



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY:

# ACTIVE SPORTS FACILITIES AND RESERVES









# ACTIVE SPORTS FACILITIES AND RESERVES

Sports facilities support the use of active sports reserves. There are many sporting codes represented across the City, with differing requirements. This document aims to give clear guidance when considering sports clubs and groups, planning renewal, upgrades or construction of new facilities across the City. Sports facilities include the provision of amenities which are integral to club operations, such as changerooms, showers, toilets, storage and social spaces.

When planning sports facilities, the first consideration is the provision of the active sporting field itself and its current function (i.e. whether it is predominantly utilised for AFL, cricket, soccer or softball etc.). The second consideration is the requisite infrastructure deemed essential to support the relevant sports types, such as cricket wickets, cricket nets etc.

The provision of reserves and more unstructured recreational infrastructure items that have a focus on a wider community (e.g. basketball rings and barbeques) are addressed in the City's Public Open Space Strategy.

# CURRENT DELIVERY

The City has 15 active sporting reserves, all with sporting facilities that vary in size, purpose and access. In addition, there are a number of leased facilities provided for sports activities.

With increasing expectations around facility provision and spaces that are contemporary and multi-use, there is demand for the City to provide quality and functional facilities. Over time, sports club facilities can become outdated and no longer fit-for-purpose while continuing to represent a significant capital and ongoing operational cost.

The sports facilities available at each reserve offer certain crucial services to sports clubs, which are necessary for ensuring long-term viability and success (i.e change rooms, toilets, storage and kiosk access). The table below outlines the City's active sporting reserves and classifications based on the oval/pitch/field numbers and spaces. This helps determine the sports facilities required on each reserve.

**City of Canning Active Sports Reserves and Infrastructure Hierarchy (PLAWA)**

Reserve	Classification of Active Reserve	Sports Code
Burrendah Reserve	District	Soccer AFL Cricket Athletics
Centenary Park	Neighbourhood	Softball Cricket Soccer
Coker Park - Ern Clark Reserve	District	Soccer Cricket Athletics (Ern Clark)
Ferndale Park	District	Cricket AFL Hockey
Hossack Park	District	Softball Soccer
Maniana Park	Neighbourhood	Cricket Soccer
Prendwick Park	Neighbourhood	Cricket AFL
Queens Park Reserve (Harry Turner)	District	Cricket AFL
Riverton Reserve	Neighbourhood	Cricket AFL





Reserve	Classification of Active Reserve	Sports Code
Shelley Park	District	AFL Cricket Netball
Willetton Park	District	Baseball/softball Cricket Soccer
Woodford Park	District	Cricket Soccer
Wyong Park	Neighbourhood	Cricket AFL
Ranford Reserve	Neighbourhood	Soccer Cricket Athletics
Canning Vale Reserve	Neighbourhood	AFL Cricket Athletics
Willetton Tennis Club	Lease	Tennis
Parkwood Tennis Club	Lease	Tennis
Corinthian Park Tennis Club	Lease	Tennis
Willetton Bowling Club	Lease	Bowling
Rossmoyne Bowling	Lease	Bowling
Shelley Sailing Club	Lease	Sailing
Riverton Pigeon Racing Club	Lease	Pigeon Racing
Canning Club Inc (Pistol)	Lease	Pistol
Canning River Canoe Club	Lease	Canoe
Canning Sports Club, Wyong	Lease	Cricket AFL Softball

# INDUSTRY PROVISION RATES AND BENCHMARKING

Parks and Recreation Australia, Western Australia (PLA WA) Guidelines articulate a facility hierarchy and provision for fields and pitches against population catchments. These have been applied to the City's active sports reserves in the table below. This provision does not dictate public open space provision, instead it relates to the availability of sports specific spaces.

## PLAWA Guidelines for Code Specific Oval Provision

Sport	Sports Code
AFL Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:6,000 to 8,000 population ratio for senior sized ovals AFL game (AFL guidelines)</li> <li>1 senior oval in a 2km population catchment</li> <li>2+ senior sized ovals in a 5km catchment population catchment for district level facilities</li> </ul>
Diamond Pitch Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:10,000 to 1:14,000 population ratio</li> <li>1-2 diamond within a 2km catchment of neighbourhood</li> <li>3+ diamonds within a 10km catchment</li> </ul>
Soccer Pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:4,800 to 6,600 population ratio depending on demographics</li> <li>2km radial catchment</li> </ul>
Cricket Ovals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:5,000 – 8,000 population ratio</li> <li>Neighbourhood - 2km catchment</li> <li>District 5km catchment</li> </ul>
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:250,000 plus – Regional Level (synthetic)</li> <li>1:40,000 – 1:50,000 district</li> <li>District 5km catchment</li> </ul>
Hockey pitches	1:75,000 for synthetic surface (WA Hockey Strategy) Grass provision to be area/location specific.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:3,000 – 4,000 (outdoor) for training purposes.</li> <li>16 outdoor courts in one location - minimum for an association</li> </ul>
Tennis Clubs (hard courts and grass)	1:5,000 court to resident ratio. 5km catchment Tennis Club Classification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional 16+</li> <li>District 8-16 - (1:15,000 – 30,000 population)</li> <li>Neighbourhood 4-7</li> <li>Local 1-3</li> </ul>
Tennis Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:5,000 courts to court ratio (combined with the club numbers)</li> </ul>
Lawn Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:35,000 to 50,000</li> </ul>



A number of State Sporting Associations have developed guiding documents for sport clubs and Local Government Authorities (LGAs) to guide the planning of various sporting codes facility and infrastructure provision. The below table indicates the State Sporting Association documents that have been used in the development of the proposed sports facilities provision standards.

#### State Sporting Association Provision Standards Guiding Documents

Sports Code	Available Standard
AFL	Australian Football League. (2019). AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines: State, Regional, Local, School and Remote Facilities.
Soccer	Football Victoria. (2021). 2021 Rules of Competition.
Cricket	Cricket Australia. (2015). Community Cricket Facility Guidelines: Helping Local Communities Create Quality Cricket Facilities.
Hockey	Hockey WA. (2009). State Sporting Facilities Plan 2009 to 2025.
Softball	Softball Australia. (2020). Facility management guide.
Athletics	International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF). (2008). IAAF Track and Field Facilities Manual.
Netball	Netball WA. (2015). Netball WA Strategic Facilities Plan
Lawn Bowls	Bowls Australia. (2015). Bowls Club: Construction and Refurbishment Guidelines.
Tennis	Tennis Australia. (n.d.). Tennis 2020: Facility development and management framework for Australian tennis.
Rugby League	National Rugby League. (2014). Preferred Facility Guidelines for Grassroots Rugby League.
Rugby Union	Rugby Australia. (n.d.). National Facility Guidelines.



The below table outlines the current and future provision for each sport based on population projections and the industry guides.

**PLA WA Guideline for oval provision overlayed with City's Current and Projected Populations**

Sport	PLA WA Guidelines 2020	Current Provision No. of City Reserves (senior ovals/pitch/field)	Current Provision Adequacy	Reserves required in 2041 based on population projections
AFL Oval	1:6,000 to 8,000 for Senior sized AFL ovals (AFL guidelines) 1 senior oval in a 2km population catchment 2+ senior sized ovals in a 5km catchment population catchment for district level facilities	9 (12 ovals)	Sufficient provision for AFL currently  PLA WA identifies the City to be above the median level of accessibility across other LGAs	15  Shortfall, 3
Diamond Pitch Sports	1:10,000 to 1:14,000 1-2 diamond within a 2km catchment of neighbourhood 3+ diamonds within a 10km catchment	2 (21 diamonds)	Sufficient provision for softball  10 teeball diamond at an alternate reserve (not included in 21)	9  No shortfall
Soccer Pitches	1:4,800 to 6,600 depending on demographics  2km	7 (14 pitches)	Does not meet provision for soccer currently, shortfall 1  *Additional junior pitches are available but not included in the oval numbers	19  Shortfall, 5
Cricket Ovals	1:5,000 – 8,000 Neighbourhood -2km District - 5km	14 (19 field)	Sufficient provision for cricket	15  No shortfall
Athletics	1:250,000 plus – Regional Level (synthetic)  1:40,000 – 1:50,000 district  5km district	4 (4 tracks)	Sufficient provision for athletics	4  No shortfall



Sport	PLA WA Guidelines 2020	Current Provision No. of City Reserves (senior ovals/pitch/field)	Current Provision Adequacy	Reserves required in 2041 based on population projections
Hockey pitches	1:75,000 for synthetic surface (WA Hockey Strategy) Grass provision to be area/ location specific.  1-3 pitches within a 2km population catchment  4+ pitches within a 10km population catchment for district facilities.	1 (1 field)	Considered sufficient provision for hockey  There are also 2 synthetic pitches at the nearby Curtin University.	2  Based on usage and distance to Curtin no shortfall considered
Netball/ basketball courts	1: 5,000 - 8,000 (outdoor) for training purposes.	17 courts	Sufficient provision for Netball  *Tennis/netball/ basketball courts are shared in most cases. The total court # is not the 2 sports combined.	15  No shortfall
Tennis clubs (hard courts and grass)  Tennis Courts (hirable)	1:5,000 court to resident ratio. 5km  Hierarchy Regional 16+ District 8-16 - (1:15,000 – 30,000) Neighbourhood 4-7 Local 1-3  17+ Regional Club	-Clubs (22 hard courts, 13 grass)  -17 courts outside of clubs	Sufficient provision for Tennis with 52 courts  1 Regional (Corinthian TC)  1 District Club (Willetton TC)  1 Neighborhood Club (Parkwood TC)  Total courts 52	25  No shortfall
Lawn Bowls	1:35,000 to 50,000	2 clubs	Sufficient provision for lawn bowls  Although below the guideline, based on lawn bowls trends, membership, and State association guidance no shortfall considered	Based on usage no shortfall considered

The City has sufficient provision of active sporting spaces for most codes currently using our active sporting reserves. Based on current population and industry standards, however, soccer pitches do not meet the current demand. PLA WA guidelines do suggest that the City is on the provision margins, with greater attention on meeting this need as density increases. As such, shared-use agreements with schools and the availability of new soccer provisions (e.g. State Football (soccer) Centre with between 2 - 4 soccer pitches and Sutherland Reserve) are to be considered.

While the City's current provision for AFL is sufficient, there will be a shortfall of three senior ovals in the future, based on expected population projections and growth in the sport, and this will need to be addressed.

A review of nearby LGAs District sports reserves and their current primary sports have been listed below. These reserves supplement the active sports reserve within the City and are available for community access and use. Many of these codes do have different guidance around catchment, therefore a general 5km catchment zone has been applied. More specific planning will be considered only with identified shortfalls.

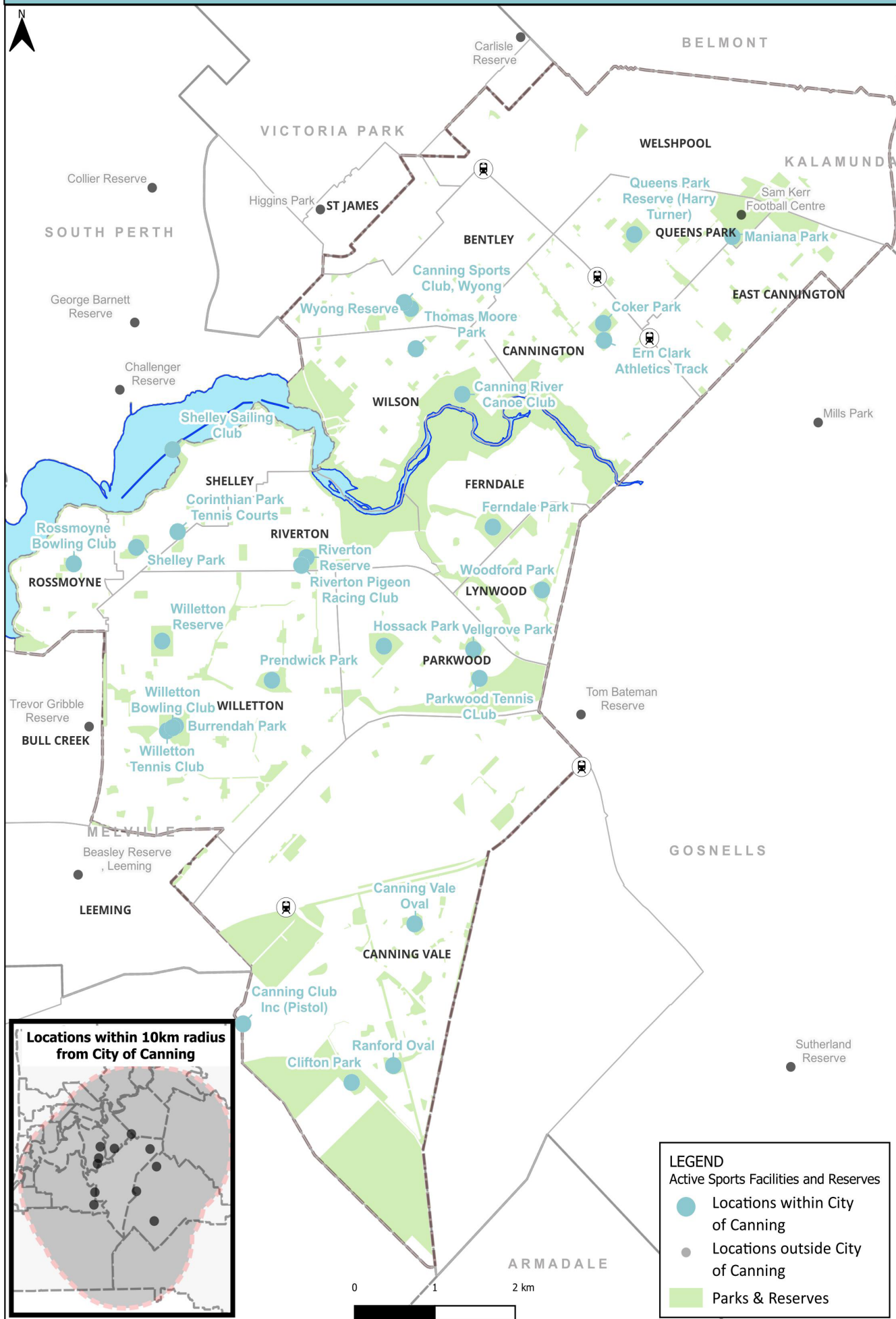
Additionally, Education Department land, private schools, university grounds and private sites also provide options, although some access is limited.

### Sports Reserves in Surrounding Local Government Authorities

Location	LGA	Primary Sport
Sutherland Reserve	City of Gosnells	AFL, soccer, athletics
Beasley Reserve , Leeming	City of Melville	AFL, cricket
Mills Park	City of Gosnells	Soccer, AFL, hockey
Trevor Gribble Reserve	City of Melville	Soccer, cricket, rugby
Tom Bateman Reserve	City of Gosnells	Rugby, Gaelic football
Higgins Park	Town of Victoria Park	Cricket
Collier Reserve	City of South Perth	Soccer, cricket
George Burnett Reserve	City of South Perth	Rugby
Challenger Reserve	City of South Perth	Cricket, AFL
Carlisle Reserve	Town of Victoria Park	Cricket, AFL
State Football Centre	City of Canning	Soccer



# ACTIVE SPORTS FACILITIES AND RESERVES



# TRENDS

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There has been an increased focus on developing quality community sports facilities at a national, state and local level. All levels of government are recognising the high demand for quality sporting infrastructure, to ensure people have access to safe and well-maintained infrastructure. This is demonstrated through State government grant programs such as the Community Sporting and Recreational Facilities Funding (CSRFF), which provides support for basic community infrastructure for sports and recreation.

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There is an increased understanding industry-wide around the benefits of the community being involved in local clubs and groups. The World Health Organisation acknowledges sport as an enabler to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). These goals outline how sport and physical activity has multiple health, social and economic benefits. Sports clubs and groups play an important role in community building and social cohesion, and investing in sports infrastructure can be seen to support these groups and help them thrive. The State Government's Kidsports grant is a state-wide project that acknowledges the importance of sports club involvement and reduces the barriers to participation.

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Multi-use facilities have become a popular trend in Western Australia, allowing for the use of sporting infrastructure for a range of activities. This includes facilities that can be used for sports, events, concerts, and exhibitions.

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While there are higher expectations for the quality and functional requirements provided to sporting clubs, there is also a growing demand for these clubs to take on more responsibility in maintaining sports facilities. It is now expected that clubs will take care of the facilities by performing tasks such as general cleaning as deemed appropriate and reasonable.

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The Australia Sports Commission notes a growing sector-wide focus on increasing female participants, administrators, attendees and viewers. This is evident from the significant growth in female participation in recent years (particularly in soccer, AFL, and cricket), where new female competitions have emerged and are supported by prime time television games at an elite level. Many young girls now aspire to play at an elite level, which brings greater demand for female accessible sporting infrastructure.

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Sporting infrastructure is being increasingly designed with accessibility as a priority. Accessibility is no longer limited to wheelchair access, but encompasses a much broader range of considerations to provide a welcoming space for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. This includes both access to, and access within facilities. Many sports, such as AFL, soccer and cricket are attracting increased female and all abilities player participation, and many of the City's existing community facilities are unable to provide appropriate spaces for this growth.

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Many LGAs have ageing infrastructure that supports active sporting reserves and require replacement or substantial investment to manage and maintain. The importance of costing asset management plans and future-proofing expenditure is becoming critical. There is a tendency for LGAs to focus on financial viability of all sport and recreation infrastructure and potential rationalisation to ensure return on investment.





Additional trends for the following sport codes having been identified. These sports currently experience high use in the City and are predicated to continue to grow.

## AFL

- AFL continues to grow rapidly, especially with females and at an Auskick level.
- There is an increasing emphasis on making community AFL inclusive and welcoming for all players. This includes initiatives, such as Starkick, and the introduction of integrated teams to encourage players of different genders, backgrounds and all abilities.
- There is a strong focus on grassroots development and promotion. This includes significant State government funding and promotion of Auskick and the initiatives to improve coaching to help build strong local clubs.

## SOCCER

- Soccer participation is strong for both males and females and continues to grow, especially at the junior level.
- There is strong emphasis on diversity and inclusion programs that encourage all backgrounds, gender and abilities.
- There is a growing emphasis of providing professional pathways.
- There is increasing demand for access to quality infrastructure that is functional for the sport.

## CRICKET

- Cricket continues to introduce new formats; one of the most significant being the T20 format which has gained significant popularity in recent years.
- There has also been significant growth in female participation, with 42% of overall participation growth in the 2012/18 National cricket census data.
- Cricket has also seen the introduction of more night games, especially in the junior formats.
- The sport is working to have year round cricket opportunities.
- Western Australian Cricket Infrastructure Survey 2019-28 articulated cricket's strong focus on junior and female sport and developing spaces that are welcoming, accessible and inclusive.

# THE FUTURE

When considering the current provision, analysing the trends and industry standards, and the principles outlined in the CIS, must actively and effectively plan to meet active sporting demand into the future. The current provision for all sports (with the exception of soccer) are at, or above, provision standards. This figure does not include junior fields, nor access to soccer pitches outside of the City. This issue will be exacerbated in future years, given the predicted growth and popularity of some sporting codes (i.e. AFL and soccer), and projected population forecasts.

In addition, a large number of the City's associated sporting amenities (i.e. changerooms, toilets, storage etc.) are planning for renewal. With many currently unlikely to meet needs particularly minimum provision standards, as it relates to accessibility (i.e. disability access and gender-neutral provisions) and storage, with many considered no longer fit-for-purpose. To this end, the City has developed provision standards for sports clubs on active sporting reserves to assist with planning in the future.

These standards have considered the sports utilising our reserves, as well as some major sporting codes that currently do not, in an effort to futureproof our facilities to changing needs and demand.



# PROVISION STANDARDS

The following table provides a standard level of provision for sporting amenity across the City located on both District and Neighbourhood level facilities.

These provision standards have been developed using all appropriate state sporting association guidelines overlaying the needs of the City's community and ensuring that active reserve are multiuse.

## City of Canning Active Sports Facilities Provision Standards

Amenity	Neighbourhood	District	Comments
Kitchen/kiosk	15m <sup>2</sup> min	20m <sup>2</sup> min	Sports Facilities do not include commercial kitchen facilities. Kiosk to include external facility access. No access through social space.
Social space/hall	80m <sup>2</sup> min	150m <sup>2</sup> min	There is a need to provide a space for function and fundraisers for each club.
Meeting rooms	Recommended	Required	No minimum sizes provisions however should be considered in the context of multi use space.
Viewing area/veranda	Recommended	Required	To encourage year round, weather appropriate viewing.
Changerooms	2 change per oval	2 change per oval	Universal access principles applied. Gender neutral and disability access requirements or in line with statutory requirements
Showers/toilets	20m <sup>2</sup>	20m <sup>2</sup>	Subject to Statutory requirements (3 showers & 3 toilets)
Umpires Rooms	Not recommended	15m <sup>2</sup>	Unisex space - Include shower, toilet and lockable space
Club Store	20m <sup>2</sup>	20m <sup>2</sup>	Additional space may be considered with significant need demonstrated. Eg Some codes have large storage requirements like athletics and tee-ball. Per sport - external access and lockable
Cleaning store	3-5m <sup>2</sup>	3-5m <sup>2</sup>	Space for cleaning equipment
Furniture Store	Not recommended	15m <sup>2</sup>	
Goal store	Not recommended	Optional	Support with demonstrated need only



Memorabilia cabinet	Required	Required	Small lockable display cabinet for sports club memorabilia, space for honour board considered
Bin store Area	5m <sup>2</sup>	9m <sup>2</sup>	This is a lockable space for bins to be stored.
Admin/Office Area	Not recommended	Not recommended	
Public toilets, shower	Optional	Optional	Public toilets are based on need and should consider other reserve amenities
Medical rooms	No standalone required	No standalone required	This function can be addressed in other spaces in the facility.
Sports Infrastructure			
Synthetic Cricket Nets	Optional	3	Only applicable to those reserve which operate as a club home ground. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AS1725.4 - 2010</li> <li>• AS1725.1 - 2010</li> <li>• Oriented in a north south direction where possible</li> </ul>
Synthetic Cricket Wickets	1 wicket	Min 2 wickets	Only applicable to those reserves at City of Canning cricket club home ground. (min 25m x 2.4m)
Turf Cricket Wicket	Not required	Space for 4	Only applicable to Wyong Reserve and Burrendah Reserve (turf cricket clubs, 20m x 3m). Before any additional are considered a feasibility assessment should be completed.
Baseball/softball batting cages	Not Required	Not Required	On an as needs basis only. Only applicable to those reserves with home based soft/baseball.
Cricket curator shed	Not Required	Site specific	Turf wicket sites only {60-80m <sup>2</sup> }

\*Lease facility provision is dealt with on a case by case basis.



# CONSULTATION FINDINGS

**This Type received 12 responses, 11 that use the infrastructure and 7 that live within the City. There are five strategic directions/recommendations proposed, all supported.**

Summary of Consultation	
Survey Questions	Results
Surveys Completed	12
From a suburb within the City of Canning	7
Already using active sports facilities in Canning	11
Additional consultation activities specific for this Type	Direct emails, phone calls to club representatives Youth Network Consultant workshop Cultural Ambassador Huddle

## Survey Response Results

	Support	Neutral	Oppose
<b>Strategic Direction 1</b> - The City's provision of individual sport code ovals is generally sufficient to meet current population demand with the exception of 1 soccer pitch and 1 football oval into the future.	4	3	5
<b>Strategic Direction 2</b> - Planning to be undertaken to identify location for soccer and football, or access to additional pitches/ovals, to meet forecasted population growth.	10	0	2
<b>Strategic Direction 3</b> - Future investment is likely to focus on functionality and quality of provision (i.e. through the servicing of spaces, co-location of multi-users, and advocacy through the state Sporting associations).	10	1	1
<b>Recommendation 1</b> - Conduct audit of sporting amenity to determine gaps in provision, and site constraints, in line with the proposed provision standards over a 2 year period to ensure sports clubs are adequately serviced.	9	1	2
<b>Recommendation 2</b> - Develop a business case on the feasibility of additional soccer pitches to fill the identified gap in provision.	7	2	3
<b>Recommendation 3</b> - Develop a business case for the shortfall in future football oval provision to address the projected shortfall by 2026.	9	1	2
<b>Recommendation 4</b> - Conduct audit of sporting code and club bookings vs actual use to identify any capacity within existing active sporting facilities and reserves.	10	2	0
<b>Recommendation 5</b> - Review fees and charges model to incentivise efficient booking of spaces and facilities.	8	3	1

# KEY THEMES

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**Enhancing Cricket Facilities:** Respondents emphasised the need for more dedicated cricket and football facilities, particularly noting a shortfall in access to cricket ovals and a desire for multipurpose spaces that could support both sports effectively. There was also a request to review grounds to accommodate multipurpose facilities where feasible while ensuring code-specific facilities minimise disruptions between sports.

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**Support for a Sporting complex:** There is strong support for a sporting complex in Canning Vale, which respondents believe will address a perceived inadequacy of football ovals in that area.

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**Storage and Clubrooms:** Sports clubs repeatedly highlighted the necessity for sufficient storage space and clubrooms that overlook their respective sports grounds.

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# KEY FINDINGS

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Although the number of cricket reserves in the City meets population demands and provision standards, cricket clubs face a shortage of space to expand due to high demand and long match durations, resulting in many reserves being fully booked during the summer sporting season. An investigation into the efficiency of usage and associated opportunities, as indicated in Recommendation 4, is necessary.

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The provision standards for both the Active Sporting Facilities and Community Halls Types detail a minimum provision of storage to support clubs. The feedback highlighted storage as a concern in some locations. Recommendation 1 addresses an assessment of the storage provided within City facilities against these provision standards and will consider community feedback to address the highlighted storage shortages.

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# CONSULTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. No changes to the Strategic Directions
2. New Recommendation 6 to support feedback provided: To continue to advocate for active sports facilities and reserves in Canning Vale.



# STRATEGIC DIRECTION



The City's provision of individual sport code ovals is generally sufficient to meet current population demand with the exception of 1 soccer pitch and 1 football oval into the future.



Future investment is likely to focus on functionality and quality of provision (i.e. through the servicing of spaces, co-location of multi-users, and advocacy through the state Sporting associations).



Planning to be undertaken to identify location for soccer and football, or access to additional pitches/ovals, to meet forecasted population growth.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



Conduct audit of sporting amenity to determine gaps in provision, and site constraints, in line with the proposed provision standards over a 2 year period to ensure sports clubs are adequately serviced.



Develop a business case on the feasibility of additional soccer pitches to fill the identified gap in provision.



Develop a business case for the shortfall in future football oval provision to address the projected shortfall by 2026.



Conduct audit of sporting code and club bookings vs actual use to identify any capacity within existing active sporting facilities and reserves.



Review fees and charges model to incentivise efficient booking of spaces and facilities.



To continue to advocate for active sports facilities and reserves in Canning Vale

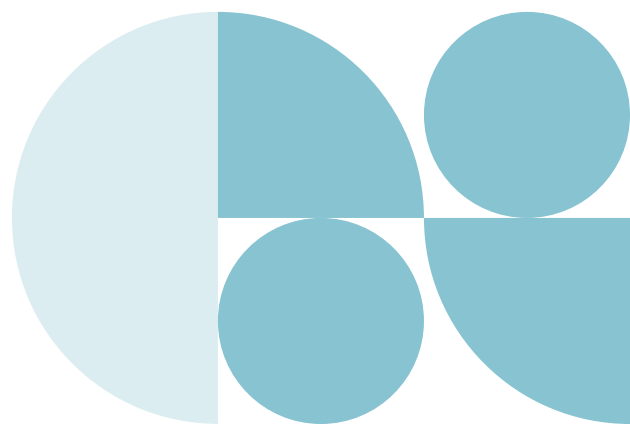


# CASE STUDY: FERNDALE PARK



Ferndale Park is one of the City's largest district parks and is located on Metcalfe Road, Ferndale. The park boasts various facilities, a sports clubroom/changeroom that services three sporting ovals, a scouts facility, four cricket nets, two shaded playgrounds and a small fenced synthetic field.

It caters to a diverse range of activities, from organised sports like football, cricket, and hockey to more casual pursuits such as dog walking and running, making it a popular spot for both sports enthusiasts and the wider community.



# CASE STUDY: SHELLEY PARK



Shelley Park is a vibrant district park located on Koolan Drive in the heart of Shelley. It is a lovely park with a range of amenities including a sports oval primarily used for football and cricket, a clubrooms/changerooms facility, four netball courts with storage, two cricket nets, a fenced playground and sports lighting over the ovals and courts.

