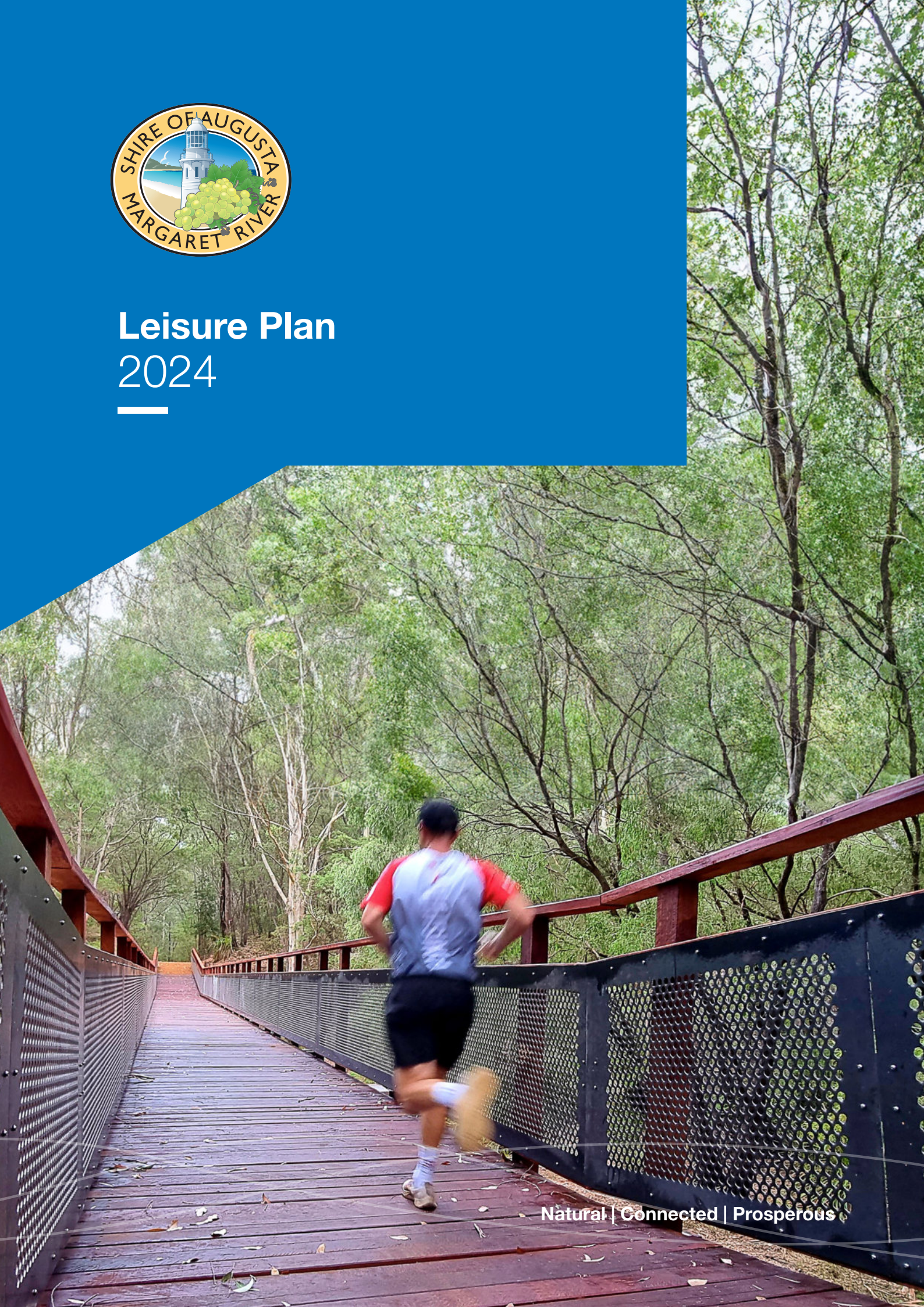




Leisure Plan 2024



Natural | Connected | Prosperous

Alignment with Community Strategic Plan

This document relates to all key result areas (KRA) of the Strategic Community Plan 2040.

Adoption & Endorsement

Endorsed by Council at its meeting on the 24 April 2024.





Acknowledgment of Country

Kaya, Nala Maat Kaya Noonduk (Hello, Our Family Welcomes You) to Wadandi Boodja (Saltwater People’s Country) – we all come together on Boodja (Country). Whilst on Wadandi Boodja we ask that you respect the land by walking softly and take the time to listen to Boodja as she Wongi (Talks).

We respect the presence of the Demmala Goomala (Ancestors) whose Djanga (Spirits) reside on Boodja and whose djenna (feet) walk the land and whose Djanga Korda (heart spirit) flows through all creation.

Wooditup (Margaret River) is the heart of Wadandi Boodja (country), a meeting place between land and sea, connecting us all with Wadandi Boodja.

The Wadandi Boodja (Motherland) reaches from Bunbury, along the coast of Geographe Bay, extending to Yallingup (Place of Holes) to Talinup, Augusta (Place of Reeds) inland to Nannup (The Stopping Place), taking in the region of Undalup (Busselton) The Wadan Boodja (Sea Country) is of great spiritual significance to the coastal Wadandi people.

Boodja – Land, Country, Mother Earth – is our most important resource. No matter what culture or religion – all of us rely on Nala Boodja, Our Country.

It is up to all of us to listen to the land, understand the connection to Country that we all have and realise how urgent it is to work together to make better decisions on how we can create that balance, ensuring sustainability for the generations to come, in order to protect and preserve the beauty of Boodja.

“Whilst living, travelling, visiting and holidaying on Wadandi Boodja (Saltwater People’s Country) we ask that you respect the area and walk softly on the country, taking the time to listen to Boodja (Country) as she Wongi (Talks) of the Season, and leave nothing but footprints”.

Wadandi Traditional Cultural Custodian Wayne “Wonitji” Webb.

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Executive Summary

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River is not your average place. It is a beautiful, environmentally significant, diverse and sometimes rugged environment that offers residents and visitors an exceptional range of opportunities for active living. These qualities of the Shire and opportunities provide a wonderful environment to play which amongst other factors, draws significant numbers of new residents and tourists to the area every year. Leisure opportunities are a key predictor of physical and psychological health in the community. Providing opportunities for people to enjoy their leisure and ensuring that infrastructure facilitates these needs in an appropriate and financially sustainable manner is the purpose of this Leisure Plan. The community enjoys this environment in different ways and the Leisure Plan addresses both active (sporting and exercise based) and passive (sedentary) forms of leisure.

Ordinary planning for facilities is a largely mathematical exercise, however the Shire is a collection of geographically separated settlements that introduces considerations such as distance and unique environmental and demographic factors in these separate places. These places are diverse in their pressures and needs for leisure facilities that require a tailored approach to infrastructure provision, maintenance and the associated services that follow. This Leisure Plan has involved significant consideration of the issues of growth, distance between facilities, the diversity of population types and the specific needs of each community. These demands have been placed in context of the ability to responsibly fund facilities.

The Leisure Plan is a combination of two significant and related bodies of work:

1. The assessment of current and projected demands for Public Open Space (POS), detailed in the POS Strategy included as Attachment 1. The POS Strategy sets out the requirements for the provision of future land and basic infrastructure on that land to cater for the Leisure

needs of the community. This includes an analysis of standards, where current shortfalls might exist and how an ideal future POS provision can be achieved. The POS Strategy informs the Leisure Plan in terms of providing the land required and is a separate document for the purpose of also forming a future addendum to the Local Planning Strategy.



2. The Leisure Plan is the overarching document that explores the facilities and services required to be developed on land, including POS, to meet the Leisure requirements of the existing and future community. The Leisure Plan includes a detailed assessment of trends in Leisure, the particular characteristic of each place in the Shire, and the Shire's ability to pay for facilities and details the key projects and actions that will be undertaken through to 2036 to meet these needs.

Key findings of the Leisure Plan are:

- Gaps in the provision of play facilities identified through the POS Strategy.
- An under supply of outdoor courts and spatial distribution in Margaret River.
- Pressure on playing fields in Margaret River through high use, with the provision of supporting sports infrastructure required to increase capacity of underutilised active recreation reserves.
- Shire operated amenities require upgrades to meet minimum standards of provision and demand, including modern standards for accessibility and addressing the increase in female participation in organised sport.
- Leased sports clubrooms provision to be captured through asset renewal program, club and peak body initiatives and funding, with Shire support.
- Changing patterns of play require transition of tennis courts to multi-use courts.
- High relative levels of provision of community halls that play a significant role in community cohesion due to distance between facilities.

Specific recommendations are identified to address these findings. These recommendations include assumptions of funding to inform the Shire's Long Term Financial Plan and are broadly described under three key action categories:

Recommendations and Key Action Categories	
KAC1	<p>Community Recreation and Sport Facility Provision and Planning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Setting and implementing a hierarchy of leisure facilities (Table 5). 2. Undertaking detailed pre-planning for priority projects, including master planning. 3. Building partnerships with peak bodies, government departments and external facility providers.
KAC2	<p>Sustainable Clubs and Facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support clubs and associations to develop strategic plans and governance arrangements. 2. Implement programs and initiatives to remove barriers to participation. 3. Review and develop operational procedures for Shire facilities. 4. Introduce key programs at the Recreation centres.
KAC3	<p>Future Requirements: Community Recreation and Sport Facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing capacity of outdoor court provision. 2. Increasing capacity of playing fields. 3. Upgrades and additions of sporting amenities. 4. Fostering shared use of facilities and reserves.

Introduction

This Leisure Plan defines the facilities necessary to realise a high-quality natural, built and social environment in the Shire from now through the planning period to 2036. The plan focuses on Shire owned and managed facilities that are used by residents, workers and visitors to the region. These broadly include:

- Active leisure facilities, which can be thought of as sport and recreation facilities. The approach to the provision of land and basic infrastructure to support these facilities through the planning period is also defined in detail in the Public Open Space Strategy included as Attachment 1.
- Passive leisure facilities, which include facilities for culture, arts, community information and community meeting spaces (such as community centres and community halls)

Facilities provided privately or by other levels of Government are not part of the scope for this plan.

Community infrastructure facilities and POS operated under management arrangements through associations such as community halls, reserves, and residents associations on behalf of the Shire have also been included in the assessment of facility provision and planning.

There are a number of school facilities within the region which have been included in the consideration of leisure facility provision on a case-by-case basis subject to suitability, sport standards, and surety of public access. Formalised shared use agreements between Department of Education school sites and the Shire have been included as part of the provision analysis, as the Shire has the opportunity for upgrades, renewal, and operational management of facilities per shared use agreements.

This Leisure Plan sits within a range of strategies, plans, policies, guidelines and other considerations that influence planning for these facilities and how the Leisure Plan is used. These factors can be considered as:

- Contextual, as the Leisure Plan is informed by previous planning, projections for the growth of population and the changing demands and objectives for leisure activities.

- The role and purpose, as in ensuring the Leisure Plan is relevant and meaningfully integrated into future decisions, planning, resourcing and investment for the betterment of the community.
- Guiding principles, as the distillation of previous consultation, policy and statutory requirements that guide particular outcomes.



The Context

A significant body of relevant work has occurred that is illustrated in Figure 1. This context includes:

- Integrated planning – the strategic direction of the Shire built from the Strategic Community Plan 2036 and implemented through the Corporate Plan and Annual Budget. The integrated planning process defines broader community objectives and guides financial and resourcing priorities.
- Spatial planning – plans that guide how the future of public and private development will occur and range from higher order policy and statutory documents; the Local Planning Strategy and Local Planning Scheme, to the POS Strategy and the following local plans for specific facilities.
- Facilities planning – a range of previous facilities planning has been undertaken including the formal adoption of standards for service provision through Amendment 35 to the Local Planning Scheme which set out the Shire’s Development Contribution arrangements.
- External drivers – strategic plans for specific sporting codes, documented industry standards and the objectives of local organisers and providers of leisure activities. A discussion of the relevance of the key informing documents is included in Appendix 3. In addition, broader trends in leisure are at play as the way that people play evolves with technology and social change. These broader trends are described in Appendix 4.



Figure 1: The context of the Leisure Plan

The Role and Purpose

The outcome presented in the Leisure Plan results in review and update of the following documents for the Shire:

- Community Infrastructure Plan (CIP)
- Public Open Space Strategy (POS Strategy)
- Informing review of the Development Contribution Plan
- Informing the Forward Capital Works Plan and Long Term Financial Plan.
- Defining a Sport and Recreational Facility Strategy
- Assisting to define and levels of service for facility provision.

Collectively these documents guide the specific needs of the people that do and will live work and play in the Shire. The Plan details actions to ensure the right facilities are provided in the right place, at the right time. The context of the Leisure Plan in the Shire’s integrated planning process is shown in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2: Integrated Planning and the Leisure Plan

The Guiding Principles

Relevant guiding principles for leisure planning arise from previous detailed community engagement exercises and corporate direction for the Shire. These principles are embodied within documents such as the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Plan, Local Planning Strategy, Asset Management Plan and associated policy. These key principles of relevance are:

Collaboration

Engagement with key stakeholders and the wider community is critical to informing the future direction of facility requirements. Collaborating on facility identification, design and delivery means actively involving residents, sporting clubs, community groups, and other relevant stakeholders in these processes. By seeking input and feedback from the community, this plan and its implementation can better reflect needs, aspirations, and preferences.

Sustainable Clubs and Facilities

Working in partnership to ensure the sustainability of clubs and facilities entails establishing a consistent and justifiable method to fund, construct, maintain, renew, and activate facilities. By adopting a sustainable approach, the plan aims to maximise the use of both new and existing facilities, ensuring their long-term viability and benefit to the community. This also requires exploration of opportunities for clubs to raise funds through a variety of methods.

The Guiding Principles contd.

Shared Use facilities

Sustainability and financial diligence require encouragement of shared use facilities, which can also provide facilities for clubs that may not be viable in their own right. This involves maximising the usage of facilities and rationalising costs to achieve the best possible value. Where appropriate, the plan encourages co-location, joint provision, and shared use of sport, recreation, and community facilities. This approach optimises resource allocation, fosters collaboration between different user groups, and promotes efficiency in facility utilisation.

Place Based Community Facility and Provision Hierarchy – Facilities for Catchments

The location of facilities is based on the principles of efficiency in the distribution of land use, i.e., that the location of facilities are close to where people live and work as possible reduces travel, emissions and time, and therefore supports the utility of these facilities.

To link demand with the efficient provision of facilities requires establishment of a contextualised hierarchy of community and recreation facilities, referenced to industry guidelines and adapted to the context of demographics, trends, and leisure participation in the Shire. This hierarchy helps prioritise the allocation of resources and determines the types of facilities needed at the regional, district, local, and neighbourhood levels. The hierarchical approach assists to identify catchments for facilities, where growth will result in demand for new facilities and the associated provision of facilities in association with development and growth.

Consistent Provision Standards

The plan establishes provision standards for community infrastructure and recreation facilities. These standards serve as benchmarks for facility development and requirements, ensuring that the provision of infrastructure meets the identified needs of the community. They guide the planning and design of future facilities. They also ensure that consistent, measured decisions can be made about the fair and equitable distribution of the community's resources.

Financial Responsibility

The Shire's Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan and Forward Capital Works Plan all identify consistent themes of the limited capacity of the Shire to fund maintenance and renewal of existing assets and the need to carefully consider renewal options including disposal of assets to reduce maintenance obligations. In this context the expansion of facilities needs to be carefully considered against the capacity to pay and the actual use and demand for those facilities. The financial implications of significant new facilities need to be individually tested through sound financial analysis. contributions are ordinarily relaxed where larger lot sizes are proposed. This is particularly relevant for areas coded R5 and lower, as well as rural residential areas.

Maintenance, Renewal and Growth-Related Demand for Expansion

The costs of providing facilities can be considered as maintenance (ongoing investment to keep facilities fit for purpose), renewal (the costs of rebuilding a facility once it has reached the end of its useful life), and expansion (where new facilities, or increased facilities at the time of renewal; are provided to meet increases in demand or a currently unmet need). In general terms these are funded in the following ways:

- Maintenance – these ongoing costs to provide a service to the community are generally funded through municipal income. The running costs of facilities are undertaken by their occupants, with major structural maintenance undertaken by either the sporting groups that have tenure of a building or by the Shire where a facility is available to the wider community.
- Renewal – these costs are most often met by municipal funds for Shire owned facilities.
- Expansion – these either new facilities or facilities expanding capacity are funded through municipal funds where an existing shortcoming is being addressed, or through grants, Shire investment and contributions from development for growth related demand. For the latter, the principle is that development will be charged to fund the growth-related demands for new facilities given that the existing community shouldn't meet the costs of providing facilities for new residents. the catchments distances provided in LN for guidance.

The Methodology

The process for development of the Leisure Plan is through:

- Analysis of background information including previous relevant adopted and draft Shire plans, strategies, policies, state/national sporting association strategies, industry trends, industry guideline strategies. This incorporates an assessment of facilities and audit of community infrastructure within the Shire to identify gaps and opportunities. This assessment serves as the basis for identifying the needs and requirements for the renewal, upgrade, and development of community infrastructure. By understanding the current state of infrastructure, the plan can effectively address any gaps or deficiencies.
- Research of local and state trends, participation rates, Shire facility usage, demographics, and population projections.
- Targeted Engagement through comprehensive community and key stakeholder consultation
- Needs analysis to detail, review, and inform a contextualised community and recreation facilities hierarchy and provision standards. This includes review of demands and the manner in which these can be met in a financially responsible manner, the capacity for shared use and efficiency and the changing demographics and participation rates in particular leisure activities.
- Development of a draft Leisure Plan for consultation, wide engagement, refinement, and adoption.



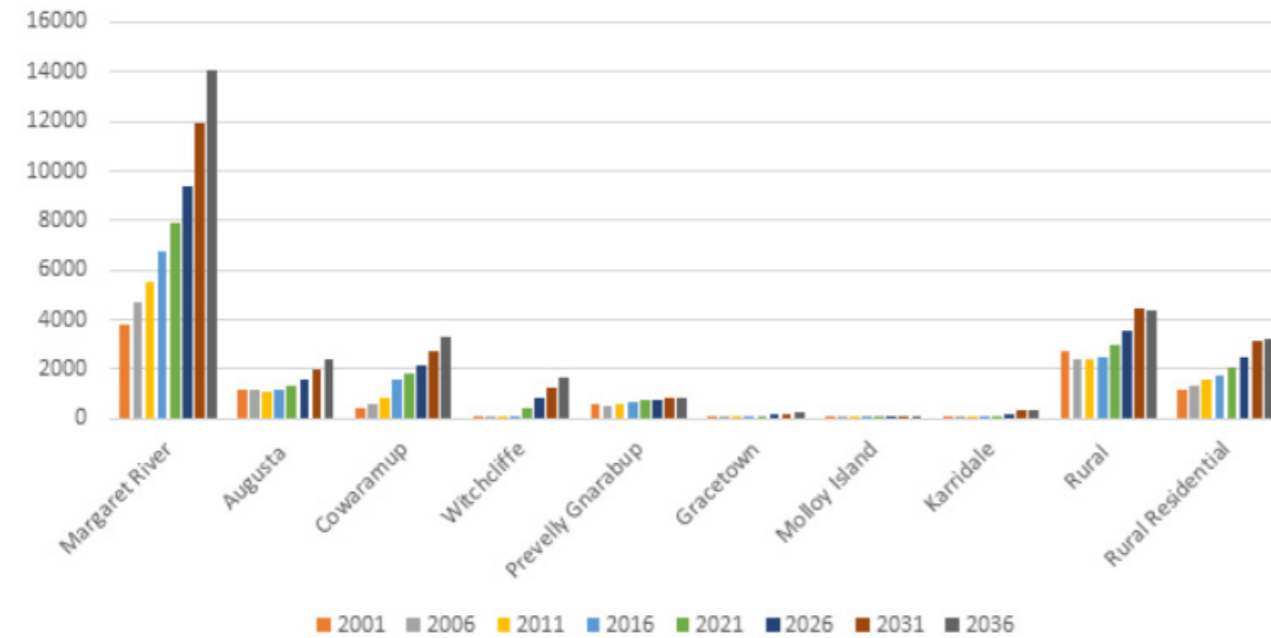
Projected Growth and Change

Growth and Demographics

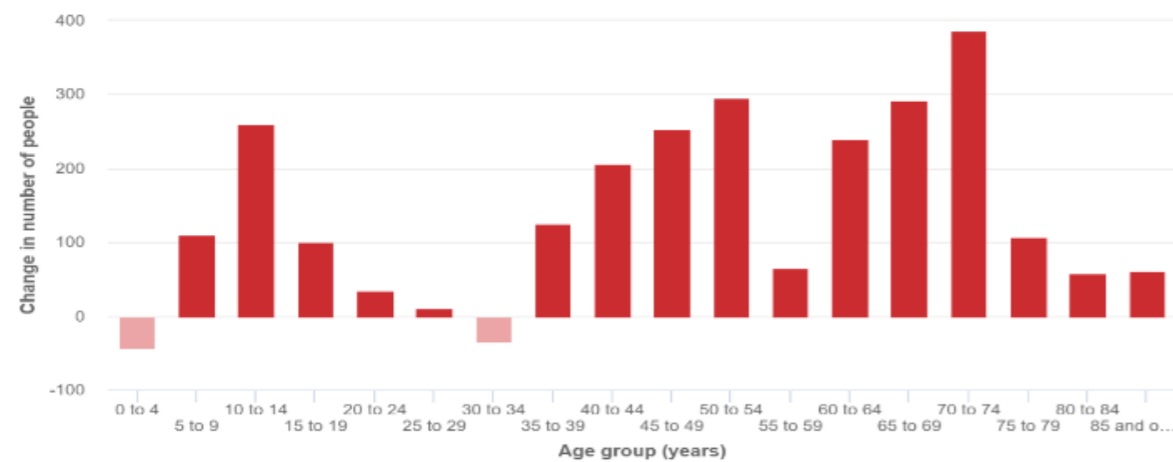
As of 2021, the estimated residential population of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River reached 17,130 individuals, marking a growth of 426 people compared to the previous year. This indicates a 2.6% increase from the population recorded in 2020. The Shire has consistently experienced significant growth, with an average annual growth rate of 3.43% between 2001 and 2021, placing it among the regions with the highest growth rates in the state.

Looking towards the future, projections suggest that the Shire's population will range from 27,008 to 31,196 people by the year 2036. To aid in planning, the Local Planning Strategy (LPS) utilises Scenario '1' as the basis, which represents the most probable population projection (band C) provided by the State demographer. However, it is important to approach this projection with caution when considering it in isolation. It should be noted that the actual population in 2021 has already surpassed the projected population in Scenario A for the year 2020.

Annualised Overall Growth



Change in Age Structure - five year age groups, 2016 - 2021



Growth and Demographics contd.

With a high volume of children aged between 10 to 14 years, it is important to identify the high participation of this age bracket in local junior organised sport and informal sport and recreational pursuits. While the current cohort in this bracket will age over time, it is likely that the primary drivers of the proportionally large group of older children will remain. This is an important in the current situational analysis of existing community and sport facility provision.

It is also important to note the high volume of our aging population in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. This is an important consideration in relation to the types of activities provided through the Community Sport and Recreation team, such as low impact health and wellness programs, walking sports, social connections through physical activity. In an infrastructure context, it is important to identify that facilities need to be accessible, including design consideration of current and new facilities, access to walking trails, swimming facilities, and other informal recreational pursuits.

The LPS implements a central place type model with population growth principally in the Margaret River townsite with smaller settlements offering different living opportunities to accommodate future growth pressures. Accordingly, growth is spread through these settlements and assumed to follow the projections outlined below:

Location	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036
Margaret River	3826	4713	5549	6717	7919	9396	11937	14038
Augusta	1153	1147	1053	1131	1326	1573	1998	2371
Cowaramup	395	620	821	1580	1831	2173	2761	3276
Witchcliffe	47	48	54	93	400	815	1278	1660
Prevelly/Gnarabup	604	525	554	690	723	788	827	830
Gracetown	130	112	119	116	121	180	217	220
Molloy Island	103	128	125	113	117	121	130	132
Karridale	28	30	30	30	120	210	333	340
Rural	2731	2384	2377	2457	2965	3518	4470	4400
Rural Residential	1170	1345	1546	1760	2093	2484	3155	3200
Total	10,187	11,052	12,228	14,687	17,615	21,258	27,105	32,503

Population
2021 ERP

17,130



Average annual growth rate 2011-2021



Families
4,304

Median Age
(Australian 38)

42

Active Leisure Trends

Appendix 4 details the major trends in leisure and the implications for facility provision. These include:

- **Growing popularity in sports and recreation.**
- **Female participation in organised sport** – there continues to be an underrepresentation of females in organised sport which can be in part attributed to non-facility based factors such as differing motivations for participation. There is however, a sustained and significant increase in participation rates, particularly in female Australian Rules Football and cricket. Facility provision is not at pace with these changes in participation rates in terms of provision of changing and ablution facilities.
- **Greater emphasis on the development of sporting hubs and shared use facilities.** The rising cost of infrastructure provision, maintenance and management has made single use facilities unsustainable in many instances. Sporting groups are being urged to consider the financial sustainability and wider community benefits associated with the shared use of facilities.
- **Sustainability** – the Shire is a leader in sustainable development and climate action with a target of net zero for Shire emissions by 2030. Significantly reduced resource consumption and efficiency in facility provision will be key to striving for this objective.
- **Evolution of design consideration** – facilities should be designed and constructed for shared use and acknowledgement of principles of equitable access and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Approaches to accessibility, gender and useability result in significantly different new buildings and requirements for adaptation of older facilities.
- **Efficiency** making productive use of the assets available and being measured and prudent in investment decisions. In addition, ensuring modern and effective management systems can optimise the booking and use of facilities in peak seasons, assist in delaying investment timing, and introduce consequential opportunity cost benefits.



Local Participation in Active Leisure

The Ausplay Survey, conducted by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) captures the latest sport and physical recreation participation trends. Participation in sport and physical activity has increased overall in the last two decades with more adults participating more frequently compared to 2001 (AusPlay 2022)

The participation in physical activities among Western Australians can be categorised into various top activities detailed in Table 1:

Participation	State (WA)	Participation	AMR Shire
Walking (Recreational)	34.4%	Walking (Recreational)	34.6%
Fitness/Gym	29.2%	Swimming	30.7%
Swimming	19.4%	Fitness/Gym	25.5%
Running/Athletics	14.3%	Surfing	19.1%
Cycling	11.3%	Cycling	11.0%
Football/soccer	6.0%	Golf	6.0%
Basketball	5.2%		
Yoga	4.6%		
Tennis	4.1%		

Table 1: Ausplay Survey Top Ten Activities (State WA and AMR Shire)







While Australian adults tend to engage in sports for longer durations, non-sport related physical activities are more frequently pursued. Women are more inclined to participate in sports or physical activities for the purpose of physical and mental health. Conversely, men are motivated more by fun and enjoyment, as well as social reasons.

For adults up to middle-age, the primary barrier to participating in sports or physical activities is time pressure, followed by poor health or injury as additional factors. In the case of children, sport clubs serve as the primary avenue for promoting physical activity, except for children aged 0-4, who are more likely to engage in physical activities through other organisations.










Structured sport is not the predominant choice for adult participation in sports or physical activities in Australia. According to the latest available data from 2019, 58% of the adult population participates through informal sport and recreation activities, while only 22% participate through sports clubs or associations.

The below table depicts the Western Australian participation statistics in organised sport, measured against the received data from Shire of AMR Clubs and Associations. It should be noted that not all local Clubs and Associations submitted data. The trend indicator represents where local participation sits against state participation.

Top Sports	State (WA) 2022	AMR Shire 2022/23	Trend	Notes
Football (AFL)	4.1%	3.8%		Not all Clubs submitted numbers
Basketball	2.7%	3.8%		Significant increase
Cricket	2.0%	1.9%		Near state average
Football/soccer	3.4%	1.8%		Football Australia predict 20% increase

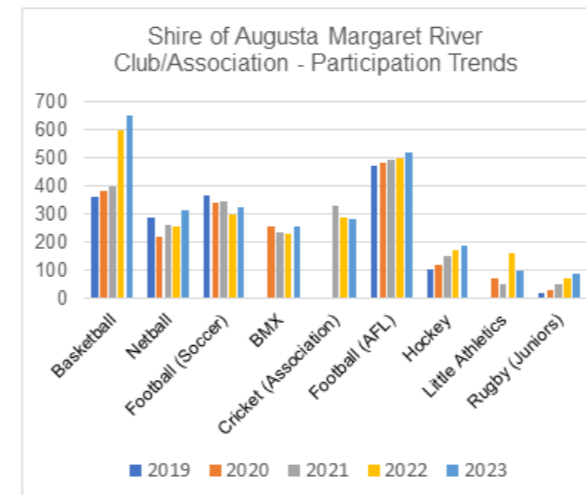
Netball	2.5%	1.8%		Below state but trending upwards
Tennis	2.4%	1.6%		Not all Clubs submitted numbers
BMX	<1.0%	1.3%		Increase in Augusta
Hockey	2.0%	1.0%		Below state but trending upwards
Running/athletics	1.0%	0.5%		Volunteer driven
Rugby	<1.0%	0.6%		Juniors trending upwards
Swimming	1.4%	Not provided		Data not available

The below tables depict the participation trends for local clubs and associations within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, however it should be noted the data below is shown only for clubs and associations that submitted current and historical registration numbers.

Top Sports	2023 numbers	2019 - 23 % change	Trend	Notes
Basketball	650	80.5%		Significant increase and uptrend
Netball	315	9.3%		Continued steady growth
Football/soccer	325	-10.9%		Near state average
Cricket	284	-14.4%		Football Australia predict 20% increase
Rugby (Juniors)	70	133.3%		Below state but trending upwards
BMX	255	-1.92%		Not all Clubs submitted numbers
Football (AFL)	520	10.1%		Increase in Augusta
Hockey	190	80.9%		Below state but trending upwards
Little athletics	97	31%		Volunteer driven

Local Active Participation Analysis

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River has seen significant growth in the sport of basketball, and the rates of participation sit notably higher than the West Australian participation rates. Most Traditional mainstream sports sit at or close to the state averages, except for soccer and netball. Netball within the Shire is a very popular sport and has been largely affected by court availability, whereas soccer is extremely popular across the metropolitan region which reflects a lower participation rate in the Shire.



There are a variety of active leisure facilities that are difficult to quantify in terms of participant numbers. Surfing, mountain biking and walking are all activities with significant participant numbers, all of which require facilities in various forms to facilitate their use. What is clear is that participant numbers in these activities are growing significantly, requiring ongoing purposefully designed investment to match user requirements.

Local Participation in Passive Leisure

The Shire's role in the provision of passive leisure facilities is found in the libraries, community halls, and arts and cultural facilities the Shire provides. The provision of these facilities exceed typical provision ratios and while well utilised, they present a significant maintenance obligation. These facilities are however, critical to the community's leisure requirements, access to services and contribution to community wellbeing.

Libraries

For library services more broadly in WA:

- There was an 11% increase in the number of loans of online resources, with a corresponding decrease in loans of physical items (3%).
- A quarter of all loans are now online resources (24%, up from 21% last year).
- Public libraries offered more programs and events (38%), both in person and online, that attracted more participants across age ranges (14%).

In the Shire:

- 81,320 people visited our libraries.
- 25 – 40% of people who visited checked out an item.
- 126,404 items were physically checked out.
- 34,116 items were checked out online.
- 60%+ were doing something else at the libraries.

The Shire operates a library in Margaret River and a smaller library branch in Augusta. The Margaret River Library is open for public use 6 days per week (Monday – Saturday). The smaller library in Augusta is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Previous consultation on facility provision included feedback that the Augusta Library was considered constrained in size.

Community Halls

Community halls are generally designated community buildings that can be used or hired by the local community for community events, functions and programs. They are generally community focal points for community interaction and are important to the development of the social fabric of communities.

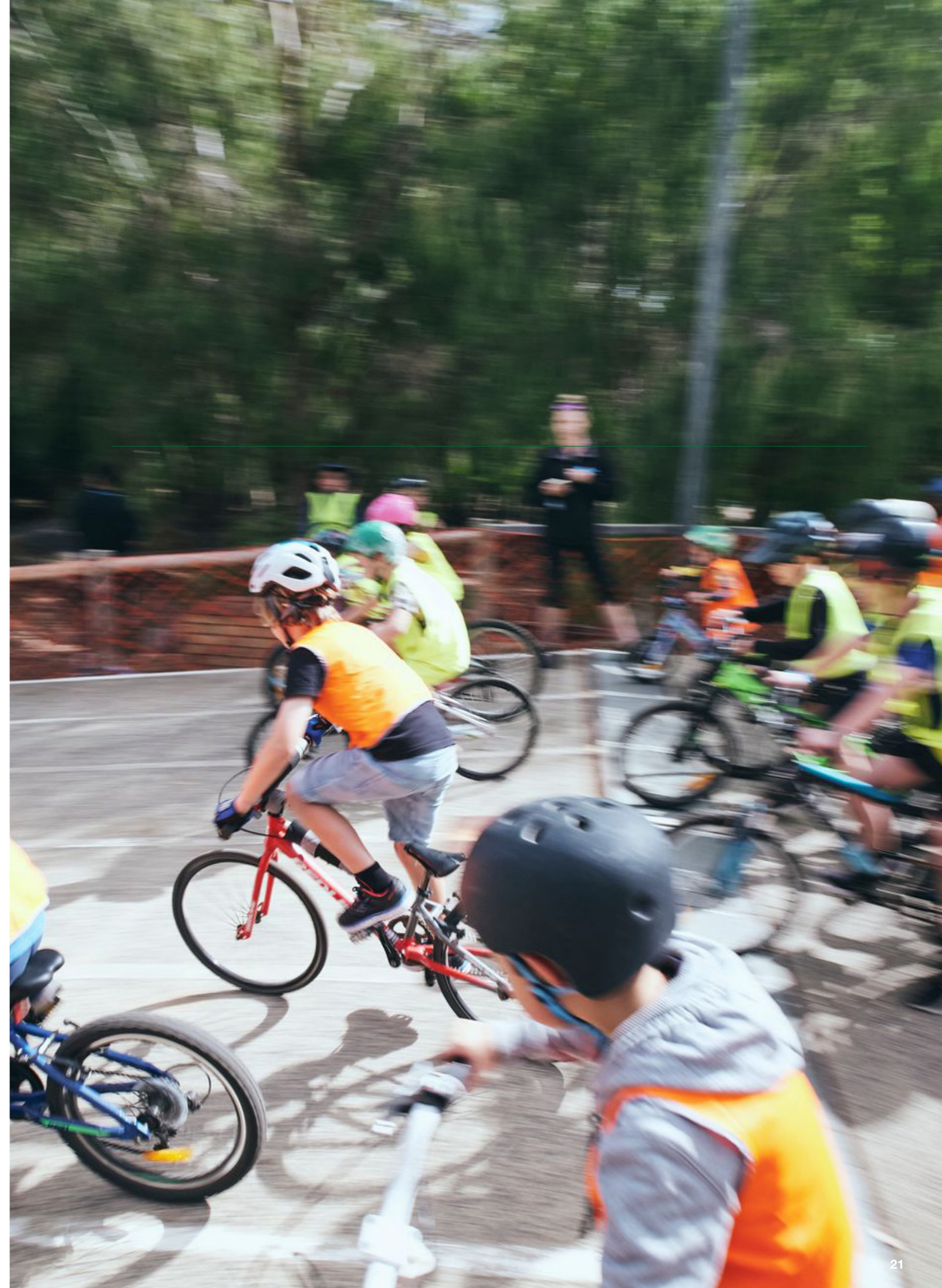
The Shire has a large number of community halls which far exceeds a typical provision ratio of around 1:20,000. In addition to facilities such as the Margaret River HEART, that service a community centre function, there is a distribution of halls throughout the Shire that are essential focal points for community cohesion and result in a high level of service for this types of facility. These halls are utilised to differing degrees and include:

- Augusta Centennial Hall
- Duggan Pavilion, Cowaramup
- Cowaramup District Hall
- Gracetown Community Hall
- Karridale Hall
- Rosa Brook Community Hall
- Witchcliffe Druids Hall
- CWA Hall, Witchcliffe (under conversion to commercial tenancy)
- Alexandra Bridge Hall

Art and Cultural Facilities

The Margaret River Cultural Centre, located adjacent to the Shire Administration and Civic Centre is the principle cultural facility in the SAMR and provides for a number of cultural activities, including cinema, events, performing arts and art exhibitions. It is also utilised as the Shire's welfare centre when required for major emergency incidences.

Following a comprehensive redevelopment this new facility is more than sufficient to provide for the current needs of the community now and through the planning period.



Situational Analysis



Current Provision of Active Leisure Facilities

Appendix 1 describes the standards for the provision of leisure facilities and the current shortfalls or surplus in the capacity of the assets to provide for leisure activities. This method is a summary of analysis based on standards, usage and capacity and describes whether existing infrastructure is meeting the needs of the population. They are part of a comprehensive evaluation of community facilities conducted in the Shire. These standards also consider factors such as community diversity, trends and participation rates in recreation activities. By considering these factors, the described standards more accurately determine the demand for facilities and help identify any deficiencies or areas for improvement. The below assessment summarises the current community facility provision and standards which are detailed in Appendix 1 and Appendix 6.

The capacity of facilities is also informed by factors such as usage and scheduling of facilities, particularly playing fields during the winter season. An analysis of this use is contained at Appendix 5, which identifies the district level ovals at Gloucester Park currently in use beyond their recommended sustainable capacity during winter. It should be noted that whilst best practice is to work within the Australian Sports Commission Guidelines - Recommended Weekly Oval Use, it is not always reasonable and practicable without alternative active reserves available for use, which is also the current anecdotal situation of neighbouring LGA's and a common theme across the state.

Current Provision of Active Leisure Facilities

Analysis shows that the Shire of Augusta Margaret River has a notable over provision of tennis courts and community halls. The spatial distribution of these community facilities is the reason the Shire has an overprovision, with most townsites containing a community hall with adjoining 1-2 tennis courts. The distribution of tennis clubs across Augusta, Cowaramup, Gracetown, and Margaret River greatly contributing to the over provision of the number of required courts however, it is important to note that the spatial distribution and demand at the time these clubs were established warrants the provision. Where practicable, it is recommended to transition tennis courts at local and rural townsites to multi-use courts (incorporating basketball, tennis etc) to increase capacity of other recreation activities.

There is a notable under provision of outdoor multi-use hardcourts in Margaret River. Whilst the provision standards indicate there is currently an under supply of two (2) courts in the town, this will increase to four (4) courts by 2031. Previously, the town of Margaret River has addressed the under supply through provision of indoor courts at the recreation centre, and outdoor half courts, however the rapid population growth and participation in basketball, as well as other competing user groups for indoor courts has highlighted the high priority for outdoor courts.

The assessment of existing infrastructure requirements shows there is an under supply of supporting amenities at district and local active recreation locations. These locations such as Rapids Landing Primary School, Nippers Oval, as well as club-based activities at Gloucester Park (hockey and little athletics), highlights the under provision of amenities and change rooms to support basic provision requirements of the user groups of these facilities. Additional amenities are required at these locations to increase capacity and to alleviate over usage of other playing fields on Gloucester Park.

Semi-permanent amenities on Gloucester Park are currently undergoing installation to support the hockey pitch, western playing fields, athletics, and Nippers' Oval. Temporary formalised shared use agreements with the high school for outdoor courts are interim resolutions to address under provision of amenities and courts, however it remains a requirement for the Shire to provide these facilities under a permanent arrangement to meet provision requirements and demand.

Community Facilities Standard of Provision Assessment

The Western Pavilion servicing the western ovals on Gloucester Park does not currently meet the requirements of the clubs utilising the adjacent fields. Scheduling of fixtures has been investigated to address the issue of under provision requirements, however the need to upgrade facilities is the determined outcome to future proof increased usage, growth, and expansion of female participation, particularly in soccer. Nippers' Oval amenities are currently accounted for at the tennis clubrooms through a shared use (MOU) agreement between the junior football association and the tennis club, however as the tennis club is a leased facility, this arrangement does not ensure the provision requirements are met for junior footy, particularly with the expansion of female participation. It should also be noted that regardless of shared use, the current facilities at the tennis club do not meet the provision standards for junior football. The same principle and situation apply to the Margaret River Hockey Club and Little Athletics Club that occasionally shares use of facilities at the adjacent bowling club (leased facility), and football club (leased facility). In Augusta, the sports clubrooms currently servicing the football club (and cricket when not on hiatus) are currently under the provision standard for a district level facility, with the main consideration for upgrades of these facilities being they are currently shared between the recreation centre (gym and hydro pool), as well as club and public. Whilst this aligns with shared use principles, the current setup of these facilities does not adequately cater for the requirements of all user groups in a scheduling, maintenance, upkeep, and provision standard context.

Upgrades and improvements may be required at the Margaret River Bowling, Tennis, and Football Club leased facilities. These upgrades and improvements to meet provision standards can be driven by the State Sporting Association facility guidelines, with an example being the provision standards at the football club co-supported and funded through the West Australian Football Commission. These standards of provision for leased facilities are generally managed through asset renewal and arrangements with the lease holders and fall outside the scope of this process.

Scheduling and Usage Considerations

As detailed in Appendix 5, the playing field usage in Margaret River is over the recommended weekly usage for winter sports. Scheduling and shared use arrangements between clubs and the Shire's Sport and Recreation service unit have enabled clubs to continue co-using, however the need for additional training facilities such as Rapid's Landing Primary School, Cowaramup, and other local facilities have been identified as required needs to meet demand in the future and manage the balance between capacity, availability, and maintenance of playing fields during the winter season. The same principle applies to the usage and scheduling of indoor court users, with the exploration of exclusive use and seasonal agreements recommended as an outcome for all sporting clubs and associations to effectively schedule usage.



Key Findings of Situational Analysis	
1.	Under supply of outdoor courts and spatial distribution in Margaret River
2.	There is currently a seasonal (autumn and winter) overuse of the main playing fields at Gloucester Park
3.	Shire operated amenities require upgrades to meet minimum standards of provision and demand
4.	Leased sports clubrooms provision to be captured through asset renewal program, club and peak body initiatives and funding, with Shire support
5.	Transition tennis courts to multi-use courts where over provision is identified
6.	Alternatives to exclusive use agreements could improve facility usage and provision
7.	There is existing capacity of underutilised active recreation reserves which could be improved through establishing supporting facilities to decrease usage stress on existing reserves
8.	There is sufficient provision of passive leisure facilities to meet standards, acknowledging the proportionally high level of service provision of community halls due to distance

Targeted Engagement

The targeted engagement program included focus groups, surveys, public meetings, stakeholder interviews, and online feedback forms. These are illustrated in Table 4 below. These activities were designed to ensure representation from a range of key stakeholders. The information gathered from these engagement activities was then analysed and used to inform the development of the Leisure Plan and Public Open Space Strategy; by identifying the key facility needs and priorities of the community, as well as to validate the need for certain facilities or services. This approach helps to ensure the recommendations and outputs of the Leisure Plan are responsive to the needs as opposed to the wants of the community. A full summary of detailed engagement is included as Appendix 7.

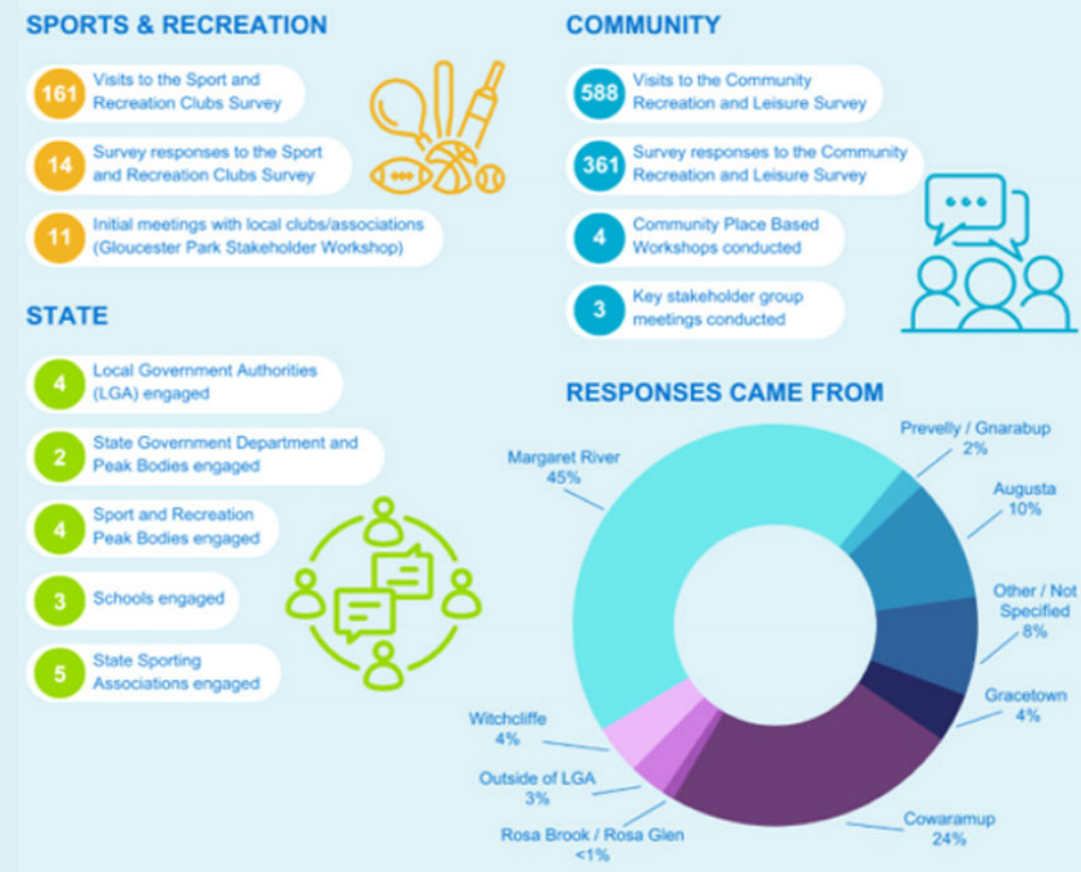
Targeted Engagement Summary

The purpose was to get detailed and direct feedback from key stakeholders in the identification of the cause (i.e. scheduling, unforeseen growth, facilities, or other), and to collaboratively identify potential resolutions to current and forecasted issues through facility provision, and scheduling.

Surveys were circulated to sporting clubs and the broader community to collect information on membership numbers and demography, facilities used, and issues being experienced by the groups. The Sport and Recreation Clubs Survey was distributed to all known sporting club, associations, and regular formal and informal sport, recreation, and community user groups.

The sports and recreation survey had 161 visitors and 14 submissions. A further 11 clubs were met with to discuss the Gloucester Park Masterplan general commentary. Conversations centred around usage, participation numbers and trends, scheduling, governance, infrastructure, facility issues, leisure plan considerations, and strategic planning for their sport and organisation. The specific feedback from the main sporting groups is detailed in Appendix 8.

Table 4: Feedback from Main Sporting Groups



Targeted Engagement contd.

Club and Community Insights

Survey and Sport and Recreation Reference Group

Strengths:

- Broadly, clubs and associations are seeing consistent and diverse growth.
- There are a diverse range of sports and activities to support the strong local sporting culture.
- Gloucester Park Sporting Precinct is a key facility for the region and the primary sporting clubs and associations.
- Cowaramup Sporting Precinct is well catered for current and future growth of existing sporting clubs and associations.

Challenges:

- Outdated facilities no longer fit for purpose, some with accessibility issues and not female friendly.
- Volunteerism to support administration and operational running of sport, logistics, and activities.
- Disconnect between some clubs and local government support.
- Space to play/activity (under provision, overuse, scheduling conflicts).
- Rising costs of equipment, hire fees and levies, affiliation fees.
- Facility maintenance and clearly delineated responsibilities of clubs, local government, or other management entity (i.e. halls and reserves committees).
- Lack of understanding regarding operational and capital request process and timelines (local government, planning, funding etc).

Proposed Solutions:

- Clearly articulated and consistent licence agreements developed in advance for items such infrastructure upgrades outside of minimal provision requirements, and ongoing operational management and asset renewal responsibility.
- In the absence of a Club Development Officer at the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, several clubs and associations have expressed interest in the Clubmap™ Club Development Support Program, which enhances the long-term sustainability of clubs and associations by providing support in strategic planning, business planning, volunteerism, and membership and sponsorship.
- Review and endorsement of the Sport and Recreation Facilities User Guide. A document detailing operational responsibilities and the process and requirements for any new and/or additional capital improvements and upgrades.
- Upgrade of existing infrastructure so it is fit for purpose.
- Seasonal booking and tenancy agreements articulating season dates, pre-season dates, and other scheduling and operational management items.

Opportunities:

- Shared facilities.
- Sporting club and association partnerships, i.e., Gloucester Park Sporting Association.
- Development of floodlighting implementation program.
- Shire of Augusta Margaret River - Community Sport and Recreation Grants

Sports Club Meetings

Facilities:

- Considering the age of facilities, updated BCA and accessibility requirements, and updated sporting facility guidelines and usage, some facilities are no longer fit for purpose, nor cater for historical and forecasted growth.
- A focus on facilities that are fit for purpose, to meet sports facility and unisex guidelines, especially in consideration of rising female participation.
- Facilities that cater for multiple sporting codes that co-use sporting spaces.

Scheduling and Usage:

- Grass sports in Margaret River are experiencing challenges regarding competing uses of available playing fields, particularly during traditional winter season sports.
- Basketball and netball have highlighted their main priority is to increase indoor and outdoor courts in Margaret River.
- Roller Sports have highlighted their main priority is to formalise consistency in indoor court booking allocations year-round to foster club sustainability and provide consistency for their membership base.
- Underwater Hockey have raised concerns regarding available lane space, competing with public access times, and competing clubs, learn to swim, and squad trainings.

Volunteerism:

- Consistent issue for clubs and associations to source and retain volunteers and coaches, meaning greater demands are being placed on the same volunteers year in year out.
- Multiple smaller clubs have raised anecdotal concerns about sustainability of club once their current committee and volunteers cease their tenure.

Governance:

- Generally, clubs and associations are aware and exercise diligent governance principles in the administration of their club and association for the importance of long-term sustainability.
- Clubs and Associations are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of strategic plans for effective planning, especially relating to club development, and facility planning requests to governing bodies and local government.

Shared Use:

- Further investigation and formalised agreements between multiple user groups and custodians of facilities is required to practicably apply effective shared use arrangements.
- Some clubs from different sports that utilise the same facilities have raised issues with scheduling between clubs and local associations that are responsible for fixture allocation.
- Limited access to share leased facilities. These facilities also not fit for purpose.
- Further consultation and arrangements with school sites are required to assist facility provision.

Key Findings of Consultation	
1.	Lack of oval space during winter in Margaret River
2.	Amenities at most major facilities do not meet requirements (spatial, meeting the needs of females, and ratios for provision to participant numbers)
3.	Lack of supporting facilities (toilets, change rooms, storage)
4.	Additional outdoor netball/basketball courts are required – specifically in Margaret River
5.	Indoor court availability is under significant pressure at peak times (after school), and multiple sports and user groups are competing for the same space and times. Provision of outdoor courts will address this issue
6.	General increase in structured sport participation
7.	Parking on Gloucester Park can be under pressure at peak times – specifically during winter season
8.	Increase in female participation of junior sports, with insufficient supporting amenities.
9.	Concerns of traffic management, road alignments, informal parking on Gloucester Park
10.	Limited access to share leased facilities
11.	Noted shortfalls in the distribution of some POS improvements and facilities, particularly in high growth areas or those with changing demographics, such as increases in children
12.	Significant reliance and pressures on volunteerism

Planning for the Future

A Hierarchy of Facilities and their Catchments

Whilst guidelines for the provision of facilities are designed to be applicable through population and the approximate catchments for those facilities, these guidelines are most practically applied in a metropolitan context, and therefore require adaptation to a regional context. Factors including distance and smaller comparative population sizes make the application of these standards less precise in a regional context. In the Shire in particular, there are several factors at play in why people may recreate in particular areas.

This results in qualifications when applying numerical standards:

- The catchments for certain facilities are not perfect but generalised and there will always be outliers in the assumptions of the patterns of use for facilities.
- The distance of travel means that for certain facilities (such as community halls and lower-level active play opportunities) distribution plays as an important a role as amount of population in their assumed catchment.

The hierarchy of facility provision have therefore been developed and adapted based on a combination of population and catchment hierarchies where practical, as well as local participation and usage data, targeted engagement, analysis of industry and local trends, distance between key localities, and population distribution across the region.

Where infrastructure is provided it also needs to meet minimum design, technical and spatial standards, and encourage multi-functional/flexible/co-located facilities and shared use arrangements where practical, to broaden access, maximise usage and rationalise costs in order to get the best possible value from the facility. Where appropriate co-location, joint provision and shared use of sport and recreation facilities can result in the most efficient outcomes and best facilities, especially in regional municipalities. Accordingly, facilities are established in a hierarchy where these objectives of consolidation and efficiency can be realised, while balancing this with reasonable distribution.

Applying a catchment-based approach is intended to accurately identify the populations and requirements of settlements more accurately. Specifying the catchments where community infrastructure can be appropriately implemented introduces a level of complexity that needs to be accounted for in the planning process. A key benefit of the catchment-based approach is to apply population projections, consequently project increases in demand over time, identify where future deficiencies will occur and ensure growth related contributions to provide facility supply in line with growth. Based on the differing levels of assets for leisure activities they service and the normal use of these facilities, the following broad catchment types have been identified in Table 5: Hierarchy of Facilities.

Whilst common practice is to develop a standards of provision guide for sports facilities in addition to the Hierarchy of Facilities, it is recommended that relevant state sporting association and other industry facility guidelines are referenced when developing and upgrading sports spaces and infrastructure; in particular the level of sports field lighting, changerooms (unisex), clubhouse, kiosk, public toilets, umpires rooms, coaches' boxes, sports field fencing, and level of sports field maintenance. The standards of provision guide may be developed throughout the planning period; however, standards will be guided and driven subject to the type of use, intended club and association user groups, level of demand, spatial distribution, and the guiding principles referenced in the Leisure Plan.



Table 5 - Provisional Hierarchy

Facilities	Overview	Examples
Regional	<p>Regional facilities will generally service a Shire-wide catchment (and adjoining LGA's) due to their level of speciality, uniqueness or standard of competition being played. Regional facilities will principally be used by clubs based within the Shire; however, they may also cater for those clubs affiliated with South West competitions, or associations/leagues.</p> <p>Regional facility provision will generally be to a higher standard than is available at Local or District venues to accommodate a higher level of competition or activity.</p>	Gloucester Park (GP)
District	<p>District level facilities will principally attract people from within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and will cater for senior and junior training and competition. District venues can be the "headquarter" facility for clubs.</p> <p>District sports facilities will generally serve a catchment of approximately 10,000 households, or population of up to 30,000 people. District level facilities are also determined in consideration of catchment, population, and spatial distribution.</p>	<p>Cowaramup Sporting Precinct (CSP)</p> <p>Augusta Civic Park (ACP)</p>
Neighbourhood	<p>Neighbourhood level sports facilities primarily cater for junior training and competition both summer and winter. Senior cricket could be considered at these venues as a satellite facility to a club's main ground.</p> <p>Neighbourhood sports facilities are generally built and maintained to a basic standard and typically include Council venues co-located with school sites, or development of joint-use facilities within school grounds. In consideration of the Shire's population spread across townships and vast geographical distribution, some neighbourhood facilities may be individually listed as neighbourhood, even if they are also categorised within District or Regional Facilities.</p>	<p>Rapids Landing PS</p> <p>Nippers Oval - GP</p> <p>Western Ovals - GP</p> <p>Lower Western Playing Field - GP</p> <p>Augusta Oval - ACP</p>
Local	<p>Local level sports facilities primarily cater for informal sport / passive recreation. Junior training would be considered at these venues as a satellite facility to a club's main training ground, provided there is supporting facility provision. These are typically located within a residential neighbourhood, or at townships where there is a population catchment and the distance to Neighbourhood, District, or Regional Facilities are considered outside the catchment distribution.</p> <p>Local sports and recreation facilities are generally built and maintained to a basic standard and typically include Council venues co-located with halls, tennis courts, or playgrounds.</p>	<p>Gnarabup Oval</p> <p>Gracetown Oval</p> <p>Parkwater Oval</p> <p>Rosa Brook Oval</p>

Issues and Actions



Based on consultation, population projections, current facility provision and participation trends, the key issues identified result in the following main action areas for sport and community infrastructure:

Issues and Actions	
1.	Upgrades and addition of supporting amenities.
2.	Floodlighting to increase capacity of playing fields.
3.	Increase capacity of outdoor court provision.
4.	Shared use of facilities and active sporting reserves.

Supporting Amenities

It has been identified through the consultation and assessment process that there is currently an under supply of supporting amenities for multiple clubs and active sporting reserves. It has also been identified that some existing amenities do not meet the provision requirements (female change spaces, size, number of facilities). The implications of this means playing fields such as Rapids Landing Primary School cannot be effectively scheduled for use as there are no supporting amenities, which consequently puts extra stress on playing field conditions and scheduling at Gloucester Park.

Most of the participation in active sport in the Shire is during the winter season, and most of these outdoor sports utilise Gloucester Park. By providing amenities at Rapids Landing Primary School (as well as future planning of floodlighting and other upgrades formalised through master planning of the site), capacity for winter sporting codes such as football can be increased, teams are able to train at this location, and oval space capacity at Gloucester Park can be increased for future requirements.

The notable trend of increased female participation in AFL, rugby, and soccer, highlights the current under supply of female friendly facilities at key locations such as Gloucester Park. Redevelopment of the western pavilion will increase capacity for female participation in soccer and rugby during the winter, as well as cricket during the summer. Semi-permanent ablutions and change rooms are currently under construction at Nippers Oval to support junior football (AFL), however, the need for permanent amenities has been recommend for future requirements.

There are currently sporting groups such as Margaret River Little Athletics, Margaret River Hockey Club, and Margaret River Junior Football, that either do not have direct access to amenities, or are reliant

upon shared use agreements with lease holders of adjacent amenities (football club, bowling club, tennis club). Whilst shared use agreements to utilise existing facilities is highly recommended and a guiding principle, there are formal lease agreements in place that require review, and even in the case where formalised shared use is possible, the bowling club and tennis club do not meet provision requirements to suit hockey and junior football. It is therefore recommended that a shared use amenities facility is constructed centrally on Gloucester Park to meet the needs of hockey and little athletics, as well as the potential netball and basketball associations should outdoor courts be constructed at the southern end of the main oval. These locations and exact requirements will need to be formalised through the Gloucester Park Master Plan.

Floodlighting

The development of a floodlighting implementation program is required to guide and prioritise lighting to increase capacity in reserves. The implementation program is to be developed in conjunction with the Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries – Club Night Lights Program, which provides financial assistance to develop sports floodlighting infrastructure.

Preliminary assessment identified the following locations as the highest priority for floodlighting to increase capacity and meet future usage demands:

- Rapids Landing Primary School
- Western Playing Fields
- Cowaramup Oval
- Outdoor Multi-purpose Courts

The priority of these locations should be clearly identified and defined through the development of the floodlighting implementation program and needs analysis. The addition of floodlighting at these locations will meet the needs of increased population and growth in soccer, basketball, netball, rugby, and junior football (AFL). It should also be noted that increasing capacity at these playing fields will increase usage and required maintenance of the playing fields, which are already under strain, however this can be managed through scheduling and blocked out rejuvenation periods post winter season. It should also be noted that the alternative to increase playing field capacity is the construction of new playing fields, which has not been identified through the Public Open Space Strategy.

Outdoor Courts

Based on the popularity of basketball in the region and the increasing participation in the sport, additional provision of outdoor courts specifically within Margaret River is required in the immediate future. Whilst the provision of courts is driven by the population and local participation in the sport, it is also vital to consider that the courts used by the local association are multi-purpose courts, and therefore, other user groups, sports, and activities that use the courts need to be considered when determining future provision requirements.

The Margaret River Basketball Association is the key user group for indoor and outdoor multi-purpose courts. Based on current figures, there is currently an under provision of outdoor courts for training, which then causes a shortage of indoor court availability for other user groups. The local association can effectively run games on indoor courts, and training on outdoor courts. Teams typically require 45 to 60 minutes per half court to train during the season on a weekly basis, and games can be allocated 1 hour for every 2 teams. Based on projected population growth (with participation in the sport remaining constant at around 3.7% of the local population), this equates to the following requirements for the local association:

Facility	2026 Estimated Players/ Teams	Required Court Hours	Required Courts	2031 Estimated Players/ Teams	Required Court Hours	Required Courts	2031 Estimated Players/ Teams
Indoor Courts Margaret River Recreation Centre	765 (110 teams)	~55 indoor	2 exclusive use 1 shared use	972 (140 teams)	~70 indoor	2 exclusive use 1 shared use	1154 (164 teams)
Outdoor Courts, Margaret River		~40 - 55 outdoor	2 exclusive use		~50 - 70 outdoor	4 exclusive use	

Two (2) outdoor courts are required in Margaret River by 2026, and an additional two (2) outdoor courts by 2031 to cater for the required training needs of the association, as well as public use per provision requirements.

Townsite	2021 Population	Required Facilities 2021 - 26	2026 Population	Required Facilities 2026 - 31	2031 Population	Required Facilities 2031 - 36	2036 Population
Margaret River	7919	+2 outdoor courts	9396	+2 additional outdoor courts	11937	+1 additional indoor court +1 additional outdoor court	14038
Cowaramup	1831	No additional required	2173	+1 additional outdoor half court	2761	No additional required	3276
Augusta	1326	No additional required	1573	No additional required	1998	No additional required	2237

As there is currently an under supply of outdoor courts, a formalised agreement should be sought through local school sites for use of outdoor training courts until the construction of courts is completed. School site agreements cannot replace the provision need of outdoor courts but can be used as a temporary arrangement to address the current shortage and assist in future scheduling requirements should they arise.

The Margaret River Netball Association is the other key user group for indoor and outdoor courts. Based on consultation with the association, the provision of outdoor courts is highly sought as most junior associations across the state train and play on outdoor courts. The provision requirement for outdoor netball courts can be included under the same provision requirements of basketball as the outdoor courts will be multi-purpose. Based on the current and future population projections and participation, a total of 4 outdoor courts by 2031 will meet provision requirements and provide a seasonal home for the running of all training and games for the association. This will also alleviate pressures on indoor court provision for other sports such as volleyball, roller sports, basketball, and general community use during the winter season. In principle non-exclusive use agreements of outdoor courts with Margaret River Senior High School are currently being formalised. Development and Council contribution to the redevelopment and enhancement of capacity and Aussie Hoops programs at Margaret River Primary school are currently in discussion with the Department of Education.

Shared Use

The principle of shared use facilities involves maximising the usage of facilities and rationalising costs to achieve the best possible value. Where appropriate, the plan encourages co-location, joint provision, and shared use of school sites, sport, recreation, and community facilities. This approach optimises resource allocation, fosters collaboration between different user groups, and promotes efficiency in facility utilisation. The rationale and further principles relating to shared use is detailed below under the Future Community and Recreation Facility Provision section.



Active Leisure Profiles



Basketball

The Shire has experienced significant growth in basketball participation, particularly following the success achieved in the Commonwealth and Olympic games. Notably, there has been an increase of over 70% in the number of junior association members. As the sport evolves, there is a growing trend towards 3v3 formats in basketball. However, the Shire is currently under provision for outdoor full and half-court facilities to accommodate this emerging trend.

The number of registered basketball players in the Shire's junior association in 2022/23 was 650, representing; 3.7% of the local population. Looking ahead to 2036, with a projected population of 31,000 for the Shire, it is anticipated that there will be 1,147 registered players, maintaining the same proportion of 3.7%.

To meet the current and emerging needs, it is recommended to have 4 indoor courts for an association centre in the future, with the addition of outdoor courts and arrangements with school sites where possible to accommodate training facilities. Basketball WA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 recommends a minimum of 1 court for regional associations, however due to the above average participation and increasing trend of the sport in the Shire, it is recommended that additional provision is required.

The Margaret River Basketball Association has annually increase membership numbers, despite the challenges the association faces with court availability (Court 3 unavailable due to major projects, no publicly accessible outdoor full courts in Margaret River). The Association has restricted participation due to the unavailability of Court 3, and forecasts growth in the Aussie Hoops and Open Age programs, with court availability currently the major hindrance for further growth.

Observing the increasing trend of non-structured 3v3 outdoor facilities, which reflects the popularity of 3v3 gameplay and the significant growth of the sport at the junior level, it is crucial to consider this factor. Both Basketball WA and Basketball Australia have acknowledged this trend.

Basketball exhibits one of the highest growth rates in Western Australia, and Margaret River demonstrates even higher growth rates compared to the state average. Regarding specific locations, it is recommended to build a 3v3 half court at Parkwater Oval in Cowaramup as there are currently no hard-court facilities on the western side of Bussell Highway. In Augusta, an outdoor court is already available, but it requires an updated backboard system to ensure its

functionality. Additionally, it is suggested to consider upgrading existing basketball pads at local level facilities to half courts to cater for 3v3 games and, accommodate organised and informal usage.

Dance and Gymnastics

There is currently no gymnastics provider affiliated with Gymnastic WA operating in the Shire. Participation rates were steady until the former provider ceased operations in January 2021 due to increased affiliation and insurance regulations. Informal gymnastics and dance providers continue to operate in the Shire and utilise a variety of smaller community halls and private studios to operate. There are acrobatic and silks providers currently using MRRC to deliver modified programs to the community, and partnership opportunities between the Shire and these providers may present in the future to provide further modified programs as demand becomes viable.



In the region, there are three BMX clubs situated in Augusta, Cowaramup, and Margaret River. The main regional BMX facilities are in Bunbury. As the population in the area continues to grow, there may be an opportunity to consider upgrading the BMX facilities in Augusta in the future. However, it is important to note that the current Leisure Plan does not specifically recommend this upgrade, and any decision regarding it will be subject to review during the planning period. It is worth mentioning that the BMX track in Margaret River does not currently meet the required standards, as indicated by the reference standard. To rejuvenate the track and facilities, an updated cost estimate is required. Based on these considerations, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Continue supporting the asset renewal of BMX facilities at the premier track in Cowaramup through collaboration with the Cowaramup BMX Club and the Cowaramup Halls, Reserves, and Residents Association.
2. Consult with the Margaret River BMX Club and the Cowaramup BMX to investigate a potential merger located at Cowaramup, aligning with the sustainable clubs and facilities guiding principles.
3. Further to recommendation point 2; investigate the conversion of the existing BMX track in Margaret River to a pump track facility to support a pathway facility for club-based activities, whilst maintaining facility provision and providing passive BMX facilities for the community.
4. Continue supporting the asset renewal of the Augusta BMX track and supporting amenity upgrades in collaboration with the Augusta BMX Club to support club growth and capacity.

It is not currently advised to develop additional track facilities for BMX as the current number of facilities meets the provision required. It is recommended to focus on optimizing and enhancing the existing facilities rather than expanding further.

Diamond Sports (T-ball, softball, baseball)

Based on preliminary and broader community consultation, there is currently no identified demand for sports such as softball, tee-ball, and baseball. There are also district level facilities located within the City of Busselton. It is worth noting that there is currently no provision in place for these specific sports within the community. The only expression of interest received thus far is from the footy club (AMRNFC) to organize an off-season summer competition on the main oval, which has been accommodated in previous years and can be supported based on current and future usage of summer oval usage on Gloucester Park.

Emerging Sports (Gridiron, Lacrosse)

An emerging trend being seen across the rest of the nation are sports such as Gridiron and Lacrosse, with many metro councils considering the large number of players per gridiron teams when developing supporting facilities. Whilst there is currently no local trend or demand for these sports, they may well become a focus towards the end of the planning period as the population grows and sporting trends change. Whilst there is currently no provision requirement, and these sports could be delivered informally through other multipurpose facilities, the review of the Leisure Plan will aim to review these trends and changes ahead of time.



Cricket

There is an adequate provision of cricket facilities, however, improvements can be made to supporting changeroom and ablution infrastructure to support playing fields. There has been stagnation in the growth of the sport in the Shire, and this is a trend across the state. Although there is an oversupply of junior grounds available for scheduling, certain grounds like Rapids Landing require supporting amenities. Cricket and basketball are in direct competition with one another as they are run during the summer season in the Shire. The increase in basketball registrations has in some cases led parents and children to choose between the two sports in many cases, especially as basketball grows in popularity and scheduling is spread out across the week.

To address the future needs, it is recommended to expand Rapids Landing Primary School oval in the future to accommodate age groups above Blasters, Stage 1, and Stage 2. Additionally, there should be a focus on providing sufficient facilities for junior cricket, particularly with regards to hard wicket ovals.

Golf

There are three golf courses within the Shire which meets current and future needs. Further facility development for Golf is not recommended as it is above the level of provision recommended for a Shire of its current size.



Football (AFL)

Research and data indicate there is currently a sufficient supply of playing space for Aussie Rules within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. However, there is a necessity to utilise existing junior ovals that are underutilised to alleviate the stress on scheduling and turf maintenance on Gloucester Park. With a general increase in all winter sporting codes vying for playing space on Gloucester Park, consideration must be given to scheduling training at alternative locations within the region. Identified areas for use are Rapids Landing Primary School (RLPS) (shared agreement with Department of Education, and development of Parkwater Oval (with increasing population growth within Cowaramup). The current lack of supporting amenities hinders the immediate use at RLPS, and Parkwater Oval is highlighted as a need in the future as the local population continues to grow.

A growing junior association in the Cowaramup townsite has seen registrations increase and potential future demand for female friendly change rooms as the age and demographic profile of the area continues to support the trend of increased female participation. Augusta also has an Onshore Cup team and junior teams that require upgrades to supporting facilities at the precinct to be developed through the Augusta Civic Precinct Masterplan. Recommendations for the development of the Margaret River South precinct 2036+ have been made to support a senior sized playing field, with consideration of minimum preferred oval dimensions (including run-off) for senior size, the provision for floodlighting, interchange benches, pavilion, and change facility, and developed with a north-south orientation. This will support the potential need for additional senior facilities within the Margaret River townsite as the population grows in the future. It is worth noting that due to the regional location and existing facilities, the requirement for a second senior size playing field within Margaret River is not identified as a pressing provision requirement.

Football (Soccer)

The Leeuwin Naturaliste Junior Soccer Association, Football Margaret River (Juniors and Seniors), Football West (pathway and training academies), and LJ Soccer, a commercial entity supporting grassroots, and delivering development programs aligned with Football Margaret River, are the main stakeholders and organizations involved in soccer within the Shire.

In response to the previous lack of playing space, the Lower Western Playing Field was developed and opened in 2019, primarily to address the shortage in Margaret River.

Currently, there is an adequate provision of playing space at Gloucester Park, Cowaramup Oval, and Rapids Landing Primary School, where soccer activities are primarily conducted. LJ Soccer also uses the Augusta Primary School oval to deliver pathway programs to approximately 24 children in Augusta. Whilst it is complex to predict the growth of the sport within the Shire, it is notably below the state average in terms of participation, but still a popular sport and reportedly growing sport locally nonetheless, with the formalisation of shared use agreements with school sites and other winter code playing fields highlighted as the way to schedule and address any potential growth of the sport.

This should be considered and reviewed through the planning period, particularly in consideration that Football Australia have forecasted an estimated 20% increase (mostly female) in participation considering the recent Women's FIFA World Cup success.



Lawn Bowls and Croquet

Given the capacity at the three existing lawn bowls clubs (Margaret River, Cowaramup, and Augusta), and the existing croquet club in Augusta, further facility development for bowls and croquet is not recommended as it currently aligns with the level of provision recommended for a Shire of its current and forecasted size. Whilst there is an over provision of lawn bowls facilities based on population, the spatial distribution of the three locations negates the population triggers as they are well dispersed across the Shire.

Other sports (martial arts, badminton, table tennis, pickle ball etc)

Martial Arts are provided for through several community groups, clubs, and commercial providers. Martial arts utilise spaces such as community halls, private property, as well as the karate club (lease facility) located on Gloucester Park at Margaret River. Participation remains static with no notable increase or decline, however sports such as mixed martial arts do have large followings globally and have seen an increase in popularity.

Badminton is well catered for during its peak times of popularity during the day at MRRC, with 4 courts available for use for hire and casual use. The same number of courts are available at ARC and both centres have informal weekly pennants run by community groups. Table tennis is another informal recreation pursuit with no affiliated club, however there is an increasing emergence of the sport in Augusta, which the Shire has supported through facility provision at ARC, as well as additional support of equipment and access.

Pickleball is an internationally and nationally emerging sport, that utilises a badminton court for play. The Shire's Sport and Recreation services will continue to promote and foster this growing sport which caters for intergenerational play and gentle impact participation.

Three weekly sessions of Pickleball are run at Augusta Recreation Centre and Margaret River Recreation Centre. Four courts are available at both centres, and sessions are regularly reaching between 80% - 100% capacity.

Netball

The number of registered players in 2023 was 315, which accounted for 1.8% of the local population. Looking ahead to 2036, with a projected population of 31,000 for the Shire, it is expected that there will be 558 registered players, maintaining the same proportion of 1.8%. There has been steady growth of the sport at a junior level within the Shire, despite Covid and court unavailability disruptions over the past few seasons. The senior teams affiliated with the footy club have also seen a trend of more players becoming available to field regular and consistent teams, however the recurring trend of females in senior sport being more time poor and with conflicting priorities hindering any real growth and constancy in membership at a senior level.

To meet the current and emerging needs, it is recommended to have 2-4 indoor courts for an association centre in the future, with the local junior association seeking outdoor court provision to alleviate scheduling conflicts of indoor courts, and considering they are one of very few associations not training and playing on outdoor courts as is the standard with most local associations.

Given the current trends of netball within the Shire, the addition of outdoor court provision will meet required provision, however it should be noted that supporting lighting and infrastructure will be required if suitable shared use agreements of changerooms and ablutions are not available where the courts are constructed.

Other sports (martial arts, badminton, table tennis, pickle ball etc)

Hockey

Until recently all hockey training was at the Busselton hockey stadium. In 2019, Margaret River Hockey Club began a fundraising campaign to “bring hockey home” to Margaret River. In May 2022 training began on a newly constructed training turf under lights. Without the 90-minute return journey twice a week for training, the club has seen a resurgence of interest and new junior players. As a result, there was a 9% increase in membership from 2021 to 2022.

The club envisions hosting these fixtures by 2024, which requires addressing various considerations through consultation with other winter sport users at Gloucester Park. These considerations include South West Football League (SWFL) home fixtures, the design and layout of Gloucester Park, access to amenities, and parking. Currently, there are no specific minimum provision guidelines outlined in

the PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines for synthetic pitches, as proposals are assessed based on individual needs assessment and business case.

The decision to provide a synthetic training facility at Margaret River was driven by the business case and strategic objectives of the club. After analysis it is determined that the existing facility adequately meets the needs of the region and addresses the main issue of residents from the Shire of Augusta Margaret River having to travel to Busselton for training purposes after school or work. However, expanding the pitch to a full-sized synthetic surface is not recommended at this stage, considering the minimum provision requirements and the availability of a district level hockey facility in the City of Busselton.

It is recommended that supporting amenities be either constructed or shared use agreements be revisited with existing infrastructure lease holders to facilitate shared use agreements for existing facilities in proximity of the synthetic turf pitch. There have been discussions with the Football Club regarding the use of their toilets, and it may be possible to utilize the umpire change room or toilet. Additionally, discussions have taken place regarding the use of the Bowling Club facilities, although this would require renovations. Storage is currently being managed using the cricket club shed, while the hockey club will have the option of storage space within the multi-use shed currently being constructed on Gloucester Park.



Little Athletics

The Margaret River Little Athletics Club caters to a junior base of approximately 97 children, most of whom are aged 10 and under. The club's season runs from October to March, with a break over the summer school holidays from early December to the end of January. Training sessions are held at Gloucester Park (Main Oval) for one hour every Tuesday afternoon and for four hours every Saturday morning, spanning a period of 14 weeks.

The club draws its members from the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and the City of Busselton, as there are currently no dedicated little athletics facilities within the City of Busselton. While Margaret River has a grass-based facility, the regional association is based in Bunbury and has a synthetic track. The City of Busselton has identified an opportunity to establish a grass-based little athletics centre within the Dunsborough sub-district as the population grows. This proposed district-level facility would serve the entire City of Busselton and could potentially impact the membership numbers of the Margaret River Little Athletics Club.

Based on the demographic breakdown for the 2021/22 season, the approximate distribution of club members across the locality is as follows: Margaret River (40%), Cowaramup/Gracetown (27%), Dunsborough/Vasse/Busselton (26%), and Augusta/Witchcliffe (south of Margaret River) (7%). It's worth noting that there is also a group of participants from Nannup and neighbouring areas who are affiliated with the Margaret River Little Athletics Club.

In the Gloucester Park Master Plan, there are several known issues and challenges that need to be addressed. The long jumps and facilities adjacent to the tennis club are in very poor condition. There is limited access to water for wash down and line marking facilities. Additionally, there is a need for a joint agreement with an external shed for storage purposes. Scheduling conflicts arise with preseason football, football summer games, shared use of the shed, and access to the main oval during pre-season games need to be managed via scheduling.

Safety concerns exist due to the road passing through the Little Athletics ground, posing risks for the children. Moreover, there are challenges in terms of supporting facilities, such as limited access to toilets. Currently, temporary toilets behind the recreation centre are used, but there may be an option to utilize the umpire toilet at the Football Club. However, there are still issues related to road crossing and the fact that these facilities are leased to the Augusta Margaret River Netball Football Club (AMRNFC). There is a highlighted opportunity to

relocate the club to Parkwater Oval considering the dimensions and catchment of the Clubs membership base.

As of April 2024, The Margaret River Little Athletics Club has the in principle support of the Cowaramup Halls, Reserves and Residents Association (CHRRRA) to relocate the club to Cowaramup Oval. The Club is seeking Shire contribution for the development of jump landing pits to support the continuation of the Club in Cowaramup. The Club has identified the need to relocate as a matter of urgency to be centrally located within their catchment of members, and Club research that that indicates the community in Cowaramup may have a greater vested interest in the Club's sustainability. Support from the Cowaramup Primary School has been given to co-share athletics facilities and enable interschool carnivals to be held on the shared Shire and DoE oval.

Seniors

Senior exercise programs offer a range of activities specifically designed to cater to the needs and preferences of older individuals. These programs include options such as walking sports, gentle exercise classes, and walking groups that promote physical activity and social engagement. In line with the Community Development Aged Friendly plan, intergenerational programs may also be implemented to foster connections between different age groups within the community. Augusta may have its own dedicated senior exercise programs tailored to the needs of the local population. Additionally, seniors can benefit from utilizing gym facilities, participating in activities at recreation centres and community centres, and taking advantage of affiliated health and aged care facilities for a well-rounded approach to their exercise and wellness.

Squash

There are no public squash courts within the Shire. The Shire previously had 3 squash courts at the MRRC prior to the HEART redevelopment in 2018, and 2 courts in Augusta prior to the Gym redevelopment in 2014, however there was insufficient demand to warrant redevelopment of courts at either location. The nearest facility is located at the Sebel Hotel in Busselton, operated, and run by the Busselton Squash Club on a year-by-year agreement. Whilst squash has no current provision, or demand for provision, similar emerging established sports such as pickleball, table tennis, and badminton are currently being delivered by community groups and the Shire with increasing interest.

Tennis

There is currently an excess of tennis courts in the Shire. The Margaret River Tennis Club has mentioned that their pennant matches on Thursdays have reached maximum capacity due to limited court availability. However, there is a significant surplus of tennis court provision in Margaret River, as the recommended ratio is 8 courts per population of 15,000 to 30,000 within a 5-kilometer catchment area. Instead of expanding or providing additional courts, the club's scheduling practices could be optimized to better utilize the existing courts.

Swimming

Adequate facilities are currently available for swimming to meet the needs of the present and anticipated population growth, however, there have been scheduling challenges in the past two financial years, primarily due to temporary pool closures and a condensed delivery of the Department of Education In-Term Swimming Program.

It is recommended to expand the district level aquatic facility in Margaret River to include a hydrotherapy/learn to swim program pool to alleviate future scheduling and demand of aquatic space, and to cater for further aquatic opportunities at an infant and aging demographic level. This expansion will also provide greater public access to the facility. Operating times, staffing, and scheduling present the main challenge for facility provision, which can and should be addressed through management of the facility and stakeholder consultation.

Review of provision aquatic facilities is case by case scenario, and as such should be reviewed at the next review period to ensure demand for this extremely popular sport and leisure activity is met through the provision of Shire swimming pool facilities.

Swimming Women have continued to increase their membership base through delivery of the programs and services at Gnarabup Beach and GLC during the Margaret River pool closure. Facility provision currently meets demand during the peak periods to schedule key pool stakeholder groups such as Swimming Women, Margaret River Underwater Hockey Club, and the Margaret River Swim School. As of April 2024, Swimming WA is currently working with the swimming community to reach a quorum to form a new committee. If successful, there is sufficient lane space during the week to service the Club.

As of April 2024, there are currently over 600 children that have had an expression of interest submitted for enrolment in the Shire's Margaret River Swim School (Learn to Swim Program), with 220 of those children in the Infant Aquatic (daytime) program.

Remotely Located Sports

The Leisure Plan engagement has confirmed that there is still a desire to locate these sports and activities within the Shire. Included under this category are sports such as clay target shooting, polocrosse, and motor racing. The Augusta Margaret River Speedway is home to the Margaret River Hot Rod Club Inc, and the club leases the facility on a renewable 5-year lease. The Augusta Gun Club is a small clay target shooting club located at the top of Hillview Road in Augusta operating on a 10 year renewable lease, whilst there is no provision requirement to further develop facilities, the club does seek to make minor infrastructure improvements to increase capacity.

Margaret River Polocrosse Club in Witchcliffe currently lease grounds between the Shire and adjoining landowner on a 10-year renewable lease. The club grounds may inevitably decrease due to future development of land owned by the adjoining landowner. The club has expressed one of the greatest challenges facing the club is to find and source suitable replacement grounds for continued sustainability.

Given the capacity for the remotely located sports, there is currently no requirement for the Shire to further develop or increase capacity for these facilities and sports, however consideration should be given in long term planning for ongoing asset renewal and improvements to ensure sustainability of the facilities and clubs that utilise them.

Rugby

Based on the current analysis, the existing facility in the region adequately meets provision. The focus on junior development by the state sporting association has led to a growth in the sport at the local level within the Shire. This growth is expected to continue, resulting in increased demand for playing space, particularly during competing timeslots with other winter sports like soccer and footy. While additional playing facilities for rugby are not currently recommended, it is advised to redevelop the supporting amenities at Gloucester Park to meet the minimum recommended provision standards, considering the current participation levels and expected growth in juniors. These amenities are shared with soccer at Gloucester Park. Furthermore, it is suggested that the synthetic hockey pitch be utilized for junior level training to alleviate the demand on green grass playing space. Some known issues include small change rooms and below standard changeroom and amenities, which are shared and face scheduling challenges.

Considering the ongoing population growth within the Shire, particularly in the 10-14 age group, there is potential for Parkwater Oval to be developed as a multipurpose playing space to accommodate the continued growth of the junior demographic. In the future, it is recommended to investigate the installation of lighting on the Upper Western Ovals to meet the increasing demand for female, masters, youth trainings, as well as the rising participation in junior rugby. However, implementing floodlighting on these ovals presents challenges and can be costly due to their orientation and layout, which are affected by summer sports like cricket that divide the western ovals into two sections.



Surfing, Surf Lifesaving, Rowing

There are several locations where club activities related to surfing take place within the community. These locations include Surfers Point (MRBRC), North Point, South Point, Huzzas (Gracetown), Rivermouth, Gas Point, and Grunters. These spots serve as popular destinations for surfers and contribute to the vibrant recreational activity within the community.

While no detailed information is provided in this context, it is worth noting that these surfing activities are significant and are extremely popular within the local community. The Shire's Surfing Events Local Planning Policy LPP8 seeks to ensure the predominant use of foreshore reserves are retained for public recreation, and categorizes standard provisions, locations and requirements, and approval requirements for club, events, and general events.

Surf Lifesaving within the Shire is provided by the Margaret River Surf Life Saving Club and the Gracetown Surf Life Saving Clubs. The clubs provide important surf sports, water education and emergency assistance services for key beaches within the Shire. Professional lifeguard services are provided by Surf Lifesaving WA at Rivermouth. Surf Life Saving WA (SLSWA) has an operational base and development centre in the south west in the Margaret River townsite. This base provides a range of facilities to support operations including emergency response activities, training and recreation, equipment storage, and administration spaces; as well as being used for a broad range of member training and development initiatives for club-based activities and camps.

Provision for rowing is currently serviced by the Margaret River Rowing Club. The club is situated on Margaret River towards the Rivermouth off Wallcliffe Road. The club currently leases the boat shed (rowing club) and conducts club activities and passive rowing pursuits.

Skating and Roller Sports

Skate and roller sports are extremely popular within the Shire, and with the recent inclusion of skateboarding in the Olympics, participation continues to grow. Locally, the Concrete Club, Margaret River Roller Sports (Hockey, Derby, Dance), continue to grow roller sports participation through youth and adult programs and workshops, and integration of the sports with youth mental health initiatives.

One of the great barriers for indoor roller sports is suitable facilities, with the two Shire run recreation centres currently the only suitable and permissible locations of the sports.

Roller hockey continues to grow in demand and success, roller derby has seen a resurgence in participation through their pathway programs and development programs, with numbers back to where they were during the height of the sport circa 2012. Provision of multipurpose indoor courts catering for these programs and services is currently adequate, however with the exponential growth of basketball, and other sports requiring indoor court use at peak times; pressure for competing indoor court space at MRRC continues to grow. The addition of outdoor courts for basketball will address the immediate under supply of provision and can alleviate the competing needs through a combination of additional facilities and scheduling. The development of outdoor multi-purpose courts should consider whether the surface can also facilitate roller sports.



Trail: Running, Walking, Mountain Bike

Participation in mountain biking continues to grow right across Australia with the most recent AusPlay data estimating 492,900 adults and children participating in mountain biking nationally across 2021. Record levels of participation were recorded in WA with more than 53,000 people participating across 2021.

The West Cycle Mountain bike community survey highlighted 96% respondents chose to mountain bike for physical and mental health and fitness. In the South West Mountain Bike Masterplan, Margaret River was identified as a trails hub of national significance, and as specified in the Walk and Off-Road Cycle Trails Strategy Margaret River 2020 – 2024 (The Strategy), there has been significant growth in recreational off-road cycling (mountain biking) in and around Margaret River since 2010. Several identified issues have emerged from the growth of recreational off-road cycling, which have been addressed through Recommendation 6.4 Prioritisation of Future Provision of The Strategy.

Park Run is a popular recreational activity attracting an average of 100 participants throughout the year, with higher participation during the summer months (120 participants) and slightly lower during winter (80 participants). This Park Run event is considered a tourist destination and adds to the overall appeal of the area.

In addition to the Park Run, the Shire also has informal permit operated run clubs, and there may be potential interest in establishing walking clubs or promoting general walking activities within the community. This could include organized group walks, encouraging individuals to explore trails and nature reserves, and fostering a walking culture in the area. Creating and maintaining walking trails that showcase the natural beauty of the surroundings could also be considered as part of these initiatives.

Volleyball

There is a significant number of volleyball players within the community, but currently, there are no affiliated clubs or participation statistics. In Busselton, there is a popular beach volleyball competition held during the summer at the Busselton Foreshore Precinct. There is an opportunity to

collaborate and co-develop little athletics jump pit with volleyball to cater to the needs of both sports, especially in consideration of the high demand for competing indoor court users.

The local high school facility fosters a strong volleyball program and has shared use (on agreement) of volleyball courts for its students and community members (run through Shire delivered programs). There is currently an adequate provision of volleyball courts within the district level recreation centre at Margaret River.



Future Community and Recreation Facility Provision Requirements - By Townsite



Augusta



Augusta has a higher median age at 63 compared to the remainder of the shire at 42, as well as low occupancy rates, with an estimated population of 1,252 in 2021.

Facility Usage

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the Augusta Civic precinct is a district level active recreational facility, including a full-sized oval, gymnasium, hydrotherapy pool, indoor and outdoor multi-purpose court, BMX track, skate park, tennis club, and neighbouring par 3 golf course.

The oval is primarily used by junior and senior football, with junior football hosting games every second to third weekend, and the Augusta Abalones hosting approximately 5 home games per season in the Onshore Cup. The oval has recently had a lighting upgrade to enable evening training use on half of the oval, and whilst this is still under the standard for training, provides adequate provision for the current usage of the facility.

The gym has had a steady increase in membership over the past 5 years, with technological improvements made to member access and remote management of the facility enabling better onboarding and upkeep of the facility. The gym is due for complete replacement of pin and plate loaded machines in 2023.

The hydrotherapy pool is nearing capacity of use, but it is noted there has been an increased demand for swimming lessons due to the temporary closure of the Margaret River Recreation Centre facility. The hydrotherapy pool caters for hydro programs, delivered by the Shire's Health and Fitness team twice a week, and two privately owned and operated infant swim schools run infant lessons five times a week during school terms.

The district level facility does not have pressures in terms of bookings and scheduling and is highly likely to be able to accommodate further use as the population grows in the future. The tennis club is operated through a lease agreement with the Shire, as is the Bowling Club in a nearby location, and Par 3 Golf Course.

Current Provision Analysis

Augusta has an adequate provision of sport and community infrastructure, however, there have been some identified provision gaps and shortfalls, and potential future conflicts in terms of facilities at the district level facility.

Current change rooms at the facility service the indoor recreation centre, hydrotherapy pool, and football club. These facilities are shared use, but do not meet provision requirements for local football club standards, especially in consideration of scheduling required to manage the change rooms and access with other user groups of the hydro pool and gymnasium.

The skate park has been identified in need of improvements, and minor club driven improvements have been requested at the Augusta BMX club (general lighting, access to services). The current provision of dual use outdoor basketball / netball system is outdated and antiquated and in need of potential replacement.

The current library facilities are small and constrained in terms of offering service.

Future Provision Analysis

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the update of the Augusta Civic Precinct master plan is required to guide the development of the current provision shortfalls and required improvements, as well as future provision requirements.

Strategies:

1. Update of Augusta Oval Masterplan to address current and future usage requirements.
 - a. RV and Bus Stop Relocation
 - b. Library provision
 - c. Skatepark Improvements/Upgrades
 - d. Design and Construct Gym / Hydrotherapy / Sports Pavilion change rooms (upgrade / new)
 - e. Investigate floodlighting at Augusta BMX (Sports Floodlighting Implementation Program)
 - f. Investigate Augusta Oval floodlighting upgrades (Sports Floodlighting Implementation Program)
2. Firestone Park: Design and Implement Detailed Designs

Cowaramup



Cowaramup has been one of the fastest growing settlements in the Shire and is the second most populated townsite with an estimated population of 1,869 in 2020. Cowaramup has a higher-than-average number of families with children, leading to high levels of participation in organised sport and other forms of recreation.

Facility Usage

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the bookings for Cowaramup Oval are currently managed through the Cowaramup Halls, Reserves and Residents Association (CHRRRA). Usage statistics are therefore based on an overview report from CHRRRA and club consultation.

During summer, the Cowaramup Oval is used primarily for cricket, with two cricket pitches configured on the oval (1x turf wicket, and 1x hard wicket). During winter the oval is primarily used for junior football and private soccer groups. All year round the oval has a designated off-lead dog exercise area which can present issues for clubs and recreation users.

The sub-district facility at Cowaramup also has a tennis club with four court operated through a lease agreement with the Shire, a BMX track run by the Cowaramup BMX Club, and a skate park with supporting playground. The facility also includes a pavilion to service the oval with change rooms and kiosk, a hall, public amenities, and an outdoor basketball / netball court utilised for passive informal recreation.

The Cowaramup BMX club has put extensive work into the track over the past few years with upgrades through municipal funding, club contribution, DLGSC funding, and in-kind contribution (materials and services).

Parkwater Oval is a size suitable for active recreation, but has issues with drainage and surface quality, currently making it unfit for formal recreation and club use without extensive upgrade. Parkwater Oval also requires the addition of toilets, storage, change rooms, and the possible provision of floodlighting detailed through an updated masterplan process to make it fit for purpose as an active reserve.

As depicted in Appendix 5, Cowaramup Oval is only at 66.66% of the recommend winter weekly usage, however, it is also worth noting that there is capacity for additional usage due to the good condition of the reserve and scheduling throughout the week.

Current Provision Analysis

Cowaramup has an adequate provision of sport and community infrastructure, however the increasing trend of junior female participation in AFL may produce some complexities for clubs around management of change room facilities in the future.

The development of Parkwater Oval in the future will cater for an increasing demand on Cowaramup Oval in the future and provide an alternative location for increasingly popular winter sporting codes, as well as providing an alternative option for Gloucester Park clubs and user groups. As previously mentioned, improvements including new infrastructure at Parkwater Oval would be required to enable active reserve use for clubs at the reserve.

Whilst there is an outdoor court on the east of Bussell Hwy at the Cowaramup Oval precinct, there is a highlighted deficiency of basketball and informal recreation on the West side of Bussell Hwy in the Parkwater area. As an area with a high density of young families with children in the Parkwater area, and the barrier of Bussell Hwy, the development of a half-court basketball court facility at the Parkwater Oval will provide the community with a facility that caters for the fastest growing sport in the Shire and more options for passive recreation.

Future Provision Analysis

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the development of the Parkwater Oval masterplan will address the key areas of improvements and facility provision requirements in the future. Whilst little athletics is currently situated at Gloucester Park, the majority of membership base and volunteer committee is drawn from Cowaramup and north of Cowaramup. Parkwater Oval has been identified as a future possibility for the relocation of the little athletics club, especially considering the City of Busselton does not have facilities, and the club is servicing the Shire's athletics community, as well as an adjoining LGA.

Strategies:

1. Development of Parkwater Oval Masterplan to address future usage requirements.
 - a. Redevelop Parkwater Oval as active reserve for senior sized winter sports.
 - b. Construction of amenities with storage, with provision for changerooms.
 - c. Construction of multi-use / basketball half court
 - d. Investigate provision of floodlighting at Parkwater Oval
2. Investigate provision of flood lighting at Cowaramup Oval
3. Investigate upgrades / improvements to skate park

Margaret River



Margaret River is the principal settlement within the Shire, with the highest population distribution within the Shire, estimated at 7,430 people in 2021.

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the Gloucester Park Sporting Precinct is the Shire's regional facility located in Margaret River. Gloucester Park caters for a multitude of passive and active recreation pursuits, including ovals for amateur sport, recreation centre, and youth precinct. The growth of Margaret River and general upwards curve of sport and recreation participation within the Shire has seen Gloucester Park nearing capacity, especially during the winter seasons where multiple codes are competing for oval space and facilities.

Facility Usage

Junior sports have continued to show steady growth in Margaret River, and Margaret River based clubs have a strong need to remain based within reasonable proximity to the catchment of the town's primary schools and high school, where a large proportion of junior members travel to after school sports via walking and bicycle.

Whilst other facilities in neighbouring townsites such as Cowaramup can facilitate after school sports training, the distance to travel provides a barrier to relocate primarily Margaret River based junior club trainings and activities to neighbouring townsites.

The current limitations and capacity issues at Gloucester Park highlight the need for further development of existing sports facilities within the Margaret River area. This could include upgrading the supporting facilities at Gloucester Park, as well as providing lighting and standalone supporting facilities at Rapids Landing Primary School. The required addition of outdoor courts can alleviate the pressures of demand of indoor court space, with key stakeholders including the Margaret River Basketball Association, Margaret River Netball Association benefiting from additional court space. This consequently will alleviate the immediate need for additional indoor courts by providing alternative training facilities, and therefore creating adequate provision of indoor courts for these Associations, as well as other Clubs such as roller sports, and community social sports and informal recreation pursuits and after school sports and activities.

As depicted in Appendix 5, the recommended weekly hours per the Australian Sports Commission for oval usage during the winter season is being exceeded across the Gloucester Park ovals. It should be noted that these hours are recommended best practice guidelines for the maintenance and longevity of playing surfaces, however, it is not always possible and reasonable to schedule facility usage within the parameters of the guidelines, especially given the shared use of ovals.

As depicted, the improvements at Rapids Landing Primary School can alleviate the pressures on Gloucester Park and provide more opportunities for organised sports activities in the community.

Whilst junior sports face issues in relocating training facilities to neighbouring townsites, there is scope to provide these on an ad-hoc needs basis at Cowaramup Oval to provide required rejuvenation periods in season (specifically winter). There is also an opportunity to service the demand of any growth in senior sports at Cowaramup through the upgrade and development of Cowaramup Oval floodlighting and Parkwater Oval upgrades (highlighted and developed through a masterplan process).

Whilst there is currently a high demand on indoor courts, the completion of the Margaret River Recreation Centre redevelopment will reintroduce the third indoor court for use by multiple user groups year-round. The indoor courts are primarily used by the basketball association during summer (Term 4 and Term 1), and the netball association during winter (Term 2 and Term 3). Demand of these courts can currently be managed through scheduling with other key user groups including social sports and roller sports, with the extension of operating hours over the past two seasons shown as a proven strategy to make use of existing facility provision to cater for growth and demand of competing user groups. The addition of outdoor courts will also alleviate strain on indoor court demand, and effectively manage the scheduling through alternative facilities before any additional indoor courts are identified as a need in the future.

Current Provision Analysis

Margaret River is reasonably well catered for in terms of provision for sport and community infrastructure, except for outdoor courts and supporting amenities. The assessment of current provision highlighted a lack of supporting amenities, including the need for changerooms and ablutions at Nippers Oval to service junior sports, as well as the upgrade of the Western Pavilion to meet minimum facility provision requirements for the current and future use of the soccer, cricket, and rugby clubs. Other key deficiencies highlighted were available court space (indoor and outdoor) for rapidly growing netball and basketball associations, with the provision of outdoor courts within Margaret River severely lacking and causing additional strain on multi-purpose indoor court provision.

Future Provision Analysis

As detailed in the Shire's Public Open Space Strategy 2022, the development of the Gloucester Park masterplan will address the key areas of improvements and facility provision requirements in the future. The development of the Rapids Landing Primary School masterplan will also address the needs of facilities and upgrades at that location to alleviate current and future needs of the local community.

Strategies

1. Update the Gloucester Park Masterplan to address current and future usage levels.
 - b. Redevelopment of Western Pavilion to meet minimum facility provision requirements to service cricket, soccer, and rugby.
 - c. Construction of outdoor courts with supporting amenities to service netball and basketball association requirements, as well as passive recreation and meet minimum provision requirements.
2. Prepare master plan for the upgrade of the Rapids Landing Oval and implement improvements to provide facilities for active recreation.

Townsites and Rural Areas



Future Community and Recreation Facility Provision



The spatial distribution of facilities and community infrastructure throughout the Shire is a key consideration when assessing current and future provision requirements. In the context of facility planning, the townsites of Augusta, Cowaramup, and Margaret River are the Shire's District level facilities that predominantly cater for active sport and recreation; however, the townsites of Witchcliffe, Gracetown, Gnarabup/Prevelly, Karridale, Kudardup, Alexandra Bridge, and Rosa Brook have also been assessed in a local and neighbourhood level context to provide passive recreation and leisure facilities.

Key considerations of these townsites in a community infrastructure context is whether the population forecasts and spatial distribution trigger provision requirements of certain facilities.

Facility Usage

As it currently stands, the facilities at these locations are generally considered local level that primarily cater for informal or passive recreation pursuits. In the case of organised sport, residents will generally travel to the district level facilities in Augusta, Cowaramup, and Margaret River, where clubs and associations are based.

Junior field sports training could be considered at locations such as Rosa Brook and Gnarabup on the proviso that basic supporting ablutions could be accessed, however it should be noted that change rooms or other infrastructure upgrades is not currently recommended based on current and forecasted usage and provision requirements.

Current Provision Analysis

The local level facilities at these townsites are generally built and maintained to a basic standard and typically include Council venues co-located with halls, tennis courts, or playgrounds.

Active halls committees generally manage the halls and adjacent outdoor court facilities.

Future Provision Analysis

In consideration of the over provision of tennis courts across the Shire, it is recommended that the upgrade and/or conversion of tennis courts to multi-purpose courts that cater for a range of activities such as basketball, tennis, and netball be considered in the future provision of these townsites to align with multi-use principles and support the increasing trend of court sports.

Strategies:

Alexandra Bridge: Upgrade hardcourts. Investigate transition to multi-use court at time of upgrade.

Witchcliffe: Upgrade one tennis court to multi-use hard court in conjunction with minor play facility.

Rosa Brook: Investigate transition to multi-use court at asset renewal.

Appendix 2 provides details of additional facilities required for the projected population growth in the Shire. It also includes details of recommended planned projects that will influence the number of additional facilities required in future years. Additional facilities have been calculated on the basis of population growth, spatial distribution, and local demands and trends. It also accounts for the existing under-provision of facilities. Due to the distribution of towns within the Shire (and the size and distance between them) consideration has been given to the most appropriate location for these additional facilities. Table 7 also incorporates the outcomes of the requirements for the provision of land and play facilities detailed in the Public Open Space Strategy included as Attachment 1.

In the context of the future community and recreation facility provision as detailed in Appendix 2, the population projections of the Shire have been applied as per Scenario 3 referenced in the Public Local Planning Strategy, as opposed to Scenario 1 applied in the context of the Public Open Space Strategy. Scenario 3 has been applied in this context as Scenario 1 has already exceeded projections of 2021, with the main population growth projected between the settlements of Margaret River and Cowaramup where facility provision has been identified as the highest priority. The continued and projected growth from state and federal sporting bodies of sports such as soccer, basketball, and football has been a contributing factor in the context of applying Scenario 3. It is important to note that in a future facility provision context, there is minimal impact to the number of additional facilities if Scenario 1 were applied but does account for a population already more than Scenario 1, and for expected growth in sports currently below state average (i.e., soccer, and netball).

Shared Use



Clubs

Formalised agreements between clubs, associations, and the Shire, that clearly articulate shared use of facilities is an example of one of the Leisure Plan's key principles of shared use. Historically, clubs and associations have utilised the same facilities, however as demand grows for usage of these facilities and capacity decreases, it is highly recommended that these clubs and associations expand their training and where practicable, their games, to other facilities as they become available. Examples of this are Gloucester Park based clubs utilising outdoor court and/or playing fields at other local and district facilities such as Cowaramup, Rapid's Landing.

Whilst somewhat contradictory, the development of exclusive use agreements of certain facilities such as indoor courts and playing fields during traditional seasons, will contribute towards the correct allocation of facility provision and foster shared use of those same facilities in the applicable sports off-season. Examples of this may include allocating two (2) indoor courts to the basketball and netball associations during their season for exclusive use, to promote shared use of the third available court. Another example is the allocation of lower western playing field for shared sporting services during the summer season, rather than exclusively allocating to soccer for the out of regular season summer competition. The utilisation of the synthetic hockey pitch is another multi-purpose facility that can be used for winter junior sports training to alleviate over usage of playing fields, and foster growth of junior clubs such as rugby and soccer programs for example.

In terms of clubrooms and amenities, the facilities not on a lease agreement should foster co-use between clubs that service multi-use sports facilities. The standard of provision of these facilities should cater for the largest user and enable equitable access of facilities based on scheduling and participation level and demographics of the user groups.

Lease Agreements

In the case of facilities operating under formalised leases, there is an opportunity to review these agreements upon renewal to encourage non-exclusive use of basic supporting amenities such as toilets and change rooms. Current lease agreements are inconsistent and are not always facilitative of investment or shared use. An opportunity presents itself when reviewing existing leases, and developing or upgrading facilities to promote single management arrangements under a multi-use hub concept, i.e. multiple sports clubs and/or associations that utilise those facilities form a single management entity with shared representation to manage the facilities under lease or license agreements.

These arrangements can potentially develop sustainability of the club and facility through income generating potential of sub-lease and hire arrangements, as well as other streams of income generation.

It should be noted that dependent on the facility, this may not be practicable based on the standard of provision of the existing facility and the additional intended use but can serve as supplementary facility provision. This should be assessed on a case-by-case scenario based on the facility and the user groups requiring use of the facility.

School Facilities

Formalising shared use agreements between local government and school facilities is an example of one of the State Government's DLGSC key initiatives of implementing shared use within education facilities.

Discussions between the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and schools regarding shared use agreements should be continued with the intended outcome enabling a balance of out of school hour access where reasonable and practicable.

In some cases, the Shire and schools such as Rapids Landing Primary School have existing formalised agreements where the Shire is responsible for booking management of the oval outside school hours, however outdoor courts are not covered under this agreement and remain under the school's jurisdiction.

In the case where there are no existing co-use agreements such as the Margaret River Senior High School, and Margaret River Primary School, formalised agreements should continue to be explored between the school and clubs, associations, and the Shire as a viable option to make use of sporting infrastructure outside of school hours.

Whilst there are intricacies involved in the logistics of these agreements, partnerships with schools can assist in immediately addressing existing under supply of provision as well as supporting future demand requirements, however it should be noted that whilst some school sites can be utilised for training, there are several site and operational considerations that deem school facilities unsuitable for competition.

As of September 2023, an in principal agreement with the Margaret River Senior High School has been reached to continue supporting local clubs, associations, and Shire's sport and recreation services to utilise the six (6) outdoor hard courts on a non-exclusive use agreement (subject to terms, conditions, and availability). The agreement shall be reviewed periodically between all parties and will remain the responsibility of the hirer to liaise directly with the senior high school.

Financial Implications and Funding



The costs associated with the recommendations included within the Leisure Plan are based on 2023 cost estimates and will be reviewed as part of incorporating these projects within the Long Term Financial Plan and Forward Capital Works Plan. Projects may also be subject to business case development and progressive cost estimate updates. Given the increasingly competitive nature of external funding this plan recommends resources be allocated to forward planning initiatives that will not only increase the achievability of projects but strategically target external funding. Where club contributions support project viability, the forward planning and scoping of projects through this plan provides clubs advanced notice to source funding and sets agreed timeframes to do so.

This plan also sets standards and infrastructure commitments to understand that the projects being sought and developed are within capacity for longer term maintenance.

The following funding sources will be utilised to implement the Leisure Plan in particular circumstances.

Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) – Setting the Funding Strategy

The Long Term Financial Plan documents the Shire's forward funding strategy based on incorporating the fundings of the Shire's Forward Capital Works Plan. Other facilities and infrastructure that can support

leisure activities are also recognised in the LTFP, including parking, footpaths and the full suite of public amenities.

Municipal Funds – Renewal, Maintenance and Leveraging Grants

Renewal and maintenance are largely provided for through municipal funds. These funds are primarily obtained through rates income, supplemented by operating grants and fees and charges. These are the resources of the current community and appropriately used for maintaining the facilities we have, renewing those facilities at the end of their useful life and ensuring a fair distribution of facilities. Significant expansion or new facilities often require pre-planning and leveraged funding, which may also require a municipal contribution.

Development Contributions

Development contributions are the primary tool in funding the growth-related costs of infrastructure. As the requirement for new or upgraded infrastructure often arises from the demand introduced by new residents, the development system incorporates the potential to levy these costs of growth to the beneficiaries – those undertaking development. Growth related components of the Leisure Plan have been identified as being in part funded by developer contributions. As the existing contribution

arrangements were put in place in 2014-2016, many of the projects within the existing scheme have been implemented or are subject to changes in priorities or new development implications. Consequentially, following adoption of this plan modifications will be progressed to the developer contributions system to align the leisure plan and contributions arrangements.

Community Contributions

Contributions from groups receiving a direct benefit from a particular facility are a common method of assisting in project viability or bringing projects forward in time. Community halls groups and sporting clubs commonly raise or repay a proportional share of the costs of facilities. This is more common the more financially sustainable a club becomes, through wide membership base and income making activities.

Grants - Local Road and Community Infrastructure Planning

The LRCIP Program was introduced in 2021 and has provided four phases of funding to local governments throughout Australia. A non-competitive 'use it or lose it' fund, the Shire has a set allocation of \$689,000 available for community infrastructure to be expended by June 2025. The fund provides only for new facilities. It is unknown whether future phases of the fund will be available.

Grants – Australian Sports Commission (Play our Way)

The Australian Sports Commission provide funding for significant infrastructure activities and have as of August 2023 made a commitment of an additional \$200M investment through the Play our Way grants program aimed at engaging and retaining females in sport through the promotion and support of access equality, facility upgrades, and grassroots initiatives.

The Play Our Way grant applications were opened 18 March 2024, with the Stage 1 (Expression of Interest) applications closing 29 April 2024. The Shire is only permitted to submit one application per municipality, with projects requiring completion by 30 June 2027. Co-contributions aren't mandatory, with funding available up to 100% of projects costs up to \$1.5m. Grant applications are assessed on merit that best meet the policy objectives of engaging and retaining females in sport.

Grants – Lotterywest

Lotterywest run competitive grant funding opportunities based on co-contribution and are generally targeted at specific values and criteria rather than supporting sporting infrastructure. Lotterywest do have a stream for encouraging active lifestyles and often fund options for play, particularly where there are aligned benefits such as cultural or accessibility inclusions.

Grants – Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund

Cricket Australia, in partnership with State and Territory Associations, is committed to developing quality facilities that provide a welcoming environment for all participants, officials, volunteers and spectators. The Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund (ACIF) is open to all clubs, associations, schools, councils and cricket facility managers, acknowledging the important role that these partners play in providing facilities for community cricket across Australia.

Grants - Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF)

Through the Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) the State Government will invest annually in the development of high-quality physical environments in which people can enjoy sport and recreation. The State Government has increased from an available \$12m, to \$20 million for allocation in the 2024/2025 funding round.

Grants – DLGSC Club Night Lights Program

Through the Club Night Lights Program, the State Government will provide financial assistance to community groups and local governments to develop sports floodlighting infrastructure. The program aims to maintain or increase participation in sport and recreation with an emphasis on physical activity, through rational development of good quality, well-designed and well-utilised facilities.

Timing and Financial Assumptions

The timing and financial assumptions to meet future requirements are detailed in the table below.

Facility Improvement Timing and Financial Assumptions

Project	Sub Project	Year 1 2023-24	Year 2 2024-25	Year 3 2025-26	Year 4 2026-27	Year 5 2027-28	Year 6 2028-29	Year 7 2029-30	Year 8 2030-31	Year 9 2031-32	Year 10 2032-33	Year 11 2033-34	Year 12 2034-35	Grand Total	Funding Source			
															Municipal	Grants	Developer Contributions	Other
Gloucester Park (Stage 1)	Masterplan Development	\$15,000												\$15,000	\$15,000			
	Western Pavilion: Detailed Design	\$20,000												\$20,000	\$20,000			
	Courts - Outdoor (x2)			\$400,000										\$400,000	\$133,333	\$133,333	\$133,334	
	Western Pavilion: Redevelop Pavilion/Changeroom Facilities			\$1,000,000										\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000			
	Design: Changerooms/Ablutions: Nippers Oval		\$10,000											\$10,000	\$10,000			
	Little Athletics / Beach Sports Zone - Jump Pits		\$10,000											\$10,000	\$10,000			
	Construct: Changerooms/Ablutions: Nippers Oval			\$250,000										\$250,000	\$83,330	\$83,335	\$83,335	
Gloucester Park (Stage 2)	Courts - Outdoor (x2)					\$240,000								\$240,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	
	Outdoor Courts Floodlighting - Club Competition: Design and Construct				\$130,000									\$130,000	\$130,000			
	Outdoor Courts - Changeroom/Ablutions					\$250,000								\$250,000	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,334	
Total Gloucester Park Stage 1		\$35,000	\$20,000	\$1,650,000	\$130,000	\$490,000								\$2,325,000	\$434,996	\$1,510,001	\$380,003	
	Outdoor Courts Floodlighting - Club Competition: Design and Construct				\$130,000									\$130,000		\$130,000		
Total Gloucester Park Stage 1					\$130,000									\$130,000		\$130,000		
Witchcliffe Harcourts and Playgrounds	Design: Harcourts Consolidation and Playground Construction	\$10,000												\$10,000			\$10,000	
	Construct: Harcourts and Playground	\$200,000												\$200,000		\$100,000	\$100,000	
Leeuwin Parklands	Detailed Design					Cost TBC												
	Implementation: Subject to Design						\$70,000							\$70,000			\$70,000	
Ecovillage	Play facility		\$140,000											\$140,000			\$70,000	\$70,000
Total Witchcliffe and Surrounds		\$210,000	\$140,000			\$70,000								\$420,000	\$15,000	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$70,000
Rapids Landing Primary School Stage 1	Masterplan Development - Scope Improvements to DCA		\$15,000											\$15,000	\$15,000			
	Construct: Amenities with provision for future change rooms				\$250,000									\$250,000	\$83,333	\$83,333	\$83,334	
	Floodlighting; Design and Construct				\$220,000									\$220,000	\$110,000	\$110,000		
Total Rapids Landing Primary School Stage 1			\$15,000		\$470,000									\$485,000	\$208,333	\$193,333	\$84,334	
Rapids Landing Primary School Stage 2	Remainder of Masterplan Implementation (oval upgrades, landscaping, etc)							Cost TBC										
Total Rapids Landing Primary School Stage 2																		
Alexandra Bridge Courts Replacement			\$125,000											\$125,000		\$100,000		\$25,000
Rosa Brook Landscaping and Townscape			\$125,000											\$125,000		\$100,000		\$25,000
Total Rural Townsites			\$125,000											\$125,000		\$100,000		\$25,000
Cowaramup (Stage 1)	Parkwater Oval Masterplan: Costings to Developer Contribution Scheme			\$15,000										\$15,000			\$15,000	
	Design: Amenities with provision for future changerooms: Parkwater Oval				\$15,000									\$15,000			\$15,000	
	Floodlighting Design and Construct: Cowaramup Oval					\$250,000								\$250,000	\$83,330	\$83,335	\$83,335	
	Construct: Amenities with provision for future changerooms: Parkwater Oval									\$250,000				\$250,000	\$83,330	\$83,335	\$83,335	
	Design and Construct: Basketball Half Court						\$55,000							\$55,000			\$55,000	
Total Cowaramup (Stage 1)				\$15,000	\$15,000	\$250,000	\$55,000					\$250,000		\$585,000	\$166,660	\$166,670	\$251,670	
Cowaramup Stage 2	Redevelop Parkwater Oval as Active Reserve: Per Masterplan											\$400,000		\$400,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	
	Construct: Changerooms and Club Storage (per Needs Assessment)									\$315,000				\$315,000	\$157,500		\$157,500	
Total Cowaramup Stage 2										\$315,000		\$400,000		\$715,000	\$357,500	\$100,000	\$257,500	
Augusta Civic Park	Augusta Civic Park Masterplan	\$15,000												\$15,000	\$15,000			
	Skatepark Improvements/Upgrades			\$70,000										\$70,000				\$70,000
	Design: Changerooms - Gym/Hydrotherapy Pool/Sports Pavilion					\$35,000								\$35,000	\$35,000			
	Construct: Changerooms - Gym/Hydrotherapy Pool/Sports Pavilion						\$600,000							\$600,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	
Total Augusta Civic Park		\$15,000		\$70,000		\$35,000	\$600,000							\$720,000	\$250,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$70,000
Augusta - Firestone Park	Firestone Park: Finalise Detailed Designs	\$5000												\$5000	\$5000			
	Firestone Park: Construct: Implement Detailed Designs		\$140,000											\$140,000		\$140,000		
Total Augusta - Firestone Park		\$5000	\$140,000											\$145,000	\$5000	\$140,000		
Gracetown	Playspace - Concept and Detailed Design	\$5000												\$5000	\$5000			
	Playspace - Construct		\$90,000											\$90,000		\$35,000		\$55,000
	Community Hall Upgrades - Detailed Design and Plans				Cost TBC													
	Foreshore Areas - Concept Plans for Improvements	\$5000												\$5000	\$5000			
Total Gracetown		\$10,000	\$90,000											\$100,000	\$10,000	\$35,000		\$55,000
Kudardup Playspace								\$35,000						\$35,000			\$35,000	
Total Kudardup Playspace								\$35,000						\$35,000			\$35,000	
Karridale - Hamelin Grove Playspace					\$70,000									\$70,000			\$70,000	
Total Karridale - Hamelin Grove Playspace					\$70,000									\$70,000			\$70,000	
Gnarabup Oval Improvements								Cost TBC										
Total Gnarabup Oval																		
Margaret River Recreation Centre	Indoor Multi-purpose Court, Program Pool - Concept Plan								\$15,000					\$15,000	\$15,000			
	Indoor Multi-purpose Court, Program Pool - Detailed Design & Business Case									\$150,000				\$150,000	\$150,000			
	Indoor Multi-purpose Court - Construction										\$2,200,000			\$2,200,000	\$733,333	\$733,333	\$733,333	
	Program Pool - Construction											\$4,200,000		\$4,200,000				
	Sylvander/Cabernet Reserve - Upgrade to Neighbourhood Standard											\$75,000		\$75,000			\$75,000	
Total Margaret River Recreation Centre									\$15,000	\$150,000	\$2,200,000	\$75,000	\$4,200,000	\$6,640,000	\$898,333	\$733,333	\$808,334	
Grand Total		\$275,000	\$530,000	\$1,735,000	\$815,000	\$775,000	\$725,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$465,000	\$2,200,000	\$725,000	\$4,200,000	\$8,295,000	\$2,330,833	\$3,408,333	\$2,335,833	\$220,000

Funding Source	Year 1 2023-24	Year 2 2024-25	Year 3 2025-26	Year 4 2026-27	Year 5 2027-28	Year 6 2028-29	Year 7 2029-30	Year 8 2030-31	Year 9 2031-32	Year 10 2032-33	Year 11 2033-34	Year 12 2034-35	Grand Total
Developer Contributions	\$110,000	\$70,000	\$231,667	\$168,333	\$246,667	\$325,000	\$35,000		\$157,500	\$733,333	\$268,333		\$2,335,833
Grants and External Funding	\$100,000	\$275,000	\$1,216,667	\$453,333	\$246,667	\$200,000				\$733,333	\$183,333		\$3,408,333
Municipal	\$65,000	\$35,000	\$216,667	\$193,333	\$281,667	\$200,000		\$15,000	\$307,500	\$733,333	\$283,333		\$2,330,833
Other		\$150,000	\$70,000										\$220,000
Grand Total	\$275,000	\$530,000	\$1,735,000	\$815,000	\$775,000	\$725,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$465,000	\$2,200,000	\$725,000		\$8,295,000

Recommendations and Key Action Categories

Recommended actions have been identified to address the key findings outlined in this plan. These actions can be considered under three broad categories.

Recommendation and Key Action Categories	
KAC1	Community Recreation and Sport Facility Provision and Planning
KAC2	Sustainable Clubs and Facilities
KAC3	Future Requirements: Community Recreation and Sport Facilities

KAC1: Community Recreation and Sport Facility Provision and Planning

1. Endorse the Hierarchy of Facilities (Table 5. Page 26)	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorse and implement. Review as part of Leisure Plan periodical review. 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with guiding principles. Assists with implementation of Community Infrastructure Plans and Development Contribution Plans Provides consolidated reference hierarchy for consistent application of facility provision
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil Review period to be determined 	

2. Support the planning of priority projects	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget for an annual allocation in the Long-Term Financial Plan Budget for completion of planning, design, business cases, and grant applications for priority infrastructure Development of Master Plans for District Development of Floodlighting Implementation Program Incorporate funding assumptions into review of the Shire's developer contribution arrangements 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases capacity to deliver projects. Reduces project contingency. Increases ability to secure alternate sources of funding. Enhances club contribution with advanced planning of projects and costs. Itemises and priorities key projects and associated ancillary requirements of projects.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Implementation and Financials Table Years 1 – 12 	

3. Support partnerships with peak bodies, government departments, external facilities	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue fostering partnerships with schools regarding shared use agreements. Continue discussions and annual updates with Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries, and Lotteries West Continue discussions with peak bodies such as Parks and Leisure Australia and Royal Life Saving WA regarding best practice, trends, and collaboration between LGAs 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with guiding principles. Enhances opportunities for continued shared use of facilities and responsible delivery of sport and community infrastructure
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational expenditure Years 1 - 12 	

KAC2: Sustainable Clubs and Facilities

1. Support club and associations to develop strategic plans and governance practices	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver resources and promote collaboration between clubs. Support Clubs through the Shire's Sport and Recreation Service's team. Investigate and implement Clubmap Club Development Support Program as a collaborative investment for Shire clubs and associations. Continue fostering programs delivered through industry bodies such as Inclusion Solutions and Goodsports Shire Community Sports and Recreation Grants Financial contribution to support participation in sport and physical activity or club development. 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of clubs do not have an existing strategic plan. Significant uptake of Kidsport program Kidsport program has increased in available funding. Clubs require support to increase and retain volunteers and continue club development.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational expenditure Shire Grant Funding: \$10k per annum Years 1-3 and ongoing 	

KAC2: Sustainable Clubs and Facilities contd.

2. Implement programs and initiatives to aid and remove barriers to participate	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with allied health services and sport agencies to identify ways to increase participation in passive recreation. Continue to provide low cost modified programs, i.e 75+ discount, 80+ free memberships, seniors walking programs and low impact sports, i.e chair and band, pickleball, walking sports 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in participation and removing barriers to entry can lead to greater sustainability of clubs and off-shoot programs and services delivered by clubs and associations
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil Ongoing 	

3. Review and develop policies and operational practices regarding Shire facilities	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and endorsement of the Sport and Recreation Facilities User Guide Develop procedure for capital works requests from clubs and associations Review of lease agreements and non-exclusive shared use components Review of seasonal tenancy agreements and shared use Development of exclusive, and non-exclusive agreements in the context of shared use principles 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent approach to the application of leases, licences, management agreements, and memorandums of understanding. Clear, transparent, and advance expectations of lessees, licensees, facility users and hirers. Clear understanding of ongoing club contributions, allocation of sport and recreation reserve funding allocations, and ongoing operational and asset renewal expectations and costs
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil Ongoing 	

4: Shire of Augusta Margaret River Recreation Centres: Programs and initiatives	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and capitalise on available usage of facilities. Continue fostering co-use of facilities and enhance off-peak usage of facilities to reduce operating subsidy. In-house swim school delivery. 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of activity vs club activity when allocating pool, gym, and court space Balancing the need to address provision requirements of passive and active recreation that utilise facilities. Increase physical activity in the centres across a broad range of demographics and abilities.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil Ongoing 	

KAC3: Future Requirements: Community recreation and Sport Facilities

1: Increase capacity of outdoor court provision	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct 4 outdoor multi-use courts. Transition existing over provision of hardcourts (primarily tennis) to multi-use courts. Consider upgrade of traditional basketball concrete pads to half court facility 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club, Association, and Community consultation Facility provision aligns with recommended guidelines. Increase capacity for the fastest and most popular sport in the Shire. Allows for growth, and increases capacity for shared use of indoor courts.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Implementation and Financials Table Years 1 - 7 	

2: Increase capacity of playing fields	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodlighting (subject to implementation program and funding). Provide supporting amenities per standards of provision at alternative playing fields. Utilise other multi-sport facilities that can cater for winter sports (i.e hockey pitch) School site agreements 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club, Association, and Community consultation Facility provision aligns with recommended guidelines. Increase capacity and reduce overuse of Gloucester Park Allows for growth and increases capacity. Aligns with guiding principles.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Implementation and Financials Table Operational expenditure Years 1 - 7 	

3: Upgrades and addition of supporting amenities	
<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade Western Pavilion. Installation of semi-permanent ablutions / changerooms at identified locations. Design and construction of ablutions and changerooms at identified locations. Partner with funding bodies and state sporting associations to guide the standards of provision 	<p>Justification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club, Association, and Community consultation Facility provision aligns with recommended guidelines. Increase capacity of existing facilities Addresses future facilities that require supporting amenities. Aligns with guiding principles.
<p>Cost Estimate and Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Implementation and Financials Table Years 1 - 9 	

KAC3: Future Requirements: Community recreation and Sport Facilities contd.

4: Shared use of facilities and active sporting reserves.	
How:	Justification:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and develop policies and operational practices regarding Shire facilities (Point 3, KAC2). Consider multi-use when building new facilities. Continuing working with clubs and associations to promote shared use principles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club, Association, and Community consultation Aligns with guiding principles. Necessity to share facilities to maximise usage and effectively manage and maintain facility costs.
Cost Estimate and Timeline:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Implementation and Financials Table Ongoing 	

Summary of Key Actions

Recommendations have considered the guiding principles, industry studies, trends and data, consultation and engagement, and shall be facilitated through collaboration with community groups, sports clubs and associations, peak bodies, and government departments. The proposed actions pertaining to the above Key Action Categories will require a level of collaboration and further needs analysis to be detailed through the development of relevant district master plans, floodlighting implementation priorities, and funding sources. These items are detailed in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Key Actions

Timeframe	Actions
2023/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of floodlighting implementation program Development of Gloucester Park Master Plan Development of Augusta Civic Park Master Plan Establish formalised shared use agreement with Margaret River Senior High School (outdoor hardcourts) and Margaret River Primary School Review of shared-use, lease, and management arrangement policy
2024/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Rapids Landing Primary School Master Plan Witchcliffe hardcourts and playground upgrade/consolidation Construction of Western Pavilion (cricket/soccer/rugby) (2025/26) Witchcliffe Ecovillage play facility. Alexandra Bridge hardcourt/play facility upgrade Hardcourts detailed design
2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Parkwater Oval Masterplan Margaret River: outdoor multi-use hardcourt construction (x2) Construct changerooms/ablutions: nippers oval Augusta Civic Park: skatepark upgrades
2026/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gracetown Community Hall upgrades Kudardup: Hamelin Grove playspace construction Margaret River: design and construct floodlighting* (outdoor hardcourts) Rapids Landing Primary School: sports amenities and floodlighting* Parkwater oval: design sports amenities
2027/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cowaramup oval: design and construct floodlighting* Leeuwin Parklands: detailed design Augusta Civic Park: amenities design (club and recreation centre)

Timeframe	Actions
2028/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwin Parklands: implementation (subject to design) Parkwater: half outdoor court construction Augusta Civic Park: amenities construction (club and recreation centre)
2029/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River: outdoor multi-use hardcourt construction (x2) and amenities Kudardup: install playspace Gnarabup: upgrade POS at Gnarabup oval
2030/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapids Landing Primary School: implement remainder of master plan outcomes Margaret River Recreation Centre: concept plan (indoor court and program pool)
2031/32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre: detailed design and business case (indoor court and program pool)
2032/33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre: construct indoor court
2033/34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parkwater: sports amenities building (per needs assessment) Sylvaner/Cabernet Reserve - upgrade to neighbourhood
2034/35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre: construct program pool (per business case)

*Subject to Floodlighting Implementation Program

**Subject to grant funding and club contribution schemes

Projects Table by Place

Shire Wide

Project Description	Recommended Action
Sports Floodlighting Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development implementation program based on needs assessment of facilities, available funding, budget, and contributions. in line with available grant funding streams.
Sport and Recreation Facilities User Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy detailing operational responsibilities and the process and requirements for any new and/or additional capital improvements and upgrades.

Augusta

Project Description	Recommended Action
Augusta Civic Park Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and finalise master plan, prioritising projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Master Plan Skate Park Improvements / Upgrades RV and Bus Stop Relocation Design and Construct Gym / Hydrotherapy / Sports Pavilion change rooms (upgrade / new) Investigate floodlighting at Augusta BMX (Sports Floodlighting Implementation Program) Investigate Augusta Oval floodlighting upgrades (Sports Floodlighting Implementation Program)
Firestone Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and Implement Detailed Designs

Cowaramup

Project Description	Recommended Action
Parkwater Oval Master Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and finalise master plan, prioritising projects
Parkwater Oval Redevelopment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Master Plan Design and construct amenities with future provision for change rooms and storage Design and construct basketball half court Install and purchase goal sleeves and posts that cater for multiple field sports (soccer, rugby, football). Investigate exclusive dog exercise area. Parking and traffic management / engineering Redevelopment of Parkwater oval Drainage, irrigation, and landscaping
Cowaramup Sporting Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate provision of floodlighting at oval Needs analysis of future changeroom provision

Margaret River

Project Description	Recommended Action
Gloucester Park Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise masterplan based on community consultation, needs, costings, and other infrastructure considerations and implications
Gloucester Park Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Master Plan: Fencing realignment for SWFL home games (reduce scheduling conflicts, traffic management, and logistical issues) Road realignment Investigate exclusive dog exercise area / overflowing parking Construction of outdoor netball / basketball courts Redevelopment of western pavilion (cricket / soccer / rugby) Construction of change rooms / ablutions at nipper's oval (tennis club extension / standalone) Extension of indoor courts at Margaret River Recreation Centre Additional car parking Drainage, irrigation, and landscaping Path network Investigate provision of change rooms / ablutions at outdoor court facility Investigate provision of flood lighting at western oval and outdoor court facilities
Basketball Courts/Netball Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of 4 outdoor basketball courts (multi-purpose share use with basketball / netball). Incorporated under Gloucester Park development.
Margaret River Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of indoor multi-purpose courts to cater for future demand analysis of indoor court space. Addition of program pool to cater for future demand of water space for designated hydrotherapy and learn to swim lessons. Addition will alleviate general constraints on current lagoon pool scheduling and public access.
Rapids Landing Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and finalise master plan, prioritising projects
Rapids Landing Redevelopment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Master Plan Construction of toilets / ablutions, with provision for future changerooms Investigate provision of floodlighting at oval Oval upgrades Drainage, irrigation, landscaping Car parking and path network

Projects Table by Place contd.

Witchliffe

Project Description	Recommended Action
Witchcliffe Hardcourts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design: Hardcourts consolidation and playground construction Construct: Hardcourts and Playground
Leeuwin Parklands Playspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed Design and Implementation subject to design
Witchcliffe Ecovillage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and Construct Play Facility

Townsites and Rural Areas

Project Description	Recommended Action
Alexandra Bridge Courts Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate, Renew, and upgrade with Play Facility
Rosa Brook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscaping and Townscape Improvements
Gracetown Playspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept and Detailed Design Construct playspace
Gracetown Community Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades to community hall: Detailed design and plan
Gracetown Foreshore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept plan for improvements
Gnarabup Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade POS to Neighbourhood Level Facility per POS Strategy
Kudardup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of playground
Hamelin Grove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of playground: central park area
Sylvaner/Cabernet Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade to Neighbourhood Level Facility per POS Strategy

Appendix 1 - Current and Recommended Facility Provision

	Facility	Facility Standard	Demand	Existing Provision	Current Capacity	Comments
Regional	Arts and Cultural Centre (HEART)	1:100,000	0.17	1	0.83	1:50,000 – 150,000 PLAWA. Adequate provision for current and future population.
	Skate Park (regional)	1:37,500	0.46	1	0.54	Located in Margaret River. 1:20,000 – 50,000 PLAWA.
	Library	1:37,500	0.46	1	0.54	Located in Margaret River. 1:20,000 – 50,000 PLAWA. Standards included in Australian Library and Information Association People Places document. Capacity in Augusta Library considered through Augusta Civic Masterplan process. Provisions partly dictated by distance between facilities.
	Golf Course	Case by case	2	2	0	Located in Margaret River. Par 3 located in Augusta. Adequate provision for current and future population.
	Aquatic Centre	1:30,000	0.58	1	0.42	PLAWA: Min 25 lap, and leisure pool. 1:30,000 – 75,000. Future demand highlighted as additional learn to swim, hydrotherapy (program Pool).
	Indoor Recreation Centre	1:30,000	0.58	1	0.42	PLAWA: Min 3 courts. 1:30,000 – 50,000. Offset by outdoor court provision.
	a. Indoor multi-purpose courts	1:10,000	1.74	3	1.26	3 courts at Margaret River Recreation Centre. Additional indoor court at Augusta Recreation Centre not captured under Regional Facility, and not considered in capacity due to spatial distribution.
	b. Basketball Indoor	1:25,000	0.69	1	0.31	PLAWA advocates for minimum of 4 indoor courts for district / sub-regional with indoor/outdoor training courts. BWA advocates 1 court dedicate access to 1:25,000, shared use policies for indoor facilities on school property at agreement of Education Department, per BWA Strategic Plan 2021-2025. With 3 indoor courts (4 including Augusta), shared use agreements with the Education Department, and the addition of outdoor court facilities, this should meet existing demand and growth until a fourth indoor court is required in the future as detailed in future demand modelling.
	c. Volleyball Indoor (and outdoor / beach)	Per integration with Indoor multi-purpose courts. 3+ courts for district.	3	3	0	Meets current and future provision. Margaret River Senior High School has 2x indoor courts which caters for the primary demographic of volleyball participation (high school students). Addition of outdoor beach volleyball court (potential joint use with Athletics) will also meet future demand.
	Youth / Community Centre	1:30,000	0.58	1	0.42	PLAWA: 1:20,000 – 30,000.
	Sporting Precinct (Regional POS)	1:250,000	0.07	1	0.93	
	a. Senior AFL Oval	Refer to District / Local Level Provision inclusions.				PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:6000 - 8000. Figure adjusted to 1:7000 - 10,000 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior ovals.
	b. Senior Soccer					PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:4800 - 6800. Figure adjusted to 1:7200 - 10,200 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior pitches.
	c. Senior Rugby Pitch					1 – 3 pitches for senior PLAWA. Integrated shared use with senior soccer pitches.
	d. Cricket Oval					3 cricket grounds located at Gloucester Park.
	e. Hockey pitch					Multi-purpose synthetic surface, primarily for the purpose of hockey training facility. City of Busselton has Regional synthetic facility including 1x full sized synthetic and 2x full sized grass.
	f. Multi-use Synthetic Surface					Multi-purpose synthetic surface, primarily for the purpose of hockey training facility.
	Lawn Bowls (1-2 greens)	1:35,000	0.5	3	1.5	Meets and exceeds provision requirements. Spatially distributed in Cowaramup, Augusta and Margaret River.
	Community Centre	1:30,000	0.87	1	0.13	Margaret River HEART
	Croquet	Not referenced	0	1	1	Existing facility located in Augusta.
	Squash	Not referenced				No existing demand for facilities.
	Polocrosse	Not referenced	0	1	1	Existing facility located in Witchcliffe.

Appendix 1 - Current and Recommended Facility Provision contd.

	Facility	Facility Standard	Demand	Existing Provision	Current Capacity	Comments
District	District Park (includes district open space and related facilities).	1:15,000	1.16	3	1.83	PLAWA 1:15,000 – 25,000. Reflective of the adopted Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012. Defined in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River due to unique defined catchment districts and wide-ranging activity inclusions, as Gloucester Park, Margaret River; Augusta Civic Park, Augusta; Cowaramup Oval, Cowaramup.
	Sports Amenities Building	Case by case				Standard provision requirement to meet needs of district facility usage.
	Athletics (District)	1:40:000	0	1		District level (grass) facility with training areas. Potentially located on school site subject to shared use agreement. Currently on Gloucester Park. Potential to relocate to Cowaramup (Parkwater) at District Level Facility. No existing provision in City of Busselton, nearest alternative provision is Bunbury (Regional level: Synthetic).
	Skate Park	1:10,000	1.74	3	1.26	PLAWA 1:5,000 – 10,000. High end used as Shire has regional level facility at Margaret River. Current provision caters for spatial distribution.
	BMX Track	1:10,000	1.74	3	1.26	PLAWA 1:5,000 – 10,000. High end used as Shire has regional level facility at Margaret River. Current provision caters for spatial distribution.
	Youth Facility	1:30,000				Sufficient provision over the planning period.
	Library Branch	1:20,000	0.87	2	1.13	Current provision caters for spatial distribution. Includes regional facility at Margaret River.
	Indoor Recreation Centre	*Referenced under Regional	2 (Distribution)	2	2	Adequate provision supplied based on distribution across the municipality with locations in Augusta servicing the south and Margaret River servicing the north.
	Tennis Court	1:30,000	0.58	1	0.42	8 court minimum for club/district level. 12 courts located at Margaret River Tennis Club, with 2x 4 court clubs located at Augusta and Cowaramup. All club courts have been included in the local level tennis court provision. PLAWA guidelines 1:15,000 – 30,000. Facility standard adjusted to 15,000 due to other significant 4 court club facilities in Augusta and Cowaramup accounting for a notable percentage of population distribution.
Local	Hockey Field	Case by case	0.5	0.5	0	Any proposed extension of existing facility subject to master plan project. Priority of available extension space should be given to outdoor court provision to service immediate shortage and demand of outdoor netball and basketball. Consideration should also be given to regional facility located in adjacent LGA.
	Rugby Field	1:35,000	0.87	1	0.13	1-3 pitch for senior per 20,000:50,000 head of population. Integrated shared use with senior soccer pitches. Shared use at Lower Western Playing Field. Low demand for senior size due to senior club members and 4 team competition. The need for a continued shared use agreement through scheduling with Football Margaret River is identified to continue to foster the growth of junior rugby in the area, as well as meet the current demand for senior rugby.
	AFL Field (Senior Size)	1:8,500	2.05	3	0.95	PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:6000 - 8000. Figure adjusted to 1:7000 - 10,000 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior ovals. Senior size at Augusta, Gloucester Park, Cowaramup. Junior size at Nippers Oval, Rapids Landing. Rapids Landing requires supporting facility upgrade. Nippers has potential to be increased to Senior Size if future demand requires, the Yoke precinct (2036+) has also specified the development of a senior size AFL field.
	Soccer Field (Senior Size)	1:8,700	2.00	3	1	PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:4800 - 6800. Figure adjusted to 1:7200 - 10,200 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior pitches. 3 senior size pitches can be located on Gloucester Park (1x Lower Western, 2x Upper Western). 3 junior size pitches on Gloucester Park upper western oval.
	Netball Courts (Outdoor) (Shared use / multi-purpose)	1:8,500	2.05	2	-0.05	PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:6000 - 8000. Figure adjusted to 1:7000 - 10,000 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. 1x Augusta, 1x Cowaramup.
	Basketball Courts (Outdoor) (Shared use / multi-purpose)	1:3,000	5.81	2	-3.81	1x Augusta 1x Cowaramup
	Cricket Pitch	1:6,500	2.68	6	3.32	5000 – 8000 1 senior size. PLAWA. 1x Nippers, 2x Gloucester Park, 2x Cowaramup. Cricket pitch has been removed from Augusta as at March 2024. Cricket pitch non-compliant with Cricket Australia's facility guidelines, and there is no current Augusta based Club. Cricket Australia have provided written support to provide financial assistance to reinstate the pitch, should demand warrant reinstatement.
	Community Hall					Overprovision but community centres by geography/distance, maintain and improve where relevant (Karridale, Alex Bridge).
	Playgrounds	POS Strategy		29		Captured under Public Open Space Strategy assessment.
	Tennis	1:5,000	3.49	23	19.51	Tennis Australia (2018) use a ratio of 1 court / 5,000 residents for club/recreation provision by local governments.
	Change rooms / Ablutions	1 per local sports facility				Case by case assessment. Minimum provision requirements of ablutions per local sports facility.
	Public Toilets	1 per local centre/park				

Appendix 2 - Analysis of current and future community facilities

	Facility	Additional Facilities	1 to 3 2023 – 2026 (pop. 20,696)	4 to 8 2026 – 2031 (pop. 26.292)	9 to 12 2031 – 2036 (pop. 31,196)	Comments
Regional	Arts and Cultural Centre (HEART)	0				1:50,000 – 150,000 PLAWA. Adequate provision for current and future population.
	Skate Park (regional)	0				Located in Margaret River. 1:20,000 – 50,000 PLAWA.
	Library	0				Located in Margaret River. 1:20,000 – 50,000 PLAWA. Standards included in Australian Library and Information Association People Places document. Capacity in Augusta Library considered through Augusta Civic Masterplan process. Provisions partly dictated by distance between facilities.
	Golf Course	0				Located in Margaret River. Par 3 located in Augusta. Adequate provision for current and future population.
	Aquatic Centre	0.04			●	PLAWA: Min 25 lap, and leisure pool. 1:30,000 – 75,000. Future demand highlighted as additional learn to swim, hydrotherapy (program Pool).
	Indoor Recreation Centre	0.04			●	PLAWA: Min 3 courts. 1:30,000 – 50,000. Offset by outdoor court provision. Addition of fourth indoor court in Years 9 to 12. Additional regional facility not required due to district level facility spatially distributed to service southern ward (Augusta and surrounds).
	a. Indoor multi-purpose courts	0.12			●	Addition of fourth indoor court in Years 9 to 12.
	b. Basketball Indoor	0.24		●		Fourth court to meet capacity planned to be added in Years 9 to 12 (see indoor multi-purpose courts above). Provision requirement offset by outdoor court provision addition. PLAWA advocates for minimum of 4 indoor courts for district / sub-regional with indoor/outdoor training courts. BWA advocates 1 court dedicate access to 1:25,000, shared use policies for indoor facilities on school property at agreement of Education Department, per BWA Strategic Plan 2021-2025. With 3 indoor courts (4 including Augusta), shared use agreements with the Education Department, and the addition of outdoor court facilities, this should meet existing demand and growth until a fourth indoor court is required in the future as detailed in future demand modelling.
	c. Volleyball Indoor (and outdoor / beach)	0			●	Meets current and future provision. Education Department also has 2x indoor courts which caters for the primary demographic of volleyball participation (high school students). Addition of outdoor beach volleyball court (joint use with Athletics) will also meet future demand.
	Youth / Community Centre	1:30,000				PLAWA: 1:20,000 – 30,000. Planning process to consider extension of existing Zone Room in Margaret River.
	Sporting Precinct (Regional POS)	0				
	a. Senior AFL Oval					PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:6000 - 8000. Figure adjusted to 1:7000 - 10,000 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior ovals.
	b. Senior Soccer					PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:4800 - 6800. Figure adjusted to 1:7200 - 10,200 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior pitches.
	c. Senior Rugby Pitch					1 – 3 pitches for senior PLAWA. Integrated shared use with senior soccer pitches.
	d. Cricket Oval					3 cricket grounds located at Gloucester Park.
	e. Hockey pitch					Multi-purpose synthetic surface, primarily for the purpose of hockey training facility. City of Busselton has Regional synthetic facility including 1x full sized synthetic and 2x full sized grass.
	f. Multi-use Synthetic Surface					Multi-purpose synthetic surface, primarily for the purpose of hockey training facility.
	Lawn Bowls (1-2 greens)	0				Meets and exceeds provision requirements. Spatially distributed in Cowaramup, Augusta and Margaret River.
	Community Centre	0.04			●	Margaret River HEART. Planning process to consider community centre provision towards end of planning period.
	Croquet	0				Existing facility located in Augusta.
	Squash	0				No existing demand for facilities.
	Polocrosse	0				Existing facility located in Witchcliffe.

Appendix 2 - Analysis of current and future community facilities contd.

	Facility	Additional Facilities	1 to 3 2023 – 2026 (pop. 20,696)	4 to 8 2026 – 2031 (pop. 26,292)	9 to 12 2031 – 2036 (pop. 31,196)	Comments
District	District Park (includes district open space and related facilities).	0				PLAWA 1:15,000 – 25,000. Reflective of the adopted Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012. Defined in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River due to unique defined catchment districts and wide-ranging activity inclusions, as Gloucester Park, Margaret River; Augusta Civic Park, Augusta; Cowaramup Oval, Cowaramup.
	Sports Amenities Building	Case by case				Standard provision requirement to meet needs of district facility usage.
	Athletics (District)	0				District level (grass) facility with training areas. Potentially located on school site subject to shared use agreement. Currently on Gloucester Park. Potential to relocate to Cowaramup (Parkwater) at District Level Facility. No existing provision in City of Busselton, nearest alternative provision is Bunbury (Regional level: Synthetic).
	Skate Park	0.12			●	Not required due to Regional Skate Park and distribution of facilities across the Shire. Consider upgrades to existing skate parks at Augusta and Cowaramup to meet capacity needs highlighted in years 9 to 12.
	BMX Track	0.12			●	Not required due to Regional Skate Park and distribution of facilities across the Shire. Consider upgrades to existing locations to meet capacity needs highlighted in years 9 to 12.
	Youth Facility	1:30,000				Sufficient provision over the planning period.
	Library Branch	0				Current provision caters for spatial distribution. Includes regional facility at Margaret River.
	Indoor Recreation Centre	*Referenced under Regional				Adequate provision supplied based on distribution across the municipality with locations in Augusta servicing the south and Margaret River servicing the north. Consideration of improvements to the Augusta Recreation Centre as part of the Augusta Civic Park precinct Masterplan process.
	Tennis Court	0.4			●	8 court minimum for club/district level. 12 courts located at Margaret River Tennis Club, with 2x 4 court clubs located at Augusta and Cowaramup. All club courts have been included in the local level tennis court provision. Facility standard adjusted to 30,000 due to other significant 4 court club facilities in Augusta and Cowaramup accounting for a notable percentage of spatial distribution. Consideration of satellite facility servicing district level Margaret River Club (i.e., Witchcliffe court(s) to address minor capacity shortage in 2036.

Appendix 2 - Analysis of current and future community facilities contd.

	Facility	Additional Facilities	1 to 3 2023 – 2026 (pop. 20,696)	4 to 8 2026 – 2031 (pop. 26,292)	9 to 12 2031 – 2036 (pop. 31,196)	Comments
Local	Hockey Field	0				Any proposed extension of existing facility subject to master plan project. Priority of available extension space should be given to outdoor court provision to service immediate shortage and demand of outdoor netball and basketball. Consideration should also be given to regional facility located in adjacent LGA.
	Rugby Field	0				1-3 pitch for senior per 20,000:50,000 head of population. Integrated shared use with senior soccer pitches. Shared use at Lower Western Playing Field. Low demand for senior size due to senior club members and 4 team competition. The need for a continued shared use agreement through scheduling with Football Margaret River is identified to continue to foster the growth of junior rugby in the area, as well as meet the current demand for senior rugby.
	AFL Field (Senior Size)	0.67			●	PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:6000 - 8000. Figure adjusted to 1:7000 - 10,000 for Shire AMR (8500) due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior ovals. Senior size at Augusta, Gloucester Park, Cowaramup. Junior size at Nippers Oval, Rapids Landing. Rapids Landing requires supporting facility upgrade. Nippers has potential to be increased to Senior Size if future demand requires, the Yoke precinct (2036+) has also specified the development of a senior size AFL field.
	Soccer Field (Senior Size)	0.58		●		PLAWA guidelines for Metro areas 1:4800 - 6800. Figure adjusted to 1:7200 - 10,200 for Shire AMR due to being a regional Shire, and lower participation rate than state average. Includes junior pitches. 3 senior size pitches can be located on Gloucester Park (1x Lower Western, 2x Upper Western). 3 junior size pitches on Gloucester Park upper western oval. Development of Parkwater Oval also identified project to address capacity shortage highlighted in years 4 to 8.
	Netball Courts (Outdoor) (Shared use / multi-purpose)	1.67	●			Construction of 2 outdoor courts will address minimum provision requirement. Further 2 outdoor courts in Years 4 to 8 are multi-purpose to meet basketball provision but will also service any unforeseen netball court provision requirement.
	Basketball Courts (Outdoor) (Shared use / multi-purpose)	8.39	●	●		Whilst the assessment shows an under provision of 8.39 courts by 2036, it should be clearly noted that there are supporting half court facilities unaccounted for in rural and other locations, that could be converted to full court if ever required, including Gracetown, Farmhouse Park, and Gnarabup. Existing full court outdoor at Augusta and Cowaramup, with the proposal to construct 4 outdoor (shared use) courts in Margaret River to service the estimated 14,000 head of population by 2036. The assessment also does not include the provision of shared agreement of 3 courts at the Margaret River Primary School site, and courts at the Margaret River Senior High School. It is therefore recommended that 4 outdoor shared use (netball / basketball) courts are constructed to provide adequate provision.
	Cricket Pitch	0				5000 – 8000 1 senior size. PLAWA. 1x Nippers, 2x Gloucester Park, 1x Augusta, 2x Cowaramup.
	Community Hall	0				Overprovision but community centres by geography/distance, maintain and improve where relevant (Karridale, Alex Bridge).
	Playgrounds	POS Strategy				Captured under Public Open Space Strategy assessment.
	Tennis	0				Tennis Australia (2018) use a ratio of 1 court / 5,000 residents for club/recreation provision by local governments.
	Change rooms / Ablutions	1 per local sports facility				
	Public Toilets	1 per local centre/park				

Appendix 3: Key Informing Documents

ABV Community Infrastructure Plan - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The draft ABV Community Infrastructure Plan was created to provide a strategic approach to community amenities. It identified that the existing active open spaces in Margaret River are suitable for the current population, but the need for senior-sized ovals may arise in the future.

Access and Inclusion Plan - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The Access and Inclusion Plan addresses access and inclusion issues within the community. It requires new or redeveloped Shire facilities, including recreation facilities, to be universally accessible. Additionally, lease arrangements, floor plans of existing facilities, and facility bookings were reviewed. Relevant industry trends, such as the benefits of sport in regional communities, integrated planning, and facility sharing, were also considered. Community Infrastructure Plan 2036 considers these findings to develop a comprehensive and strategic framework for the provision of community infrastructure that meets the needs of the residents.

Community Infrastructure Report - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The Community Infrastructure Report analysed and reviewed the Gloucester Park Masterplan. It recommended amendments such as additional tennis courts, a site for the Farmers Market, and overflow parking.

Public Open Space Strategy 2014 - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The Public Open Space Strategy guides the planning and development of public open spaces and associated community and recreation facilities. It suggested improvements for Gloucester Park, including fencing the main oval to AFL standards and upgrading spectator areas and sporting grounds.

Scheme Amendment No.35 Local Planning Scheme No. 1 – Developer Contributions

This amendment outlines the collection of funds or land from developers to fund community infrastructure, including facilities. Gloucester Park's infrastructure is specified in the Developer Contributions Plan (DCP), which includes new infrastructure and renewal projects.

Strategic Community Plan 2040 - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The Strategic Community Plan sets the vision, focus areas, and strategies for the next 20 years. It emphasizes the interconnectedness of the environment, people, and place. The plan highlights the importance of sustainability, accessibility, equity, and promoting healthy and active lifestyles.

Strategic Directions WA Sport and Recreation Industry 2016 – 2020 (SD6), Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)

The strategy has been developed to provide vision and direction for the industry, increase stakeholder understanding, guide strategic planning processes, and inform government decision-making. The strategy has identified 13 key challenges, including governance, public open space and urban form, adventure and outdoor recreation, commercialisation, financial uncertainty, evidence-based decision-making, participation and affordability, and technology. These challenges will be considered in the development of recommendations.

Walk and Off-Road Trails Strategy - Margaret River 2020 – 2024 - Shire of Augusta Margaret River

The Margaret River Walk and Off-Road Cycle Trails Strategy 2020-2024 (The Strategy) has been developed to provide strategic guidance for the development and management of walking and offroad cycling trails within Margaret River and environs in response to growing demand for walking and off-road cycling. The Strategy highlights the importance of maintenance and management, future provision, accessibility, and sustainability.

Industry Documents

- Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries - Guide to shared use facilities
- Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries - Classification framework for Public Open Space (WA)
- Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries – Sports Dimensions Guide 2016
- Parks and Leisure Australia WA – Guidelines for Community Infrastructure 2020
- Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport, Australian Sports Commission, 2017

State Sporting Association Facilities and Strategic Plans

- Basketball WA – Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025
- Netball WA Strategic Facilities Plan WA – 2015
- Tennis West Strategic Plan – 2021-2025
- Western Australia Football Commission (WAFC) Strategic Facilities Plan (2006)
- Western Australia Cricket Association (WACA) Strategic Facilities Plan (2006-2015)
- Western Australia Cricket Association (WACA) Infrastructure Strategy – 2019-28
- Western Australian Mountain Bike Strategy 2022 – 2032

Appendix 4: Trends in Leisure

Sport and Recreation Trends

Recognizing the impact of these trends, facility guidelines, as well as state and federal governments, have acknowledged the need to adapt and cater to changing demands placed on facility providers.

Despite the growing popularity of sports and recreation, there continues to be an underrepresentation of females in participation. Research indicates that non-facility barriers play a significant role, and motivations such as health, fun, and socializing are key drivers for female engagement in sports and recreation, however, with that said there has been an increase in female participation in Australian Rules Football and Cricket. Creating inclusive and less competitive environments can enhance their involvement in physical activities. Providing entry-level opportunities and clear pathways for skill development and confidence-building is essential in areas such as physical training, coaching, officiating, and administration.

Female Participation and Inclusions

The current season has witnessed a remarkable surge in AFL registrations, with nearly 67,000 male and female players signing up. This surpasses the previous record of 66,699 registrations in 2019, solidifying AFL's position as a leading participation sport in Western Australia. The trend is expected to continue. One of the primary factors driving this increase in participants is the sustained growth of female football. The female game has experienced a 42% increase compared to 2019 figures. This growth can be attributed to the availability of a clear talent pathway for aspiring athletes. The WAFLW and AFLW leagues serve as platforms to showcase the nation's top talent, while robust junior and senior community competitions further foster the development and promotion of female football.

According to the Australian Institute of Sport's Ausplay study, there are an estimated 37,000 women and girls playing football in Western Australia, solidifying it as the most popular team-based sport for females. This marks a significant rise from its previous position as the third-most popular sport for women and girls in 2017. Furthermore, the study reveals that there were 7,507 registered female players as of August 2019, reflecting a 4.7% increase compared to August 2018. The participation trends for female MiniRoos, juniors, and seniors further contribute to the growth and engagement of females in the sport.

In recent times, there has been a noticeable shift in female participation rates within traditionally male-dominated sports like Aussie Rules and cricket. Concurrently, football (soccer) continues to observe a steady increase in female participation. However, one of the challenges faced by facilities and facility providers, particularly those with older infrastructure, is the absence of unisex ablutions and changerooms. To address this issue, national sporting associations have developed various documents outlining the requirements and guidelines for implementing unisex facilities.

Sporting Hubs and Multi Use

The traditional model of single-use standalone facilities is no longer a feasible or sustainable approach. To address this, local governments, sporting clubs, groups, and associations are being urged to consider the wider community benefits associated with both existing and new facilities. Adopting this approach can foster a stronger sense of connectedness within the community, enhance the overall sense of place, improve service delivery, and promote increased usage and activation of the facilities. Embracing a multi-use approach may involve forming partnerships with various community groups to activate leased spaces through hire arrangements, rather than constructing multiple single-use facilities. Multi-use may involve partnering with other local groups and sub-leasing existing leased facilities for a variety of different activities and user groups, rather than building new facilities. It should be noted that facilities should still spatially and meet provision requirements. By continue to advocate and enable multi-use facilities and arrangements, regional communities can ensure facilities are sustainably utilised and reduce capital and operational expenditure, as well as personnel and volunteer resources.

Sustainability

With greater opportunity, sustainable design principles and materials should be retrofitted to existing infrastructure where possible and be incorporated into the design and maintenance of sport and community infrastructure. Available practices and resources can include water saving initiatives on playing fields and in buildings, solar panels, LED floodlighting, and scheduled cloud-based technology for floodlighting control.

Planning and Design

Sports facilities should be planned and designed for multi-use and constructed in a way that allows for adaptability to keep up with the changing guidelines and standards. When constructing these facilities, information technology/communication should be incorporated, along with safety features and crime prevention (CPTED) principles, such as locations with passive surveillance and CCTV where practicable.

Seasonal Sports

When it comes to managing ovals, several factors need to be taken into consideration. One important aspect is determining the maximum booking allocation for the ovals. This allocation should be evaluated in relation to the available space and the current as well as projected usage of the ovals. Additionally, it is crucial to consider the possibility of utilizing alternative supporting facilities such as Rapids Landing Primary School, and Cowaramup. By activating alternative venues currently within the Shire with supporting facilities, this can help accommodate future growth and required supply of provision and ensure the ongoing effective management of the Shire's playing fields.

Appendix 5: Current Oval usage

Australian Sports Commission - Oval Guidelines				
Recommended Weekly Usage				
Season	Summer	Autumn	Winter	Spring
Recommended Maximum Hours	25	20	15	25

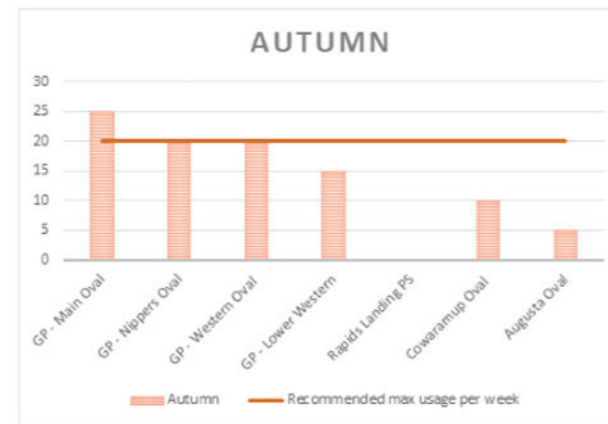
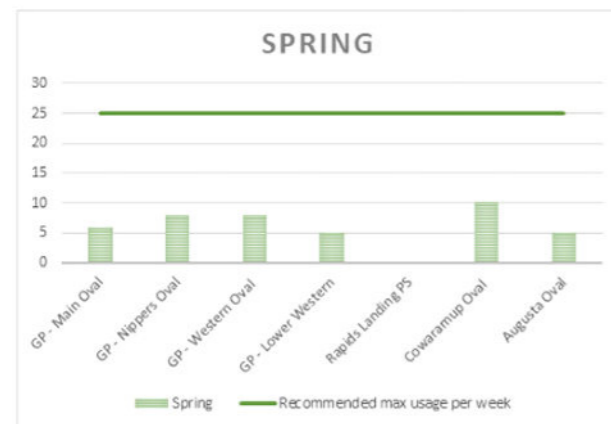
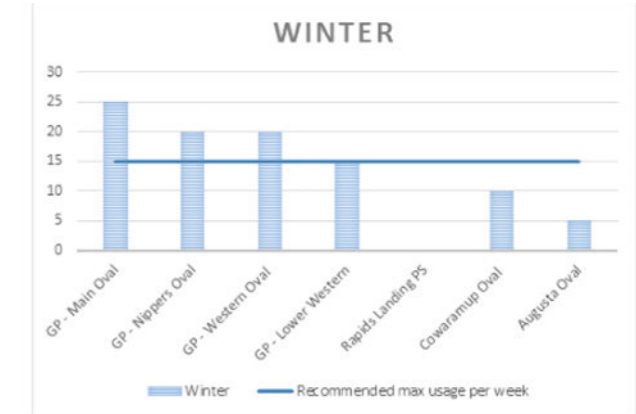
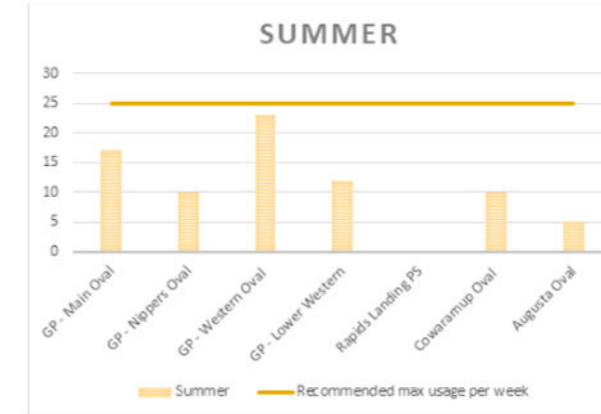
Shire of Augusta Margaret River				
Estimated Oval Usage*				
Margaret River and District				
Gloucester - Main Oval	17	25	25	6
Gloucester - Nippers Oval	10	20	20	8
Gloucester - Western Oval	23	20	20	8
Gloucester - Lower Western Playing Field	12	15	15	<5
Rapids Landing Primary School	<5	<5	<5	<5

Cowaramup, Gracetown and Districts				
Cowaramup Oval	10	10	10	10
Parkwater Oval	Not an Active Reserve			

Augusta, Hamelin Bay and Districts				
Augusta Oval	<5	<5	<5	<5

Karridale and Surrounds, Witchcliffe, Rural Areas				
No Active Reserves/Data	Not an Active Reserve			

*Club usage only (excludes other activities, i.e Dog Exercise, Permit Holders (run clubs), School Hire etc, passive recreation).



Appendix 6 Facility Audit

Facility	Facility and Usage	Assessment Notes
Gloucester Park	Regional Sporting Precinct <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soccer Rugby Football Hockey Cricket Athletics Agricultural Show General Recreation 	Current Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduling on SWFL home games Overuse of ovals during winter season Under provision of supporting amenities Traffic management, drainage, and car parking needs addressing in Gloucester Park Master Plan
Western Pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared used on a seasonal tenancy booking. In winter the pavilion is booked by Football Margaret River (soccer), and sub-booked to Gropers Rugby Club. In summer the pavilion is booked by Margaret River Hawks Cricket Club. Season handover is April and September. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current facility does not meet provision standards for all winter sports and usage / scheduling. Semi-permanent amenities have been installed and awaiting commission, including change rooms.
Tennis Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leased Facility to the Margaret River Tennis Club 12 acrylic courts (floodlit) TA Hierarchy "Local" Cowaramup: Club, 4 acrylic courts (floodlit) TA Hierarchy "Local" Gracetown: 2 acrylic courts (not-floodlit) TA Hierarchy "Local" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis West Strategic Facilities Plan 2018 references Margaret River with an oversupply in court provision, with large facilities suitable for tournaments. Tennis courts meet provisions guidelines. Clubrooms may need upgrading per asset renewal. Opportunity for extension of clubrooms to accommodate shared use facility with Nippers Oval users. Junior Football Use of Nippers Oval (adjacent) Semi-permanent amenities have been installed and awaiting commission, including change rooms.
Bowling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leased Facility to the Margaret River Bowling Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubrooms do not meet standards of provision for shared use with other sporting codes in their current state. Potential opportunity for shared use of ablutions. Lease Agreement to be reviewed subject to business case and facility provision on Gloucester Park Asset renewal only (on the proviso GP Master Plan proposal of amenities building for hockey and outdoor netball is provided).
Hockey Pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current supporting exclusive use amenities. Sea container storage Shared storage with cricket club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-permanent amenities have been installed and awaiting commission. Shed has been constructed adjacent to pitch to service hockey club and other stakeholders (athletics, ag society, parks and gardens)

Facility	Facility and Usage	Assessment Notes
Footy Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubrooms (sports clubrooms) Gloucester Park Main Oval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not meet WAFC facility guidelines but are currently being addressed and rectified through co-contributions. TO be completed 2023/24. Leasing arrangement 'Arbour' development will provide additional facility at trigger point circa 2036+
Ag Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloucester Park Sporting Precinct Ticket booth Eastern side of precinct Storage shed constructed 2023) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of Agricultural facilities to be stored elsewhere and erected for the 3 days of the year. I.e heavy duty structural marquee and agriculture requirements. Awaiting defined "wish list from Agricultural Society"
Indoor Multi-Purpose Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3x multi-purpose courts at the Margaret River Recreation Centre 1x multi-purpose courts at the Augusta Recreation Centre Current lack of indoor multi-purpose court space to cater for the current participation rates of junior basketball and junior netball. Roller Sports with increasing demand with estimated participation numbers of 280 for 2023. These roller sports do not have alternative indoor locations; however, provision for other spaces is sufficient (i.e. skate park). Current demand not being met due to monopoly of court hire to junior Associations: Social sports competitions (netball, volleyball, basketball, futsal). Roller Sports Casual Hirers Gymnastics Acrobatics Ultimate frisbee Badminton/Pickleball Junior after school multi-sport Junior soccer development programs Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further analysis of growth and feasibility required for indoor court expansion. Training courts to be explored off-site through shared use agreements with school sites and existing outdoor courts (same model as City of Bunbury and City of Busselton) Courts to cater for growing Association numbers, also looking to expand into senior age divisions 3v3 growth and trend Multi use courts <p>Priority 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade of existing indoor courts priority captured in Asset Renewal Program 2026/27. Addition of basketball backboard systems on sideline of court currently being costed to increase capacity of passive and young training / development programs. Addition of outdoor courts per Gloucester Park Master Plan to alleviate and reschedule training and match play for junior associations. Free up space for alternative indoor sports and general recreation activities. <p>Long term objective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of 1-2x additional indoor multi-purpose courts (extension of courts at recreation centre). Subject to business case. Subject to future indoor court provision. Court 3 holds potential for Youth Precinct / Roller Sports (multi-use megatrend hub). For growing Youth Demographic and demand. Subject to business case and further review throughout the yet to be defined review period.

Appendix 6 Facility Audit contd.

Facility	Facility and Usage	Assessment Notes
Rapids Landing PS Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No supporting infrastructure Shared DoE arrangement (4pm onwards) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amenities Building immediate requirement to support junior sport (cricket and footy) Floodlighting to increase capacity of winter training. Future provision of larger cricket space (currently can only run Stage 1 and Stage 2) Investigate semi-permanent or temporary amenities to support use and capacity until permanent project endorsed through Rapids Landing Master Plan process.
Augusta Sports Pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Augusta Abalones Augusta Junior Football (and AMRJFA) Augusta Cricket Club (currently on hiatus) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket pitch has been requested to be removed by football club due to under usage. Requires further analysis of future usage requirements, and potential future cost implications. Cricket pitch has been removed as at March 2024. Cricket pitch non-compliant with Cricket Australia's facility guidelines, and there is no current Augusta based Club. Cricket Australia have provided written support to provide financial assistance to reinstate the pitch, should demand warrant reinstatement. Pavilion requires upgrade as sports change rooms do not meet standard WAFC provision guidelines. Shared use between Augusta Recreation Centre users (gym, pool, courts). Multiple shared use issues raised in terms of maintenance, public access, operational responsibilities, and scheduling. Does not meet intended shared use guiding principles in current layout.
Cowaramup Sports Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duggan Pavilion Ovals (cricket and football) Multiple user groups (sports club) BMX Track Skate Park Tennis courts and club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs on ovals raised as concern on hard wicket cricket oval. Female growth consideration of current facilities at Duggan Pavilion Operational management, maintenance, and bookings via CHRRA Consideration of floodlighting to upgrade capacity of oval usage

Appendix 7 Leisure Planning Engagement Report

Appendix 7 can be accessed separately at the Project Your Say Page.

Appendix 8 Targeted Engagement with Main Sporting Clubs

Sporting Group	Current facility utilised	Participation rates and usage	Issues	Key Outcomes and Priorities
Margaret River Basketball Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre MRRRC Committee Room (in season) Margaret River Senior High School Margaret River Primary School Cowaramup court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 682 players (95 local teams) 17 Representative Teams 95 coaches, 95 Team Managers 70 – 75 hours court time per week in season (7 days per week) 45 games per week 25 Aussie Hoops participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainings have been reduced from 60 mins to 30-45 mins due to insufficient court space MRRRC court condition (dead spots, uneven playing surface, splintering floorboards) Indoor court availability and space (competing multi-purpose usage) No outdoor court space in Margaret River School site restrictions on court use Access to courts, financial barrier (no access to free outdoor courts), school holiday access (OSHC Court 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset renewal indoor courts 2026/27 Construct 4 outdoor courts in Margaret River (staged) Formalised agreements with school sites where possible
Augusta Margaret River Football Netball Club (Seniors / Youth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloucester Park (Main and Nippers Ovals) Margaret River Recreation Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 youth teams 3 senior/colt teams 1 master's team 10 home games per season Approx 8 hours per week in season Pre-season training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket pitch impacts use of Nippers Oval Drainage into southwest corner of main oval Requires universally accessible toilet to service main area Require alterations to visitors change rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with WAFC to co-fund redevelopment of away change rooms to provision standard 2023/24
Augusta Margaret River Football Club (Junior)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloucester Park (Main, Nippers, and Rapids Landing Ovals) Margaret River Recreation Centre Football Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 500 players (including Auskick and youth team) Approx 12 hours per week in season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of oval space for training and games Access to drinking water Parking constraints No female friendly change rooms available Drainage improvements on Nippers and Main Oval Access to toilets at Nippers Oval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Rapids Landing amenities Semi-permanent change room and toilet facilities at Nippers Oval 2023 Construction of permanent change rooms and amenities at Nippers Oval
Football Margaret River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper and Lower Western Playing Fields Western Pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 260 players, incl; 20 junior teams 2 ladies' teams, 2 men's teams, 1 master's team Juniors 20 hours per week in season Seniors 15 hours per week in season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canteen restrictions (facility layout and volunteerism) Goal mouth maintenance (lower playing field) Parking constraints, lack of parking Traffic safety (over 600 people on standard game day) Under provision of change rooms and spectator toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Pavilion redevelopment 2024/25 (standard provision) Road alignment and additional parking (Gloucester Park Masterplan)
Margaret River Hawks Cricket Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Western Playing Fields Nippers Oval Rapids Landing Oval Western Pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 teams T20 social comp (7 teams) Hawks ability (10 players) 22 hours per week in season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Pavilion disability access Insufficient spectator amenities Access between Nippers and Western Playing Fields Lack of shade at Western Pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Pavilion redevelopment 2024/25 (standard provision) Road alignment and additional parking (Gloucester Park Masterplan) Amenities at Rapids Landing

Appendix 8 Targeted Engagement with Main Sporting Clubs

Sporting Group	Current facility utilised	Participation rates and usage	Issues	Key Outcomes and Priorities
Margaret River Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper and Lower Western Playing Fields Western Pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 senior players 70 junior players (u12 mixed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking constraints, lack of parking Designated spectator area adjacent to pitch, lack of spectator space (governed by run-off requirements) Change rooms are too small Scheduling (competing with soccer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Pavilion redevelopment 2024/25 (standard provision) Road alignment and additional parking (Gloucester Park Masterplan) Shared use of hockey pitch for training
Margaret River Hockey Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey half pitch Adjacent sea container Adjoining shade structure and hard stand (in development) Semi-permanent toilets (being commissioned) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 170 players including 8 junior teams 2 nights per week training (all year round) Future Saturday morning games (juniors) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bicycle parking Safety / pedestrian lighting at night Supporting facilities (access to water, change room and club room space) Landscaping around pitch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalised Gloucester Park Master Plan to address landscaping, pedestrian lighting. Investigate shared use agreement of adjacent facilities (i.e. footy, bowling)
Margaret River Little Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main Oval Athletics / Footy Shed Field event area (grass area between main oval and tennis courts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 (u10) Tuesday afternoon and Saturday mornings (in season) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long jump pit condition and upkeep No access to water Scheduling conflicts with footy pre-season Ag Show scheduling impacts Traffic safety (two areas are divided by through road) Access to toilets Consistent dog faeces on field event area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalised Gloucester Park Master Plan to address field sports location Investigate future development and relocation to Parkwater Oval Investigate shared use agreement of adjacent facilities (i.e. footy, bowling)
Margaret River Netball Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre MRRC Committee Room (in season) Various school sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 170 players (32 teams) Monday – Thursday afterschool Saturday Approx 48 hours per week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No outdoor courts, means players aren't playing on the same surface as every other state-wide junior netball association; impacts on kids learning the sport MRRC court condition (dead spots, uneven playing surface) Indoor court space (competing multi-purpose usage) Insufficient outdoor court space School site restrictions on court use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset renewal indoor courts 2026/27 Construct 4 outdoor courts in Margaret River (staged) Formalised agreements with school sites where possible
Roller Hockey, Roller Derby, Concrete Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret River Recreation Centre Margaret River HEART 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx 280 total participants across all disciplines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor court availability Lack of other suitable community, government, or private venue Continued time and date changes of indoor court bookings hinders club sustainability and growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional outdoor courts to assist with indoor court availability. Consistently applied annual indoor court booking to assist sustainability of club(s)

Attachment 1 Public Open Space Strategy

Attachment 1 can be accessed separately at the Project Your Say Page.



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- Speak and Listen users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 08 9780 5255
- Internet relay users connect to the NRS (www.relayservice.com.au) then ask for 08 9780 5255