



Council Policy Manual

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY	
RECREATION POLICY	Policy No:
	Adopted by Council: 16 May 2018
	Next review date:
Senior Manager:	Director Corporate & Community Services Director Infrastructure, Development & Works
Responsible Officer:	Assets and GIS Coordinator
Functional Area:	Early Years, Sport & Recreation, Tourism, Economic Development, Assets and Works
Introduction & Background	<p>Council supports the view that sport, recreation and leisure pursuits are important to the individual and the community.</p> <p>In order to promote fitness, general health and connectivity it is important that adequate opportunities be given for individual and group recreation, similarly, encouragement should be given to all residents in the use of the facilities and services provided. These facilities are an invaluable resource and every appropriate effort must be made to encourage maximum use by an optimum number of persons.</p> <p>With the adoption of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021, and the Access and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020, the link with public health and healthy eating, physical activity and social connectivity must be considered, along with other Council Plan aspirations and objectives.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>To ensure adequate provision, management and encouragement in the use of recreation facilities, and to provide high quality, accessible community sport and recreation facilities by encouraging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased sport and recreation participation • Increased female and junior participation • Increased access to sport and recreation opportunities • Better planning of sport and recreation facilities • Innovative sport and recreation facilities • Environmentally sustainable facilities and



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universally designed facilities.
Definitions	<p>Recreation: recreation is defined as an activity that a person chooses to participate in during their free time for the purpose of enjoyment. The range of activities can involve active or passive pursuits, which may encourage a social interaction with other community members. These activities may include outdoor chess, walking, jogging, hiking, bike riding, mountain biking, fitness classes, dancing and horse riding. In general, recreational activities are less structured than organized sporting activities.</p> <p>Sport: sporting activities are generally more structured and involve teams, competitions and opponents. They generally require specific playing facilities such as an oval, wicket, pitch, courts or playing surface. Organised sports also typically hold regular training and coaching sessions, and often have a permanent location, club room or changing facilities.</p>
Policy Details	
1.	<p>Facilities</p> <p>Recreation areas and facilities should be broad and varied enough to cater for as many sporting, recreation and leisure interests as may be practical. A balance is therefore to be maintained between competitive and non-competitive, group and individual, organised and free form opportunities.</p> <p>Council supports and encourages the joint use of Non-Council owned and/or managed recreation areas, school and other public recreation facilities.</p> <p>Encouragement will be given to the multi-purpose use of facilities rather than providing separate facilities for each community group.</p> <p>Council encourages the participation of clubs, groups and individuals in jointly providing recreation facilities in the community.</p> <p>Placement or location of facilities should take into account the population, catchment, ease of access, (both transport and cost), tourist attraction, service provision and general security of persons and facilities.</p> <p>Priority will be given to ensuring Reserves and developments are environmentally sensitive.</p>
2.	<p>Management</p> <p>Wherever public recreation areas and facilities are established, Council will encourage and enable residents and users to take an active role in the overall management.</p> <p>Whether community or Council committee of management, each committee where established is to be encouraged to set a goal or aim for each Reserve or facility in terms of its primary function, together with other uses, immediate and future.</p>



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	The committee will assume under Council the control of the users, right of access, fees charged, hire or lease, improvement, modification and promotion of the project, whilst ensuring reasonable public access for all residents.
3.	<p>Services</p> <p>Council will endeavour to maintain, improve, and maximise the use of Council-controlled facilities. Council will also encourage/support access to Non-Council owned/managed assets.</p> <p>The principal contact for service levels for recreation shall be the Director Corporate & Community Services.</p>
4.	<p>Maintenance</p> <p>Recreation structures and buildings, sporting and leisure facilities under Council control are to be inspected in accordance with Council's Risk Management Program in regard to safety, quality, attractiveness and efficiency.</p> <p>Maintenance delivery may be negotiated with user bodies and/or community groups but responsibility of service standards remains with Council.</p>
5.	<p>Australian Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 • Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) • Building Code of Australia (BCA) • AS 1428 – Design for Access and Mobility • AS 2890 – Parking Facilities • AS 1680 – Interior Lighting • AS 1158 – Exterior Lighting • AS 2560 – Sports Lighting
6.	<p>References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 • Access and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020 • West Wimmera Council Plan 2017-2021 • Sport and Recreation Victoria



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