

# Central Goldfields Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2008 - 2018





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## 1.0 Executive Summary

Central Goldfields Shire is well endowed with a range of sport and recreation opportunities and events. Its facilities are the envy of many neighbouring municipalities and its events attract participants from all over the state and beyond.

One of the main aims of this Recreation Strategy is to develop a plan to encourage increased participation in sport and active recreation participation by local residents. Council recognises that participation in physical activities not only provides individual benefits such as improved health and wellbeing, but also facilitates community benefits such as stronger community bonds and social cohesion. Council also recognises that it is only one of several providers of physical activity opportunities and that the development of strategic partnerships is likely to deliver the best outcomes for the community.

Given that the population of the Shire is not expected to increase to any great extent over the next decade, and given that the population is ageing, it is unlikely that a substantial number of new facilities will be required in the immediate future. What is important to provide, however, are multi purpose spaces which are able to cater for a variety of uses and also facilities which will meet the needs of the ageing community. Hence a second aim of this strategy is not so strongly focused on identifying new facilities that are required, but rather, identifying strategies that will encourage greater use of existing facilities. Greater use of facilities is usually dependant upon increases in participation; modifications / upgrades to existing facilities to cater for people of all abilities, ages and genders; training and support to clubs; promotion of existing opportunities; and translation of sport and recreation trends into actions. Council recognises and greatly values the role clubs and organisations play in terms of providing sport and recreation opportunities within the Shire.

Analysis of the information gathered during the preparation of this Recreation Strategy shows that the major area in which the “Shire” needs to improve in relation to sport and recreation provision is in the development of a strategic framework to guide decision making. Many decisions and operational procedures are based on practices that existed prior to local government amalgamations, rather than on clear and transparent processes aimed to ensure equity across the municipality. A number of policies have been identified in this plan to assist with this process.

Another critical issue to address is access to a reliable source of water and the drought-proofing of sport and recreation facilities. Given the current climatic conditions and water restrictions, both of which may continue for some time to come, Council is unable to water any sports grounds using potable water. Recycled water is currently used to irrigate several grounds, but this system is limited due to the amount of water available and the cost of extending the pipeline. Previous water studies undertaken in the “Shire” recommend the development of a \$3 million recycled pipeline connecting a number of sport and recreation facilities in Maryborough, including the newly established Maryborough Education Centre. This proposal is supported; however, reliable water sources of water also need to be

sourced for the key sport and recreation facility in each of the smaller townships. The feasibility of developing sports facilities with synthetic surfaces is also a key consideration in addressing water shortages as is the development of partnerships with Central Highlands Water. Many of the recommendations suggested in this report, particularly those that relate to water and drought proofing sporting facilities, may significantly impact on other works and developments or the level of service Council offers in the future.

Like many other local government authorities, ageing infrastructure presents as a major issue to Central Goldfields Shire. Many of the sport and recreation clubs surveyed indicate that the facility which they occupy is in need of some works. To help Council determine its priorities for assistance, particularly given its limited rate base, a capital works assessment tool has been developed.

Furthermore, to ensure equity across the Shire, it is vital that some sport and recreation facilities are retained in each small community to encourage participation in physical activity and social interactions. A three tiered approach has been suggested, whereby Maryborough becomes the key sport and recreation centre containing sports grounds, hard courts, halls, walking / cycling tracks, swimming pool and playgrounds, in addition to more specialised facilities such as indoor courts, indoor swimming pool, cycling velodrome, etc. The minimum suggested requirement for second tier towns of Bealiba, Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot are a hall; hard courts; an area of open space for formal or informal physical activity; walking / cycling tracks; a play space for children and young people; and a swimming pool within a reasonable commuting distance. It is recommended that towns making up the third tier, i.e. Daisy Hill, Dunluce, Majorca, Moliagal and Timor should retain existing sport and recreation infrastructure wherever possible, but not expect to increase this level of infrastructure.

Central Goldfields Shire Council is currently rated as the most disadvantaged municipality in Victoria in terms of income, educational attainment, employment, housing and motor vehicle access, according to the Socio-economic Indexes for Areas<sup>1</sup> report prepared by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Hence major consideration in the development of any sport or active recreation opportunities needs to be given to low cost, localised opportunities wherever possible.

It is intended that this Recreation Strategy not sit on a shelf and gather dust, but instead will be a practical and living document that Council, its partners and the community will regularly refer to in order to improve the sport and active recreation opportunities for Central Goldfields residents and visitors to the area during the next ten year period.

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<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics – “Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)”, 2006

## 2.0 Introduction

### 2.1 Purpose of the Recreation Strategy

Central Goldfields Shire Council commissioned central-Victorian based communityvibe to undertake a Recreation Strategy in late 2007. The aim of this plan is to provide Council and local communities in the Central Goldfields Shire with a strategic direction in relation to the planning and development of leisure opportunities for the period 2008- 2018.

Underpinning the need to undertake a Recreation Strategy Plan is the desire by Council to increase utilisation rates of existing recreation and sporting facilities, and increased participation rates in sport, recreation and physical activity in general in the Central Goldfields Shire. The Central Goldfields Shire Council recognises that participation in physical activity leads to the improved health and well being of its community.

### 2.2 Definition of Active Recreation and Sport

This Recreation Strategy focuses on both structured and non-structured active recreation and sport, such as walking, cycling, tennis, swimming, hockey, etc, as opposed to passive recreation activities like reading, craft, stamp collecting, etc.

According to VicHealth, **active recreation** can generally be defined as:

“Unstructured activity that individuals freely pursue in their uncommitted time (leisure time) for a personal sense of enjoyment that also benefits their physical, social or emotional wellbeing.”<sup>2</sup>

**Sport** is defined by VicHealth as:

“Physical activity that is competitive, organised, involves rules and may be participated in either individually or as a team.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> VicHealth Website: [www.vichealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

## **2.3 Methodology**

The following methodology, focusing strongly on community consultation, was developed for this project:

- Literature Review
- Trends Analysis
- Demographic Analysis
- Establishment of a Recreation Task Force to assist with surveys and local consultations
- Surveys of providers of physical activity (i.e. clubs and community groups)
- Assessment of Sport and Recreation Facilities and Identification of existing Sport and Recreation opportunities
- Key Informant Interviews
- Community Surveys
- School Art Exhibition / Township Workshops
- Written Submissions
- Provider Forum
- Two Councillor Forums

A summary of the results of each of these tasks is included in this report, with more detailed information included in the Appendix.

## **2.4 Structure of the Report**

This report has been developed in three parts – Section A, B and C:

- Section A focuses contains the Recreation Strategy and a summary of the background research, consultation outcomes and key issues
- Section B provides more detailed information on the literature review, demographic analysis, community consultation outcomes and funding opportunities
- Section C includes the recreation facility inventory.

## 3.0 Planning Framework

The following vision, mission and guiding principles were developed by Central Goldfields Shire Councillors, based on feedback from the community about their specific values and ideas.

### 3.1 Vision

Central Goldfields is an active and inclusive community, offering a range of quality sport and recreation opportunities for all.

### 3.2 Mission

Central Goldfields Shire Council will facilitate opportunities for the whole community to benefit both physically and socially by taking part in accessible, sustainable, localised physical activities.

### 3.3 Planning Principles

The following nine planning principles have been developed to assist Council to determine its roles and responsibilities as well as its priorities in terms of sport and active recreation provision and facilitation. These principles should be referred to prior to making any decision in relation to the funding of facility / program developments or upgrades.

<b>Planning Principle</b>	<b>Wherever possible, Council will support and encourage:</b>
<b>Community strengthening and connectedness</b>	Sport and active recreation initiatives which involve the community in the planning, implementation and delivery stages. It will also support initiatives that encourage positive, lasting interactions between community members.
<b>Multi use of facilities</b>	Facility developments and upgrades that are multi-purpose in design to allow for a range of different groups to use the facility. It will also encourage clubs and organisations to share facilities so that facilities are used to their maximum capacity and limited resources are best utilised.

<p><b>Access and equity</b></p>	<p>Initiatives that allow for greater access to facilities, programs or services for people of all ages, genders, abilities and socio-economic backgrounds. Council will also ensure that due consideration is given to ensuring that equity exists for each township in relation to Council support.</p>
<p><b>Community benefit</b></p>	<p>Initiatives that provide sufficient physical, social, economic and environmental benefits to the community.</p>
<p><b>Diversity and choice</b></p>	<p>The development of a range of sport and active recreation facilities and initiatives that meet the diverse needs of the community.</p>
<p><b>Support for Volunteers</b></p>	<p>Initiatives that involve volunteer labour, funding and expertise in the planning, implementation and delivery components.</p>
<p><b>Sustainability</b></p>	<p>Initiatives, that following suitable planning and research, are considered sustainable from participation, longevity, economic, environmental and social perspectives.</p>
<p><b>Value for money</b></p>	<p>Initiatives that represent value for money to Council and the community it serves.</p>
<p><b>Partnerships</b></p>	<p>Initiatives that include a range of relevant partners, so that limited resources are maximised and facilities, programs or services are not duplicated.</p>

## **4.0 Local, State and National Context**

### **4.1 Literature Review**

A range of Council reports were reviewed in order to develop a better understanding of Council directions and policies in relation to sport and recreation provision and management. A detailed review of these plans is included in the Appendix. In summary, the key issues identified through the literature review of relevance to this strategy are:

- The need to consider risk management
- The need for various swimming pool upgrades
- The need to continue to implement initiatives from the Bicycle Strategy
- The need to review strategies from the previous Recreation Strategy
- The need to manage and acquire water for sports grounds
- The need to undertake master planning of reserves
- The need to support the community through the provision of a grants program
- The need to continue to develop a walking strategy
- The importance of club management training
- The need to increase community connectedness through programs and events

### **4.2 Sport and Active Recreation Trends**

According to the latest Exercise, Recreation and Sport Statistics produced annually by the Federal Government<sup>4</sup> and the survey conducted as part of the Recreation Needs Study, the top ten physical activities in Victoria in 2006 for people aged over 15 years of age in comparison with Central Goldfields Shire in 2008 (using a very small sample of 244 people) were:

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<sup>4</sup> Ausport ERASS Statistics: <http://www.ausport.gov.au/scorsresearch/research.asp>

No.	Activity	Victorian %	Central Goldfields %
1	Walking	37.8%	59.0%*
2	Aerobics / Fitness	20.4%	19.2%
3	Cycling	11.9%	14.7%
4	Swimming	11.7%	10.2%
5	Tennis	7.7%	13.5%
6	Running	7.6%	7.3%
7	Golf	6.9%	0.0%#
8	Basketball	4.8%	4.5%
9	Australian Rules Football	4.5%	3.6%
10	Bushwalking	4.4%	0.8%*

\* It is assumed that a portion of bushwalkers is included in the walking category

# There are a number of people in Central Goldfields Shire who regularly play golf; however, none of the 244 people surveyed happen to play golf.

In terms of sports participation and sporting infrastructure, there has been a trend in recent years towards the:

- installation of surfaces which can cater for high usage levels and require minimum maintenance, eg synthetic hockey fields
- installation of sports surfaces that help to reduce injuries and increase player comfort, e.g. sprung wooden floors for aerobics or dancing
- installation of improved spectator facilities, e.g. seating under cover, shelters, shade, etc
- installation of facilities to encourage participation by people of all abilities, e.g. use of ramps, unisex toilets with change tables, single story buildings to allow for wheelchair access, Braille signs, etc
- utilisation of indoor sporting facilities such as Leisure Centres with swimming pools for games and aspects of the training and recovery program for a range of different sports;
- installation of lighting to allow games and training to take place in the evenings;
- development of environmentally responsible practices such as solar hot water, recycled water systems, etc to reduce the impact of sports facilities and their users on the environment
- development or upgrading of facilities and equipment so that they meet the safety requirements of their designated sport, eg extension of netball courts to meet recommended run-off distances



- master planning of recreation reserves to ensure that needs of all existing and casual users are considered in the long term – including the linking of cycling / walking paths, development of play spaces, landscaping and BBQ / picnic facilities to encourage family use of facilities, eg Carisbrook Recreation Reserve Master Plan
- development of multi-use facilities and spaces which can cater for a variety of traditional activities as well as non-traditional or emerging activities, e.g. pilates, yoga, children’s programs, etc,
- greater emphasis on social competitions mid week during the evenings as opposed to structured competition on a Saturday afternoon
- greater use of facilities by personal fitness trainers and their clients
- greater demands on some facilities by school groups due to the declining standard of school sporting infrastructure in some areas or the lack of facilities at new schools
- greater demand on sporting facilities for special events, e.g. Energy Breakthrough Event
- greater demand for lifestyle/non-traditional forms of sport, i.e. games that can be played on the street or indoors, eg street soccer
- co-location of several sporting facilities to form recreation precincts
- understanding of the relationship between physical activity participation and improved health, wellbeing and social connectedness
- expectation by the community that facilities, programs, services and management will be of a reasonably high standard
- expectation that facilities will be available during a range of time slots throughout the week, including weeknight, early morning and weekends

### **4.3 Benefits of Participation**

The benefits of participating in active recreation are well documented. Not only do individuals benefit from a health and wellbeing perspective, but the whole community benefits from a greater sense of community, economic opportunities, improvement to the environment, reduction in crime and a healthier society. Some of the benefits that can occur through participation in active recreation are:

Benefits	Individual and Community
Physical & Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of colon cancer, heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure</li> <li>• Less likely to become overweight or obese</li> <li>• Improved balance and coordination, resulting in fewer falls</li> <li>• Stronger muscles, joints and bones</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved confidence and self-esteem</li> <li>• Improved body image</li> <li>• Improved motor skills</li> <li>• Less likely to suffer from depression and anxiety</li> <li>• Greater sense of achievement</li> <li>• Reduced stress levels</li> <li>• Higher energy and concentration levels</li> <li>• Reduction in incidence and severity of illness and disability</li> <li>• Increased life expectancy</li> </ul>
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater sense of community</li> <li>• Stronger, more self-reliant communities</li> <li>• Greater social and friendship networks</li> <li>• Reduced anti-social behaviour and vandalism</li> <li>• Helps to develop shared attitudes, values and codes of behaviour in the community</li> <li>• Breaks down barriers between different sectors of the community</li> <li>• Stronger family relationships</li> </ul>
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment in sport and recreation activities, events, venues, clubs</li> <li>• Improvements to local business viability through sale of sport and recreation equipment, services or programs</li> <li>• Reduction in health care costs</li> <li>• Increases productivity of workers and reduces number of sick days</li> <li>• Potential to attract businesses to the region if quality sport and active recreation settings, programs and services exist</li> <li>• Flow on benefits to tourism businesses from people participating in sport and recreation events and activities</li> </ul>
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of habitats, biodiversity and ecological integrity</li> <li>• More attractive living environments</li> <li>• A greater appreciation and awareness of the natural environment</li> </ul>

#### **4.4 Physical Activity Participation in Central Goldfields Shire**

Participation in physical activity in rural communities, such as Central Goldfields Shire, brings a different set of benefits to those achieved in regional or metropolitan settings. In rural communities, leisure provides one of the few social outlets where people who may spend much of their time isolated on farms or in small townships, come together to take part in activities with friends and neighbours in an atmosphere of camaraderie. The activity is sometimes secondary to the social benefits and enhanced sense of community connectedness achieved. Driscoll and Wood, in their report *Sporting Capital – Changes and Challenges for Rural Communities in Victoria*<sup>5</sup> identify three key components of a successful and functioning community as trust, goodwill and interaction; all three of which can be achieved through participation in sport and recreation by its ability to act as a 'social glue'.

According to VicHealth<sup>6</sup>, physical inactivity by Australians “costs the health system at least \$400m in direct health care costs”, and is responsible for approximately 8,000 deaths annually. Regular physical activity can play a major role in maintaining and improving health.

According to the community survey results, 91% of Central Goldfields residents take part in at least one physical activity outside the home at least once per year, compared with 81% of Victorians. 54.2% of residents, compared with 23.2% of Victorians claim to take part in at least one activity outside the home one to three times per week. 19.4% of Central Goldfields Shire residents are active in sport and recreation pursuits outside the home on a daily basis. In terms of any physical activity (not necessarily sport or recreation), 41.3% of residents are active for 30 minutes or more each day of the week. The most popular physical activities outside the home by those surveyed are:

- Walking
- Aerobics / fitness / gym
- Cycling
- Tennis
- Swimming

Activities most in demand by local residents are:

- Aerobics / fitness / gym
- Swimming
- Cycling
- Walking
- Tennis

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<sup>5</sup> RMIT (Driscoll, Kate and Wood, Liz) – “Sporting Capital – Changes and Challenges for Rural Communities in Victoria”, 1999

<sup>6</sup> VicHealth – “Physical Activity Fact Sheet”, April 2007

Barriers to participation are:

- Activity not available close by
- Work commitments
- Can't afford it
- Family commitments
- Lack of motivation

In order to encourage greater levels of participation, local residents stated that it is important to consider:

- Lower fees / charges
- Activities held at different times
- More information about what is available
- Facilities closer to home
- Improved public transport

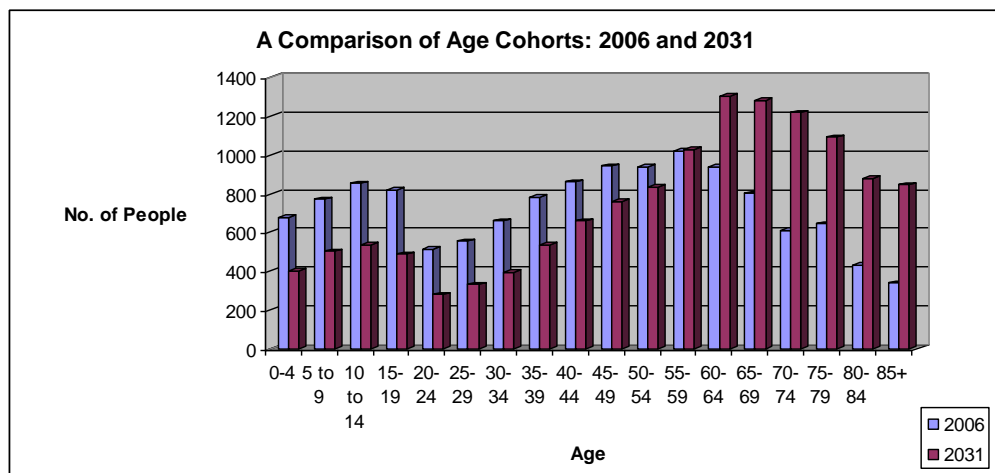
The majority of Central Goldfields residents participate in order to keep physically fit, healthy and strong; for fun / enjoyment; and to socialise with other people.

Small neighbourhood parks and bicycle / walking paths are visited frequently by approximately half of the community, according to survey results. The five key facility development priorities are:

- Bicycle and walking paths
- Sports grounds
- Small neighbourhood parks
- Playgrounds
- Large regional parks or areas of open space

## 5.0 Our Community

There are currently **12,325** people living in the Central Goldfields community. Like many rural communities, Central Goldfields is ageing and has a high proportion of middle aged to older adults. Whilst there are relatively high numbers of people under 18 years of age too, there is a real gap in the 19-35 year age group. As is common in rural areas, people in this age group move away to larger regional centres or metropolitan areas to work and study. Over the next 23 years, there is expected to be only a marginal increase in the population; increasing to 13,357. By this time, 63% of the community will be over 50 years of age, as demonstrated in the graph below.



The Central Goldfields community relies on manufacturing; printing & services to printing; health and community services; and agriculture – predominantly cropping and sheep farming. Many of its workers are therefore employed as tradespersons or labourers. Such occupations normally attract relatively low incomes. According to research undertaken by Dr Marcia Perry for the Shire<sup>7</sup>, the average weekly family income for Central Goldfields residents is \$703, which is well below the national average rate of \$1,171 and the average family income of one parent families was less than \$456. At the last census, the unemployment rate was 10.9% (compared with the Australian unemployment rate of 7.4%) and just over one third of the population (37.4%) was part of the workforce. In fact Central Goldfields Shire, according to the Socio-economic Index for Areas<sup>8</sup>, rates as the most disadvantaged community in Victoria.

There are approximately 5,814 households in Central Goldfields Shire, with an additional 40 new households being established each year. One fifth of houses (20.4%) throughout the Shire are owned by the Department of Housing, compared with the national average of 14.9%. Many more people are on the waiting list. Compared with Victoria, Central Goldfields Shire has a lower number of family (67.1% compared with 72%) and group households (2.8% compared with 4%) and a higher number of lone person households (29.9% compared with 24%).

<sup>7</sup> Perry, Dr Marcia - A Whole of Community Response to Challenges (Economic and Social) in the Central Goldfields Shire (September 2007), Unpublished

<sup>8</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics – “Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)”, 2006

86.9% of residents were born in Australia, compared with the Australian average rate of 72.6%. Of those born overseas, the most common birthplace was England. Not surprisingly, English is the main language spoken at home by 95.4% of the population. There are 109 indigenous people living in Central Goldfields Shire, representing 0.7% of the population, compared with the Australian average rate of 2.2%.

### ***5.1 Implications of Demographics for Active Recreation Participation and Provision***

The social and income disadvantage experienced by many people living within the Shire will have implications on what type of recreational activities residents are able to participate in. If these people are not well connected with their community, there is a very real possibility that they may suffer loneliness, social isolation and depression.

Cost will clearly be a major factor in whether or not people can afford to pay memberships or casual fees for activities; purchase uniforms and sports equipment; travel to venues where sport and recreation activities take place; attend sporting social functions; have the capacity to volunteer their time and services to clubs and organisations; contribute to sporting fundraising initiatives.

Given the ageing of the community, it will be important to continue to provide opportunities for older adults to be active so that they can experience the many benefits of participation in physical activity and to maintain their health. Given the high number of older adults, many of whom are likely to be working only part-time, if at all, there are potentially a large number of people who could potentially volunteer their services to clubs and organisations, providing that the right opportunity exists.

A major driver by Central Goldfields Shire is the attraction of businesses to the region to boost the area from an economic and social perspective. Many businesses or potential staff when considering whether or not to relocate to a certain area will consider the value of the lifestyle factors available in the region before making a commitment to relocate. It is important therefore that Central Goldfields continues to provide quality sport and recreation opportunities and to actively promote these features.

A more detailed description of the demographics of the Central Goldfields Shire community is provided in the Appendix.

## 6.0 Recreation Management, Facilities and Opportunities

### 6.1 Sport and Recreation Management

Central Goldfields Shire Council's Recreation Department, in partnership with the Parks and Gardens Department, is responsible for the management of sport and recreation facilities throughout the Shire. Other key functions of the Recreation Department include club support, administration of sport and recreation grants to the community, event management and planning. There are currently two full-time recreation staff (a manager and an events coordinator) and two youth work positions (one full-time and one part-time) within the unit.

According to the community survey, the community clearly sees Council's role as:

- Providing spaces / facilities / environments where recreation activities can take place (eg parks, playgrounds, halls, aquatic centres, etc)
- Providing funding to community based sport and recreation organisations to help develop and improve sport and recreation programs, facilities and services
- Ensuring that ageing recreation infrastructure is repaired / replaced when and where feasible to do so
- Ensuring that sport and recreation facilities, services and programs are accessible to all members of the community regardless of age, sex, race or ability

The community does not believe that Council should have a major role in the direct provision of activities. This role is primarily taken up by other groups and agencies such as the YMCA, sports clubs, older adults' organisations, community health organisations and the private sector.

The current level of staffing in the Recreation Department is considered appropriate at present given Council's limited resources, however, should Council be successful in securing funding for new initiatives or new events, additional casual or part-time staff may need to be employed. Any successful grants need to incorporate an allowance for administration and evaluation if permitted, to allow the appointment of a casual or short term staff member so as not to overburden existing recreation staff. Similarly, the development of strategic partnerships is important so that the expertise and resources of other organisations can be shared in order to facilitate additional quality sport and recreation opportunities for the community at minimal cost to Council.

## 6.2 Sport and Recreation Facilities and Opportunities

As part of this study an inventory was produced. Specifically, this component of the study focused on:

- Audit of existing facilities
- Analysis of relevancy and quality of existing facilities
- Commentary on accessibility of facilities
- Identification of opportunities for future development
- Condition Reports

The following table provides an overview of the sport and active recreation facilities in the Shire, using the inventory, club surveys, key stakeholder interviews, community surveys and community consultations to determine specific details:

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
<b>Adelaide Lead</b>	Adelaide Lead Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
<b>Alma</b>	Maryborough Motorcycle Club	Motocross	Possibly some spectator facilities	Club rooms, storage shed upgrade, septic toilets, power, water	None	None	None
<b>Bealiba</b>	Bealiba Tennis Courts	Tennis	None	None	Court surface requires an upgrade	None	None



Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Walking / Cycling	Not inspected	None	Keep developing	Keep developing	Keep developing
	Bealiba & District Pony Club	Pony Club	Remove old fencing and replace with post and rail	Riding area upgrade to sand arena. Safe fencing for junior rider area. Remove barb wire and replace with post and rail.	None	None	None
<b>Betley</b>	Betley Mechanics Institute Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
<b>Carisbrook</b>	Carisbrook Recreation Reserve	Tennis	Tennis courts and clubrooms in need of an upgrade, subject to use.	Courts need to be resurfaced			Courts need to be upgraded
		Lawn Bowls	Lawn Bowls may require their own toilet facilities – currently use other toilets at reserve	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
		Netball	Club rooms shared with tennis need an upgrade. Parking could be improved with gravel surfacing	None	Upgrade netball court surface and dimensions	None	None
		Football	Need access to water supply. Pavilion seems in reasonable condition.	Upgrade of change rooms for home and away team	Resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable to current user groups	None	None
		Cricket	Need access to water supply	Upgrade visitor change room or complete 2 <sup>nd</sup> oval.	None	None	None
	Carisbrook Primary School Sports Ground	Football, cricket, soccer, etc	Need access to water supply	None	Resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable to current user groups	None	None
	Carisbrook Primary School Basketball Court	Basketball, netball, ball sports	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Carisbrook Scout Hall	Scout activities	Currently being refurbished – no works identified	None	This facility is now leased to the Carisbrook Lions Club	None	None
	Carisbrook Senior Citizens Hall	Senior Citizens activities	None	None	None	None	None
	Carisbrook Maternal and Child Health Centre	Maternal and Child Health programs and possibly play group	Building needs an upgrade and asbestos roof needs to be replaced.	None	This facility is no longer used by Council. It is leased to the Historical Society.	None	None
	Tullaroop Leisure Centre	Squash Courts	None	None	None	None	None
		Multi-purpose court	None	None	Main court floor requires replacement	None	None
	Maryborough Harness Racing Club	Harness racing	No lights around track and no shade for spectators	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Gun Club	Shooting	Need to upgrade toilets and remove slide	Need a disabled toilet. Club room dining area needs alterations to accommodate wheel chair access.	Suggest the development of a regional shooting facility	None	None
	Carisbrook Town Hall	Various community functions and events	None	None	None	None	None
	Market Reserve	Passive recreation; playground; BMX; CFA; and Senior Citizens	None	None	Develop a Master Plan	None	None
	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Walking / Cycling	Not inspected	None	Keep developing	Keep developing	Keep developing
<b>Daisy Hill</b>	Daisy Hill Community Centre	Meetings, functions, dinners and craft club	None	None	None	None	None
	Daisy Hill Tennis Courts	Tennis	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
Dunluce	Dunluce Tennis Courts	Tennis	Facility could do with an upgrade, subject to use.	Kitchen area needs upgrading. Toilets need maintenance.	None	None	None
Dunolly	Deledio Recreation Reserve	Fire Brigade Running Track	Needs an upgrade, subject to use	None	None	None	None
		Netball	Need toilets and change facilities as well as a clubroom – high priority	None	Court dimensions need assessment	None	Need change rooms and toilets and a second light tower
		Football and cricket	Ground needs reliable water supply and top dressing. Facilities could use an upgrade.	Extension and upgrade of kitchen facilities and change rooms. Upgrade of ground lighting.	Once reliable water source secured, resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable to current user groups	None	Public toilets need upgrading

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	R.L Williams Oval	Cricket	Ground needs reliable water supply and top dressing. Surface is covered in wire weed – this is a trip hazard. Needs access to shared toilets with Dunolly Target Archery Club.	None	Once reliable water source secured, resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable to current user groups	None	None
	Dunolly Target Archery Club	Archery	Needs access to a shared toilet with R.L. Williams Oval	None	None	None	None
	Dunolly Field and Game	Shooting	Signage required on road. Upgrade to kiosk required, subject to usage.	New kiosk required.	Suggest the development of a regional shooting facility	None	None
	Dunolly Museum	Visitation	None	Lining existing museum ceiling, further extensions to existing museum building.	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Dunolly Horse Activity Club	Equestrian activities	Need to repair existing transportable toilet block and connect to septic system and water tanks.	Connect water tanks to collect rainwater and install septic tank	Identified works from inventory and club surveys have now been completed.	None	None
	Dunolly Bowling Club	Bowling	Wasn't able to access inside the building. No works required outside the building, other than bringing the second green up to standard – subject to use.	Kitchen upgrade.	Investigate receptiveness of club to synthetic grass on one of its bowling greens and the feasibility of installation.	None	None
	Dunolly Outdoor Pool	Swimming and water play	Disabled access is required and some upgrades to shelters	Disabled facilities	None	Heat the pool.	Need shade, volleyball area, grassed area, water tanks and diving board

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Dunolly Golf Club	Golf	Club house and fairways in average condition. Determine usage prior to any upgrades.	None	None	None	None
	Dunolly Tennis Club	Tennis	May need more secure storage and additional shade.	None	None	None	None
	Dunolly Anglican Church Hall	Meetings and events	None	None	None	None	None
	St George Masonic Hall	Masonic Lodge Hall	None	Upgrade car park	None	None	None
	Dunolly RSL Hall	Meetings and functions	None	None	None	None	None
	Dunolly Senior Citizens Club	Senior citizens activities	None	None	None	None	None
	Dunolly Uniting Church Hall	Community events, infant school, opportunity shop, etc	None	None	None	None	None



<b>Township</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Opportunities / Activities</b>	<b>Suggested Upgrades from Inventory</b>	<b>Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys</b>	<b>Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews</b>	<b>Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys</b>	<b>Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations</b>
	Dunolly Town Hall	Community events and functions	None	None	None	None	None
	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Walking / Cycling	Not inspected	None	Keep developing	Keep developing	Keep developing
<b>Lake Cairn Curran</b>	Lake Cairn Curran Sailing Club	Sailing	Fix handrails on club house. NB: Club house is located in Mt Alexander Shire. Need access to water.	None	None	None	None
<b>Majorca</b>	Majorca Town Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
	Majorca Tennis Courts	Tennis	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
<b>Maryborough</b>	Maryborough Lawn Tennis Courts	Tennis; Netball training (Rovers); occasional use by Croquet Club	Need to access reliable source of water for grass courts. Need additional lighting over hard courts (poles already in place). Surfacing of car park is desirable.	Hard court lighting. Future water saving projects. Bore water access.	Continually investigate drought tolerant grasses which are appropriate for tennis. Resurface courts as appropriate.	Need more hard courts	Resurface 5 hard courts and find water alternative for 17 grass courts
	Princes Park	Football	None	Make the oval wider and refurbish the grandstand.	Toilets need upgrading. Need to widen the oval to allow AFL games to be played. Resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	None	None
		Cricket	None	Cricket pitch upgrade	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
		Netball	Improve seating and shelter for spectators	None	Court could use rebound ace surface. Need to reconstruct court runoff areas to meet dimension standards.		
		Hockey	Need toilets that are accessible for people with disabilities	Fields need to be re-dressed and re-seeded. Drainage required.	Resurface fields with drought tolerant grasses suitable for hockey.	None	None
		Fire Brigade Running Track	None	None	None	None	None
		Playground (east)	Consider some form of barrier between playground and lake if community indicates that this is a problem	None	Fence playground to prevent children falling into the Lake		Remove mounds

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
		Playground (west) – Lions Park	Fencing from the main road should be considered, as should disabled toilets and access. Irrigation would greatly improve amenity of site.	None	None	None	None
		Lake	None	None	Install lighting around the Lake	None	None
	J.H. Hedges Oval	Football and cricket	Need access to a reliable water supply. Oval needs top dressing and a checker plate ramp required to allow easier access of equipment onto grounds. Consider recycling water at grounds	Water tanks, playground facilities, upgraded toilets area	Once reliable water supply secured, resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	Need reliable water source. Upgrade facilities, kitchen, change rooms and install a playground. Two multipurpose rooms to include a gym, meeting room and function room.	Needs installation of reticulated watering system, upgrade existing pavilion, develop multi-purpose room for meetings and functions and install a playground.

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
		Netball	Shelter needs to be secured to ground. Need for toilet / change facilities.	Showers and toilets for netballers	Change and social facilities required. Need to reconstruct court run off area to meet dimension standards.	None	None
	Jubilee Oval	Football and cricket	Need to access a reliable water supply. Facilities could do with a general upgrade.	None	Improve power supply, toilets and showers. Resurface oval with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups. Additional lighting required around ground.	None	None
	Maryborough Rifle and Field Naturalists Club	Shooting and nature based activities, eg bird watching	Need culverts installed to stop erosion at site	None	None	None	None
	California Gully Former Oval	None	Facility no longer required. Suggest selling site.	None	Sell the ground.	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Racing Pigeon Club	Pigeon racing	None	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough & District Pistol Club	Shooting	Facility, toilet and fencing need upgrading.	Upgrade facilities – need amenities block and fencing.	Suggest the development of a regional shooting facility	None	None
	Maryborough & District Horse and Pony Club	Equestrian activities, Riding for the Disabled	Shade required.	Road repairs and shade required.	None	Equestrian facility for all riders. Indoor equestrian facilities.	New facility for all equestrian riders.
	Maryborough Netball Assoc. Inc.	Netball	Lights to be upgraded.	Need new lights. Need surrounds landscaped.	Need to reposition courts and light poles to meet court dimension standards.	None	None
	California Gully Tennis Courts	Tennis	Facilities run down, but would only suggest investing money if the facility is going to have an increase in usage.	Require toilets, more shade facilities and fences	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough VRI Croquet Club	Croquet	General upgrade required. Need access to a reliable water source.	Sustainable water system. New lawns and toilets.	Need to resurface lawns with drought tolerant grasses suitable to croquet, or investigate synthetic grasses.	None	Need toilet and kitchen facilities
	Maryborough Playgroup			Heating and cooling	None	None	None
	Maryborough Golf and Bowling Club	Golf	None	None	None	None	None
		Bowling	None	None	None	None	None
	Former Maryborough Regional College site – Palmerston Street Campus	None	None – site to be rezoned as Residential 2 and developed by Havilah as an aged care and retirement living centre.	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Old Maryborough Junior campus – Nolan St Campus	Basketball Junior Cricket	Site being developed by Council	None	Potential for oval area to be used as a passive recreation reserve	None	None
	Inkerman St – former Maryborough Primary School site 404	None	None – site currently being rezoned as Residential 2 and Business 5	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough Education Centre	Sports ground	Needs to be developed and to have access to a reliable water source	None	Needs an additional sports ground. Investigate feasibility or regionally significant synthetic grass facility.	None	None
		Indoor sports courts	None	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough Cricket Club			Cricket pitch upgrade	None	None	None
	MKM Tennis Courts	Tennis	None	None	None	None	None



Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	MKM Oval (Ron Sinclair Reserve)	Cricket / Soccer	Asbestos roof is hazardous. Hot water service needs to be repaired. Ground surface is hard and uneven. Needs access to a reliable water source.	None	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface ground with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	None	None
	Maryborough Highland Bowls Club	Bowls	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Municipal Olympic Outdoor Pool	Swimming and water play	Pedestrian / cycling access from town needs to be improved. Solar pool water system needs to be repaired so that it can operate. Disability access is important – at present it is difficult to achieve due to heritage issues associated with the entrance building. A new entrance may be required.	Access for people of all abilities into the facility, into the pool and into the change rooms. Need a disabled toilet / family change facility. Kiosk shutter needs fixing.	None	Heat the pool.	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Jack Pascoe Reserve	Skating and BMX	Coping on some edges need repair. Some sponsor boards are damaged with potential hazard to skaters. Guard fences should be filled with mesh to prevent skaters from going through the fence. Need toilets.	None	New equipment needed.	None	None
		Athletics	Seating and shade required for spectators. Access to reliable water source required.	None	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface field with drought tolerant grasses suitable to athletics.	None	Needs recycled water. Consider synthetic surface to be shared between athletics, hockey and cricket.
		Dog Club	Seating and shade required for spectators. Access to reliable water source required.	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Leisure Centre	Swimming	None	None	Upgrade air circulation system to decrease condensation.	None	None
		Basketball	Need air conditioning / heating. Tiered seating needs smaller steps between each level.	Need a show court plus another court. MBA has received a grant for a feasibility study which is due to begin shortly	None	None	None
		Fitness Areas, crèche, meeting rooms, office, etc	None	None	Expand gym and indoor sports centre. Investigate feasibility of dormitory accommodation at the Centre.	Expand gym area. Centre needs a face lift	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough and District Triathlon Club Inc	Triathlon	Do not operate from a specific venue	Complete sealing of tracks within Princes Park (near scoreboard), and secure reliable water source for Jack Pascoe Reserve Oval	None	None	None
	Peel St Soccer Ground	Soccer	This site is owned by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Tenure for the soccer club is therefore unclear given the development of the MEC. Suggest Frank Graham Oval as a better option to develop soccer.	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Frank Graham Oval	Junior football and cricket	Poorly maintained facility. Cricket pitch and club rooms need to be repaired – presents a safety issue. Ground and change facilities need to be upgraded to cater for addition of soccer. All weather pitch needs to be installed. Suggest relocation of junior football to Jubilee Oval.	None	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface ground with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	None	None
	Goldfields Petanque Club	Petanque	Needs signage. Toilets would be useful.	Would like own clubrooms.	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Velodrome	Cycling	None	None	Upgrade service road into facility. Clubrooms have been leased out to Maryborough Historical Machinery Club. Some substantial works on clubrooms have recently been completed.	None	None
	Assembly of God Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
	404 Hall	Community functions	None	None	Hall recently sold privately	None	None
	Church of Christ Hall	Community functions	Assess condition of playground	None	None	None	None
	Anglican Parish Hall	Community events	None	None	None	None	None
	East Maryborough Neighbourhood Centre	Educational and recreational programs	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough Town Hall	Community functions, events, offices, etc	Repair and repaint render on exterior of building. Repair leaks and repaint interior ceiling	None	Sprung wooden floor. Conservation management plan has recently been undertaken and interior works identified through inventory have commenced.	None	None
	Maryborough Masonic Centre	Masonic activities	None	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough Scout Hall	Scout activities	Floor needs sanding and repolishing. Disabled toilet and air conditioning may be required	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough Senior Citizens Club	Senior Citizens activities	May need to incorporate disabled parking near entrance to building	None	None	None	None



Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Maryborough and District Highland Pipe Band Hall	Band practice, bingo, etc	None	None	None	None	None
	Maryborough Salvation Army Hall	Church services and community functions	None	None	None	None	None
	St Augustine's Church Hall	Community functions and tennis	None	None	None	None	None
	St Andrew's Uniting Church Function Room	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
	Tren Du Bourg Hall	Community functions, dances	Hall has been purchased by Assembly of God.	None	None	None	None
	VRI Meeting Room	Community functions	Could potentially replace carpet and lino (maintenance issue).	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Willard Guide Hall	Community functions	Exterior in need of repair. Maintenance required to playground and BBQ	None	None	None	None
	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Walking / Cycling	Not inspected	None	Keep developing	Keep developing	Keep developing
<b>Moliagal</b>	Recreation Reserve	Cricket	Trip hazard from carpet over pitch. Inspect and repair playground equipment. Improve ground surface to reduce likelihood of injuries to players – lots of rabbit holes on the ground. Upgrade toilets.	Toilet facilities on historic school site badly need updating and repairing	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface ground with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	None	None
	Moliagal Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
<b>Natte Yallock</b>	Natte Yallock Recreation Reserve (not within the Shire but many users come from the Shire)	Football and cricket	Surface of the ground is in poor condition. Need a reliable water source, top dressing and re-sowing.	Sewerage and grey water management	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface ground with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	None	None
	Natte Yallock Netball / Tennis Courts (not within the Shire but many users come from the Shire)	Netball and tennis	Separate change and toilet facilities required.	None	Court dimensions need assessment.	None	None
<b>Talbot</b>	Talbot Recreation Reserve	Football and cricket	Facility is in need of an upgrade. Needs access to a reliable water source.	None	Once reliable water supply sourced, resurface ground with drought tolerant grasses suitable for current user groups.	When sewerage comes to town, install another pipe so that sports can access water	None
		Netball	None	None	Court dimensions need assessment.	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Talbot Senior Citizens Club	Senior Citizens activities	Access ramp needs to be repaired. Currently share ANA Hall facilities.	Larger building of our own.	None	None	None
	Talbot Tennis Club	Tennis	None	Upgrade to plexipave	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Talbot Swimming Pool	Swimming and water play	Pool needs repainting and an overall upgrade of all facilities. Needs a family change room / disabled toilet.	Male and female toilets and change rooms. Heat retention in the pool. Expansion out onto the road between pool and bowling green leaving room for a walking/bike track only.  Kiosk building, front door and ceiling need repairs (they are leaking). Need a family change room / disability change room. Pump room to pool pipe work deteriorated	Some works identified through the inventory and club surveys will be carried out before the beginning of the 08/09 swimming season.	None	None
	Talbot Bowls Club	Bowls	Need a reliable water source in order to recommission the small bowls green	Upgrade required to the small bowls green	Investigate feasibility of synthetic grass for smaller green.	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Talbot ANA Hall	Clogging and community functions	Need to repaint, needs insulation, windows need to be repaired, needs air conditioning and install blinds for the windows to reduce the heat	None	None	None	None
	Talbot Town Hall	Community functions	Needs a repaint.	Upgrade stage floor for dancing groups such as Cloggers	None	None	None
	R.J. Pryor Stadium	Not used	None. Need to find an alternative use.	None	None	None	None
	Talbot Golf Club	Golf	Needs a reliable source of water	None	None	None	None

Township	Facility	Opportunities / Activities	Suggested Upgrades from Inventory	Suggested Upgrades from Club surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Key Stakeholder Interviews	Suggested Upgrades from Community Surveys	Suggested Upgrades from Community Consultations
	Talbot Motocross Track	Not used	Closed due to complaints from nearby residents re noise and dust. Existing site is no longer suitable – investigate alternative options.	None	None	None	None
	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Walking / Cycling	Not inspected	None	Keep developing	Keep developing	Keep developing
<b>Timor</b>	Timor Tennis Courts	Tennis	None	None	None	None	None
	Timor-Bowenvale Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None
<b>Wareek</b>	Wareek Community Hall	Community functions	None	None	None	None	None

A number of potential new facilities have been identified by the community, although it is not possible, practical or logical to fund each one of these proposed developments. The final decision regarding what will and what won't be funded will be made using Council's planning principles and Capital Works Assessment Tool that have been developed as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy. Potential developments identified by the community include:

- a home for soccer in Maryborough
- a shared synthetic sports field shared by a number of sports such as hockey, soccer and / or tennis
- a regional shooting facility
- possible relocation of petanque in Carisbrook
- a regional play space in Maryborough (subject to a play space strategy)
- a new basketball court attached to the Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre
- small outdoor swimming pool in Bealiba
- a motocross track near Bealiba and Dunolly
- a small skate park in Bealiba
- more ramps at the Dunolly Skate Park
- fitness club in Dunolly
- a skate park in Talbot
- a half court basketball court in Talbot
- additional cycling / walking tracks throughout the municipality



## Facility Summary

- Overall, there is an impressive range of sport and recreation facilities and physical activity opportunities available in Central Goldfields Shire, given its size.
- Adequate provision of land is available for recreational purposes for the next ten years, although upgrades to existing facilities is important to allow them to be used to their maximum capacity
- The existence of a high quality indoor leisure centre with indoor swimming pool is a major benefit to the Shire and a key attraction to people both within and outside the Shire.
- A significant amount of sport and recreation facilities are in need of some form of maintenance or capital works due to general ageing of the infrastructure, eg pavilions, cricket nets, etc.
- A number of new facilities have been identified by the community for development in each of the five major townships and smaller outlying areas.
- Halls are generally in fairly good condition and indications are that many have had funds spent on them recently
- Water is a major issue at sports grounds, tennis courts, bowling greens, golf clubs and croquet courts. Lack of water has caused ground deterioration and hardness at many sites.
- The majority of sporting grounds do not have drought tolerant grasses on them which are suitable for the sports played on them
- Netballers are disadvantaged in terms of access to change facilities and toilets at most grounds.
- The trend towards female umpires for traditionally male sports such as AFL will create additional demand for change facilities for female umpires.

- Greater consideration needs to be given to the installation of shade and shelter at a number of sports facilities for both players / participants and spectators.
- There is limited access to a number of sport and recreation facilities for people with disabilities and mobility issues. A detailed audit of facilities is required to ensure compliance and greater access.
- Lighting of sports grounds is considered a priority at some facilities to enable training after hours and the potential for night games
- Although the majority of facilities are located in Maryborough, it is important to retain some sport and recreation facilities in each small community to encourage participation in physical activity and social interactions, eg:
  - a hall
  - hard courts
  - an area of open space for ball games or sport / recreation activities
  - walking / cycling tracks
  - a playground
  - swimming pool within a reasonable commuting distance

Whilst the information in this section of the report provides an overview of the supply of sport and recreation facilities and some indication of demand for upgrades and new facilities, this assessment needs to be considered against various other criteria such as:

- Relationship of works to Council's planning principles and Capital Works Assessment Tool
- Demand for works by the community
- Size and characteristics of existing and future catchment
- Existence of other similar facilities (public and private)
- Popularity or culture of those particular activities in the region
- Viability of clubs, including existing and potential membership numbers
- Relationship to general sport and recreation trends and anticipated growth / decline
- Lifespan of existing facility
- Capacity of Council and user groups to fund the developments

## 7.0 Community Consultation

A broad range of consultation methods were utilised in the preparation of this Recreation Strategy, to ensure that as many people as possible in the community had the opportunity to participate in the planning stage. To assist with engaging people in each of the communities, a Recreation Task Force was established, comprising of a representative from Maryborough, Bealiba, Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot; and people representing traditionally disadvantaged groups in the community such as young people, older adults and people with disabilities. This group of people was trained up to conduct face to face interviews with residents in their area or special population group and to assist in the promotion of the township workshops.

The following provides a summary of each of the methods utilised and the key outcomes of each method (a more detailed analysis is included in the Appendix):

Method	Response	Key Issues
Surveys of providers of physical activity (i.e. clubs and community groups)	93 completed surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5,282 participants involved in these 93 clubs</li> <li>■ 50% of clubs expect membership growth</li> <li>■ 78% of clubs run by volunteers</li> <li>■ A range of tenancy and maintenance arrangements exist</li> <li>■ 58% of club share their facilities with other clubs</li> <li>■ 74% of clubs are relatively to extremely satisfied with facilities – only 2% extremely dissatisfied</li> <li>■ Recruiting &amp; retaining members / players / participants is the most difficult issue facing clubs</li> <li>■ Council most effective in providing information about grants programs, but needs improvement in assisting with maintenance of facilities according to clubs</li> <li>■ 47% of clubs have identified some upgrades required to the facilities they use</li> </ul>

Method	Response	Key Issues
<b>Community Surveys</b>	244 completed surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 91% of people active (Vic rate 81%)</li> <li>■ Most popular activity is walking: 59% (Vic rate 38%), then aerobics / fitness, cycling, tennis &amp; swimming</li> <li>■ Most desired activities: aerobics / fitness, swimming, cycling, walking, tennis</li> <li>■ Barriers: not available close by, work commitments, can't afford it</li> <li>■ Most effective form of promotion: local newspapers</li> <li>■ Facilities most used: small neighbourhood parks and bicycle / walking tracks</li> <li>■ Most frequently used facilities: bicycle / walking tracks (this may incorporate footpaths, roads, bush tracks, etc)</li> <li>■ Facility development priorities: bicycle / walking tracks, sports grounds &amp; small neighbourhood parks</li> <li>■ Factors to increase participation: lower fees, different times &amp; more information</li> <li>■ Council's key role: provide spaces for recreation</li> </ul>
<b>Key Informant Interviews</b>	54 one on one interviews conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need to engage with the community to facilitate a variety of activities and to strengthen communities</li> <li>■ Opportunities for families to participate is important</li> <li>■ Cost is a major barrier to participation</li> <li>■ Inactivity and obesity are looming as major health issues</li> </ul>

Method	Response	Key Issues
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need additional walking / cycling tracks that link to key facilities</li> <li>■ Transport is needed to recreation facilities by outlying communities</li> <li>■ Playgrounds need upgrading</li> <li>■ Lots of different sport and recreation opportunities and events</li> <li>■ Social opportunities through sport and recreation clubs is important</li> <li>■ Promotion of opportunities that exist through activities such as Come 'n' Try Days is important</li> <li>■ Strong support for swimming pools</li> <li>■ Opportunity to capitalise on popularity of cycling, mountain biking and human powered vehicles</li> <li>■ Need a balance between events and servicing the needs of the local community</li> <li>■ Many facilities need to be upgraded</li> <li>■ Greater emphasis required on sharing facilities as Council does not have sufficient assets to upgrade all facilities</li> <li>■ Physical activity opportunities in schools are important</li> <li>■ Drought has had a major impact on the condition of many sports grounds</li> <li>■ Lack of senior clubs and competitions</li> <li>■ Local football clubs should use Princes Park (currently only used in BFL competition)</li> <li>■ Club succession, volunteer recruitment and the ability to attract strategic thinkers</li> </ul>

Method	Response	Key Issues
		<p>impact on clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need to consider synthetic sports surfaces to reduce amount of water used or to allow sports to continue to operate with minimal water</li> <li>■ Activities needed for young people who are not interested in competitive sport</li> <li>■ Need for greater promotion of existing opportunities</li> <li>■ Soccer needs a home ground</li> <li>■ Need to encourage clubs to share facilities</li> <li>■ Concern that people not involved in sport are excluded from social events</li> <li>■ A number of sports grounds are underutilised</li> <li>■ Balance developments in small towns against usage</li> <li>■ Cycling velodrome is underutilised</li> <li>■ Need to facilitate opportunities locally; not always in Maryborough</li> <li>■ Explore partnerships with health and education bodies</li> <li>■ Explore synergy between arts, recreation and culture</li> <li>■ More diverse range of opportunities required for young people</li> <li>■ Consider mentoring recreational programs between older people and younger people</li> <li>■ Develop a drop in centre for young people featuring recreational opportunities</li> <li>■ Clubs need to be welcoming</li> <li>■ Should focus on just a few well maintained facilities during periods of drought</li> </ul>

Method	Response	Key Issues
<b>School Art Exhibition / Township Workshops</b>	184 people attended across 5 township workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bealiba #1 Issue: transport for young people to Maryborough for sport</li> <li>■ Carisbrook #1 Issue: drama, dance, singing and art classes after school</li> <li>■ Dunolly #1 Issue: more ramps at skate park</li> <li>■ Maryborough #1 Issue: develop a regional equestrian facility</li> <li>■ Talbot #1 Issue: develop a skate park at Talbot Park</li> </ul>
<b>Written Submission</b>	24 submissions received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Assets are ageing</li> <li>■ Difficult to attract volunteers</li> <li>■ Hard to attract younger people to clubs</li> <li>■ Drought is a major issue</li> <li>■ Need to consider ageing population's needs</li> <li>■ Dunolly Tennis Courts have been abandoned</li> <li>■ Want a croquet court in Dunolly</li> <li>■ Extension of skate park at Dunolly</li> <li>■ Support for increasing operational hours of Dunolly pool</li> <li>■ Youth club in Dunolly</li> <li>■ Upgrade toilets at Dunolly Football Ground</li> <li>■ Regional equestrian centre</li> <li>■ Upgrade Talbot playground fence</li> <li>■ Transportation from Bealiba to Maryborough for children wishing to play sport</li> <li>■ Upgrade Maryborough Girl</li> </ul>



Method	Response	Key Issues
		<p>Guides Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need for a regional standard play space</li> <li>■ Consider relocating Maryborough Skate Park to a more central location</li> <li>■ Install cricket nets behind Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre for young people</li> <li>■ Support for cycling / walking paths</li> <li>■ New activities – walking groups, yoga</li> <li>■ Horse riding tracks</li> </ul>

Once the initial consultation was complete, a Councillor workshop was held in order to provide Council with an opportunity to see what issues had emerged through the consultation and to provide additional information on existing or potential policy directions. A forum was then held with 13 key providers or leaders in the community who have an interest or focus on sport, recreation and health promotion. These individuals, representing a range of community, government, not for profit organisations or their town reviewed the existing information and helped to shape strategic directions. Their ideas were then fed into a second Councillor workshop.

## 8.0 Key Directions

Through the consultation stage of this Strategy, five key directions have emerged:

- Recreation Planning and Management
- Facility Developments and Upgrades
- Increasing Participation
- Communications, Promotions and Events
- Club Support

These issues inform the recommendations contained within this Strategy.

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
<b>1. Recreation Planning and Management</b>	<b>1a. Council's Role</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council's current role in terms of sport and recreation provision is based on historical factors; what it can afford from its limited resource base; and from directions identified in the previous recreation strategy and in relevant Council documents.</li> <li>• In order to ensure that Council's key objectives are achieved, such as increased participation and greater use of existing facilities, a vision, mission and key planning principles need to be identified.</li> <li>• Key planning principles should guide Council's decision making in relation to sport and recreation provision over the next ten years.</li> <li>• To support Council in its role, a series of draft policies and tools also need to be</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community wants Council to focus on providing the spaces where physical activity can take place; provide funding to clubs to improve facilities, programs and services; repair / replace ageing infrastructure; and ensure that sport and recreation facilities programs and services are accessible to all</li> <li>The current level of staffing is considered adequate at present, however, Council needs to consider setting aside a proportion of all grants for administration and may need to consider the employment of casual or part-time staff should additional program funding be secured over the next ten years.</li> </ul>	
	<b>1b. Sports Ground Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sport and Recreation facilities in Central Goldfields Shire are not classified according to industry standards whereby the minimum infrastructure requirements generally included on specific standards of grounds are identified</li> <li>Classification of sport and recreation facilities would enable Council to develop fair and equitable policies in relation to funding and support for clubs and facilities</li> </ul>	
	<b>1c. Equitable Fees and Charges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although the current system of providing support to clubs is not currently an issue from the perspective of clubs, the system, which is based on pre-amalgamation procedures is not consistent across the Shire</li> <li>A new fees and charges model should be considered that not only provides support to clubs in a fair and transparent manner, but also provides Council with a level of return on</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		its investment, based on user pays principles	
	<b>1d. Access to Water for Sports Grounds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to water is a major issue for Central Goldfields Shire in relation to sports grounds – particularly recreation reserves, tennis courts, bowls greens, croquet pitches and golf courses</li> <li>• CGSC is one of the few areas in the state still on Stage 4 full water restrictions</li> <li>• Goldfields Pipeline from Waranga Basin goes through the Shire to Ballarat but will not supply water to the Shire</li> <li>• Recycled water only available at a few sport and recreation sites (Princes Park and Maryborough Golf and Bowls Club) – through local recycled water pipeline</li> <li>• Carting of water not sustainable long term and costly</li> <li>• Tanks and dams not full due to lack of rain</li> <li>• Bores at some sites, but some have run out of water or have salinity issues</li> <li>• Need to explore installation of synthetic sports surfaces at certain grounds / courts, eg hockey field at MEC shared with other sports</li> <li>• If water restrictions cause football clubs to rationalise the ground they play on, this then impacts on where netball will be played. Both of these issues then impact upon the priority for works at grounds that may be potentially rationalised. Specific sports strategies are important to develop.</li> <li>• May need to continue to lobby state government and local water authorities to assist with</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>water issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider purchasing temporary or permanent water rights</li> <li>• Consider developing a community water foundation whereby individuals donate water to the Shire for the purpose of watering sport and recreation facilities – a precedence has already been set whereby a local resident bought 3 megalitres of water on the open market (at a cost of \$500 per megalitre) through the Goulburn Murray Water system (Loddon system) and had this water transferred to Central Highland Water (CHW), using CHW pipelines. This water has been allocated to a number of recreation reserves and parks in Maryborough. 1 Meg will allow an average oval to be watered 10 times.</li> <li>• Plant drought resistant grasses on all major grounds such as Legend Couch grass, using a planned, rolled out approach</li> <li>• Review existing policy on ground standards and develop a policy on which types of grounds will receive priority for water, eg premier level grounds, grounds that are shared by more than one group, etc. There may be some rationalising of grounds.</li> <li>• Encourage ongoing investment in water tanks by community groups</li> <li>• Investigate viability of developing temporary water storage facilities in small towns to cater for occasions such as the emptying of swimming pools for repairs</li> <li>• Extend the Maryborough Recycled / Re-use Water Pipeline to irrigate additional recreation facilities, including Maryborough Education Centre</li> <li>• Investigate localised water pipeline networks with industry such as the new partnership between McPherson's Printing and Council for watering sports facilities.</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
	<b>1e. Shared Use of Facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council is unable to maintain and upgrade all sport and recreation assets due to its limited funds</li> <li>• A number of sports and recreation facilities are only used periodically</li> <li>• State government funding programs prioritise projects that involve a number of users, rather than a single user</li> <li>• There is potential for greater use of Jubilee and Hedges ovals and Jack Pascoe Reserve</li> <li>• Sports ground hiring arrangements need to clearly articulate roles and responsibilities of each body and the rights associated with hire / lease of a site</li> <li>• Clubs and the general public need to be made more aware about access to sports grounds and roles and responsibilities of user groups</li> <li>• Due to ongoing drought issues, consideration may need to be given to rationalising the number of sports grounds used</li> <li>• Greater cooperation may be necessary between different clubs and leagues to create competition draws for evenings and Sundays, as opposed to every second Saturday so that fewer grounds may be used</li> </ul>	
	<b>1f. Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to monitor the implementation and evaluation of the Recreation Strategy Plan</li> <li>• It may be useful for Council to have independent community advice on funding priorities for sport and recreation developments</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider developing a Consultative Committee (made up of one person from each town, a councillor, a council officer and a member of the Goldfields Regional Sports Association) to advise Council on sport and recreation issues; implement and evaluate the Recreation Strategy Plan; and assist in identifying funding priorities, using an agreed planning framework</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Facility Developments and Upgrades</b>	<b>2a. Facility Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central Goldfields is very well catered for in terms of the number of sports facilities available, although a number of facilities are in need of an upgrade</li> <li>The community has identified the need for a number of new sport and recreation facilities to improve the range and quality of opportunities</li> <li>A tool needs to be developed to assist Council to determine capital works priorities, based on agreed planning principles</li> <li>There needs to be a balance between providing facilities in small towns or providing a regional facility in Maryborough</li> <li>There is adequate land in Central Goldfields Shire for recreational purposes for at least 10 years – a greater focus needs to be made on utilising existing facilities more effectively.</li> <li>Area to the north west of Maryborough will lack open space opportunities once California Gully oval is disposed of and if Peel Street reserve is disposed of by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.</li> <li>Need to consider developing master plans for all major recreation reserves to ensure appropriate developments are planned for and prioritised</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A feasibility study for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Basketball Court at Maryborough Sports Centre is about to commence</li> <li>• Need to consider undertaking feasibility studies prior to developing any new facilities</li> <li>• Need to consider developing planning for specific sports codes, eg a netball strategy covering all netball facilities</li> <li>• Need to consider developing an open space strategy to ensure that the community has access to quality open space areas within close proximity to their homes, all of which offer a range of different experiences and opportunities.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>2b. Sports Facility Standards</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern that not all sports facilities (eg netball courts) meet the recommended standards in terms of size, condition, safety, etc</li> <li>• Because facilities do not meet recommended standards, clubs are missing out on finals and the subsequent income such events bring</li> <li>• Consider working In partnership with relevant state sporting associations to determine which facilities do not meet recommended standards and rectify this situation as a matter of priority, providing the facility is / has capacity to be used for regional standard events</li> </ul>	



Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
	<b>2c. Cycling and Walking Tracks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling and walking are two of the most popular activities undertaken by Central Goldfields Shire residents</li> <li>• Cycling and walking tracks (including footpaths, roads, unmade bush tracks) are the most frequently used physical activity facility in the Shire</li> <li>• Very strong community support for the development of a network of safe bicycle / walking paths in Maryborough and between small towns</li> <li>• Some concern re lack of signage on tracks and lack of information on tracks</li> <li>• Support for extension to programs that encourage walking and cycling</li> <li>• The Golden Trail (trail recreating the walk of Chinese gold miners from Robe in South Australia to Bendigo) goes through Maryborough and Carisbrook and has potential to bring a number of touring walkers and cyclists to the area</li> <li>• Review and continue to implement recommendations from Cycling Strategy</li> <li>• Need for signs on walking paths at regular intervals and need for a cycling / walking map for the Shire</li> </ul>	
	<b>2d. Play Spaces</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Goldfields Shire has 20 reasonably small play spaces distributed throughout the Shire</li> <li>• Whilst play spaces are regularly inspected and maintained, the value of experiences and opportunities available at each space and as part of an overall strategy needs further consideration</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mounds at Princes Park playground are considered unsightly, unattractive and of limited value to the play experience</li> <li>• Request from community for play spaces to incorporate features for all age groups, eg half court basketball court, cricket nets, BBQ facilities, play equipment, paths, shade, seating, etc</li> <li>• Request for Princes Park playground to be fenced to improve safety for young children</li> <li>• Desire by community for one large regional play space</li> <li>• Need to consider the development of a play space strategy to prioritise developments and ensure that quality play spaces are developed throughout the Shire.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>2e. Shared School-Community Facilities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sharing of facilities between local government authorities and the Education sector is becoming increasingly more common and allows for the development of facilities that may not have been possible without the sharing of resources and expertise. It also allows for greater use of facilities.</li> <li>• The new Maryborough Education Centre is home to hundreds of local students, but has limited developed sport and recreational opportunities at present.</li> <li>• Many sports, such as hockey, tennis and soccer, are moving towards the utilisation of synthetic surfaces, rather than grass, as their preferred surface</li> <li>• MEC is willing to allow greater community access to its performing arts centre and Highview College is willing to consider the development of a shared school-community play space</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is potential to develop a shared synthetic hockey pitch at MEC, to be shared with other groups such as soccer or tennis and the school.</li> </ul>	
	<b>2f. Rationalisation of Existing Facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are several sports facilities that are no longer used by the community. At the same time there is demand for the development of new opportunities (eg cycling and walking tracks, netball change facilities, etc), but limited funding. Facilities that are no longer used by the community could be sold off and funds directed to improving existing opportunities.</li> <li>• If current climatic conditions prevail and water continues to be restricted, it is likely that some grounds will no longer be used as clubs cannot afford to purchase water from other sources and the grounds harden to unacceptable levels. This in itself will cause a natural rationalisation of grounds.</li> <li>• California Gully Sports Ground has been identified as being in excess of needs – consider selling this site and using the funds to improve other recreational facilities</li> <li>• Talbot Stadium is no longer used – consider finding new user groups, and if not possible, consider disposing of this asset and using funds to improve other recreational facilities.</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Increasing Participation</b>	<b>3a. Central Goldfields Participation Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council recognises that participation in sport and active recreation has significant social, health, economic, environmental benefits to the community and individuals</li> <li>• Inactivity is not only costing the health system hundreds of millions of dollars annually, but helps to create a community that is disconnected and has a greater chance of contracting diseases such as type two diabetes, heart disease, certain types of cancers and mental</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>health issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The key barriers to participation in Central Goldfields Shire are activity not available close by; work commitments; cost</li> <li>• There is considerable competition from computers, electronic games, television, DVDs as well as other physical activities in relation to young people's participation in sport and active recreation</li> <li>• Concern that certain sectors of the community are not accessing sport and recreation opportunities</li> <li>• Concern re lack of activities for children and young people</li> <li>• Need to facilitate / provide some locally accessible sport and recreation opportunities in smaller towns</li> <li>• Not everyone is interested in competitive organised sporting competition</li> <li>• Ageing population will have less demand for sports ovals, but a greater demand for walking / cycling tracks, indoor heated swimming pools, bowls, etc.</li> <li>• Desire by community for low cost / free family and social activities</li> <li>• Community consultations indicate that there is a desire to increase swimming pool operating hours, i.e. open earlier and close later</li> <li>• Consider facilitating open days, come 'n' try days / weeks, girl's come 'n' try days and expos to promote existing opportunities</li> <li>• Consider promoting free recreational facilities that exist in towns, eg parks, playgrounds,</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sports to develop a social aspect to their game, eg social competitions, twilight competitions, BBQs, etc</li> <li>• Continue to review contracts with YMCA and undertake a cost benefit analysis of increased operational hours</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>3b. Partnerships</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst it is not necessarily Council's role to actually provide physical activity opportunities, it does have a role in providing the places where physical activity occurs outside the home and in facilitating specific opportunities by working in partnership with organisations such as the YMCA and Maryborough Community Health Centre.</li> <li>• The development of strategic partnerships will allow Council and partners to offer additional sport and recreation opportunities to the community by sharing and leveraging available funding and resources</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with MCHS to promote physical activity opportunities in the community, eg show bags, posters, pamphlets</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with MEC to encourage the development of before school activities</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus to help clubs develop a welcoming approach for new members, eg new member welcoming kit</li> <li>• Encourage providers such as the YMCA to offer after hours activities / sessions for people who work</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus to encourage clubs to introduce modified games for all ages, eg Life Ball (for older adults), T-ball, Minkey Hockey, Kinder Gym (for young children), etc</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with health organisations to encourage workplaces to be more supportive of physical activity, eg ride to work days; lunch time walking groups; park and walk programs, etc.</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with older adults groups such as senior citizens, U3A, and schools to develop mentoring programs between seniors and young people to encourage activities such as fishing, golf, gold detecting and bowls</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus to assist clubs to expand their range of activities, eg establish a walking group attached to a club, mid week social competitions, 20-20 cricket competitions, etc</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>3c. Access and Inclusion / Health and Wellbeing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests from the community for a range of different types of infrastructure to allow people of all ages and abilities to access sport and recreation facilities</li> <li>• Consider developing a mobility access map to indicate where accessible facilities and car parks are located in partnership with disability services</li> <li>• Consider developing a standard for outdoor areas in relation to the provision of shelter / shade and seating</li> <li>• Need an accessibility audit of facilities for disability access</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
	<b>3d. Community Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern by people in smaller towns re distance to sport and recreation facilities in Maryborough for their children and the rising cost of fuel</li> <li>• No public transport service available – only Council supported community transport options</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Transport Connections Program to identify transport issues and solutions, eg a bus that picks up children from Bealiba Primary School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, takes them to sports training in Maryborough and returns them to their homes</li> <li>• Consider developing other public / community based transport options to sporting facilities.</li> </ul>	
	<b>3e. Cost of Participating in Sport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Goldfields Shire is considered to be one of the lower socio economic areas of Victoria, hence many individuals and families struggle financially to provide basic items such as food and housing, let alone “extras” such as sports fees and uniforms</li> <li>• Council is not in a direct position to be able to reduce fees for sports participation, however, it can influence various initiatives that may have a positive impact on reducing costs or keeping costs to a minimum</li> <li>• Some sports fees are considered to be too high by members of the community</li> <li>• Cost of uniforms has been identified by the community as a barrier to participation</li> <li>• Consider establishing an equipment pool in partnership with Goldfields Regional Sports</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider undertaking a Sports Equipment Drive in partnership with Goldfields Regional Sports Association</li> <li>• Continue to monitor YMCA contract to ensure that adequate provision is made for people on low income in its fee structure</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>3f. New Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council is not in the position of organising sport and recreation activities. It is however able to provide information to the community and other service providers about expressed physical activity needs of residents</li> <li>• There is strong support for the establishment of dance, drama, art and singing classes</li> <li>• There is strong support for additional junior soccer clubs in areas such as Dunolly and Bealiba</li> <li>• There is strong support for youth programs, junior sports clinics and school holiday programs</li> <li>• There is strong support for cycling clubs and greater use of underutilised velodrome</li> <li>• Consider providing support to new clubs / organisations wishing to establish themselves in the Shire by promoting them through the Leisure Directory and through the local media; assisting with the location of suitable venues if required; and the identification of potential external funds if applicable</li> <li>• Consider developing partnerships with neighbouring shires to attract / cater for new sports</li> </ul>	



Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		/ activities.	
<b>4. Communications, Promotions and Events</b>	<b>4a. Promotions / Marketing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of information about programs and facilities has been cited as a barrier to participation in Central Goldfields by local residents.</li> <li>• The Visitor Information Centre reports that it is often unaware of sport and recreation opportunities too.</li> <li>• Council currently produces an annual Leisure Services Guide in both electronic format on the internet and as a hard copy document available through Council offices.</li> <li>• Council is also involved in occasional media promotions in local newspapers relating to sport and recreation activities.</li> <li>• Local newspapers are the most popular source of information about sport and recreation initiatives</li> <li>• Consider reformatting the Leisure Directory into an A5 brochure with coloured photos so that it is more appealing to readers</li> <li>• Consider developing an annual calendar of events outlining the start of sporting seasons; special sport and recreation events such as the Energy Breakthrough; festivals, etc to be distributed at relevant outlets such as the Council office, post offices, Visitor Information Centre, sports shops, etc.</li> <li>• Consider utilising Council's website more effectively to promote sport and recreation activities and events.</li> <li>• Continue to maintain good relationships with media and provide articles for publication.</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
	<b>4b. Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Goldfields Shire is well known for the Energy Breakthrough Event and has also attracted other state, national and international competitions and training camps focussing on cycling, triathlons and mountain bike orienteering</li> <li>• Sporting events bring considerable people and revenue to Central Goldfields Shire</li> <li>• There is potential to attract more sports events to the Shire, capitalising on the quiet roads, indoor heated swimming pool and bushland</li> <li>• Opportunity to value add to sports events to keep visitors in the area longer and to attract more revenue to the area</li> <li>• Some concern in the community about the balance between providing funding for events that may attract significant numbers of people from other municipalities at the expense of providing more opportunities for local residents</li> <li>• Consider developing suitable infrastructure (eg dormitory accommodation; events office and meeting rooms in a community hub; and improved power, toilet and change facilities at Jubilee Park, etc) and information (eg events kit) to attract sporting events to the Shire</li> <li>• Consider branding Central Goldfields Shire Council as a Cycle Friendly Community</li> </ul>	
<b>5. Club Support</b>	<b>5a. Volunteers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council recognises the enormous contribution local sport and recreation clubs make to the provision of physical activity opportunities for the community.</li> <li>• Clubs not only provide a range of sport and recreation activities, but also assist with the</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p data-bbox="815 316 1547 344">maintenance of sport, recreation and community assets.</p> <ul data-bbox="770 363 1989 703" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="770 363 1989 464">• Council currently supports clubs through the provision of sport and recreation facilities, leased to clubs; through the carrying out of maintenance at some facilities; and the opportunity to gain financial support to improve facilities.</li> <li data-bbox="770 483 1339 512">• Most clubs are run by unpaid volunteers</li> <li data-bbox="770 531 1727 560">• Concern about where the next generation of volunteers will come from</li> <li data-bbox="770 579 1659 608">• Potential untapped source of volunteers in the over 50 age group</li> <li data-bbox="770 627 1989 703">• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus to develop a volunteer strategy to attract more volunteers in the Shire to sport and recreation clubs</li> </ul>	
	<p data-bbox="474 791 685 852"><b>5b. Sports Administration</b></p>	<ul data-bbox="770 791 1989 1200" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="770 791 1989 852">• Heavy burden on clubs to raise funds; undertake administration responsibilities; and to run competitions</li> <li data-bbox="770 871 1989 932">• The three major issues facing clubs are: attracting and retaining players and committee of management members and upgrading facilities and equipment</li> <li data-bbox="770 951 1850 979">• Hard to source good referees and respect for umpires is an issue at some clubs</li> <li data-bbox="770 999 1989 1059">• Community perception still exists that football clubs focus too strongly on alcohol and are not inclusive of people who don't play football</li> <li data-bbox="770 1078 1989 1200">• Potential to deliver local sports administration and grants related courses / sessions in partnership with Sports Focus and / or TAFE, eg volunteer recruitment; sports administration / governance; grant writing; promotion; coaching; appropriate club, player</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		<p>and spectator behaviours; access and inclusion for people of all abilities, age, gender, etc; and how to respond and modify activities in line with broad sport and recreation industry participation trends to attract new players</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus, local associations and / or state sporting associations to inform clubs about appropriate behaviour and messages</li> <li>• Consider developing a club newsletter that is distributed quarterly providing information on grants, trends and issues of relevance</li> <li>• Encourage Goldfields Regional Sports Association and Sports Focus to link their Sports Star Awards</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Goldfields Regional Sports Association to develop a sports administration hub whereby participating clubs contribute a certain amount of money in return for the completion of specific administration tasks</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with organisations that provide low cost / free mentoring or online volunteering to assist clubs with sports administration issues.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>5c. Future Directions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasingly people are participating in non-competitive, non-organised activities such as walking, aerobics / fitness and cycling or social competitions at the expense of organised competitive sport</li> <li>• Consider working in partnership with Sports Focus to help clubs modify activities to meet the changing sport and recreation participation trends of the general community</li> <li>• Consider supporting existing clubs to expand and diversify activities rather than develop</li> </ul>	

Direction	Issue	Discussions / Opportunities	
		new clubs.	
	<b>5d. Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to survey results, sport and recreation clubs are least satisfied with Council's contribution to funding capital works and maintenance items</li> <li>• Clubs want support from Council officers in relation to grants preparation</li> <li>• Many sport and recreation facilities throughout the Shire require upgrading</li> <li>• Central Goldfields Shire has limited resources to contribute to and leverage against for new developments / upgrades</li> <li>• Need to review the Community Grants Program as part of this Strategy to ensure adequate funds are available and that the assessment criteria is appropriate</li> <li>• Although supportive of community clubs, Council has not set aside funds in its five year forward budget to instigate a community grants scheme specifically for sport and recreation</li> <li>• Council needs to develop tools and policies on the type of assistance it will provide to clubs / organisations seeking funding for facility upgrades / developments</li> </ul>	

## 9.0 Recommendations and Strategies

The following strategies have been developed, based on information obtained through community consultations, literature review, trends analysis and inspection of facilities. It must be noted that a number of strategies have interdependencies with other strategies, particularly those that relate to water and drought proofing of sports facilities. Hence if one action occurs, it may trigger a series of other actions, or alternatively, if a specific action does not occur, it may then require other actions to take place.

Also, costs are indicative only and must be confirmed prior to any works occurring. These costs, which are based on 2008 prices, do not include contingencies, project management fees, architectural fees, service connections and upgrades. It is expected that external funding and contributions from user groups will help to fund a number of these strategies. Works can only occur if there are sufficient funds available.

As a basic guide, the priorities in the following table relate to this timetable:

High	=	Year 1-4
Medium High	=	Year 5
Medium	=	Year 6-8
Low	=	Year 9-10

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
<b>1. Recreation Planning and Management</b>	1a. To determine a strategic planning framework and policies for Council in terms of sport and recreation provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt the vision, mission and key planning principles developed as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy</li> <li>• Develop and adopt a series of tools and policies as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy to assist Council with its decision</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<p>making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate administrative fees into all facility development and program funding requests where possible to cover staff time and evaluation costs</li> </ul>			
	1b. To develop a classification system for sports grounds based on industry standards to assist with acceptable levels of development and assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and adopt a sports ground classification system as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High
	1c. To develop a fair and equitable system of charging sport and recreation clubs and organisations for use of facilities within the Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and adopt a Fees and Charges Policy as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High
	1d. To develop a fair and equitable system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and adopt a Water Policy as part of the Recreation Needs Study</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	of support with access to water for sport and recreation clubs and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to lobby State Government and local water authorities for assistance with access to water</li> </ul>	Council; State Government; Central Highlands Water; Coliban Water; Goulburn Murray Water	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a synthetic sports surface at Maryborough Education Centre to potentially be shared between sports such as hockey, soccer and/or tennis (works, if feasible, are likely to cost in the vicinity of \$1 million depending on what type of infrastructure is included – Council / MEC / community may need to fund up to \$500,000 of this amount).</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; MEC; Maryborough Hockey Club; other potential users	Feasibility Study: \$30,000 in total (Council contribution \$7,500, MEC contribution \$7,500 and \$15,000 from DPCD)	High



Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider the establishment of a Community Water Foundation in partnership with Central Highlands Water so that local people can donate water to sports grounds</li> </ul>	Council; Central Highlands Water	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to plant major sports grounds with drought resistance grasses suitable to user groups at grounds that have access to water</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	Planting of drought tolerant grasses (8 ovals @ \$30,000 each): \$240,000.	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support applications from clubs through the Community Grants Program and state government funding programs that aim to reduce the amount of water used or to install other water saving devices at sport and recreation facilities</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs; DPCD	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development of an extension to the recycled water pipeline</li> </ul>	Council; State Government; Local Water	Not costed	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
			Authorities		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to explore other opportunities with businesses to recycle water</li> </ul>	Council; Local Businesses	Not costed	High
	1e. To promote shared use of sport and recreation facilities by clubs in order to maximise limited resources and increase usage levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the Sports Ground Hiring arrangements to ensure that clubs are aware of their roles and responsibilities regarding sports grounds</li> <li>Provide information on Council's website about access to sports grounds by the general public</li> <li>Consider establishing a working party involving representatives of recreation reserves to identify opportunities for shared use of facilities; permanent or temporary decommissioning of some facilities as competitive sports grounds; and changes to draws to ensure maximum use of facilities</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High
	1f. To ensure that the strategies contained within the Recreation Plan are implemented (where possible) and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that responsibility for implementing and evaluating the Recreation Strategy Plan is written in to the work plans of Recreation Staff and supported by Council.</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	that the Plan is regularly evaluated and updated.				
<b>2. Facility Developments and Upgrades</b>	2a. To ensure that an appropriate level of planning is undertaken prior to the development or upgrade of any sport and recreation facilities in Central Goldfields Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and adopt a Capital Works Assessment Tool as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of developing a regionally significant shooting facility in Central Goldfields Shire</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; user groups	\$15,000.	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop master plans for all major recreation reserves, eg – Princes Park / Jubilee Oval, JH Hedges, Jack Pascoe Oval, Talbot Recreation Reserve, Deledio Recreation Reserve / RL Williams Oval in Dunolly, Market Reserve (Carisbrook) and Carisbrook Recreation Reserve (previous strategy completed in 2002)</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; user groups	Master Plans: 7 @ \$10,000 each or combined into one project for \$55,000. Council and user groups to contribute 50%, with	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
				remaining 50% to be sought as a grant from DPCD	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of any proposed sport and recreation facility developments</li> </ul>	Council; user groups	Not costed – some will be in house, others will be externally contracted	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake sports specific strategies for netball, football, cricket, tennis, lawn bowls and equestrian activities</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; specific sports.	Sports specific strategies: 6 @ \$10,000 each or one combined project for \$50,000. Council and user groups to contribute 50%, with	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
				remaining 50% to be sought as a grant from DPCD.	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that Maryborough retains its existing sport and recreation facilities (with the exception of California Gully former oval) and is the centre where more specialised facilities are developed.</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that Bealiba, Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot retain a minimum amount of sport and recreation facilities: a hall, a minimum of two hard courts, an area of open space for ball games or sport, walking / cycling tracks, a play space and a swimming pool within a reasonable commuting distance</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that smaller towns (eg Daisy Hill, Dunluce, Majorca, Moliagal and Timor) retain their existing community and sport and recreation facilities.</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an Open Space Plan to ensure that a range of different spaces and opportunities are planned for and made available for local residents to enjoy and utilise into the future.</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; DSE; Parks Victoria; user groups	Open Space Plan: \$30,000. Council and user groups to contribute 50%, with remaining 50% to be sought as a grant from DPCD.	Medium
	2b. To ensure that sports facilities meet the playing and safety standards appropriate to their code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review all facilities in terms of their compliance with industry accepted playing and safety standards, commencing with regional facilities, in accordance with Sports Ground Standard ratings.</li> <li>Rectify facilities that are not compliant with industry accepted playing and safety standards as a matter of priority</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs; State Sporting Associations	Not costed. Some assistance may be available from grants.	High
	2c. To develop a network of safe cycling and walking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to implement the recommendations of Council's Bicycle Strategy (including</li> </ul>	Council; VicRoads; Department of	Included in Bicycle	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	tracks throughout the Shire	<p>development of new paths, signage and maps)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As new opportunities for cycling and walking are identified (eg an off-road shared cycling / walking path between Maryborough East and MEC), incorporate these into the existing Bicycle Strategy</li> <li>Continue to develop the walking strategy and other active transport opportunities.</li> </ul>	Planning and Community Development (DPCD)	Strategy	
	2d. To develop high quality well utilised play spaces that provide a range of different opportunities and experiences for all members of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider developing a play space strategy to determine future play space needs for the community</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; Playgrounds and Recreation Association of Victoria; Schools	\$15,000 contribution from Council for Strategy – to be matched by DPCD.	Medium - High
	2e. To explore opportunities to develop shared school – community facilities with the education sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish working parties as required between Council and relevant schools to consider the development of shared facilities (see recommendation 1d re synthetic surface feasibility study at MEC) with appropriate Joint Use Agreements.</li> </ul>	Council; Schools	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	2f. To rationalise sport and recreation facilities that are no longer required by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sell the former California Gully oval site and Talbot Stadium (subject to not finding other user groups) and use the funds raised from these sales to improve or develop other sport and recreation opportunities in the community</li> </ul>	Council	Some costs with preparation of sales. Income from sales of land	Medium
	2g. Alma developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade Motocross Track to include basic club rooms, an upgrade to the storage shed, septic toilets, power and water. This would become the regional motocross track for the municipality.</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Motorcycling Club; DPCD	\$20,000. Power connection not costed.	High
	2h. Bealiba developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove old fencing at Bealiba Recreation Reserve and replace with post and rail and install a dressage arena</li> </ul>	Council; Bealiba Pony Club	Funding already set aside in 08/09 budget	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a small study to determine the feasibility of installing a few skate ramps at a central location in Bealiba</li> </ul>	Council; Young people from Bealiba	In house	Medium
	2i. Carisbrook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade lighting on senior oval</li> </ul>	Council;	\$30,000	High



Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	developments		Carisbrook Recreation Reserve users		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade visitor change rooms at Carisbrook Recreation Reserve</li> </ul>	Council; Carisbrook Recreation Reserve users	\$50,000	Low
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete junior oval at Carisbrook Recreation Reserve (installation of sprinkler system, turf and top dressing)</li> </ul>	Council; Carisbrook Recreation Reserve users	\$30,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade netball court surface and modify as required to meet appropriate court dimensions.</li> </ul>	Council; Carisbrook Recreation Reserve users	\$30,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade shared tennis / netball club rooms and place gravel in the car park at Carisbrook</li> </ul>	Council; Carisbrook Recreation	\$10,000 for club room	Low

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		Recreation Reserve	Reserve users	upgrade. \$5,000 for gravel.	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace main court floor in Tullaroop Leisure Centre</li> </ul>	Council; Tullaroop Leisure Centre users; Carisbrook Primary School	\$80,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a Petanque Facility in Carisbrook</li> </ul>	Council; Goldfields Petanque Club	\$10,000	Medium
	2j. Dunolly developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install additional ramps at Dunolly skate park, subject to sufficient space and funding being available</li> </ul>	Council; School; Young People	\$20,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct netball change and toilet facilities at Deledio Park, Dunolly</li> </ul>	Council; Dunolly Football /	\$120,000	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
			Netball Club; DPCD		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade and extend kitchen facilities and change facilities at Deledio Recreation Reserve</li> </ul>	Council; Deledio Recreation Reserve users	\$50,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade Deledio Recreation Reserve ground lighting</li> </ul>	Council; Deledio Recreation Reserve users	\$9,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct shared toilet block between users of Dunolly Target Archery Club and RL Williams Oval users</li> </ul>	Council; Dunolly Target Archery Club; RL Williams Oval users	\$20,000	Low
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate feasibility of upgrading Dunolly Bowling Club kitchen facilities</li> </ul>	Council; Bowling Club	\$20,000	Medium

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a basic study to determine the feasibility of developing a synthetic bowls green at Dunolly Bowls Club</li> </ul>	Council; Dunolly Bowls Club	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade and improve general amenities, pool surrounds and access at the Dunolly Outdoor Swimming Pool</li> </ul>	Council; Dunolly Swimming Pool Committee of Management; YMCA	\$50,000	Medium
	2k. Maryborough developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a 3<sup>rd</sup> basketball court and accommodation facilities attached to the Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Basketball Association; YMCA	Funding received and included in Council's 2008/09 budget	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a synthetic sports ground at MEC to be shared between the community and the school (see recommendation 1d)</li> </ul>	Council; MEC; Maryborough Hockey Club; Maryborough	Refer to recommendation 1d	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
			Lawn Tennis Club; Maryborough Soccer Club		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade Frank Graham Oval to become the regional soccer facility. Install an all weather cricket pitch.</li> </ul>	Council; Frank Graham Oval users; Maryborough Soccer Club	Funds already in Council's 2008/09 Budget.	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install additional lighting at Jubilee Oval</li> </ul>	Council; Jubilee Oval users	\$15,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install additional lighting at Maryborough Lawn Tennis Courts (for court 5 only as courts 3 and 4 were completed in early July)</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Lawn Tennis Club; Rovers Netball Club	\$10,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to investigate appropriate drought tolerant grasses and synthetic surfaces for tennis and upgrade courts as required.</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Lawn Tennis	\$60,000	Medium

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
			Club		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reshape mounds at Princes Park Playground to improve play value and usage of the site.</li> </ul>	Council	\$80,000	Medium-High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install basic lighting around Lake Victoria to cater for early morning / evening walkers /runners</li> </ul>	Council	\$50,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade kitchen, change facilities and multipurpose room at JH Hedges Oval and also install a playground, subject to securing a reliable source of water</li> </ul>	Council; JH Hedges Oval users; DPCD	\$150,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct change facilities for netballers at JH Hedges Oval, subject to securing a reliable source of water</li> </ul>	Council; JH Hedges Oval users; DPCD	\$120,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install new lights at Maryborough Netball Association</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Netball Association	\$130,000	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reposition the 7 netball courts and light poles to meet appropriate court run off areas and netball court dimensions</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Netball Association	\$140,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of developing facilities and improving landscaping for the Maryborough Petanque Club (in close consultation with Maryborough Netball Association)</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Petanque Club; Maryborough Netball Association	\$10,000	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of developing the old school campus oval at Nolan St / Burns St into a passive recreation area</li> </ul>	Council	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade air circulation system to decrease condensation at Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre</li> </ul>	Council; YMCA	Funds set aside in 2008/09 budget.	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade service road into velodrome to improve access by cyclists</li> </ul>	Council; Velodrome users	\$50,000	Medium-High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade and improve general amenities, pool surrounds and access at the Maryborough Olympic Outdoor Pool, whilst retaining Heritage style</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Swimming Pool Committee; YMCA; DPCD	\$100,000	Medium
	2l. Moliagal developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade toilets at Moliagal Recreation Reserve and connect to septic system</li> </ul>	Council; Moliagal Recreation Reserve	\$20,000	Low
	2m. Talbot developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a small skate park and a half court basketball court in Talbot</li> </ul>	Council; Talbot Today and Tomorrow Inc; Young People from Talbot	In house	Medium-High



Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade and improve general amenities, pool surrounds and access at the Talbot Outdoor Swimming Pool</li> </ul>	Council; Talbot Swimming Pool Committee of Management; YMCA	\$80,000	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a basic study to determine the feasibility of developing a synthetic bowling green at Talbot Bowls Club</li> </ul>	Council; Talbot Bowls Club	In house	Medium
<b>3. Increasing Participation</b>	3a. To increase participation in physical activity opportunities by residents of Central Goldfields Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with clubs to promote existing sport and recreation opportunities to the community</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs; Sports Focus;	In house	Medium - high
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a brochure and a section on Council's website outlining the benefits of participation in physical activity and listing free opportunities that exist in the community, eg parks, playgrounds, walking tracks, etc</li> </ul>	Council; Maryborough Community Health Centre	Brochure production: \$3,000	Medium - high
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly review the YMCA contract to ensure that key performance criteria regarding barriers</li> </ul>	Council; YMCA	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
		to participation are addressed			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with Sports Focus to provide information to clubs about how to address barriers to participation</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; Clubs	In house	High
	3b. To facilitate additional or improved physical activity opportunities through the development of strategic partnerships with local service providers and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with organisations such as other Council departments, Sports Focus, Maryborough Education Centre, Maryborough Community Health Centre, Goldfields Region Sports Association, YMCA, Primary Care Partnership (PCP), CVHA, Senior Citizens and U3A to facilitate and promote physical activity opportunities</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; Maryborough Education Centre; Maryborough Community Health Centre; Goldfields Region Sports Association; YMCA; PCP; CVHA; Senior Citizens; U3A	In house. May be some costs, depending on projects initiated	High
	3c. To ensure that sport and recreation facilities, services and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an accessibility audit of facilities in partnership with Sports Focus to determine current access for people with disabilities</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus;	In house.	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	programs are accessible to all members of the community and promote health and wellbeing				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all facilities are upgraded to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (1992) and that new facilities / upgrades are developed according to universal design principles</li> </ul>	Council	Not costed	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a mobility access map to indicate where accessible facilities and car parks are located in partnership with disability and health services</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; Maryborough Community Health Centre; Asteria	\$5,000 for mobility access map – with another \$5,000 from matching funds.	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a standard for outdoor areas in relation to the provision of shelter, shade and seating to be developed at sites, using universal design principles</li> </ul>	Council; State Government	In house	High
	3d. To ensure that opportunities exist for traditionally disadvantaged groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with the Transport Connections Program (TCP) to identify sustainable transport opportunities so that local residents can access sport and recreation</li> </ul>	Council; Department of Transport;	TCP funds	Medium

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	to access transport in order to take part in physical activities in the Shire	activities	DPCD		
	3e. To facilitate initiatives that will help to reduce the costs associated with participation in physical activity by local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with local organisations to establish a sports equipment pool for young people</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs; MCHC	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with local service clubs / organisations to undertake a Sports Equipment Drive</li> </ul>	Council; local service clubs; clubs	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor YMCA contract to ensure that adequate provision is made for people on low income in its fee structure</li> </ul>	Council; YMCA	In house	Medium
	3f. To facilitate a number of new activities to improve the range of sport and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform the community, relevant organisations and clubs through the local media of sport and recreation activities identified through the Recreation Needs Strategy that are of interest to local residents</li> </ul>	Council; local media; clubs	In house	High

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	opportunities available to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support new clubs / organisations wishing to establish themselves in the Shire by promoting them through the Leisure Directory and through the local media; assisting with the location of suitable venues if required; and the identification of potential external funds if applicable</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage greater use of the velodrome</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop partnerships with neighbouring shires to attract / cater for new sports / activities</li> </ul>	Council; neighbouring Shires	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of developing a community owned and operated fitness club in an existing facility in Dunolly</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; Dunolly Primary School; Deledio Recreation Reserve user groups; PCP; MCHC	In house	Low

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
<b>4. Communications, Promotions and Events</b>	4a. To effectively promote existing physical activity opportunities and events to the local community and to visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that Council maintains and continues to regularly update the Leisure Directory.</li> </ul>	Council; Visitor Information Centre	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to an integrated Shire-wide Events Calendar outlining the start of sporting seasons; special sport and recreation events such as the Energy Breakthrough; festivals, etc to be distributed at relevant outlets such as the Shire office, post offices, Visitor Information Centre, sports shops, etc.</li> </ul>	Council; Visitor Information Centre	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise Council's website to promote sport and recreation activities and events</li> </ul>	Council; user groups	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to maintain good relationships with local media to ensure that sport and recreation information is promoted throughout the community in a positive light</li> </ul>	Council; local media	In house	High
	4b. To continue to attract and facilitate high quality sport and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an Events Kit to promote Central Goldfields as an ideal sport and recreation events destination</li> </ul>	Council; Visitor Information	\$10,000	Medium-high

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	recreation events that provide positive economic returns and an increased community profile.		Centre		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with relevant events management companies, state sporting bodies and sporting institutes to identify key infrastructure required in order to attract events and training camps to the area – particularly cycling, triathlons, mountain biking, orienteering and human powered vehicle events</li> </ul>	Council; Events Management Companies; State Sporting Associations; Victorian Institute of Sport; Australian Institute of Sport	Infrastructure – not costed	Medium-high
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with local organisations and the Visitor Information Centre to identify opportunities to keep events participants and spectators in the area longer, eg tours, art exhibitions, smaller events, markets, festivals, etc</li> </ul>	Council; Visitor Information Centre; Energy Break Through Coordinators; Art Gallery; Traders;	In house	Medium-high

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
			Department of Regional Development Victoria		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brand Central Goldfields Shire as a Cycle Friendly Community</li> </ul>	Council; DPCD; DRDV; Tourism bodies	Branding (signs, maps, logo, etc): \$10,000.	Medium-high
<b>5. Club Support</b>	5a. To work in partnership with clubs to ensure that a strong volunteer base exists and is maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a volunteer strategy in partnership with Sports Focus in order to determine processes to attract, retain, train and reward volunteers</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; Clubs	In house	Medium
	5b. To work in partnership with service providers to ensure that clubs have the opportunity to undertake relevant training to improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with Sports Focus and / or TAFE to facilitate the delivery of local sports administration and grants related courses / sessions eg volunteer recruitment; sports administration / governance; grant writing; promotion; coaching; appropriate club, player and spectator behaviours; access and</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; TAFE; Clubs; Goldfields Region Sports Association	In house	Medium



Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	their skills and operation	<p>inclusion for people of all abilities, age, gender, etc; and how to respond and modify activities in line with broad sport and recreation industry participation trends to attract new players</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in partnership with Sports Focus, local associations and / or state sporting associations to inform clubs about appropriate behaviour and messages</li> <li>• Promote the benefits of Sports Club membership to local sport and recreation organisations and clubs.</li> <li>• Encourage Goldfields Region Sports Association and Sports Focus to link their Sports Star Awards</li> <li>• Work in partnership with Goldfields Region Sports Association to determine the feasibility of establishing a sports administration hub whereby participating clubs contribute a certain amount of money in return for the completion of specific administration tasks</li> </ul>			

Direction	Strategy	Specific Actions	Potential Partners	Indicative Cost	Priority
	5c. To work in partnership with service providers to ensure that clubs are best equipped to deal with changing sport and recreation participation trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with Sports Focus to help clubs modify activities to meet the changing sport and recreation participation trends of the general community and to expand and diversify activities as appropriate</li> </ul>	Council; Sports Focus; Clubs	In house	Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage sport and recreation organisations to prepare Club Development Plans</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	Medium
	5d. To ensure that opportunities exist for clubs to apply for funding to improve their programs, services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and adopt a community support policy regarding the type of assistance Council will provide to clubs / organisations seeking funding for facility upgrades / developments as part of the Recreation Needs Strategy</li> </ul>	Council	In house	High
	5e. To develop innovative solutions to assist clubs to operate more effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage sharing of grounds between clubs</li> </ul>	Council; Clubs	In house	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide access to toilet facilities in another building adjacent to the Croquet Club</li> </ul>	Council; VRI Croquet Club; Clubs	In house	High

### 9.1 Indicative Implementation Costs

Priority	Indicative Cost
High	\$996,500
Medium-high	\$168,000
Medium	\$785,000
Low	\$50,000
Sub-total	\$1,999,500
Plus 20% Contingency	\$399,900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,399,400</b>

## **9.2 Financial Notes**

- The figures above exclude the construction of a synthetic sports surface at MEC (this is likely to cost the community, i.e. Council, MEC and user groups, up to \$500,000 of the \$1 million development, should the proposal be deemed feasible and is supported by Council).
- The figures above exclude the development of certain facilities that are subject to feasibility studies, eg synthetic bowling greens, skate parks, regional shooting facility and specific water initiatives.
- As a result of master plans and sport specific strategies, there is likely to be a range of other initiatives identified, which have not been costed in this report.
- There are certain items in the recommendations section that have not been costed due to the variables involved and the need for further investigation.
- The sale of the former California Gully Oval and possibly Talbot Stadium could also be used to offset some of this expenditure.
- Costs are indicative only and must be confirmed prior to any works occurring.
- These costs, which are based on 2008 prices, do not include project management fees, Council labour, soil testing, architectural fees, service connections and upgrades.
- It is expected that external funding and contributions from user groups will help to fund a number of these strategies.
- Works are dependant on funds being available.

## 10.0 Draft Policies and Tools for Consideration and Further Development

### 10.1 Introduction

Six key areas were identified through the Recreation Needs Strategy planning process that required the development of policies to guide Council's decision making processed. These six areas are:

- Sports Ground Standards
- Fees and Charges
- Water for Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Community support from Council
- Sports Facility Standards
- Capital Works Contributions

It must be noted that these draft policies and tools have been prepared for Central Goldfields Shire as a starting point only. They are described in detail below:

### 10.2 Sports Ground Standards

#### Ground Standards

Underpinning the development of all policies relating to sports grounds is the need to classify grounds according to Industry standards. The following grading has been produced for Central Goldfields Shire Council

- Regional Facility: a very good quality sports ground; premier level ground
- Municipal Facility: a good to medium quality sports ground
- Local Facility: a fair quality sports ground

This table indicates the type of facilities that are likely to be found at Regional, Municipal and Local Grade recreation facilities:

Facility	Regional Grade Ground	Municipal Grade Ground	Local Grade Ground
<b>Playing surface</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Very good standard of playing surface</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good standard of playing surface</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic standard of playing surface</li> </ul>
<b>Change rooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Separate change facilities for each team</li> <li>▪ Lockers</li> <li>▪ Bench seating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Separate change facilities for each team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic change facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Warm up area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Separate warm up area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Warm up area incorporated into change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No warm up area</li> </ul>

Facility	Regional Grade Ground	Municipal Grade Ground	Local Grade Ground
		facilities	
<b>Umpires change room</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate change facilities for male and female umpires</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate change facilities for male and female umpires – basic level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not usually, or shared with players</li> </ul>
<b>Medical rooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>
<b>Massage tables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes – 1-2 tables</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>
<b>Coaches box</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not usually a designated space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>
<b>Media facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic facilities provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>
<b>Timekeepers area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designated space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designated space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a designated space</li> </ul>
<b>Ground lighting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competition level lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training level lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No lighting</li> </ul>
<b>Siren</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes</li> </ul>
<b>Scoreboard</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes</li> </ul>
<b>Public address system</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>
<b>Irrigation system</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automatic irrigation system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automatic or manual irrigation system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Either no system or a manual system</li> </ul>
<b>Underground drainage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited or no underground drainage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited or no underground drainage</li> </ul>
<b>Fencing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully fenced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully fenced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some grounds may have basic fencing</li> </ul>
<b>Car parking facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sealed car parking facilities with parking spaces for people with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less formal unsealed car parking facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic unsealed car parking facilities</li> </ul>

Facility	Regional Grade Ground	Municipal Grade Ground	Local Grade Ground
	disabilities		
<b>Social club rooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good quality social club rooms able to cater for functions of up to 200 patrons.</li> <li>Disabled access.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small social club rooms usually catering for less than 100 patrons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared facilities or no facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Public toilets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient number of public toilets in good condition to cater for anticipated crowd level, i.e. 1:250</li> <li>Disabled / family change toilets available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient number of public toilets to cater for anticipated crowd level, i.e. 1:250</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic public toilets to cater for anticipated crowd level, i.e. 1:250</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket pitch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turf or synthetic cricket pitch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally concrete or synthetic pitch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concrete or synthetic pitch</li> </ul>
<b>Spectator facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grandstand and some undercover shelter around the ground for spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited spectator facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited or no spectator facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Kiosk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One reasonable standard kiosk capable of heating food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic level kiosk with facilities to heat food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes a basic level kiosk with no permanent food heating facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Utilisation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mostly only used for sport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared use with the community when not in use by sport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared use with the community</li> </ul>
<b>Level of competition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District or senior level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local and junior level competitions</li> </ul>
<b>Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of a larger sporting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be a stand alone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be a stand alone</li> </ul>

Facility	Regional Grade Ground	Municipal Grade Ground	Local Grade Ground
	precinct	ground or may form part of a larger park / recreation precinct	ground or may form part of a larger park / recreation precinct
<b>Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public access restricted during games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public access restricted during games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No restrictions of public access</li> </ul>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High level of maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medium level of maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low level of maintenance</li> </ul>
<b>Examples of grounds that should fit within this category</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Princes Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JH Hedges Oval</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moliagal Recreation Reserve</li> </ul>



## 10.3 Recreation Reserve Fees and Charges Policy

### 10.3.1 Introduction

The current system of maintaining sport and recreation reserves varies from reserve to reserve, based on practices that were in place prior to local government amalgamations in the mid 1990's. At some reserves, Council undertakes the majority of works and users are charged a certain amount of money. At others grounds Council may just cut the grass (eg Carisbrook and Deledio (Dunolly) Recreation Reserves; but not at Talbot Recreation Reserve); and at others, committee of management and club members are responsible for all of the work at their own expense.

### Income and Expenditure

In 2007/08 Council allocated an amount of \$399,100 to oval renewal and operation as well as maintenance of recreation area surrounds (this amount is expected to increase to \$415,000 in 2008/09). It anticipated an income level of \$24,620 in 2007/08 and a marginally higher amount in 2008/09. This represents a return of approximately 6%, compared with a fairly standard industry return rate of 15%. None of these amounts includes capital works, depreciation or insurance. The budget does not detail the amount of recurrent funding that each sports facility receives, however it does detail the amount of income expected:

Reserve	Income from Fees
Frank Graham Oval	\$390
Jubilee Oval	\$3,510
Princes Park Oval	\$2,400
Princes Park Complex	\$9,200
JH Hedges Oval	\$2,400
Hockey	\$1,180
Pascoe Reserve	\$2,535
Netball Complex	\$105
Other Reserves	\$2,900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,620</b>

### Benchmarking with Other LGAs

There are a range of different methods used by other LGAs to determine how much their sport and recreation clubs are charged to use facilities, or what level of assistance is provided to assist clubs to maintain the sport and recreation facilities that they lease. The following table provides information on some of the different methods used:

Municipality	Funding and Maintenance Processes
<b>Campaspe</b>	<p>Committees of Management are responsible for their own maintenance</p> <p>Ground Allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Ground - \$19,000</li> <li>• District (population over 1,000) - \$12,500</li> <li>• Town (population under 1,000) - \$11,750</li> <li>• Sub-district / small town - \$3,500</li> <li>• Neighbourhood / boutique - \$600</li> </ul> <p>Water grants are also provided to several Council managed reserves for both raw (\$250 to \$5,000) and town water (\$10,000 to \$17,500)</p>
<b>Wangaratta</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council maintains Council owned reserves in Wangaratta, but doesn't generally provide assistance to grounds outside the town.</li> <li>• Council recoups 15% of maintenance costs for facilities that it maintains in the town.</li> <li>• Council does not charge clubs for using sports grounds outside the town, nor does it provide clubs outside the town with funding to assist with maintenance</li> </ul>
<b>Geelong</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charge relates directly to cost of facility maintenance</li> <li>• A set percentage is recouped</li> <li>• Charges relate directly to quality of facilities and services; nature and pattern of use; the level, quantity and cost of services provided and type of user</li> <li>• Concessions apply for sharing of facilities; introduction of new activities; clubs that undertake their own maintenance; support for young people and people with special needs; and support for newly formed groups</li> <li>• Reserves classified as A, B, C and D standard</li> </ul>
<b>Loddon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loddon Shire is currently reviewing its allocation.</li> <li>• It provides funding to sports grounds to undertake their own works. Council is not responsible for maintenance.</li> <li>• Funding allocations vary from \$250 per annum to small cricket clubs for example, through to \$6,800 to highest grade recreation reserves.</li> </ul>
<b>Corangamite</b>	Township Reserves:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council contributes 18% of operational costs to Category 1 sports reserves, 8% of costs to Category 2 sports reserves, 6% to Category 3 and 3% to Category 4.</li> <li>• Committees of Management retain all income from the hire of the facility</li> <li>• Council pays for building and limited contents insurance</li> <li>• Committee can apply for funds through Council's annual Minor Works Fund</li> </ul> <p>Rural Reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee of Management responsible for all operational and maintenance costs</li> <li>• Committee can apply for funds through Council's annual Minor Works Fund</li> <li>• Council covers the cost of Industrial Special Risk Insurance for all Non-Council Reserve Committees</li> </ul>
<p><b>Port Lincoln (SA)</b></p>	<p>Approach identified in Recreation Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• User groups to pay 15% of maintenance cost of their reserve to Council</li> <li>• Formula should consider number of fields used by each user group, the degree of use, resources used and capacity to pay</li> <li>• Lower fees for juniors and developing sports</li> </ul>

### Potential Models

Council recognises that its system is inequitable and would like to consider alternative options which are more fair and transparent.

Six potential models include:

1. Retain status quo
2. User groups carry out all works, with no financial support from Council – but don't pay any fees
3. Council carries out all maintenance and recoups a percentage of costs from user groups
4. Maintenance is shared by Council and user groups and user groups only pay for works above the set level of basic maintenance
5. Council sets a fee for use of grounds, which reduces if user groups carry out works or meet specific criteria regarding access, inclusion and equity
6. Council instigates a cost contribution policy whereby it provides each reserve with a base rate to assist with maintenance, based on the grade of the ground. Additional funding is provided for each activity on the site. Maintenance is carried out by the Committee, or by council for an agreed fee.

Model 5 has been selected as one option for Central Goldfields Shire Council to consider, as it is based on clear, transparent processes and results in a more fair and equitable distribution of ratepayers money. Under this model, Council could attempt to recoup a certain percentage of actual maintenance costs. In order to encourage

clubs to continue to adopt a self-help attitude and to encourage all members of the community to take part in their activities, a series of discounts will be offered on this percentage rate. This discounted rate will ensure that clubs that are currently undertaking all of their own maintenance will not be disadvantaged financially with the new model, but at the same time will allow Council to implement a fairer user pays system for those clubs who do receive assistance from Council.

### 10.3.2 Policy

**Objective:** To ensure that a fair and equitable system of Council support is provided to sport and recreation facilities throughout the Shire in regards to maintenance.

#### Policy

- Council will recoup 25% of its maintenance costs from user groups of outdoor sport and recreation facilities.
- Maintenance costs will be determined by working out the actual cost to maintain facilities or the average cost of maintaining certain standards of facilities
- The maintenance cost will be increased by CPI each year
- User groups may choose to undertake their own works or to pay the percentage designated by Council if they choose for Council to undertake works
- Discounts will be offered to user groups to encourage a self-help attitude and to encourage a proactive approach to encouraging participation by all sectors of the community:
  - clubs that undertake all of their own maintenance – 20% discount
  - sharing of grounds and social facilities with other groups – 5% discount
  - activities for at least one traditionally disadvantaged group – young people, women, people with disabilities and older adults – 5% discount
  - new physical activity opportunities – 5% discount
- All groups will be responsible for their own utility costs, except for insurance of buildings
- User groups will be permitted to retain all fees received from hire of facilities
- All funds to be paid by the Committee of Management responsible for the reserve / sporting facility quarterly
- User groups will not be credited with additional funds if they have attained more than a 25% discount.
- Where the proposed annual funding fee is more than the organisation already pays, a scaled approach will be used whereby the organisation will pay an additional 3% on top of its current level each year until the appropriate % is reached.
- Where the proposed annual fee is less than the organisation currently pays, it will immediately revert to the lower level.
- All groups will be eligible to apply for minor capital works or program funding through Council's Community Grants Program.

#### Formula

% of Costs for a Certain Facility or Type of Facility

— Discounts

≡ Annual Fee

## **10.4 Sport and Recreation Facility Water Policy**

### **10.4.1 Background**

Central Goldfields Shire has experienced drought conditions and low rainfall conditions for a number of years now. Water storages are at such a point that Stage Four water restrictions have been imposed by Central Highlands Water, disallowing the watering of sports grounds at any time. Whilst water restrictions have been lifted or reduced in many other areas, Central Goldfields Shire Council is one of the few local government authorities still on Stage Four water restrictions. Although the Goldfields Superpipe Ballarat Link traverses through Central Goldfields Shire, the municipality is unable to access any of the water from the pipeline. This is the source of much frustration by the community.

Council's Sustainable Water Use Plan (2006) suggests that Council needs to explore options to develop a \$3 million recycled water ring main in Maryborough for sporting and recreational areas. Such a water ring main would enable Central Highlands Water to direct recycled class A water to selected sport and recreation facilities, as well as the Maryborough Education Precinct, rather than relying on the limited rainfall or the possibility that the use of scarce potable water may one day be permitted again. It is estimated that this water main ring will reduce the volume of potable water used in Maryborough by at least 15% annually. Recycled water is already used to effectively at Princes Park and Maryborough Golf Club.

According to community consultation, the community places great value on green public places and having Lake Victoria filled with water. Such public places have an enormous psychological benefit for residents, particularly as they are not permitted to water their own gardens. There is however, an expectation that water used for irrigation of sport and recreation grounds and the filling of lakes comes from other sustainable sources, rather than potable water.

Other water saving devices or methods to increase availability of water include: rain water tanks, bores, planting of warm season grasses, installation of synthetic surfaces, purchase of temporary water, purchase of permanent water right, development of a water bank or foundation, desalination plant, installation of automatic sprinklers and moisture sensors, etc.

Given council's limited resources, it is not possible for all sports grounds to be connected to recycled water or bores or to be assisted to purchase other water saving devices. Hence a policy has been developed to guide Council's decision making in relation to which sport and recreation facilities will receive priority for water assistance.

### **10.4.2 Policy**

#### **Objective**

To assist Council to prioritise the type of assistance it is able to offer sport and recreation facilities in the Shire in order to access a reliable source of water or to reduce the amount of water required to maintain the facility.

## **Policy**

Council will consider offering assistance to facilities to secure a reliable source of water or to reduce their need for water according to the following criteria (subject to cost and subject to a reasonable funding contribution from user groups and external funding bodies):

Regional (premier) standard sports grounds / fields / courts:

- will receive priority for access to recycled water
- will receive priority for purchase of permanent water right
- will receive priority for temporary water should a water bank be established
- will receive priority for assistance with the development of synthetic surfaces, providing that it can demonstrate high community use and the involvement of one or more partners
- will all be planted with warm season grasses
- will all have automatic watering systems and moisture sensors installed
- will all have water tanks installed to harvest rain water for drinking purposes or irrigation
- will all be fitted with water saving shower heads in change facilities

Municipal standard sports grounds / fields / courts:

- will have the opportunity to apply for temporary water should a water bank be established
- will all be planted with warm season grasses
- will all have watering systems installed
- will all have water tanks installed to harvest rain water for drinking purposes or irrigation
- will all be fitted with water saving shower heads in change facilities
- will receive assistance with the sinking of bores
- will receive assistance with the construction of water storing devices such as dams

Local standard sports grounds / fields / courts:

- will all have water tanks installed to harvest rain water for drinking purposes or irrigation
- will all be fitted with water saving shower heads in change facilities
- will receive assistance with the sinking of bores
- will receive assistance with the construction of water storing devices such as dams

Potential Water Saving Measures Supported* by Council	Grade of Facility		
	Regional	Municipal	Local
Access to recycled water (if available)	✓		
Access to temporary water from water bank or other sources (if available)	✓	✓	
Purchase of permanent water right	✓		
Assistance with development of synthetic surfaces	✓		
Planted with warm season grasses	✓	✓	✓
Automatic watering systems installed	✓		
Efficient watering systems installed		✓	
Moisture sensors installed	✓		
Assistance with sinking of bores		✓	✓
Water tanks installed	✓	✓	✓
Water saving AAA shower heads installed in change rooms	✓	✓	✓
Assistance with construction of dams		✓	✓
Recycling of water from clubrooms and change facilities	✓	✓	✓

\* Supported does not necessarily mean that Council will provide financial support, but rather, may provide in principle support or written support to funding applications to external agencies. The exception to the table above is that synthetic surfaces will also be considered for Bowling Clubs, which are generally rated in Central Goldfields Shire as municipal grade facilities. Clubs or user groups may choose to access water or water saving systems outside the range of their grading. Council will not discourage such initiatives, but is unlikely to be able to assist financially, due to limited resources.

## 10.5 Community Funding and Support

### 10.5.1 Background

The majority of local government authorities in Victoria provide some form of community grants program which is accessible to community based clubs and organisations to undertake specific projects, run events or to upgrade facilities in order to improve the community in which they operate. The Community Grants Program that currently operates in Central Goldfields Shire has a total funding pool of \$5,330, with maximum grant of \$500 available. Each year this funding program is oversubscribed. Council also provides ongoing funding to a number of other groups for events and programs.

The following table lists details of a number of other local government community grants programs in Victoria:

LGA	Grants	Details
<b>Bass Shire Council</b>	Maximum \$5,000 for minor capital works. Total funding pool: \$190,000 (\$50,000 is for community grants)	3 categories: general community (\$50,000); special events (\$40,000); minor capital works grants (\$100,000).
<b>Northern Grampians</b>	Between \$500 to \$5,000	2 categories: community development and community infrastructure
<b>Loddon Shire</b>	Maximum \$5,000 – on a \$ for \$ basis	Not for recurring costs or participant costs (eg uniforms). Must benefit community.
<b>Corangamite</b>	\$ for \$ basis. Up to \$2,000	Funds for equipment, new programs, planning, events, cultural activities and cultural acquisitions
<b>Greater Bendigo</b>	Maximum grant of \$3,000	Funds community assistance, community events, environment and cultural (usually recreation, but not in last round)
<b>Pyrenees</b>	Maximum grant of \$1,500	Two funding rounds each year. Priorities: meet an identified need; clear community benefit; matching contribution; encourages community group to broaden their role in the community.
<b>Swan Hill</b>	Maximum grant of \$1,500 under Category 1 on a \$	Category 1 – minor upgrades, OH&S / risk issues, new programs, events, high needs



	for \$ basis; and \$200 under Category 2. Funding pool of \$30,000.	groups; Category 2 – activities, events and high needs groups – ongoing funding program
<b>Warrnambool</b>	Maximum amount of \$3,000 on a \$2 from Council to \$1 from community organisation basis. Funding pool of \$57,500.	3 Categories: sport and recreation, cultural activities, events. Priorities: increased opportunities, participation, community benefit, economic activity (for events only)

## 10.5.2 Policy

### Objective:

To provide funding and support to assist local clubs and organisations on a case by case basis, subject to external funding being available, to develop opportunities to improve sport, recreation and cultural programs, services and facilities in their local community for the benefit of all, based on community need. Funded activities will strengthen the community, increase participation in activities (including physical activity) and result in increased usage of facilities and programs.

### Policy:

Priority will be given to projects that

- reflect or are included in Council’s policies and strategies, including the recreation planning principles:
  - Community strengthening and connectedness
  - Multi use of facilities
  - Access and equity
  - Community benefit
  - Diversity and choice
  - Support for Volunteers
  - Sustainability
  - Value for money
  - Partnerships
- respond to a demonstrated need
- contribute to community strengthening
- involve partnerships and a range of stakeholders
- demonstrate a clear benefit to the Central Goldfields community – social, physical, economic and environmental
- provide an opportunity for skill development by local people
- demonstrate how they intend to increase or maintain participation by the local community
- demonstrate innovation, best practice and value for money
- maximise use of facilities or programs
- provide opportunities to increase the capacity of sport and recreation organisations
- improve access for traditionally disadvantaged groups
- incorporate innovative and environmentally sustainable designs and practices

- have all costs (including life cycle costs and operational costs) and contributions (cash or in-kind) confirmed
- consider safety and risk management issues
- are well planned and can be completed within the designated timeframe
- identify an appropriate group of people to manage the project

**What type of Projects will be Eligible for Funding** (partially based on Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Facility Funding Program Guidelines<sup>9</sup>):

- Programs that encourage participation in physical activity
- Program and meeting space
- Provision of disability access
- Change facilities for junior or female use
- Shared paths and tracks
- Open space development
- Sports surface development
- Projects promoting efficient and sustainable use of Victoria's natural resources for community sport and recreation facilities
- Projects for young people, such as festivals, come and try days, playgrounds, skate parks or BMX tracks
- Projects and programs encouraging interaction of all age groups including come and try days, festivals, joint-use facilities, associated facilities and programs for families and carers e.g. family cycling program, toilets, change rooms, seating, shade etc.
- Requests for the purchase of equipment that is essential to a program
- Upgrading or redeveloping kitchen facilities and/or toilet facilities to meet health, safety or access requirements

NB: The final two dot points are not generally funded by SRV's Community Facility Funding Program.

**What type of Projects won't be Eligible for Funding** (based on Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Facility Funding Program Guidelines<sup>10</sup>):

- Requests for retrospective funding, where projects have commenced or are completed prior to receiving funding approval
- The purchase of land
- Projects that require ongoing funding or support other than the initial grant
- Routine or cyclical maintenance works to existing facilities
- Facilities where little or no public access is available
- Applications where the recipient organisation/s receive revenue from electronic gaming machines
- Areas designated for gaming machine operations within a proposed facility
- In general, areas designated as licensed areas within a proposed facility
- Facilities where the primary function is rehabilitative or therapeutic rather than recreational will be afforded a lower priority
- Repair of facilities damaged by vandalism, fire or other natural disasters where the act should be covered by insurance
- Requests for ongoing operational costs such as, but not limited to, electricity, water and other utilities

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<sup>9</sup> Sport and Recreation Victoria – “Community Facility Funding Program 2009/2009 – Guidelines and Application Form for Community Organisations” (2008)

<sup>10</sup> Ibid

- Requests for salary subsidies
- Community transport or any other type of vehicle
- Organisations that have failed to complete any previous projects funded by Council without demonstrating sufficient cause

Applications for funding will only be accepted on the official application form, signed by the Chairperson of the relevant committee of management, with all supporting material included

Community groups will match the funding sought from Council on a Council \$2:\$1 Local basis. The community contribution may take the form of cash alone or a combination of cash and in-kind contributions (up to 25% of total project costs).

## **10.6 Sports Facility Standards Policy**

### **10.6.1 Background**

Most international, national or state sporting bodies develop a set of standards that apply to the recommended dimensions and characteristics of their specific facility type. Whilst some fields / courts / pitches that are not built exactly to recommended dimensions are still in use, there is increasing demand that fields / courses / pitches comply with the recommended standards of sports facilities at all levels as a safety issue. Some state sporting bodies restrict the playing of games or finals if fields / courts / pitches do not meet recommended guidelines. The dilemma for Council is balancing its limited resources against the requirement to upgrade facilities.

### **10.6.2 Policy**

#### **Objective:**

To ensure that sport and recreation facilities in Central Goldfields Shire meet industry regulations in relation to sports ground dimensions and characteristics, to provide a safe playing environment for participants, wherever feasible.

#### **Policy:**

- That all sport and recreation facilities used within Central Goldfields Shire Council comply with recommended standards of dimensions and characteristics as set by their governing body.
- That facilities are upgraded to meet industry standards in a rolled out process, i.e. commencing with regional standard facilities then gradually to municipal and local standard facilities.

## **10.7 Capital Works Contribution Policy**

### **10.7.1 Background**

In order to ensure that Council, in partnership with clubs, continues to upgrade sport and recreation facilities, and so that limited resources can be allocated in a fair and equitable manner, it is important that a capital works assessment tool is developed. Such a system will allow Council to prioritise any applications for funding or any potential works identified. A set percentage of contribution by Council, Clubs (as a combination of cash and in-kind) and external funding providers needs to be considered in the development of this policy.

### **10.7.2 Policy**

**Objective:**

To provide assistance to clubs and organisations to work in partnership with Council to improve existing facilities and to develop new facilities that will benefit the wider community.

**Policy:**

That all potential capital works proposals will be rated against the Capital Works Assessment Tool in order to determine Council priorities for funding and development. The Capital Works Assessment Tool has been developed incorporating the proposed Recreation Planning Principles:

CAPITAL WORKS ASSESSMENT TOOL

