

RSL

RECREATION | SPORT | LEISURE | CONSULTANCY



Coastal Otago Spaces & Places Strategy 2023

Document Info & Acknowledgements

Document version: Final V1.1
Date: 20 December 2023
Author: Kiri Pope, Robyn Steel, Richard Lindsay

Acknowledgements

Project Steering Group

- James Nation, Duane Donovan – Sport Otago
- Henri Van Zyl, Donna McCarthur - Clutha District Council
- John Brinkley, Peter Christos – Dunedin City Council
- Lindsay Hyde – Waitaki District Council
- Gordon Bailey – Central Otago District Council
- Simon Battrick – Queenstown Lakes District Council
- Barbara Bridger, Mat Begg – Central Lakes Trust
- Sue Stewart – Otago Community Trust
- Glenn McGovern - Sport New Zealand

With Thanks To

- Pip Sutton - Sport Waitaki and Craig Gordon - Sport Clutha
- Matthew Lanyon, Erik van der Spek – Waitaki District Council
- Andrew Mactier (former Dunedin City Council staff member)
- All community play, active recreation and sport organisations who took part in the survey and attended workshops for this project.

Cover Images:

Interior of Te Puna o Whakaehu, Mosgiel. Image credit: Cook Brothers Construction
Interior of Cross Recreation Centre, Balclutha. Image credit: Cross Recreation Centre
Friendly Bay Steampunk Playground, Oamaru. Image credit: Waitaki District Council
Logan Park Football Turfs, Dunedin. Image Credit Otago Daily Times.

About RSL Consultancy

RSL Consultancy undertakes projects and offers strategic advice throughout Aotearoa to enable community well-being. We support organisations to make informed decisions when it comes to their people, facilities, places and spaces. RSL carries out a range of pre-planning work from needs assessments and feasibility reports to business cases. We also work on a range of organisational strategic and operational projects.

RSL Contact::

Richard Lindsay

Phone: 021 2746540

Email: richard@rslc.nz

Disclaimer

Information, data and general assumptions used in the compilation of this report have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. RSL Consultancy has used this information in good faith and makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of this information. RSL Consultancy is acting as an independent consultant. In doing so, the recommendations provided do not necessarily reflect the intentions of the client. Interested parties should perform their own investigations, analysis and projections on all issues prior to acting in any way in regard to this project.

Contents Page

Foreword.....	4
Executive Summary	6
2 Introduction.....	16
3 Demographic Summary.....	20
4 Advantages, Challenges, Needs & Trends	23
5 Future Planning & Priorities.....	32
6 Overview of Facility Provision	40
7 Facility Provision - Gaps & Oversupply by Facility Type	43
8 Key Recommendations for the Sub-Region.....	48
9 District/Local Level Facility Recommendations	55
10 Appendix 1 – Demographic Detail	61
11 Appendix 2 – Code Based Facility Gap and Oversupply Analysis.....	67
12 Appendix 3 – Engagement Summary	83
13 Appendix 4 – Secondary Data Review.....	98
14 Appendix 5 – Trends.....	118

Foreword

The first Coastal Otago Sub-regional Spaces and Places Strategy represents a significant step forward in how partners lead, collaborate on, and advocate for the quality planning and provision of spaces and places across the Coastal Otago region.

This strategy is focussed on the Coastal Otago sub-region of the wider Otago region. It follows on from the Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (revised in 2020), with the intention that both documents will eventually be amalgamated into an overall, inclusive regional strategy for Otago. The Coastal Otago strategy has been developed with key partners and presents an updated and agreed high-level approach to spaces and places provision for physical activity that is pragmatic, simplified, and based on evidence. It comes at a time when councils, funders, the sport and recreation sector, and ultimately the participants are facing a challenging economic situation. Good fiscal decision-making and collaborative solutions to facility challenges are therefore more important than ever.

The strategy considers spaces and places that support active recreation and play alongside a balanced approach to sport. It also seeks to explore mana-enhancing relationships with mana whenua and the environment. The strategy highlights that together, partners can respond to changing participant needs through a network approach to provision. This involves exploring opportunities to improve equity and optimisation through provision that is complimentary, connected, accessible, flexible, multi-use, and plays to regional strengths. It also recognises that quality spaces and places provision sit hand-in-hand with a sustainable delivery system, ensuring participants can enjoy quality experiences in spaces that are well-activated and maintained.

Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa (Sport NZ) aims to inspire New Zealanders to develop a lifelong love of play, active recreation, and sport. Above all, we want to see 'Every Body Active'. Sport NZ has long been an advocate for locally-led development of spaces and places that provide quality experiences for communities. Working alongside Regional Sport Trusts and national sport and recreation partners, we are committed to supporting everyone involved in the planning, funding, development, and provision of spaces and places to ensure they are more affordable, well-utilised, and sustainable. We know quality spaces and places are critical enablers of physical activity and community wellbeing.

We also know that while levels of physical activity are declining due to a range of factors, affecting some communities more than others, people do want to be more active. While some of these factors are beyond our control, providing quality experiences for communities is something we can influence together.

The ultimate goal of this strategy is to ensure all parties are better informed of community needs, have a shared vision of best practice provision, and understand how they can work together for the greater good. Through a collaborative approach, both strategically and operationally, along with a shared understanding of the evidence and system pressures, we can prioritise limited resources in a way that is consistent and transparent to help ensure the greatest impact for current and future generations.

Sport NZ acknowledges and thanks Sport Otago, the councils, funders, and other key community partners for their continued leadership and commitment with respect to this strategy. In particular, we are buoyed by the strengthened focus on understanding current provision and utilisation alongside enhancing and activating the existing network to improve access and equity. We look forward to continuing to support you all in the execution of this.

Julie Morrison



General Manager Strategy, Policy & Investment
November 2023

Whakatauki:

Tama tū tama ora, tama noho,
tama mate

Wellness correlates to activity just
as illness correlates to idleness¹.



¹ Thanks to Peter Williamson for sharing this whakatauki in support of this kaupapa.

Executive Summary

1.1 Purpose

This Strategy is focussed on the Coastal Otago sub-region of the wider Otago region. It follows on from the Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (revised in 2020) with the intention that both documents will be amalgamated, in the future, into an overall, inclusive regional strategy for Otago.

Where possible and appropriate this Strategy has been aligned with the Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (QL-CO SRFS). However, there are many variations across the Otago region, which impact on play, active recreation and sport participation and facility needs. This Strategy, while aligned with the QL-CO SRFS document, is specifically focussed on the spaces and places in which play, active recreation and sport occur in Coastal Otago and the unique considerations of this area of Otago.

The Coastal Otago sub-region is comprised of the Waitaki, Dunedin and Clutha territorial authority areas which collectively, cover a large tract of the south island where approximately 171,000 currently reside. The population of the sub-region is expected to grow to approximately 191,000 people by 2048. This is approximately an 11% population increase (around 20,000 people). Nearly two-thirds of the increase in population will occur in Dunedin City. The Waitaki and Clutha Districts are both expected to grow by around 3,500 people. The population is ageing and expected to become more ethnically diverse over time.

1.2 Strategic Fit



This Strategy is a high-level document which provides a snapshot of current facility (spaces and places) provision across the Coastal Otago sub-region and establishes a clear planning framework, and recommendations to help inform and guide future investment in play, active recreation and sport spaces and places across Coastal Otago.

This Strategy works alongside existing Council strategies and policies to ensure everyone is using best practice to maximise return on investment. It does not replace or supersede existing Council processes, but instead provides a framework to ensure all proposed spaces and places work is evaluated on the same community derived principles, and is fairly assessed on agreed criteria. Implementing the strategy will help improve Council decision making, without reducing the autonomy of each Council to make local decisions.

It is intended that the recommendations in this strategy provide a context of kaitiakitanga, looking after existing spaces and places as well as recommendations that support the planning of new spaces and places to serve changing communities across the sub-region.

It is critical that this high-level strategy is supported by detailed local planning, at district and community level. The Strategy is not a replacement for local planning, rather it will support and help inform priorities for further detailed investigations at the local community level. Before embarking on specific projects Councils and Sport Otago should work with the relevant sport or community organisation to gather fresh data and more detailed local insights², to inform future decision making.

Sport NZ also provides a number of high-level strategic documents and resources to help guide the future of play, active recreation and sport across Aotearoa. These have been considered during the preparation of this strategy.

1.2.1 Facilities Considered

This Strategy is focussed on the key spaces and places (facilities) where play, active recreation and sporting activity occurs across the Coastal Otago sub region. It is focussed on providing guidance at a sub-regional/district and regional level. Given this sub-regional/district and regional focus, the Strategy provides limited assessment of local facilities and play spaces but it does provide some high-level consideration and recommendations regarding play and local facilities within each part of the sub-region. The types of spaces and places included are:

- Outdoor spaces and places – for field sports and court sports
- Indoor spaces and places – multi use court based and specialised
- Aquatic spaces and places – pool based and natural water based
- Other spaces and places – ice and snow sports and specialised sports

1.3 Regional Advantages

- Climate
- Natural Environment
- Tourism
- Major Event Facilities
- World Class Participation and Development Pathways

1.3.1 Coastal Otago Sub-regional Advantages

- **Sharing of key regional facilities** such as the Edgar Centre, which enables young people from more rural areas to travel to participate against a wider variety of teams than in their home district alone.
- Facilities that support the full range of **community participation pathways**, rather than focus on elite sport participants.
- Many Coastal Otago communities enjoy relatively easy access to sport and recreation **facilities in adjacent areas** such as South Canterbury (Timaru) and Southland (Gore), which increases the diversity of facility and participation experiences available.
- Natural **coastal environment, harbours and waterway access** that enable and support participation in a range of activities including surfing, surf lifesaving, sailing, rowing and fishing.
- **Low rainfall** which supports outdoor play, sport and recreation activity.
- **Limited traffic issues**, meaning travel to participate is relatively hassle free.

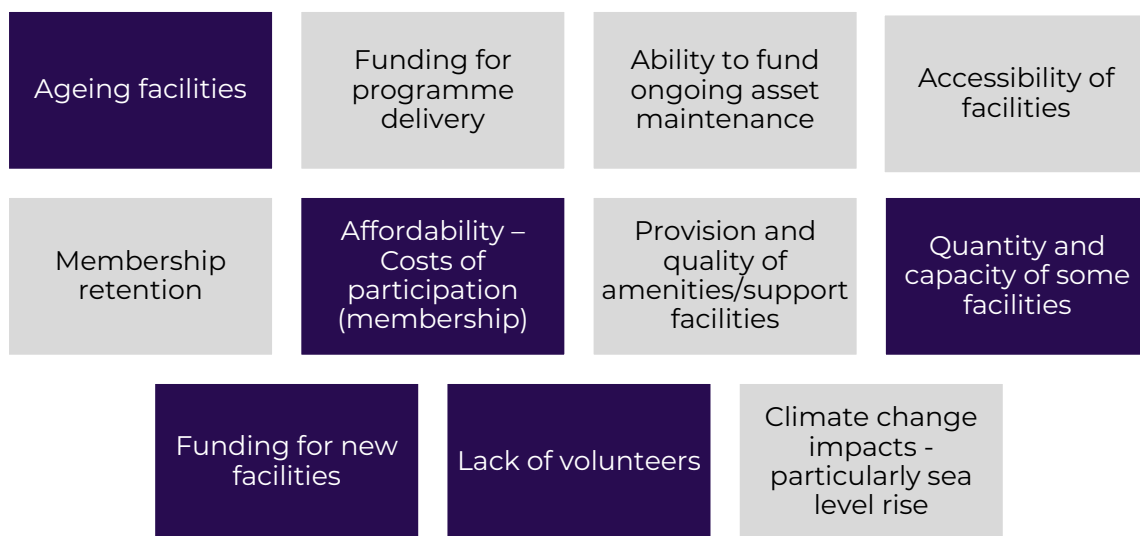
² This should include undertaking full needs assessment, feasibility studies and business cases where required.

1.4 Regionwide Challenges

- Uneven population growth
- Changing population
- The facility legacy (Ageing facilities)
- Fit-for-purpose facilities
- Changing participation trends
- Increased burden on volunteers
- Geographic distribution of facilities
- Opportunities for regional competition
- Funding support

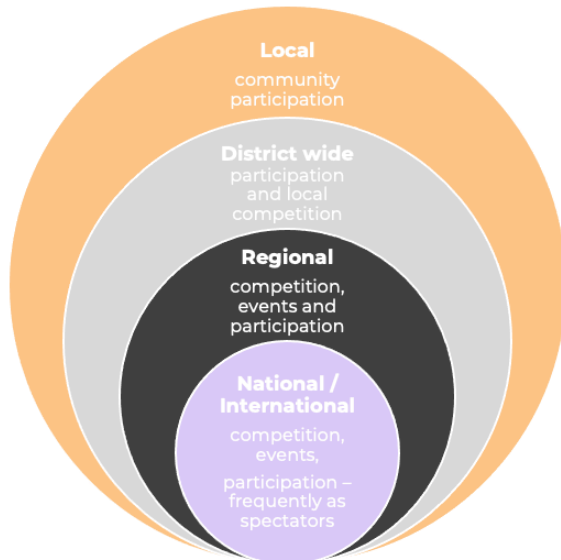
1.4.1 Sub-regional Challenges

The below provides a summary of the main challenges identified across the sub-region through stakeholder surveys, workshops and Project Steering Group input. It is noted that different districts experience these challenges to differing degrees.



1.5 Facility Categories

In order to help inform regional and sub-regional facility planning it is useful to have a way to categorise and consider the role of specific facilities and how they support communities to engage in play, active recreation and sport. All categories of facility have an important role to play within the network of facilities in Coastal Otago.



1.6 Facility and Space Planning Principles

When considering the upgrade or development of future facilities to meet play, sport and active recreation needs it is fundamental that facilities are developed in a robust and planned way. The planning principles and framework in this Strategy has been informed by Sport New Zealand's National Sport Facilities Framework³ and by the QL-CO SRFS principles. The principles of this Strategy are:

- Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Evidenced based
- Seeking best value for money (economically viable)
- Environmental sustainability
- Partnering and collaboration
- Co-location and Integration
- Future proofing
- Inclusive and Accessible
- Reflective of the Community / Sub-Region
- Activation
- Social Interaction

Detailed explanation of these principles is provided in section 5 – Future Planning and Priorities.

1.7 Facility and Space Planning Criteria and Assessment Process

Through the Strategy process planning criteria were developed to reflect the key principles of the strategy. They will be used to help implement the strategy through guiding the assessment of both

³ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1411/nz-facilities-framework.pdf> Note: This is currently under review with an expectations the principles will be updated.

current and future proposed regional and sub-regional spaces and places investments across the sub-region, and to assist with identifying the future priorities for investment.

The detailed 3 level planning criteria are outlined in section 5.3 of this Strategy. At level 1, the essential criteria need to be considered and met with a high degree of certainty before a more detailed assessment of any concept is undertaken using the remaining level 2 and 3 criteria.

Section 5.4 outlines the process which will be used to apply the principles and assessment criteria of this Strategy to proposed regional and sub-regional spaces and places investments across the sub-region. This process will inform the recommendations the Regional Spaces and Places Steering Group provides to decision making organisations regarding concepts put forward for investment into regional and sub-regional play, active recreation and sport facility development, redevelopment or major maintenance. A Spaces & Places Navigator role within Sport Otago will facilitate this process.

1.8 Sub-regional Snapshot of Facility Provision

The Sport NZ Facility Planning Tool for the Coastal Otago sub-region is being updated as an outcome of this strategy process. At the outset of this strategy process, the inventory in the Sport NZ system showed approximately 200 known play⁴, sport and active recreation sites across the sub-region with approximately 380 facilities provided across these sites⁵. Of those, approximately 56% are Council-owned sites and approximately 27% are Ministry of Education-owned. The remainder of the sites and facilities are owned by a variety of charitable trusts, clubs and community groups.

As part of the data gathering process for this Strategy, approximately 160 additional sites and facilities were identified. This was mostly school facilities along with a significant number of club-owned sites and facilities in the Dunedin area. These will be progressively added to the live inventory system over time.

Overall, based on survey responses there is a good level of satisfaction with the location of facilities in the sub-region. However, some stakeholders, such as indoor court users are concerned about current capacity (especially in Dunedin), and many stakeholders are also concerned about the capacity of facilities to meet future needs. Section 7 of this strategy provides a gap and oversupply analysis of existing facilities, based on facility type.

1.8.1 Observations on the current spaces and places network

One feature of the spaces and places network in the sub-region is there is current **heavy reliance on a small number of key facilities** such as Moana Pool, the Edgar Centre in Dunedin, the Dunedin Ice Stadium as well as the Waitaki Aquatic Centre and Cross Recreation Centre . While it is positive these facilities serve sub-regional needs they are ageing and require ongoing investment to maintain building condition and quality, including in response to environmental considerations such as sea level rise. Some of these key facilities are also under pressure to meet utilisation demands, particularly for growing codes such as basketball.

Deferred maintenance of both Council-owned and community sport-owned facilities means many are becoming more expensive to maintain and are not currently fit-for-purpose.

A large number of single-use facilities, many used or owned by clubs or organisations with static or declining membership. This signals a need for more creative partnerships, amalgamations and potentially rationalisation of underutilised facilities. Examples of codes where this issue applies include bowls and rugby club facilities.

Uncertainty due to climate change impacts - in Dunedin there are a large number of play, sport and active recreation facilities which are located in the South Dunedin, St Kilda and St Clair areas

⁴ A few existing playgrounds are captured in the inventory but the majority are not.

⁵ All numbers in this section are indicative only as the Sport NZ Facility Planning Tool is known to have some data gaps. It is also a live system, regularly being updated so figures change. It is the most comprehensive facility information that is available.

which are experiencing climate change impacts such as coastal inundation and flooding. Council is still planning its response to these issues and the need for 'coastal retreat' may be determined in future. In Waitaki and Clutha some facilities are at risk of flooding or sea level rise such as the Friendly Bay Steampunk Playground (Oamaru) and cycle trails in both areas. The uncertainty around these issues impacts on the planning, maintenance and even current operations of some of these play, active recreation and sport facilities.

1.9 Key Recommendations

Section 8 of this Strategy provides key recommendations for the sub-region (operational and facility based). It identifies the priority recommendations, suggested timeframes for action, and the roles of key stakeholders in progressing the recommendations.

This summary provides the recommendations only and should be supported by reference to section 8 of the Strategy for further information. Section 9 of this Strategy provides key recommendations on a district by district basis, those are not duplicated in this summary section.

1.9.1 Priority Operational Recommendations

Recommendation:	
1.	Each Territorial Authority in the Coastal Otago sub-region adopts the Strategy as a high-level strategic document to support their planning for facility provision including use of the principles, facility categories, criteria and assessment process.
2.	Consistently apply the principles and decision-making criteria of this strategy to assessing all proposals for investment into play, active recreation and sport facilities across the sub-region. To support this, partner organisations need to work to align their individual organisational policies and processes with the regional planning framework.
3.	Work with tangata whenua to explore how Māori perspectives can best be incorporated into future regional spaces and places planning. Ideally, secure tangata whenua involvement on the Otago Region Spaces and Places Steering Group, if this aligns with tangata whenua objectives and capacity.
4.	Work locally with tangata whenua and through local recreation strategies and management plans to ensure Māori culture, naming and signage including local pūrākau are incorporated into spaces and places (existing and new) to help increase connection and a sense of place.
5.	Use the Otago Region Spaces and Places Steering Group as the key mechanism to monitor implementation of the strategy. At a minimum, annual progress monitoring should be undertaken against the key recommendations of this strategy. Consider expanding the membership of this group to include tangata whenua, Otago Regional Council and representatives from the Otago Regional Sports Alliance (ORSA).
6.	Amalgamate this Sub-Regional Strategy with the Queenstown Lakes Central Otago strategy to create a high-level Regional Strategy.
7.	Schedule a review of the Regional Strategy in 3-5 years, with the final timing determined to ensure the review outputs best align with territorial authority Long Term Plan (LTP) processes.
8.	Work with play, active recreation and sport organisations to explore ways that volunteers can be better supported and maximised. This could include better use of technology, governance and operational partnerships and sharing of volunteer training and support resources.
9.	Encourage and facilitate collaborative facility partnerships where possible and seek to prioritise investment into multi-use hub sites over single use facilities where practical ⁶ . A range of methods could be used, including policy and leasing condition changes, and restricting investment into facilities where there is no evidence of regular shared use ⁷ .

⁶ Refer to the Sport NZ Hub Guide for assistance with this.

⁷ Codes can still have specialised requirements and playing spaces, such as bowling greens or a synthetic athletics track but sharing of support amenities such as change facilities and clubrooms should be demonstrated at a minimum.

Recommendation:	
10.	Encourage and support community sport and recreation organisations which own built assets to undertake more active asset management planning and regular facility maintenance regimes. This could include the provision of training/advice on asset management planning.
11.	When planning and building new facilities consider the potential impacts of climate change on these facilities and ensure assets are built to be as robust as possible and include appropriate energy efficiency mechanism. For example, higher and stronger bridges and culverts on tracks and trails subject to flooding and use of LED lighting.
12.	Investigate ways to improve access and affordability to quality play, active recreation and sport facilities for high deprivation and low participation communities, including those with disabilities.
13.	Each Territorial Authority to ensure they have asset management plans and budgets which are adequate to support ongoing programmed maintenance and minor upgrades to play, active recreation and sport facilities to minimise future deferred maintenance issues.
14.	Explore the potential of collaborative event hosting across the sub-region, using sites within Clutha, Dunedin and Waitaki to secure events with large competitor numbers such as secondary school nationals. With the planned Waitaki Events Centre coming on stream, along with the Edgar Centre and Cross Recreation Centre indoor court sport events are an obvious opportunity.
15.	Work with relevant organisations to best consider ways to respond to desires for increased facility provision, enhancements and access where constraints exist. Some examples of groups needing support and consideration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outdoor recreation groups such as tramping, mountaineering and hunting groups to help give certainty of future access and facility suitability. b. Otago weightlifting (facility quality) c. Skateboarding, scootering (facility provision and quality) d. Rowing (course enhancements) e. Users of community hall facilities such as yoga, pilates, older adults recreation which are constrained by ageing facilities that are often not fit-for-purpose

1.9.2 Priority Sub-Regional Facility Recommendations

Recommendation:	
General	
16.	Identify existing play, active recreation and sport assets that are at high risk of being affected by climate change impacts. Once these sites are identified develop prioritised plans to mitigate risks, including relocation if feasible and required.
Aquatic Spaces and Places	
17.	Undertake a sub-regional aquatic network plan to ensure the aquatic facility network is adequately serving the sub-regional population. Including giving specific consideration to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The primary role, functionality and lifespan of existing pools in the network, b. Maintaining local accessibility, including through enhanced partnerships with schools, c. Warmer water for older adults and those with disabilities (including hydrotherapy), d. Appropriate levels of regular aquatic access for water-based sports, particularly for training needs, e. Providing balanced provision across the sub-regional network to accommodate a broad range of aquatic uses⁸. Some facilities in the network may have different priorities and focus, rather than all seeking to provide for the full range of uses. <p>At a minimum a Dunedin Aquatic Strategy should be developed to provide clarity on the future role, maintenance and utilisation priorities of existing facilities in the Dunedin City Network.</p>

⁸ Such as leisure play, recreational swimming and classes (such as aquarobics, jogging), learn to swim and aquatic sports.

Recommendation:

18. Work with water-based sport, active recreation and interested communities such as tangata whenua and the Otago Regional Council to facilitate improved support for water-based activities⁹. Considerations include understanding the impacts of climate change and silting on participation, along with appropriate provision, cleaning and maintenance of car parking, toilets, change facilities, craft storage and washdown facilities at access points to key natural waterways.

Indoor Spaces and Places

19. Undertake detailed Indoor Court network planning in Dunedin, with specific considerations to include:

- a. Needs assessment for additional indoor court space provision using a hub (Edgar Centre) and spoke approach, including exploring the potential need for a new multi-court¹⁰, multiuse venue within the city/district.
- b. The use of the Edgar Centre for non-sporting purposes and the associated impact on sports participation.
- c. A network approach to management of indoor court facilities by the Edgar Centre (Dunedin Indoor Sports Venues Trust).
- d. Potential formal partnerships with schools for secure community access to indoor court space, particularly for minor codes and local training needs.
- e. The potential role of outdoor covered court space to help manage indoor court demand. Particularly options for tennis at Logan Park (refer to recommendation 26).

20. This network planning will also need to consider the role of a potential racket sports venue within the indoor courts network (refer to recommendation 21).

21. Undertake a needs and options assessment for partnerships between racket sports (squash, badminton¹¹, table tennis, pickleball). This should include consideration of options for a unified, shared racket sports facility and operational governance partnerships. Mellor Park is one site opportunity that should be considered as part of this assessment.

22. Explore the need and feasibility for a regional gym sports hub in Dunedin. As part of the feasibility process, if spatial capacity is available, consider potential facility partnerships with other, compatible local groups.

Outdoor Spaces and Places

23. Undertake a sub-regional sports field assessment to future proof the sports field network. Key considerations of this assessment should include:

- a. Supply and demand of fields (by key summer and winter codes)
- b. If maintenance regimes are enabling appropriate playing field capacity and quality outcomes (based on training and play level), including mowing regimes.
- c. Adequacy and safety standards of lit fields for training and competition needs (where required – especially for the growing schoolgirls competition).
- d. Support infrastructure provision and quality such as toilets, changing rooms, storage and social facilities, especially the suitability of facilities for women, girls, gender-diverse participants and people with disabilities.
- e. Identification of potential partnerships to increase utilisation levels of fields and facilities (where required).
- f. Competition play which occurs in neighbouring districts such as South Canterbury, Southland.

24. To address the short-term access issues faced by rugby league (while recommendation 23 is undertaken), work with Southern Zone Rugby League / Otago Rugby League and Aoraki Rugby League to identify potential sites to be allocated as regular home fields to support both competition and training needs. In the medium term, enhancing access for rugby league may

⁹ Including support for mahinga kai (traditional food gathering areas).

¹⁰ A 3-4 court venue would provide good functionality, especially for regular competition purposes.

¹¹ Noting badminton is also a potential partner for a hub site with Dunedin Ice Stadium and Indoor Bowls.

Recommendation:
require reallocation and/or enhancements to some grounds. Ideally partnerships with rugby clubs for clubroom and amenities access would be secured.
25. Work with Play Aotearoa and other play interest groups to better understand the gaps in the sub-region for inclusive play opportunities for those with disabilities and the lack of options for 'risky' play. Work to educate decision makers on the value of play and the importance of varied and inclusive play experiences at city/district and neighbourhood scales.
26. Develop a masterplan for Logan Park as a key regional outdoor sport and recreation venue. As part of this masterplan (and in line with recommendation 19) consider the potential for an indoor courts venue or covered outdoor tennis courts (to help ease pressure on the Edgar Centre).
27. Prior to renewing surfaces and facilities at existing single use outdoor court sites explore the potential for partnerships and creation of multiuse courts that can support a range of uses such as junior hockey, community basketball, netball and play based activities.
Other Spaces and Places - Specialised Sports
28. Complete the planned feasibility study for future redevelopment options for the Dunedin Ice Stadium including consideration of hubbing with potential partners on the existing wider site (indoor bowls and badminton ¹²) or alternative site opportunities given the questions related to the long-term viability of the current site due to climate change considerations.
29. Investigate the opportunity to develop a regional golf facility plan.
General
30. Work with relevant organisations to best consider ways to respond to desires for increased facility provision, enhancements and access where constraints exist. Some examples of groups needing consideration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outdoor recreation groups such as tramping, mountaineering, shooting and hunting groups (certainty of future access, facility maintenance and suitability). b. Users of community hall facilities such as yoga, pilates, older adults recreation which are constrained by ageing facilities that are often not fit-for-purpose. c. Petanque (space and shelter issues across the sub-region)

See section 9 for local level district by district recommendations.

¹² Noting badminton is also a potential partner for a racket sports hub (see recommendation 21).

Ways to achieve better play, active recreation and sport outcomes:

“Adequate funding to appropriate organisations to maintain areas and facilities.”

“More sports and organisations working together and sharing resources. Small sporting organisations cannot afford to be competing for the same resource and people.”

“Investment in unstructured sports.”

“Improved governance and operational management for facilities and clubs. Future planning and lots of hard work.”

“Collaboration, working together”.

“Focused financial commitment to support sound planning and implementation. Value and incentivise the work of the volunteer.”

“Local facilities that kids can get to.”

- Survey respondents and workshop attendees

2 Introduction

This Strategy is focussed on the Coastal Otago sub-region of the wider Otago region. In 2018 Queenstown-Lakes District Council and Central Otago District Council developed the Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (revised in 2020). This Coastal Otago Strategy has been prepared to ensure that it aligns appropriately with the existing Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (QL-CO SFRS), with the intention that both documents will be amalgamated, in the future, into an overall, inclusive regional strategy for Otago.

2.1 Purpose

This Strategy is a high-level document that provides:

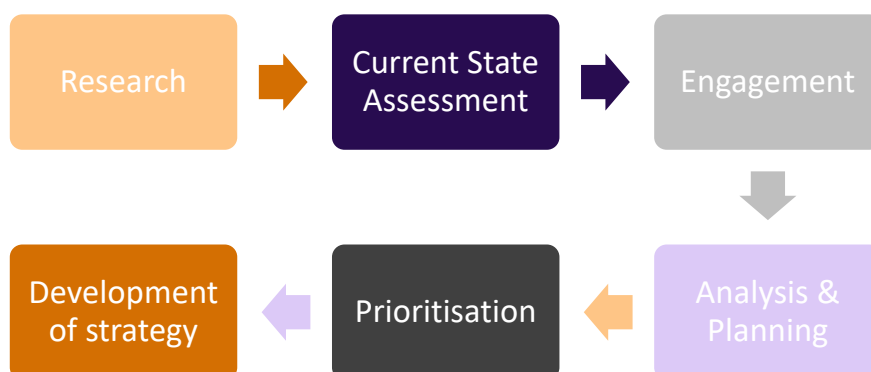
- a snapshot of current provision of indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities across the sub-region.
- a clear pathway for future development and future facilities that are fit for purpose, sustainable, and meet the needs of those communities that use them.
- information and recommendations to inform future the planning of Councils and Funding Agencies.
- identified priorities for the Coastal Otago sub-region.

The Strategy does not replace the need for more geographically focused planning or the analysis of individual assets and development plans at local level.

2.2 Methodology

This Strategy was developed by RSL Consultancy working with project working group representatives from Sport Otago, Clutha District Council, Dunedin City Council, Waitaki District Council. It was also supported and guided by a wider Otago Regional Steering Group, which included representatives from the aforementioned organisations, along with Sport New Zealand, Central Lakes Trust, Otago Community Trust, Queenstown Lakes District Council and Central Otago District Council. In part, use of this wider group helped ensure appropriate alignment with the QL-CO SFRS.

The key phases undertaken in the development of the strategy were:



2.3 Scope

2.3.1 Coastal Otago Sub-Region

Figure 1 Map of the Coastal Otago Sub-Region

Sport Otago to add map

The Coastal Otago sub-region is comprised of the Waitaki, Dunedin and Clutha territorial authority areas. The sub-region shares boundaries with Central Otago district and the Southland region.

The Clutha district is home to approximately 18,500 people. It stretches along the Coast between Dunedin and the Southland district, and inland past Gore to Central Otago. It includes many rural, farming based communities. Balclutha is the largest town with approximately 4,000 residents. The district is well known for the gold rush heritage of Lawrence and also The Catlins area with spectacular waterfalls, beautiful beaches, rainforest and wildlife.¹³

Dunedin's total population is over 130,000 people. The majority reside in Dunedin City, with the other main town being Mosgiel. The Dunedin area has many main attractions including Otago University, many examples of Victorian and Edwardian architecture, the world's steepest street and Otago Peninsula which includes the world's only mainland Albatross Colony, yellow-eyed penguin and seal colonies.¹⁴

The Waitaki district stretches from the coast at Kakanui to almost the foot of Aoraki, Mt Cook. Oamaru is the largest town, with approximately 14,000 people. The district straddles two regions, lying within both the Otago and Canterbury regions. It is a largely rural and farming district with a growing tourism sector. It has a diverse range of scenery and attractions including coastline, rivers, lakes, mountains and sites of geological significance. The district is popular for tramping camping, cycling, fishing and hunting.¹⁵

¹³ Sourced and summarised from <https://www.cluthadc.govt.nz/council/about-clutha-district> and <https://www.cluthanz.com/>

¹⁴ Sourced and summarised from <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/council/annual-and-long-term-plans/10-year-plan-2021-2031/section-2/snapshot-of-a-great-small-city> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunedin>

¹⁵ Sourced and summarised from <https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/District/About-Waitaki>

2.3.2 Facilities Considered

This Strategy is focussed on the key spaces and places (facilities) where play, active recreation and sporting activity occurs across the Coastal Otago sub-region. It provides some guidance regarding key local facilities including gaps or over-supply in provision. However, it is focussed on providing guidance at a sub-regional/district and regional level. Given this sub-regional/district and regional focus, the Strategy provides limited assessment of play spaces (as these are largely local level) but it does provide some high-level consideration and recommendations regarding play.

The key facility types that are considered in this Strategy are:

Types of Spaces & Places	Sub-categories & codes
Outdoor spaces and places	<p>Outdoor Field Sports: Rugby Union, Football, Rugby League, Cricket, Softball, Touch, others</p> <p>Outdoor Court Sports: Netball, Tennis, Basketball</p> <p>High-level consideration of play spaces.</p>
Indoor spaces and places	<p>Indoor Multi-use Court Based: Netball, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Tennis, Indoor Bowls, Roller Skating, Marching</p> <p>Indoor Specialised: Squash, Table Tennis, Gymsports, Weightlifting</p>
Aquatic spaces & places	<p>Aquatic - pool based (indoor and outdoor): Swimming, Water polo, Flippa Ball, Synchronised Swimming, Diving, Aqua jogging, Canoe Polo, Underwater Hockey, Surf Life Saving (training)</p> <p>Aquatic - outdoor (natural) water: Rowing, Sailing/yachting, Surf Life Saving, Waka ama, Canoeing/kayaking</p>
Other spaces & places	<p>Ice and Snow Sports: Ice Hockey, Figure Skating, Curling,</p> <p>Specialised Sports: MTB, Athletics, Golf, Lawn bowls, Skateboarding, Equestrian, Croquet, Petanque, Shooting sports, Archery</p>

Excluded from scope:

- Where existing strategies exist (such as Regional Cycling Strategy, local Council playground Strategies)
- Parks and gardens (inclusion if identified as sports fields).
- Extreme sports such as paragliding.
- Art, culture and heritage spaces and places provision.
- Passive use open spaces and reserves

2.4 Definitions

In this Strategy the following definitions are used:

Active Recreation is considered to be non-competitive physical activity for the purpose of wellbeing and enjoyment. It includes activities that:

- occur in built, landscaped and natural environments (including outdoor recreation, fitness/exercise, community recreation, aquatics)
- are undertaken by individuals and by groups
- occur with and without the involvement of a 'provider' group or organisation (i.e., can be undertaken independently)

Sport is usually defined as physical activity that is competitive, organised and involves the observation of rules. It may be participated in either individually or as a team.

The reality is that often there is no real differentiation between Active Recreation and Sport, particularly from the view of community participants. To recognise this, we note that: **Active Recreation and Sport** is considered to

be activities that you do for fun, challenge and fitness that involve movement. Active Recreation and Sport includes a wide range of activities such as walking, fishing, stand-up paddle boarding and a huge range of individual and team sports. Participation can occur in a range of settings from informal to organised competitions and individual to group/club environments.

Play is an innate human activity. It is considered to be fun, accessible, challenging, social and repeatable activity that is spontaneous and can happen anywhere. Play has no pre-determined outcome, is intrinsically motivated, personally directed and freely chosen.

Play Spaces are those areas with elements or features designed to encourage play. They can be highly structured with built equipment or less formal spaces designed for nature play or creative play. When people have time and permission to play, any space can be a play space.

3 Demographic Summary

3.1 Demographic Profile



The population of Coastal Otago was 171,470 in 2018. It is expected to grow by 11% in the 30 years to 2048 to reach 190,997 people. An increase of nearly 20,000 people.



The population of Dunedin City was 130,520 in 2018. In the 30 years to 2048 it is expected to increase by 10% or 12,465 people to 142,985.



The population of Clutha District was 18,050 in 2018. In the 30 years to 2048 it is expected to increase by 20%, or over 3,600 people, to 21,700.



The population of Waitaki District was 22,900 in 2018. In the 30 years to 2048 it is expected to increase by 15%, or 3,412 people, to 26,000.



The 65 plus age group is expected to have the biggest growth by 2048 with increases of, 87% (2,700 people) in the Clutha District, 57%, (3,000 people) in the Waitaki District and by 39%, (13,546 people) in Dunedin City.



The population of the Coastal Otago sub-region is projected to become more ethnically diverse by 2043.

3.1.1 Coastal Otago Sub-Region

Each of the three Council areas which make up the Coastal Otago sub-region provided their own demographic data. The information provided in this section reflects each individual set of data which is then combined to achieve the sub-regional projections.

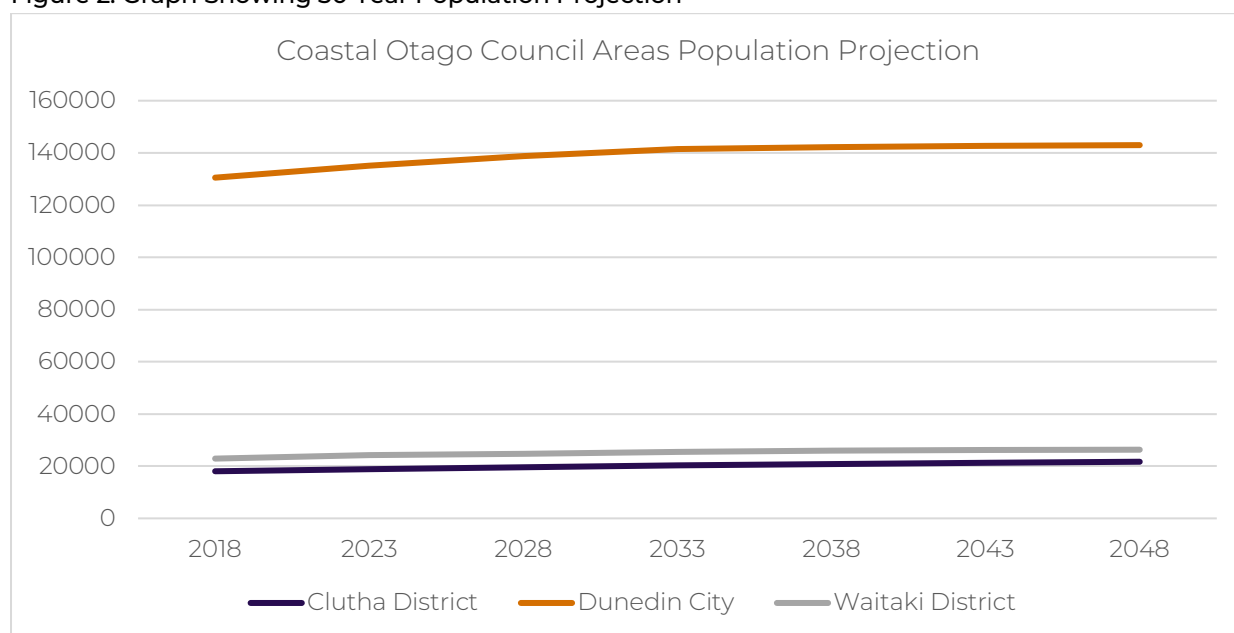
The population of Coastal Otago was 171,470 in 2018¹⁶. It is expected to grow by 11% in the 30 years to 2048 to reach 190,997 people. This is an increase of nearly 20,000 people. Nearly two-thirds of the increase in population will occur in Dunedin City. The Waitaki and Clutha Districts are both expected to grow by around 3,500 people.

¹⁶ Demographic data sourced from three sources: Stats NZ high projections (Clutha), DCC 2021 LTP SFA Projections, WDC Infometrics.

Table 1: Coastal Otago Population Projection

	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	Change 2018-2043	% Change 2018-2043
Clutha District	18,050	18,950	19,650	20,300	20,900	21,400	21,700	3,650	20%
Dunedin City	130,520	135,100	138,674	141,417	142,318	142,671	142,985	12,465	10%
Waitaki District	22,900	24,126	24,797	25,483	25,870	26,081	26,312	3,412	15%
Total Population	171,470	178,176	183,121	187,200	189,088	190,152	190,997	19,527	11%

Figure 2: Graph Showing 30 Year Population Projection



It is expected that in 30 years' time each Council area will have a very similar proportion of the population of the Coastal Otago Sub-region as it did in 2018.

Table 2: Coastal Otago Sub-Region Population Distribution – Current and Projected

	% Population 2018	% Population 2048
Clutha District	11%	11%
Dunedin City	76%	75%
Waitaki District	13%	14%

A breakdown of demographic data and population projections for each Council area within the Coastal Otago sub-region is provided in Appendix 1.

Challenges:

“Limited changing facilities and space for parking, storage. This impacts on users in terms of their privacy, comfort and convenience to exercise”

“Over time [the] facility is going backwards”.

“...changing facilities, toilets and accessibility for all could be markedly improved across the region”.

- survey respondents

4 Advantages, Challenges, Needs & Trends

4.1 Competitive Advantages

4.1.1 Regional Advantages

The regional competitive advantages identified in the Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Facilities Strategy¹⁷ are expanded here with Coastal Otago specific aspects in *italics*:

- **Climate** – a continental climate of hot summers and cold winters which is predominantly drier than the rest of New Zealand, meaning few cancellations of outdoor sport from wet weather however winter snow and ice conditions impact on travel and evening outdoor training and games for some sports/activities. *The Coastal Otago sub-region has low rainfall in the range of only 800-900mils per annum. With climate change, it is expected that what was 'typical weather' for the sub-region will change over time.*
- **Natural Environment** – the region is supported by an abundance of natural features (mountains, lakes, rivers) which provide for a range of outdoor sport and recreation activities. *In the Coastal Otago sub-region, the coastal environment is a key point of difference, supporting activities such as surfing and surf lifesaving along with casual recreational activities such as ocean swimming, harbour-based sailing and rowing, walking and playing on beaches.*
- **Tourism** – while large numbers of visitors can put pressure on infrastructure, the volume of visitors has also driven the provision of activity and support infrastructure that would otherwise not have been provided or taken longer for the benefit of residents. Commercial tourism has driven the provision of facilities such as ski fields, snow parks, golf courses, and adrenalin and adventure-based sport activities and experiences. *In the Coastal Otago sub-region facilities such as Forsyth Barr Stadium, walking and cycle trails including the Alps2Ocean trail and nature-based tourism experiences in the Catlins, Moeraki and geo-sites in Waitaki (to name a few) provide for both tourists and locals.*
- **Major Event Facilities** - There are a number of major facilities which are at National level such as ski fields for snow sports, cricket ovals, the field sports hub park at QEC and Molyneux Park and the hockey turf at Cromwell. The natural landscape features are the major asset for national and international adventure sport events. Examples of major event facilities in Coastal Otago include *University Oval (Dunedin), a venue for international cricket and Forsyth Barr Stadium (Dunedin) which provides the opportunity for a range of major events, including recently hosting the FIFA Women's Football World Cup 2023, bringing a significant number of visitors to the sub-region along with the excitement of international sport.*
- **World Class participation and development pathways** - The region has a high level of participation in sport and recreation and a strong track record in supporting and developing talented athletes in a wide range of codes. *In the Coastal Otago sub-region there is good support for local participation and pathways for those participants who are reaching higher levels of competition, supporting a range of potential pathways not only elite participation.*

The QL-CO SFRS identified funding support as an advantage, However, there is no one Otago-wide picture regarding community funding. Rather there are varying levels of funding support

¹⁷ Sourced and summarised from Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Facilities Strategy page 17 <https://www.gldc.govt.nz/media/d5nh4gx2/item-1-attachment-a-queenstown-lakes-central-otago-sub-regional-sport-recreation-facility-strategy-2021.pdf>

available across the region. Within the Coastal-Otago sub-region funding support has been identified as a challenge.

4.1.2 Coastal Otago Sub-regional Advantages

The Coastal Otago sub-region is unique and has some key differences to the Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago sub-region. In the Coastal Otago area key sub-regional advantages are considered to be:

- **Sharing of key regional facilities** such as the Edgar Centre, which enables young people from more rural areas to travel to participate against a wider variety of teams than in their home district alone, particularly for tournaments.
- Facilities that support the full range of **community participation pathways**, rather than focus on elite sport participants.
- Many Coastal Otago communities enjoy relatively easy access to sport and recreation **facilities in adjacent areas** such as South Canterbury (Timaru) and Southland (Gore), which increases the diversity of facility and participation experiences available.
- Natural **coastal environment, harbours and waterway access** that enable and support participation in a range of activities including surfing, surf lifesaving, sailing, rowing and fishing.
- **Low rainfall** which supports outdoor play, sport and recreation activity.
- **Limited traffic issues**, meaning travel to participate is relatively hassle free.

4.2 Key Trends in Play, Active Recreation and Sport

Over time a number of trends have emerged that challenge the structure, leadership and delivery of play, active recreation and sport in New Zealand and therefore impact the spaces and places network that is needed to support community participation and wellbeing. Some of these trends include:

- Increasing diversity in the range of sport and recreation available
- Increasing awareness of the value and importance of play
- Decreasing physical activity, particularly influenced by the electronic revolution
- Ageing built facilities, many of which are no longer fit-for-purpose and may not be financially viable to upgrade and maintain
- The development of multi-use hubs which act as broad community facilities, providing for a range of uses rather than just one sport
- Increasing participation in individual sport and recreation activities, a move to more casual participation and reducing popularity of traditional sport
- New technologies that benefit and encourage participation such as e-bikes, smart watches and online tools
- Increasing expectations of participants including the move of some outdoor sports to indoor environments and the desire for year-round participation.

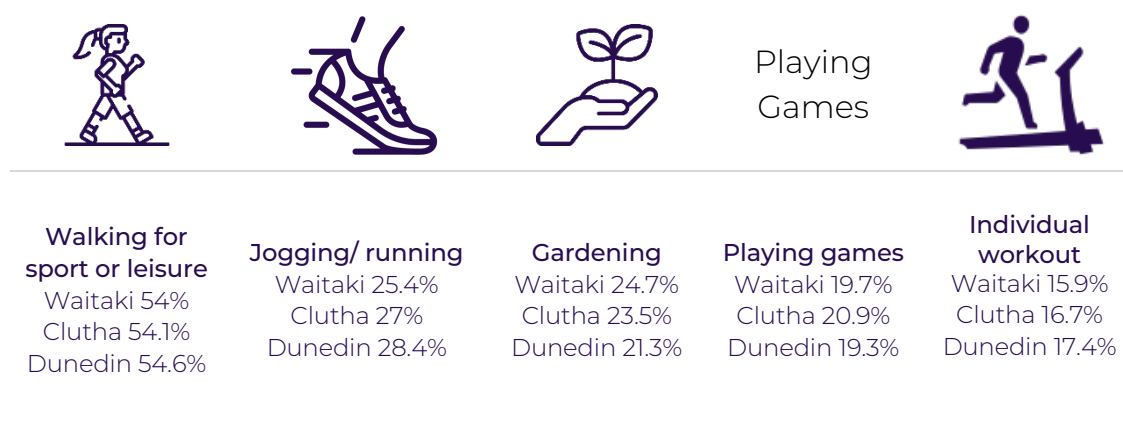
More detail on these trends, and a range of others, is included in Appendix 5.

4.3 Coastal Otago Sub-Regional Participation Trends¹⁸

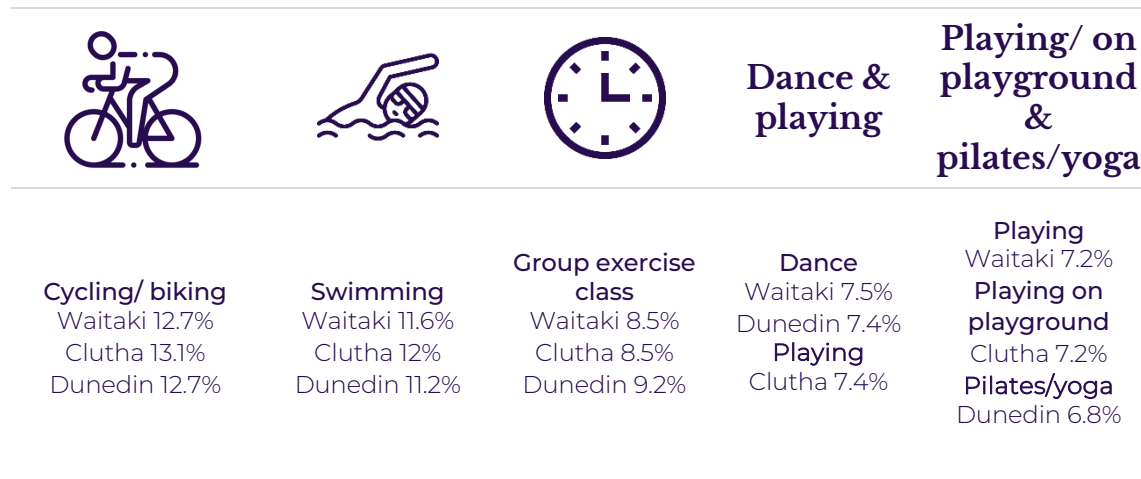
Sport NZ undertakes independent research to understand the proportion of people participating in recreation and sport activities throughout New Zealand. This is available online using the Sport NZ Insights Tool¹⁹ and provides the ability to understand participation in the Coastal Otago sub-region.

This document provides high-level participation trends only, it does not provide detailed consideration on a code by code basis. The Sport NZ Insights tool shows the following activity behaviour (interests and preferences)²⁰ for the sub-region. It is important to note that this information is an indication only and care should be taken with the proportions of participation that it presents.

The Top Five Activity Behaviours by the 3 Coastal Otago Council Areas:



Rounding out the top ten activity behaviours:



¹⁸ Data sourced from the Sport NZ Insights Tool <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/insights-tool/>. Modelled participation uses combined data from the 2019 and 2020 Active NZ Survey and StatsNZ Census 2018.

¹⁹ This Tool sources data from Statistics NZ, Active NZ Survey (Sport NZ) School Sport New Zealand sports participation data, Ministry of Education, Health and Nielsen Research. See <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/insights-tool/>

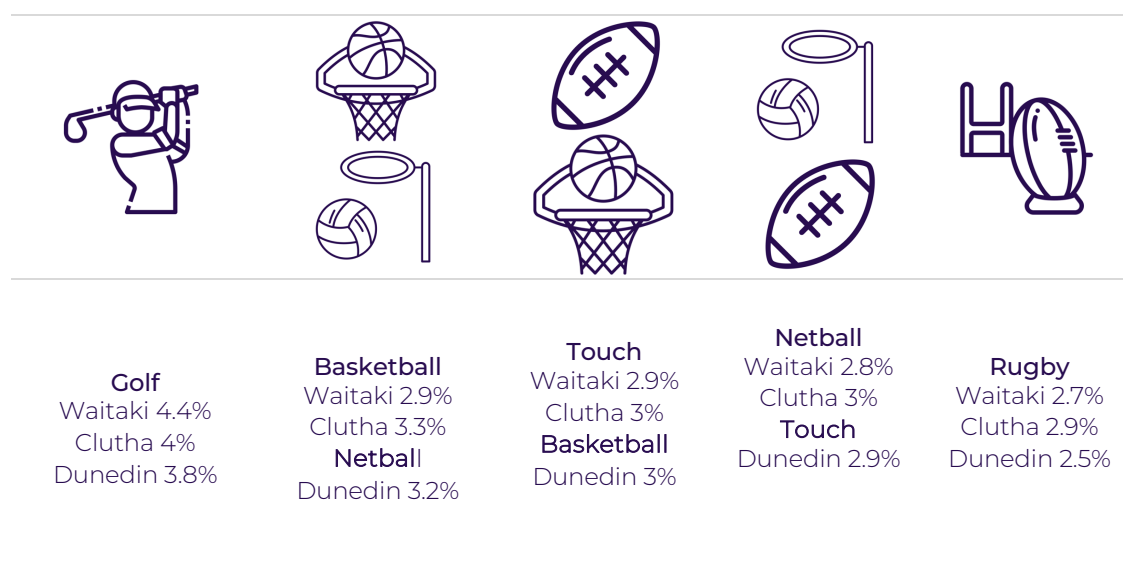
²⁰ Activity behaviours is modelled participation using combined data from the 2019 and 2020 Active NZ Survey (last 7 Days participation rates) and Statistics NZ Census 2018.

This shows that most popular participation/ activity behaviour (interests and preferences)²¹ in the Coastal Otago sub-region is likely to be through recreation and informal or casual participation opportunities or via facilities and classes that cater to more individualised sport and active recreation opportunities such as gym/exercise classes, pools and cycling infrastructure.

Some activity behaviour categories cover a number of potential activities. For example, running/jogging, cycling and swimming categories do not differentiate between casual and organised participation. 'Playing games' is typically young people engaging in activities such as four square, tag, bull rush, dodgeball and so on, however, it can also include adults playing similar types of games with children. 'Playing' is typically more informal activities and actions, such as running around, climbing trees, make-believe, often with friends. 'Playing on playground' is specifically linked to play on built infrastructure such as jungle gyms and so forth²².

The activity behaviours data for the top 5 participation rates in the more 'organised'/ traditional sport category are as follows:

Top 5 'organised' sport activity behaviours:



Again, It is important to note that this information is an indication only and care should be taken with the proportions of participation that it presents.

Most play, sport and recreation activities require some form of space or place for participation to occur, either in the home or in public environments. The type of spaces include casual spaces ranging from the backyard to public open space areas such as parks, play spaces, beaches, skate parks, tracks and trails where people can participate in ways and at times that suit them. This also includes facilities that provide individuals with informal or casual participation options such as aquatic centres. Facilities for more formalised use includes bookable and fit-for-purposes spaces such as indoor courts, sports fields, aquatic centres, and multi-use venues. Typically these cater for

²¹ Activity behaviours is modelled participation using combined data from the 2019 and 2020 Active NZ Survey (last 7 Days participation rates) and Statistics NZ Census 2018. This information is an indication only and care should be taken with the proportions of participation that it presents.

²² Definitions of playing, playing games, playing on playgrounds inferred from Active NZ survey information and examples provided in technical report found at: <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/vplizckx/active-nz-year-5-technical-report.pdf>

organised activities at set times such as sports training and competition, group exercise classes and scheduled activities, along with tournaments and major events.

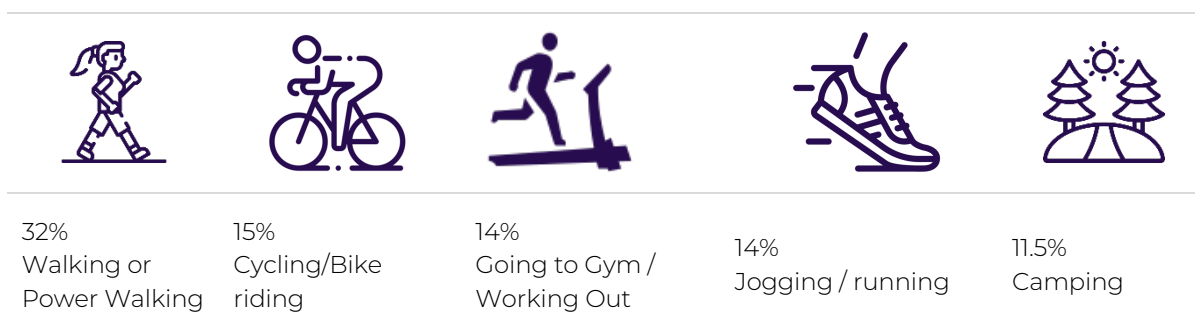
Using the New Zealand Secondary School Sports Council (NZSSSSC) census²³, it shows the top 10 school representation sports in the Otago Region are:

- | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Basketball | 3. Netball | 5. Hockey | 7. Football | 9. Cricket |
| 2. Volleyball | (outdoor) | 6. Touch | 8. Futsal | (outdoor) |
| | 4. Rugby Union | | | 10. Badminton |

Again, this information helps demonstrate the importance of spaces and places (facilities) that support young people to be able to engage in a range of activities.

It should also be noted that there is a high amount of 'inactivity' expected within Coastal Otago communities, ranging from approximately 22.9% of people expected to be inactive in Dunedin through to 24% and 24.1% expected to be inactive in Clutha and Waitaki. With inactivity a common issue for many people, the provision of spaces and places that support people to easily connect with and engage in physical activity in ways that suit them individually is very important.

When the Sport NZ Activity Trends²⁴ data for activities participated in during the last year is considered for the whole Otago Region²⁵ the top 5 results are:



Overall, this data indicates that the most popular participation opportunities likely to be chosen by those in Coastal Otago tend to be sport or recreational activities that can be participated in casually or informally and on an individual or family basis. It also shows that generally, traditional field and court sports are very common activities for young people who have higher participation rates for those activities overall.

²³ Sourced from: <https://www.nzsssc.co.nz/Education/School-Sport-NZ-Census-Reports>

²⁴ Nielsen Consumer & Media Insights report for the question: what sports and activities have you participated in the last 12 months. Data sourced for 2011-2020 Copyright 2016 the Nielsen Company.

²⁵ Note this is for the whole Otago region, so includes Central Otago, and Queenstown Lakes but excludes Waitaki.

4.4 Key Issues and Challenges

4.4.1 Region-wide Challenges

The regional challenges identified in the Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Facilities Strategy (QL-CO SFRS)²⁶ are provided in **bold font** with up-to-date explanations to include new information, particularly of relevance to Coastal Otago.

Uneven population growth – the rate of population growth is expected to vary significantly across the whole Otago area, with Queenstown Lakes expected to continue to experience the most rapid growth (approximately 60% by 2048), Central Otago to a lesser degree (approximately 42% by 2048²⁷) and more steady growth of an average 11% across the Coastal Otago sub-region by 2048. Within Coastal Otago the expected growth varies between 10% in Dunedin, 15% in Waitaki and 20% in Clutha, noting that Clutha and Waitaki are starting from a lower population base²⁸.

Changing population – an ageing population indicates participation choices and needs are changing. Sport and recreation facilities need to be flexible to adapt to the needs of an ageing population such as desire for hydrotherapy or warm water aquatic space, more recreational rather than competitive focus of sport and recreation activities.

The facility legacy (Ageing facilities) – in the QL-CO SFRS it was noted many facilities were developed over 20 years ago to meet the needs of traditional sporting codes. In the Coastal Otago sub-region survey data indicates an aged facility network with 91% of facilities being over 26 years old, and 58% of facilities over 51+ years old. Maintenance requirements become more challenging for owners as facilities decline with age. One example is roofs getting to the end of the asset life and needing replacement at a significant cost to clubs or codes.

Fit-for-purpose facilities - Many of these ageing facilities are no longer fit-for-purpose and certainly do not meet current expectations from users regarding the standard of facilities. For example, shower and changing room blocks that have no privacy considerations (mass shower rooms) and are in very poor condition. There are also a number of old facilities which don't meet current expectations for accessibility such as no or inadequate ramp access, have poor, outdated kitchens and social facilities and/or have seismic issues.

Changing participation trends – there are examples across the whole Otago region of activities with declining memberships which are still maintaining a large number of single club facilities (such as bowls, tennis and rugby amongst others). On the other hand, many recreational activities and sports with emerging popularity such as futsal and pickleball have limited access to playing space and social facilities. With recreational cycling and walking continuing to grow in popularity, there has been recent investment in shared tracks and trails in many areas.

Increased burden on volunteers – provision of community play, active recreation and sport faces a significant challenge securing volunteers. Many organisations are finding it harder to secure volunteers, in part because of the increasing compliance and health and safety expectations they face, along with increased pressure and demands members and spectators place on these volunteer organisers. More people are wanting to pay to play rather than have to provide volunteer time to support a club or organisation. However, this contributes to affordability and access issues for some.

Geographic distribution of facilities – with a large geographic area, and many small, rural towns a key challenge is to provide convenient, locally accessible facilities with short travel times. The boundaries of Council areas also don't necessarily align with where people might choose to

²⁶ Sourced and summarised from Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Facilities Strategy page 17 <https://www.qldc.govt.nz/media/d5nh4gx2/item-1-attachment-a-queenstown-lakes-central-otago-sub-regional-sport-recreation-facility-strategy-2021.pdf>

²⁷ Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago growth projections from Stats NZ subnational population projections 2018 (base)-2048 medium series.

²⁸ Information from individual Council demographic data, combined to create the sub-regional projections as outlined in section 3 demographic summary.

participate. For example, for residents of Omarama it is significantly quicker to travel outside the Waitaki District to Twizel (approx. 25-30 mins) to access facilities rather than Oamaru (1hr 15-25mins). It is quicker for Tapanui residents to drive to Gore (30 mins) to use facilities rather than Balclutha (50-60mins). There are many other examples where planning across district and regional boundaries (such as with Southland) would be advantageous.

Opportunities for regional competition – it is important to consider the availability and suitability of facilities to host regional competitions. Some sports do not have suitable facility access for these. It is noted that the limited number of national and international events, and intense competition to host these indicate that focus should be on regional competitions first and foremost. However, with relatively short travel times between the main city/towns of Coastal Otago (Oamaru -Dunedin-Balclutha) there may be opportunities to host competitions with multiple divisions or pools across multiple facilities in the sub-region, with finals then hosted in one location. This may be particularly appropriate for age-group level competitions²⁹.

Funding Support - There is no one Otago-wide picture regarding community funding, with varying levels of funding support available across the region. Anecdotally it appears that Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago have a wealthier population base and more individual and community philanthropic funders. Central Otago is well supported by Central Lakes Trust and Waitaki is well supported by Network Waitaki. However, Dunedin and Clutha seem to have fewer funding options available to them.

4.4.2 Sub-regional Challenges

Working with stakeholders (survey and workshops), and the project steering group, a range of Coastal Otago sub-regional challenges were identified. Figure 3 shows the top 5 challenges in purple boxes with the ranking in brackets, with other commonly identified challenges shown in grey.

Figure 3 Key Sub-regional Challenges



There were some obvious variations between the feedback from the Dunedin and Waitaki community workshops³⁰. In Dunedin the ability to fund ongoing asset maintenance was ranked 4th but dropped to 8th after the Waitaki workshop. In Waitaki affordability – cost of participation was a much bigger challenge, whereas it was ranked 6th in Dunedin. It is unknown, but Clutha perspectives may have been more aligned with Waitaki.

²⁹ Age group tournaments are seen as an attractive type of event to secure as they typically bring large numbers of players, officials and supporters into the hosting communities for a sustained period of time.

³⁰ Note: Clutha organisations were invited to the Dunedin workshop, but none attended.

Concerns around a lack of volunteers was the standout concern from both the survey and the workshops. The lack of volunteers has an impact on the operational capacity of organisations to provide participation opportunities as well as impacting their ability to manage and operate facilities including proactively planning for maintenance, upgrades or new facilities. Affordability of membership was also identified in the survey, along with funding for new and maintenance of facilities.

The quantity and capacity challenges were often quite code or area-specific. For example, rugby league has challenges around accessing grounds and facilities, aquatic sports identified access times/pool capacity as an issue. In Dunedin multi-use indoor court availability was of significant concern to stakeholders.

“Basketball is a massively growing sport and because of this it is becoming harder to have competitions large enough to fit all players (capacity cause court space is limited), this means trainings are having to be later, games don’t finish until after 10pm at night which doesn’t fit with some of our young members or members with families.”

“Get help for the volunteers that are passionate about their activity/sport”

- Survey respondents

5 Future Planning & Priorities

5.1 Facility Categories

In order to help inform regional and sub-regional facility planning it is useful to have a way to categorise and consider the role of specific facilities and how they support communities to engage in play, active recreation and sport. All categories of facility have an important role to play within the network of facilities in Coastal Otago.

When categorising facilities it is important to categorise them based on their primary use and intended purpose. While some local facilities may meet some international standards, such as a basketball court meeting FIBA requirements, if the majority of use and its primary purpose is for local and regional use it should be categorised as a regional facility. It is also important to understand that a single facility often meets a range of functional needs, from local to regional to international.

It is also important to understand facilities cover a spectrum of use from dedicated, single-use facilities that cater to one use or activity type through to multi-use facilities where a range of sports or activities occur.

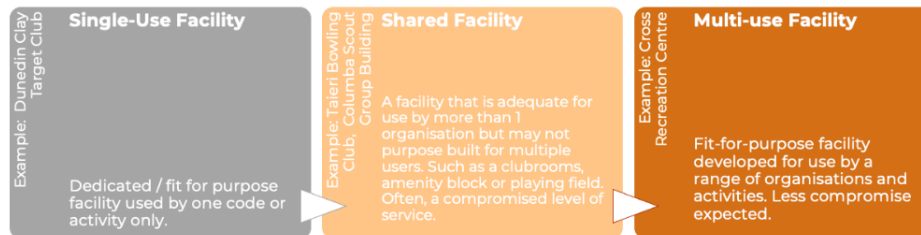
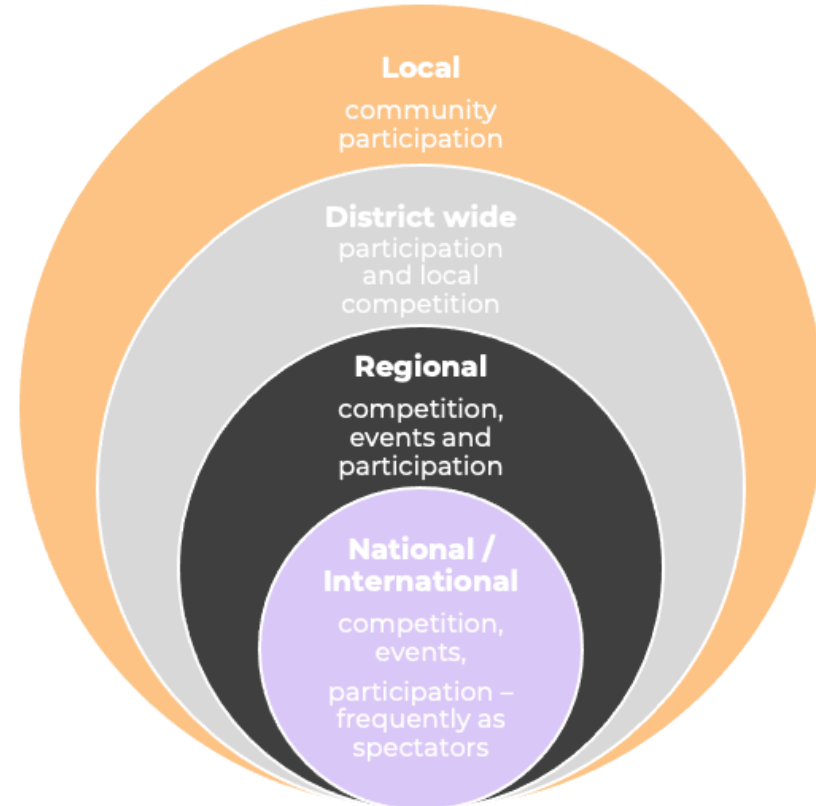


Figure 4 Facility Categories and Primary Function



Facility Categories Further Explained

	Local	Sub-regional/District	Regional	National	International
Definition:	A facility that provides community participation opportunities for a local area or town catchment. Local facilities support people's introduction to sport and active recreation within their local community.	A facility with the ability to provide participation opportunities for both training and competition. Often supporting the whole district (Dunedin City, Clutha District, Waitaki District), and also drawing teams from across adjacent Territorial Authority areas for competition or a unique participation experience.	A facility with the ability to host inter-regional and internal regional (Otago wide) competitions, serve as a regional high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes or provide community participation opportunities for a high number of people across Territorial Authority boundaries. Regional spaces and places are often the primary centre of co-located, multi-sport and active recreation facilities within a regional catchment.	A facility with the ability to host national competitions and events or to serve as a national high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes.	A facility with the ability to host international competitions and events (i.e., between nations).
Examples:	Milton Centennial Pool	Cross Recreation Centre – Balclutha Waitaki Aquatic Centre - Oamaru	Caledonian Ground Athletics Track - Dunedin	Edgar Centre – Dunedin Dunedin Ice Stadium Moana Pool - Dunedin	Forsyth Barr Stadium – Dunedin University Oval - Dunedin
Primary Function:	Local community participation	Participation and local competition	Competition, events and community participation	Competition, events and participation – most frequently as spectators	Competition, events and participation – most frequently as spectators

5.2 Facility & Space Planning Principles

When considering the upgrade or development of future facilities to meet sport and active recreation needs it is fundamental that facilities are developed in a robust and planned way. Sport New Zealand's National Sport Facilities Framework³¹ provides planning principles to improve future decision making when investing in facilities. The Framework is currently under review with an expectation that the principles will be updated.

The Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Strategy includes 9 planning principles which have been considered in the development of the following principles which will guide the Coastal Otago Places and Spaces Strategy:

5.2.1 Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi is recognised. A cultural framework should be applied that reflects Te Tiriti o Waitangi articles and principles and considers the cultural narrative of the area, when planning future play, active recreation and sport facility outcomes for the community.

5.2.2 Evidenced based

Any changes to service levels and provision of new or redeveloped facilities will be based on a planned approach, utilising available evidence to inform decisions.

5.2.3 Seeking best value for money (economically viable)

With finite resources, decisions need to be made that are based on ensuring social and economic sustainability and value for money for asset owners and funders. To do this it is important to understand the whole of life costs related to decisions. This means not only being able to build a facility but also affording to operate and maintain it for the whole of its life.

5.2.4 Environmental sustainability

Environmental impacts and climate change need to be considered when investing in upgrades or new facilities. There is also a need to apply sustainable design and construction methods to ensure the future facility network minimises impact on the environment and is itself, protected from environmental changes.

5.2.5 Partnering and collaboration

Partnering with others such as Iwi, education, health, and the private sector increases the likelihood that facilities will be used to their full potential, maximising the return on investment in terms of participation and funding.

5.2.6 Co-location and Integration

Focus on the development of multi-use facilities or hubs where a range of sport, recreation, play, education, social and other community infrastructure needs can be met. When determining appropriate levels of facility provision, the role each facility plays in the overall facility network needs to be considered. Not all communities need or can sustain the same levels of facility provision.

5.2.7 Future proofing

Facilities should be designed to accommodate changing needs over time. The best long-term outcomes are achieved by designing facilities in ways that enable them to be adapted, developed and extended in response to future demands, thereby delivering multi-generational benefits.

³¹ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1411/nz-facilities-framework.pdf>

5.2.8 Inclusive and Accessible

Facilities are maintained, adapted and developed in such a way as to encourage inclusiveness and accessibility for all. This includes being inclusive to all people regardless of income, age, ethnicity, gender and physical ability.

5.2.9 Reflective of the Community / Sub-Region

Facilities need to be reflective of the character of the community, district, sub-region and/or region that surround them, both visually and operationally, to create an environment where everyone feels welcome. This also applies to facilities supporting the recreational use of natural landscape features.

5.2.10 Activation

Planning for how a space will be activated is vital to ensuring its effective utilisation. Well-promoted and planned programmes, activities, festivals and events encourages utilisation, fosters vibrancy and promotes a sense of ownership. A network approach assessing how a number of facilities or spaces within a District or across a Region can be activated together is important to more effectively and efficiently utilise existing resources to meet demand.

5.2.11 Social Interaction

Facilities need to be designed and equipped to create opportunities for social interaction, that support meaningful contact people have with one another during, before and after the sport or active recreation activity.

“Active communities supported by facilities and strategies.”

“I believe the standard of maintenance is heavily influenced on [sic] budgets available. Some years the grounds seem to get good maintenance and last well, others they get minimal and suffer accordingly”.

“A facility dedicated to sports not events.”

“Casual recreation opportunities at destination sites.”

“Physical activity that aligns to the environment.”

“Council and government funding and support, collaboration and cross code resource and knowledge sharing, working smarter not harder with volunteer roles and responsibilities.”

“Sport is a portal to a positive outlook.”

- survey respondents and workshop participants

5.3 Facility & Space Planning Criteria

The following criteria have been developed to reflect the key principles of this strategy and align with the existing Queenstown Lakes - Central Otago document. These criteria will be used to help implement the strategy through guiding the assessment of both current and future proposed spaces and places investments across the sub-region, and to assist with identifying the future priorities for investment. These criteria recognise that:

- There are not enough funds to develop every play, active recreation and sport facility that might be desired by communities.
- Evidence indicates there are significant challenges with maintaining current facilities, let alone building more.
- Smarter prioritisation of future investment is needed.
- Care is needed when using these criteria to ensure local needs are considered.

At level 1, the essential criteria need to be considered and met with a high degree of certainty before a more detailed assessment of any concept is undertaken using the remaining level 2 and 3 criteria.

Level 1: Essential Criteria – all projects must address these criteria	
Supports Te Tiriti principles of partnership, protection and participation	The degree to which the proposal applies a cultural framework and considers the cultural narrative of the area. The degree to which Māori participation will be positively impacted.
Evidence Base	The degree to which the proposed development is supported by reliable and verifiable research and consultation, including community insights.
Economic/Financial Sustainability	The degree to which capital and operational costs can be met for the whole life of the facility.
Supply vs Demand	The degree to which current demand/needs exceeds current facility or space provision.
Gap in provision	The degree to which the proposal addresses identified needs which can only be met through additional facility/space provision (i.e., additional facility/space provision is the only option).
Environmental awareness and sustainability	The degree to which planning considers environmental sustainability including sustainable design principles and climate related mitigations.
Participation Levels	The degree of positive impact on participant numbers now and reliably projected into the foreseeable future if the project is actioned.
Strategic Alignment	The degree to which the proposed development aligns with and supports the implementation of National and/or Region wide planning processes, where these exist (e.g., Regional and Territorial Authorities, National Sport Organisations, Ministry of Education, Department of Conservation, other providers and funders processes and plans.)
Events	The degree to which the proposed development enhances the region's ability to host events, consistent with relevant events policies and strategies.

Level 2: High Priority Criteria – while not essential to meet all these criteria, projects should demonstrate clearly how they address these criteria

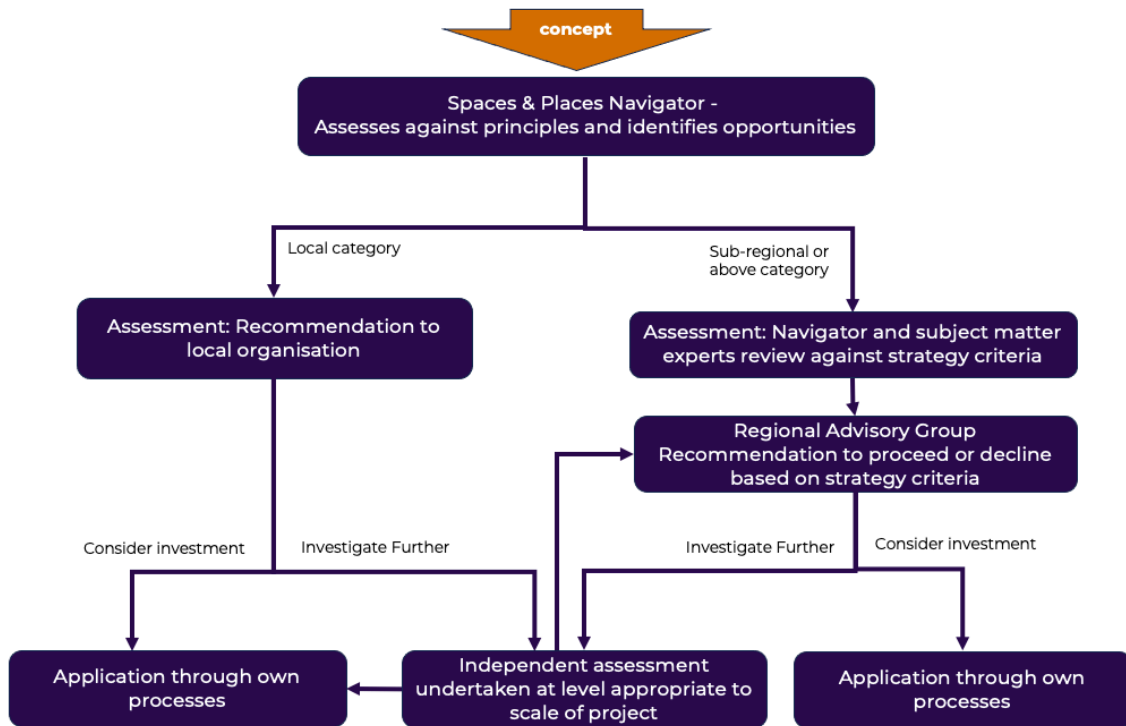
Supports accessibility for all	The degree to which the proposal provides benefit to a broad spectrum of the community and will improve access and equity outcomes for young and old, disabled, gender and ethnic groups.
Flexibility	The degree to which the proposed development can adapt physically and operationally to reflect changing demands and trends (future-proofed).
Industry best practice	The degree to which the proposed development reflects industry best practice in its location, design and subsequent operation, including but not limited to multi-use, multi-code, partnership / collaboration, hubbing, cross sector, all-weather.
Capability	The degree to which the partner organisation(s) involved have the capability to deliver, sustain and manage the facility or space.
Partnering with others	The degree to which the proposal includes and supports a range of organisations including clear evidence of operational and/or capital partnerships between multiple stakeholders.
Impact on other facilities	The degree to which the proposed development's use positively impacts and complements (rather than competes with) existing facilities, spaces or sports hubs.
Environmental mitigation	The degree to which the proposal provides mitigation for a current facility at risk of or already experiencing climate change impacts.
Activation	The degree to which consideration and subsequent plans are in place for how the facility or space will be activated.

Level 3: Desirable Criteria – important factors which should be considered but are not identified as key drivers for facility or space development

Reflective of the local community	The degree to which consideration and subsequent plans are in place to ensure the facility or space (visually and operationally) will reflect the character of the local community and the unique recreational environment of the district.
Social Interaction	The degree to which consideration and subsequent plans are in place for how the facility or space will foster social interaction.
Pathways	The degree to which the proposed development enhances the sporting and active recreation pathways in the region as both an incubator of talent and, where appropriate, a centre of excellence.

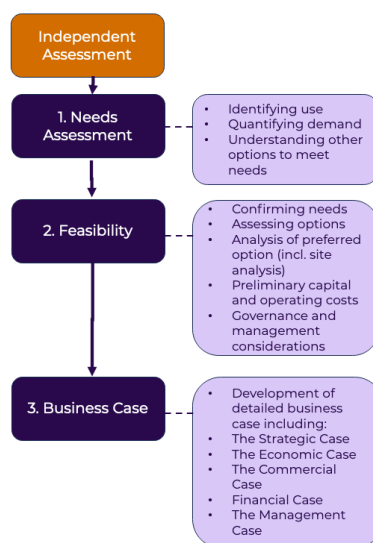
5.4 Assessment Process

In summary, the following process will be used to apply the principles and assessment criteria of this strategy to proposed regional and sub-regional spaces and places investments across the sub-region. This process will inform the recommendations the Regional Spaces and Places Steering Group provides to decision making organisations³² regarding concepts put forward for investment into regional and sub-regional play, active recreation and sport facility development, redevelopment or major maintenance. The Spaces & Places Navigator role sits within Sport Otago.



The scale of a proposed project will determine the depth of independent assessment required to provide assurances to decision makers.

The 3 independent assessment phases can be combined in some instances.



³² Note: Councils will still have autonomy over their own local decision making, as will funding organisations.

6 Overview of Facility Provision

6.1 Sub-regional Snapshot of Provision

The Sport NZ Facility Planning Tool for the Coastal Otago sub-region is being updated as an outcome of this strategy process. At the outset of this strategy process, the inventory in the Sport NZ system showed approximately 200 known play³³, sport and active recreation sites across the sub-region with approximately 380 facilities provided across these sites³⁴. Of those, approximately 56% are Council-owned sites and approximately 27% are Ministry of Education-owned. The remainder of the sites and facilities are owned by a variety of charitable trusts, clubs and community groups.

Some sites have a single facility such as golf club, others such as Moana Pool have multiple facilities (pools, slides) supporting a range of aquatic activities. There are also a range of multi-use sites that have multiple facilities at one site, most often these are park sites that might have a range of facilities and activities. One example is Centennial Park in Waitaki which has playing spaces for activities such as rugby, hockey, cricket, a number of clubrooms used for a variety of activities and specialised facilities such as for petanque, and squash. There are many similar multi-use park sites across the sub-region.

As part of the data gathering process for this Strategy, approximately 160 additional sites and facilities were identified. For example, many school pools were already in the Sport NZ system but for many schools, other facilities such as outdoor courts, turfs, fields and play spaces were not currently included. There was also a significant number of club-owned sites and facilities in the Dunedin area that were not yet included in the inventory system. They will be progressively added to the live inventory system over time.

Excluding the new site and facility data gathered through this process, the most common site and facility types³⁵ currently in the Sport NZ Inventory system for Coastal Otago are:

- **Sports fields** with approximately 180 fields across the sub-region,
- **Aquatic facilities / swimming pools** at approximately 47 sites,
- **Indoor courts** at approximately 31 sites,
- **Outdoor courts** at approximately 14 sites,
- **Golf courses** with approximately 11 across the sub-region.

It is important to note that very few playgrounds or play spaces are currently within the inventory and with many provided in neighbourhood parks and at schools it is understood there are a reasonable amount of traditional play space assets across the sub-region. Some are declining in quality and function due to age.

Overall, based on survey responses there is a good level of satisfaction with the location of facilities in the sub-region. However, some stakeholders, such as indoor court users are concerned about current capacity, and many stakeholders are also concerned about the capacity of facilities to meet future needs. Section 7 of this strategy provides a gap and oversupply analysis of existing facilities, based on facility type.

³³ A few existing playgrounds are captured in the inventory but the majority are not.

³⁴ All numbers in this section are indicative only as the Sport NZ Facility Planning Tool is known to have some data gaps. It is also a live system, regularly being updated so figures change. It is the most comprehensive facility information that is available.

³⁵ These numbers exclude new assets that were identified as part of this project which are yet to be loaded into the Sport NZ inventory system. It should also be noted that the system does not include some recreation assets such as Department of Conservation land / National Parks, walking and cycling tracks and tramping huts, although some mountain bike parks are included.

6.1.1 Clutha

Currently the Sport NZ system identifies approximately 54 sites in the Clutha district, providing around 75 sport, recreation and play facilities. Of these, approximately 23 sites (43%) are Council owned assets. Predominantly, Council owns and operates aquatic facilities, sports fields, playgrounds, skate and bike parks. Council also owns the Cross Recreation Centre which provides indoor courts and a fitness centre. Approximately 13 sites (24%) are owned by the Ministry of Education, these typically include swimming pools. Clubs, incorporated societies and trusts own another 14 sites (26%). These provide for a range of activities such as bowling, golf, squash and one recreation ground (Clutha Valley).

Through the data-gathering process, approximately 53 additional facilities were identified in the Clutha District. The vast majority of these newly identified sites were Ministry of Education-owned assets at schools, such as outdoor courts, sports fields, indoor courts/gymnasiums and multi-use turfs.

6.1.2 Dunedin

At the commencement of the Strategy, there were significant gaps in the Sport NZ system for the Dunedin area. The inventory recorded approximately 96 sites with around 266 facilities provided across those sites. Of those sites, approximately 64 sites (68%) are Council-owned, with 214 facilities recorded at those sites. The majority of Council-owned sites are sports fields and swimming pools/aquatic centres. Council also owns some facilities such as the East Otago Events Centre, changing rooms, bike and skate parks amongst others.

The Ministry of Education provides 26 sites (27%), with approximately 46 facilities at those sites. Of those facilities, approximately 16 (35%) are swimming pools. Schools also provide many indoor courts, outdoor courts and sports fields.

At the outset of the Strategy, the Sport NZ system only recorded 3 sites owned by Clubs, incorporated societies and trusts in the Dunedin area. This was a clear signal that a lot of sport and recreation assets were missing from the inventory.

Through the data gathering process, approximately 100 additional sites/facilities were identified in the Dunedin area. These were mostly club facilities and included activities such as boating/yachting, bowling, croquet, golf courses, gymnastics, petanque and tennis. There were also facilities such as the Dunedin Ice Stadium, Otago Badminton, a number of shooting ranges and surf lifesaving clubs. A number of additional Ministry of Education-owned facilities at schools were also identified.

6.1.3 Waitaki District

The Waitaki District has approximately 47 sport and recreation sites recorded in the Sport NZ inventory system. Of those sites, 23 (49%) are owned by Waitaki District Council. The majority of the Council-owned sites are parks and reserves, many of which provide for multiple activities such as Centennial Park. Council also owns facilities such as the Oamaru Drill Hall, Waitaki Aquatic Centre, tennis Courts, and playgrounds.

The Ministry of Education provides approximately 15 sites (32%) with many providing a number of facilities. For example, East Otago High School provides multiple outdoor courts and sports fields, along with 1 indoor court and a swimming pool.

A relatively small number of additional facilities (12) were identified in the Waitaki District. These included sports fields, indoor and outdoor courts and cricket nets at St Kevin's College. A few club-owned facilities such as the Oamaru Squash and Badminton Club, Ngapara Rugby Football site (it is not known if this is used currently), and the rugby, jockey and squash club in Kurow were identified for inclusion into the Sport NZ inventory system.

6.1.4 Community Use of School Facilities

As noted above, across the sub-region schools are important providers of play, active recreation and sport facilities. Schools provide approximately 27% of the play, sport and active recreation sites³⁶ across the sub-region. Primarily these school facilities are to support the play, active recreation and sport needs of students, although in some instances, those school facilities are also available for the community to use. It is known that there is some level of organised (booked) use of school facilities such as indoor courts and turfs, along with casual recreational use of school playing/ sports field areas and play spaces by members of the public. However, there are a range of challenges experienced with community use of school facilities including:

- A lack of data on levels of community use with bookings often not formally documented,
- Undersized or low quality spaces with issues such as restricted run-off,
- Limited availability of gym/indoor court spaces which are often fully booked (particularly in winter),
- Inability for new activities to get access to school facilities (due to high existing use levels),
- School use needing to take priority over community use and therefore limited hours of availability for community use,
- Community use not bringing in enough income to the school to cover the cost of making the facility available to the community.

As such, the provision of school facilities can support community needs but they do not necessarily provide a simple solution, especially where there is existing under provision of community assets such as indoor courts.

6.2 Observations on the current spaces and places network

One feature of the spaces and places network in the sub-region is there is current **heavy reliance on a small number of key facilities** such as Moana Pool, the Edgar Centre in Dunedin and the Dunedin Ice Stadium. While it is positive these facilities serve sub-regional needs they are ageing and require ongoing investment to maintain building condition and quality, including in response to environmental considerations such as sea level rise. Some of these key facilities are also under pressure to meet utilisation demands, particularly for growing codes such as basketball.

Deferred maintenance of both Council-owned and community sport-owned facilities means many are becoming more expensive to maintain and are not currently fit-for-purpose.

A large number of single-use facilities, many used or owned by clubs or organisations with static or declining membership. This signals a need for more creative partnerships, amalgamations and potentially rationalisation of underutilised facilities. Examples of codes where this issue applies include bowls and rugby club facilities.

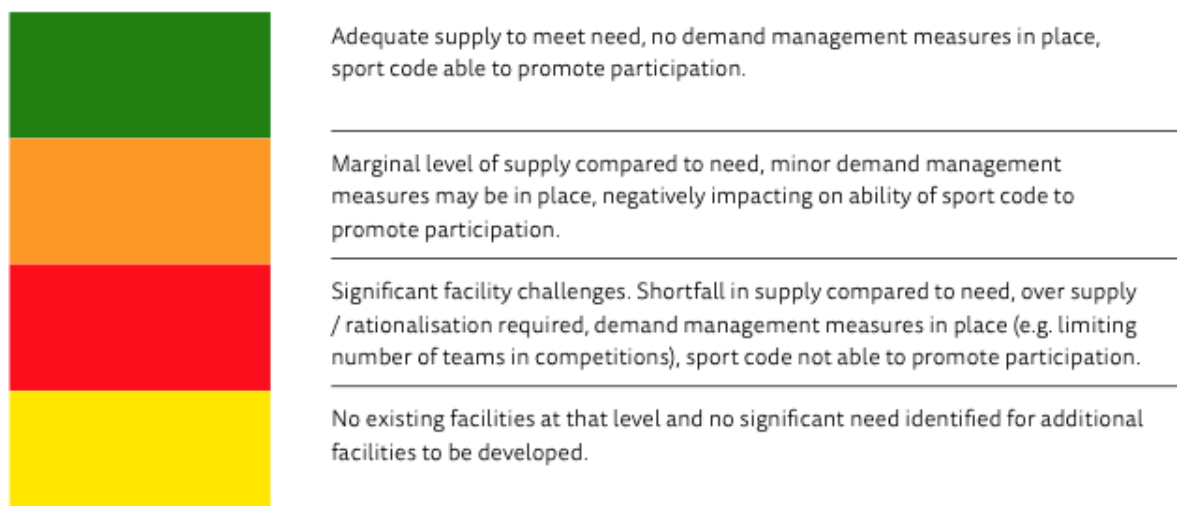
Uncertainty due to climate change impacts - in Dunedin there are a large number of play, sport and active recreation facilities which are located in the South Dunedin, St Kilda and St Clair areas which are experiencing climate change impacts such as coastal inundation and flooding. Council is still planning its response to these issues and the need for 'coastal retreat' may be determined in future. The uncertainty around these issues impacts on the planning, maintenance and even current operations of some of these play, active recreation and sport facilities.

³⁶ Of those recorded in the inventory system at the start of the strategy process. This percentage will change once the newly identified assets are uploaded.

7 Facility Provision - Gaps & Oversupply by Facility Type

To align with the QL-CO SFRS the same traffic light style assessment overview has been used, assessing the provision of spaces and places across the sub-region by facility type. These summaries provide a brief overview to highlight where supply is adequate or where challenges exist due to under or over-supply and facility condition.

Figure 5 Key to Assessment Classifications³⁷



Due to the differences between the Coastal Otago sub-region and the QL-CO area this Strategy uses some slightly different facility groupings for the facility type analysis. More detailed code-based analysis is included in Appendix 2.

7.1 Aquatic Spaces & Places

7.1.1 Aquatic - Pool Based (indoor and outdoor)

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Pools / Aquatic Centres				

Generally, there is adequate facility access for aquatic pool-based sports and general community use. Te Puna o Whakaehu³⁸ has significantly enhanced aquatic provision in the Dunedin area. A new pool is also planned for Milton, which will modernise and add to aquatic provision in Clutha district.

It is noted that across the sub-region, aquatic facility managers work hard to provide a balance of pool access across all aquatic sports as well as general public lane access for activities such as casual swimming, aqua jogging and aerobics.

³⁷ Extracted from p32 Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (revised in 2020).

³⁸ The new aquatic centre in Mosgiel.

Some codes experience access or programming challenges as do some communities with limited pool access. Moana Pool is a significant regional asset which provides a range of pool spaces to support the full range of aquatic sports to regional competition standard, and diving to national standard. Some sports report they do not have all the access they desire (such as specific access times) and some consider they may not be able to grow in future due to access limits.

Sport NZ's National Aquatic Facilities Strategy is currently being reviewed. Early direction contained within the draft document indicates that generally there is enough water space to meet demand. However, there is some mis-match between supply and demand with areas of over-supply of cool temperature / lane space and an under supply of other water experiences such as leisure/play/relaxation and hydrotherapy.

With many ageing pools (including school pools), an ageing population and some communities with local access constraints it will be important to plan at a sub-regional level for the future aquatic network. Once finalised, the National Strategy should be used to help guide more detailed investigations at a sub-regional level. Early indications are that some key considerations in such planning should be the provision of warm water spaces and a higher proportion of leisure water to meet current and future demands. It is also important to note that the plans for the rebuild of Dunedin Hospital mean the Dunedin Physio Pool will not be able to continue in its previous form. This is the only hydrotherapy pool in Dunedin. With an ageing population, and increasing levels of disability access to hydrotherapy space is an important consideration.

7.1.2 Aquatic – outdoor natural water

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Outdoor Natural Water	N/A	N/A		

There is abundant access to natural water, including ocean, harbours, rivers, and lakes along with across the sub -region. These support a wide diversity of outdoor aquatic sport and recreation activities from informal, individualised participation (such as surfing, canoe/kayak) to formal, organised participation and competition (such as rowing, yachting/sailing). There are some water quality and silting issues, safety issues and potential for climate change to negatively impact outdoor aquatic sports.

The key facility issues faced by outdoor water-based sports relate to support amenities such as the provision of water access ramps/ facilities, toilets, change and vessel storage facilities, clubroom facilities and car parking. There are also issues with ageing facilities and potential impacts of climate change on these sites such as for surf lifesaving and sailing/yachting clubs.

7.2 Indoor Spaces and Places

7.2.1 Indoor Multi-use Court Based

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Indoor multiuse courts				

Many indoor court-based sports report challenges around facility access, particularly in Dunedin³⁹. These users report issues with regular sport use being displaced by both sporting and non-sporting events at the Edgar Centre, the key regional indoor court facility.

For example, both basketball and netball are currently capping team entries in their competitions due to a lack of court capacity/availability. Due to high demand levels for indoor court space access, smaller or lower participation sports such as marching, roller skating and others find it difficult to secure regular access to indoor facilities.

Many schools provide indoor courts that the community can access, and which are valuable in terms of overall court supply. However, there can be constraints to use of school facilities which need to be considered when analysing the indoor court network. Some of the constraints which can be experienced with school facilities include:

- Often they are single court spaces which are challenging for operating multi-team competitions from
- Some undersized or low quality court spaces with issues such as restricted run-off
- Often they are more suitable for training needs
- Bookings can be limited i.e., not available in afternoon 3-6pm due to school use or other disruptions to bookings due to school operational requirements (such as holiday periods, maintenance)
- Existing regular users mean limited availability for new or lower participation activities
- Lack of agreements which secure community access (long -term).

There is a high level of overall demand for indoor court access across the Dunedin area which needs to be planned for. It is possible some minor demand management may be possible such as training being pushed into off-peak (early mornings, late nights⁴⁰) or into single court (school) facilities to ensure maximum peak time court availability for competition needs at the Edgar Centre. However, as noted above it can be challenging to get bookings for school facilities which are understood to already be highly utilised.

Clutha is well provided for at the Cross Recreation Centre and the proposed new facility in Waitaki will significantly increase the indoor court supply and facility standard in that area. The main issues for the sub-region are very much in the Dunedin area.

7.2.2 Indoor Specialised

This facility category refers to indoor facilities that have specialised surface or other requirements for a sport or activity such as squash, table tennis, gymnsports, weightlifting. Due to the specialised nature of these facilities, it is important to refer to Appendix 2 for code-based facility analysis.

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Indoor Specialised	N/A			

This is very much a high-level overview and reflects the fact that a large number of these specialised facilities are inadequate due to age, condition, significant maintenance issues or not being fit for purpose due to constraints such as size.

³⁹ The current challenges in Waitaki will be addressed by the proposed new Indoor Sports and Events Centre.

⁴⁰ It is noted that this can be challenging, and potentially off-putting especially for young people. Therefore, early or late trainings is considered more suitable for adults or higher performance / representative team participants.

7.3 Outdoor Spaces and Places

7.3.1 Outdoor Field Sports

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Outdoor Fields				

Again, this is very much a high-level overview and reflects that generally there is adequate facility access for field-based sports. There are a large number of playing fields across the sub-region which provide adequate access from local to International (Forsyth Barr) level. The indication of 'marginal' status at local level reflects the field quality and maintenance issues reported by many codes. This assessment is also linked to the support facilities that are provided at playing field sites with challenges such as toilet/change room suitability (especially for female / gender neutral facilities) and the ageing single use clubrooms network.

There are some clear code specific differences summarised in the code-based analysis in Appendix 2.

7.3.2 Outdoor Court Sports

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Outdoor Courts	N/A			

This high-level assessment reflects that generally there is adequate facility access for outdoor court-based sports across the sub-region. The primary purpose of outdoor courts is to provide for local access although there are also some regional facilities such as tennis (at Logan Park). The marginal assessment highlights the large number of single code facilities such as tennis courts and clubrooms, many of which are ageing and need maintenance. There is the potential for conversions to make existing outdoor courts more multiuse or rationalisation of some low utilisation outdoor courts which have poor surface quality.

7.3.3 Play Spaces

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Play Spaces	N/A	N/A		

As noted earlier, due to the largely local nature of play space provision it is hard to assess the overall sub-regional provision for play in Coastal Otago. However, with increasing understanding of the importance and value of play, changing trends in play such as risky and natural play, and the ageing nature of many existing playgrounds in the sub-region, there is a need to consider and plan for a diversity of play opportunities at a district and local level going forward.

7.4 Other Spaces & Places

7.4.1 Ice & Snow Sports

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local

Ice and Snow Sports				
---------------------	--	--	--	--

This high-level assessment reflects that the Dunedin Ice Stadium requires a feasibility assessment to be undertaken for future redevelopment options. It is the key facility providing ice access in the Coastal Otago sub-region and has maintenance issues.

It is noted that there is generally excellent access across the wider Otago region to facilities for ice and snow sports, including a large number of ski fields and indoor and outdoor ice rinks for a range of activities including curling, ice skating and ice hockey. There are some local, facility specific issues.

7.4.2 Specialised Sports (Outdoor)

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Specialised Sports	N/A	N/A		

This is very much a high-level overview. The marginal assessment reflects the fact that many specialised facilities face challenges such as age, condition, are not fit for purpose or have over/under supply issues. Due to the specialised nature of these facilities, it is very important to refer to Appendix 2 for code-based facility analysis.

8 Key Recommendations for the Sub-Region

The recommendations in this section are those identified as the key priorities for the play, active recreation and sport facility network in the Coastal Otago sub-region. The recommendations have been grouped into sub-region wide operational recommendations, sub-regional facility recommendations (by facility type) and priority facility recommendations (by territorial authority area).

The timeframes used are defined as:

- Short 1 – 3 years
- Medium 4 – 6 years
- Long 7+ years

8.1 Operational Recommendations

8.1.1 Priority Operational Recommendations

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
1. Each Territorial Authority in the Coastal Otago sub-region adopts the Strategy as a high-level strategic document to support their planning for facility provision including use of the principles, facility categories, criteria and assessment process.	CDC, DCC, WDC	Sport Otago, Sport NZ	Short
2. Consistently apply the principles and decision-making criteria of this strategy to assessing all proposals for investment into play, active recreation and sport facilities across the sub-region. To support this, partner organisations need to work to align their individual organisational policies and processes with the regional planning framework.	Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	CDC, DCC, WDC	Ongoing
3. Work with tangata whenua to explore how Māori perspectives can best be incorporated into future regional spaces and places planning. Ideally, secure tangata whenua involvement on the Otago Region Spaces and Places Steering Group, if this aligns with tangata whenua objectives and capacity.	Sport Otago	Tangata whenua, Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	Short
4. Work locally with tangata whenua and through local recreation strategies and management plans to ensure Māori culture, naming and signage including local pūrākau are incorporated into spaces and places (existing and new) to help increase connection and a sense of place.	CDC, DCC, WDC	Other Facility Owners	Ongoing

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
5. Use the Otago Region Spaces and Places Steering Group as the key mechanism to monitor implementation of the strategy. At a minimum, annual progress monitoring should be undertaken against the key recommendations of this strategy. Consider expanding the membership of this group to include tangata whenua, Otago Regional Council and representatives from the Otago Regional Sports Alliance (ORSA).	Sport Otago	Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	Ongoing
6. Amalgamate this Sub-Regional Strategy with the Queenstown Lakes Central Otago strategy to create a high-level Regional Strategy.	Sport Otago	Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	Short
7. Schedule a review of the Regional Strategy in 3-5 years, with the final timing determined to ensure the review outputs best align with territorial authority Long Term Plan (LTP) processes.	Sport Otago	Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	Short – medium
8. Work with play, active recreation and sport organisations to explore ways that volunteers can be better supported and maximised. This could include better use of technology, governance and operational partnerships and sharing of volunteer training and support resources.	Sport Otago	ORSA	Short
9. Encourage and facilitate collaborative facility partnerships where possible and seek to prioritise investment into multi-use hub sites over single use facilities where practical ⁴¹ . A range of methods could be used, including policy and leasing condition changes, and restricting investment into facilities where there is no evidence of regular shared use ⁴² .	Councils, Funders	Sport Otago	Ongoing
10. Encourage and support community sport and recreation organisations which own built assets to undertake more active asset management planning and regular facility maintenance regimes. This could include the provision of training/advice on asset management planning.	Sport Otago, Councils	Funders	Ongoing
11. When planning and building new facilities consider the potential impacts of climate change on these facilities and ensure assets are built to be as robust as possible and include appropriate energy efficiency mechanism. For example, higher and	Asset owners, CDC, DCC, WDC	Funders	Ongoing

⁴¹ Refer to the Sport NZ Hub Guide for assistance with this.

⁴² Codes can still have specialised requirements and playing spaces, such as bowling greens or a synthetic athletics track but sharing of support amenities such as change facilities and clubrooms should be demonstrated at a minimum.

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
stronger bridges and culverts on tracks and trails subject to flooding and use of LED lighting.			
12. Investigate ways to improve access and affordability to quality play, active recreation and sport facilities for high deprivation and low participation communities, including those with disabilities.	Sport Otago	Facility Owners/ Operators, Funders	Ongoing
13. Each Territorial Authority to ensure they have asset management plans and budgets which are adequate to support ongoing programmed maintenance and minor upgrades to play, active recreation and sport facilities to minimise future deferred maintenance issues.	CDC, DCC, WDC		Ongoing
14. Explore the potential of collaborative event hosting across the sub-region, using sites within Clutha, Dunedin and Waitaki to secure events with large competitor numbers such as secondary school nationals. With the planned Waitaki Events Centre coming on stream, along with the Edgar Centre and Cross Recreation Centre indoor court sport events are an obvious opportunity.	CDC, DCC, WDC	Sport Otago	Medium
15. Work with relevant organisations to best consider ways to respond to desires for increased facility provision, enhancements and access where constraints exist. Some examples of groups needing support and consideration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outdoor recreation groups such as tramping, mountaineering and hunting groups to help give certainty of future access and facility suitability. b. Otago weightlifting (facility quality) c. Skateboarding, scootering (facility provision and quality) d. Rowing (course enhancements) e. Users of community hall facilities such as yoga, pilates, older adults recreation which are constrained by ageing facilities that are often not fit-for-purpose 	Sport Otago	Councils, Funders	Long

8.2 Sub-regional Facility Recommendations

8.2.1 Priority Sub-Regional Recommendations

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
General			
16. Identify existing play, active recreation and sport assets that are at high risk of being affected by climate change impacts. Once these sites are identified develop prioritised plans to mitigate risks, including relocation if feasible and required.	CDC, DCC, WDC	Sport Otago, Funders	Short
Aquatic Spaces and Places			
17. Undertake a sub-regional aquatic network plan to ensure the aquatic facility network is adequately serving the sub-regional population. Including giving specific consideration to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The primary role, functionality and lifespan of existing pools in the network, Maintaining local accessibility, including through enhanced partnerships with schools, Warmer water for older adults and those with disabilities (including hydrotherapy), Appropriate levels of regular aquatic access for water-based sports, particularly for training needs, Providing balanced provision across the sub-regional network to accommodate a broad range of aquatic uses⁴³. Some facilities in the network may have different priorities and focus, rather than all seeking to provide for the full range of uses. At a minimum a Dunedin Aquatic Strategy should be developed to provide clarity on the future role, maintenance and utilisation priorities of existing facilities in the Dunedin City Network.	Sport Otago, DCC	CDC, WDC	Medium
18. Work with water-based sport, active recreation and interested communities such as tangata whenua and the Otago Regional Council to facilitate improved support for water-based activities ⁴⁴ . Considerations include understanding the impacts of climate change and silting on participation, along with appropriate provision,	Sport Otago,	Otago Regional Council, CDC, DCC, WDC	Medium

⁴³ Such as leisure play, recreational swimming and classes (such as aquarobics, jogging), learn to swim and aquatic sports.

⁴⁴ Including support for mahinga kai (traditional food gathering areas).

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
cleaning and maintenance of car parking, toilets, change facilities, craft storage and washdown facilities at access points to key natural waterways.			
Indoor Spaces and Places			
<p>19. Undertake detailed Indoor Court network planning in Dunedin, with specific considerations to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Needs assessment for additional indoor court space provision using a hub (Edgar Centre) and spoke approach, including exploring the potential need for a new multi-court⁴⁵, multiuse venue within the city/district. b. The use of the Edgar Centre for non-sporting purposes and the associated impact on sports participation. c. A network approach to management of indoor court facilities by the Edgar Centre (Dunedin Indoor Sports Venues Trust). d. Potential formal partnerships with schools for secure community access to indoor court space, particularly for minor codes and local training needs. e. The potential role of outdoor covered court space to help manage indoor court demand. Particularly options for tennis at Logan Park (refer to recommendation 26). <p>20. This network planning will also need to consider the role of a potential racket sports venue within the indoor courts network (refer to recommendation 21).</p>	DCC	Sport Otago, Sport NZ	Short
<p>21. Undertake a needs and options assessment for partnerships between racket sports (squash, badminton⁴⁶, table tennis, pickleball). This should include consideration of options for a unified, shared racket sports facility and operational governance partnerships. Mellor Park is one site opportunity that should be considered as part of this assessment.</p>	badminton, squash, table tennis, pickleball	Sport Otago, DCC	Short
<p>22. Explore the need and feasibility for a regional gym sports hub in Dunedin. As part of the feasibility process, if spatial capacity is available, consider potential facility partnerships with other, compatible local groups.</p>	Sport Otago	gymnastics, compatible groups	Short
Outdoor Spaces and Places			
<p>23. Undertake a sub-regional sports field assessment to future proof the sports field network. Key considerations of this assessment should include:</p>	Sport Otago	CDC, DCC, WDC	Medium

⁴⁵ A 3-4 court venue would provide good functionality, especially for regular competition purposes.

⁴⁶ Noting badminton is also a potential partner for a hub site with Dunedin Ice Stadium and Indoor Bowls.

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supply and demand of fields (by key summer and winter codes) b. If maintenance regimes are enabling appropriate playing field capacity and quality outcomes (based on training and play level), including mowing regimes. c. Adequacy and safety standards of lit fields for training and competition needs (where required – especially for the growing schoolgirls competition). d. Support infrastructure provision and quality such as toilets, changing rooms, storage and social facilities, especially the suitability of facilities for women, girls, gender-diverse participants and people with disabilities. e. Identification of potential partnerships to increase utilisation levels of fields and facilities (where required). f. Competition play which occurs in neighbouring districts such as South Canterbury, Southland. 			
<p>24. To address the short-term access issues faced by rugby league (while recommendation 23 is undertaken), work with Southern Zone Rugby League / Otago Rugby League and Aoraki Rugby League to identify potential sites to be allocated as regular home fields to support both competition and training needs. In the medium term, enhancing access for rugby league may require reallocation and/or enhancements to some grounds. Ideally partnerships with rugby clubs for clubroom and amenities access would be secured.</p>	Sport Otago, Southern Zone Rugby League / Otago Rugby League / Aoraki Rugby League	Otago Rugby Union, CDC, DCC, WDC,	Short
<p>25. Work with Play Aotearoa and other play interest groups to better understand the gaps in the sub-region for inclusive play opportunities for those with disabilities and the lack of options for 'risky' play. Work to educate decision makers on the value of play and the importance of varied and inclusive play experiences at city/district and neighbourhood scales.</p>	Sport Otago, CDC, DCC, WDC	Play Interest Groups	Medium
<p>26. Develop a masterplan for Logan Park as a key regional outdoor sport and recreation venue. As part of this masterplan (and in line with recommendation 19) consider the potential for an indoor courts venue or covered outdoor tennis courts (to help ease pressure on the Edgar Centre).</p>	DCC	Sport Otago	Short
<p>27. Prior to renewing surfaces and facilities at existing single use outdoor court sites explore the potential for partnerships and creation of multiuse courts that can support a range of uses such as junior hockey, community basketball, netball and play based activities.</p>	Asset owners	Sport Otago, CDC, DCC, WDC, Funders	Ongoing

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Other Spaces and Places - Specialised Sports			
28. Complete the planned feasibility study for future redevelopment options for the Dunedin Ice Stadium including consideration of hubbing with potential partners on the existing wider site (indoor bowls and badminton ⁴⁷) or alternative site opportunities given the questions related to the long-term viability of the current site due to climate change considerations.	Dunedin Ice.	Sport Otago, DCC	Short
29. Investigate the opportunity to develop a regional golf facility plan.	Sport Otago	Otago Spaces & Places Steering Group	Long
General			
30. Work with relevant organisations to best consider ways to respond to desires for increased facility provision, enhancements and access where constraints exist. Some examples of groups needing consideration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outdoor recreation groups such as tramping, mountaineering, shooting and hunting groups (certainty of future access, facility maintenance and suitability). b. Users of community hall facilities such as yoga, pilates, older adults recreation which are constrained by ageing facilities that are often not fit-for-purpose. c. Petanque (space and shelter issues across the sub-region) 	Sport Otago, codes and clubs	CDC, DCC, WDC, Funders	Medium - Long

⁴⁷ Noting badminton is also a potential partner for a racket sports hub (see recommendation 21).

9 District/Local Level Facility Recommendations

9.1.1 Clutha Recommendations

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Aquatic Spaces and Places			
31. Work with the local community on operational initiatives to increase the utilisation of Centennial Pool in Balclutha.	CDC	Sport Clutha	Short
32. Support the proposed community hub development of new library and aquatic centre in Milton to replace the current Milton pool.	CDC	Funders, Sport Clutha	Short
Indoor Spaces and Places			
33. Continue to maintain the Cross Recreation Centre as the main indoor sports hub for the district. Implement required maintenance to address building issues along with minor functional enhancements such as improved signage and car park lighting as budgets permit.	CDC	Funders	Ongoing
34. Monitor Balclutha Gymnastics Club membership. Await the outcomes of the process of exploring a regional gymsports hub in Dunedin prior to making changes to the Gymsports space at the Cross Recreation Centre.	Balclutha Gymnastics Club	Sport Clutha, CDC	Long
Outdoor Spaces and Places			
35. Continue to maintain the facilities at Coronation Park/Riverside Reserve and Centennial Park as the main community sport, recreation and play hubs for the district.	CDC	Co-located organisations	Ongoing
36. Continue regular maintenance of Council-owned sports fields to maintain adequate field quality while waiting for the sub-regional sports field assessment process to provide further guidance on priorities on further enhancements such as drainage, irrigation, lighting and amenity facility improvements (where required).	CDC	Sport Clutha, User Groups	Ongoing
37. When upgrading existing playgrounds work with local communities to consider trends in play, and alternative provision options such as flexible play spaces, natural play, risky play and inclusive play before replacing existing play equipment with new equipment of the same type.	CDC	Sport Clutha	Ongoing
38. Investigate the need for the provision of more suitable floodlighting to support mid-week training and competitions (noting high school girls rugby is played on Wednesday nights).	CDC	Sport Clutha, Otago Rugby Union and clubs	Medium

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Other Spaces and Places – Specialised Sports			
39. Work with local communities and skate, scootering groups to explore the need and demand for enhanced community skate facilities where opportunities arise.	CDC	Sport Clutha, Skate Groups	Medium

9.1.2 Dunedin Recommendations

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
General			
40. Work with relevant organisations to best consider ways to respond to needs and desires for increased facility provision, enhancements and access where constraints exist. Some examples of groups needing consideration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Otago weightlifting (facility suitability). b. Rowing (course enhancements). c. Dunedin Archery Club (site, facility space including the potential for a satellite site in Mosgiel). d. Current users of the King Edward College facility such as cheerleading, trampoline, dancing, fencing⁴⁸. By working together these groups may be able to secure appropriately sized facility space to better meet their shared needs such as appropriate floor space, ceiling height and amenities⁴⁹. 	Sport Otago	Specific groups, DCC	Medium
Aquatic Spaces and Places			
41. Continue to proactively invest in Moana Pool as the major regional aquatic hub. Prioritise working through the deferred and planned maintenance and upgrade programme. It is recognised this will need to be undertaken in a staged manner. Early priorities should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improving overall accessibility and functionality for users with disabilities. b. Improving changing facilities, especially for families. c. Improving site access functionality and circulation routes, including exploring mechanisms to improve car park availability for facility users, particularly those with disabilities. This may require mechanisms to control non-users accessing the car park. 	DCC	Funders	Ongoing

⁴⁸ The King Edward College facility has been sold and will no longer be available for community use.

⁴⁹ A facility could have some shared space (flat floor areas, toilets, social spaces) along with areas for sport specific needs.

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
d. Start gathering utilisation data to identify the level of utilisation of the aquatic centre by users based outside of the Dunedin City boundaries.			
Indoor Spaces and Places			
42. Edgar Centre – while the indoor court network plan is being developed, some key actions and investigations should be undertaken to help address current issues at the centre. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Plan for and fund a proactive, planned maintenance regime for the Edgar Centre. Deferred maintenance is impacting the functionality of this critical regional sport and recreation asset. b. Convert up to 4 of the current turf courts to a 'community standard'⁵⁰ wooden surface. c. Develop a clear, public bookings prioritisation policy. This should include consideration of limiting non-sporting events use of the Edgar Centre to shoulder seasons only (late October/November – February/ early March). 	Edgar Centre Board/Dunedin Indoor Sports Venues Trust	DCC, Funders	Ongoing
Outdoor Spaces and Places			
43. Ensure spatial planning gives due consideration to the needs and value of recreation and open space and ensuring appropriate provision levels into the future. In particular consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Increasing greenspace access for growing communities and high-density areas such as Kaikorai Valley and North Dunedin. b. Maintaining or replacing greenspace which is at risk due to climate change (coastal inundation and flooding) in areas such as St Clair, St Kilda and South Dunedin. c. Options for potential protection or relocation of the users of Bathgate Park and Tonga Park given the climate impacts affecting these sites. 	DCC	Sport Otago	short
44. Forsyth Barr Stadium – investigate ways to increase community utilisation of this significant asset. A simple mechanism could be to increase the number of community use bids available on an annual basis. Or alternatively, a more expansive approach such as that used at Eden Park ⁵¹ could be applied.	DCC and Dunedin Venues Management	Sport Otago	Medium

⁵⁰ A low specification and therefore lower cost wooden surface similar to the existing wooden courts in the community court area.

⁵¹ Refer to <https://edenpark.co.nz/about-eden-park/community-and-sustainability/> for examples such as onsite community garden, bee hives and art in the park projects.

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
45. When upgrading existing playgrounds work with local communities to consider trends in play, and alternative provision options such as flexible play spaces, natural play, risky play and inclusive play before simply replacing existing play equipment with new equipment of the same type.	DCC	Sport Otago, Play Organisations	Ongoing
Other Spaces & Places - Specialised			
46. Work with the Leith Bowling Club and Otago Beach Volleyball to resolve their questions about the potential for a shared facility.	DCC	Sport Otago	Short
47. Work with surf lifesaving clubs to ensure the future of these important community assets is secured through maintenance plans or implementing facility rebuilds (where required).	DCC	Sport Otago	Short - Medium
48. Work with local communities and skate, scootering groups to explore the need and demand for enhanced community skate facilities where opportunities arise.	DCC	Sport Otago, Skate Groups	Ongoing

9.1.3 Waitaki Recommendations

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Aquatic Spaces and Places			
49. Undertake detailed investigations into future maintenance and enhancements at the Waitaki Aquatic Centre as the key district facility. Give specific consideration to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maximising its functionality for changing community needs and broad play, active recreation and sport outcomes. b. The needs of an ageing population such as for warm/therapeutic water space. c. Operational programme interventions that could encourage a greater diversity of users such as allowing culturally appropriate swimwear and women's only nights. d. Operational mechanisms to better secure and retain lifeguards. e. Ways to maximise underutilised space such as the courtyard for community use. This may require master planning with the wider park site. f. Improving pedestrian and disability access from the adjacent car park area to the aquatic site. 	WDC	Sport Waitaki	Short - Medium
Indoor Spaces and Places			

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
<p>50. Explore opportunities to reposition the Waitaki Community Recreation Centre (WCRC) to ensure its future use complements rather than competes with the planned new Indoor Sports Centre. Specifically, explore opportunities for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The relocation of gymnastics and trampolining out of the Drill Hall into the number 1 court at the WCRC. The high ceiling in this court space makes it very compatible with the requirements of these codes. b. Joint operational management across the new centre and the WCRC. c. Consolidate, where possible other remaining multiuse court sports into community access times in the Waitaki Girls College gym space. <p>It is noted that deferred maintenance items will need to be addressed for this facility to remain fit-for-purpose. The potential relocation of gymnastics and trampolining to this site could provide additional rationale for securing investment in required upgrades.</p>	WDC	WCRC, Sport Waitaki, Gymnastics, Trampolining, Funders	Short
<p>51. Undertake a needs and feasibility study to secure appropriate future squash provision levels in the Oamaru area. In particular consider opportunities for collaboration and potential amalgamation of the two Oamaru-based clubs, which both have facilities that are in poor condition.</p>	Sport Waitaki, Squash NZ	Oamaru Squash and Badminton Club, Excelsior Squash Club	Short
<p>52. The multiuse Excelsior Club facility at Centennial Park is in poor overall condition, particularly the change rooms, social, kitchen facilities, and disability access. Undertake a needs and options assessment regarding an upgrade or redevelopment to enhance the functionality of the facilities at this site, including in partnership with North Otago Cricket which currently uses the inadequate change facilities. Ensure this planning work integrates with the squash feasibility (recommendation 51).</p>	Excelsior	WDC, Sport Waitaki	Short
Outdoor Spaces and Places			
<p>53. Develop a prioritised, staged plan for future enhancements at Centennial Park as a major destination site for the district. Specifically, consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ways to enhance the provision of play space to better enable free play opportunities for a diverse range of ages and abilities. b. The future needs and options for the grandstand given the earthquake issues. Ensure that the seating numbers are not over-specified for the use levels and limited role of the site for major spectator games. 	WDC	Sport Waitaki	Medium

Recommendation:	Lead	Support	Timeframe
54. Ensure that the sub-regional sports field assessment (recommendation 23) explores the utilisation of Awamoa Park and Weston Park to identify the best future utilisation of these sites.	WDC	Sport Waitaki	Short
55. Work with North Otago Tennis to develop a facilities plan that looks at current and future need of tennis courts in the area, including understanding court condition/quality and potential multi-use opportunities.	Sport Waitaki, North Otago Tennis	Tennis Clubs, WDC	Short
56. Explore local playground access enhancements as part of the planned play space renewals and investment programme. Particularly consider opportunities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Multi-age suitability of play equipment to maximise the usability of existing sites for family use. b. Natural and risky play c. Inclusive play 	WDC	Sport Waitaki	Ongoing
Other Spaces and Places – Specialised Sports			
57. Bring together an Equestrian Sports Group to explore access barriers and opportunities within the district, including to maximise shared use of existing equestrian sites such as the racecourse, bridle trails, pony clubs and RDA.	Sport Waitaki	WDC, Equestrian Sports groups	Medium - Long

10 Appendix 1 – Demographic Detail

This section provides more detailed demographic data and projections by each council area in the sub-region.

10.1.1 Clutha District

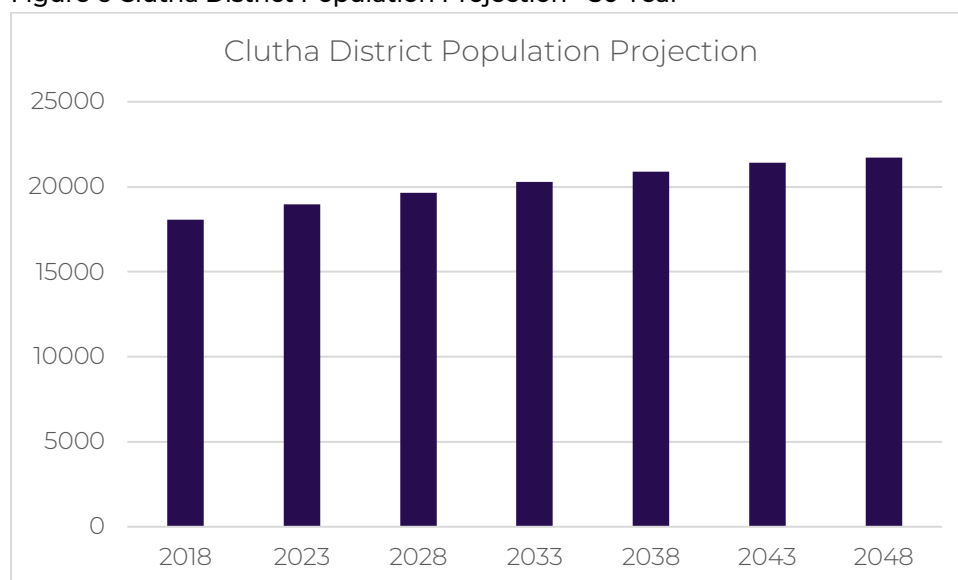
The Clutha District is projected to experience growth of 20%, or over 3,600 people, in the 30 years from 2018 to 2048. The majority of the growth in population will be in the 65 plus age group which is expected to grow by 87% or over 2,700 people. All other age groups are expected to experience moderate growth of between 2 and 9%.

Table 3 Clutha District Population Projection

	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	Change 2018-2048	% Change 2018-2048
Total	18050	18950	19650	20300	20900	21400	21700	3650	20%
0-14 years	3400	3500	3550	3600	3700	3700	3700	300	9%
15-39 years	5100	5300	5300	5200	5100	5100	5200	100	2%
40-64 years	6400	6450	6500	6600	6700	6900	7000	600	9%
65 years +	3150	3700	4350	4900	5400	5700	5900	2750	87%

Source: Stat NZ High Projection

Figure 6 Clutha District Population Projection - 30 Year



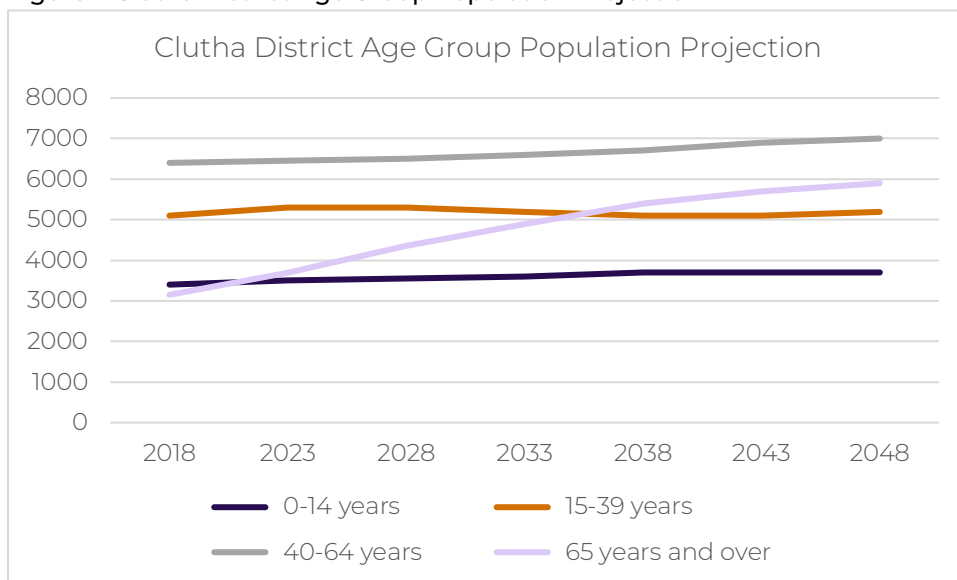
Source: Stat NZ High Projection

By 2048 it is expected that those aged 65 years and over will make up over a quarter of the population. This is a marked increase from 2018. The proportions of the other three age groups will be much the same as it was in 2018.

Table 4 Clutha District Population Distribution – Current and Projected

	% Population 2018	% Population 2048
0-14 years	19%	17%
15-39 years	28%	24%
40-64 years	35%	32%
65+ years	17%	27%

Figure 7 Clutha District Age Group Population Projection

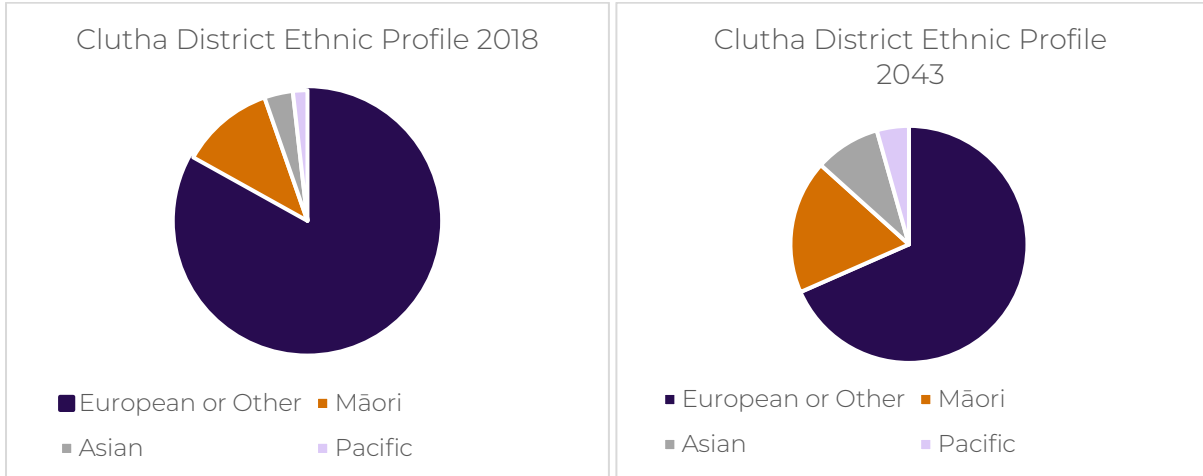


Source: Stat NZ High Projection

The Clutha District is becoming more ethnically diverse. In the 25 years to 2043 the proportion of those identifying as Māori is expected to increase to 22% from 13% in 2018 and those identifying as Asian from 4% to 11%. The proportion of Pacific People is expected to moderately increase from 2% to 5%, while at the same time those identifying as New Zealand European or Other is expected to decline from 90% to 82%⁵².

⁵² Ethnic proportions total more than 100% as individuals can identify as more than one ethnicity.

Figure 8 Clutha District Ethnic Profile

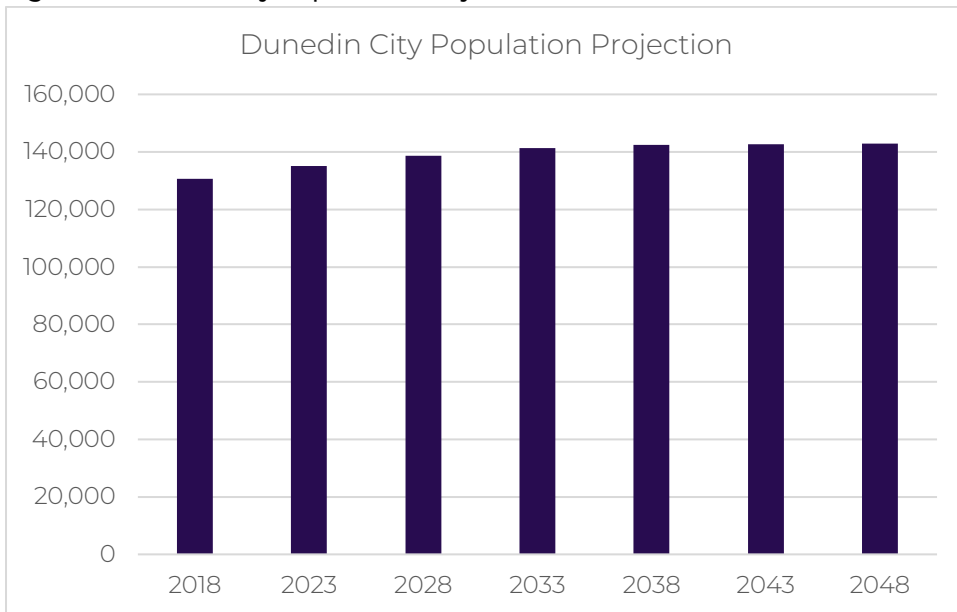


Source: Stat NZ High Projection

10.1.2 Dunedin City

The population of Dunedin City was 130,520 in 2018. In the 30 years to 2048 it is expected to increase by 10% or 12,465 people to 142,985.

Figure 9 Dunedin City Population Projection – 30 Year



Source: DCC 2021 LTP SFA Projections

The majority of Dunedin’s population growth is expected to occur in the 65 plus age group which is expected to grow by 39% by 2043. The populations of all other age groups are expected to increase very slightly (15-39 years plus 2%) or decline.

Table 5 Dunedin City Population Projection

	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	Change 2018-2043	% Change 2018-2043
0-14 years	20,500	20,844	20,838	20,295	20,043	19,817	-683	-3%
15-39 years	50,334	52,121	53,481	53,492	51,837	51,403	1,069	2%
40-64 years	38,593	37,456	35,607	35,643	36,214	36,814	-1,779	-5%
65+ years	21,092	24,678	28,748	31,986	34,225	34,638	13,546	39%
Total	130,519	135,099	138,674	141,416	142,319	142,672	12,153	9%

Source: DCC 2021 LTP SFA Projections

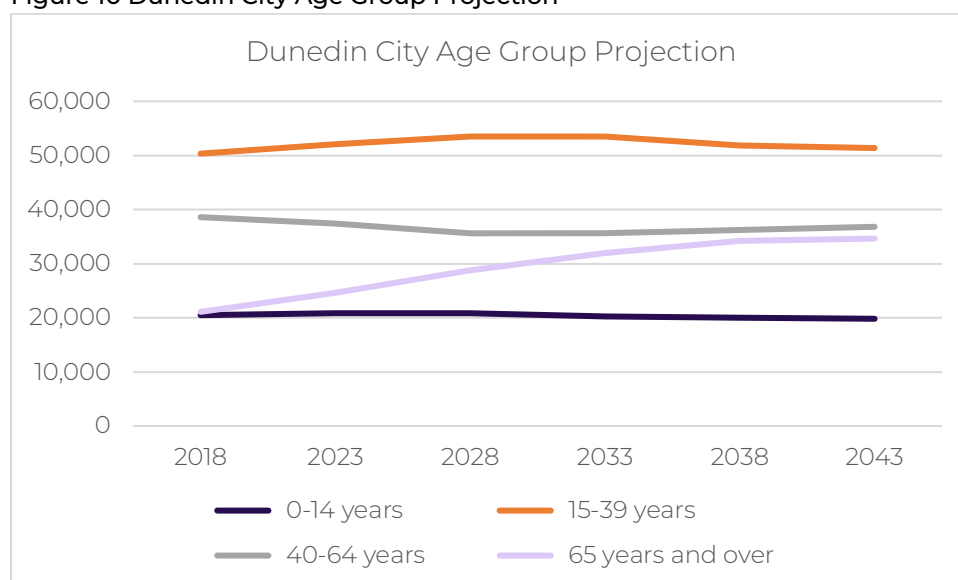
By 2048 nearly a quarter of the population of Dunedin City is expected to be aged 65 years or over. However, the main population grouping will continue to be those in the 15-39 year grouping.

Table 6 Dunedin City Population Distribution – Current and Projected

	% Population 2018	% Population 2048
0-14 years	16%	14%
15-39 years	39%	36%
40-64 years	30%	26%
65+ years	16%	24%

Source: DCC 2021 LTP SFA Projections

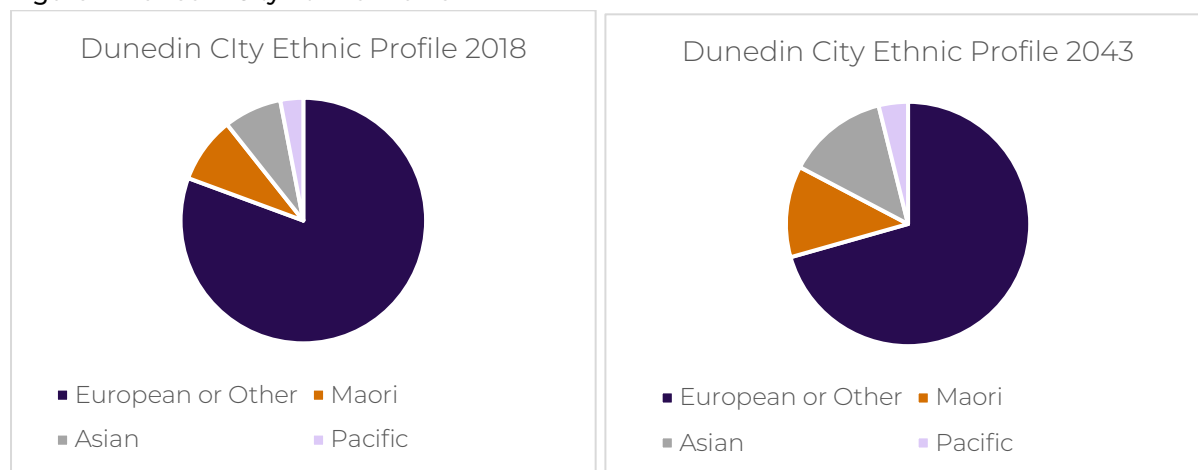
Figure 10 Dunedin City Age Group Projection



Source: DCC 2021 LTP SFA Projections

The population of Dunedin City is projected to become more ethnically diverse by 2043. The proportions of those identifying as Māori and Asian are expected to increase to 14% and 16% respectively, from 9% and 8% respectively in 2018⁵³. The proportion of Pacific People is expected to increase slightly from 3% to 5% while the proportion of those identifying as New Zealand European or Other is expected to decline from 87% to 83%.

Figure 11 Dunedin City Ethnic Profile



Source Stats NZ Medium Projections

10.1.3 Waitaki District

The population of the Waitaki District was 22,900 in 2018. It is expected to grow by over 15% in the thirty years to 2048 to reach a population of over 26,000. The vast majority of this growth will be in the older population aged 65 years and over (57%, nearly 3,000 people). The population of those aged under 15 years is expected to decline by over 10% (nearly 500 people), while there is expected to be a moderate increase in population of those aged 15-64 years (approximately 1000 people)⁵⁴.

Table 7 Waitaki District Population Projection

	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	Change 2018-2043	% Change 2018-2043
0-14 years	4146	4077	3823	3726	3822	3751	3676	-470	-11%
15-64 years	13618	14359	14468	14592	14455	14466	14588	970	7%
65 years and over	5136	5690	6506	7165	7592	7864	8048	2912	57%
Total	22900	24126	24797	25483	25869	26081	26312	3412	15%

By 2048 it is expected over half the population will be aged between 15 and 64 years, while nearly a third of the population will be aged 65 years and over.

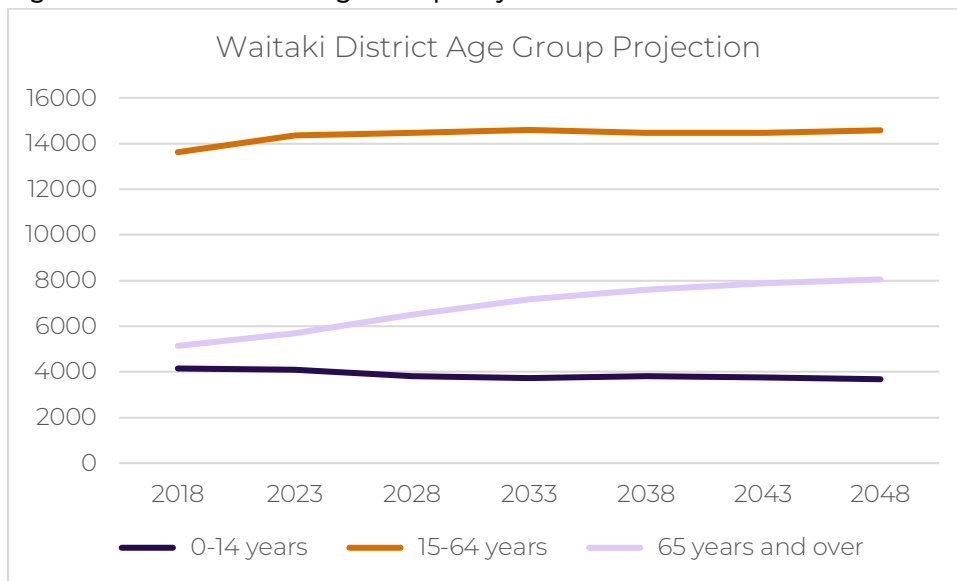
⁵³ Ethnic proportions total more than 100% as individuals can identify as more than one ethnicity.

⁵⁴ There is variation in the age projection data across the 3 Council areas as the available data for Waitaki was only broken down to 3 age groupings (0-14; 15-64 and 65+) whereas data for Dunedin and Clutha was split into 4 age groupings.

Table 8 Waitaki District Population Distribution – Current and Projected

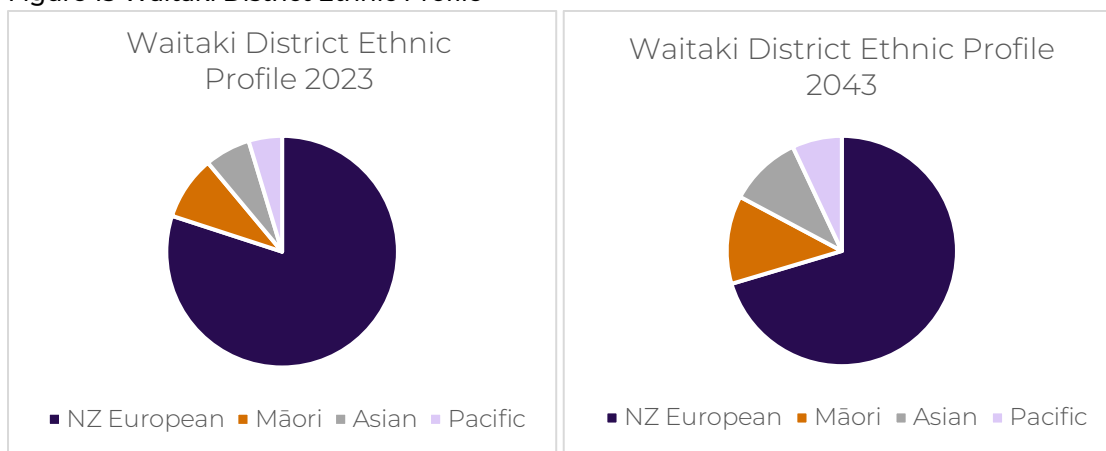
	% Population 2018	% Population 2048
0-14 years	18%	14%
15-64 years	59%	55%
65 years and over	22%	31%

Figure 12 Waitaki District Age Group Projection – 30 Year



The population of the Waitaki District is projected to become more ethnically diverse by 2043. The proportions of those identifying as Māori and Asian are expected to increase to 12% and 10% respectively, from 9% and 6% respectively in 2023⁵⁵. The proportion of Pacific People is expected to increase slightly from 5% to 7% while the proportion of those identifying as New Zealand European or Other is expected to decline to 80% from 70%.

Figure 13 Waitaki District Ethnic Profile



⁵⁵ Ethnic proportions total more than 100% as individuals can identify as more than one ethnicity.

11 Appendix 2 – Code Based Facility Gap and Oversupply Analysis

Key to Assessment Classifications⁵⁶



Adequate supply to meet need, no demand management measures in place, sport code able to promote participation.

Marginal level of supply compared to need, minor demand management measures may be in place, negatively impacting on ability of sport code to promote participation.

Significant facility challenges. Shortfall in supply compared to need, over supply / rationalisation required, demand management measures in place (e.g. limiting number of teams in competitions), sport code not able to promote participation.

No existing facilities at that level and no significant need identified for additional facilities to be developed.

11.1 Aquatic Spaces & Places

Figure 14 Moana Pool



⁵⁶ Extracted from p32 Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy (revised in 2020).

11.1.1 Aquatic - Pool Based (indoor and outdoor)

Swimming

Code	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Swimming				

Generally, there is adequate provision of lane space for swimming across the sub-region. However, with a growing population, some swim clubs feel that limitations on lane access at Moana Pool may become more of a challenge. There are some issues with support amenities such as car parking and change facilities.

Water polo / Flippa Ball

Code	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Water polo / Flippa ball				

Water polo report some constraints that may impact them, particularly with Flippa Ball growing in popularity. Their concerns include that Moana pool is not regulation width (for Water polo) and has no bleacher seating for spectator viewing.

Other aquatic pool based codes

No specific pool-based facility issues were identified by Synchronised Swimming, Diving, Aqua jogging, Canoe Polo, Underwater Hockey, Surf Life Saving (training). Issues or relevance to these groups are picked up in the overall aquatic pool-based assessment in section 7.

11.1.2 Aquatic – outdoor natural water

Rowing

Code	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Rowing				

Through the survey rowing indicated general satisfaction with facilities. The main issues noted are operational such as a lack of coaches, equipment and limited provision for rowing in many schools. Rowing does have an aspiration for a floodlit course between the Ravensdown Fertiliser Wharf and North End Rowing club and a 2km training course.

Sailing/yachting

Code	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Sailing /yachting				

Generally, there is reasonable satisfaction with the facilities available to support sailing/yachting. The key issues are ageing facilities (most are 51+ years old) which need maintenance or upgrades and appropriate levels of car parking and boat rigging space. Operational challenges exist such as the availability of boats and affordability to participants.

It is noted that a major upgrade of the Broad Bay Boating Club is underway.

Figure 15 Otago Yacht Club – Image Credit: Otago Yacht Club Inc.



Surf Life Saving and Surfing

Code	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Surf Lifesaving, Surfing				

Surf Lifesaving sites provide key facilities that support safe ocean use by the public (beach patrols) as well as the sport-based needs of Surf Lifesaving for training and competitions. These sites also provide some level of support to surfing which is a key part of the Coastal Otago outdoor recreation lifestyle. With an ageing network it is important to continue to maintain the provision of safe ocean access (patrols) and support facilities (clubrooms) into the future.

Facility upgrades are planned by Kaka Point Surf Lifesaving Club (advanced planning stage) and Warrington Surf Lifesaving Club (old buildings need replacing). The ongoing maintenance of the St Claire Surf Lifesaving Club is important as it supports the main public swimming beach in Dunedin which is also a very popular surfing site.

Other outdoor natural water activities

Beyond the general access and support facility issues identified in section 7, no code specific issues were identified by waka ama, canoe/kayak.

11.2 Indoor Spaces and Places

11.2.1 Indoor Multi-use Court Based

Figure 16 Cross Recreation Centre, Balclutha



Basketball

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Basketball				

Basketball is a rapidly growing sport which is finding it increasingly difficult to secure adequate indoor court access for regular competition and training needs. Basketball had a 20% increase in participation in 2023. Basketball notes that no further growth will be possible without increased court capacity becoming available.

Court access constraints impact on the timing of games for some participants (late finishes challenges for young members / families) and also the lack of regularity of competitions due to other facility user requirements such as events (at the Edgar Centre). There is a need for increased access to hard courts (wooden) and also a desire for additional outdoor basketball court access for casual play.

Clutha is well provided for at the Cross Recreation Centre and the proposed new facility in Waitaki will significantly increase the indoor court supply and facility standard in that area.

Netball

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Netball				

The main sub-regional challenges for Netball are in Dunedin, specifically access constraints at the Edgar Centre. Dunedin Netball is currently capping team entries (junior) in its competitions due to a lack of court capacity/availability, particularly to the wooden surface courts. The use of the Edgar Centre by such a large number of sports codes, along with non-sporting events places constraints on court access, including the regularity of competitions and trainings. It is also apparent that the Edgar Centre has a number of maintenance issues which are impacting on the participant experience such as leaks and condensation issues.

Dunedin Netball has indicated that would like to secure access to appropriate outdoor courts to support training and competitions.

Clutha is well provided for at the Cross Recreation Centre and the proposed new facility in Waitaki will significantly increase the indoor court supply and facility standard in that area.

Volleyball

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Volleyball				

Again, the main challenges for volleyball in the sub-region is access levels at the Edgar Centre. Limited other information is available regarding volleyball, but it is understood that Clutha has limited demand for volleyball and Waitaki will have good provision levels once the planned Indoor Sports and Events Centre is developed.

Badminton

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Badminton				

The marginal assessment reflects the fact that the main badminton facilities across the sub-region are ageing and have a range of maintenance issues. This includes the Otago Badminton Centre and the Oamaru Squash and Badminton Centre both of which are considering the best future approach to the maintenance, upgrade or redevelopment of their facilities. It is understood that badminton participation is steady or growing and with the increasing popularity of pickleball there may be a need for enhanced court space across the sub-region. Opportunities to partner with others will be important to ensure long-term, future proofed badminton court provision in the sub-region.

Tennis

Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Tennis	N/A			

Tennis has access to a significant number of indoor courts at the Edgar Centre. Otago Boys High School also has covered tennis courts⁵⁷. See Outdoor Courts section 7 for further details regarding tennis.

Other Indoor Court Based sports

Due to high demand levels for indoor court space access, smaller or lower participation sports such as marching, roller skating and table tennis find it difficult to secure regular access to indoor facilities. There are some challenges for indoor bowls with ageing community centres and halls which can be cold and have low quality amenities.

⁵⁷ An inflatable tennis dome structure installed in 2023.

11.2.2 Indoor Specialised

Figure 17 Oamaru Squash and Badminton Club



Squash

Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Squash				

The main issues facing squash facilities are age and maintenance issues. The sub-region is covered by two Squash NZ districts – Midlands and Otago. There are 15 squash facilities across the sub-region, providing 34 courts. The majority are local facilities, with one regional standard facility. The national strategy indicates that the quality of facilities across Coastal Otago is variable with some in very poor condition and others average to good condition. It is noted that there are 3 unused squash courts in the Cross Recreation Centre which are currently used for gymnastics.

Many clubs in small communities have declining facility condition and membership levels (for some). There may be opportunities for consolidation of clubs, although it is important to retain local accessibility with recognition that a squash club can be a hub for some communities.

In Midlands (Waitaki excluding Palmerston) it is noted that the 2 Oamaru squash clubs both have facility maintenance issues (Oamaru Squash & Badminton Club, Excelsior Squash Club). Given these issues the direction included in the Squash NZ strategy is:

Encourage collaboration / amalgamation / consolidation as part of planning to secure squash facility provision in Oamaru, focusing on raising the quality of provision, increasing membership ratios, and providing long-term operational sustainability. Complete feasibility study - High⁵⁸

In Otago (including Palmerston) the national strategy notes:

Focus on maintaining or raising the quality of provision and improving membership of facilities. Little or no additional provision is envisioned across the district, except where individual facilities have high membership or utilisation.

Complete a detailed study to investigate the appropriate provision of squash courts across Dunedin recognising opportunities to provide quality and accessible provision which is

⁵⁸ Sourced from <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/cvcfetuo/squash-nz-national-facility-strategy-final-181122-002.pdf>

sustainable long-term. There should also be consideration of the role of unaffiliated provision across Dunedin - High⁵⁹

Table Tennis

Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Table Tennis	N/A			

It is understood there are 8 table tennis clubs⁶⁰ operating across the sub-region. All operate from multi-use facilities that they share with other organisations such as churches and social clubs or with codes clubrooms / facilities including rugby, bowls, gymnastics and smallbore rifle shooting. Table Tennis also uses the Cross Recreation Centre, Edgar Centre and Kavanagh College Gymnasium although it is noted there is very limited availability at the latter 2 facilities in Dunedin.

Table Tennis Otago stores tables at 7 different sites with no ability to have any permanently set up. They note it would be ideal to have a dedicated facility available 7 days per week. There may be an opportunity to partner with other racquet-based sports to achieve this.

Gymsports (including trampolining)

Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Gymsports	N/A			

The Gymsports National Facility Strategy 2017 shows that Gymsports membership across the wider Otago region has increased since 2012. However, the majority of this growth and future projected growth is in the Queenstown Lakes - Central Otago part of the Otago region. Slight growth (2%) is projected in Waitaki but a decline(20%) is expected in Clutha.⁶¹

The National Facility Strategy also notes that there are currently no regional or sub-regional standard facilities in the Otago region and that it is important that a sustainable network of community Gymsports facilities is retained. The key recommendation related to the Coastal Otago sub-region is:

*Explore developing a regional hub in Dunedin.*⁶²

Through the survey, Gymsports respondents reported dissatisfaction with the inadequacy of current facilities, particularly due to size, age and condition. For example, the Dunedin Gymnastics academy noted flooding issues and inadequate ventilation. Green Island Rhythmic Gymnastics noted poor disability access, poor condition of toilets and kitchen facilities. Balclutha Gymnastics Club currently use 3 disused squash courts in the Cross Recreation Centre and have expressed a desire for a larger space.

It is noted that Gymnastics Dunedin have identified a preferred site for a new facility development. As part of exploring this new facility / regional hub concept further it will be very important that collaborative opportunities to work with other codes such as cheerleading, dance and the Claymore Swords Club (amongst others) are explored as they have similar needs for floor space and support facilities. By working together, it is more likely that suitable facilities may be able to achieved.

⁵⁹ Ibid

⁶⁰ Affiliated with Table Tennis New Zealand.

⁶¹ Sourced from <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1357/national-gymsports-facility-strategy-2017.pdf>

⁶² Ibid

In Oamaru, Gymsports and Trampolining share the Drill Hall, a very aged, outdated facility which is unsuitable for current and future needs. An alternative, more modern facility needs to be explored.

While indications are that more space is desired in Clutha, nothing should be prioritised here until the outcomes of the process to exploring a regional hub is completed.

Weightlifting

Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Weightlifting	N/A	N/A		

Generally weightlifting (training and recreation) is reasonably well provided for through commercial fitness and gym facilities across the sub-region. However, the needs of competitive or ‘Olympic weightlifting’ are more specific in terms of the sport requirements. This marginal assessment reflects the fact that Otago Weightlifting is currently based in a small, low standard facility in South Dunedin. It is understood that this facility has some health and safety challenges, is currently maximised and therefore there is limited capacity to grow participation.

Figure 18 Otago Weightlifting Facility



Other Indoor Specialised Codes

No survey responses were received from indoor cricket, fitness, darts, snooker/pool.

11.3 Outdoor Spaces and Places

11.3.1 Outdoor Field Sports

Rugby Union

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Rugby Union				

Rugby is generally well provided for across the sub-region. With a strong participation history rugby has facilities to meet all levels of play, including International / National (Forsyth Barr Stadium). The challenge for rugby is the extensive network of fields and clubrooms, some with declining membership levels in conjunction with ageing clubroom assets, making it challenging for some clubs to maintain facilities adequately. Essentially there is an over-supply of (largely) single use rugby clubrooms across the sub-region.

Many fields are also supported by basic amenities (toilets/change rooms/storage) provided by Councils. Beyond the over-supply of ageing, single use clubrooms, the main facility challenge for rugby is the inadequate toilet/change facilities which are becoming more of an issue as increasing numbers of women and girls are playing the sport. Also, some lack of provision of suitable floodlighting to support mid-week training and competitions such as schoolgirls. This would also provide options for other mid-week play, taking pressure off field use at weekends.

For long term sustainability, rugby clubs need to seek partnerships with other sport, recreation and community groups to increasing sharing clubroom facilities. This would increase facility utilisation and bring additional income streams to help maintain rugby club facilities to a suitable, modern standard.

Football

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Football				

Figure 19 Logan Park Football Turfs. Image Credit: DCC



Since 2019 football in the sub-region has benefitted from access to the 2 new artificial turf fields at Logan Park. These were developed in partnership between Dunedin City Council and Southern Football, with support by a wide range of community funders. Football also has access to a good number of grass playing fields across the sub-region.

Southern Football's survey response indicated they are generally satisfied with the location, quality and capacity of fields across the sub-region. The main concerns they expressed relate to a lack of or poor quality of amenity facilities such as change rooms, drug testing facilities, referee facilities and storage.

Cricket

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Cricket				

Figure 20 Sunnyvale Park, Green Island. RSL Image



Generally, there is a good supply of cricket fields, wickets across the sub-region which provide from local to International play. The standard of training nets is declining in some locations.

The survey highlighted some dissatisfaction from Dunedin based cricket clubs with a lack of access to suitable amenity facilities such as toilets, changing rooms, storage, sunshades/shelter and the inadequacy of training nets such as at Molyneux Park and Logan Park no1. The marginal assessment reflects this lack of amenities rather than issues with fields.

Rugby League

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Rugby League				

Rugby League has no home grounds or readily available clubroom facilities within the sub-region for district competition needs. Rugby League shares fields such as Kensington Oval (Dunedin) and Centennial Park (Oamaru). The Senior Men’s draw often has last-minute field allocations for some teams. While field sharing is positive and required to maximise utilisation of resources, for certainty and continuity of competitions and training, and an improved player and supporter experience it is important that rugby league secures regular access to ‘home’ ground(s) and associated facilities. Rugby League in the sub-region has experienced recent growth in school competitions, tournaments and the Otago Whalers were recently promoted to the National Premiership for the first time. This may have a flow-on effect of increasing demand for Senior Men’s and the establishment of a Senior Women’s competition which will require adequate ground allocations.

Softball

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Softball	N/A	N/A		

Softball has adequate access to grounds to meet the basic participant needs of the sport. The national strategy identifies that the majority of diamonds are fit-for-purpose and there are sufficient diamonds to meet a low growth target. There is no junior softball currently played in North Otago.

There are some issues with ground conditions including hardness from a perceived lack of summer watering and maintenance. There is also a lack of suitable batter’s boxes, no diamond fencing, no safety lines for tee-ball and limited access to amenity facilities. There may be opportunities to work with other codes and clubs to improve access to amenities.

Other Outdoor Field Users

Marching struggles to get field access and it is perceived priority is given to other, larger or historically popular codes.

No survey responses were received from touch or ultimate, ki-o-rahi or other field sports not covered individually above. As noted by marching, it is understood that other, more minority field sports typically struggle for peak time bookings due to fields being at capacity for more 'traditional' codes.

11.3.2 Outdoor Court Sports

Netball (Outdoor)

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Netball (outdoor)	N/A	N/A		

The majority of netball play is at indoor venues across the sub-region such as Cross Recreation Centre (Clutha) and Edgar Centre (Dunedin). The Waitaki Netball Centre (outdoors) will move indoors with the development of the planned facility in Oamaru.

For training, the Taieri Netball Club make do with an area that is smaller than a standard netball court at Mosgiel Park.

Dunedin Netball has signalled a desire for access to appropriate outdoor court options for games, development and competitions.

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Tennis (outdoor)	N/A			

Tennis has a large number of outdoor courts across the sub-region. These range from community-based tennis courts (often at small local clubs or schools) to a key regional outdoor court facility at Logan Park. The marginal assessment reflects the fact that many tennis clubs have ageing court surfaces, and some have declining memberships. Opportunities to increase the multi-use nature of local tennis club facilities should be explored and some may need to be rationalised or repurposed for other uses if club memberships decline in future.

Basketball (outdoor)

Court Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Basketball (outdoor)	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Basketball is played at indoor venues across the sub-region such as Cross Recreation Centre, Edgar Centre, Waitaki Community Recreation Centre. Indoor Court access will be further supported by the planned Indoor Sports and Events Centre in Oamaru.

Basketball is a rapidly growing sport nationally with increasing popularity of 3 on 3 along with standard formats of the game. Basketball have indicated a desire for increased access to outdoor courts to support casual, community play in particular. The marginal assessment reflects the fact that there are a limited number of outdoor basketball courts across the sub-region and some are under sized making them less useable.

11.4 Other Spaces & Places

Figure 21 Dunedin Ice Stadium



11.4.1 Ice Sports

Ice Hockey, Figure Skating, Curling and recreational skating.

Facility Type	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Ice Sports				

The Dunedin Ice Stadium is the main ice sports facility in the sub-region. It faces a number of age-related maintenance issues and requires a feasibility assessment to be undertaken for future redevelopment options. Redevelopment could increase the range of ice experiences on offer to the sub-region.

It is noted that there is significant demand for ice time at this facility for organised use (skating, ice hockey, curling) along with social recreational skating for the community.

11.4.2 Specialised Sports

Figure 22 Caledonian Ground - Dunedin. Image credit: Athletics Otago



Athletics

Synthetic Track & grass track and field	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Athletics				

The synthetic athletics track at the Caledonian Ground within Logan Park is the main athletics facility for the wider Otago region. It is a quality track, supported by a large grandstand building including amenities. The in-field area is shared with football. Local athletics delivery occurs from numerous grass tracks on sports fields throughout the sub-region.

Athletics Otago reports a significant variance in the quality and condition of those tracks, indicating that users are more satisfied with the grass tracks at locations dedicated to athletics compared to track spaces which are shared with winter codes such as rugby. This highlights the importance of appropriate field renovation regimes between seasons.

Hockey

Field Sport	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Hockey				

Hockey is well provided for across the sub-region with turf facilities provided at Logan Park Dunedin and the Network Waitaki Recreational Turf (Oamaru). Hockey is also played indoors at the Cross Recreation Centre in Balclutha. One of the challenges facing the sport is the high cost of hockey participation.

The marginal assessment for local facilities reflects the fact that to ensure local accessibility, particularly for junior-level training and play, a range of multi-use spaces that can support junior hockey are needed across the sub-region. This will require partnerships with schools and outdoor court users (such as tennis) to enable access to existing facilities or upgrade and enhance playing surfaces to better support hockey use. This approach would help with the operational costs of participation.

North Otago Hockey reports they are well provided for with the Network Waitaki Recreational Turf and are planning for an LED lighting upgrade and future turf replacement. To support future enhancements greater utilisation of the Waitaki Hockey facilities for a range of other community activities should be encouraged.

Mountain Biking

Tracks and Trails	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Mountain Biking				

The wider Otago region is recognised as one of New Zealand's most popular mountain biking destinations with national events frequently held in Queenstown. In the Coastal Otago area there is a range of good quality mountain biking tracks and nationally recognised cycle trails such as the Alps to Ocean (Waitaki) and the Clutha Gold Trail.

Dunedin has significant mountain biking trails at Signal Hill and a number of recreational, commuter cycle paths such as the path out over the peninsula. Waitaki also has community-level mountain biking with Herbert Forest.

Recreational cycling is one of the most popular recreational activities in New Zealand, including with the ageing population particularly with E-bikes increasing the ease of many routes. It is important to continue to invest in track and trail infrastructure maintenance and upgrades over time.

Skate

Skate parks	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Skate, scootering	N/A	N/A	N/A	

There are new, high-quality facilities in the wider Otago region (Wanaka). Many current skate park facilities are ageing and becoming outdated. Many were developed prior to the growing popularity of scootering and need maintenance to become more suitable for diverse skate and wheel-based activities.

Flying / Aero Clubs

Airfields	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Flying, Gliding				

The sub-region is popular for flying activities such as gliding and aero clubs. Omarama provides world class gliding conditions and a highly regarded training school at the Omarama airfield. The main facility of the North Otago Aero Club is the Oamaru airport. South Otago Aero Club uses the Balclutha Aerodrome adjacent to the Riverside reserve.

While flying is generally well provided for, the marginal assessment reflects the survey responses where the North Otago Aero Club identified that the Oamaru airport will need taxi ways to allow safe use given the current capacity and use of the airport. The Clutha Valley Gliding Club also indicated it has plans for runway extensions at Omarama.

Shooting Sports

Smallbore rifle, clay target, pistol shooting, hunting.

Shooting ranges and forests	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
	N/A			

Shooting sports are generally well provided for in the sub-region with a number of clubs located in semi-rural areas that well support these activities. In Dunedin, there is a shooting sports 'hub' in Brighton with the Dunedin Clay Target Club and Otago Pistol Club located adjacent to each other on large sites. The NZDA Otago Branch has a Lodge and range in Beaumont (Clutha).

The NZDA Otago Branch identified a need for either a major clubrooms upgrade or selling and relocating however the financial cost of doing this is prohibitive. A challenge noted by the Pistol Club is the increasing cost of insurance and the need to upgrade facilities which may not be financially viable.

Golf

Courses and Clubrooms	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Golf				

There are a large number of golf clubs across the wider Otago region and within the Coastal Otago sub-region. Some clubs are struggling for membership while others are strong and many have a

range of other recreational activities making use of their clubroom facilities. No significant issues were identified but the ongoing sustainability of golf clubs needs to be monitored, with the potential need for a regional (or sub-regional) golf strategy in the longer term.

Lawn Bowls

Greens and Clubrooms	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Lawn Bowls	N/A			

There is a significant number of bowling clubs across the sub-region. Some clubs report static or declining membership while others are strong and growing. A number of clubs are proactively sharing their clubroom facilities with many having a few other users such as indoor bowls, card clubs, table tennis. The Taieri Bowling Club is used by 19 different organisations.

The marginal assessment reflects that some clubs have declining memberships threatening long-term sustainability. While other clubs reported issues with ageing or inadequate facilities, Waikouaiti Bowling Club has been growing and feels its clubroom is too small. Leith Bowling Club have been exploring a partnership with Otago Beach Volleyball but need clear direction from Council regarding this.

Overall, continuing to proactively seek partnerships and share facilities will help with the ongoing sustainability of bowls clubs.

Archery

Range	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Archery	N/A	N/A	N/A	

The Dunedin Archery Club based at Chingford Park offer a range of archery disciplines including beginners courses and regular club sessions. The club are working on a project to develop their facility as they report they have outgrown the space which is hindering growth. It is understood that athletics and disc golf also operate from Chingford Park, therefore it is important that collaboration opportunities are explored as part of any development plans at this site, with the potential for collaboration to create a successful multi-use facility which could be a requirement to obtain funding support. There could also be opportunities to start a new archery club base in Mosgiel to help with future growth.

Croquet

Lawns and clubrooms	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Croquet	N/A	N/A	N/A	

While there are a large number of croquet clubs across the sub-region, limited information was available on participation and condition. Two clubs responded to the survey, both reported some issues with their facilities; Tainui due to a lack of water and electricity supply (currently) and Leith with the lack of car parking in the area and the potential for their space to be inadequate if membership grows.

Petanque

Terrain/Piste and clubrooms	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Petanque	N/A	N/A	N/A	

There are 6 Petanque clubs in the Coastal Otago sub-region. These vary in age and condition.

The Southern Region Petanque Association reports an overall growth in membership in recent years and that most facilities are too small and have inadequate shelter for players.

Equestrian

Pony Clubs, showgrounds, racecourses, trails	International/ National	Regional	Sub-regional / District wide	Local
Equestrian	N/A			

There are a number of equestrian facilities across the sub-region including bridle trails, pony racecourses and showgrounds. The marginal assessment indicates the local access challenges faced by some equestrian groups and individual riders.

12 Appendix 3 – Engagement Summary

12.1 Engagement Process

Engagement for this project was undertaken with the Otago Steering Group, Project Working Group members and with community organisations through an online survey and workshops.

12.2 Summary of Coastal Otago Sub-regional Survey Findings

12.2.1 Who we heard from

130 organisations responded to the online survey for this project.

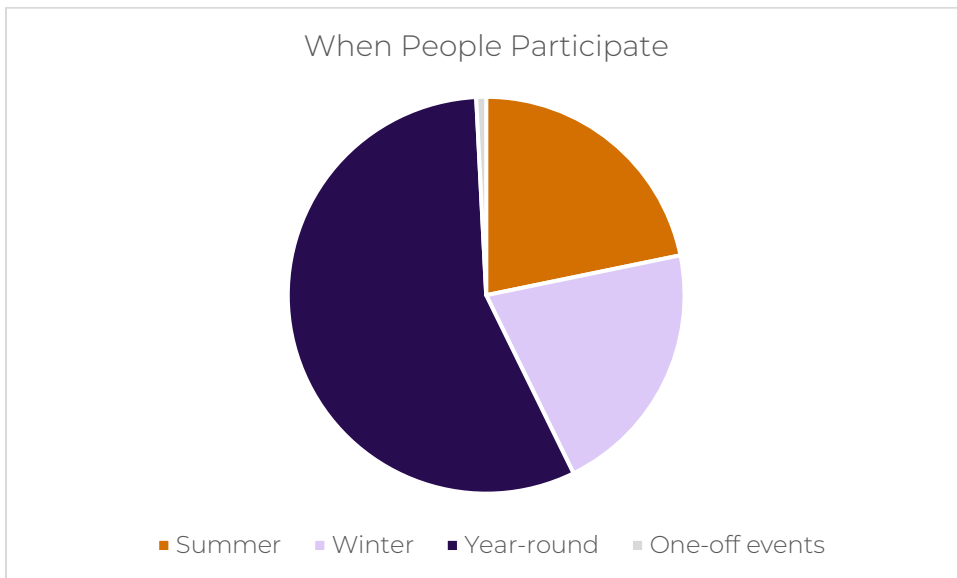
- The majority of the respondents were local community sport organisations (52%).
- 25% of responses were from Regional or National Sports Organisations
- 14% were from community active recreation organisations.
- 5% from Regional or National Active Recreation organisations

There are typically less survey responses from active recreation groups. In part due to the less formalised nature of active recreation participation.

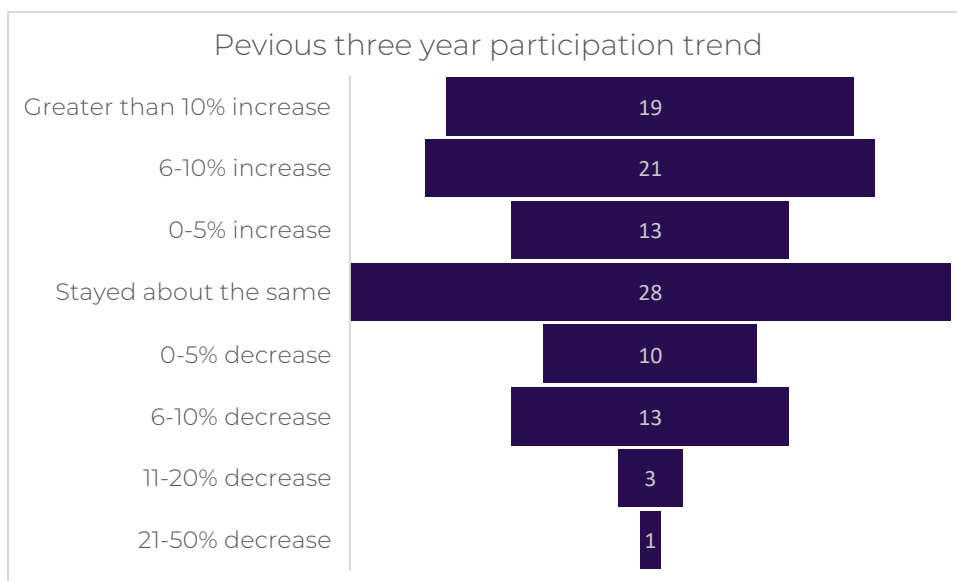


The sports/activities that we received the most responses from included: outdoor bowls (11); Golf (10); multiple activities such as YMCA or similar (9); Other including venue and programme providers, community network group, tertiary (8); Netball (5); sailing/yachting (5). 4 responses were received from play organisations.

12.2.2 Participation



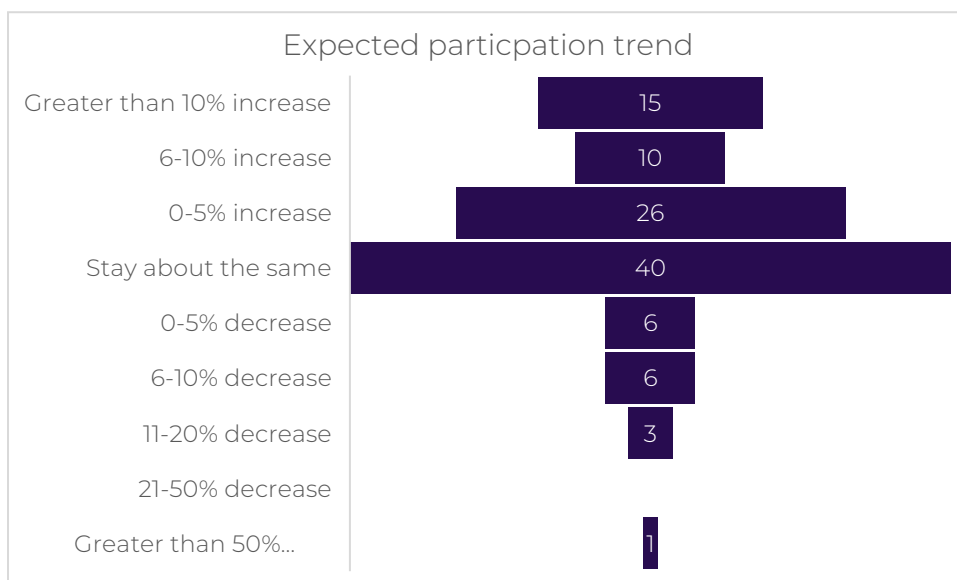
- 47% of respondents indicated participation had increased in the last three years.
- 25% indicated participation had stayed about the same.
- 24% indicated it had decreased.



- 47% of respondents indicated participation had increased in the last three years.
- 25% indicated participation had stayed about the same.
- 24% indicated it had decreased.

The main reasons given for expected participation increases include:

- active promotions,
- new programmes/competitions offered,
- popular activity (both traditional and new ones),
- new or good quality facilities,
- changing demographics such as growth in the local area and increase in females.



- 46% of respondents predict an increase in participation in their sport or activity in the next three years.
- 36% predict participation will stay about the same.
- 14% predict participation will decrease in the next three years.

The main reasons given for declining participation include:

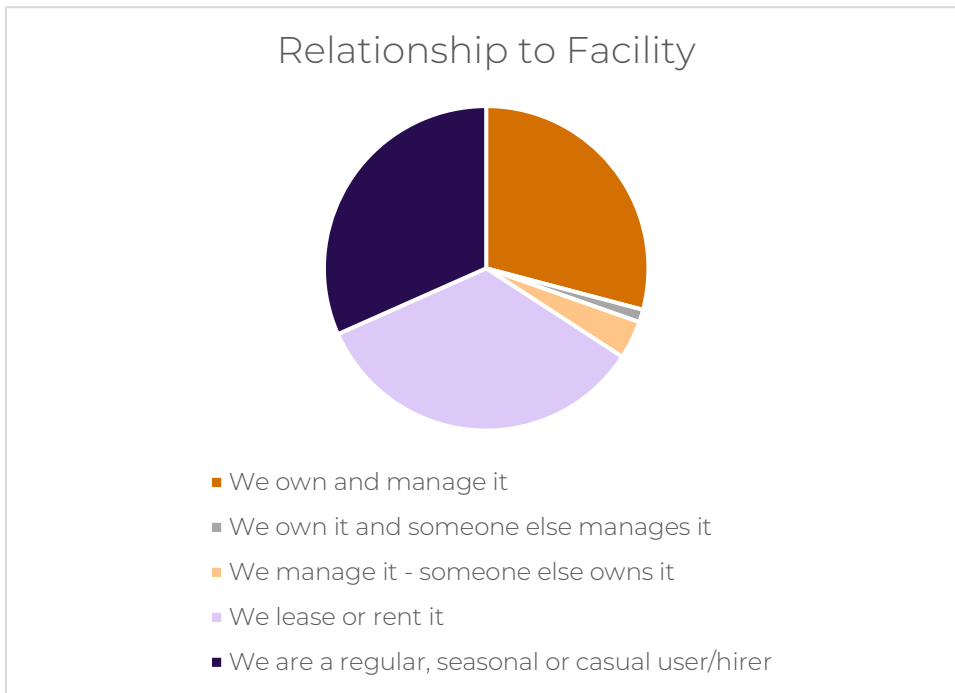
- Covid-19,
- demographic change such as ageing population and less students and/or students finishing high school,

- cost of living & participation costs,
- range of sports available/competition for participants.

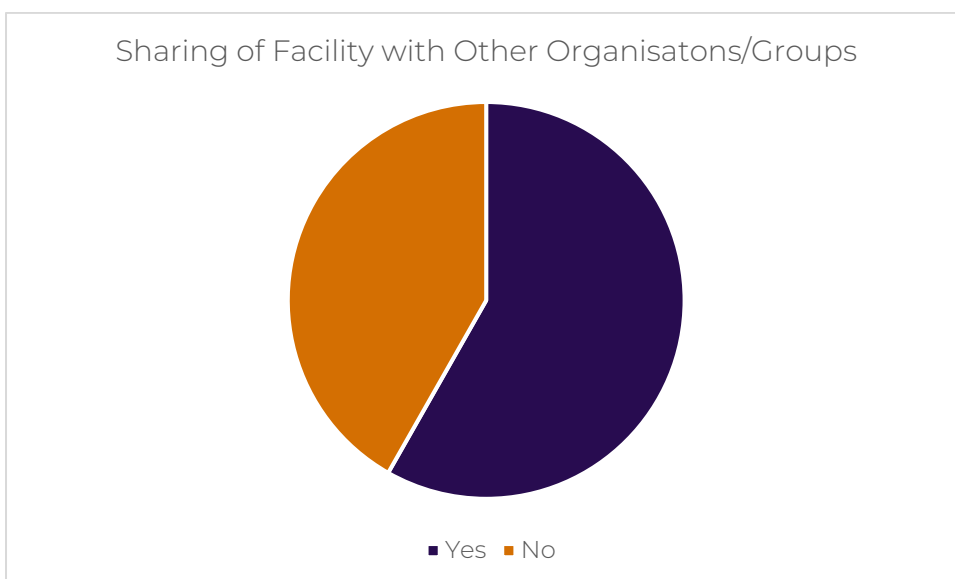
Some organisations also noted that due to a lack of volunteers such as coaches or facility capacity they have to limit membership while others felt a lack of media coverage for their sport contributes.

It is interesting to note that while 24% of respondents had experienced a decline in participation over the last 3 years, only 14% expect a decline in future years. Those expecting an increase in future is more in line with the past trend but with many predicting lower growth (0-5%) than they may have had recently.

12.2.3 Facility Use and Age



It is most common for organisations to lease or rent their facilities (34%), hire the facility on a regular or seasonal basis (32%) or own and manage their own facility (29%).



It is pleasing to note that the majority of respondents (58%) indicated that they share their facilities with others. Examples of sharing include:

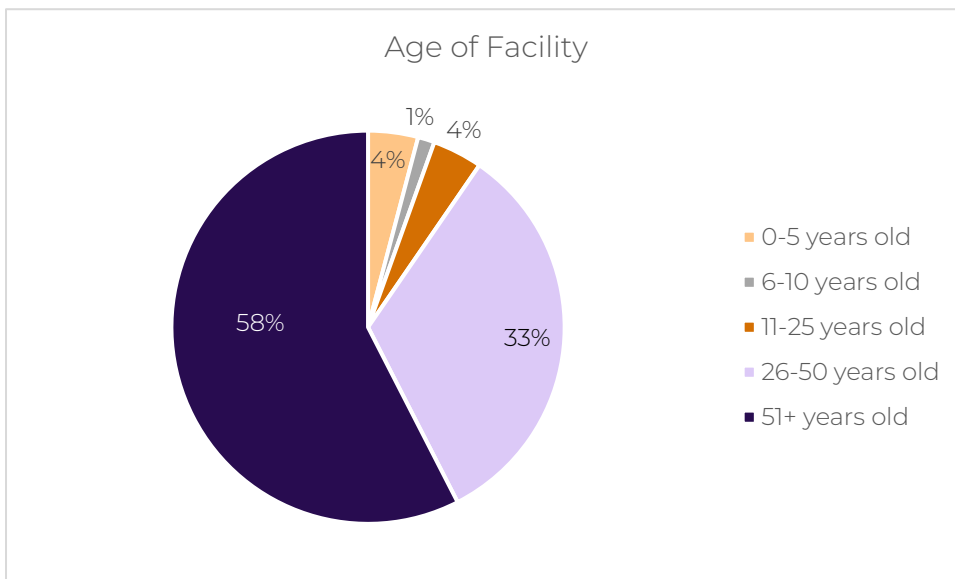
- Multiuse facility sharing – Edgar Centre and aquatic facilities such as Moana Pool
- Intercode sharing – such as multiple cheerleading clubs, bowls clubs, netball clubs.
- Across code seasonal sharing of grounds and buildings – such as rugby and softball / football and cricket.
- Clubroom sharing – such as golf with service groups such as Rotary and Lions; Outdoor bowls clubs with activities such as indoor bowls, table tennis, cards, petanque, craft and church groups including one bowls club that is used by 19 different community organisations.
- Other examples include – Scouts with soccer; motorcycle with mountain bike and a range of other users; yachting club with a boating club.

Facility Use Times

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6am-12pm	13	20	17	16	14	39	15
12-3pm	16	19	23	17	17	47	23
3-6pm	23	29	36	34	25	43	21
6-10pm	27	34	26	39	20	21	9
10pm-6am	0	0	1	0	0	2	0

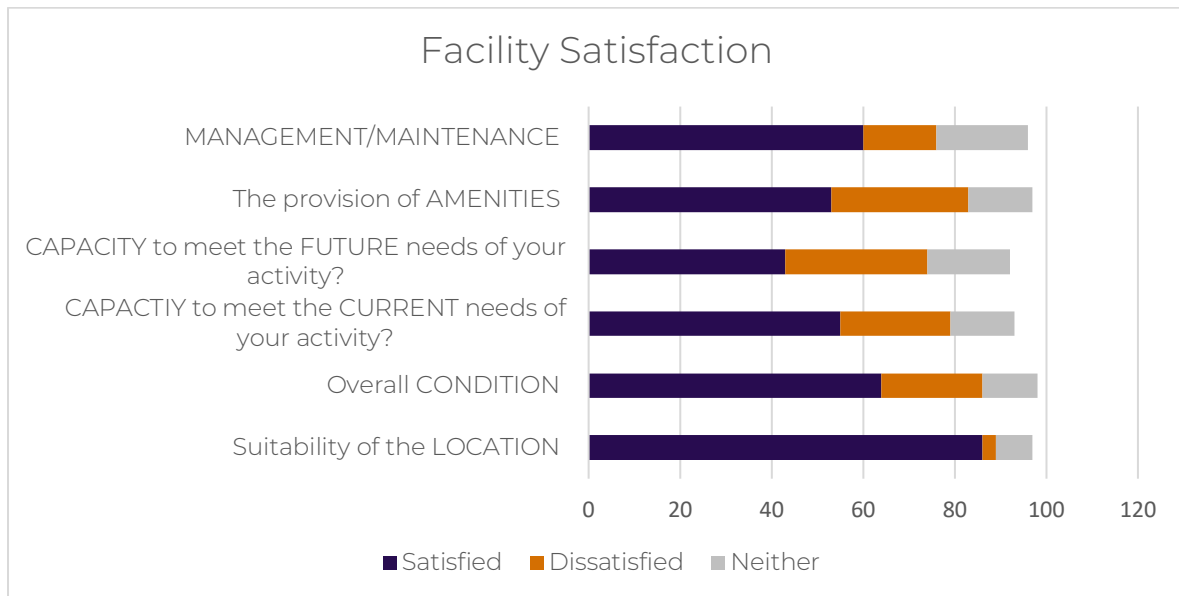
There is a good spread of use time across facilities. Overall, the most common use periods are from 3-10pm Monday-Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday's between 6am-3pm.

5 respondents indicated their facilities are available 24/7. This included squash / squash and badminton clubs, mountain biking and rugby clubs with an onsite gym.



The vast majority (91%) of facilities used by respondent in the Coastal Otago Sub-region are over 26 years old, with most of them over 51+ years old. This indicates a significantly ageing facility stock which will result in increasing maintenance costs and a likely decline in facility quality and user satisfaction.

12.2.4 Facility Satisfaction



Overall, respondents are more satisfied with facilities than dissatisfied. Location of facilities has the highest satisfaction rate (86 responses) and satisfaction with the overall condition (64 respondents) was also high.

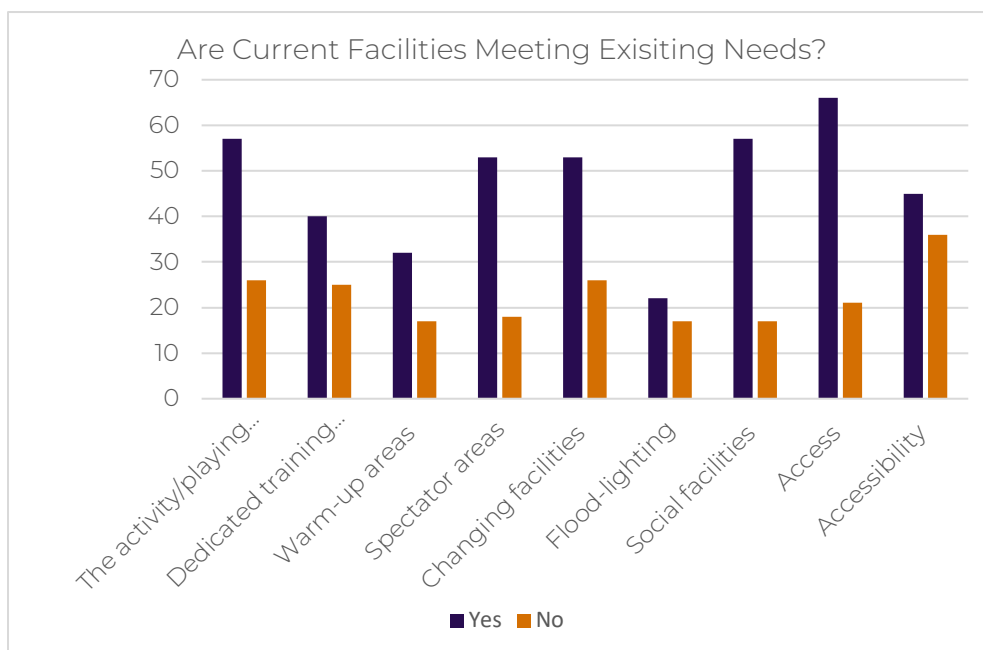
The aspects with the most dissatisfaction were:

- the provision of amenities (such as toilets, storage, change rooms, parking, shelter, shade etc) and capacity to meet future needs (30 respondents each)
- capacity to meet current needs (24 respondents)

59 organisations provided detailed reasons for their dissatisfaction covering a vast range of areas. Some common points of dissatisfaction included:

- variable facility quality across the sub-region and wider Otago region including undersized playing areas/buildings and poor ground conditions.
- lack of basic amenities such as toilets at parks along with lack of change rooms and storage
- car parking
- building age and associated challenges including being outdated and having high maintenance and operational costs.
- lack of capacity (such as indoor courts and aquatic facilities)
- poor accessibility or lack of opportunities for those in wheelchairs or with disabilities (such as buildings, parks and play spaces)
- water quality and safety issues (rowing, sailing/yachting)

There were also some comments about logistical difficulties with booking systems (DCC grounds), some facilities that experience flooding and minor sports feeling they have a lower priority for facility use.



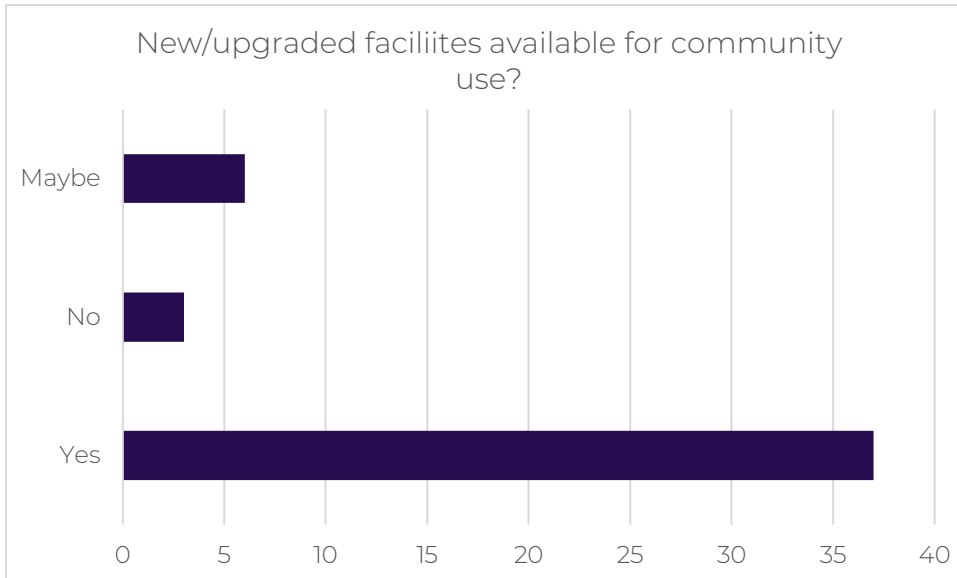
12.2.5 Facility development, maintenance and upgrades

Of those organisations that own their own facilities 59% indicated they have the long-term financial ability to manage and maintain the facility. Concerningly 41% indicated they did not.

35 organisations indicated they have plans to upgrade/renew or dispose of their facility. 17 organisations indicated maybe. There was a wide range of different upgrade plans identified. At a regional, sub-regional facility level the main organisations with plans/desires are:

- Edgar Centre – desire to increase hard court surfaces (rather than artificial turf courts)
- Otago Yacht Club – maintenance of piles, pontoons, jetties and potential extensions. Dredging (but cost prohibitive)
- Dunedin Ice Sports – feasibility study for future options for the facility
- Oamaru – new indoor sports/events centre
- North Otago Hockey – new lighting
- Clutha Valley Guiding Club – extending runways in Omarama.
- NZDA Otago Branch – major clubrooms upgrade or sell and relocate.
- Tūhura Otago Museum – upgrades for active play dependent on funding sources
- Dunedin Gymnastics Academy – a purpose built facility.

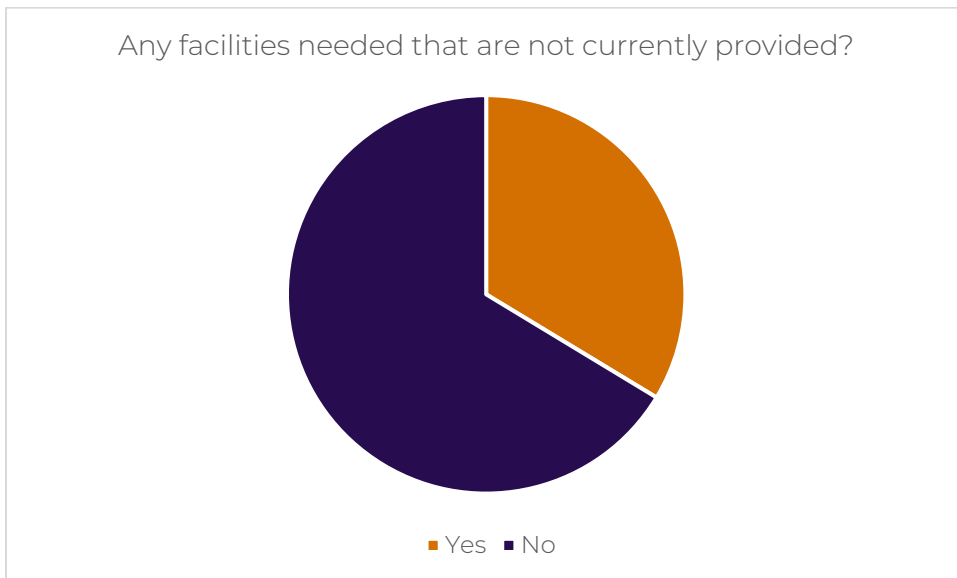
A number of local club level facilities also have plans, mostly of a regular maintenance or upgrade nature including improving kitchens, changing rooms /toilets upgrades (especially for female participants) and equipment upgrades. Some local clubs also proposed new facilities buildings or total rebuilds (such as Belleknowes Golf Club, Green Island Football Club Inc, Green Island Cricket Club, Oamaru Squash and Badminton Club, Warrington SLSC).



The vast majority indicated any upgraded or new facilities would be made available for community use.

12.2.6 Facility Gaps & Use Outside the Sub-region.

Despite the Coastal Otago sub-region being clearly defined as Dunedin City, Waitaki District and Clutha District, many responses indicated people thought areas like Oamaru and Balclutha were outside the sub-region. So the usefulness of responses to this section of the survey is lower.



Most respondents (66%) indicated they do not need facilities/spaces that are not currently provided in the sub-region.

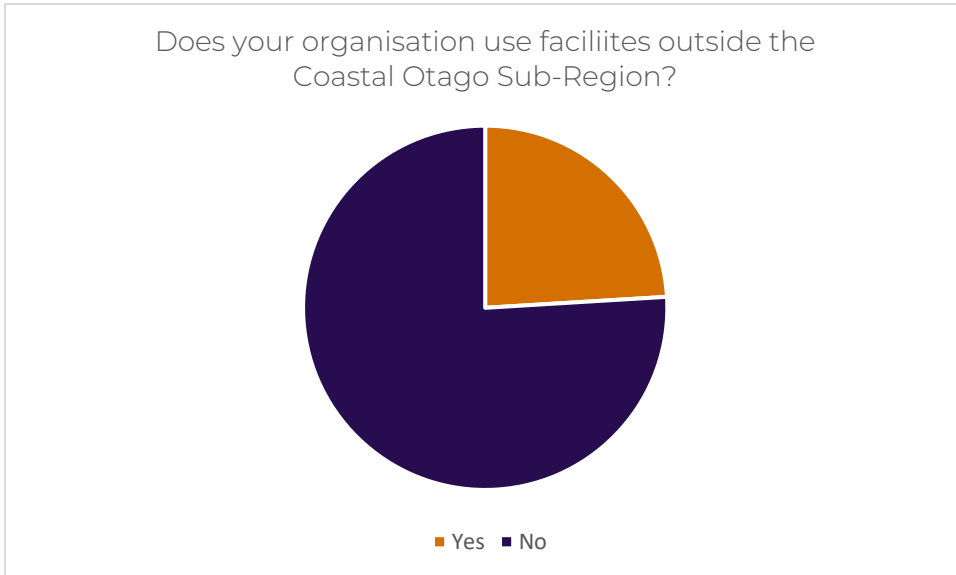
However, 34% indicated that their organisations do need facilities/spaces that are not currently provided. A wide diversity of responses were given, many of which identified more were desired rather than that no facilities existing at all, such as:

- More wooden indoor court space and more outdoor courts
- More access to grounds and turfs (including with lights) for a range of sports including Rugby League (regular access to facilities and grounds), football, hockey.
- More access to amenities such as toilets, storage, change rooms.
- Warm, well-lit indoor facilities such as community centres/halls

- More specific quality/fit-for-purpose facilities such as for ice sports, gymnsports, cheerleading, trampoline, skateboarding, larger boat rigging area
- Long term certainty for shooting range

The facilities that seemed to not actually be provided at all were:

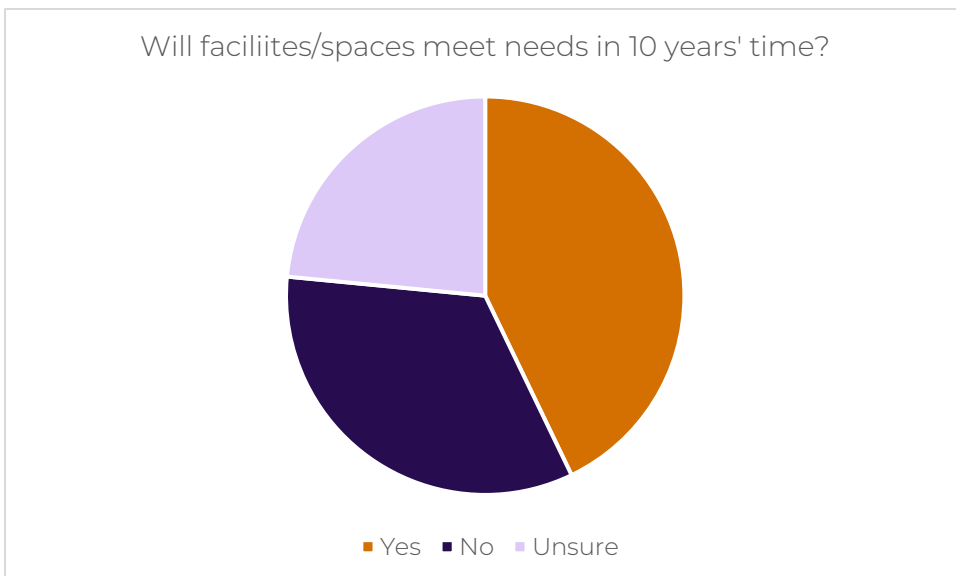
- weightlifting (competition venue), and a 2km rowing training course



Most organisations (76%) do not use any facilities located outside of the sub-region. Of the 24% that indicated they used facilities outside the sub-region most of the responses were facilities that were used for competitions. These included competitions in the Otago area such as Queenstown, Wanaka, Cromwell, Alexandra, Dunstan, Invercargill (gymnastics), Twizel (rowing) and South Canterbury (football)

A number of responses were actually related to facilities within the sub-region such as in Oamaru, Balclutha, Omarama, Herbert Forest.

12.2.7 Future Needs



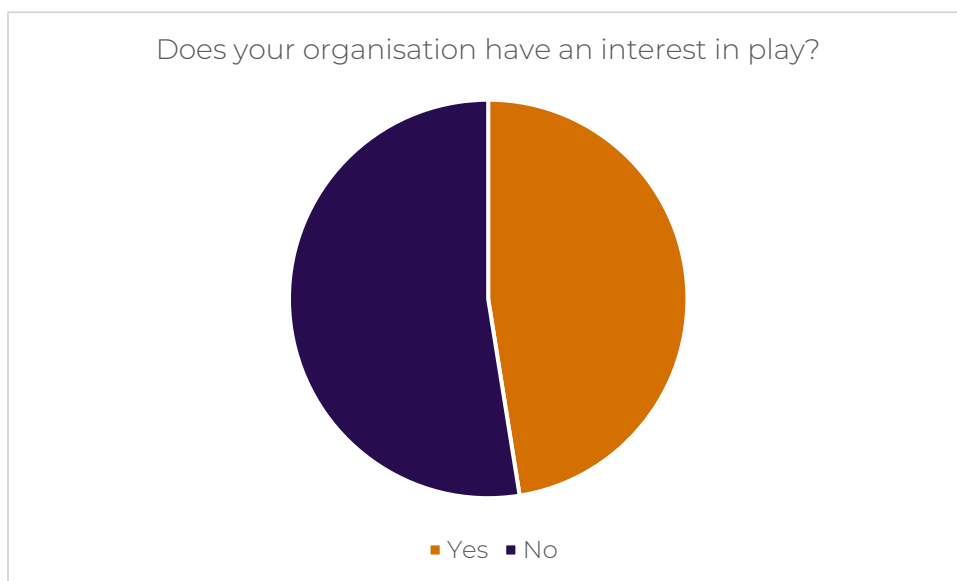
Key trends in response regarding what the facilities will not meet needs in 10 years' time included:

- Ground movement and leaking issues (Edgar Centre)

- Coastal erosion (Dunedin City Royals FC, Dunedin Rugby)
- Access levels – lane/pool, court or field space (Moana pool, Edgar Centre, field sports such as rugby league, football, rugby)
- Facility age/quality, deferred maintenance and or resurfacing needed – ice sports, hockey, tennis, cricket, football, athletics, netball.
- Some groups, such as athletics expressed a desire for dedicated grounds. Others like rugby league were very willing to share but just want regular access to grounds.
- Unfortunately, some organisations felt like rising costs such as deferred maintenance, compliance and insurance may make their operations no longer viable in time.
- Others are aware that declining membership for their club or activity may mean they are not sustainable in the long term.
- Some also currently limit participation due to a lack of volunteers such as coaches.

12.2.8 Play Specific Responses

99 organisations completed the play-related part of the survey.



However, most 'play' opportunities which respondents indicated they provide are simply modified delivery of traditional sport/activity such as:

- Fun drills and fundamental skills sessions for young tamariki including in school sessions provided by a range of sports.
- Short course races,
- Short/fun focused games & training
- 'Have a go days', drop-in sessions and public time such as skateboarding and ice skating
- Targeted junior programmes such as fun kicks (football), learn to sail)

Four main providers of play activities that are truly play based rather than sports based responded:

- Edgar Centre offering birthday parties activities such as bike courses, ball activities etc.
- Tiny Nation who use outdoor playgrounds and parks but also indoor facilities with equipment hired from Sport Otago to allow young children to also explore play in indoor/dry conditions
- University of Otago – researching projects and teaching experiences for their students with young people, mostly in school and natural public environments such as beaches, forest, parks)
- Tūhara Museum – provide science themed play experiences both onsite at the museum and off-site

Play Aotearoa is a national organisation advocating and educating about play. They also responded to the survey but don't specifically provide play experiences directly themselves.

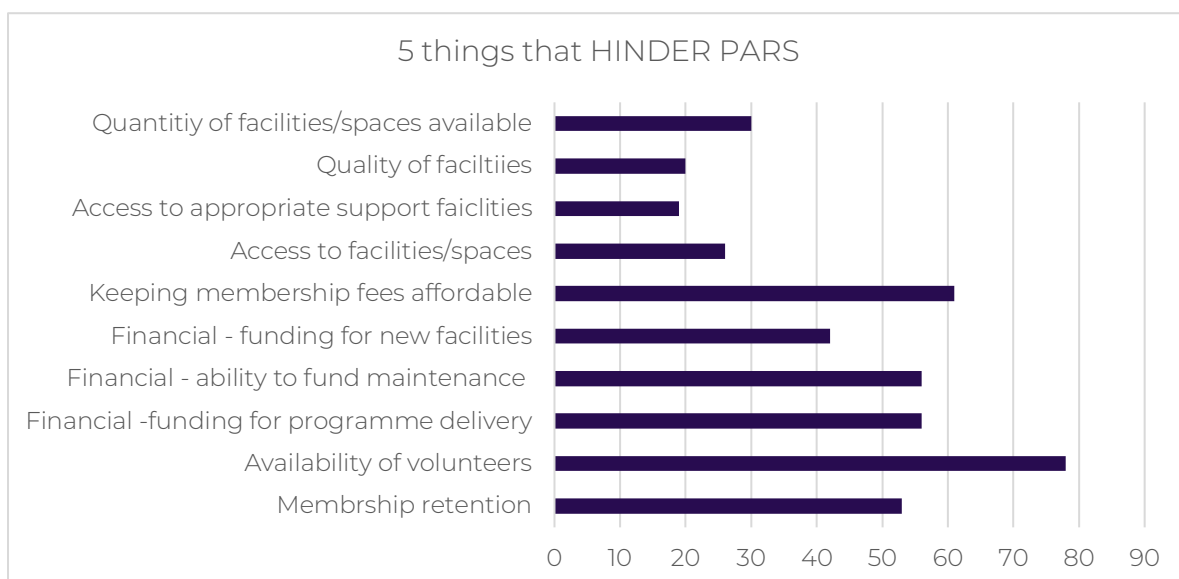
The main changes to facilities that were identified to better enable and support play were:

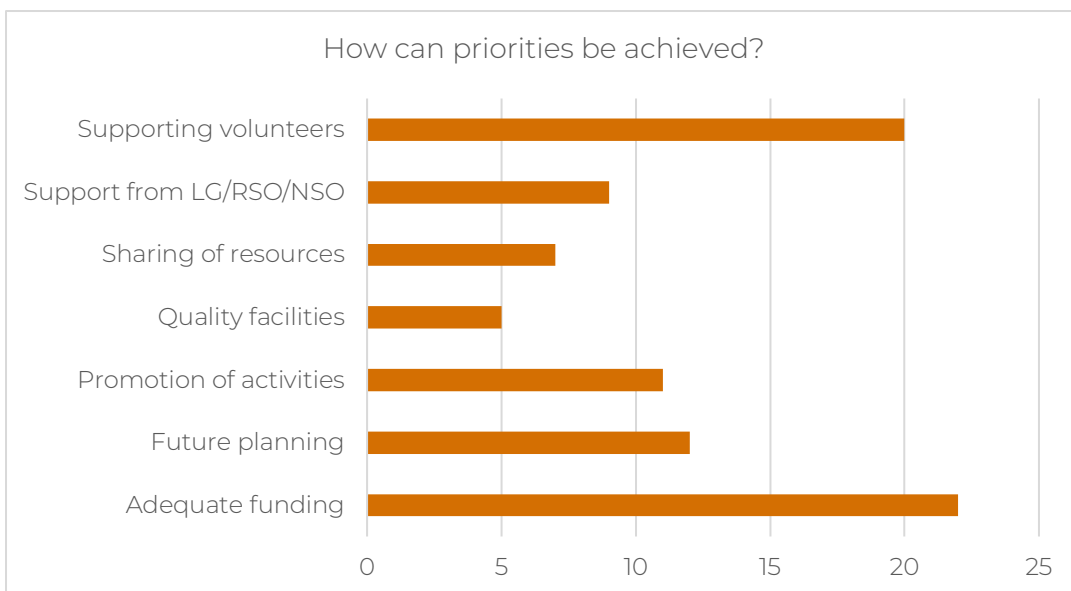
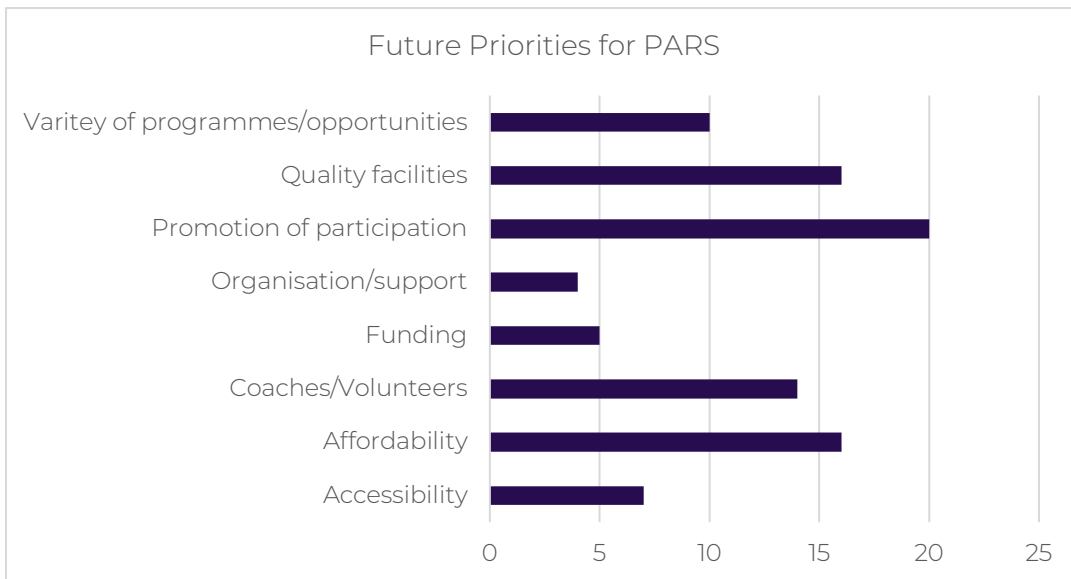
- Better facilities (note: many referenced traditional sport facilities)
- Provision of play materials and equipment
- Promotion
- Multi-use settings

Other comments made regarding play:

“Organisations need to work together and understand the work being delivered so others can support it rather than re-inventing the wheel and competing against each other. More collaboration with national organisations to support key play deliverables should be happening.”

12.2.9 Big-picture Thinking – Overall responses





12.3 Summary of School Facility Survey

12.3.1 Survey Participation

16 out of the 20 Secondary and Area Schools in the Coastal Otago sub-region responded to the online survey for this project which focused specifically on school facilities and community use of these facilities.

12.3.2 Indoor Court facilities

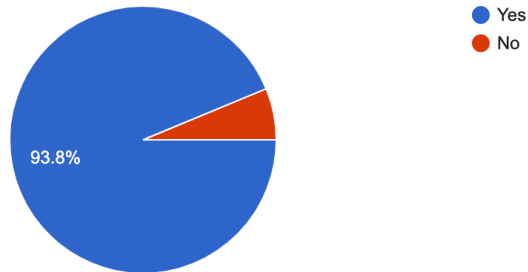
16 (100%) Secondary or Area Schools responding to the survey have indoor courts.

- 10 schools have 1 indoor court facility and 5 schools have 2 indoor courts.
 - Noting that 2 courts are not full size, 1 is a shared community facility and one has 2 tennis courts under a dome.
- The courts are line-marked for the following identified codes
 - Volleyball - 16
 - Basketball - 12

- Netball - 9
- badminton – 9
- Indoor bowls – 1

Do you allow community use of this facility?

16 responses



- 15 (94%) schools allow community access to the indoor court facilities with the key community users of indoor court facilities being:
 1. Sports clubs
 2. Community use including dance groups, primary schools, youth groups and Church groups
 3. Fitness / Gym classes
 4. RSO
 5. Sport Otago

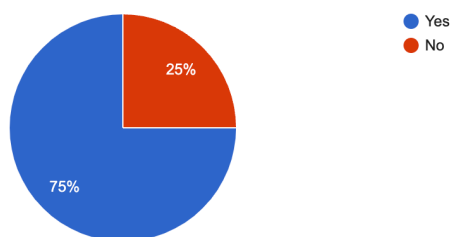
12.3.3 Outdoor Court facilities

- 14 (87.5%) Secondary and Area Schools have outdoor courts, with the courts having line markings for the following codes
 - Tennis – 25
 - Netball – 20
 - Basketball – 9
 - Hockey - 4
 - Football and futsal
 - cricket nets
- 13 (81%) schools allow community access to the outdoor courts, with the key community users of these facilities being:
 1. Sports Clubs
 2. RSO
 3. Casual community use outside school hours

12.3.4 Playing fields

Do you have PLAYING FIELDS on school grounds?

16 responses

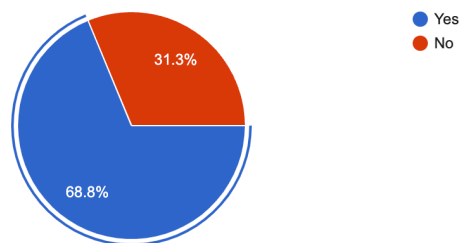


- 12 (75%) secondary or area Schools have playing fields on the school grounds, with the fields used for the following codes
 - Rugby – 7
 - Cricket – 6
 - Football – 4
 - Athletics – 4
 - Touch – 2
 - Ki O Rahi – 2
- 10 (71%) Secondary or Area Schools allow community access to the fields. The key community users of these facilities include:
 - Sports Clubs including competition sport
 - Schools
 - Casual community use outside school hours

12.3.5 Turf Facilities

Do you have TURF facilities?

16 responses



- 11 (69%) schools have turf facilities with 10 schools allowing community access. There are line markings for the following codes:
 - Tennis
 - Hockey
 - Cricket
 - Futsal
 - Netball / basketball

12.3.6 School Halls

- 13 (81%) Secondary or Area Schools have a school hall, with 8 (57%) schools allowing community access. These school halls vary in use depending upon wooden or carpeted flooring and include activity such as school assemblies, school gymnasium, musicals and orchestra.
- School halls are used by community for activities such as funerals, large community events, primary school activity including prize giving ceremonies, and church groups.

12.3.7 School Swimming Pools

- 4 (25%) Secondary or Area Schools have a school swimming pool, with all 4 allowing community access.
- 2 pools were heated and covered and 2 unheated
- All 4 pools were 25 metres and varied from 4-8 lanes
- The community use of school swimming pools included;
 - Local schools
 - Swim clubs
 - Birthday parties
 - Community use through key access
 - Swimming lessons

12.3.8 Future Needs

The following issues and opportunities with Secondary and Area School facilities were identified:

- Fully booked gym and indoor court space, notably in winter with team practices competing for space with competition sport
- Lack of green space for play and/ or sports fields, resulting in sports teams traveling to other grounds to practice
- Indoor gym smaller than ideal or courts not full size
- Support from Otago Tennis to design new tennis courts
- School operates at a loss in terms of community use around staffing and cleaning costs
- Poor maintenance of school facilities

13 Appendix 4 – Secondary Data Review

13.1 National and Regional Strategies of Relevance

A number of sports have national facilities strategies in place to provide some direction for facility planners and decision makers, to help guide facility investment for their sports. Many of those strategies are now quite dated, and a number of significant ones are currently under review, for example the National Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, Hockey National Facilities Strategy, Golf Strategy and National Aquatic Facilities Strategy.

This section provides the following:

- A brief overview of the key, high-level themes from national sport facility strategies generally
- A high-level summary of the direction from existing strategies regarding Otago, noting that this is for the wider Otago region, not the sub-region and many of these strategies are dated and currently under review, meaning relevant direction may change
- A table with more detail from current national strategies where relevant to Otago, noting that many are dated and or under review.
- More detailed direction relevant to Coastal Otago, from strategies that are new or not currently in a review phase.

This section does not consider the national strategies for field/turf based sports, such as hockey, rugby league, football, as these were considered through the Southland Sports Fields Strategy.

Key, recurring themes from current national strategies include:

- Many codes have an over-supply of facilities (based on population ratios).
- Geographic distribution and accessibility of facilities is not consistent.
- Many facilities and sports codes are likely to experience a decrease in demand and participation (based on population projections alone), whilst some demand will grow.
- Challenges of funding ongoing maintenance and replacement costs of facilities (including costs of changes in legislative requirements).
- Maximising the use of existing facilities including through increased awareness (doing so is more cost effective than developing new assets).
- A need to improve the quality of existing assets including the support facilities provided (e.g. toilets and changing rooms). Note: there is a link between facility quality and player development.
- Taking a hierarchy approach to facility provision and considering provision as a network (on a regional basis).
- Rationalisation of facilities due to sustainability issues.
- More partnership approaches to facility provision to facilitate more efficient use of resources including multi-use hubs.
- Increasing demands on local authorities to balance the needs of sport with other demands.
- The importance of the education sector to facility provision.
- Casual participation in many sports is trending up whilst traditional, competitive participation is declining.

High-level direction for Otago Region

Aquatic (2013)	Indoor Sports (2013)	Netball (2011)	Bowls (2013)	Gymsports (2017)
Surplus pool capacity	Surplus court capacity	Sufficient capacity but indoor options need consideration	Fewer venues in urban areas, partnerships.	National level and regional level hub required,

				partnerships, long travel times
Football	Rugby League	Hockey	Athletics	Golf (2013)
More field capacity, network development, home of football	Zone training venue	Partnerships	Maintain system	Network development, partnerships
Bike (2010)	Cricket (2013)	Softball (2018)		
Nothing specific	Network development, facility quality, partnerships	Sufficient diamonds which are generally fit for purpose, Lack of storage,		

Note: Many of these strategies are currently under review.

When considering new facilities or redevelopments in Coastal Otago it will be important to consider these themes and how relevant they are to the specific context. When investigating potential facility development or upgrades for specific sports in future, it will also be important to check those in light of the most current national strategy, where one exists.

Current National Strategies for Otago Region – Detailed Specific Sport Summaries

This information should be used with caution as many of these strategies are dated and /or currently under review.

Aquatic Sports (2011) under review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Otago region has around 26 people per square metre of pool space, compared with a national average of 21 people per sqm. Viewed as people per standard sized pool (8 lane, 25m), the Otago region has 13115 people per pool. New Zealand has 10,518 people per pool overall. Otago had the 3rd lowest level of provision (after Auckland and Wellington). The Otago region is likely to experience increase in swim visit demand by around 4% by 2031. On a 'population-to-facility' basis in the Otago region, there is a current shortfall of around 1 'standard' pools (8 lane 25m). By 2031 projected demand growth indicates that this surplus will still be at 1 standard pool. The Otago region does have a much lower than average proportion of outdoor pools (18% vs 41% for NZ), a much higher proportion of heated pools (94% vs 77%NZ), and an average proportion of school pools (55% vs 56%NZ). There is currently no suitable facility for international competition in the Otago region, although Moana Pool in Dunedin caters for national level events. Most facility use is subsidised. Users do not pay the true cost of providing the service. Ongoing replacement costs are not usually being funded. Demand for competitive use/training conflicts with community use. Targeted use of service-level agreements and strategic investment support is recommended to better balance different uses at current facilities in the priority locations. Allocation to competitive sports is important but is uneconomical for asset owners to subsidise competitive sports to over the 20%-40% of total usage they usually represent. Better use arrangements in existing facilities may be required to meet more specific needs for competitive use; for an ageing population (especially the 50+ age group); and for filling non-peak use periods.
Indoor Sports (2013) under review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population growth will slow and the proportion of older people increase. The Otago region is likely to experience decrease in indoor sports demand by around 1% by 2031.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Otago region has 1 council court per 35,000 people, the 4th lowest level of provision overall (Edgar Centre was excluded). • This was complemented by having 1 school court per 13,000 people in the Otago region, which is similar to the average level of school court provision in New Zealand overall (all NZ is 1:14,000). • Around 13% of school gyms in Otago region were over 35 years old (all NZ is 42%). • These school courts represent 73% of the indoor courts available in the Otago region (all NZ is 66%). • The strategy adapts the Sport England facility provision calculator to estimate that on a 'population-to-facility' basis the Otago region is currently relatively evenly supplied with indoor courts overall and no change is immediately required. • Allowing for change in future demand, the facility provision calculator estimates that the Otago portion region would be undersupplied by 1 court by 2031 (based on this calculator). • For national level tournaments, the Otago region overall has the Edgar Centre
Bike (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific recommendations were made for any cycling facility developments in the Otago region. • New Zealand does not require any further velodromes or BMX Supercross tracks on a population basis, although cases could be made using geographical/access issues. • BMX does require more regional-level facilities. • Mountain biking does not require any particular new facilities. Enhancing access to existing tracks is likely to be the major area of development interest. • TA cycling strategies may highlight some more localised cycling facility and trail needs.
Bowls (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under strategy guidelines bowls venues should preferably serve a population of 18,000, a catchment of 3km and an average membership of 187. However an exception is made for single community clubs. • The Otago portion of the Otago region has 70 currently active clubs, including 35 single community clubs which are excluded from rationalisation. Under these guidelines the remaining 35 club venues should be reduced to 12. • Bowls needs to adopt a more partnership-oriented facility use model to facilitate efficient use of resources, including the rationalisation of venues and considering involvement in shared-use venues (e.g. 'sportvilles'). • Compared with other NZ regions, the Dunedin portion of the wider Otago region was among those having a relatively even proportion of play-for-play-participants (2774) relative to club member numbers (3106). • The South Otago portion had a somewhat lower proportion of play-for-play-participants (183) relative to club member numbers (382) • The North Otago portion had much lower (85) numbers than members (354). • By contrast Otago Central had higher numbers of pay-for-play participants (1768) then club members (1116). • Otago was not among the three recommended 'Home of Bowls' centres in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. • It does have one of the only 6 indoor facilities for full scale bowls in New Zealand at the Dunedin Bowls Stadium.
Netball (2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otago was in the Otago region of Netball NZ (now part of the new Netball South Zone). • Growth in the 'active population' (aged 5-50) was projected to increase in Queenstown-Lakes and Central Otago Districts, with all other council areas declining. • The number of teams in the Otago region were projected to decrease from 649 in 2010 to 608 by 2031 • The Otago region had 21.0 teams for every 1000 'active' people (aged 5-50). This was lower than the average level of teams in New Zealand (17.2 teams).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When compared with other regions overall, the Otago region had relatively higher levels of winter, secondary, fun-ferns (young junior) and social/summer teams. • The Otago region overall also had 14.0 teams per court, which was around the average for New Zealand overall (13.6 teams per court). The highest level in the region was 17.5 teams per court. • The strategy identifies that a centre having fewer than 30 teams per court has potential spare capacity. None were seen as being close to capacity. • Each region should have access to at least one indoor multi-court venue (of at least 2 courts). The Edgar Centre is the main example in the Otago region.
Football (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the exception of 2014 (which saw a very small decrease) overall national membership during the last six years has been consistently trending upwards. The most significant increase was seen between the 2012 and 2013 seasons when there was an additional 6,034 members playing football. 2015 also saw the highest number of members over the six years under review. • Current membership has increased nationally from 88,368 in 2012 to 96,605 in 2016. • Juniors have the largest membership base (2016.) • There has been a 32% growth in league participation between 2013/14. There has also been significant and even greater growth in programme participation. When the four programme participation categories of 'primary/intermediate', 'college boys', 'college girls' and 'other Federation run' are combined, there are 9,344 more participants in 2014 than in the previous year; that is a 42% increase in participation numbers. • Data from the New Zealand Secondary Schools Sports Council (NZSSSC) identifies that 23,975 secondary school students participated in football in 2014. • The Otago region is included in Football South (including Southland). • Based on official Statistics NZ projection data (medium series), the total numbers nationally in the typical 'playing age' population (those aged between 5 and 35 years) are projected to increase in future years. • The South Football Region in 2013 the 'playing age' population was 119,302 and is projected to increase 119,510 in 2043 (0.1%). • There is a 72% growth in winter membership from 2010-2015 for the South Football Region. With projected future membership expected to increase by 0.1% by 2043. • Current key facility issues for the South Football Region include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Access to quality sports fields for training and competition ◦ A combination of the inclement weather that the region receives during the winter months and the current quality of the sports fields results in either the cancellation and/or lower quality of sports fields. ◦ There are very few lit pitches, this results in teams being unable to train and the field's suffering from overuse of training during the winter season. • In the Southland Football Region there is a need for Improving the quality of pitches for club competition, access to training facilities and futsal pitches. • The Otago region was not included among those areas identified as priorities for additional fields. • The Dunedin City area was identified as having a weekly field capacity shortfall 50 to 100 per week, but this was projected to become a greater shortfall of between 100-200 hours per week by 2021. • Beyond this area there was insufficient data provided to estimate weekly field capacity surpluses or shortfalls. • More 'Local Football Centres' are required, although this may not require new fields. • Local Football Centres would ideally feature football as primary use, artificial turf(s), an all-grade training base, possible school co-location, and complementary multisport usage. • A dedicated central 'Home of Football' is required in each Football Region, providing a focus for football development; development of officials, coaches

	<p>and referees; representative training and competition; year round community football (including catch-up games; and administration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, developments to maximise field utilisation would take priority over providing premier grade standards. • New Zealand Football and the regional Football Federations to work with councils to develop enhanced field utilisation, Local Football Centres and Home of football venues. • There is an increased need for partnerships with key stakeholders if New Zealand Football's facility requirements are to be met. • There is a need to maximise the use of existing facilities as doing so is often more cost effective than building new assets. • Strengthening club networks • Supporting the growth of futsal in New Zealand is gaining access to appropriate venues for both the indoor and outdoor forms of futsal.
<p>Rugby League (2016)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community participation league has achieved a sustained period of growth in recent years with club membership increasing by 70% from 23,228 in 2011 to 38,578 in 2015. • The Otago region has a total of 144 individuals participating in rugby league (2014), with the 19+ years old age group contributing to the largest proportion at 37.5% of total participation within the region. • Participation rates indicates that in the Southern zone there is Seven participants for every 1,000 of the population aged between 5 and 49 years old ("active" population.) Which is below the national participation rates at 18 participants for every 1,000 of the "active population." • In the Southern zone, there is 0.17 of a field available to league for every 1,000 of the active population. • The Otago region currently has a surplus of up to 21 hours per week in field capacity. Projecting to 2028, this will change to a 12 hour surplus in weekly field capacity. • The Southern League Zone – including the Canterbury region and West Coast – is projected to have an increase in teams from 257 (2014/15) to 338 (2028). Nationally the number of teams are projected to increase by 73% by 2028, however it is growing at different rates across the country. • Limited access to small scale stadiums for international competitions (5,000-10,000 seats) as well as NPC competition (2,500-5,000 seats.) • National High-performance training venue is required. • NPC training facilities are required. • Need for improved access to community fields, current lack of field quality and availability. As well as improved facilities on site (i.e. changing rooms)
<p>Hockey (2016) under review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2010 there has been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 17% growth in winter participation – from 44,507 in 2010 to 51,947 in 2015 ◦ 28% growth in junior participation – from 20,377 in 2010 to 25, 823 in 2015 ◦ Successful implementation of the Small Sticks programme - 373 schools and 70,000 children • The wider Otago region incorporates the Otago (including Dunedin), Central-Otago and North Otago hockey associations. • There is currently 2366 registered players in the Otago region, with 5-12yrs olds making up majority of the players. • There is currently 718 registered players in the Central Otago Proportion of the region, with 5-12yrs olds making up majority of the players. • The Otago/Dunedin portion of the wider Otago region has a similar proportion of summer vs winter player numbers (36%) relative to the NZ average (31%). This compares with the Central-Otago (8%) and North Otago (34%) portions. • The Otago/Dunedin portion of the wider Otago region had 2 turf FTEs overall, with an additional 1 in Central and North Otago respectively. This totals 4 overall for the wider Otago region. • There is a current priority in the Otago region for additional turf capacity as players per FTE exceeds threshold.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sustainable number of players per turf is in the range of 600 (the minimum required to generate sufficient occupancy and turf hire fees to maintain and renew the turf without undue reliance on third party funding) to 850 (the threshold level to initiate planning and development of an additional full size FTE turf). • In the Otago region there is a 1,183 ratio of total players per FTE (2015) indicating an Over the demand parameter, action is likely to be required. For North Otago there is a 391 , and Central Otago a 718 ratio of total players per FTE (2015) indicating no obvious areas of concern in North Otago and pressure showing overall on Central Otago for turf provision. • A key initiative is to encourage entry level hockey to be delivered locally on range of surfaces. • Associations and clubs should seek to use non-hockey funded surfaces for practice and for junior competition. • Partner with schools - (1) share cost burden (2) advocate for turfs and part turfs (hard court overlays) on school sites. • Supplement core hub facilities with satellite turfs to improve accessibility • Sport New Zealand has supported Hockey New Zealand's plans to develop a National Hockey Centre to be the base for the high performance training programme and act as a Tier 1 venue in North Harbour. No additional Tier 1 hockey stadiums are required to meet the current competition requirements. <p>All Associations should develop a hub and spoke approach to turf provision to develop a community network with a focus on providing improved access to hockey within local communities.</p>
Athletics (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy recommends that each region needs only one 8 lane, synthetic, and all-weather track, of which a selected 5 regions will have IAAF Class II certification. These 5 regions included Otago. • The current priority recommended for the region is maintenance of the Caledonian Athletics Stadium as a Class II facility, and on maintenance and sustainability of other existing athletics facilities in the Otago region. • Closer relationships with TAs were recommended (including LTCCP provisions) for maintaining 8-lane synthetic tracks.
Golf (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Otago region was identified as a region with a moderate population to golf facility ratios in NZ (1:7076). Compared with other regions it had the 6th highest supply of courses (on a population basis). • Only 33% of Otago courses are 18 holes, compared with 80% for NZ. • The strategy identified that while the Otago region only has a rural population of 40%, 73% of its golf courses are in rural areas. This region has a somewhat rural-biased golf network. • Utilisation of golf facilities is slightly lower in the Otago region (7%) than NZ overall (13%), ranging from 1% to 17% at different clubs. • Average annual membership fees are lower (\$464) than for NZ overall (\$635). And net revenue per round was around average at -\$1.39 compared with \$4.65 for New Zealand overall. • The strategy recommends more use of mergers and community sports hub partnerships to increase sustainability in the more rural and/or over-supplied areas. • A hierarchy approach means some of these could be targeted as more differentiated courses, ranging from entry-level through to advanced-level or tourist courses.
Cricket (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the exception of Auckland, most regions in New Zealand do not require significant investment in additional new facilities for the participation and development levels of cricket. • This strategy recommended that each Cricket Association should develop a facility network plan to improve current facilities. • Developing more consistency in cricket facilities was a general priority, based on a link between facility quality and player development.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A focus was recommended on improving cricket facilities at the secondary school level, including a network-based partnership approach. • A focus was also recommended on developing more artificial facilities for playing and training, particularly including all semi-hard ball cricket. • More specific use of expert facility advisory resources was recommended.
--	--

Summaries of More Up To Date National Strategies

13.1.1 Softball National Facility Strategy 2018⁶³

Softball NZ have developed a National Facilities Plan that is aligned to its overall vision for softball in New Zealand that is set out in its strategy: Growing Softball 2014 – 2018.

The National Softball Facilities Plan identifies:

- all the facilities that are currently provided
- how the use of current facilities can be maximised
- what facilities are required to meet future needs (gaps in provision)
- priorities for softball facility development within each association area
- the link between softball facility gaps and local and regional facility plans.

National context

- The number of registered senior and junior teams has decreased in the period from 2011 to 2017.
- In 2016-2017 the total number of players registered with Softball NZ in all forms of the game was 6,270 senior players (based on 15 players per team) and 17,995 junior players (based on 15 players per team).
- 47% of softballers indicated they entered the game due to family connections, this putting emphasis on ensuring products are family focused, given the impact that this has on participation and retention of membership.
- Masters Softball is a global game that offers New Zealand clubs and associations an opportunity to offer another diamond sport product to the local community.
- There are currently two key issues nationally from a disbursed facility network, Lack of storage for the backstops, bases, home plate and, where they are provided, outfield fences is problematic. The varying quality of the grounds, which impacts on the quality of the participant experience is also problematic. Local softball associations need to work directly with their local authority to address these issues.
- There is a need to maximise existing facilities to do so many facilities need to;
 - Upgrade diamonds with artificial playing surfaces.
 - Provide artificial batting boxes, pitching plates and bases. Provide floodlights to enable games to be spread over more nights and make diamonds available for training.
 - Create diamond sport arenas with shared spaces for softball and baseball.
 - Explore opportunities to use tertiary, secondary and primary school fields for softball delivery.
 - Hire cricket nets for training (particularly during winter months) or use commercial, batting cage facilities where these exist.
- There is no record of whether or not dugouts or spectator seating are provided at each park as these are desirable but not essential. Except for international events.
- Softball NZ has determined that the optimal number of teams per diamond should be five.
- The current challenges identified facing softball include:
 - Declining membership
 - Increasing opportunities to grow social and other forms softball
 - There are increasing demands on local authorities to balance the needs of sport with other demands.
 - Leadership, administrative and coaching capability and capacity
 - Funder policy changes - Class 4 Gaming requirement to reinvest money in the community from which the \$\$ are drawn has impacted on the amount of funds available for softball

⁶³ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1360/national-facilities-plan-softball-nz.pdf>

- Legislative Challenges
- Impacts of population changes

Information for Otago Region and Coastal Otago sub-region:

- In the Otago region there are currently 71 teams (16/17) with a ratio of 11.8 teams per diamond, the highest level facility is national and there is a medium demand for additional fields.
- The number of open grade teams registered in the Otago region has decreased from 14 Seniors and 116 Junior (2011/2012) to 14 Senior and 57 Junior teams (2016/2017.)
- The number of social grade teams in the Otago region has decreased from 8 (2011/12) to 0 (2017/18.)
- In the Otago region, all diamonds are fit for purpose expect for one, that requires an upgrade for all weather use and one grass diamond in less than ideal condition.
- Under the Otago Regional Sport Facility Plan, 2017, there is a plan for an opportunity to reflect Softball's needs. No junior softball currently played in North Otago.
- In Otago there are sufficient diamonds to meet a low growth target.

13.1.2 Gymsports National Facility Strategy 2017⁶⁴

The Gymsports National Facility Strategy provides a high-level strategic framework for national facilities planning. It is designed to:

- provide direction on what should be done and crucially, what should not be done
- focus thinking on gymsports facilities at a national network wide level.

Strategy objectives:

- Define the hierarchical network of 'fit-for-purpose' gymsports facilities.
- Identify and recommend a network of accessible and sustainable facilities that meet community and gymsports needs.
- Provide recommendations to maximise facility access and utilisation

High-level direction in the strategy includes:

1. Development of a hierarchy of facility provision identifying 5 levels of facility:
 - International
 - National
 - Regional
 - Sub-Regional
 - Community
2. Identification of parameters for the provision of each level of facility (e.g. population catchment and drive-times).
3. Identification of guidelines for the provision of facility size bases on membership.
4. Identification of specifications for each discipline and facility type.

Other national context:

- 77% of clubs rate their facility as not currently meeting the needs of their users.
- The average size of gymsports facilities is 663M², providing a range of capacity per member from 100m² down to only 0.4m², anything less than 2.5ms is an indicator of significant capacity pressure on clubs.
- Casual participation has trended up nationally between 2013 and 2015 (from approximately 152,000 to 193,000).
- Few clubs own or manage the facilities they use, with a wide variety of owning and managing organisations that they must deal with
- Over 40% only have temporary use of the facilities they use, with challenges in equipment use and access times in particular
- Membership is increasing in around 60% of clubs, with less than 5% declining, suggesting good demand (and potential latent demand)
- Only 16% of clubs national are owned by the clubs themselves. Facility ownership is spread over a diversity of owning groups, dominated by schools (27%) and private community

⁶⁴ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1357/national-gymsports-facility-strategy-2017.pdf>

trusts/organisations (22%). Local authorities account for 18% of ownership. This highlighted the importance of the education sector in the current facility service mix for gymsports.

- The current use of buildings to facilitate gymsports, include converted commercial/industrial buildings (often warehouses) being the highest building type represented (28%), followed by School Halls and Gyms combined (24%); purpose-built gymsports facilities (21%) and Community halls (15%).

Otago / Coastal Otago Information:

- In Otago there is currently 11 clubs operating out of a total of 12 venues.
- Regional Membership for Otago has increased from 1,275 (2012) to 2,120 (2016) with a 66% increase over this period.
- The projected grow in the participating age (5-15 years) for the Otago region, expected strong growth in Queenstown Lakes (53%), with slight growth in Waitaki (2%). Other Districts have slight decline (around -5%), with only Clutha having more notable decline (>20%).
- Membership projections for the Otago region indicate a 2.8% increase from 2016-2043, with an increase of 60.4 members.
- A 2016 survey indicated that in the Otago region, 5/14 facilities reported were under the 2.5m2 threshold for capacity ratio (M2/person.) 5/14 facilities had to set up and pack back down equipment, 3/15 facilities reported issues with availability of time access.
- In the Otago region there are currently 5 clubs with facility plans proposed or underway.
- There is currently no regional or sub-regional facilities in the Otago region.
- In the Otago region Dunedin requires a regional hub as well as a sub-regional regional facility in Queenstown/Wanaka.
- In the Otago region:
 - 8 of the 15 clubs/venues had permanent equipment setups (53%).
 - 10 of the 14 responding clubs/venues reported their facility didn't meet their needs (71%).
 - 6 of the 8 responding clubs/venues (out of 11) reported their facility had capacity or quality issues (75%).
 - 7 of the 10 responding clubs/venues reported they had greater planning and development intentions (70%).
 - 2 clubs/venues indicated their venues/ facilities have hosted up to regional-level events.
- Otago requires a regional hub facility, a selected number of sub-regional hubs and the retention of a viable network of community facilities to support delivery.
- The region needs to explore developing a regional hub in Dunedin and a sub-regional hub in Central Otago (1-3 year proposed strategy). They need to review and monitor the sustainability of community facilities. If required, investigate changing the facility delivery approach. This will involve exploring the applicability of the different delivery models.
- The proposed strategy priority approaches between years 1-3 for Gymsports include:
 - Working proactively with key stakeholders such as Councils and the MOE/ Schools to explore long-term use / lease agreements and facility partnership approaches to secure quality gymsports access to facilities.
 - Review and monitor the sustainability of community facilities. If required investigate changing the facility delivery approach. This will involve exploring the applicability of the different delivery models.
- A long term goal is to have sufficient provision to enable 80% of participants to travel no more than 45 minutes to access a sub-regional facility.

13.1.3 National Squash Facility Strategy 2022⁶⁵

The National Squash Facility Strategy was commissioned by Squash New Zealand with input by its 11 squash districts to:

- Establish a clear picture of current squash provision/participation and analyse the need for provision now and into the future.
- Provide direction for the future provision and development of quality and accessible squash facilities across NZ.
- Consider potential innovations and best-practice guidance.

⁶⁵ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/cvcfetuo/squash-nz-national-facility-strategy-final-181122-002.pdf>

- Outline the profile and identify actions for squash districts to progress.

Context:

- Participation Expectations
 - 2021 Squash Participation Survey shows squash was underdelivering in provision of warm, clean, quality courts.
- Ageing Facilities
 - Over 70% of affiliated squash facilities over 40 years old. Many are poorly configured, and it is an increasing challenge for clubs to maintain and upgrade their facilities.
- Population Growth
 - Population growth in some areas has potential to drive demand for more squash facilities.
- Changing Preference
 - Trends and population change underpin the need for innovation to support all forms of participation from casual to elite.

Coastal Otago

Facilities in Coastal Otago are distributed across 2 squash regions – Otago and Midlands

Coastal Otago has 15 squash facilities with 34 courts:

- 8 local facilities affiliated to Squash NZ
- 1 regional facility affiliated to Squash NZ
- 6 unaffiliated facilities

Location

- Clutha -3 facilities
 - 1 in Balclutha (affiliated) - 2 standard courts, built in the 1960s, in average condition.
 - 1 in Lawrence (unaffiliated) - 1 standard court
 - 1 in Milton (unaffiliated) - 2 standard courts
- Waitaki – 5 facilities
 - 1 in Palmerston (affiliated Otago region) – 2 standard courts in a council owned building, built in the 1970s, in average to good condition
 - 2 in Oamaru (affiliated Midlands) – 3 standard/ 3 glass court. Both are club owned buildings in poor condition. Both are planning upgrades. One built in the 1960s and the other in the 1970s.
 - 1 in Kurow (unaffiliated Midlands) – 2 glass courts
 - 1 in Papakaio (unaffiliated Midlands) – 1 standard/1 glass. In good condition.
- Dunedin – 7 facilities
 - 5 (affiliated) – 11 standard/ 4 glass courts
 - 4 in average to good condition/1 in good to excellent condition
 - 3 built in the 1960s/2 in the 1970s
 - 4 on Council owned land, of those the club owns 2 buildings
 - 2 (unaffiliated, although not sure if 1 is still operating) – 2 standard courts

Considering current and projected demographic data the following Insights relate to facility provision and participation in Otago

Region	Provision Ratio	Provision Quality	Membership Ratio	Participation Ratio	Future Scenarios
Midlands	Above average	Average	Below average Better rural	Above average	Consolidate provision
Otago	On par	Average	On par	On par	Small additional provision required

Recommendations:

- Midlands:
 - General:
 - Focus on raising the quality of provision and considering opportunities for consolidation where opportunities arise, but recognising accessibility across the district is an important consideration. Consolidation in key areas should support improving membership ratios.
 - Oamaru:
 - Encourage collaboration / amalgamation / consolidation as part of planning to secure squash facility provision in Oamaru, focusing on raising the quality of provision, increasing membership ratios, and providing long-term operational sustainability. Complete feasibility study - High
- Otago:
 - General
 - Focus on maintaining or raising the quality of provision and improving membership of facilities. Little or no additional provision is envisioned across the district, except where individual facilities have high membership or utilisation
 - Specific
 - Complete a detailed study to investigate the appropriate provision of squash courts across Dunedin recognising opportunities to provide quality and accessible provision which is sustainable long-term. There should also be consideration of the role of unaffiliated provision across Dunedin - High

13.1.4 Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport & Recreation Facility Strategy (revised July 2020)

The Strategy was developed to provide a collaborative, high-level strategic overview of the current and projected sport and active recreation facility needs across the Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago Districts. The Strategy identifies current priorities and provides a methodology for review and prioritising potential projects. The key facility direction findings are:

1. In high population growth areas shortfalls in facility provision are common, with previous small town and rural community provision totally inadequate and no longer fit for purpose. Most codes have an evident under-supply due to increased participation. Acute shortfalls are:
 - Local access to half-size artificial practice and junior small-sided games for hockey
 - Access to indoor courts for sports such as basketball, netball, handball, volleyball and futsal
 - Access to quality floodlit sports field areas mostly for training purposes in Wanaka and Queenstown for football
 - A hub park with 6-8 fields to attract national tournaments to the region
2. Facility needs are generally met in rural areas of the Central Otago District by the current provision.
3. In the slow growth or static population areas of the region, there are a number of codes where there is oversupply, participation levels have declined and facilities are now underutilised. Codes with significant issues, particularly in smaller rural communities include:
 - Bowls clubrooms and greens
 - Rugby clubrooms
 - Tennis clubrooms and courts
 - Golf clubrooms and courses

Potential for consolidation and rationalisation with codes and through cross-code sharing.

4. There are some gaps in the provision of fit-for-purpose and right-sized support amenities (toilet, storage, change, social facilities, shade, shelter and Wi-Fi access) identified as significant gaps at sports parks
5. In high growth areas in the regions there are generally increasing participation numbers but some sports are not growing at the same rate as the population growth due to the shortfall in playing facility provision and/or relative decline in popularity
6. Potential for consolidation of existing and new support amenities through cross-code sharing.

13.2 Regional Funding Picture

There are understood to be variations between the funding available across the whole Otago region. In the QL-CO area it is understood that funding for play, active recreation and sport projects can be more forthcoming. With a relatively wealthier population base the QL-CO area benefits from more individuals providing both the knowledge to make things happen and also providing direct financial support. There are also many community philanthropic funders. Central Lakes Trust primarily service the QL-CO sub-region.

However, in the Coastal Otago sub-region the funding environment appears to be more challenging, in part due to a lesser ability to raise funds from individuals and community philanthropic funders. The Coastal Otago area is supported by the Otago Community Trust which covers the whole Otago region. There are also local specific funding such as Network Waitaki's sponsorship programme and the Clutha Foundation.

When considering funding for community organisation projects, community funders often want to see a range of other organisations are supporting projects, including funds from the applicant organisation themselves. Typically projects need many funders including those making small, individual contributions to large, multi-million investments. It appears that within Coastal Otago it can be hard for organisations to gain initial funding traction from across a broad spectrum of individuals, Councils and community funders. A greater level of collaboration between community organisations may assist with them securing wide community funding support.

13.3 Waitaki District

13.3.1 Waitaki District Council 2012-2022 Recreation Strategy Volume 1

This document was developed to provide Council with a ten-year plan for the delivery and development of its recreation services

Vision: Waitaki is widely recognised as a great place to live work and play

Mission: To provide well-positioned and attractive recreational areas, facilities and activities that cater for Waitaki residents now and into the future.

Strategic Aims:

- Value for money.
- Fit for purpose.
- Professional and efficient.
- Working together.

Guiding Principles:

1. Sustainability – the delivery of our recreation services is financially, environmentally and socially sustainable
2. Affordability – people on all levels of income are able to participate in the majority of our recreation services

3. Equity – we aim to be as equitable as possible with the delivery of our recreation facilities and services, taking into account user demand, accessibility, levels of participation and actual or potential contribution to community wellbeing
4. Quality – the quality of facilities and services provided will be determined by user demand, participation levels and their proven or anticipated contribution to community wellbeing and safety
5. Quantity – the quantity of facilities and services will be determined by user demand, participation levels and their proven or anticipated contribution to community wellbeing
6. Partnerships – partnerships with other organisations are undertaken only where they support or enhance the delivery of our recreation facilities and services
7. Accessibility – we will remove barriers to the use of our recreation facilities and services and make them more accessible where appropriate and affordable.

The Strategy identifies the following key issues, summarised below:

- Pressure on council to reduce costs including ageing population, relatively low incomes and small population for land area
- Fragmented and inconsistent strategic and policy framework for recreation including lack of activity management plans and asset data
- Fragmented sport and recreation industry and lack of strategic planning in clubs
- Geographic isolation of smaller towns resulting in significant travel distances to participate
- Decrease in club memberships and changing recreation patterns from formal to informal sports
- A decreasing pool of skilled volunteers

The Strategy identifies the following key opportunities, summarised below:

- High quality assets for population size
- Working with tourism providers to maximise use of recreation facilities
- A unique natural environment, rivers, lakes, landscapes and abundant open space
- A relatively high level of physical activity in the District across all ages
- Strong community support for and interest in recreation activities and facilities with a strong volunteer base and culture

The Strategy has 8 Activity Strategies with the following recreation and sport activities summarised, below being; aquatics, open space, playgrounds, sports, walking and cycling .

Aquatics: 6 goals and 6 objectives are identified, providing a range of aquatic activities for health and wellbeing benefits of people of all ages including swimming and water safety, low impact exercise; to improve the aquatic centre, including increasing cost recovery and attracting new users and out of town visitor.

Parks, Gardens and Green Spaces (Open Space): 5 Goals and 5 objectives are identified that support the provision of open space for outdoor recreation activities, heritage, cultural and environmental values, attraction of events and community gardens for the enjoyment of visitors and locals and to ensure accessibility and affordability

13.3.2 Waitaki DC Sports and Event Centre Business Case (July 2021)

This outline business case by MorrisonLow is based on a modified NZ Treasury Better Business Case model. It provides a strategic assessment, options analysis, financial case, commercial case and management case for a new Sports and Events Centre for the district. It builds on prior community engagement work and reports undertaken by Sport Otago and Waitaki District Council between 2016 and 2018.

The business case identifies the investment objectives as:

- To sustain and grow participation in core and potential sporting codes.
- To enhance health, wellbeing and resilience for all members of the Waitaki community.
- To leverage sport and recreation to boost economic growth and development within the Waitaki district

Four core options were considered in the business case, including the status quo (do nothing). The preferred option identified in the report is a new standalone six court indoor facility. Key drivers for a six-court facility identified within the report included:

- examples of similar-sized councils that have built a four court facility, which has subsequently proven too small to meet demand within a short space of time, particularly for netball and basketball competitions.
- A key objective is to attract regional events and larger facilities are required to successfully host regional events.
- To ensure longevity meeting both current and future demand expectations

The preferred location based upon the outcome of previous studies and consultation is Centennial Park at the rear of the grandstand. Key reasons identified in the report in support of that location include:

- allows for any future connection with the grandstand.
- strong desire to establish a sports hub at Centennial Park where a number of sporting codes are located.
- leverages the use of existing parking, toilets, changing rooms and the ability to leverage future integration with St Kevin's for future developments.

Following the completion of the business case, and further community engagement, the Waitaki District Council confirmed the location of the Waitaki Indoor Sports and Events Centre as Centennial Park on 26 October 2021.

Sport Supplied Documents

As part of the stakeholder engagement survey undertaken for this project RSL provided organisations with the opportunity to share any strategic or planning documents for review and consideration. This section provides a brief summary of those documents.

13.3.3 Asset Management Plan 2021 Oamaru Squash and Badminton Club Inc

The objective of the document is to help communicate why the club exists, to capture the facilities they have and help the club plan strategically for the future. The club is a community organisation run by volunteers. It owns and operates the land and buildings at 14 Tyne Street Oamaru. The clubs primary activities are organising and running the sports of Squash and Badminton, and as asset owners they have facility management responsibilities.

The facilities provided at 14 Tyne St include 4 squash courts, 3 badminton courts, an upstairs bar, kitchen and lounge, a downstairs bar, changing rooms and various axillary rooms. The building is a Category 1 – listed Heritage building. The facilities vary in age with part of the building dating from 1879, a new entrance way and court 4 (circa 1950) and other various alterations over the years.

The report makes generalised comments and statements about the condition, capacity and performance of the building and identifies that there is little data and evidence to back those up. In summary, the generalised views are:

- Solid building shell but not up to earthquake code
- Many features are in a tired state including rooves, playing floors, men's changing facilities, upstairs lounge and some playing walls.
- The asset has capacity for much greater use
- Performance is mixed with some aspects working well such as the recently replaced Badminton roof while some other areas of roof are near failure.

- Playing floors are in need of maintenance or renewal
- Financial performance is currently good but this will be tested with larger projects planned.

The ageing building, reduced volunteer time and number of volunteers along with increased compliance requirements and ongoing maintenance and renewal issues is challenging the club's ability to meet service expectations of members.

The plan demonstrates the club is aware of and seeking ways to reduce operational costs (such as electricity use) and also considering potential ways to grow use and membership such as by providing of other activities such as racquet ball and pickleball.

The club expects to sustain current numbers or grow slowly over the next 5-10 years linked to the expected population growth in the Waitaki District. They have discussed a wide range of facility upgrades and refurbishment which could be undertaken as multiple projects over time, or as one major facility refurbishment. This is identified as being a major step for the club but one which would bring the building up to code and modernise the facilities, helping with sustainability.

13.4 Dunedin

13.4.1 Parks and Recreation Strategy Dunedin City Council 2017-2027

This document is the first overarching Parks and Recreation Strategy for Dunedin. It was developed through a collaborative process with a range of key stakeholders including Otago Regional Council, Sport Otago, Department of Conservation, Kāi Tahu, Forest and Bird, Sport New Zealand and local clubs, agencies and organisations.

It sets the Dunedin City Council (DCC) path for 10 years, guiding the planning, development and management of Dunedin's recreation facilities, parks and open spaces. As part of the Strategy a Sport and Recreation Action Plan and an Open Space Action Plan have been developed. These outline in detail what will be done over the next 3-5 years to achieve the objectives and goals of the overarching strategy.

Vision: "Dunedin's communities to be more active, more often, spending more time enjoying a connected and valued network of facilities, parks and open spaces."

Objectives:

- People are active
- Open spaces and facilities support Dunedin's communities to thrive
- Our parks, natural landscapes, flora and fauna are treasured by the community
- We work with others

The principles that underpin the strategy are a commitment to sustainability and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The principles that will guide delivery of the action plans are:

- Respecting the special qualities of Dunedin
- Acknowledging the special role of mana whenua
- Taking a balanced approach
- Focussing on participants and the community
- Ensuring accessibility
- Working Collaboratively
- Keeping an eye on the future

The Strategy identifies the main challenges as:

- Keeping up with a growing and changing population
- Increasing awareness of our impact on the natural environment

- Using technology and innovation to engage people and manage our parks, sport and recreation
- Using our sports facilities and natural environment to grow our economy
- Thinking differently about where, how and by whom facilities are developed in Dunedin

The Strategy highlights the vital role of partners and community groups in delivering the Parks and Recreation Strategy and action plans and the opportunity for DCC to work with others to make Dunedin one of the world's great small cities.

The Open Space Action Plan focuses on the city's park and open space network. The intent is to work with other organisations to protect and enhance public open spaces and respond sustainably to the changing needs of local communities. In summary, areas of focus include:

- Protecting and conserving parks and open spaces and appreciation of their value and significant
- Ensuring parks and open spaces meet the needs of a changing population
- Enhancing the green network by physically and visually connection parks, open spaces and streets
- Promoting the wide-ranging benefits of parks and open spaces in enhancing quality of life for communities

The Sport and Recreation Action Plan focuses on programmes and facilities to support recreation throughout the city. It has a focus on collaboration with community organisations to create affordable, accessible opportunities and environments that encourage people to be active. Key goals include:

- More communities living active lives by participating
- More people choose to enjoy easily accessible sport, recreation and outdoor activities and events
- More communities choosing to be involved through volunteering

Priorities include:

- Affordable and accessible opportunities to be active
- More active children and young people
- More active older adults
- Increasing awareness of opportunities and places to be active.

13.4.2 Parks and Recreation Services Sports Facilities Plan 2023 – Final Draft

The purpose of the Dunedin Sports Facility Strategic Plan is to guide the future development of sports and active recreation facilities for the City. The Plan is designed to:

- provide an inventory of existing facilities
- analyse the gap between current facilities and future needs
- identify future investment requirements to improve the quality and capacity of sports facilities and associated amenities
- investigate formal partnership opportunities with potential providers of sports facilities, such as schools, infrastructure providers and private sports facilities
- provide a prioritised list of recommendations for the development of facilities

The issues and key findings include the following:

Participation:

- Almost all sports report a drop in participation between 2011-2019, with only football/ soccer having an increase in participation (1%). Common drivers in this trend included;

- trend away from organised sport
- increase in gym and fitness memberships
- move to casual game – respondents wanting more opportunities to turn up and play without booking in advance
- Futsal, basketball, netball, and volleyball have been reporting growth, or report that growth would be achievable if other factors were addressed, including:
 - Making improvements to the condition of facilities
 - Providing more court capacity

Indoor Facilities

- Age and condition of Edgar Centre and Dunedin Ice Stadium including
 - Inadequate heating and condensation in the facilities was an issue for both athletes and spectators alike, often to the detriment of attracting national and international events
 - Improvements and upgrades to changing rooms were required
- Stakeholder feedback suggest access to indoor court space is an issue – however Sport NZ model suggests sufficient indoor court space, surplus with schools taken into consideration. (6000 futsal players)
- Sea level rise and natural hazards play a major influence on feasibility of upgrades to facilities particular Edgar Centre and Dunedin Ice Stadium

Sports Facilities

- Condition of sports fields and associated facilities
 - Over supply of grass pitches
 - Quality of grass pitches needs to improved, particularly poor drainage and grass cover, uneven surfaces, and limited lighting
 - Changing rooms require upgrades and modernisation to accommodate increasing numbers of women, athletics with disabilities and members of the rainbow community.
 - Climate change impacts on sports fields in particular, South Dunedin.

Other issues included

- Sports Hub – consideration of a hub and spoke model for the future
- Funding - Dunedin City Council spends less on parks, sport and recreation than other comparable sized councils in New Zealand (Dunedin spends \$89 per person, compared to Queenstown Lakes District Council spending \$558 per person, and Hamilton City \$356 per person)
- Volunteer burden – difficult to grow the sport and volunteers spending own money to keep their club running due to low participation numbers

13.4.3 Dunedin City Aquatic Facilities and Services Review 2022, XYST

The purpose of the Aquatic Facilities and Services Review was to provide information to Council on key issues relating to the provision of aquatic facilities and services in Dunedin. The recommendations provide guidance on future investment in the network to enable equitable community access to safe, controlled aquatic space.

DCC provides two all-seasons aquatic facilities, two seasonal Council operated pools, and has supportive relationships with 18 community and school pools with community use.

The key findings of the review include:

- The current network of pools, until Mosgiel Pool is reintroduced⁶⁶, cannot service the aquatic needs of the city.
- School pools, in their current seasonal condition, contribute less to the available pool space than was assumed in 2013 National Aquatic Facilities Strategy.
- Once Mosgiel Pool is reintroduced the pool area is sufficient to meet the national recommendation level, however the type and distribution of water space and changing demographics will require further consideration
- Several pools within the network that could become all year round facilities
- Recommendation that DCC continues to provide technical and grant support for school and community pools to continue operating.

13.5 Clutha

13.5.1 Balclutha Reserves Management Plan 2017 – 2027

The Clutha District Council owns and administers a number of reserves in Balclutha. This Reserve Management Plan establishes the framework for the management and development of these reserves. The plan provides for 18 reserves which have been classified as :

- Destination Parks – large reserves that are a focal point for community and contain facilities such as public gardens, open green areas, playgrounds and other recreational places.
- Pocket Parks – reserves containing a variety of facilities to service neighbourhoods
- Cemeteries – burial grounds.
- Other reserves – those that don't fit the classifications above but are important community spaces.

Vision. To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that fulfil the wide range of needs of the Balclutha community to experience and enjoy the outdoors.

A number of upgrade opportunities have been identified for reserves including connectivity, planting and infrastructure. They key opportunities for sport, active recreation and play include the following:

- Naish Park
 - Install Frisbee Golf facilities within the northern area of the park
 - Upgrade existing playground with new equipment that is inclusive and accessible
- Balclutha Bridge Playground
 - Install new playground equipment that is inclusive and accessible
- Balclutha Showgrounds and Riverside Reserve
 - Create a children's bike skills park
- Centennial Park
 - Potential relocation of Athletics Facilities and clubrooms to more central location
- Arthur Strang Reserve
 - Improve accessibility to water for boaters

13.5.2 Lawrence - Tuapeka Reserves Management Plan 2021

The purpose of the Lawrence-Tuapeka Reserves Management Plan is to provide Clutha District Council with a framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for the 26 Council-owned and administered reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward.

The vision for Council's reserves, playgrounds and open spaces is: "To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that enable the local community and visitors to experience and enjoy the unique natural environment of Lawrence and the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward."

⁶⁶ Note: the new aquatic centre in Mosgiel is now open.

Note that Simpson Park sports complex, located by the Lawrence Area school, is privately managed and maintained.

No sport, active recreation developments are currently planned within this Reserves Management Plan.

13.5.3 Kaitangata-Matau Reserve Management Plan 2022-32

The purpose of the Kaitangata-Matau Reserves Management Plan is to provide Clutha District Council with a framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for the 12 Council-owned and administered reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward.

The vision for Council's reserves, playgrounds and open spaces is: "To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that enable the local community and visitors to experience and enjoy the unique natural environment of Kaitangata and the Kaitangata-Matau Ward."

- Victoria Park Recreation Reserve
 - The Kaitangata Pool remains a Council-owned asset, with management delegated to the Kaitangata Pool Group and an assessment of future options of this important community asset has been requested.
- Kaitangata Recreation Reserve
 - A community-based proposal to develop facilities for the recreational use of motorbikes and cars was put forward in early 2022, which included a motocross track, stock car gravel track, burn-out pad and Go-cart sealed track.
- Kaitangata War Memorial Reserve
 - Council's intention is to improve this area, so that it becomes a key public space in central Kaitangata, with links to the nearby BMX track, skate park, community centre, and the Clutha River.
- Kaitangata BMX Track Reserve
 - It is Council's intent to amalgamate the BMX track and skate park and classify the entire area as a reserve. Land is currently owned by Kaitangata and Districts Promotions.
- Water Street Reserve
 - improve the boat ramp, parking, and adjacent reserve area. Amenities which will help to improve access to the river, such as a boat loading facility, swimming or kayak launching areas will also be investigated and developed where possible.

13.5.4 The Catlins Reserve Management Plan 2020 – 2030

The vision for Council's reserves, playgrounds and open spaces in The Catlins is: "To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that enable the local community and visitors to experience and enjoy the unique natural environment of The Catlins."

Beyond playground upgrades there is no specific active recreation or sport improvements programmed for the reserves in the Catlins.

13.5.5 Milton Reserve Management Plan 2017 - 27

The vision for Milton's reserves is: "To provide and promote a variety of passive and active recreational spaces on reserves in Milton for the community and visitors to enjoy."

Greater Taylor Park and Taylor Park contain the majority of Milton's recreational facilities (camping ground, swimming pool, rugby grounds, cricket pitch and Tokomairiro A & P Society showgrounds).

Beyond the maintenance and upgrade of current facilities and play equipment the following improvements are planned:

- Introduce fitness equipment around Greater Taylor Park to create a destination loop for runners.
- P[roposed Lawrence to Waiholā cycle trail

13.5.6 Waihola Reserve Management Plan 2018 – 2028

The vision for Waihola's reserves is: "To provide and promote a variety of passive and active recreational spaces on lake reserve in Waihola for the community and visitors to enjoy"

Waihola Destination Park is the only reserve in the village. The following improvements are planned:

- Support the construction or redevelopment of the public boat launch facilities at the northern end of the reserve.
- Invest in cycling opportunities which connect Lake Waihola to other parts of the Clutha District such as Milton and Lawrence.
- Maintain and enhance the range of playgrounds for children of all ages, and include nature playscapes that encourage imaginative play.

14 Appendix 5 – Trends

14.1 Macro Trends

Diverse Opportunities

The variety of play, active recreation and sport opportunities available is significantly greater than in the past. Traditional sports face increasing competition from a diverse range of individual and team activities. A few of the increasingly diverse activities available include parkour, disc golf, freeskiing, ultra-marathons, adventure racing, and mixed martial arts.

The Offering of Sport

Many codes are adapting their offering to make their game more attractive. Offering more social, contactless offerings to better suit the very young, as well as to cater for the ageing population. New sports like pickleball, foot golf and gateball are emerging that put a new twist on existing sports.

Reinforcing the Value of Play & Variety

Sport NZ in particular has identified the value and variety of play as key to the development of young people not just for their sporting future but for their overall happiness and wellbeing. Their Balance is Better approach has been adopted by some 15 codes across New Zealand. It is a move away from regional competitions and youth development squads to a more relaxed participation approach with young people enjoying a variety of activities rather than specialising in one code from a young age.

Individualisation

Individual sports are thriving. They allow people to be active when and where they want, to better suit their lifestyle and other commitments like work and family.

Connection

Countering individualisation is why people strive for community and belonging through sport. This is increasingly enabled by technology and challenged by an increasing diversity of cultures and sports offerings.

Hubbing / Multi-use

A large proportion of the population lives in cities, so hubbing and centralisation is a major driver in facility development. There are already a number of existing sports hubs in the sub-region such as Centennial Park (Waitaki), Coronation Park/Riverside Reserve and Centennial Park (Clutha) and Logan Park (Dunedin)

On a smaller scale, a range of sports and community organisations are sharing facilities making room for other community user groups and activities in their facilities. One example is Taieri Bowling Club which has 19 regular users of their facility.

Ageing Built Environment

Many facilities in New Zealand were built in the 1950s, 60s and even earlier. Many are tired and no longer fit-for-purpose so need to be either upgraded or re-built. There is a need to think ahead to cater for tomorrow's diverse sporting needs.

Decreasing Physical Activity

The 'electronic revolution' has transformed patterns by progressively isolating people indoors. They sleep less, sit more, walk less, drive more, and generally do less physical activity than they used to. Children are more focussed on digital play, spending more time indoors than outdoors⁶⁷. There are decreasing physical activity levels of both adults and young people and increasing levels of type 2 diabetes, cardio-vascular disease and obesity (particularly in children) in New Zealand.

14.2 Micro Trends

Growth in Recreational Activities

Traditional sport is sliding down the popularity list and being overtaken by more informal recreational activities like walking, swimming, cycling and home workouts. This is impacting on club membership and competition numbers. Sports are having to be creative to

⁶⁷ Findings of a study, across 146 countries, produced by researchers from the World Health Organisation, Imperial College London, and the University of Western Australia in 2016.

adapt their traditional offerings to retain/secure members.

Volunteers

There continues to be a strong reliance on volunteers for the governance, management and delivery of sport across New Zealand. Expectations around greater use of technology, health and safety requirements, accountability of directors and an ageing population are putting some potential volunteers off and leading to burnout of those left in roles.

Increased Expectations

Participants in sport and active recreation are now 'customers' expecting a higher level of service both in terms of the facility standards, flexibility and ease of use. People expect to be able to participate at times that suit them. The emergence and popularity of 24-hour gyms is one example of this. Another example is the increasing demand to move traditional outdoor sport (such as netball) indoors. With improved technology and design, many participants also have an expectation that they can access the top-of-the-line facilities previously only experienced by high-performance sport. Participants also expect the facility to be set up, ready for their use with fewer volunteers available or accepting of the need to set up playing areas before they can participate.

Sustainability

There is still a heavy reliance on gaming and other funders to support sport. Funding tends to be annual and is not always available for the things needed to keep the code afloat such as salaries and deferred maintenance and increasing running costs.

Embracing Technology

Technology can benefit and encourage participation. For example, E-bikes allow people who may otherwise be put off cycling to give it a go. Smart watches and online tools such as MapMyRun or Strava allow people to not only count their steps or measure how far they have travelled but also to log their data

and share it with friends or compete with others online.

Environmental Issues

There is a growing awareness of environmental sustainability as climate change has impacted on sporting facilities in recent flooding and cyclone events in New Zealand.

In recent years there has also been a growing demand for artificial playing surfaces and an appetite for them at local government level to address the impacts of the weather on training and competition grounds.

However, the appetite for artificial surfaces, at a local government level, is subsiding as the environmental cost of creating such surfaces and disposing of them when they reach the end of their life is now better understood. When planning new facilities, there is growing awareness that care must be taken to choose the most environmentally friendly options.

Communities of Interest

Communities of interest whether they be ethnic or gender communities often like to be active within their own communities, hence the strength of Indian hockey and ethnic football teams. Some examples of initiatives of interest include: ActiveAsian (Harbour Sport); Maraefit (Sport Hawke's Bay); IRONMĀORI (Te Timitanga Ararau Trust; Shift⁶⁸.

The key to all of these initiatives has been working with the communities to identify what they want, involving them in design and upskilling them so they can become leaders and role models with their communities. This not only ensures buy-in from other community members but enhances the sustainability of the programmes.

Role Models

Role models continue to be strong influencers not just of product purchase but also participation. Steven Adams, Paris Goebel and even Dancing with the Stars contestants have been influential in increased interest and participation in basketball, hip hop and dance in general. While young people, particularly

⁶⁸ To improve the wellbeing of young women aged 12 to 20 years.

Māori and Pasifika are more influenced by celebrities, adults are more likely to be influenced by people just like them, whether that be the same gender, ethnic group or size.

The use of role models/leaders within communities has been one of the success factors of both ActiveAsian and Shift.

Trends in Play

Sport NZ has been leading system change in the way play is recognised as important, and how it is supported in New Zealand. This is set out in the following key documents:

Document/Resource	Summary
The Importance of Play, Sport NZ Play Principles 2017 ⁶⁹	<p>Children have a right to play.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Play is important to the wellbeing of young New Zealanders 2. Play is a cornerstone of our Physical Literacy Approach 3. Play is the shared responsibility of everyone 4. Young people must have access to enriched and varied playful experiences within their local environments 5. Adults must understand what the role is in enabling play 6. Young people need the opportunity to experience risk and challenge through play 7. Wherever possible, play should include the opportunity to be active
Tākaro Māori ⁷⁰	<p>Allows tamariki to experience joy and fun while giving them opportunity to make sense of their culture, whakapapa, and the world they live in.</p> <p>It supports the idea that tamariki need to have opportunities to play in ways that are relevant to them and their culture. It also recognises the importance of te taiao in tākaro Māori.</p> <p>The value of Māori play includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offering tamariki an opportunity to play as Māori • creating meaningful connections with others • enabling cultural knowledge and language transmission across generations and at all levels • creating opportunities for tamariki to understand who they are while having fun • celebrating our indigenous knowledge and unique view on Play in Aotearoa.

⁶⁹ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/the-importance-of-play/>

⁷⁰ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/get-active/ways-to-get-active/play/takaro-maori/>

<p>Māori Voices of Play – Insights Report 2020⁷¹</p>	<p>This report explores the current realities around play opportunities for Māori and explores the strengths, aspirations and challenges for Māori play. It recognises the importance of te taiao in Māori play.</p> <p>It summarises a number of resources and approaches that support Māori play including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Wehetū rehua (see below) • Tupuwaekura – Healthy Active Learning from a Māori world view • Atua Matua – a shift back to mātauranga Māori, whakapapa connections and environmental wisdoms through exploring and experiencing te taiao. • Te Ara hihiko ā Māui – a framework which utilises the stories of Māui and his brothers as a metaphor for a pathway to innovation when it comes to play. <p>The report also provides a summary of Māori play approaches including the past and current role of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Whare Tapere – iwi-community houses of storytelling which included pursuits of ngā waiata (song), ngā haka (dance), ngā kōrero (stories), ngā taonga pūoro (musical instruments), ngā taonga-o-wharawhara (adornments), ngā karetao (puppets) and ngā tākaro (games and amusements). • Te Whare Tu Taua – the house of war and weaponry which involves a lot of physical activity to learn about battle, defence and attack moves, physical dexterity, footwork, balance and speed. • Ngā Taonga Tākaro – traditional Māori sports and games such as ki-o-rahi, poi toa (poi games), waka ama, manu tuktuku (kite flying). • Ngā mahi a te Rēhia – Māori pastimes of pleasure such as music, song, haka and poi, storytelling, sports and games. <p>Current approaches to support Māori participation include by Māori for Māori physical activity programmes and events such as Pā Wars, Māori Movement Aka, He Pī Ka Rere to name a few.</p>
<p>Play Development Five Phases – Working together to protect the right of young people to play⁷²</p>	<p>A resource to support Sport NZ's partner organisations to develop greater awareness and opportunities for play. The five phases are:</p> <p>Phase 1: Create Play Champions – Organisations Appoint Play Champions.</p> <p>Phase 2: Let's Talk Play – a play discussion and scan report for your organisation and associated region to inform phases 3 and 4.</p> <p>Phase 3: Let's Plan for Play – a play for play as a cross-organisational workstream and priority within your organisation.</p>

⁷¹ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/maori-voices-of-play-insights-report/>

⁷² Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1653/five-phases-of-regional-play-final.pdf>

	<p>Phase 4: Let's Empower Play – a play advocate helps establish local play networks and identify their community play hubs.</p> <p>Phase 5: Re-play – The monitoring and evaluation process is used for positive change, and to empower kids and families to shape their play experiences.</p>
--	---

14.3 Support for Māori Participation

Sport NZ has also recognised the need to support improved participation and outcomes for Māori in play, active recreation and sport. In addition to the resources and approaches intended to support tākarō Māori (Māori play) Sport NZ has other strategic documents that support Māori participation including:

Approach/Resource	Summary
Te Pākē o ihi Aoteroa – Sport NZ Ihi Aoteroa Māori Outcomes Framework ⁷³	<p>Provides a framework that weaves together Māori long term outcomes and guiding principles. The framework is designed to be robust, protect people and kaupapa, and to weave together what is most important to Māori. It has equal status with the Sport NZ Outcomes Framework and both strengthens and aligns with its long-term outcomes.</p> <p>The intent is to support Māori wellbeing and to enable tangata whenua to participate and succeed as tangata whenua.</p> <p>The principles of Te Pākē are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kia popo ki te kaupapa - Be authentic to the purpose • kia tika te mahi - act with integrity • Me aroha ke te tangata - respect for others <p>The framework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mana Ōrite – authentic partnerships, equality, mutual outcomes • Mana Māori – active protection of te reo, tikanga, taonga and mātauranga Māori • Mana Taurikete – Māori-led, equitable and accessible pathways <p>Mauri Tū</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tu te Ihi – culturally capable • Tū Te Wehi – Te Tiriti-led • Tū Te Wana – culturally capable and responsive <p>Mauri Ora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Ihi – cultural identity • Te Wehi – cultural connection • Te Wana – cultural vitality

⁷³ Sourced and summarised from <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/5028/te-pa-ke-o-ih-i-aotearoa-april-2022.pdf>

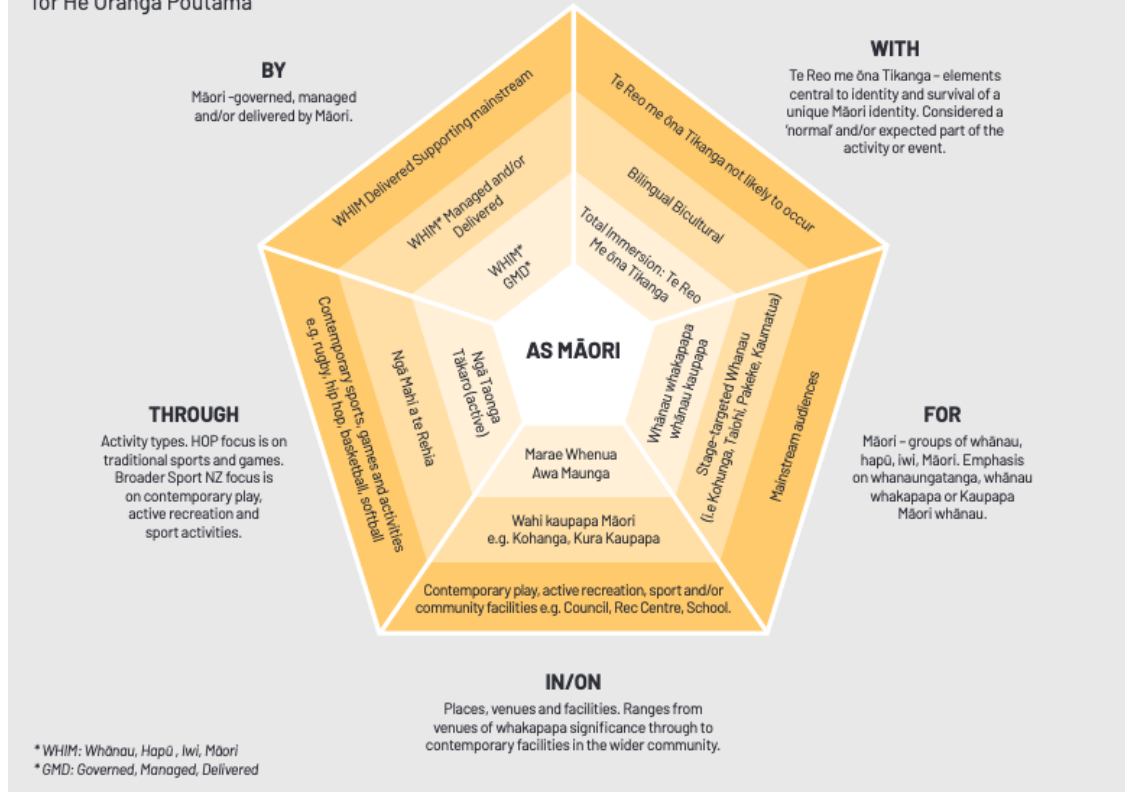
<p>Te Aho a Ihi Aotearoa – Māori Activation Plan⁷⁴</p>	<p>Focuses on medium-term outcomes and aims to activate the Aho (Māori outcomes) set out in Te Pākē o Ihi Aotearoa. Te Aho sets out where we are now, and provides the strategic priorities for the 2021-2024 period in support of moving to the desired future as set out in Te Pāke.</p> <p>Current strategic priorities and actions are outlined under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Whakamana I Te Tiriti - Giving effect to the Treaty Partnerships, protection and participation introduced • Mauri Tū - Building Cultural Capability <p>In individuals, the organisation (Sport NZ) and the sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauri Ora – Cultural Vitality <p>Te Ihi, Te Wehi, Te Wana</p>
<p>Te Whetū Rehua – The Guiding Star⁷⁵</p>	<p>Te Whetū Rehua is a framework that supports Māori being able to participate as Māori. It is based on five key Māori cultural values for sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Reo & Tikanga • Leadership & Management • Whanaungatanga • In Māori Places • Traditional Games <p>It can be used as an assessment tool to help develop sport in ways that uphold and encourage Māori values.</p>

⁷⁴ Sourced and summarised from <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/5027/te-aho-a-ih-i-aotearoa-april-2022.pdf>

⁷⁵ Sourced and summarised from: <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1264/te-whetu-rehua.pdf>

Te Whetū Rehua

A guide to deciding appropriate activities for He Oranga Poutama



14.4 Balance is Better Approach

As part of the balance is better approach, some recent Sport NZ research shows there are unique wellbeing benefits for young people who participate in organised sport versus general physical recreation.

The study⁷⁶ highlights:

1. When it comes to young people's wellbeing any physical activity is better than none.
2. Sport has the potential to provide additional wellbeing benefits for young people above and beyond just general physical activity. Obviously, at an individual level this assumes that quality of sport experience is positive.
3. Most sport will facilitate some form of connection and community. However, quality sport experiences are critical for enabling the fullest wellbeing benefits from sport to be realised. This means while sport has potential to achieve great wellbeing outcomes for young people, for this to be harnessed, we need to care about what goes into the [making of a quality sport experience](#) (e.g. coaches, programme design, etc.).

Read the full article: [The Value of Sport: Wellbeing Benefits of Sport Participation during Adolescence](#)

⁷⁶ Sourced from: https://balanceisbetter.org.nz/the-unique-wellbeing-benefits-of-organised-sport/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BIB-Monthly-03082023&sfmc_id=27473696

The researchers found, even when accounting for gender, ethnicity and deprivation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Physical activity v. inactivity | Young people who are physically active are 2.49x more likely to report having better wellbeing than young people who are inactive. |
| 2. Meeting WHO Guidelines on physical activity levels | Young people who do ≥ 420 min/week of recreational physical activity are 63% more likely to report having better wellbeing than young people that do not reach physical activity guidelines. |
| 3. Duration of recreational physical activity | Every extra hour per week of physical activity resulted in a 3% increase in the likelihood of young people reporting having better wellbeing. |
| 4. Participating in organised sport | Young people who participate in organised sport were 66% more likely to report having better wellbeing than young people who do not participate in sport, regardless of total recreational physical activity participation. |
| 5. Duration of organised sport activity | Every extra hour per week of organised sport activity resulted in a 9% increase in the likelihood of young people reporting having better wellbeing, regardless of total recreational physical activity participation. Note, the researchers contended that beyond a certain point there was a limit to how much additional participation in sport might contribute to positive wellbeing. |

Why the extra benefits from sport?

The researchers contended that this was because of a few things:

- [Sport is an environment that widely facilitates meaningful social connection and community.](#)
- Sport is associated with intrinsic motives (e.g. enjoyment and challenge), which ultimately is tied to better wellbeing outcomes.
- New Zealand coaches positively influencing intrapersonal and interpersonal characteristics of young people is likely to have directly contributed to the wellbeing outcomes in this research.

Document version: Final v1.1

Date: 20 December 2023

Author: Kiri Pope, Robyn Steel, Richard Lindsay

Recreation Sport Leisure Consultancy rslc.nz