network has supported the development of a Sport Manawātū play framework. The framework:

- looks at play for children and adults as a continuum
- identifies focus areas including safe places, promotion, and advocacy.

The framework also aligns closely with the Council's play policy guidelines. While Council is in an advanced position with their play policy, the Sport Manawātū framework will be used to promote play with our other councils, and importantly, our community. Our play framework encourages outcomes that require parents to give time, place, and permission for children to explore play-based activities in their natural environments without adult intervention.

#### ***Pop-up play activities***

During the past 30 months, Palmerston North's Recreation Advisor, along with our play systems lead, has delivered a range of localised play initiatives including pop-up 'Places to Play' events (11 in total), aimed at increasing resident's use of Council outdoor assets around the city.

The pop-up play locations included the following:

Awesome Awapuni	One of the identified priority suburbs and an event that would raise pop-up play's profile – 250+ attendees.
Community Tennis Courts, Massey University	In partnership with Hockey Manawātū and YMCA. This pop-up play was held during the Sentinel Homes Trans-Tasman exchange between New Zealand and Australia. It is the biggest one we have delivered, with more than 200 participants.
Milverton Park	One of the highest profile parks in town. This allowed us to get good participation from passers-by families, involving 30 residents. Sport Manawātū also attended the official opening with 100+ residents in attendance.
Papaioea Park	Another great venue for pop-up play due to the high traffic on the roads, which gives us great exposure and a high profile to the programme's 20 residents.

Vogel Street Reserve	This is a great space in our priority community (Roslyn) – 20 residents.
Rangiora Avenue Reserve	Another good space in the heart of our priority community (Roslyn) – 30 residents.
Milverton Park	High profile park. Bad weather resulted in poor attendance (fewer than 10).
Te Marae o Hine	Close to Council offices, gave a chance for Council personnel to see it in action and interact with participants – 20 residents.
Workplace Challenge at the Square	Organised through the Workplace Challenge in the heart of the city. Many participants attended and had a good time playing with the equipment and event, making impromptu gum boot throw competitions – 85 participants.
Vogel Street Reserve	Tried to bank on the success of the previous event held here. This reserve is close to Roslyn School, Ross Intermediate and Freyberg School, along with two churches – four residents.
Papaioea Park	Trying to get the Terrace End School kids to attend, given that Terrace End School is the first school that signed with Healthy Active Learning (HAL).



Photo: Rangiora Avenue pop-up

### **Workplace challenge**

An important aspect of the workplace challenge was to help showcase the city's pathway networks and open spaces. We showcased Palmerston North's pathway network by enticing participants to do their walks on one of the 22 pathways listed on the most current "Discover City Pathways 2016" resource available on Council's website. If participants chose to do their walk on any of the pathways, then they would be awarded extra points toward their position on the challenge's leader board. We showcased Palmerston North's open spaces by challenging teams to get out and play in one of the city's parks. Teams who did this would get bonus points toward the final tally.

We also organised a pop-up play at Te Marae o Hine on the last Friday of the challenge. Several challenge participants enjoyed walking on the pathways and playing at the parks. Some of them mentioned that they didn't know that Palmerston North had so many pathways to walk on and parks to play in. This was an aspect of the challenge that worked well because it directly impacted many of our strategic partnership outcomes (Outcome # 1: Palmerston North is one of the most active cities in NZ, and Outcome #3: Everyone is encouraged to be active by playing and being active in sport and recreation facilities around the city, and it is something we intend to continue showcasing in future editions of the challenge.



**Photo:** Workplace Play in the Park

## July to December Pop-Up Play Activities

### ***Pop-up play: Clyde Street/Vogel Street Reserve***

As an activation for the July school holidays, Sport Manawātū delivered a pop-up play at Vogel Street Reserve to see what participation would be like compared to an after school, term time pop-up. Despite promotion on social media and websites, the uptake was very limited, with only one family attending. This family also drove to attend the pop-up, with no engagement from neighbourhood children like the last time a pop-up was delivered there.

A great learning for us with this pop-up was that the promotion was not targeted at the community itself compared to the last time this venue was used. The previous pop-up at this venue included promotion to the local library and youth group, while this one was online promotion only, proving to us that online is not the way to engage this community.

### ***Pop-Up Play: Papaioea Park***

As part of the Aotearoa Play Week 2021, Sport Manawātū delivered a pop-up play in each of our four districts, with the Council pop-up located at Papaioea park after school during play week. Collaborating with YMCA, who brought along their play trailer, it was a great afternoon of parents and children engaging in play together. With a range of different play and sport equipment for use, it was great to see the mini games and activities the children came up with – while getting parents to play also.

Even though we had 25 to 30 residents stop by to play, we thought with a centralised location there may have been more. Local Covid-19 cases identified the same week may have played a part, but we will also look at the timing of our delivery in the future to allow time for families to go home from school and then attend, as straight after school does not seem to suit families.



**Photo:** Papaioea Park pop-up play

### ***Play Bin: Te Marae o Hine***

In conjunction with the Council's city centre play pilot, Sport Manawātū was given permission to place a play bin within one quadrant of Te Marae o Hine for community to use while spending time in the square. The goal with this bin is to allow more activation within the green space of the square, making play accessible in the city centre. We selected a range of equipment that could be used in different ways, while still enabling the safety/security of surrounding businesses (the equipment could not be used as weapons on other people). The labelling of the bin was clear to place equipment back in the bin once finished for others to use and included a QR code for the community to be able to give feedback on what equipment they would like to see added to the bin over time. Although the bin has only been out for a limited time, it will be exciting to see families engaging in play together over the coming summer months. Sport Manawātū staff have been out to role model playing with the equipment and will be encouraged to continue to do so when in the city centre over summer.



**Photo:** Sport Manawātū's play systems lead in Te Marae o Hine

#### 4. SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE CITY

This outcome area examines how Sport Manawātū have built strategic partnerships with Sport and Recreation Providers, Organisations, and other stakeholders to successfully attract, host, and retain National and North Island School Sport Events which contribute to our city's economy.

##### **Administer the Sports Events Partnership Fund on behalf of Council, Including the Establishment of an Advisory Group Comprising Sport Manawātū, Council, and CEDA Representatives to Assess and Approve Applications**

###### ***Sports event partnership fund***

A panel comprising representatives from Sport Manawātū, CEDA, and Council was established in July 2019 to jointly make decisions on hosting sporting events in the city. The desired approach enhanced the existing administrative process to ensure that funding decisions were made within a strategic context and to improve coordination among event funders.

2021 has been an extremely difficult year for event hosting in the city, given the uncertainty that the ever-changing Covid-19 situation causes. We have had successful applications to support 22 events. However, from those approved events, only one was successfully completed prior to the end of December 2021. We are hopeful that the remaining 13 approved events scheduled before 30 June 2022 will go ahead.

The following table outlines the approved and cancelled activities:

Sports Events Partnership Fund 1 July to 31 December 2021				
Event	Organisation	Value Add Income	Participants/Spectators	SEPF Contribution
<b>Delivered Event</b>				
Badminton NZ Jr Teams	Badminton NZ	\$529,973	750/163	\$20,000
Year 9/10 Cricket Festival	Manawatu Cricket	\$134,316	68/98	\$6,700
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$664,289</b>	<b>818/261</b>	<b>\$26,700</b>
<b>To be Delivered</b>				
Brian Green NZ Super 6s Golf	Manawatu Golf Club	\$169,971	288/350	\$15,000
Touch Nationals	Touch NZ	\$1,329,966	1830/700	\$40,000
Pulse vs Tactix	Central Netball	\$50,428	298/1000	\$10,000

Softball NZ White Sox Quad Series	Softball NZ	\$99,540	100/520	\$15,000
Super Smash T20 Cricket	Manawatu Cricket	\$132,082	88/1500	\$18,000
Lower NI Hockey Championships	Hockey Manawatu	\$320,355	360/400	\$5,000
Rural Golf Challenge	Golf Unlimited Ltd.	\$49,476	100/103	\$3,300
NZ Racketlon Championships	Racketlon NZ	\$42,000	50/70	\$2,500
Ethkick 2022	Marist FC	\$0	600/600	\$8,133
NZ SS Volleyball Championships	Volleyball NZ	\$3,305,015	2200/4400	\$40,000
LNI U17 / Softball	Manawatu Softball	\$353,523	293/400	\$7,500
Rookie Sox / Softball	Manawatu Softball	\$353,523	293/400	\$7,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$6,205,879</b>	<b>6207/8393</b>	<b>\$178,633</b>
<b>Cancelled</b>				
NZ Marist Football 2021	Marist FC	\$291,900	800/250	
NZ SS Basketball Championships 2021	Basketball NZ	\$1,677,543	1865/1100	
Basketball NZ SS Premierships 2021	Basketball NZ	\$374,136	660/1100	
Softball Fast 45	Softball NZ	\$128,072	210/500	
Sir Gordon Tietjens Rugby 7s	PNBHS	\$163,318	508/2000	
NZ Barbarians National 1st XV Championships	NZ Schools Rugby Union Inc.	\$271,561	346/1000	
Lower NI Hockey	Hockey Manawatu	\$541,618	420/1932	
NZ (Muslim) Inter District Championship	NZCSNYSA	\$127,260	526/520	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$3,575,408</b>	<b>5335/8402</b>	

### ***Sports event partnership fund in review***

Looking back on the last 30 months, we've achieved some great successes as a panel involving Sport Manawatu staff, CEDA and Council. Most notable was securing multi-year agreements across a number of key sporting events. In addition, we've developed some fantastic partnerships with codes and facility managers, moving from transitional agreements to transformational change for our local associations. Those partnerships have involved staff from Basketball NZ, Volleyball NZ, Racketlon, Touch NZ, NZ Golf and the team from Massey and CET Arena.

Other successes have been multi-year Ethkick community football event and the Hillary-Tenzing Cup held at Skoglund Park in 2020, which celebrated our Bhutanese and Nepalese communities. We were

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also grateful to the Council for allocating funds in 2020 to allow us to review the SEPF and develop the Attraction and Retention Plan and the Bid Document for Touch Nationals. This is not reflected in these accounts.

SEPF	2019/20	2020/21	Jul – Dec 21	Total
<b># Of Events</b>	14	27	2	<b>43</b>
<b>National Events</b>	7	11	1	<b>19</b>
<b>Secondary Schools</b>	3	2	-	<b>5</b>
<b># Of Participants</b>	8,459	11,267	818	<b>20,544</b>
<b># Of Spectators</b>	8,949	17,275	261	<b>26,485</b>
<b>Economic Benefit</b>	\$6,840,716	\$7,398,204	\$664,289	<b>\$14,903,209</b>
<b>Amount Invested</b>	\$165,200	\$230,829	\$26,700	<b>\$422,729</b>
<b>Cancelled Events due to Covid-19</b>	-	4	8	<b>12</b>

***Ensure that for supported events there is improved experience for participants and visitors, including through the use of tikanga and Te Reo Māori***

Sport Manawātū has established a valued strategic partnership with Rangitāne (mana whenua in Papaioea) ensuring, where appropriate, tikanga Māori and Te Reo were, and will continue to be, incorporated into events in Palmerston North city. A key highlight from our perspective was Rangitāne's involvement as mana whenua to lead the Powhiri process for the 2020 World Under-18 Softball Championships.

Rangitāne have also led the cultural proceedings for basketball nationals, volleyball nationals, and the Sir Gordan Tietjens 7s. Unfortunately, due to the impact of Covid-19 in 2020, several events previously supported by Rangitāne were either postponed until late 2021 or cancelled outright.

Significantly, Sport Manawātū acknowledges the role of Māori culture, both from an events' perspective integrating tikanga when welcoming sporting and non-visitors to the city and recognising Rangitāne's custodial position as mana whenua. We believe Rangitāne will continue to play a critical cultural leadership role when national sporting events resume in the city in 2022.



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## COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE

**TO:** Play, Recreation & Sport Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 27 April 2022

**TITLE:** Committee Work Schedule

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### RECOMMENDATION(S) TO PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE

1. That the Play, Recreation & Sport Committee receive its Work Schedule dated April 2022.
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### ATTACHMENTS

1. Committee Work Schedule - April 2022 [↓](#) 

## PLAY, RECREATION & SPORT COMMITTEE

### COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE APRIL 2022

Item No.	Estimated Report Date	Subject	Officer Responsible	Current Position	Date of Instruction/ Point of Origin
1	<del>August 2022</del> April 2022	<del>Progress report: Sport Manawātū — Six month report (1 January to 30 June 2021) to Palmerston North City Council</del>	Chief Planning Officer	Annual Update	
2	<del>2022</del> April 2022	<del>Report on options of suitable Council land for Manawātū GymSports to build on.</del>	Chief Planning Officer		<del>20 October 2021</del> Clause 18-2
3	April 2022	Update Report on engagement with Manawatu GymSports Incorporated	Chief Planning Officer	This work will be presented alongside the next stage of the facility development process (concept plan).	14 April 2021 Clause 10-21
4	<del>2022</del> April 2022	<del>Shade Audit — Information and Findings Report</del>	<del>Chief Infrastructure Officer</del>		<del>14 April 2021</del> Clause 12-21
5	<del>2022</del> August 2022	Play Policy Annual Implementation Monitoring Report	Chief Planning Officer	Annual Update	14 April 2021 Clause 12-21
6	August 2022	Review of the Regional Sports Facility Plan	Chief Planning Officer		Committee of Council 9 June 2021 Clause 31.1-21
7	August 2022	Feasibility assessment for a covered artificial bowling green.	Chief Planning Officer		Committee of Council 9 June 2021 Clause 31.2-21