

# Recreation Facilities Informing *Strategy*

2025 | Empowering Sustainable  
Living Through Recreation



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## Connecting to Our Council's Vision

This document amplifies the 2024 Recreation Facilities Informing Strategy, directly contributing to the Shire of Mundaring's overarching strategic vision: A Place for Sustainable Living. By fostering active and healthy lifestyles through accessible recreation, we enhance the well-being of our community and promote a sustainable way of life.

This strategy directly supports:

- A **safe and healthy community** (Council Plan Outcome 4), where participation in sport and recreation flourishes, contributing to individual and community well-being – a cornerstone of sustainable living.
- An **inclusive, engaged, and supportive community** (Council Plan Outcome 5) by championing volunteering and creating spaces for social connection, strengthening the social fabric essential for a sustainable society.
- **Attractive, welcoming, and well-maintained spaces** (Council Plan Outcome 7), delivering **fit-for-purpose facilities** and enhancing our cherished **public open spaces**, ensuring these assets are sustainable resources for current and future generations.

### Scope

- Develop a Shire wide version of a 'standard of provision' for recreation facilities including classifications of space, function and use.
- Define key planning principles for sport and recreation facility provision, establishing minimum design requirements and criteria for community facilities.
- Recommend a level of provision to inform recommended priorities for future investment (renewal, upgrades and new);
- Provide an action plan and prioritise built infrastructure (new, renewals and upgrades) against community need, in consideration of value for money; and
- Provide recommendations that may be required to effectively plan and provide specific types of sport and recreation facilities based on community need and identified current gaps in provision.
- To include all Shire sporting and recreational open space – including ovals, aquatics, hardcourts, skate parks, cricket nets, ancillary facilities etc. (excluding: Trails - addressed via separate Trails Master Plan; and playgrounds - addressed via Operations planning), community hubs used for the purpose of sport and recreation; and Shared use, multi-use and leased facilities excluding equestrian facilities.

## 1. Our Recreation Vision

A vibrant Shire where everyone embraces active living through accessible and thriving recreation opportunities, fostering a healthy, connected, and environmentally conscious community – integral to our vision of a Place for Sustainable Living.

## 2. Our Guiding Principles

- **Access for All:** Ensuring every resident, as far as practicable, has equitable access to sport and recreation facilities.
- **Smart & Shared Spaces:** Creating adaptable, multi-functional hubs that maximise community benefit and resource efficiency.
- **Welcoming Everyone:** Designing universally accessible facilities that embrace the diversity of our community.
- **Investing Wisely:** Prioritising facilities that deliver the greatest impact and meet genuine community needs. (Guided by needs analysis and assessment criteria).
- **Our Community's Voice:** Collaborating closely with residents and groups to shape the future of our recreation spaces.
- **Sustainable by Design:** Championing environmentally sustainable design practices to reduce our carbon footprint and minimise water and energy usage.
- **Caring for Our Assets:** Proactively managing and enhancing our facilities for long-term enjoyment.
- **Safe and Inviting Places:** Creating secure and welcoming environments for everyone to enjoy.
- **Effective utilisation of facilities:** Priority will be given to facilities which will provide the maximum return on investment through usage and meeting the identified need of the community, backed up by robust research.

## 3. What We've Learned (Key Insights from the Audit)

- Our town sites thrive on central hubs offering ovals, courts, and recreation spaces such as skateparks and pump tracks, targeting youth participation – vital for connection.
- Securing major upgrades demands strong partnerships with State and Federal Governments.
- Smaller, adaptable investments can unlock diverse activities for all ages and abilities. e.g. adapting/ redeveloping existing facilities responding to developmental and competitive junior play and senior adult training and development opportunities.
- Our growing senior population deserves tailored and accessible recreational opportunities.
- Brown Park is a crucial lifeline for our Swan View, Greenmount and Midvale-Bellevue communities.
- Modern recreation demands shared spaces, accessibility, and sustainable practices.

- We have clear needs for more indoor basketball and outdoor netball facilities.
- Opportunity for co-location and multi-functional spaces needs to be a consideration when building new or refurbishing existing facilities.
- Our journey requires ongoing assessment and adaptation as projects evolve.

## 4. Our Current Landscape (Snapshot of Our Facilities)

- Our existing facilities, while valued, are showing their age and need contemporary upgrades or rationalisation/consolidation/re-purposing.
- Our geographically spread community relies on strategically located local and district facilities.
- Mt Helena and Bilgoman Aquatic Centres meet current demand, but year-round access is continually raised.
- We recognise the need for modern changing facilities, enhanced lighting, versatile function spaces, and consolidated infrastructure.
- Our facilities are categorised to serve local, neighbourhood, and district needs, with Brown Park Recreation Precinct as a key District hub.

## 5. Our Bold Opportunities & Challenges

- **Opportunities:** Capitalise on growth in Helena Valley-Boya and Parkerville-Stoneville; strengthen Brown Park's vital role; enhance facility usability with strategic floodlighting; explore new land for future generations.
- **Challenges:** Overcoming aging infrastructure limitations; streamlining dispersed facilities; reigniting volunteerism; adapting to our evolving demographic with a growing senior population.

## 6. Our Priority Actions - Shaping Our Future for Sustainable Living

- **Revitalising Local Spaces for Active Living:** Implement a dynamic 10-year upgrade program for our "Neighbourhood" facilities, creating connected vibrant local hubs that encourage sustainable, healthy lifestyles. Provision to focus on facilities immediately surrounding localities with a catchment of between 2km and 5km.
- **Master Planning Our Key Destinations for Community Well-being:** Develop inspiring Master Plans for Brown Park and Helena Valley, unlocking their full potential as central, connected places for social interaction and active pursuits, contributing to a sustainable community spirit.



- **Exploring Aquatic Aspirations for Health and Enjoyment:** Conduct a feasibility study to envision the future of our aquatic facilities, including year-round opening, recognising the importance of water-based activities for health and well-being within a sustainable lifestyle.
- **Expanding Indoor Action for Year-Round Activity:** Conduct a feasibility of the expansion of indoor courts, providing opportunities for activity regardless of weather, promoting consistent healthy habits.
- **Creating a Vision for Glen Forrest's Green Heart:** Develop a Precinct Plan to enhance recreation in Glen Forrest, ensuring these spaces contribute to both active living and the preservation of our natural environment. The precinct includes Birkinshaw Park and MJM Park.
- **Securing and Managing Land for Future Sustainable Recreation:** Proactively manage existing land and/or identify and secure new greenfield sites for future recreational growth, ensuring long-term access to spaces that support healthy and sustainable lifestyles whilst reviewing existing land use for effective recreation delivery.
- **Championing Accessibility for an Inclusive and Active Shire:** Upgrade Mundaring Sports Club and develop a Shire-wide accessibility plan, ensuring everyone can participate in recreation, fostering a more equitable and sustainable community.
- **Illuminating Our Fields for Extended Sustainable Use:** Strategically upgrade sports field lighting to extend playing hours and opportunities, maximising the use of existing resources and promoting evening activity.
- **Building Efficient Hubs for Resource Sustainability:** Identify opportunities to consolidate infrastructure, creating more versatile and cost-effective spaces that minimise our environmental footprint.
- **Modernising Our Amenities for Comfort and Inclusivity:** Develop design standards for inclusive changing rooms and updated function spaces, ensuring our facilities are welcoming and cater to the diverse needs of our community.

## 7. Our Demographic Heartbeat for a Sustainable Future

We will be guided by our evolving population, understanding the needs of all residents and ensuring equitable access to recreation that supports healthy and sustainable lifestyles, as highlighted by the population data from 2016-2021.

### Our Commitment to Sustainable Living Through Recreation

This strategy is our pledge to cultivate a Shire where active living is integral to our vision of a Place for Sustainable Living. By creating exceptional, accessible, and environmentally mindful recreation facilities, we empower healthy lifestyles, foster strong community bonds, and contribute to a vibrant and sustainable future for all Shire of Mundaring residents. We will work collaboratively and with passion to realise this inspiring vision.

