

Policy

Recreation

Reference Number:	SG48
Type:	Strategic
Legislation:	NA
Procedure:	NA
Delegation:	NA
Other related document:	NA

Objective

The City of Fremantle recognises that local government plays an important role in facilitating and supporting participation in recreation and physical activity through its planning and development activities and the provision and management of facilities and services.

The strategic recreation policy provides definitions and a set of principles to allow the City of Fremantle to plan effectively to meet the current and future recreational needs of the Fremantle community. It outlines specific policy statements that reflect the priorities of Council.

Policy

Definitions

In the context of the policy, recreation is defined as any physical activity undertaken for the purpose of relaxation renewal or exercise at any of the settings controlled or managed by the City of Fremantle:

- Public open space
- Parks
- Beaches and foreshore

- Facilities
- Clubrooms and facilities
- Sports courts
- Community centres
- Recreation centres
- Defined active transport pathways and trails

The following settings are excluded from the framework:

- Libraries
- Art centres
- Service clubs

Principles for provision of recreation

The following principles apply to all recreation programs, services and facilities provided by the City of Fremantle:

Accessibility	Recreation facilities are accessible, high quality, safe, fit for purpose, sited at strategic locations across the city and ensure universal access.
Diversity	A wide range of recreation settings are available to the community catering to all age groups
Flexibility	Recreation programs and facilities are flexible, affordable and equitably distributed across the municipality.
Sustainability	Recreation programs, services and facilities are maintained for future generations by providing opportunities for partnerships, maintaining environmental values and pursuing coordination of services facilities and programs across local governments within the South West region.

Policy statement

Criteria for establishing funding priorities

The City will assess and prioritise all recreation infrastructure projects using the criteria outlined below as appropriate:

- Level of use and community support, including community, input and management.
- Accessibility including maximisation of access for all demographics.
- Operational and financial sustainability.
- Adaptability and flexibility with an emphasis on multipurpose usage.
- Potential as a visitor attraction.
- Impact on the environment.
- Quality of facility –fit for purpose.

Facility hierarchy

The City will implement a hierarchy of recreation and sport facilities which will include all types of recreation areas within the Fremantle local government Area.

The City will also implement a hierarchy of recreation and sport facilities as per definitions. The City will use the hierarchy to assist in determining the level of service and resources required for each facility to meet its operational needs.

Trails

The City will enhance and develop trails in areas where significant linear open spaces exist such as the coast and the Swan River frontage. To increase the attraction and community benefit of trails they will be circular, where possible have spurs and link with points of heritage and cultural interest.

Play spaces

Two categories of play spaces will be provided:

Major play spaces: located in larger parcels of open space, which may have multiple classifications, they will service the immediate and adjacent suburbs. Major play spaces will include a wide range of recreational facilities and settings suitable for all ages and abilities and will cater for high volume frequent use.

Local play spaces: located in smaller parcels of open spaces, they will cater for a highly localised catchment, servicing a catchment of less than 1 km radius. The local play spaces will include recreational facilities and settings suitable to the local catchment and will cater for low volume frequent use.

The upgrading of major play spaces is the highest priority along with relocating play equipment from parks not designated as major or local play spaces.

Club development and sustainability

The City will assist clubs who lease or manage facilities under the control of the City through the provision of information and training in management and volunteer recruitment and retention.

Where appropriate and subject to criteria the City will consider the ability to assist with low interest loans and loan guarantees for improvements.

Responsible directorate:	Community development
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