

He rā ki tua

# Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation

# Document Info & Acknowledgements

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The phrase **He rā ki tua** refers to the notion that there are better times ahead, look towards the future. This is what has guided the plans review in providing a high-level strategic framework for regional play, recreation and sports spaces and places planning. **He rā ki tua** can also be used alongside **Kei a tātou te tikanga** which refers to the solution being in our hands, it is with us (those of us responsible for contributing to and delivering on the plan).

## Acknowledgements

### Project Steering Group representatives from:

- Horizons Regional Council
- Horowhenua District Council
- Rangitikei District Council
- Ruapehu District Council
- Tararua District Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Whanganui District Council
- Manawatu District Council
- Eastern and Central Community Trust
- New Zealand Community Trust
- Sport New Zealand

### 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.

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# Whakataukii & Karakia

## Whakataukii

Kei a tātou te tikanga – The future is in our hands. It's up to us to make things right.

## Karakia

Tūtawa mai I runga

Tūtawa mai I raro

Tūtawa mai I roto

Tūtawa mai I waho

Kia tau ai

Te Mauri tū

Te Mauri ora

Ki te katoa

Haumi e

Hui e

Taaiki e!

Come forth from above,

Below, within,

And from

The environment

Vitality

And wellbeing, for all

Strengthened in Unity

We wish to acknowledge Scotty Morrison (Ngāti Whakaue) originator of the karakia

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# Executive Summary

This document is designed as a review and update of the 2018 Manawatū - Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan. The title *He rā ki tua* signals that there are better times ahead through stronger collaboration in the identification and planning of appropriate spaces and spaces to meet the physical activity needs of those in the region.

The Horizons region incorporates two regional sports trust (Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui) and seven local authorities (Ruapehu, Rangitikei, Whanganui, Manawatū, Tararua and Horowhenua district councils and Palmerston North City Council).

*He rā ki tua* identifies the geographical, socio economic and environmental challenges that impact people's ability to participate in play, active recreation and sport. This Plan identifies a future vision:

**Spaces and places in the Horizons region enable and inspire people to participate in play, active recreation, and sport, their way.**

This vision reflects the importance of providing a range of spaces and places for those in the region from local to national level opportunities and is supported by several planning principles to guide the planning process.

The Plan illustrates the demographic changes occurring in the region and how these impact on the spaces and places that should be provided in the future. As the population ages, there is a need to consider how spaces and places can continue to serve the needs of current participation as well as activities that appeal to an older demographic.

Fiscal challenges are one of the key factors that is driving a need to take a regional approach to the provision of play, active recreation and sporting spaces and places. A decision-making framework has been developed to assist in maximising the opportunities for across-boundary collaboration when considering investment. It is recommended that steering groups are formed to serve the Horizons North and Horizons South areas, with support from Sport Whanganui and Sport Manawatū respectively. These steering groups will play a critical role in ensuring progress is made.

The following table outline the regional level recommendations, along with those organisations responsible and proposed timeframes. Local level recommendations, relating to each territorial authority area can be found in Sections 11 and 12.

## Regional Recommendations

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long 10 years plus, Ongoing)
Increase awareness	Consider across-boundary opportunities for increasing awareness and promoting the use of existing space and places in the Horizons region.	Horizons North PSG Horizons South PSG	Ongoing
	Each RST to publicise an inventory of bookable spaces for indoor recreation opportunities	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long 10 years plus, Ongoing)
	Each RST is to implement an awareness campaign to increase the understanding of the facility planning framework that assists with the decision-making process within this Plan.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short Term
Spaces and places development	Ensure any developments are adaptable and resilient to climate change and maximise sustainability principles.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Work with existing sports clubs to encourage the consolidation of sporting facilities, ensuring current spaces are optimised.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Ensure any investment in spaces and places caters for a diverse participant base, through the application of this Plan's principles.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing
	When developing <i>public convenience</i> strategies look for alignment and opportunities with play, recreation and sports developments.	All councils	Ongoing
	Allocate sports field space for traditional Māori games (such as ki o rahi)	All councils	Ongoing
	Develop a Regional Indoor Courts Network Plan using guidance from the National Indoor Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Strategy	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
Accessibility	Advocate that for any new or upgraded walking trails developed, they allow for accessibility where practical.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing
	Any investment in change rooms needs to address all genders' needs, in line with Sport NZ's guidance on gender-neutral change spaces.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing
Informal Play and Recreation	Consider the development of spaces that incorporate natural elements for imaginative, self-determined age-appropriate play. This could be when developing new infrastructure or upgrading existing spaces and places.	All councils	Ongoing
	Place playgrounds near complementary natural elements to maximise self-initiated, imaginative environmental play.	All councils	Ongoing
	Incorporate wider recreation and play infrastructure when upgrading or developing new sporting facilities (such as walking trails, basketball ½ courts, pump tracks and fitness trails). This will broaden the appeal of these spaces and places and offer low-cost options to participate	All councils	Ongoing

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long 10 years plus, Ongoing)
Process Recommendations			
	Organisations adopt this Plan and integrate the decision-making framework into decisions about play, active recreation and sports facilities.	All PSG Organisations	Short term
	This plan is referred to as He rā ki tua - Horizons Region Spaces & Places Plan for Sport and Recreation	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Establish Te Pae Whenua ki te Raki - Horizons North Steering Group, including iwi, councils, Sport Whanganui and community funders that oversees concepts and can look for collaborative opportunities and connections with other projects.	Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Establish Te Paewhenua ki te Tonga - Horizons South Steering Group, including iwi, councils, Sport Manawatū and community funders that oversees concepts and can look for collaborative opportunities and connections with other projects.	Sport Manawatū	Short term
	Coordination of the Steering Groups is to be overseen by Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Adopt the proposed decision-making process when considering project concepts and existing planned projects that are seeking further investment. Assess currently proposed actions using the decision-making process.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Promote the services of each RST as Spaces and Places Navigators available to help community groups.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Each participating council updates the Sport NZ Facility Planning tool on a bi-annual basis, to ensure there is an up-to-date central facility inventory for the region.	All councils	Ongoing
	Review this Plan in 3-4 years' time, with a focus on across-boundary collaboration	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Medium term

# 2 Background

## 2.1 Purpose

This document is designed as a review and update of the 2018 Manawatū - Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan (RSFP 2018). The RSFP 2018 stated its purpose as:

*“To provide a high-level strategic framework for sport and recreation facility planning across the region (Map 1). It is designed to provide direction on what should be done and crucially, what should not be done. The strategy is designed to focus thinking at a network wide sport facilities level with emphasis on national, regional and sub-regional assets, while also capturing local level facility data.”<sup>1</sup>*

The 2023-33 Plan will continue to provide the strategic vision, direction and determine the priorities for the Horizons<sup>2</sup> network future development of appropriate spaces and places at a local community, sub-regional, regional or cross boundary and, where appropriate national levels.

It is intended that this Plan builds on the foundations and learning from the RSFP 2018 and provides a platform for:

- Greater collaboration across the Horizons region, particularly between the project partners.
- A collaborative view of the priorities for play, active recreation and sport spaces and places (facilities) across the Horizons region.
- Informing the planning for future spaces and places, including providing mechanisms to support greater consistency in the planning and decision-making process used by key organisations.
- Informing council LTP processes as to the identified initiatives for future consideration
- Ensuring investment decisions are evidenced based with funding to match.

This strategy should not be seen as a replacement for detailed local planning on a project-by-project basis i.e. asset management plans. Rather it should guide, support, and inform detailed planning at the local community network level.

## 2.2 Methodology

The review and update of the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan (2018) to become the Horizons Region Spaces & Places Plan for Sport and Recreation has involved a significant number of stakeholders over a period of several months. A project working group (PWG) was established with representation from each territorial authority and Horizons, the regional sports trusts (RST) in the area and invited community funders.

The process involved the following areas of focus:

- A review of the 2018 Regional Sports Facility Plan
- Reviewing additional documentation provided by the PWG
- Confirming population and participation patterns
- Updating the stocktake of spaces and places
- A range of stakeholder engagement opportunities (further described below)
- Iwi engagement

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<sup>2</sup> Horizons is the trading name for the Manawatū – Whanganui Regional Council.

- Developing emerging trends and themes
- An identification of needs with regard to spaces and places for play, active recreation and sport.
- Developing a decision-making framework. Including principles and criteria
- Confirming specific initiatives for each territorial authority area within the Horizons region.
- Drafting the plan.

### 2.2.1 Stakeholder Engagement

A range of methods were used to understand the current and future requirements of participant organisations. A number of kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) workshops and hui were held across the region<sup>3</sup> along with two online workshops for those who could not attend in person. 93 people attended workshops and hui from 65 organisations. Targeted workshops were held to capture the specific views of:

- Iwi
- Play and recreation organisations
- Secondary school principals.
- Sporting clubs and regional bodies

An online survey was distributed to databases of organisations compiled by the PWG. 68 responses were received<sup>4</sup>. One on one interviews were also held where further clarification was required.

Feedback themes from this engagement has provided critical insight into this review.

## 2.3 Scope

The scope of this Plan generally focusses on those places and spaces that enable participation in play, active recreation and sport. This is an extended scope from that which was used for the RSFP 2018.

This scope reflects the wider range of activities that people participate in and the need to understand the interlinkages between formal and informal sport, alongside less formal recreation and play opportunities.

This Plan focusses on the spaces and places but acknowledges that for these to be successful and sustainable they require people to bring them to life and be meaningful.

The geographical scope of this report includes the territorial authority areas of:

#### Te Pae Whenua ki te Raki - Horizons North

- Ruapehu District Council
- Rangitikei District Council
- Whanganui District Council
- 

#### Te Paewhenua ki te Tonga - Horizons South

- Manawātū District Council
- Tararua District Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Horowhenua District Council

<sup>3</sup> Workshops were held in Palmerston North (2), Marton, Whanganui and Levin.

<sup>4</sup> This information was considered alongside survey responses to the review of the PNCC sections of the RSFP 2018 that was undertaken in 2022.

## 2.4 Timeframe

This Plan is seen as a point in time strategy that reflects on current provision and associated participation needs. The Plan looks to what are the spaces and places requirements in the region for the next 20 years. Any specific project recommendations will need to be further tested at a project-by-project level. A decision-making framework is provided in Section 10 to help guide the assessment of proposals/concepts.

## 2.5 Review of the RSFP 2018

Sport Manawatū commissioned an independent Review of 2018 Regional Sport Facility Plan in 2022<sup>5</sup>. The focus of the review was on how the 2018 RSFP was used by key organisations to guide decision-making.

This review was a recommended action within the RSFP and was undertaken by an independent evaluation organisation. The following section summarises the key findings of the review of the RSFP 2018.

### Uneven adoption

Generally, the RSFP was not used widely. There were difficulties in convincing some local sports groups that the RSFP was in their “long-term interest” and concerns that the all-of-Territorial Authority approach may have some TAs investing “in facilities their community may never use”.

### Collaboration

There were regular stakeholder meetings, representing councils and the two regional sports trusts (RSTs), Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui. There was good evidence that councils and the RSTs were working and communicating well, with occasional input from Sport New Zealand. All council respondents stated they were willing to provide guidance and leadership in the implementation of the RSFP.

Both a decision-maker (council) and a sports organisation believed that the RSFP “encourages collaboration” with other councils and RSTs, but “doesn’t help avoid duplication of asset development or facilitate collaboration with other sports organisations”. A council respondent stated that the RSFP does help with the facilitation of communication with executive groups.

### Socialisation

The RSFP was socialised in a number of different ways. In particular to:

- Promote the practical use of the framework as the best means of decision making, ensuring funding was justified and aligned.
- Reference the RSFP in any facility planning.
- Use it as “secondary information to project needs assessment and feasibility studies in our District”.
- Educate key project stakeholders.

### Diverse usage

Decision-makers applied the RSFP in two main ways: (1) as a principle-based assessment or (2) a process tool (i.e., applications must follow the RSFP steps). Stakeholders all agreed that it was very useful, providing “great structure and rationale, as well as driving consistency when assessing proposals” but uptake was variable across the Horizons region.

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<sup>5</sup> Undertaken by Allen & Clarke

Note: Feedback from discussions with councils during the development of this updated 2023 Plan was that not all groups agreed the process was useful. Some said it was a cumbersome process that slowed down decision making, without necessarily improving outcomes. This feedback needs to be further explored by the regional partners moving forward.

#### **Diversity and accessibility**

There was little reference to how the 2018 RSFP and its recommendations could increase diversity and inclusion.

#### **Iwi**

No mana/kai whenua were present at stakeholder meetings, nor was engagement or partnership with iwi included in the RSFP documentation beyond being included as a stakeholder in the forward of the RSFP documentation.

## **3 Horizons Region Advantages and Community Profile**

### **3.1 Advantages**

#### **Regional Spaces & Places Advisory Group**

Key stakeholders have been successfully collaborating on regional spaces and places planning since the development of the 2018 RSFP. The improved collaboration between Councils, funders and the RSTs is starting to show strategic benefits.

#### **Natural environment**

The region benefits from easy access to a range of natural features that support sport and recreation. The Whanganui, Rangitikei and Manawatū Awa are the three largest of nine awa that run to the Tasman Sea in the region. They provide important places for kaimoana gathering as well as having significant recreational values. There are various beaches and maunga, including the Tararua and Ruahine Forest Parks. Tongariro National Park is an iconic destination for those recreation in snow sports as well as other outdoor activities.

#### **Central Location**

Being situated in the central and lower North Island means the Horizons Region is accessible to the surrounding population. Palmerston North in particular hosts a large number of sports tournaments, due to its close proximity to the population in the southern half of the North Island.

The Horizons Region also has a mix of facilities that are suitable for hosting sport and active recreation events at a regional, North Island and National level including Arena Manawatū and the Whanganui Velodrome.

#### **Education facilities**

Massey University provides community access to sports facilities such as hockey turfs and the Sport and Rugby Institute. The partnership between Massey University and Palmerston North City Council is something that could be further harnessed to ensure the mix of spaces and places provided in the area meet the needs and are accessible for students and community alike.

The geographical dispersal of schools across the region, including in small communities, provides a base level of facility provision in areas that might not otherwise have the population base to sustain these types of play, sport and recreation assets.

## 3.2 Demographic Profile

### 3.2.1 Background<sup>6</sup>

This section provides demographic information for the whole Horizons Region. A demographic profile is provided for each Council area in Sections 11 and 12.

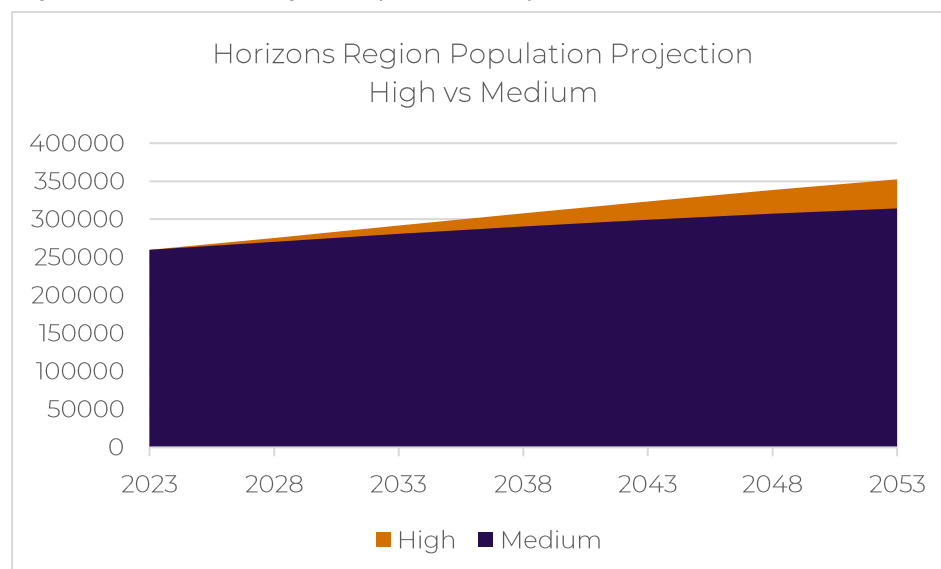
Each of the 7 Councils in the Horizons region required specific demographic data for this report that was aligned to long term plan processes. Four Councils required Infometrics<sup>7</sup> high scenarios, one a combination of Infometrics medium scenario and Stats NZ high, while another used 3<sup>rd</sup> party sourced data. One Council has not provided demographic data at the time of writing.

In order to provide some guidance as to the possible demographic trends across the Horizons region for the next 30 years, demographic analysis in this section has been based on Infometrics high projections with some comparison of medium scenarios.

### 3.2.2 Population Projection

The population of the Horizons Region is 259,684 currently. The population of the region is expected to increase over the 30 years to 2053<sup>8</sup> at which time it is projected to be 352,390 under a high scenario or 314,218 under a medium scenario. This is an increase of 36 % or 92,706 people under a high scenario or 21% (54,534 people) under a medium scenario.

**Figure 3.1: Horizons Region Population Projection**



### 3.2.3 Horizons Region Age Group Projection

It is expected that there will be increases in population across all age groups in the Horizons region. The biggest change in the age make-up of the Horizons Region is expected to be in the 65 plus age group which is expected to increase by 75% in the 30 years to 2053. This group is expected to increase by nearly 38,000 people. The 40-64 year age group is expected to experience an increase of 31%

<sup>6</sup> The demographic data sets for this report have been supplied by each participating council area.

<sup>7</sup> Infometrics is an economic consultancy that was commissioned to provide population projections for the region.

<sup>8</sup> All Infometrics projections in this section were based on the 30-year period 2023-2053. Data points were taken at 5-year intervals.

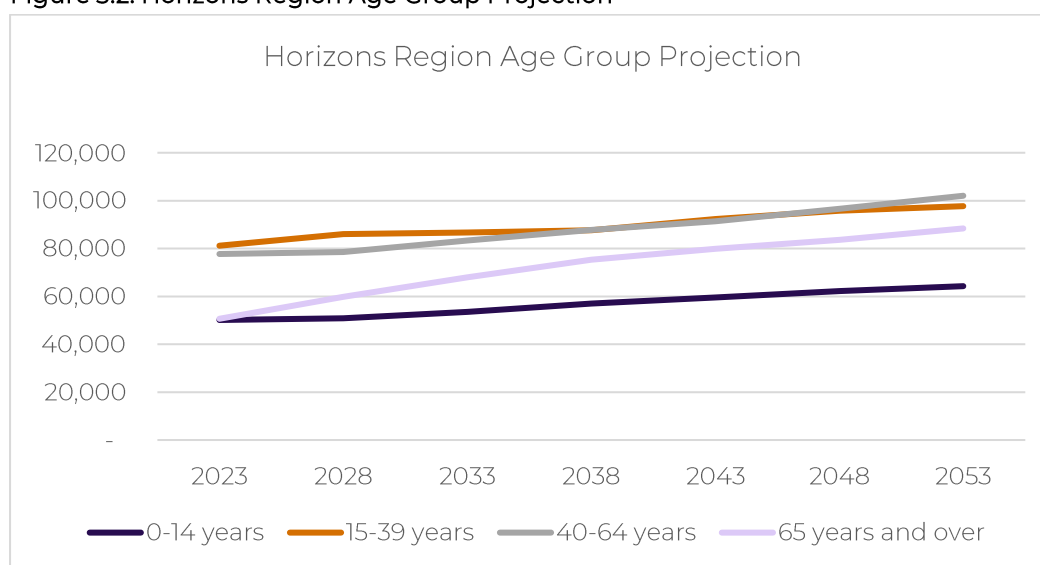


(nearly 25,000 people), the 15-39 year group 20% (16,500 people) and the 0-14 year group 28% (just over 14,000 people).

**Table 3.1: Horizons Region Age Group Projection**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023- 2053
0-14 years	50,143	50,827	53,544	56,962	59,529	62,207	64,271	14,128	28%
15-39 years	81,174	85,961	86,722	87,643	92,309	95,784	97,689	16,516	20%
40-64 years	77,717	78,575	83,376	87,709	91,435	96,599	102,041	24,324	31%
65 years and over	50,651	59,839	67,935	75,293	79,931	83,672	88,388	37,737	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>259,684</b>	<b>275,203</b>	<b>291,577</b>	<b>307,607</b>	<b>323,204</b>	<b>338,263</b>	<b>352,390</b>	<b>92,705</b>	<b>36%</b>

**Figure 3.2: Horizons Region Age Group Projection**



By 2053 most age groups will be represented by similar proportions of the population to what they were in 2023. The exception to this is the 65 plus age group which will represent 25% of the Horizons population, up from 20% in 2023.

**Table 3.2: Age Groups Proportion of Horizons Population**

Age Group	% of total pop 2023	% of total pop 2053
0-14 years	19%	18%
15-39 years	31%	28%
40-64 years	30%	29%
65 years and over	20%	25%

### 3.2.4 Horizons Region Ethnic Profile

The Horizons Region is projected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053<sup>9</sup>. The population of those identifying as Asian is expected to increase by 121% or nearly 25,000 people across the Horizons Region. The population of those identifying as Māori is expected to increase by 81% or more than 50,000 individuals while those identifying as Pasifika is expected to increase by 113% or

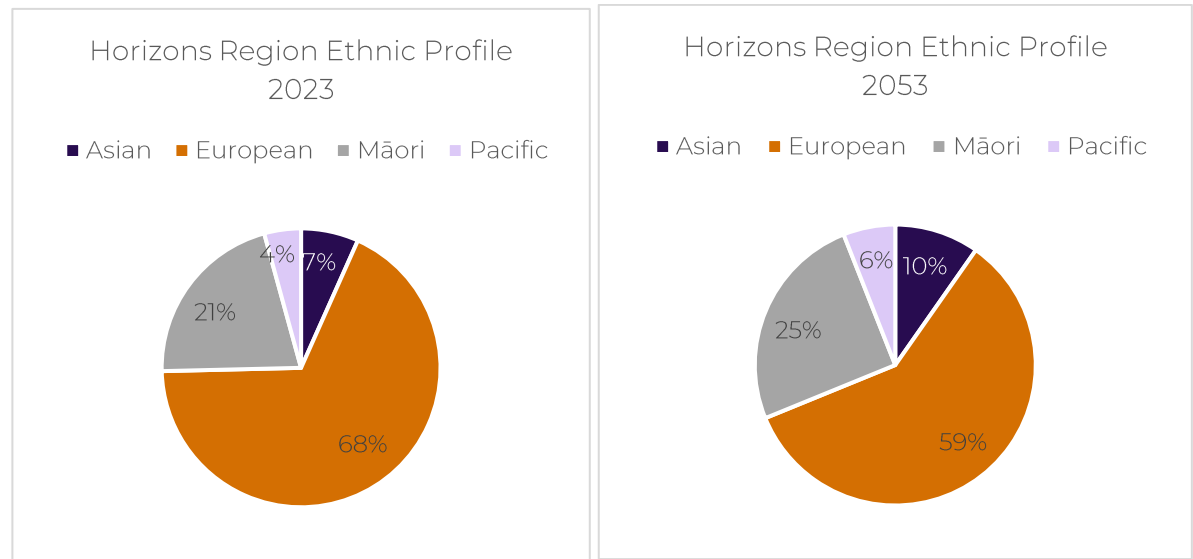
<sup>9</sup> Individuals can identify as more than one ethnicity so ethnic totals may add to more than the total population.

nearly 15,000 people. The population of those identifying as European is expected to increase by 32% or over 65,000 people.

**Table 3.3: Horizons Region Ethnic Profile**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023- 2053
Asian	20,341	24,931	29,947	35,431	41,404	43,236	44,903	24,562	121%
European	206,876	217,829	228,864	239,679	249,525	261,528	272,586	65,710	32%
Māori	64,282	73,653	83,723	94,985	107,631	112,046	116,118	51,836	81%
Pacific	12,988	15,494	18,409	21,718	25,478	26,599	27,673	14,685	113%

**Figure 3.3: Horizons Region Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053**



# 4 Emerging Trends in Play, Active Recreation and Sport

## 4.1 Macro trends in play, active recreation and sport

### Adapting Sport for New Markets

Many organisations are adapting their offering to make their game or activity more attractive, such as providing more social, contactless offerings to better suit the very young, as well as to cater for the aging population. New sports like Pickleball and Gateball are emerging that put a new twist on existing sports and create new challenges and opportunities for existing facilities.

### Individualisation

Individual sport and recreation activities 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 group-based sport and recreation. 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.

### Ageing Infrastructure

Many facilities are ageing 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 play, active recreation and sport needs.

### Legislative Changes

The Incorporated Societies Act (2022) is likely to place increased requirements on those who govern sporting clubs. While the longer-term impacts are not known, it is likely that the increased personal responsibilities required of those serving on club committees may lead to less people willing to serve in these roles.

### Understanding the wider benefits of Play, Active Recreation and Sport

There is a growing awareness of the wider value of play, active recreation and sport spaces and places. Historical benefit measures have been generally focussed on the financial return on investment. Recently Sport NZ has developed measurement tools to support the understanding of the social return on investment.

## 4.2 Micro trends in sport

### The Changing Face of Sport

Traditional sport is becoming less popular while more informal recreational activities like walking, swimming, cycling and home workouts are increasing in popularity. This is impacting on club membership and competition numbers. Sports are having to be creative to adapt their traditional offerings to retain/secure members.

### Recognising the Value and Variety of Play

The value and variety of play is key to the development of young people not just for their sporting future but for their overall happiness and wellbeing.

### Balanced approach to participation

The “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 young people enjoying a variety of activities rather than specialising in one code from a young age.

### Volunteers

There continues to be a strong reliance on volunteers for the governance, management, and delivery of sport and recreation 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. Some sporting and active recreation organisations are reporting a decrease in volunteers.

### Demand for Indoor Space

There is an increasing demand to move more outdoor sport indoors, particularly as climate change brings more extreme weather events and heavy rain. Other sports such as gymnastics/trampolining have quite specific requirements so demand purpose-built sole use facilities.

### Suitability of Facilities

While there are apparently sufficient pools and indoor spaces available, many of them are not fit for purpose. School pools tend to be small, outdoors and unheated. Indoor pools while good for squad and recreational swimming and leisure/play, are not necessarily fit for purpose for an ageing demographic. School halls and gyms are often unmarked, inadequately lit, and only available for restricted community use.

### Sustainability of Funding

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

### Increased Service Level Expectations

With improved technology and design, participants have an expectation that they can access high-quality facilities previously only experienced by high-performance sport. Many codes consider access to indoor or artificial playing surfaces as a given that even the most junior players should have access to.

The impact of these increased expectations is that higher specified assets have higher whole of life costs. This is acutely noticed, particularly in the current inflationary environment.

### Environmental Issues

There has 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. That appetite, 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. Councils, along with other organisations, are actively seeking to reduce

greenhouse gas emissions therefore this is an important consideration.

### **Increasing Costs of Participation**

The increasing costs of living are impacting all facets of life and play, active recreation and sport are no exception. The cost to access and participate in spaces and places that enable sport and recreation is a barrier to participation.

### **Case Study – Data Capture**

Providing consistently reliable participation statistics to decision-makers has proven to be a significant challenge. Regional sports trusts (RSTs) report to local councils (and others) on the trends that are occurring in community participation. This information is then used to assist in guiding decisions on future investment in spaces and places.

Recognising the importance of collaboration, Sport Manawatū and the Palmerston North City Council partnered to investigate how participation information could be gathered regularly and consistently.

The investigations revealed that there is no single data source that can be relied on upon to provide an accurate picture of current and future participation. There is a range of sources that need to be collated and analysed. Readily available information on participation can come from:

- Any current RST database of participation
- NZ Secondary School Sports Council (high school sport only),
- Sport NZ Active NZ Survey (general population data, but not club-based)
- Sport NZ Insights tool (likely participation rates)
- Sports draws (which sports are playing when and where)
- Venue bookings (can be cross-referenced with sports draws)
- Existing reports from sports codes, such as annual reports
- Previous submissions and third-party reports

Sport Manawatū has undertaken to collect participation data twice a year, to capture summer and winter codes. An electronic capturing system has been developed using survey software to help reduce workload for the Sport Manawatū staff and provide uniformity in responses. This will make it easier for the RST to analyse the data. The benefits will be in this regularly updated information being available (to both the codes and funders) to demonstrate trends that can inform decision-making.

## 5 Stakeholder Feedback

Stakeholder feedback was gathered through a mix of methods including stakeholder workshops, an online survey and individual interactions.

A summary of all survey results can be found in Appendix A. Consistent themes have emerged during the consultation process that are relevant across the Horizons Region. These include:



# 6 Key Challenges

The following section outlines the key challenges regarding spaces and places for play, active recreation and sport in the Horizons area. These have been identified through stakeholder consultation, survey feedback, sector trends. The challenges are themed into four key areas: participation, geographic, socio-economic and places and spaces.

## 6.1 Participation Challenges

### 6.1.1 Declining participation in some traditional sports

Sport NZ is reporting that there is a decline in membership and participation of some traditionally strong sports in New Zealand. A range of factors have led to this including societal changes, perceived or real safety concerns and financial barriers. Organisations are having to develop new delivery opportunities and systems to encourage a broader range of participants.

### 6.1.2 Connection of people to the environment

Over time there has been a growing disconnect between people and the environment (connecting tangata and taio). There needs to be more opportunities for people to safely play in the natural environments that surround them and to remove any perceived safety obstacles to participation.

### 6.1.3 Supporting volunteers

Organisations are reporting a declining pool of volunteers, particularly those required to oversee the responsibilities of clubs (President, Secretary, Treasurer, general Committee roles). There is a need to offer volunteer roles that encourage involvement by young people.

### 6.1.4 Enable access for all to participate in the activities of their choice

There is a need to increase awareness of the opportunities that are already available. And support those organisations that are attempting to increase participation. Clubs need to be supported and encouraged to consider a wider diversity of participants that what they may have potentially catered for.

### 6.1.5 Technology assisted participation

A number of aids or technological advancements have occurred that are allowing a wider participant base to participate in activities. Information technology applications are in some instances replacing traditional clubs as the way people meet and recreation. Electric bikes (or E-bikes) are allowing less active people to access a wider area to cycle.

## 6.2 Places and Spaces Challenges

### 6.2.1 Maximising use of existing places and places

Before any new spaces and places are proposed we need to ensure that existing spaces and places are used to potential. This could include the retro-fitting of existing facilities, re-allocation of spaces from traditional activities that no longer need as much space to emerging user groups or re-programming existing spaces to meet the emerging needs of the community.

## **6.2.2 Share facilities and other resources**

There are significant opportunities for user groups to share facilities that have historically only been used by a single sports code. Where possible and practical support should be provided to groups who are aspiring to open up spaces for other user groups.

## **6.2.3 Improve the ancillary facilities that support participants**

There needs to be a modernisation of existing change rooms, toilets and club rooms to cater for the diverse range of participants. Many sports club change rooms need to be renovated to take into consideration the needs of female and gender diverse participants and all abilities.

## **6.3 Geographical Challenges**

The Horizons area is large with a relatively dispersed population. Participants often have to travel considerable distances to participate in the activities of choice. This is particularly impactful for those who reside away from the larger centres of Palmerston North and Whanganui where the concentration of specialist spaces and places are generally located.

## **6.4 Socio-Economic Challenges**

### **6.4.1 Increasing service level expectations**

Residents (and visitors) are demanding higher levels of service than ever before. A number of sports are requesting higher specification playing and training facilities. This places additional pressures on facility providers.

### **6.4.2 Funding availability / competing priorities for investment**

There is only a finite pool of funding available to support play, active recreation and sport projects. Often these projects are competing with each other and other types of projects for the same funds. Funders are looking for direction, while maintaining their own sovereignty, in decision making.

### **6.4.3 Single Use, Under-utilised, Ageing facilities (renewal required)**

The facility stocktake highlights a large number of facilities that are potentially underutilised and could be shared more. This would enhance their ability to be more financially sustainable.

The inventory of facilities is also inevitably ageing. 60% of survey respondents reported operating from facilities that were over 25 years old. 30% reported operating from facilities 50 years old. It is not surprising that this stock of facilities is ageing. New Zealand generally prospered in the post-Second World War period and this is reflected in the number of facilities developed during this time for community participation opportunities, including sport and active recreation.

Further work, at a local level, needs to be undertaken to determine what spaces and places can be further utilised, before committing to new developments.

### **6.4.4 Affordability – costs of participation and facility hire**

As cost of living pressures increase this effects participants ability to pay to play and train in the activities of their choice. The increased service level expectations also have an impact on the cost of participation (such as increased venue hire costs, that are ultimately passed onto participants). Low cost, entry level opportunities need to be supported and encouraged to reduce the barrier of cost to participants.



#### 6.4.5 Ageing Population

The population of those in 65 plus age group in the Horizons Region is expected to increase by 75% in the 30 years to 2053<sup>10</sup>. This is an increase of nearly 38,000 people. It is expected that those aged 65 years and over will make up 25% of the population of the Horizons Region in 2053. There will be increased demand for indoor recreation and social spaces by this cohort, along with the types of activities they wish to participate in which may be more informal recreation. There will be an increased requirement for facilities that are warm, accessible and with good acoustics. Social interaction will become an even greater driver among this cohort.

### 6.5 Environmental Challenges

The play, active recreation and sport sectors are understanding the importance of environmental sustainability when considering spaces and places projects. Feedback from survey responses raised questions about the potential moving of seasons, with periods of the year being wetter than normal. This, along with increased concerns around the impacts of the sun on participants has been one driver for codes looking for more indoor or covered training and playing areas.

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<sup>10</sup> Source: Infometrics high projection

## 6.6 Strategic Context and Drivers

The following section highlights the wider strategic context that this Plan should align to and support.

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
	<b>Sport NZ</b>	
Every Body Active - Sport NZ Strategic Direction 2020-2032/Strategic Plan 2020-2024	Sport NZ is seeking collective resolve and commitment from across the sector to support Play, Active Recreation, and Sport to have the greatest possible impact on wellbeing.	The Sport NZ Plan identifies tamariki (aged 5-11) and rangatahi (aged 12-18) as key target audiences, particularly those less active. These target audiences have been considered in the development of this Plan.
Better Value from NZ Sporting Facilities - Sport NZ – Sporting Facilities Framework	This tool was developed to support effective facility development/investment decisions. Sport NZ encourages those associated within the sport sector, which includes Councils, to apply the following principles to planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting an identified need</li> <li>• Sustainability</li> <li>• Partnering/Collaboration</li> <li>• Integration</li> <li>• Future proofing</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> </ul>	The key principles of the framework have been considered in the development of the principles for this Plan.
National Aquatic Facilities Plan (NAFP) 2013  *being updated in 2023	The NAFP provides a framework for developing future facilities which are appropriately scaled and located to meet the needs of users – locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. The NAFP noted the competitive use v community use challenges that still exist. The NAFP is currently under review and is likely to look more at how pools are used rather than the number of users per pool. This will better consider the needs of different demographic groups with older adults and toddlers seeking warmer water than competitive swimmers.	The NAFP has been considered in this Plan and will be relevant to pieces of work either being, or to be, undertaken across the Horizons Region.
National Indoor Court Facilities Plan (NICFP) 2013  *being updated in 2023	The Plan provides a framework for developing future facilities which are appropriately scaled and located to meet the needs of users – locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. At the time the Plan was written the Manawātū-Whanganui Region had 1 Council owned court per 21,000 people (the national average was 1:23,000) and 1 school court per 15,000 (the national average was 1:14,000). The Plan is currently under review and will provide an update on guidance around number and specifications of indoor court facilities.	The NICFP has been referenced in this Plan and will be relevant to pieces of work either being, or to be, undertaken across the Horizons Region.
	<b>Ruapehu District Council</b>	
Raetihi Pool Options and Feasibility Study 2022	The Study considers options for the aging Raetihi outdoor pool which is the only public swimming facility available for local schools and recommends that the proposed development of the Ohakune community pool be	Reference to these pools has been made in this Plan.

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
	considered at the same time because they provide similar offerings to the 2 small neighbouring communities.	
	<b>Rangitikei District Council</b>	
Parks, Open Spaces and Sporting Facilities Strategy (Draft) 2023	The Strategy provides an overarching strategic framework to guide decisions on parks, open spaces, and sporting facilities.  It identifies 8 principles and proposes a weighted decision-making criteria. The weighting has yet to be identified.	The principles and decision-making criteria of this draft Strategy align with those developed for this Plan.
	<b>Whanganui District Council</b>	
Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy October 2022	The Strategy is intended to guide decision-making around the provision, development, and management of open spaces so that they support the health and wellbeing of the environment, individuals, and communities, now and in the future. It has a strong focus of the coming together of Te o Māori and European world views and the impact of climate change. This strategy has been informed by the Whanganui Physical Activity Insights Report, published by Sport Whanganui in June 2022. An action plan will be developed out of this strategy drawing on the specific insights from the research.	The principles of this Strategy have been considered and align with the principles of this Plan.
	<b>Palmerston North City Council</b>	
Active Communities Plan (ACP) 2021-2031 (being updated in 2023/24).	The ACP provides detail about how the goal of being 'a creative and exciting city' will be achieved through being active. It looks at where Palmerston North is now, what PNCC wants to achieve through the ACP and what actions it will take to achieve what it wants. This includes both provision of sport and recreation facilities and relevant partnerships to support this.	Relevant recommendations have been considered in this Plan.
Connected Communities Plan (CCP) 2021-2031 (being updated in 2023/24).	The Connected Communities Plan identifies 4 priorities for PNCC to work towards to achieve 'a connected and safe community'. The Community Facilities and Healthy Communities Chapters are both relevant to sport and recreation.	Reference to relevant facilities have been made in this Plan.
Review of the PNCC Sections of the Manawātū-Whanganui Sports Facility Plan 2018	This report was commissioned by PNCC to understand the progress that has been made from 2018 and to provide an update on what the key priorities and recommendations should be for the PNCC area.	This review closely aligns to the new Horizons Play, Active Recreation and Sport Spaces and Places Plan.
AMPs?		
Aquatic facilities and water-based needs assessment		
	<b>Horowhenua District Council</b>	

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
HDC Open Space Strategy September 2012	Open space is defined as 'areas of land and water that the public has a level of free physical or visual access to' and includes sport and recreation reserves where people can be active, as well as river corridors, beaches and the Tararua Ranges that facilitate passive enjoyment through visibility. It doesn't include agricultural land. It is intended to facilitate a dialogue between Council, its partners, and the community about the value of open space within the Horowhenua District.	Many of the principles in the Strategy align with the principles developed for this Plan.
	<b>Manawatū District Council</b>	
Community Facilities Strategic Framework (Draft) 2020-2023	The Community Facilities Strategy acknowledges that a lot of community facilities in the district will be nearing the end of their useful life within 5-10 years. The Strategy is designed to provide direction to assist Council around decisions over the next 30 years to upgrade an existing or develop a new community facility as well as facilities' divestment.  The Community Toolbox closely aligns with the processes identified in the 2018 Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports Facilities Plan.	The Strategy's goals align well with the principles developed for this Plan.
Recreation Complexes Community Facility Strategy Sub-Plan (Draft)	This Sub-Plan looks at recreation facilities owned by Council across the district. It addresses the issues and opportunities that were identified in the Community Facility Strategy and Framework and sets out operational actions and investment projects to be completed 2020-2025. Many of the key actions have yet to be completed.	Relevant outstanding recommendations have been incorporated into this Plan.
Community Halls Community Facility Strategy Sub-Plan (Draft)	This Sub-Plan looks at community halls and while none of the actions or investment projects are as significant as those for the recreation complexes, they involve upgrading and where appropriate divestment of facilities no longer fit for purpose.	Relevant outstanding recommendations have been incorporated into this Plan.
Manfield Options Study 2019	The Study identifies opportunities for Manfield to become a multi-use events centre for general community, district, and regional use.	Relevant outstanding recommendations have been incorporated into this Plan.
Manawatū District Community Sports Facilities Provision Plan 2018	The Plan provides a high-level direction for sport and recreation planning across the district. It provides a stocktake of current assets and the analysis of existing national and regional strategies and issues to determine district facility priorities and builds on and aligns with the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports facility Plan.	Relevant outstanding recommendations have been incorporated into this Plan.

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
	The Plan identifies that the district has no provision gaps at the time. Rather opportunities exist to optimise the existing network.	
	<b>Tararua District Council</b>	
Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy	The Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy provides the strategic vision, direction and determine the priorities for the district's future development of play, active recreation, and sport. The purpose of the Strategy is to establish evidence-based guidance and recommendations about what should be done and crucially, what should not be done, with a clear outline of priorities. The Strategy will be a planning document that informs district and regional decision making to enable effective planning for subsequent projects to achieve the district's vision and community outcomes.	The principles/criteria of this Strategy align with the principles developed for this Plan.
Dannevirke Indoor Multisport and Recreation Facility Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study 2021	The Study considered the number and quality of the indoor court facilities available in Dannevirke and concluded there is a need for all-weather indoor active recreation and sport space. This will remedy the current under-supply of indoor courts which is inhibiting the growth of sports such as basketball, netball, futsal, replace the aging Dannevirke Sports Centre and meet projected growth in demand for indoor active recreation and sport.	The recommendation for a new facility has been considered and referred to in this Plan.
Community and Recreation Facilities Asset Management Plan (Draft) 2021	The Plan is a Business case Proposal developed to gain funding for the delivery of community facility activities. Recreation facilities, swimming pools, parks, and reserves are all considered community facilities. This Plan is an update to the 2018 AMP. The Plan considers all assets within scope, any issues in relation to them, solutions, and costs to resolve the issues. It describes how Council will implement the expectations that the community has through setting and delivering service levels within budget constraints.	

## 6.7 National and Regional Facilities Strategy – Provision Guidance

A number of national strategies have been developed over the last 12-15 years to help guide decision making on the level of provision for a range of sports. Some of these strategies are in the process of being upgraded, while others are old and perhaps in need of a refresh. The following table outlines these strategies and provides commentary around the Horizons regional context.

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
	<b>Sport NZ</b>	
National Aquatic Facilities Plan (NAFP) 2013  *being updated in 2023	The NAFP provides a framework for developing future facilities which are appropriately scaled and located to meet the needs of users – locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. The NAFP noted the competitive use v community use challenges that still exist. The NAFP is currently under review and is likely to look more at how pools are used rather than the number of users per pool. This will better consider the needs of different demographic groups with older adults and toddlers seeking warmer water than competitive swimmers.	The NAFP has been considered in this Plan and will be relevant to pieces of work either being, or to be, undertaken across the Horizons Region.  A regional Aquatics Strategy may assist in determining future provision of aquatic space in the area.
National Indoor Court Facilities Plan (NICFP) 2013  *being updated in 2023	The Plan provides a framework for developing future facilities which are appropriately scaled and located to meet the needs of users – locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. At the time the Plan was written the Manawatū-Whanganui Region had 1 Council owned court per 21,000 people (the national average was 1:23,000) and 1 school court per 15,000 (the national average was 1:14,000). The Plan is currently under review and will provide an update on guidance around number and specifications of indoor court facilities.	The NICFP has been referenced in this Plan and will be relevant to pieces of work either being, or to be, undertaken across the Horizons Region.  A regional indoor Courts Strategy may assist in determining future provision of aquatic space in the area.
National Facilities Guidelines for Tennis (2018)	The guidelines outline the various expected levels of service for the various levels of the Tennis facilities hierarchy. No tennis facilities in the Horizons region are identified as nationally significant.  The guidelines provide no metrics for the desired level of provision for community tennis.	Tennis New Zealand does not identify any existing facilities as meeting the requirements for a “sub-regional” facility, however it acknowledges the role played by the Manawatū Lawn Tennis Club, Marist Tennis Club, Feilding Tennis and the Whanganui Tennis Club. in
Bike NZ Sports Facilities Strategy (2010)	No specific recommendations were made for any cycling facility developments in Manawatu-Wanganui 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.	Cycling is a popular recreational activity and since the time of this strategy there has been the emergence of new technology such as e-bikes, that have increased the number of people who can potentially participate. New construction options, such as high tension fabrics, have also provided other options for the covering of the Whanganui velodrome, if deemed feasible.

Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
Basketball Facility Guidelines (2014)	<p>Increase access to school courts for community use.</p> <p>Modify and increase access to outdoor courts such as netball and tennis courts and recreation spaces.</p> <p>Be flexible with court size and game times.</p> <p>Adapt and redevelop existing facilities.</p> <p>Develop new facilities (including facilities with both indoor and outdoor court provision).</p>	<p>Arena Manawātū identified as the only facility that is of national status based on size and quality.</p> <p>Basketball growth has continued since the development of this strategy.</p>
Cricket Facilities Strategy (2013)	<p>This strategy recommended that each Cricket Association should develop a facility network plan to improve current facilities.</p> <p>Developing more consistency in cricket facilities was a general priority, based on a link between facility quality and player development.</p> <p>A focus was recommended on improving cricket facilities at the secondary school level, including a network-based partnership approach.</p> <p>A focus was also recommended on developing more artificial facilities for playing and training, particularly including all semi-hard ball cricket.</p> <p>More specific use of expert facility advisory resources was recommended.</p>	<p>No known regional plan for cricket facilities.</p> <p>There has been a significant growth in the number of covered grass wicket training blocks in NZ in the last 5-10 years, with Palmerston North being no exception.</p>
Golf Facilities Strategy (2013)	<p>The Manawatu-Wanganui region was identified as one of the regions with one of the higher population to golf facility ratios in NZ (1:10,113). Compared with other regions it had a relatively low supply of courses (on a population basis).</p> <p>70% of Manawatu-Wanganui courses are 18 holes, compared with 80% for NZ.</p> <p>The strategy recommends more use of mergers and community sports hub partnerships to increase sustainability in the more rural and/or over-supplied areas.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Golf has seen some participation increases, particularly during and after the Covid19 pandemic.</p> <p>Golf need to look for additional hubbing opportunities with other user groups and potential rationalisation where courses are unsustainable.</p>
Athletics Facilities Strategy (2010)	<p>The strategy recommends that each region needs only one 8 lane, synthetic all-weather track, of which a selected 5 regions will have IAAF Class II certification. These 5 regions did not include Manawatu-Wanganui. However Cooks Gardens in Wanganui has been upgraded to Class II level.</p> <p>The current priority recommended for the region is on maintenance and sustainability of existing athletics facilities in the Manawatu-Wanganui region (e.g. Cooks Gardens in Wanganui, Manawatu Community Athletics at Massey in Palmerston North).</p> <p>Closer relationships with TAs were recommended (including LTCCP provisions) for maintaining 8-lane synthetic tracks.</p>	<p>The Horizons region is well served by athletic tracks when compared to other regions of New Zealand. The focus should remain on maintaining these assets.</p>



Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
Equestrian	<p>A national facilities Strategy for Equestrian is currently being developed.</p> <p>There are two recognised National Equestrian Centres (in Taupō and Christchurch). Manfeild offers a large indoor arena and is the host for many Central North Island events.</p>	The Manawatū-Whanganui region has a range of equestrian facilities.
Hockey NZ Facilities Strategy (2016) (currently being updated)	<p>Initially developed in 2010, this 2016 update reflects the 2013 census population projections and general changes in hockey participation. The 2016 Strategy reported significant participation growth, which is reliant on quality training and playing surfaces.</p> <p>The 2016 strategy provided separate metrics for Manawatū, Whanganui, Horowhenua and Rangitikei. The strategy notes 78% of Association turfs are water-based in NZ (a significantly higher proportion than internationally).</p> <p>The only area in the region identified as being under-supplied was the Manawatū association, which now has an additional turf.</p>	Since this plan a multi-use turf has been developed in Marton and the FIH compliant turf has been opened at Massey University.
Gymsports National Facility Strategy (2017)	<p>Gymnastics New Zealand commissioned this project to identify the priority projects for the sport. It identified that a large number of gymsport clubs were still required to “pack in and pack out” equipment for community gymnastics.</p> <p>The Strategy highlights that baseline growth of those aged between 0-15 is going to be low, therefore Gymsports cannot rely on population changes alone to drive growth moving forward. It cites notable decline in this age group (&gt;20% in all Horizons Region councils, except Palmerston North and Whanganui).</p>	The Strategy highlights facility plans for the Manawatū Gym Club. The Strategy recommends a sub-regional facility, with the ability to cater for a range of uses.
Rugby League National Facilities Strategy (2015)	Developed in 2015, this strategy highlights that Rugby League, like many sports is reliant on fields supplied by councils for participation. The Strategy groups the Horizons region with Hawkes Bay and Taranaki as part of the Mid Central Zone. The Mid-Central Zone has an identified surplus of sportsfield capacity for both training and competitions. Growth is expected in Palmerston North, as a result of the amount of people in the “active population” increasing in that area, when compared to other parts of the region.	Monitor demand and re-allocated existing fields or access school fields to accommodate growth, if and when required.
National Facilities Plan – Softball NZ (2018)	This Plan identifies all available spaces for Softball. The strategy highlights Softball shares space with winter codes. There is acknowledgement that with some adaptations, Softball and Baseball can share diamonds, although not ideal.	The strategy identifies the need for lights where practical. The strategy wrongly implies that other codes use floodlights that have been developed for them by councils, which is not generally the case. Most codes,



Strategic Document Name	Key Outcomes of the Document	Summary of Relevance to this Plan
		In most council areas are required to develop their own floodlights for community sport.
Squash NZ National Facility Strategy	Squash NZ has a facilities strategy that was developed in 2022. The Manawatū-Whanganui area is covered in the Central Region of Squash NZ. The strategy shows there are 21 affiliated and 13 unaffiliated clubs in the Central Region. SquashGym in Palmerston North is considered a national level facility, with Dannevirke and Whanganui squash clubs being considered regionally significant. The number of players per court (31) is lower than NZ averages (34)	The strategy recommends feasibility studies for Taihape and Hunterville for potential expansion.

# 7 Opportunities

This section looks at some general opportunities that can be implemented across the Horizons region to address the identified needs. These opportunities are based on the feedback via stakeholders and facility owners via workshops, online forums and survey feedback.

## Ensure Facilities are Fit for Purpose

- Prioritise the activation and maintenance of existing spaces where possible.
- Provide assistance to codes for the upgrade of existing facilities, where a need can be evidenced.
- Increase awareness of recreation facilities that are available for hire for groups to utilise.
- The current supply of facilities is generally aging. Upgrading or renewing facilities is an important step in future proofing facility provision.
- Look to develop spaces and places that provide a progression of opportunities to enable skill acquisition (such as a range of cycle or mountain bike trails, from beginner areas to advanced trails).

## Encourage Sharing/Hubs

- Encourage and enable more shared facility use. Encourage hubs (for example racket sports or bowls/croquet/pétanque).
- Encourage and assist more schools to make facilities available for community use.
- Proposed projects should consider what other users could be involved as partners or key user groups.
- Another form of sharing is accessing school based spaces and places for community use, after school hours. This can supplement community facilities in peak times and it is acknowledged this already occurs in many parts of the Horizons region, particularly for indoor court and aquatic space and sports fields.

## Provision of better ancillary facilities (lighting / change / parking / storage)

- Consider providing more gender neutral changing rooms/showers/toilets.
- Consider providing more public toilets for use by users and spectators at public parks/ playground users/ public pathway/cycleway users.
- Review storage needs of clubs and organisations. Evaluate possible shared storage solutions.

## Assess and improve condition of playing fields (better meet training needs) through:

- Improve drainage and irrigation of existing fields to increase capacity if demand warrants.
- More high capacity dedicated training fields with floodlights.
- Explore more partnerships with schools to access additional fields, if demand warrants.
- Provision of dedicated space for traditional Māori activities, such as ki o rahi.
- Investigate whether Councils could take greater responsibility for maintenance of floodlighting in return for greater control of field allocations.

## Improve Accessibility

- Ensure facilities are accessible from use/cost/public transport perspective.
- Review/evaluate car parking provision.

- Investigate the provision of more covered outdoor facilities such as courts/playgrounds/skate parks/basketball hoops to protect users from sun/wind/rain.

#### Assess equity/inclusivity of sport and recreation venues and opportunities such as:

- Affordable hire space for recreation activities
- Consider recreation needs for Māori - including gathering of kai, awa restoration.
- Investigate the need for more indoor (possibly dedicated) community courts to support traditional indoor court users/ winter codes seeking indoor training space.
- Consider marae as facility providers.
- Offer free or low cost opportunities for people to participate in play, active recreation and sport (such as walking trails, ½ court basketball courts, outdoor fitness trails, safe access points to the natural environment).

#### Encourage Play

- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.
- Ensure age-appropriate play opportunities are available – stakeholder feedback suggests current playgrounds provide for tamariki but need more options for rangatahi (indoors/outside). Also consider the needs of an aging population and their play needs.
- Consider signage giving parents/children permission to play on natural amenities like trees/rocks/streams.
- Place playgrounds near complementary natural elements to maximise self-initiated, imaginative environmental play.

### Case Study: Giving Permission to Play - The Great Whanganui Play Trail

The community wanted help with knowing where the spaces to play were and how to use them (which was also feedback received in the development of this Regional Plan).

The trail activates the Whanganui City Centre. Permission for tamariki to play is provided with footpath stickers and maps that use site-specific prompts to encourage play in the city. The 20 play 'locations' used are both specific play installations such as a purpose built marble run, and non-playful spaces such as alleyways, fountains, sculptures and signage.

Some of the play trail benefits and highlights include:

- Both parents and tamariki report the trail increase their perception of the city as a place to play
- Universally positive feedback from partners about their involvement
- *"Having more people, more families in the city centre makes it look more vibrant, appealing and inviting."* – Whitney Cox, Sport Whanganui

Key learnings from Sport Whanganui include:

- It takes longer to put an idea into practice than you might expect
- Working with organisations with an active interest and potential to benefit, such as the I-site, Economic Development Agency is important
- Engaging with businesses about the types of play they would like to see near their location was critical in ensuring buy-in and support for the trail
- Obtaining permissions from asset owners and maintenance organisations, artists (use of sculptures), different Council departments is important but takes time.
- Use existing resources and repurpose where possible i.e. converting an existing map by adding a new layer rather than developing from scratch saved money.
- Start as a trial first. Use tamariki to test ideas before putting into action

## 8 Vision, Planning Principles and Facility Hierarchy

The following vision, principles and facility network hierarchy have been developed to inform the Horizons region's play, active recreation and sport priorities.

### 8.1 Vision

The 2023 vision has been developed to reflect feedback from those involved in this review for a greater focus to be placed on the connection between people and the spaces and places they require for activation. The vision recognises the importance of people participating in the activities they choose at a level that they want to participate in. It acknowledges that spaces and places (facilities) enable, and in many cases can also inspire participation.

## VISION

*Spaces and places in the Horizons region enable and inspire people to participate in play, active recreation, and sport, their way.*

### 8.2 Key Principles

The principles for the Plan have been developed to aid decision making through the proposed "Decision Making Framework" in section 10. The principles reflect feedback and input received from various stakeholders during the engagement process. The principles and the interrelationships are highlighted in Figure 8.1 and explained further below.

Figure 8.1 Key Principles



## 8.2.1 Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi

We recognise the mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We will apply a framework 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 our community.

## 8.2.2 A people centred approach

It is acknowledged that the spaces and places developed for play, active recreation and sport are enablers to activity. Without people, these places are irrelevant.

There are significant benefits from linking people to their environment (Oranga Taiao, Oranga Tāngata). The benefits from being in the natural environment provides motivation for many to remain active and connected.

Any development should consider how it will further support people to have positive experiences in their communities. Many facilities also rely on volunteers to operate. These volunteers need to be appropriately supported.

## 8.2.3 A network approach to future planning

A network approach involves considering a needs-based approach to projects as they arise. The current and future supply and demand for spaces and places is considered. It involves ensuring there is a strategic fit based on the existing network and any strategies or plans outlining the future

network. It ensures that projects do not duplicate existing spaces and places, rather they complement and enhance the network. An important aspect is that existing facilities are maximised and/or enhanced before new spaces are considered.

#### **8.2.4 Shared use of spaces and places**

Where possible, spaces and places need to be shared by a range of users. While this may require some compromise, shared use provides greater efficiency. Shared use creates dynamic spaces and encourages more inter-generational opportunities.

A focus should be 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. Over provision or unnecessary duplication of facilities should be avoided.

Partnering with others within and outside of the sector e.g., education, health, Iwi, and the private sector increases the likelihood that facilities will be used to their full potential, maximising the return on investment.

#### **8.2.5 Ensuring Equitable spaces and places**

Spaces and places are accessible to all. This is enabled through universal design principles and operationalised through facility operations ensuring equitable access. They are developed, maintained and operated in a way that encourages and supports inclusivity and diversity. Many older facilities were not designed to accommodate a range of user groups or genders. This creates barriers to participation for some groups.

#### **8.2.6 Factoring in the sustainability of spaces and places**

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<sup>11</sup>.

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.

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<sup>11</sup> The brief for this project requested “the inclusion of benchmarks for whole of life costs for facilities (i.e. operational costs of aquatic facilities, artificial turfs) to aid in decision making.” The range of types of facilities, combined with current inflationary pressures make this a challenging proposition. Comparison of facility build costs with previous projects is fraught with risk. It is recommended that this whole of life costing is undertaken as part of the proposed decision making approach for concepts put forward.

## 9 Facility Network Hierarchy

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. This categorisation is also used in the Sport NZ *Facility Planning Tool* which is the online portal for spaces and places information used to inform this Plan. All categories of facility have an important role to play within the network of facilities in the Horizons Region.

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 variety of community needs across the spectrum, from local participation to international competition. Figure 9.1 below outlines the levels of facilities within the Horizons area, noting that facilities with a higher level of specification can almost always be used at a lower level (such as the Hockey Turfs at Fitzherbert Park being able to be used for International level play, but is also used for local level participation opportunities).

**Figure 9.1: Facility Network Hierarchy**

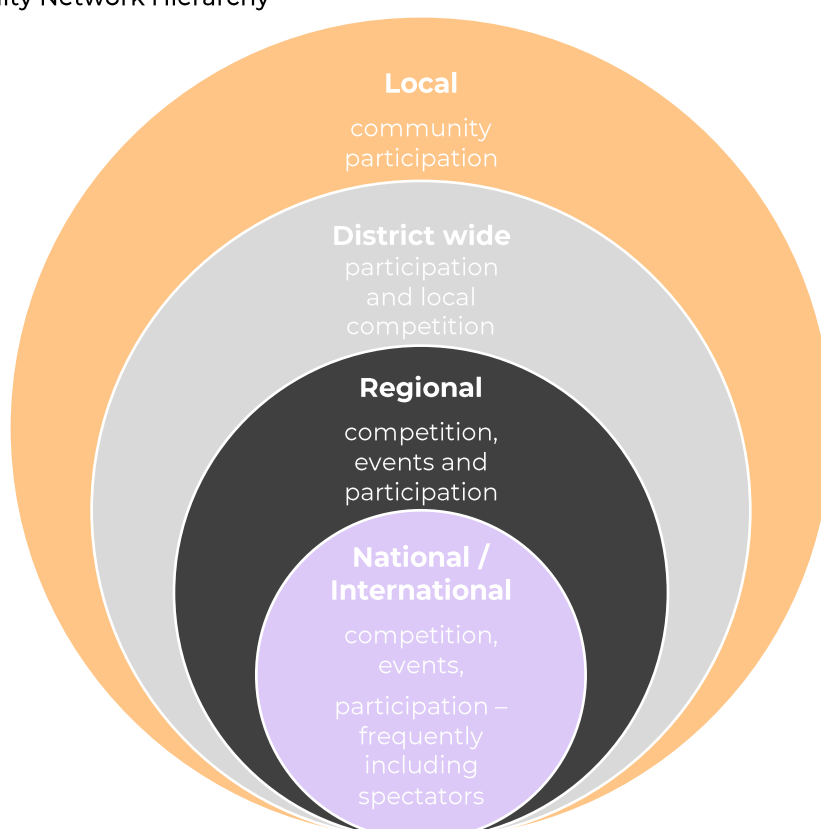


Table 9.1 provides further context.

**Table 9.1: Facility Hierarchy Examples in the Horizons Region**

	Definition	Examples	Primary Function
Local	A facility that provides community participation opportunities for a local neighbourhood or town catchment. Local facilities often facilitate people's introduction to sport and recreation within their local community.	Marton Park, Raetihi Pool, Woodville Bowling Club, Waimarino Squash Club.	Local community participation
Sub-regional/District	A facility with the ability to provide participation opportunities for both training and competition. Often supporting a whole district (such as Horowhenua or Ruapehu), and also drawing participants from across adjacent territorial authority areas for competition or a unique participation experience.	Makino Pool, Vautier Park, Taumarunui Squash Club, Arapuke Forest Park.	Participation and local competition
Regional	A facility with the ability to host inter-regional and internal regional (Horizons region 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.	Donnelly Park, Levin Lido Aquatic Centre, Massey University Sporting Precinct	Competition, events and community participation
National	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.	Manfeild Equestrian Centre, Cooks Garden Athletics Track	Competition, events and participation – most frequently as spectators
International	A facility with the ability to host international competitions and events (i.e. between nations). Often with permanent spectator and media capabilities.	Arena Manawatū – Fly Palmy Arena	Competition, events and participation – most frequently as spectators



# 10 Facility Planning Framework

When reviewing the RSFP2018 decision-making process it has become evident that the prescribed process for assessing proposed facility (spaces and places) concepts can be perceived as daunting, particularly for those who do not engage in planning processes regularly. The update for this plan has looked to define roles and responsibilities of various agencies and streamline the planning and decision-making process.

The Facility Planning Framework relies on a collaborative approach between the proponent group (that has a facility concept), regional sports trusts (RSTs) and spaces and places owners and the Regional Steering Group. The proposed decision-making process calls for a Regional Steering Group of senior officials to oversee the process in each of the Horizons North and Horizons South areas. These senior officials groups would be supported by subject matter experts from within each contributing organisation and may come together for a collaborative approach for Horizons region-wide opportunities.

A key assumption of this process is confirming the RST has the capacity to serve the role of “Spaces and Places Navigator”<sup>12</sup>. The role is seen as a critical “go between” or connector for spaces and places owners, funders and user groups. Therefore regular, formalised engagement needs to occur between these parties to maximise collaboration and connection opportunities.

The Planning Framework is summarised in Figure 10.1 and further explained below with decision-making criteria and roles and responsibilities further explained.

## 10.1 Proposed approach

The following process is proposed to apply the principles and assessment criteria of this plan to proposed spaces and places investments across the region, including any improvements. This process will inform the recommendations the Regional Steering Group provides to decision making organisations. It is proposed that this process is used for all concepts put forward for investment into play, active recreation and sport facility development, redevelopment or major maintenance<sup>13</sup>.

This process encourages all proposed projects, big or small, to be socialised with the relevant regional sports trust for an assessment against the principles outlined in this strategy. Proponents of ideas need to be encouraged to explore what options could be implemented to achieve the desired outcome, rather than narrowing in on a particular solution.

### Local projects

If seen as a local project, with no opportunities for across boundary collaboration then the relevant local organisation (in most instances the local authority, but this could also be iwi, a funding agency or others) would proceed with their own decision making processes, such as seeking investment through annual or long-term plans.

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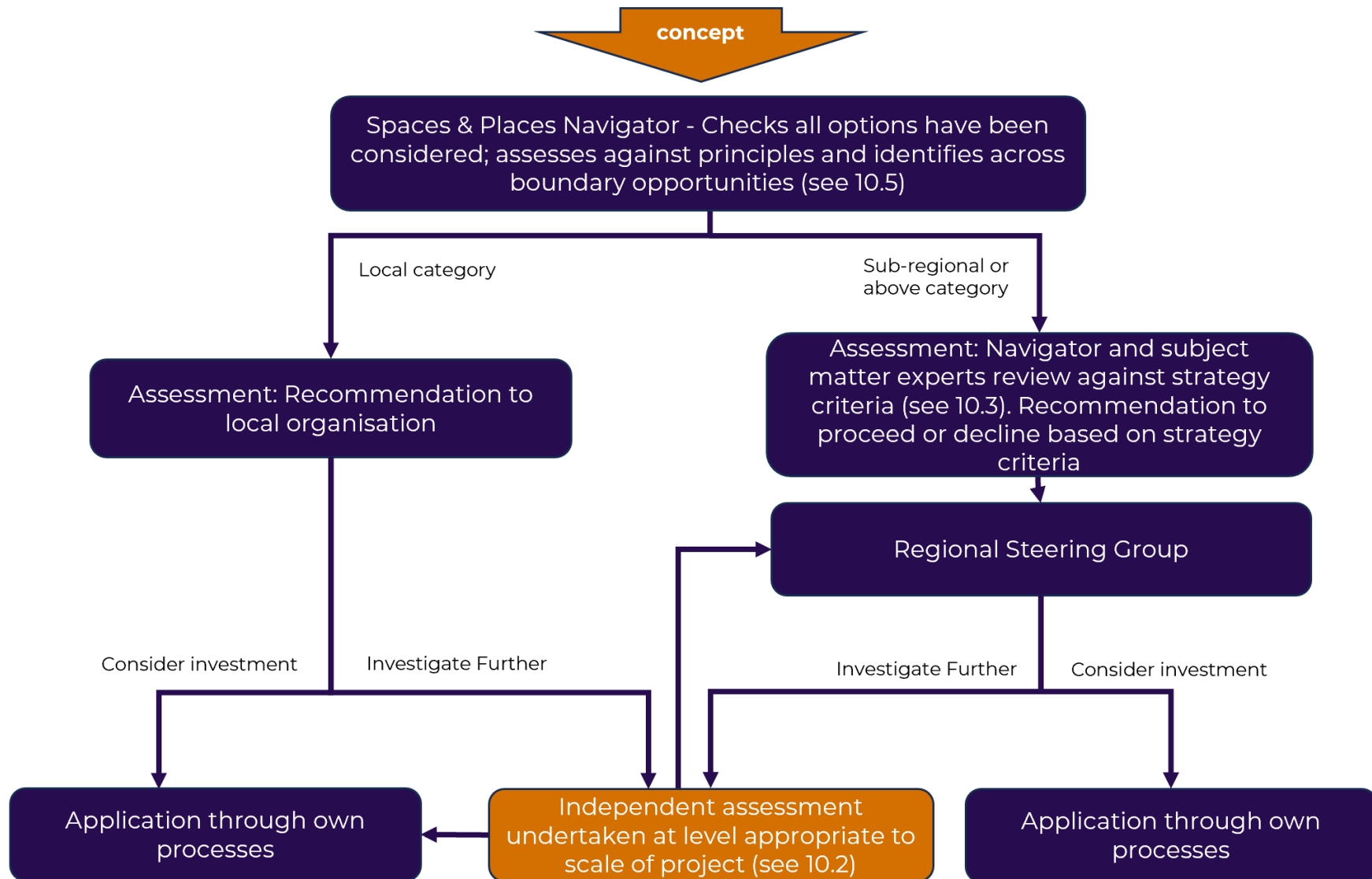
<sup>12</sup> Sport New Zealand is currently supporting the Spaces and Places roles within regional sports trusts, to encourage collaborative and informed decision making.

<sup>13</sup> Regional Steering Groups to determine the value and type of facility when deciding to use this framework.

#### Across boundary projects (sub-regional or above)

If a project is deemed to have across boundary opportunities then the relevant RST would facilitate an assessment of the proposed project with the relevant subject matter experts in that area. This group would then provide a recommendation to the Regional Steering Group on whether they should either proceed to support, or seek further independent assessments.

Figure 10.1 Facility Planning Framework

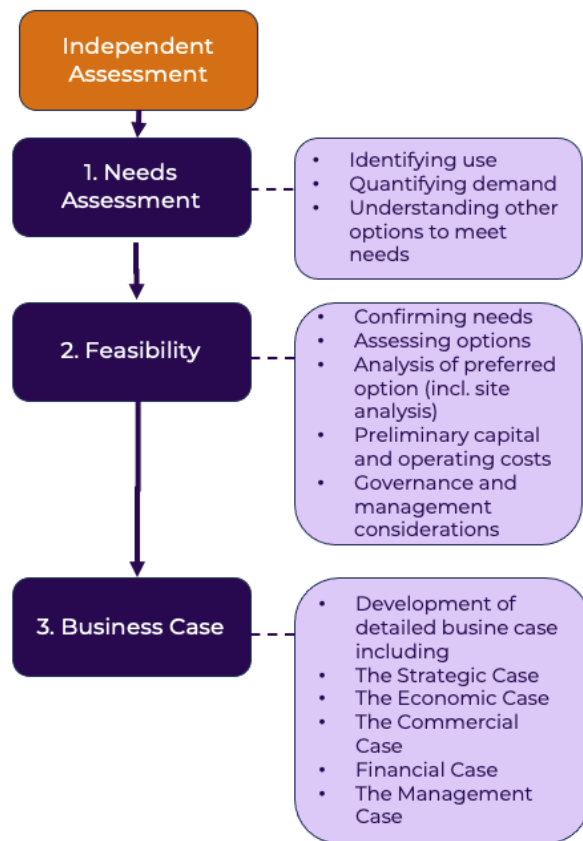


## 10.2 Independent Assessment explanation.

The following diagram summarises the independent assessment process.

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

The 3 independent assessment phases outlined below can be combined in some instances and there is likely to be some overlap in information gathered and utilised. For example, in many cases a Needs Assessment and Feasibility can occur simultaneously (for small scale projects). Only if the previous phases has been successfully completed should a project proceed to the next phase.



### 10.3 Decision Making Criteria

The following criteria have been developed to assist in decision making. Criteria are aligned to the agreed Principles of this plan. These criteria are originally established as being of equal weight. It is recommended that the regional steering groups (for Horizons North and Horizons South) review these criteria and agree on a weighting that best reflects each area.

Level 1 - Essential Criteria which all projects must meet	
Planning Principle	Criteria
Honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support principles of Partnership, Protection, Participation and considers the cultural narrative of the area and Māori participation will be positively impacted.</li> </ul>
A people centred approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The degree to which the project will empower the relevant communities within the Horizon's Region to be active in ways that suit them</li> <li>The degree to which a project focuses on how it will provide increased opportunities for citizens to be engaged in play, active recreation and sport experiences</li> <li>Degree to which community wellbeing and participation will be positively impacted if the proposal progresses.</li> <li>Clear evidence of involvement and support from community and/or key stakeholders.</li> <li>Supports future growth potential. This would not exclude existing activities that are doing well but would enable newer activities that have potential to receive support.</li> </ul>
A Network Approach to Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree of alignment a facility or proposed facility has with strategic drivers such as national and regional facility strategies and local Council strategies (where relevant).</li> <li>Recognition of the balance required between local and regional provision.</li> <li>The issue or opportunity that the proposal is intended to address is clearly defined and evidenced.</li> <li>The proposed project has clearly investigated all available options to utilise existing spaces and places.</li> <li>The ability to adapt to changing demand, sporting trends and needs has been considered (future-proofing)</li> </ul>
Equitable spaces and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree to which the proposal provides benefit to a broad spectrum of the community (young and old, disabled, gender and ethnic groups).</li> <li>Degree to which the proposal will improve equity outcomes, particularly for people or groups that are/may be disadvantaged (such as people with disabilities, low socio-economic communities, Māori, young people, older adults).</li> <li>The level in which this concept enables equitable participation through ensuring that the spaces and places are inclusive and accessible.</li> </ul>

Sustainability of all spaces and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability is considered in the terms of financial, environmental, social and cultural factors.</li> <li>• Degree to which the existing or proposed facility is operationally sustainable particularly in terms of whole of life costs (capital, operational and maintenance costs throughout a facility's life).</li> <li>• The return on investment (financial and social<sup>14</sup> returns)) that the facility or proposed facility can demonstrate.</li> </ul>
Level 2 - Desired Criteria for all projects that require new consents or external support.	
Shared Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The level in which, where practical, this concept encourages shared use, partnerships, collaboration and / or integration with other groups.</li> <li>• The degree to which the proposal optimises an existing facility e.g. through partnerships to increase use, enhancements to make a facility more fit-for-purpose.</li> </ul>

Note: Weighting of criteria has been discussed as one way of ensuring the most important projects are prioritised. However, there is no weighting of criteria proposed as all principles are inter-related and should be considered as a whole. The Steering Group may wish to re-consider weighting, however it would be recommended if this was desired then consultation with the groups involved in the development of this plan (including iwi) would be beneficial.

## 10.4 Roles and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the proposed roles that can enhance the support and decision-making for project initiatives. It is proposed that there is a spaces and places steering group that is formed to help guide those who table project initiatives/concepts. Each RST can also play a role in assisting project groups in navigating through the decision-making processes required.

### 10.4.1 Regional Steering Groups

Horizons North and South Spaces and Places Steering Groups are formed that would include iwi, territorial authorities, Horizons Regional Council, Funders, Sport Whanganui, Sport Manawatū. These Steering Groups could be an adjunct to the already established regional Chief Executives forum.

Steering group support is coordinated by Sport Whanganui and Sport Manawatū. It is proposed that these groups are made up of senior officials, with subject matter expertise provided by appropriate people within each organisation, on a project-by-project basis. Each Steering Group would have a memorandum of understanding outlining the agreed responsibilities and way of working together.

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<sup>14</sup> Sport NZ is currently developing tools for the sector to utilise in assessments on wider benefits of investment in spaces and places infrastructure..

It is recommended the Steering Groups are initiated to consider projects based on advice from subject matter experts from within the participating groups, utilising the principles and criteria of this plan to guide decisions on whether to proceed or not.

#### **10.4.2 Spaces and Places Navigator**

Each RST in the Horizons Region actively provides support to those who wish to progress spaces and places concepts. Each RST would assign a person (for the purposes of this Plan the role is called a Spaces and Places Navigator) to work alongside groups to help them understand the process and requirements.

The Spaces and Places Navigator also has a role to play in testing concepts against the principles of this Plan as well as looking for connections and opportunities that may not initially be apparent for those proposing an idea.

#### **10.4.3 Subject Matter Experts**

Each organisation has the opportunity to use internal (or external) subject matter experts (SMEs) to assess any concept against the principles and criteria of this plan. The RST Spaces and Places Navigator can co-ordinate the required SMEs.

SMEs play a critical role in providing advice and recommendations to the Steering Group.

#### **10.4.4 Project Working Group**

A project working group can be formed for each relevant project, facilitated by the Spaces and Places Navigator and is based on the project or concept being assessed. Relevant subject matter experts would come together to progress advice and recommendations for the Regional Steering Group to consider.

#### **10.4.5 Independent Assessments**

Where deemed appropriate by the Steering Group, an independent assessment of a concept may be required to determine whether to proceed or not. Spaces and Planning Assessments are undertaken to ensure that proposed concepts are well thought through and generally fall into the following categories: Needs Assessment, Feasibility Study, and Business Case.

## 10.5 Initial Assessment of Concept

The following check-list is recommended for new concepts that are being put forward; regardless of where the concept originates.

It is recommended that the Spaces and Places Navigator at the relevant RST works alongside those with the concept to ensure a partnership approach.

Level 1 - Essential Criteria which all projects must meet			
Planning Principle	Criteria	Explanation	Level of Alignment from Concept (high – medium – low)
Acknowledges Te Tiriti O Waitangi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support principles of Partnership, Protection, Participation</li> </ul>	Support principles of Partnership, Protection, Participation and considers the cultural narrative of the area and Māori participation will be positively impacted.	
A people centred approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empowers communities to be active their way (achieving the vision of the Plan)</li> <li>Increases opportunities</li> <li>Community wellbeing will be positively impacted</li> <li>Supported by the community</li> <li>Enables newer activities to prosper</li> </ul>	<p>The degree to which the project will empower the relevant communities within the Horizon's Region to be active in ways that suit them</p> <p>The degree to which a project focuses on how it will provide increased opportunities for citizens to be engaged in play, active recreation and sport experiences</p> <p>Degree to which community wellbeing and participation will be positively impacted if the proposal progresses.</p> <p>Clear evidence of involvement and support from community and/or key stakeholders.</p>	



Level 1 - Essential Criteria which all projects must meet			
Planning Principle	Criteria	Explanation	Level of Alignment from Concept (high – medium – low)
		Supports future growth potential. This would not exclude existing activities that	
A Network Approach to Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alignment with strategic drivers, locally, regionally and nationally.</li> <li>Clear evidence of what is trying to be solved</li> <li>Identification of a range of options.</li> <li>Divestment of not-fit-for-purpose spaces and places is an option.</li> <li>How the concept considers future-proofing</li> </ul>	<p>Degree of alignment a facility or proposed facility has with strategic drivers such as national and regional facility strategies and local Council strategies (where relevant).</p> <p>The issue or opportunity that the proposal is intended to address is clearly defined and evidenced.</p> <p>The proposed project has clearly investigated all available options to utilise existing spaces and places.</p> <p>The ability to adapt to changing demand, sporting trends and needs has been considered (future-proofing)</p>	
Equitable spaces and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversity, equity and inclusion is clearly addressed</li> </ul>	<p>Degree to which the proposal provides benefit to a broad spectrum of the community (young and old, disabled, gender and ethnic groups).</p> <p>Degree to which the proposal will improve equity outcomes, particularly for people or groups that are/may be disadvantaged (such as people with disabilities, low socio-economic communities, Māori, young people, older adults).</p>	

Level 1 - Essential Criteria which all projects must meet			
Planning Principle	Criteria	Explanation	Level of Alignment from Concept (high – medium – low)
		The level in which this concept enables equitable participation through ensuring that the spaces and places are inclusive and accessible.	
Sustainability of all spaces and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability, in its broadest sense, is considered.</li> <li>• Capability of relevant organisation/s to implement the concept.</li> </ul>	<p>Sustainability is considered in the terms of financial, environmental, social and cultural factors.</p> <p>Degree to which the existing or proposed facility is operationally sustainable particularly in terms of whole of life costs (capital, operational and maintenance costs throughout a facility's life).</p> <p>The return on investment (financial and social<sup>15</sup> returns)) that the facility or proposed facility can demonstrate.</p>	
Level 2 - Desired Criteria for all projects that require new consents or external support.			
Shared Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared use is considered</li> <li>• Partnerships, collaboration and integration are addressed</li> </ul>	<p>The level in which, where practical, this concept encourages shared use, partnerships, collaboration and / or integration with other groups.</p> <p>The degree to which the proposal optimises an existing facility e.g.</p>	

<sup>15</sup> Social Return on Investment is a relatively new measure. Sport NZ is currently developing tools for the sector to utilise in assessment on wider benefits of investment in spaces and places infrastructure.

Level 1 - Essential Criteria which all projects must meet			
Planning Principle	Criteria	Explanation	Level of Alignment from Concept (high – medium – low)
		through partnerships to increase use, enhancements to make a facility more fit-for-purpose.	

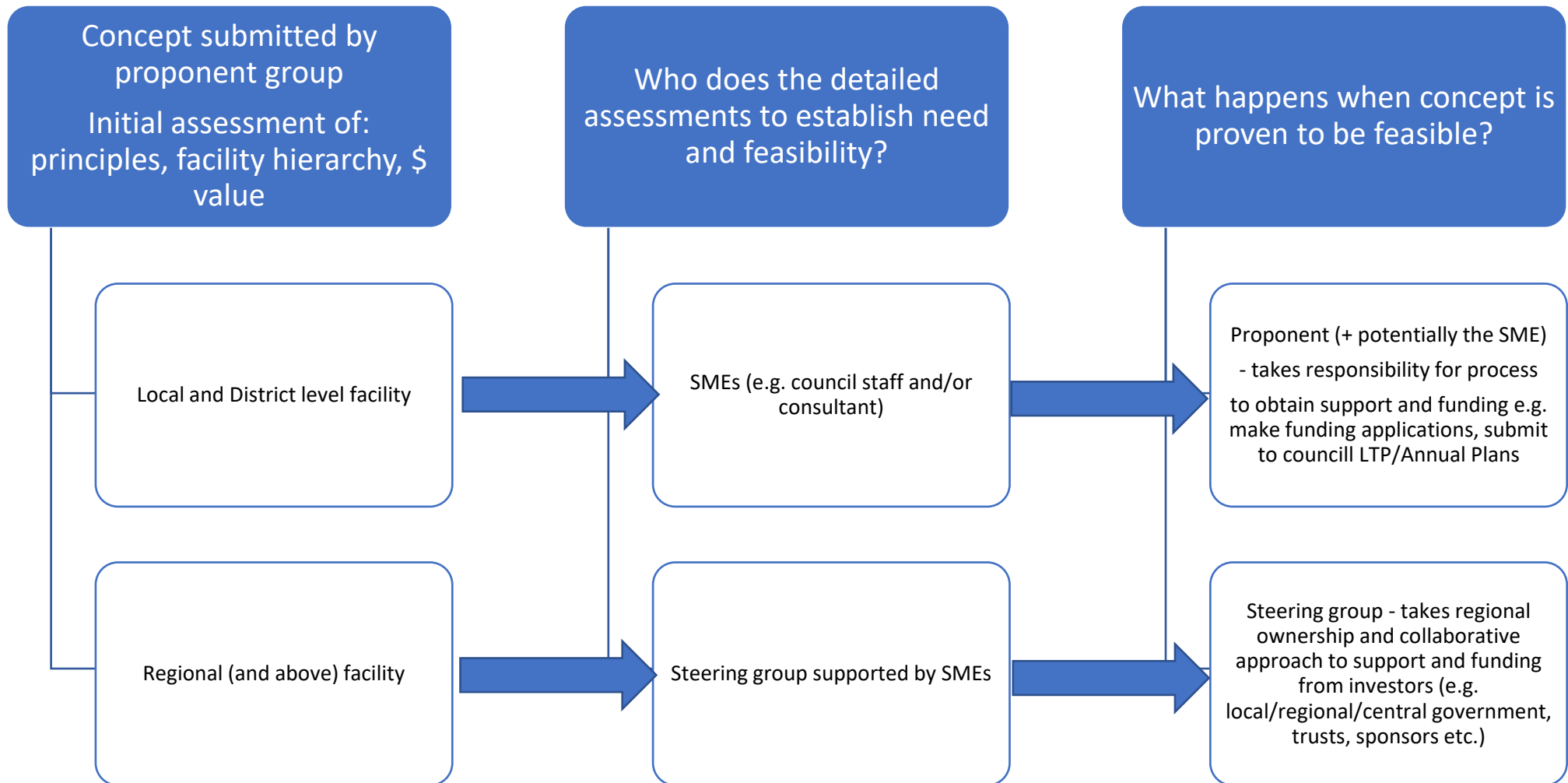
\*\* just wondering if you could do a high-level summary of how the facility planning process and the decision-making process work/fit together? (see below)

### Case Study – Manawatū GymSports

The Decision-Making Process from the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sports Facility Plan of 2018 has been used by several larger-scale projects seeking outside support, via local authorities and other funders. One such example is the Manawatū GymSports Club (the Club) that is seeking to develop a purpose-built facility for its growing membership.

The Club worked with Sport Manawatū and Council staff and completed an outline of the concept that looked at identifying the needs of the club alongside the options that has been explored to meet these needs. The concept outline identified how the proposed development aligned with Gymsports NZ's National Facilities Strategy, along with the Club's own strategic direction.

The Club provided robust data to demonstrate the growth in the sport, particularly among recreational gym sport participants. The Club, alongside Sport Manawatū was then able to have conversations with council and other funders around possible site locations that could be assessed through an independent feasibility process, as a latter part of the Decision-Making Process. The Club is well positioned to meet the future needs of members and casual participants.





*Future priorities for Play, Active Recreation and Sport: “Supporting community organisations to build relationships and deliver easily accessible physical activities to their local communities.”*

*“Keeping the sport relevant and fun.”*

*“Good contact and relationships with the clubs. Funding the correct projects.”*

*“Fun and enjoyable activities in a safe environment.”*

*What supports PARS? “Networking with local providers and funding that allows organisations to provide accessible opportunities.”*

*What supports PARS? “An approach that is inclusive of the whole whānau, a type of play that everyone can get involved and at varying levels.”*

*A general comment: “If parents have to travel too far for kids’ sports the kids will miss out. We need to back grassroots local clubs to keep them running. Volunteer helpers are decreasing putting a big pressure on clubs continuing especially with rising costs.”*

# Te Pae Whenua ki te Raki

## Horizons North

- Rangitīkei district
- Ruapehu district
- Whanganui district

# 11 Te Pae Whenua ki te Raki - Horizons North

## 11.1 Horizons North Recommendations

The following table highlights the key recommendations for the Horizons North area. Recommendations have been consolidated into one table, to allow the relevant councils and Sport Whanganui to have line of sight across the entire region's proposed initiatives. Where possible connections and collaboration between projects should be actively encouraged.

Table 11.1 Horizons North - Recommendations

Recommendations	Timeframe
Region-Wide	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Consider strategies for increasing awareness of existing space and places.	Ongoing
Consider development of parks with natural elements to enable imaginative, self-determined play.	Ongoing
Whanganui District	Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Complete the Implementation Plan to support the delivery of the Whanganui Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy.	Short term
Investigate the adequacy of the current field maintenance contracts to align with the national guidelines.	Short term
Consider adopting the national Open Spaces Maintenance Specifications developed by Recreation Aotearoa.	Short term
In partnership with Nga Tangata Tiaki o Whanganui consider developing protocol for recreational use of Te Awa.	Short term
Ruapehu District	Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Undertake business case for the redevelopment of the Raetihi Pool.	Short term
Engage with Ohakune community to progress the redevelopment of the Ohakune Pool.	Medium term
Investigate potential infrastructure developments at Taumarunui Domain.	Medium term
Address the indoor recreational centre requirements in Taumarunui.	Short term
Address issues with Taumarunui grandstand.	Short term
Maintain Taumarunui pools to meet the needs of the local community.	Ongoing



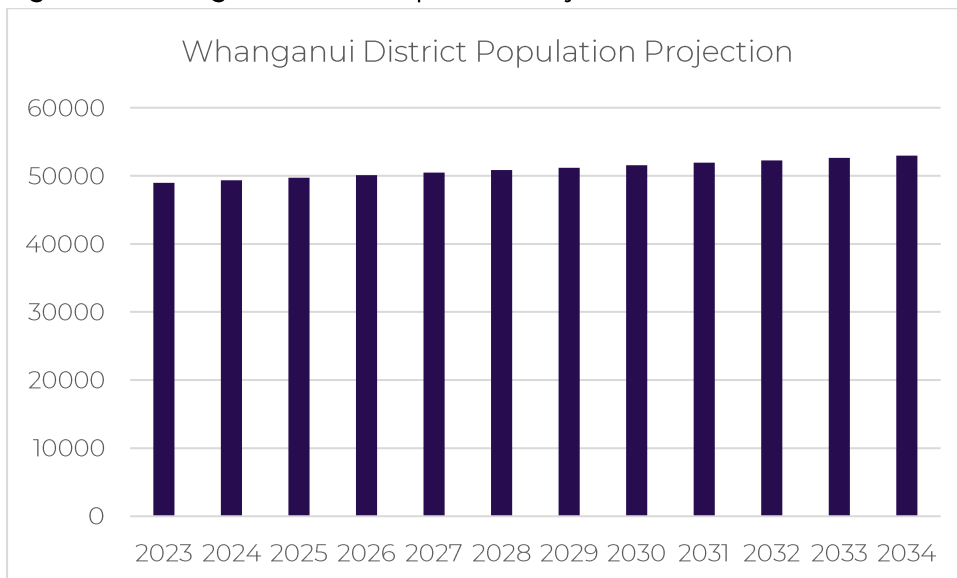
Develop cycleways connecting towns and strategic places of interest.	Medium term
Investigate extension of the Timber Trail from Ōngārue through to Taumarunui.	Medium term
Finalise development of Waiouru playground.	Short term
<b>Rangitikei District</b>	<b>Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)</b>
Key projects as identified by the Parks, Open Spaces and Sporting Facilities plan	Short term
Prioritise the maintenance of existing facilities.	Ongoing
RDC in partnership with Sport Whanganui to consider introducing more activation opportunities to encourage community use of existing assets	Short term
Complete with Taihape multi-purpose amenities building (hub and playing surfaces/courts).	Short term

## 11.2 Whanganui District

### 11.2.1 Demographic Profile

The population of the Whanganui District is currently 48,954. In the 11 years to 2034 it is expected to increase by 8% or 4,027 people<sup>16</sup>.

Figure 11.1: Whanganui District Population Projection

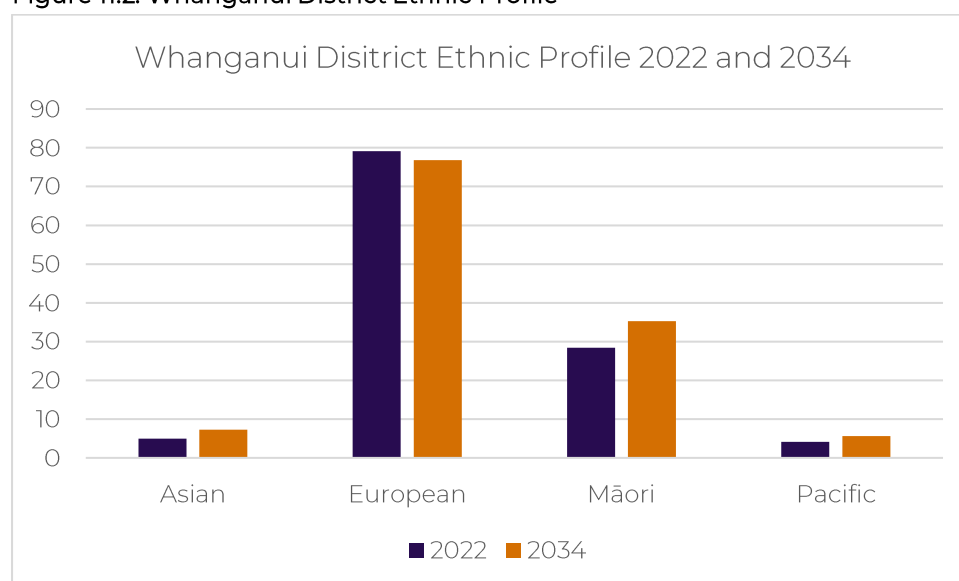


The Whanganui District is expected to become increasingly ethnically diverse. Figure 11.2 shows the change in ethnic profile of the district in 2022 and 2034. The population of those identifying as Māori, Asian

<sup>16</sup> Source: Infometrics High Growth Scenario (received 14 Aug 2023)

and Pacific are all expected to increase over the 12 years to 2034 while the population of those identifying as European is expected to decrease.

**Figure 11.2: Whanganui District Ethnic Profile**



### 11.2.2 Whanganui Activity Behaviours<sup>17</sup>

The table below shows the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Whanganui District and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. There is a prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups<sup>18</sup>.

#### All demographic groups (combined)

Levels of inactivity are higher for those in Whanganui, sitting at 30.6%, compared to the national level of 25.8%.

#### Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

Tamariki are more active in 14 of their top 20 activities and substantially more active proportionally in 10 of those 14, when compared to national benchmarks.

While it didn't feature in the top 20 activities for tamariki in Whanganui District, engagement in ki-o-rahi at 5.3% is 5 times higher than the national rate for tamariki of 1%

#### Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)

Rangatahi are more active in 10 of their top 20 activities, including martial arts which at 6.3% is nearly 3 times higher than the national level for rangatahi (2.3%). Basketball is the only team sport that features in their top 20, with participation at 10.3% compared to the national level of 18.3.

<sup>17</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

<sup>18</sup> Sourced from the Activity Behaviours Tab of the Sport NZ Insights Tool. The modelled participation data uses regional Sport NZ Active NZ data, last 7 days participation rates and projects participation in different activities to specific SA2s based on the demographic profile of the area.

### **Māori (all ages)**

The level of inactivity of Māori in the Whanganui District sits at 24.3% compared to the national level for Māori of 25.8%.

Jogging/running (22.9%) and individual workouts (16%) are both 5% lower than the national figure, while Athletics (track and field) is nearly 3.5 times higher than the national level (6% v 1.8%). Hunting ranks in the top 20 activities for Māori but doesn't feature in the top 20 of the other demographic groups referred to above.

Table 11.2 shows the 20 most popular activities for the Whanganui District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Primary School Aged Children, Secondary School Aged children. The shading highlights those activities where the different Whanganui demographic groups are 20% or more above or below of the national benchmark.

**Table 11.2 Whanganui District Participation Insights**

Activity	Whanganui % All Ages	National % All
Walking	45.7	50.5
Jogging/ Running	23.1	26.6
Gardening	18.4	18.7
Playing Games	15.3	19.3
Individual Workout	14.5	20.1
Cycling/Biking	12.3	12.3
Swimming	11.2	13.5
Playing	8.2	7.1
Playing on Playground	7.2	6.3
Group Exercise	7.1	9.2
Dance	6.6	6.7
Trampolining	6.2	3.9
Tramping	5.1	4.8
Mountain Biking	4.6	4.7
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	4	6.6
Netball (Outdoor)	3.9	3.1
Golf	3.8	2.8
Scootering	3.7	3.6
Athletics	3.3	1.8
Touch	2.3	2.5

Activity	Whanganui % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Playing	67.6	57.2
Playing on Playground	67.5	54.7
Jogging/Running	61.5	61.9
Trampolining	52.9	31.1
Swimming	52.1	45
Cycling/ Biking	44.3	38.2
Dance	33.7	25
Scootering	32.6	31.6
Playing Games	30.4	41.1
Walking	20.3	22
Athletics	17.9	9.6
Netball (Outdoor)	15.5	5.9
Tramping	15.2	11.9
Rugby	13.9	10.1
Group Exercise	11	11.2
Basketball	8.9	10.6
Gymnastics	8.5	10.6
Touch	8.5	8.9
Skateboarding	8	5.5
Mountain Biking	7.9	6

Activity	Whanganui % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	78.2	66.2
Individual Workout	41.8	31.8
Walking	26.7	37.3
Playing Games	22.6	35.6
Swimming	20.2	21.6
Group Exercise	19.8	13.6
Playing	18.9	21.7
Trampolining	18.8	12.8
Athletics	14.6	8.8
Cycling/ Biking	14.6	23.2
Dance	12.8	15.1
Tramping	11.8	9.3
Basketball	10.3	18.3
Scootering	7.4	6.1
Horse Riding/ Equestrian	7.3	3
Rowing	7.2	3.1
Badminton	7	7.5
Martial Arts	6.3	2.3
Mountain biking	5.5	7.8
Rollerblading	4.5	1.6

### 11.2.3 Whanganui Facility Stocktake Summary

7 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities	10 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	13 Playing Field Facilities	8 Cricket Facilities
11 Tennis Court Facilities	9 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	1 Athletics Track	3 Golf Facilities
8 Bowls Facilities	2 Squash Facilities	1 Equestrian Facility	4 Bicycle Facilities
4 Shooting Sport Facilities	2 Specialised Indoor Facilities	5 Artificial Turf Surfaces	1 Softball Diamond
2 Pétanque/Croquet Facilities	1 Outdoor Basketball Court Facility	1 Outdoor Watersport Area	

### 11.2.4 Emerging Issues and Opportunities

The following issues were identified as follows:

- The level of maintenance of the sports grounds is generally poor.
- More lighting is needed to support both safety and training.
- The district is well served with sport and recreation facilities for a population of its size, although some are not fit-for-purpose and do not justify the cost charged for them.
- There is pressure on facilities at peak times that could be alleviated by increased promotion/activation of off-peak times.
- There are safety issues for codes playing in close quarters with each other on sports fields.

The following opportunities were identified as follows:

- There is an opportunity to consider shared use of school facilities.
- There is an opportunity to connecting more off-road cycle trails to offer a consolidated network of trails in and around Whanganui
- There is an opportunity for clubs to work together to share space/clubrooms/resources.
- Te awa offers multiple cultural and recreational opportunities.

The following Whanganui specific initiatives were identified:

- Complete the Implementation Plan to support the delivery of the Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy.
- Consider adopting the national Open Spaces Maintenance Specifications developed by Recreation Aotearoa.
- Investigate the adequacy of the current field maintenance contracts to align with the national guidelines.
- Consider strategies for increasing awareness of existing space and places.
- In partnership with Nga Tangata Tiaki o Whanganui consider developing protocol for recreational use of Te Awa.
- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.

## 11.3 Rangitikei District<sup>19</sup>

### 11.3.1 Demographic Profile

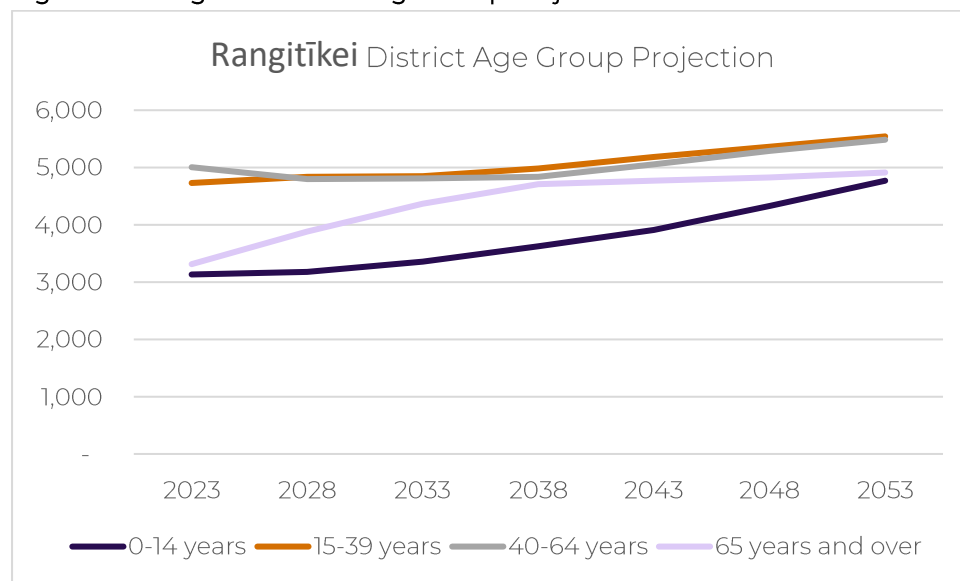
#### Age Group Population Projections

The population of the Rangitikei District was 16,182 in 2023. The district is expected to experience growth of 28% or over 4,500 people by 2053. The greatest growth is expected to be in the 0-14 year age group. This group is expected to grow by 52% or 1,636 people. The group aged 65 years and over is expected to increase by 48% or 1,600 people. At the same time, the groups aged 40-64 years and 15-39 years are projected to experience moderate growth of 10% (479 people) and 17% (813 people) respectively.

**Table 11.3: Rangitikei District Age Group Projections**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023-2053
0-14 years	3,133	3,178	3,354	3,628	3,912	4,328	4,770	1,636	52%
15-39 years	4,730	4,838	4,850	4,985	5,187	5,366	5,543	813	17%
40-64 years	5,006	4,798	4,807	4,836	5,054	5,288	5,485	479	10%
65 years and over	3,313	3,883	4,368	4,710	4,773	4,826	4,913	1,600	48%
Total	16,183	16,696	17,380	18,158	18,926	19,808	20,710	4,528	28%

**Figure 11.3 Rangitikei District Age Group Projections**



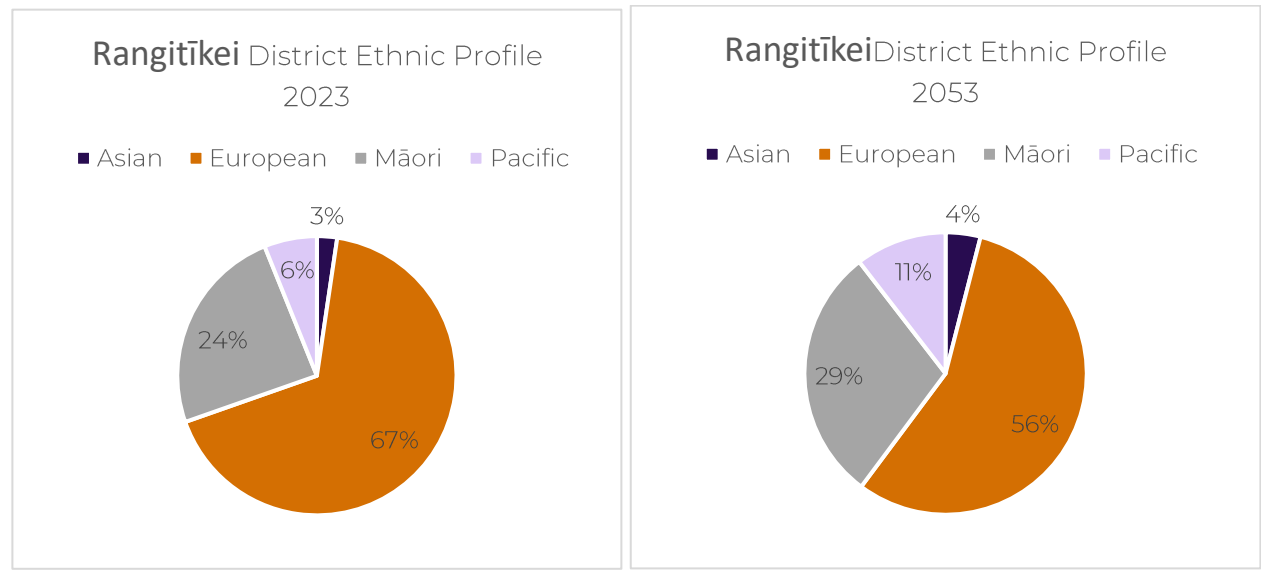
#### Rangitikei District Ethnic Profile

The population of the Rangitikei District is expected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053. The populations of those identifying as Asian and Pacific People are both expected to increase by 146%, (650 and 1,700 people respectively) while the population of those identifying as Māori is expected to

<sup>19</sup> Demographic data for this section is sourced from Infometrics High Projections, January 2023

increase by 74% (3,400 people). At the same time the population of those identifying as European or other is expected to increase by 20% or just over 2,500 people.

Figure 11.4: Rangitikei District Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053



11.3.2 Rangitikei Activity Behaviours<sup>20</sup>

The table below shows the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Rangitikei District and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups.

All demographic groups (combined)

The level of inactivity is higher for those residing in Rangitikei than the national average, sitting at 30.1% compared to of 25.8%.

Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

Inactivity of tamariki in the Rangitikei District (5.9%) is in line with the national rate (5.2%).

There is a good mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20 activities. Although ki-o-rahi doesn't feature in the top 20 activities, engagement at 5.26% is 5 times more than the national level of around 1%.

Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)

Inactivity of rangatahi in the Rangitikei District (9.8%) is in line with the national rate for rangatahi (8.1%). Rangitikei rangatahi are substantially more active proportionally in 9 of their 20 activities, including 3 activities that rarely feature in the top 20 of any demographic group:

- Horse riding
- Rowing
- Rollerblading

<sup>20</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

Rugby and basketball are the only traditional team sports that feature in the top 20. Rangitīkei and Whanganui are the only 2 districts in the Horizons Region where rowing features in the top 20 for rangatahi.

### **Māori (all ages)**

Māori in the Rangitīkei District are similarly active as the national benchmark for Māori with the level of inactivity sitting at 24.6% compared to 25.8% nationally.

Traditional team sports netball, touch, and rugby all feature in the top 20 with rates slightly higher than the national levels. Unlike some districts in the Horizons Region, hunting, shooting, and fishing don't feature in the top 20 activities for Māori in the Rangitīkei District. A good mix of active recreation and play activities feature in their top 20 activities.



Table 11.4 shows the 20 most popular activities for the Rangitikei District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Primary School Aged Children, Secondary School Aged children.

**Table 11.4: Rangitikei District Participation Insights**

Activity	Rangitikei % All Ages	National % All
Walking	45.5	50.5
Jogging/ Running	24	26.6
Gardening	18	18.7
Playing Games	15.7	19.3
Individual Workout	14.6	20.1
Cycling/Biking	12.3	12.3
Swimming	11.1	13.5
Playing	8.1	7.1
Group Exercise	7.4	9.2
Playing on Playground	7.1	6.3
Dance	6.8	6.7
Trampolining	6.3	3.9
Tramping	4.7	4.8
Mountain Biking	4.6	4.7
Netball (Outdoor)	4.1	3.1
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	3.9	6.6
Scootering	3.7	3.6
Golf	3.6	2.8
Athletics	3.4	1.8
Touch	2.5	2.5

Activity	Rangitikei % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Playing	67.3	57.2
Playing on Playground	67.2	54.7
Jogging/ Running	62.4	61.9
Trampolining	54.1	31.1
Swimming	53.1	45
Cycling/ Biking	44.4	38.2
Dance	34.2	25
Scootering	32.4	31.6
Playing Games	30	41.1
Walking	19.9	22
Athletics	19.1	9.6
Netball (Outdoor)	16.7	9.7
Tramping	15.5	11.9
Rugby	13.8	10.1
Group Exercise	11	11.2
Gymnastics	8.9	10.6
Touch	8.3	8.9
Skateboarding	7.9	5.5
Basketball	7.7	10.6
Mountain Biking	7.4	6

Activity	Rangitikei % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	80	66.2
Individual Workout	43.8	31.8
Walking	26.7	37.3
Playing Games	22.5	35.6
Group Exercise	21.9	13.6
Swimming	20.2	21.6
Playing	18.9	21.7
Trampolining	16.8	12.8
Cycling/ Biking	14.6	23.2
Athletics	14.6	8.8
Dance	13	15.1
Tramping	11.8	9.3
Basketball	10.2	18.3
Scootering	7.4	6.1
Horse Riding/ Equestrian	7.2	3
Rowing	7.2	3.1
Badminton	6.9	7.5
Mountain Biking	5.5	7.8
Rollerblading	4.5	1.6
Rugby	4.4	10.6

### 11.3.3 Rangitikei Facility Stocktake Summary

6 Indoor Sports Court Facilities	4 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	10 Playing Fields	3 Cricket Facilities
11 Tennis Court Facilities	6 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	1 Athletics Track (grass)	5 Golf Facilities
4 Bowls Facilities	3 Squash Facilities	3 Equestrian Facilities	4 Bicycle Facilities
1 Specialised Indoor Facility	2 Artificial Turf Surfaces	1 Pétanque/Croquet Facility	1 Outdoor Watersport Area

### 11.3.4 Emerging Issues, Opportunities, and Initiatives for Rangitikei District

Feedback received during site visits and workshops indicate that there are sufficient facilities to meet the majority of needs in the Rangitikei district. The biggest challenge facing the district is encouraging activity to occur at the facilities in the district, with many people leaving the district to participate in sporting activity in Feilding, Whanganui and Palmerston North.

The following opportunities were identified for Rangitikei District:

- The draft local spaces and places plan should drive key recommendations for Sport and Recreation.
- Prioritising the maintenance of existing facilities will meet many of the needs of participants in the district at a reasonable cost.
- Consider introducing more activation opportunities to encourage community use of existing assets.

Identified initiatives for completion:

- The local spaces and places plan.
- Taihape multi-purpose amenities building (hub and playing surfaces/courts, including).

## 11.4 Ruapehu District<sup>21</sup>

### 11.4.1 Demographic Profile

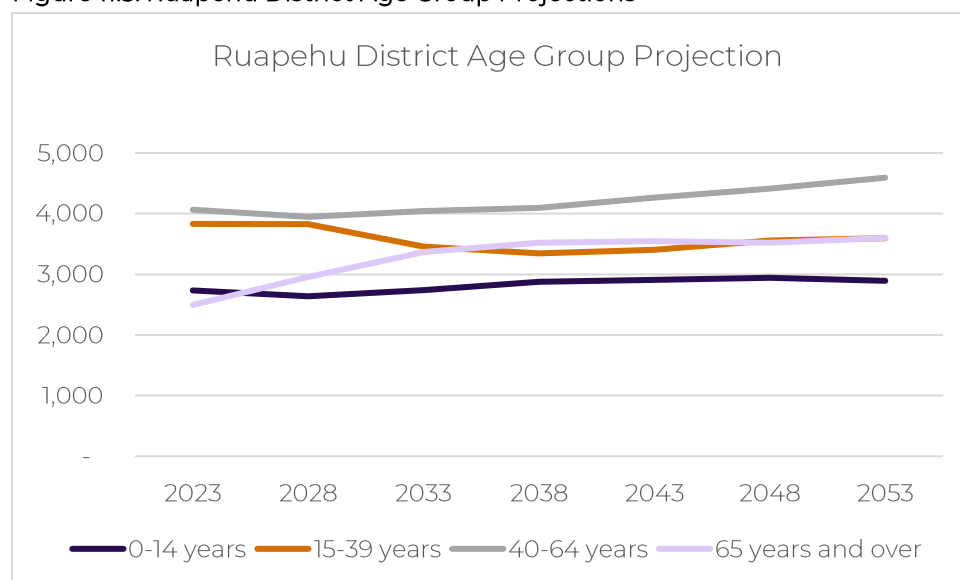
#### Age Group Population Projections

The population of the Ruapehu District was 13,123 in 2023. The district is expected to experience growth of 12% or 1,500 people by 2053. The greatest growth will be in those aged 65 years and over. This group is expected to grow by 44% or just over 1,100 people, while the group aged 40-64 years is expected to see growth of 13% (about 500 people). The number of those aged between 0-14 years is expected to experience an increase of 6% (157 people) while the group aged 15-39 years is expected to experience a decline in population of -6% (239 people).

**Table 11.5: Ruapehu District Age Group Projections**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023- 2053
0-14 years	2,733	2,637	2,739	2,875	2,906	2,942	2,891	157	6%
15-39 years	3,830	3,829	3,458	3,345	3,402	3,557	3,592	-239	-6%
40-64 years	4,065	3,947	4,044	4,097	4,266	4,412	4,593	528	13%
65 years and over	2,494	2,955	3,367	3,522	3,544	3,520	3,597	1,103	44%
Total	13,123	13,368	13,607	13,839	14,118	14,431	14,672	1,549	12%

**Figure 11.5: Ruapehu District Age Group Projections**



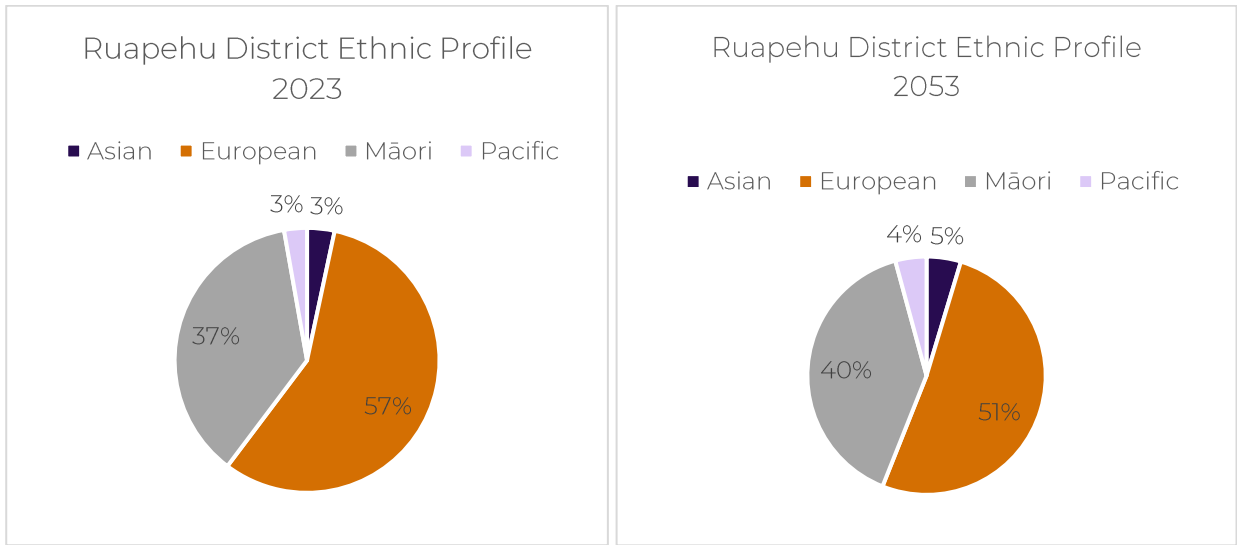
#### Ruapehu District Ethnic Profile

The population of the Ruapehu District is expected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053. The populations of those identifying as Asian, Pacific People and Māori are expected to increase by 68%, 83% and 30% respectively. It is expected the population of those identifying as Māori will increase by

<sup>21</sup> Demographic data for this section is sourced from Infometrics High projections, January 2023

over 1,800 people, while the population of those identifying as Pacific People and Asian are each expected to see increases of less than 500 people. The population of those identifying as European or other is expected to increase by 9% or about 850 people.

Figure 11.6: Ruapehu District Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053



11.4.2 Ruapehu Activity Behaviours<sup>22</sup>

The tables below show the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Ruapehu District and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups.

All demographic groups (combined)

The levels of inactivity are higher for this Ruapehu cohort, sitting at 30.1% compared to the national rate of 25.8%.

While the level of engagement in 8 of the top 20 activities for this demographic cohort in the Ruapehu District is lower than the national rate for the same group, engagement in 12 of the top 20 activities is higher. Twice as many in this demographic cohort in the Ruapehu District participate in athletics (3.9%) compared to the national benchmark (1.8%).

Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

Tamariki in the Ruapehu District are no more inactive (5.4%) than the national benchmark for tamariki (5.2%). They are more active in 18 of their top 20 activities.

Twice as many tamariki in the Ruapehu District participate in netball (20.4% v 9.7%), and 2.5 times more participate in athletics (23.6% v 9.6%).

A good mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities feature in the top 20 activities. Although ki-o-rahi doesn't feature in their top 20 activities, engagement of 7.6% is more than 7 times the national benchmark for Māori tamariki (1%).

<sup>22</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

### **Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)**

Inactivity of rangatahi in the Ruapehu District is on a par with the national benchmark of 8.1%.

Twice as many rangatahi in the Ruapehu District participate in athletics (16.7%), rowing (7.8%), martial arts (4.9%), and rollerblading (3.9%) than the national benchmark and nearly 3 times more active in horse riding/equestrian (11.5%).

Basketball is the only traditional team sport to feature in the top 20 activities for rangatahi in the Ruapehu District.

### **Māori (all ages)**

Levels of inactivity for Māori in the Ruapehu District is on a par with the national benchmark for Māori, sitting at 24% compared to 25.8% nationally.

Twice as many Māori in Ruapehu mountain bike (7.9%) compared to the national benchmark (3.8%). 6.5% participate in athletics which is approximately 3.5 times higher than the national benchmark for Māori (1.8%), and with 4.8% skateboarding, that is 4 times the national benchmark (1.2%).

Netball and touch are the only traditional team sports that feature in the top 20 activities for Māori in the Ruapehu District. There is a good mix of active recreation and play activities in their top 20 activities.

Table 11.6: 20 most popular activities for the Ruapehu District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Primary School Aged Children, Secondary School Aged children.

**Table 11.6: Ruapehu District Participation Insights**

Activity		Ruapehu % All Ages	National % All
Walking		46.9	50.5
Jogging/ Running		24.7	26.6
Gardening		18.1	18.7
Playing Games		17.4	19.3
Individual Workout		15	20.1
Cycling/Biking		12.6	12.3
Swimming		11.7	13.5
Playing		9	7.1
Playing on Playground		8.2	6.3
Group Exercise		7.5	9.2
Dance		7.4	6.7
Trampolining		3.9	2.9
Tramping		5.2	4.8
Mountain Biking		5.2	4.7
Netball (Outdoor)		4.5	3.1
Scooter		4.1	3.6
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class		4	6.6
Athletics		3.9	1.8
Golf		3.5	2.8
Touch		3	2.5

Activity	Ruapehu % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Playing on Playground	72.4	54.7
Playing	70.5	57.2
Jogging/Running	66.2	61.9
Trampolining	53.9	31.1
Swimming	53.6	45
Cycling/ Biking	45.9	38.2
Dance	40.4	25
Playing Games	36.3	41.1
Scooter	33.9	31.6
Walking	23.6	22
Athletics	23.6	9.6
Netball (Outdoor)	20.4	9.7
Tramping	16.6	11.9
Rugby	15.9	10.1
Touch	12.9	8.9
Group Exercise	12.5	11.2
Skateboarding	9.6	5.5
Basketball	9.4	10.6
Mountain Biking	8.8	6
Badminton	8.8	2.4

Activity	Ruapehu % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	87.7	66.2
Individual Workout	45.4	31.8
Playing Games	26.9	35.6
Walking	24.6	37.3
Swimming	22.6	21.6
Trampolining	22.5	12.8
Group Exercise Class	20.7	13.6
Playing	17.8	21.7
Athletics	16.7	8.8
Basketball	14.8	18.3
Cycling/ Biking	14.2	23.2
Badminton	12	7.5
Tramping	11.7	9.3
Horse Riding/ Equestrian	11.5	3
Dance	11.2	15.1
Scooter	8	6.1
Rowing	7.8	3.1
Martial Arts	4.9	2.3
Mountain Biking	4.8	7.8
Rollerblading	3.9	1.6



### 11.5.1 Ruapehu Facility Stocktake Summary

5 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities	7 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	10 Playing Field Facilities	2 Cricket Facilities
5 Tennis Court Facilities	5 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	1 Athletics Track (grass)	4 Golf Facilities
4 Bowls Facilities	4 Squash Facilities	3 Equestrian Facilities	12 Bicycle Facilities
2 Shooting Sport Facilities	2 Specialised Indoor Facilities	3 Artificial Turfs	3 Outdoor Basketball Court Facilities
1 Outdoor Watersport Area			

### 11.5.2 Emerging Issues, Opportunities, and Initiatives for Ruapehu

It was acknowledged that the low ratepayer base means development of new facilities is problematic, so the enhancement of existing facilities through maintenance and activation is key to meet the needs of those participants in the Ruapehu District.

The following Ruapehu specific initiatives were identified during the consultation process:

- Undertake business case for the redevelopment of the Raetihi Pool.
- Engage with Ohakune community to progress the redevelopment of Ohakune Pool.
- Investigate potential infrastructure developments at Taumarunui Domain.
  - Address the indoor recreational centre requirements in Taumarunui.
  - Address issues with Taumarunui grandstand.
  - Maintain Taumarunui pools to meet needs of local community.
- Develop cycleways connecting towns and strategic places.
- Investigate extension of the Timber Trail from Ōngārue through to Taumarunui.
- Finalise development of Waiouru playground.
- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.



# Te Paewhenua ki te Tonga

## Horizons South

- Horowhenua district
- Manawatū district
- Palmerston North city
- Tararua district

# 12 Te Paewhenua ki te Tonga - Horizons South

## 12.1 Horizons South Recommendations

The following table highlights the key recommendations for the Horizons South area. Recommendations have been consolidated into one table, to allow the relevant councils and Sport Manawatū to have line of sight across the entire region's proposed initiatives. Where possible connections and collaboration between projects should be actively encouraged.

**Table 12.1 Horizons South - Recommendations**

Recommendations	Timeframe
Horowhenua	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Investigate the demand for indoor court space to retain and grow participation.	Short term
Consideration of long-term development options for Levin Aquatic Centre given population growth and the pressures on this facility (hub concepts)	Medium term
Investigate opportunities for enabling recreation opportunities at the Foxton River Loop.	Medium term
Consider the participation trends of sporting codes in Foxton and whether a consolidated sports hub approach for sporting delivery will meet the needs of the community.	Ongoing
Commence initial stage 1 upgrade at Manakau Domain and work with the community around future delivery, utilising "Better off" funding..	Short term
Consider the concept plan for Donnelly Park to address cross code pressures. Define and implement in a staged approach..	Short term
Progress the implementation of the Shared Pathway Strategy.	Short term
Consider approaches to address pressure being placed on local grounds by out-of-town teams being forced north and south.	Ongoing
Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.	Ongoing
Manawatū	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Consider development of a dedicated youth space.	Short term
Complete investigations for additional indoor court space for local use.	Short term

Recommendations	Timeframe
Consider provision of a larger/affordable/fit for purpose facility for Feilding Gymnastics.	Short term
Optimise use of Manfeild as a site for sport and active recreation for both local and regional use.	Ongoing
Investigate need for additional lighting to increase training capacity.	Short term
Investigate development of trails/pathways, including a loop around Feilding.	Medium term
Consider need of hydrotherapy pool to meet the needs of the aging population.	Medium term
Enhance village play spaces by providing guidance to increase investment.	Medium term
Allow for provision of unstructured play when developing playgrounds and general play areas.	Ongoing
Palmerston North City	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Complete review of CET Arena Masterplan.	Short term
Complete and implement the recommendations of the aquatics facility provision review.	Short term
Proceed with community indoor sports facility study, including investigation of covered outdoor courts.	Short term
Implement recommendations from the covered bowls facility feasibility study.	Short term
Support Gymsports with planning for a gymnastics facility.	Medium term
Support the provision of an additional artificial turf.	Short term
Consider enhancement of existing sports field network.	Ongoing
Continue development of walkways/shared pathways.	Ongoing
Continue development of cycle trails and supporting amenities like toilets and parking.	Ongoing
Ensure recreational needs are considered in urban growth areas.	Ongoing
Provision of dedicated space for traditional Māori activities.	Ongoing
Proceed with Te Motu o Poutoa development to enhance recreational/cultural experiences.	Ongoing
Consider further development of parks incorporating natural elements as well as simple skate ramps, basketball hoops and other low cost options.	Ongoing
Tararua	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Complete and implement the Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy.	Short term
Continue to support the philosophy of hubbing for community sport facilities.	Ongoing
Support community pools to meet local needs.	Ongoing

Recommendations	Timeframe
Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.	Ongoing
Identify opportunities for track/walkways/cycleways development.	Short term
Develop investment criteria to support decision-making around key projects.	Short term

## 12.2 Horowhenua District<sup>23</sup>

### 12.2.1 Demographic Profile

#### Age Group Population Projection

The population of the Horowhenua district was expected to be 38,431 in 2022/23. It is expected to increase by 24,285 people by 2040/41. This is an increase of 63%. The growth in population is projected to occur across all age groups with the 0-14 age group increasing by 71%, the 15-39 age group by 69%, the 40-64 year age group by 57% and those aged 65 years or over 47%. By 2040/41 the population of the Horowhenua district is projected to be fairly evenly spread across all four age groups with between 20% and 29% of the population in each group.

**Table 12.2: Horowhenua District Age Group Projections**

Age Group	Population 2022/23	Population 2040/41	Increase 2022/23-2040/41	% increase 2022/23-2040/41	% population 2040/41
0-14 years	7513	12830	5317	71%	20%
15-39 years	10536	17791	7255	69%	28%
40-64 years	11550	18171	6621	57%	29%
65 years or over	9509	14022	4513	47%	22%

#### Horowhenua District Ethnic Profile

Ethnicity data not supplied.

### 12.2.2 Horowhenua Activity Behaviours<sup>24</sup>

The table below shows the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Horowhenua District and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups<sup>25</sup>.

#### All demographic groups (combined)

The levels of inactivity are higher for this Horowhenua cohort, sitting at 32.8% compared to the national rate of 25.8%. While less active in 14 of their top 20 activities the difference from the national benchmark for this demographic cohort was generally insignificant.

#### Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

The overall participation rate for tamariki in the Horowhenua District (4.6%) is on a par with the national benchmark for tamariki (5.2%). While they are less active in 7 of their 20 top activities, they are more active in 13, and substantially more active (10% or more) in the following activities:

- Jogging/ running
- Playing
- Playing on playground

<sup>23</sup> Demographic data for this section is sourced from Sense Partner Projections, 95% percentile.

<sup>24</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

<sup>25</sup> Sourced from the Activity Behaviours Tab of the Sport NZ Insights Tool. The modelled participation data uses regional Sport NZ Active NZ data, last 7 days participation rates and projects participation in different activities to specific SA2s based on the demographic profile of the area.

- Playing
- Cycling/biking

Twice as many tamariki in the Horowhenua District play hockey (12.9%) compared to the national benchmark for tamariki (6.4%). There is a good mix of traditional team and individual sports, active recreation and play in the top 20 activities for this group.

### **Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)**

With inactivity sitting at 11.8% rangatahi in the Horowhenua District are 3.7% more inactive than rangatahi nationally. They are less active in 9 of their top 20 activities and more active in 11.

There is a good mix of traditional team and individual sports, active recreation and play in their top 20 activities. At 7.3%, basketball is less than half as popular for rangatahi in the Horowhenua District compared to the national benchmark of 18.3%.

### **Māori (all ages)**

Māori in the Horowhenua District are 8.8% less active than the national rate for Māori with the level of inactivity sitting at 34.6% compared to 25.8% nationally. They are less active in 13 of their top 20 activities than the national benchmark for Māori.

Hunting, shooting, and fishing all feature in the top 20 activities for Māori in the Horowhenua District. With twice as many Māori in the Horowhenua District hunting (3.5% v 1.3%) and shooting (2.5% v 0.7%) than the national benchmark.

Table 12.3 shows the 20 most popular activities for the Horowhenua District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics (Combined), Tamariki (Primary School Aged Children), and Rangatahi (Secondary School Aged Children).

**Table 12.3 Horowhenua District Participation Insights**

Activity	Horowhenua % All Demographics	National % All
Walking	47.3	50.5
Jogging/ Running	24.2	26.6
Playing Games	17.7	19.3
Gardening	17.6	18.7
Individual Workout	17.3	20.1
Cycling/Biking	12.5	12.3
Swimming	10.3	13.5
Playing	8.3	7.1
Playing on Playground	7.1	6.3
Dance	5.6	6.7
Group Exercise	5.3	9.2
Trampolining	5.2	3.9
Scootering	4.1	3.6
Tramping	3.9	4.8
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	3.5	6.6
Golf	3.4	2.8
Basketball	2.8	3.3
Mountain Biking	2.7	4.7
Netball (Outdoor)	2.6	3.1
Touch	2.2	2.5

Activity	Horowhenua % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Jogging/Running	77.2	61.9
Playing	68.4	57.2
Playing on Playground	65.1	54.7
Cycling/ Biking	49	38.2
Playing Games	48.4	41.1
Trampolining	45	31.1
Swimming	43.4	45
Scootering	39.1	31.6
Walking	27	22
Dance	23.4	25
Hockey (Outdoor)	12.9	6.4
Gymnastics	12.1	10.6
Basketball	11.9	10.6
Athletics (Track & Field)	10.7	9.6
Netball (Outdoor)	9.1	9.7
Touch	8.1	8.9
Group Exercise	7.8	11.2
Mountain Biking	5.8	6
Handball	5.4	5.3
Rugby	5.3	10.1

Activity	Horowhenua % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	74.2	66.2
Walking	39.2	37.3
Playing	31.7	21.7
Playing Games	31.5	35.6
Individual Workout	31.3	31.8
Cycling/ Biking	20.2	23.2
Swimming	19.2	21.6
Hockey (Outdoor)	13.7	8.3
Netball (Outdoor)	13.6	14.7
Dance	13.5	15.1
Trampolining	12.9	12.8
Playing on Playground	11.7	11.4
Scootering	10.4	6.1
Tennis	10.4	7.2
Athletics (Track & Field)	9.7	8.8
Touch	9.2	11.1
Tramping	8.2	9.3
Surfing/ Body Boarding	7.9	4.9
Basketball	7.7	18.3
Skateboarding	6.3	5

### 12.2.3 Horowhenua Facility Stocktake Summary

4 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities	5 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	21 Playing Fields	9 Cricket Facilities
10 Tennis Court Facilities	6 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	3 Athletics Tracks	3 Golf Facilities
8 Bowls Facilities	2 Squash Facilities	6 Equestrian Facilities	7 Bicycle Facilities
4 Shooting Sport Facilities	1 Specialised Indoor Facility	1 Artificial Turf	1 Softball Diamond
3 Pétanque/Croquet Facilities	6 Outdoor Basketball Court Facilities	4 Outdoor Watersport Areas	

### 12.2.4 Emerging Issues, Opportunities, and Initiatives for Horowhenua

The impact projected population increases will have a significant impact on existing resources and was identified by workshop attendees and HDC Council officers as both an issue and an opportunity.

The Horowhenua is strategically located between Palmerston North and Wellington. The new expressway reaching out from Wellington is driving population growth and a far more mobile population in the area. Wellington sporting teams often use fields in the Horowhenua due to the ease of access.

Several Horowhenua initiatives were identified during the consultation process:

- Progress investigation of the opportunity for more mountain bike park/trails in the district.
- Investigate the demand for indoor court space to retain and grow participation.
- Consideration of long-term development options for Levin Aquatic Centre given population growth and the pressures on this facility (hub concepts)
- Investigate the recreational potential at the Foxton River Loop.
- Consider the participation trends of sporting codes in Foxton and whether a network delivery approach for sporting delivery will meet the needs of the community.
- Commence initial stage 1 upgrade at Manakau Domain and work with the community around future delivery.
- Consider the concept plan for Donnelly Park to address cross code pressures.
- Progress the implementation of the Shared Pathway Strategy.
- Consider approaches to address pressure being placed on local grounds by out-of-town teams being forced north and south.
- Investigate further recreation development at the whitewater park in Mangahao.
- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.



## 12.3 Manawatū District<sup>26</sup>

### 12.3.1 Demographic Profile

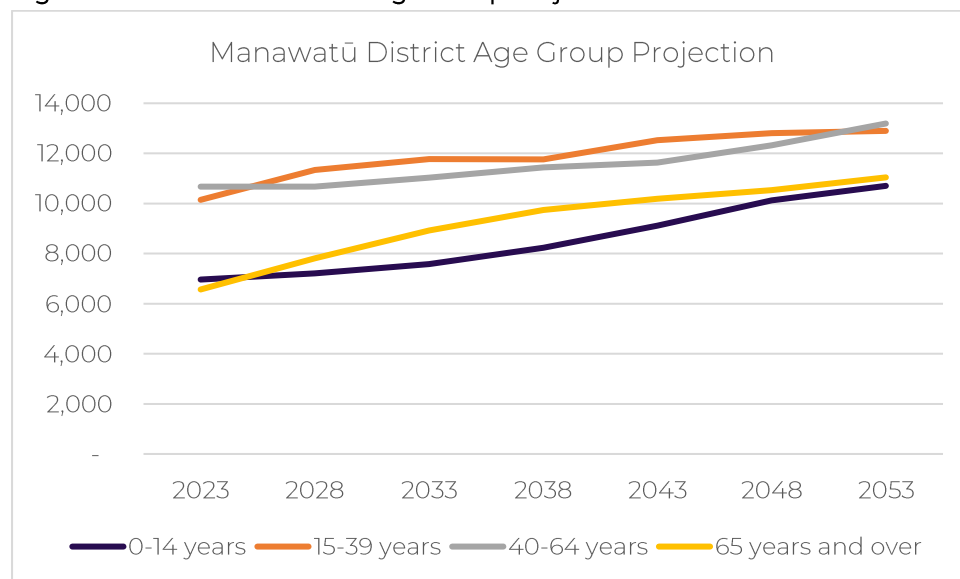
#### Age Group Population Projections

The population of the Manawatū district was 34,345 in 2023. The district is expected to experience growth of 13,488 people by 2053. This is an increase of 39%. 33% of this growth (nearly 4,500 people) is expected to be in those aged 65 and over while 28% of the growth (3,740 people) is expected to be in those aged 0-14 years. The 15-39-year and 40-64 year age groups are both expected to see growth of just over 2,500 people (increases of 27% and 24% respectively).

**Table 12.4 Manawatū District Age Group Projections**

Age In Years	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023-2053	% Change 2023-2053
0-14	6,963	7,011	7,075	7,260	7,611	8,081	8,345	1,383	20%
15-39	10,144	10,817	10,947	10,774	11,170	11,260	11,055	911	9%
40-64	10,672	10,604	10,881	11,210	11,310	11,664	12,143	1,471	14%
65+	6,566	7,708	8,698	9,389	9,698	9,912	10,283	3,717	57%
Total	34,345	36,140	37,601	38,633	39,789	40,917	41,826	7,481	22%

**Figure 12.1 Manawatū District Age Group Projections**



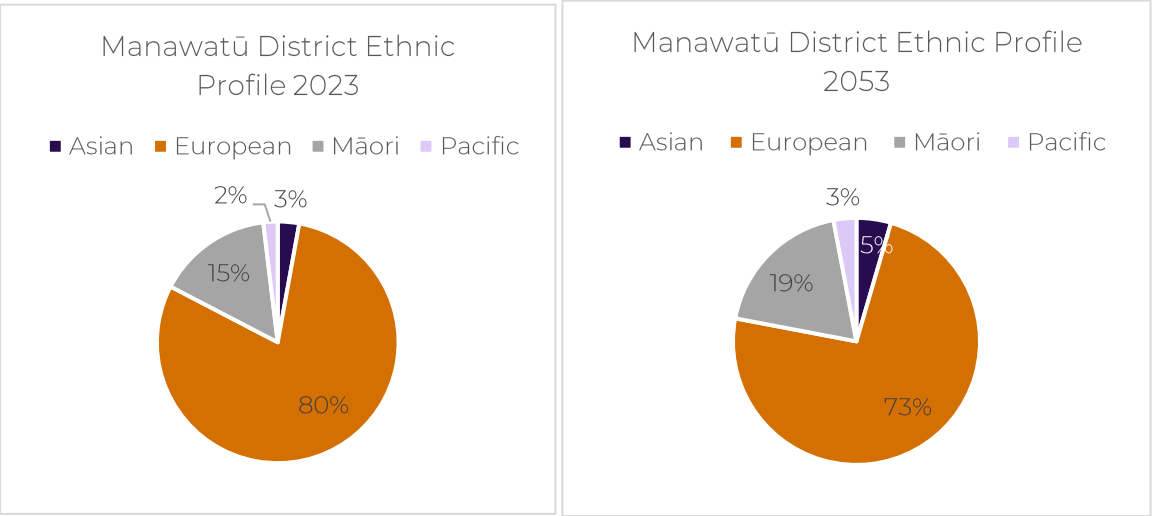
#### Manawatū District Ethnic Profile

While the population of the Manawatū District was predominantly European or Other in 2023 it is expected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053. The populations of those identifying as Asian, Pacific People and Māori are expected to increase by 151%, 149% and 96% respectively. It is expected the population of those identifying as Māori will increase by nearly 6,000 people and that of those identifying as Asian by over 1,500 people while the population of Pacific People is expected to

<sup>26</sup> Demographic data for this section is sourced from Infometrics High Projections, January 2023

increase by over 1,000 people. At the same time, the population of those identifying as European or other is expected to increase by 47% or just under 15,000 people.

Figure 12.2: Manawatū District Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053



12.3.2 Manawatū District Activity Behaviours<sup>27</sup>

The table below shows the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Manawatū District and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups.

All demographic groups (combined)

The level of inactivity is higher for this Manawatū cohort, sitting at 30.9% compared to the national level of 25.8%. Level of engagement was higher than the national level in 8 of the top 20 activities for the combined Manawatū District demographic cohort, lower in 10, and the same in 2 (netball and golf). None of the differences are significant.

Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

The level of inactivity of tamariki in the Manawatū District is on a par with the national rate for tamariki (3.9% v 5.2%). They are more than 10% more active than the national benchmark for tamariki in the following activities:

- Jogging/ running
- Cycling/biking
- Trampolining

Twice as many tamariki in the Manawatū District play softball compared to the national benchmark (4.2% v 2.1%) and nearly twice as many play hockey (11.4% v 6.4%). The numbers playing rugby is slightly more than half the national rate for tamariki (5.7% v 10.1%).

Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)

With inactivity sitting at 11.1% rangatahi in the Manawatū District are 3% less active than rangatahi nationally. They are more active in 12 of their top 20 activities than the national benchmark. At 71.1% they

<sup>27</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

are 4.9% more active than the national rate in jogging/running and at 30.1% they are 8.4% more active in playing.

The percentage of those playing basketball in the Manawatū District is less than half the national rate for rangatahi (7.5% v 18.3%). There is a good mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play in their top 20 activities.

### **Māori (all ages)**

Māori in the Manawatū District are 6.3% less active than the national results for Māori with the level of inactivity sitting at 32.1% compared to 25.8% nationally.

There is a good mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play in their top 20 activities.

Hunting, shooting, and fishing all feature in the top 20 activities for Māori in the Manawatū District, with more than twice as many Māori hunting (3.9% v 1.3%) and shooting (2.8% v 0.7%) than the national benchmark for Māori.

Table 12.5 shows the 20 most popular activities for the Manawātū District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Tamariki (Primary School Aged Children), and Rangatahi (Secondary School Aged Children).

**Table 12.5: Manawātū District Participation Insights**

Activity	Manawātū % All Demographics	National % All
Walking	47.6	50.5
Jogging/ Running	27.3	26.6
Playing Games	20.2	19.3
Individual Workout	18.6	18.7
Gardening	17.9	20.1
Cycling/Biking	13.7	12.3
Swimming	11.7	13.5
Playing	9.2	7.1
Playing on Playground	7.6	6.3
Dance	6.4	6.7
Group Exercise Class	5.7	9.2
Trampolining	5.6	3.9
Scooter	4.7	3.6
Tramping	4.2	4.8
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	4	6.6
Netball (Outdoor)	3.1	3.1
Mountain Biking	3	4.7
Golf	2.8	2.8
Basketball	2.7	3.3
Hockey (Outdoor)	2.2	1.6

Activity	Manawātū % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Jogging/Running	74.8	61.9
Playing	66.8	57.2
Playing on Playground	63	54.7
Cycling/ Biking	48.7	38.2
Playing Games	46.6	41.1
Swimming	43.4	45
Trampolining	43	31.1
Scooter	36.3	31.6
Walking	25.3	22
Dance	23	25
Hockey (Outdoor)	11.4	6.4
Gymnastics	11	10.6
Athletics	10.9	9.6
Basketball	9.4	10.6
Group Exercise Class	7.6	11.2
Touch	7.2	8.9
Netball (Outdoor)	6.3	9.7
Rugby	5.7	10.01
Mountain Biking	5.3	6
Softball	4.2	2.1

Activity	Manawātū % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	71.1	66.2
Walking	39	37.3
Playing Games	33.7	35.6
Individual Workout	31.7	31.8
Playing	30.1	21.7
Swimming	20	21.6
Cycling/ Biking	19.5	23.2
Trampolining	14.6	12.8
Hockey (Outdoor)	14	8.3
Netball (Outdoor)	13.3	14.7
Dance	13.2	15.1
Playing on Playground	11.6	11.4
Athletics	10.8	8.8
Touch	10.2	11.1
Tennis	9.6	7.2
Scooter	9.6	6.1
Tramping	9.1	9.3
Basketball	7.5	18.3
Surfing/ Body Boarding	6.8	4.9
Gymnastics	6.8	4.3

### 12.3.3 Manawatū Facility Stocktake Summary

5 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities	5 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	9 Playing Fields	5 Cricket Facilities
8 Tennis Court Facilities	4 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	1 Athletics Track	2 Golf Facilities
3 Bowls Facilities	1 Squash Facility	4 Equestrian Facilities	3 Bicycle Facilities
3 Shooting Sport Facilities	1 Specialised Indoor Facility	1 Artificial Turf	1 Softball Diamond
1 Pétanque/Croquet Facility			

### 12.3.4 Emerging Issues and Initiatives for the Manawatū District

It was acknowledged that the Manawatū District is reasonably well catered for with sport and recreation facilities.

The following issues specifically relevant to Manawatū District were identified during the consultation process:

- Ageing assets.
- Membership decreases in some key team sports.
- Perception of inaccessibility to Manfield as a local resource as it is used for national and regional events.

The following Manawatū District specific initiatives were identified:

- Consider development of a dedicated youth space.
- Identified need for additional indoor court space for local use.
- Consider provision of a larger/affordable/fit for purpose facility for Feilding Gymnastics.
- Optimise use of Manfield as a site for sport and active recreation for both local and regional use.
- Investigate need for additional lighting to increase training capacity.
- Investigate development of trails/pathways, including a loop around Feilding.
- Consider need for hydrotherapy pool to meet the needs of the aging population.
- Enhance village play spaces by providing guidance to increase investment.
- Allow for provision of unstructured play when developing playgrounds.

## 12.4 Palmerston North City<sup>28</sup>

### 12.4.1 Demographic Profile

#### Age Group Population Projections

The population of Palmerston North City was 94,400 in 2023<sup>29</sup>. It is expected to experience growth of 22,389 people by 2053 at which time the population is expected to be 116,789. This is an increase of 24%.

52% of the total population growth (11,659 people) is expected to be in those aged 65 and over. The younger age groups of 0-14 years and 15-39 years are expected to experience growth of 4% (649 people)

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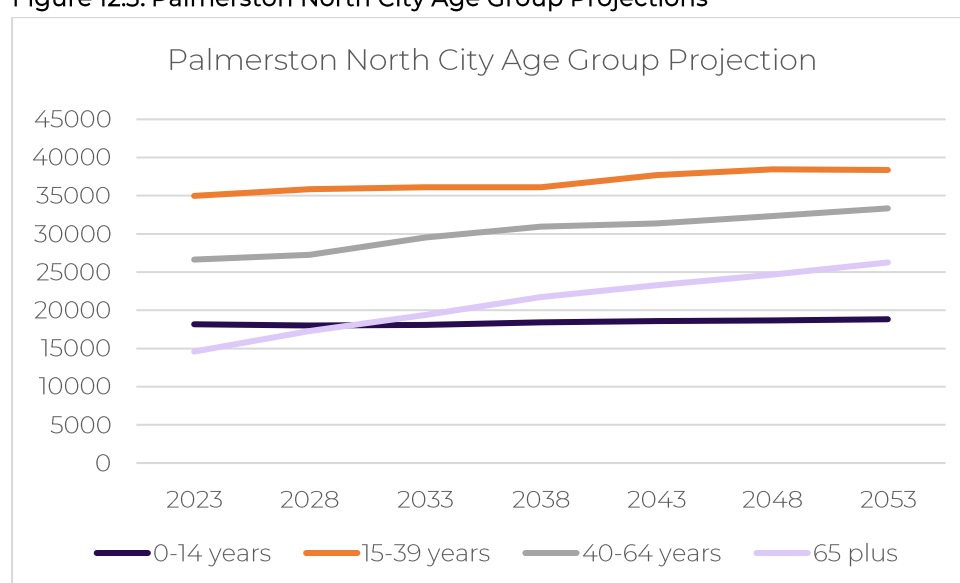
<sup>29</sup> Demographic data for this section is sourced from Palmerston North city final population and household projections May 2023.

and 10% (3373 people), respectively. At the same time the 40–64-year age group is projected to increase by over 6,500 people or 25%.

**Table 12.6: Palmerston North City Age Group Projections**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023-2053
0-14 years	18180	18010	18102	18417	18583	18694	18829	649	4%
15-39 years	34978	35843	36107	36089	37720	38454	38351	3373	10%
40-64 years	26639	27282	29524	30941	31354	32324	33347	6708	25%
65 plus	14603	17310	19388	21753	23264	24653	26262	11659	80%

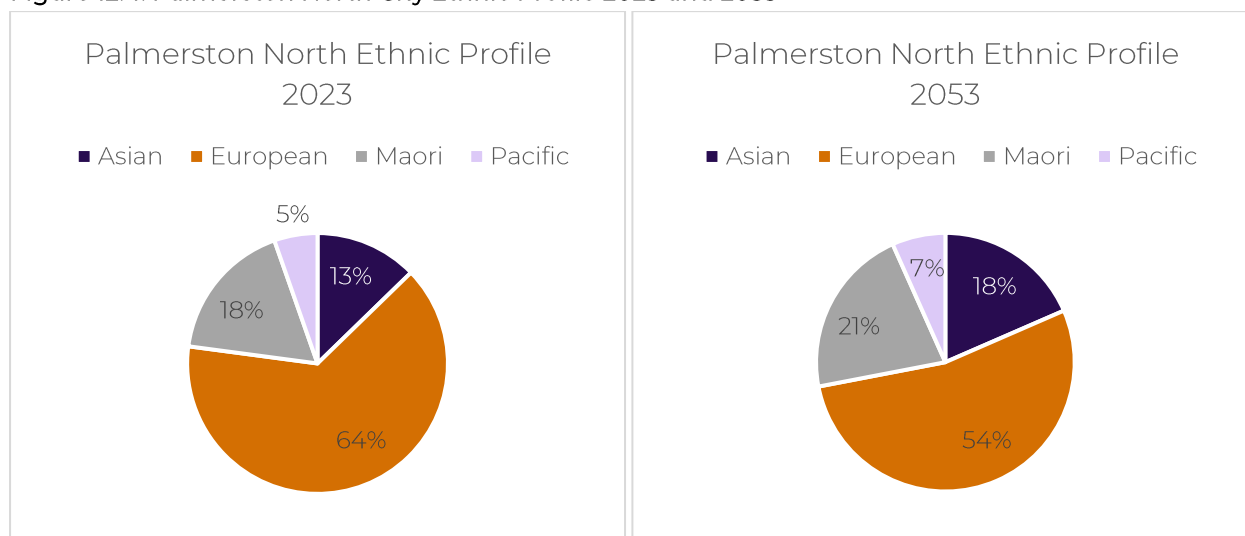
**Figure 12.3: Palmerston North City Age Group Projections**



### Palmerston North City Ethnic Profile

While the population of Palmerston North City was predominantly European or Other in 2023 it is expected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053. The populations of those identifying as Asian, Pacific People and Māori are expected to increase by 96%, 68% and 64% respectively. It is expected the population of those identifying as Asian will increase by over 13,000 people and that of those identifying as Māori by over 12,000 people while the population of Pacific People is expected to increase by 4,000 people. At the same time the population of those identifying as European or other is expected to increase by 12% or over 8,500 people.

**Figure 12.4: Palmerston North City Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053**



#### 12.4.2 Palmerston North City Activity Behaviours<sup>30</sup>

The table below shows the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Palmerston North City and compares them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups.

##### All demographic groups (combined)

The level of inactivity is higher for this Palmerston North City cohort compared to the national level, sitting at 30.3% compared to 25.8%. Level of engagement in the top 20 activities in Palmerston North City was no more than 5% higher or lower than the national rate for this demographic cohort.

Basketball and netball are the only traditional team sports that feature in the top 20 activities. There is a good mix of individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in the top 20 activities.

##### Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

The activity level of tamariki in Palmerston North City is on par with the national rate for tamariki, with only 4.4% inactive compared to 5.2%. They are more active than the national benchmark for tamariki in 16 of their 20 top activities and close to 10% or more active in the following activities:

- Jogging/ running
- Playing
- Cycling/biking

Nearly twice as many tamariki in Palmerston North City play hockey, and 3 times as many play basketball than national benchmark.

There is a good mix of traditional team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20 activities.

<sup>30</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs. Modelled participation uses combined data from the 2019 and 2020 Active NZ survey (last 7 days participation rates) and Statistics New Zealand Census 2018.

### **Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)**

At 10.1% Inactivity of rangatahi in Palmerston North City is not dissimilar than the national rate for rangatahi of 8.1%. They are more than 5% more active in the following activities:

- Jogging/running
- Playing
- Hockey

They are more than 5% less active in basketball than the national rate for rangatahi.

There is a mix of traditional team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in the top 20 activities for Rangitahi.

### **Māori (all ages)**

Māori in Palmerston North City are 5% less active than the national results for Māori with the level of inactivity sitting at 30% compared to 25.8% nationally.

While the percentages aren't high, more than twice as many Māori in Palmerston North City compared to the national rate participate in:

- Hunting (3.9% v 1.3%)
- Hockey (3.2% v 1.3%)
- Surf lifesaving (2.8% v 0.5%)
- Shooting (2.6% v 0.7%)

There is a good mix of traditional team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20 activities.



Table 12.7 shows the 20 most popular activities for Palmerston North City compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Primary School Aged Children, Secondary School Aged children<sup>31</sup>.

**Table 12.7: Palmerston North Participation Insights**

Activity	Palmerston North % All Demographics	National % All
Walking	48.5	50.5
Jogging/ Running	28.8	26.6
Individual Workout	20.4	20.1
Playing Games	19.4	19.3
Gardening	15.7	18.7
Cycling/Biking	13.2	12.3
Swimming	11.4	13.5
Playing	8.7	7.1
Playing on Playground	7.1	6.3
Dance	6.3	6.7
Trampolining	5.4	3.9
Group Exercise	5	9.2
Tramping	4.7	4.8
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	4.6	6.6
Scooter	4.4	3.6
Basketball	3.6	3.3
Netball (Outdoor)	3.3	3.1
Mountain Biking	3.3	4.7
Golf	2.9	2.8

Activity	Palmerston North % Tamariki	National Tamariki
Jogging/Running	74.3	61.9
Playing	67	57.2
Playing on Playground	59.8	54.7
Cycling/ Biking	48.1	38.2
Playing Games	47.5	41.1
Swimming	47.2	45
Trampolining	44.3	31.1
Scooter	38.3	31.6
Walking	27.9	22
Dance	22.4	25
Gymnastics	14.7	10.6
Hockey (Outdoor)	11.5	6.4
Netball (Outdoor)	10.8	9.7
Athletics	10.1	9.6
Basketball	10.1	10.6
Handball	8.5	5.3
Group Exercise	7.4	11.2
Badminton	7.4	2.4
Cricket (Outdoor)	7.3	6.3

Activity	Palmerston North Rangatahi	National Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	74.4	66.2
Walking	39.9	37.3
Individual Workout	33.8	31.8
Playing Games	31.8	35.6
Playing	29.6	21.7
Cycling/ Biking	22.4	23.2
Swimming	19.6	21.6
Hockey (Outdoor)	14.3	8.3
Playing on Playground	13.1	11.4
Netball (Outdoor)	12.4	14.7
Trampolining	12.1	12.8
Dance	11.8	15.1
Basketball	11.6	18.3
Athletics	9.7	8.8
Scooter	9.4	6.1
Tennis	8.8	7.2
Touch	8.6	11.1
Tramping	7.7	9.3
Skateboarding	7.4	5

<sup>31</sup> Source: Sport NZ Insights Tool

Gymnastics	2.4	1.6
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Touch	7	8.9
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Surfing/ Body Boarding	6.5	4.9
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#### 12.4.3 Palmerston North Facility Stocktake Summary

23 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities (12 of 23 are Schools)	3 Community Aquatic/Pool Facilities 28 school or privately operated pools	48 Playing Fields	23 Outdoor Court Facilities (11 of 23 are Schools)
4 Athletics Track Facilities (3 grass, 1 synthetic)	4 Golf Facilities	5 Bowls Facilities	3 Squash Facilities
5 Equestrian Facilities	11 Bicycle Facilities	2 Shooting Sport Facilities	4 Artificial Turfs (3 hockey, 1 multi-use)
7 Softball Diamonds: 2 Skin, 5 Grass	1 Pétanque Facility	1 Croquet Facility	3 Outdoor Watersport Areas

#### 12.4.4 Emerging Issues, Opportunities, and Initiatives for Palmerston North

The following issues and opportunities were identified during the consultation process:

- Lack of consistent access to affordable indoor space.
- Lack of indoor/heated/deep aquatics space.
- Lack of consistent participation data to aid in decision making.
- Opportunities to promote partnerships and optimise existing relationships.
- Willingness of schools to make facilities available for community use.
- Attractive natural environments close to the city and existing parks.
- The facilities at Massey University were seen as a positive set of complementary spaces alongside what is provided in the city.

The following initiatives specific to Palmerston North were identified:

- Complete review of CET Arena Masterplan.
- Complete and implement the recommendations of the aquatics facility provision review.
- Proceed with community indoor sports facility study, including investigation of covered outdoor courts.
- Implement recommendations from the covered bowls facility feasibility study.
- Support Gymsports with planning for a gymnastics facility.
- Support provision of an additional artificial turf.
- Consider enhancement of existing sports field network.
- Continue development of walkways/shared pathways.
- Continue development of cycle trails and supporting amenities like toilets and parking.
- Ensure recreational needs are considered in urban growth areas.
- Provision of dedicated space for traditional Māori activities.
- Proceed with Te Motu o Poutoa development to enhance recreational/cultural experiences.
- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.

## 12.5 Tararua District<sup>32</sup>

### 12.5.1 Demographic Profile

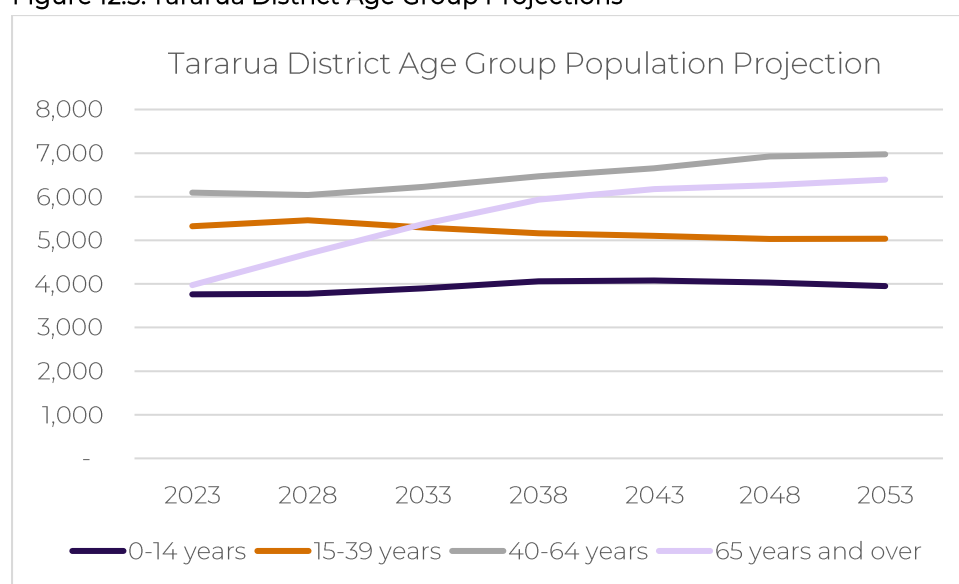
#### Age Group Population Projections

The population of the Tararua district was 19,153 in 2023. The district is expected to experience growth of 17% or just over 3,000 people by 2053. The greatest growth will be in those aged 65 years and over. This group is expected to grow by 61% or nearly 2,500 people. At the same time, the group aged 40-64 years is projected to experience growth of 14% or nearly 900 people. The 15-39-year age group is expected to see a decline in population, of -5% (288 people) while the 0-14 age group is expected to see an increase of 5% or 189 people.

**Table 12.8: Tararua district Age Group Projections**

	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048	2053	Change 2023- 2053	% Change 2023-2053
0-14 years	3,761	3,771	3,901	4,060	4,079	4,034	3,950	189	5%
15-39 years	5,323	5,460	5,296	5,159	5,106	5,031	5,035	(288)	-5%
40-64 years	6,096	6,039	6,229	6,467	6,649	6,922	6,973	876	14%
65 years and over	3,973	4,691	5,377	5,932	6,174	6,260	6,392	2,419	61%
Total	19,153	19,961	20,803	21,617	22,007	22,246	22,350	3,197	17%

**Figure 12.5: Tararua District Age Group Projections**



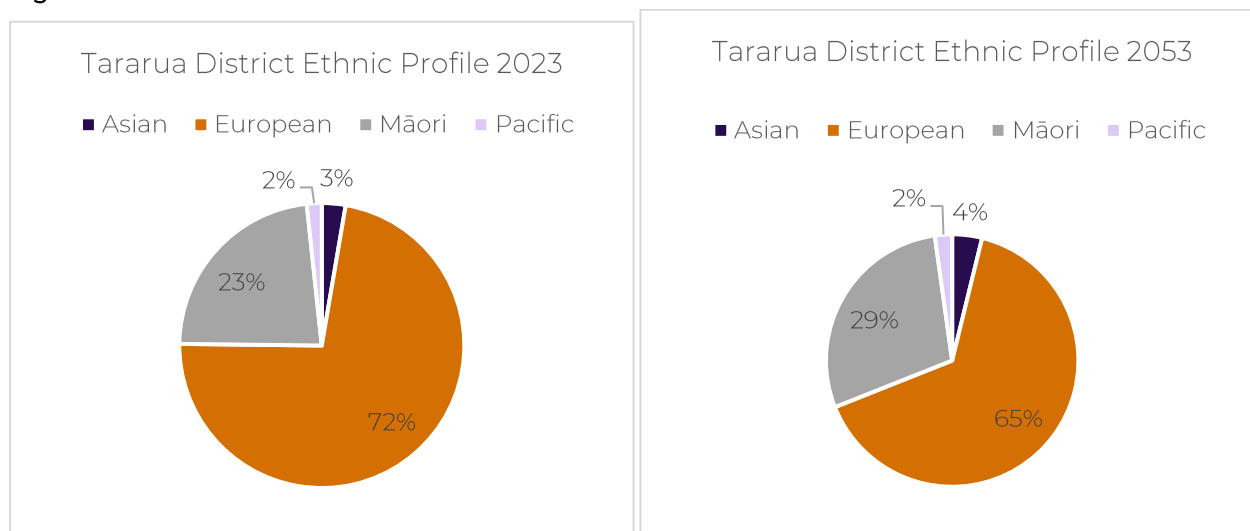
#### Tararua District Ethnic Profile

While the population of the Tararua district was predominantly European or Other in 2023 it is expected to become more ethnically diverse in the 30 years to 2053. The populations of those identifying as Asian, Pacific People and Māori are expected to increase by 91%, 75% and 67% respectively. It is expected the population of those identifying as Māori will increase by over 3,500 people while the population of those

<sup>32</sup> Demographic data for this section sourced from Infometrics high projections, January 2023.

identifying as Asian and Pacific Peoples are expected to experience increases of a few hundred people. At the same time the population of those identifying as European or other is expected to increase by 21% or nearly 3,500 people.

**Figure 12.6: Tararua District Ethnic Profile 2023 and 2053**



### 12.5.2 Tararua District Activity Behaviours<sup>33</sup>

The tables below show the top 20 activities for 3 demographic groups across the Tararua District and compare them to the national activity levels for the same activities in the same demographic groups. It is interesting to note the prevalence of individual active recreation activities across all 3 groups.

#### All demographic groups (combined)

The level of inactivity is higher for this Tararua cohort than the national benchmark, sitting at 31.8% compared to 25.8%. Levels of engagement was lower in 12 of their top 20 activities but by no more than 3.5%. There was even less difference with the national benchmark for the other 8 activities.

Basketball, netball, and touch are the only traditional team sports that feature in the top 20 activities.

#### Tamariki (primary school aged young people)

There is an insignificant difference between the activity rates of tamariki in the Tararua District and the national benchmark (inactive 3.5% v 5.2%).

Tamariki in the Tararua District are generally more active in their top 20 activities than the national benchmark, with the most significant differences in jogging/running (14.4% more active) and trampolining (13.6% more). Almost twice as many tamariki from the Tararua District play hockey (12.1% v 6.4%), and softball (4.3% v 2.1%). Only 5.6% play rugby compared to the national benchmark of 10.1%.

There is a mix of traditional team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20.

#### Rangatahi (secondary school aged young people)

Inactivity for rangatahi in the Tararua District sits at 12% compared to the national benchmark for rangatahi of 8.1%. They are more active in 11 and less active in 9 and of their top 20 activities compared to

<sup>33</sup> The Activity Behaviours data used to provide the community profiles is to allow the reader to understand the likely participation of residents in that area. Data produced is based on a range of assumptions and this information should not be used in isolation when identifying needs.

the national rates but, other than jogging/running (74.6% v 66.2%) and basketball (7.2% v 18.3%), the differences are insignificant.

There is a mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20..

### **Māori (all ages)**

Māori in the Tararua District are 6.5% less active than the national benchmark for Māori with the level of inactivity sitting at 32.2% compared to 25.8% nationally.

They are no more than 5% more active in 10 of their top 20 activities and no more than 5% less active in the other 10. Compared to the national benchmark for Māori, twice as many Māori in the Tararua District participated in:

- Hunting (3.9% v 1.3%)
- Hockey (3% v 1.3%)
- Shooting (2.7% v 0.7%)

There is a mix of team and individual sport, active recreation, and play activities in their top 20 activities.

Table 12.9 shows the 20 most popular activities for the Tararua District compared to the National rates for the same activity in 3 different demographic groups – All Demographics, Tamariki (Primary School Aged Children), and Rangatahi (Secondary School Aged Children).

**Table 12.9: Tararua District Participation Insights**

Activity	Tararua % All Demographics	National % All
Walking	47.1	50.5
Jogging/ Running	26.8	26.6
Playing Games	20	19.3
Individual Workout	18	20.1
Gardening	16.7	18.7
Cycling/Biking	13.5	12.3
Swimming	10.8	13.5
Playing	9.7	7.1
Playing on Playground	8.4	6.3
Dance	6.2	6.7
Trampolining	6.1	3.9
Group Exercise	5.4	9.2
Scootering	4.8	3.6
Tramping	4.2	4.8
Pilates/Yoga at gym/Class	3.7	6.6
Netball (Outdoor)	3	3.1
Mountain Biking	2.9	4.7
Golf	2.9	2.8
Basketball	2.8	3.3
Touch	2.3	2.5

Activity	Tararua % Tamariki	National % Tamariki
Jogging/Running	76.3	61.9
Playing	67.9	57.2
Playing on Playground	65	54.7
Cycling/ Biking	50	38.2
Playing Games	47.5	41.1
Trampolining	44.7	31.1
Swimming	42.1	45
Scootering	38.4	31.6
Walking	26.2	22
Dance	23.9	25
Hockey (Outdoor)	12.1	6.4
Gymnastics	11.6	10.6
Basketball	11.1	10.6
Athletics	10.3	9.6
Netball (Outdoor)	8.3	9.7
Touch	8.3	8.9
Group Exercise	7.1	11.2
Rugby	5.6	10.1
Mountain Biking	5	6
Softball	4.3	2.1

Activity	Tararua % Rangatahi	National % Rangatahi
Jogging/Running	74.6	66.2
Walking	39.8	37.3
Playing Games	32.6	35.6
Playing	32.2	21.7
Individual Workout	31.5	31.8
Cycling/ Biking	20.1	23.2
Swimming	19.7	21.6
Hockey (Outdoor)	13.9	8.3
Dance	13.9	15.1
Netball (Outdoor)	13.9	14.7
Trampolining	13.6	12.8
Playing on Playground	11.6	11.4
Tennis	10.6	7.2
Scootering	10.5	6.1
Athletics	10.1	8.8
Touch	9.7	11.1
Tramping	8.6	9.3
Surfing/ Body Boarding	8	4.9
Basketball	7.2	18.3
Gymnastics	6.4	4.3

### 12.5.3 Tararua Facility Stocktake Summary

5 Indoor Sports Courts Facilities	7 Aquatic/Pool Facilities	11 Playing Field Facilities	5 Cricket Facilities
8 Tennis Court Facilities	7 Netball Court Facilities (outdoor)	2 Athletics Track Facilities (grass)	8 Golf Facilities
5 Bowls Facilities	3 Squash Facilities	3 Equestrian Facilities	2 Bicycle Facilities
5 Shooting Sport Facilities	2 Pétanque/Croquet Facilities	1 Artificial turf	

### 12.5.4 Emerging Issues, Opportunities, and Initiatives for Tararua District

The following issues and opportunities were identified during the consultation process specific to the Tararua District:

- Lack of volunteers.
- The Bush Hockey turf not being up to standard for senior games, forcing players to travel to Palmerston North.
- Demand pressures at Wai-Splash Pool in Dannevirke.
- Some facilities are no longer fit-for-purpose as participation trends have changed over time.
- School community partnerships are an opportunity to address duplication.
- Optimisation of existing facilities will keep costs down, ensure greater use of existing facilities, and reduce need for new facilities.

The following initiatives for the Tararua District were identified:

- Complete and implement the Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy.
- Continue to support the philosophy of hubbing for community sport facilities.
- Support community pools to meet local needs.
- Consider localised visible parks with shelter, shade, accessible toilets along with accessible activities such as a single basketball hoop/skate ramp along with natural materials to play on.
- Identify opportunities for track/walkways/cycleways development.
- Develop investment criteria to support decision-making around key projects.



# 13 Regional Recommendations

Aside from the district-level recommendations already identified, there are a number of recommendations that apply to the whole region. These respond to the challenges and opportunities identified in this plan.

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
Increase awareness	Consider across-boundary opportunities for increasing awareness and promoting the use of existing space and places in the Horizons region.	Horizons North PSG Horizons South PSG	
	Each RST to publicise an inventory of bookable spaces for indoor recreation opportunities	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Each RST is to implement an awareness campaign to increase the understanding of the facility planning framework that assists with the decision-making process within this Plan.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short Term
Spaces and places development	Ensure any developments are adaptable and resilient to climate change and maximise sustainability principles.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Work with existing sports clubs to encourage the consolidation of sporting facilities, ensuring current spaces are optimised.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Ensure any investment in spaces and places caters for a diverse participant base, through the application of this Plan's principles.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing
	When developing <i>public convenience</i> strategies look for alignment and opportunities with play, recreation and sport developments.	All councils	Ongoing
	Allocate sports field space for traditional Māori games (such as ki o rahi)	All councils	Ongoing
	Develop a Regional Indoor Courts Network Plan using guidance from the National Indoor Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Strategy	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
Accessibility	Advocate that for any new or upgraded walking trails developed, they allow for accessibility where practical.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
	Any investment in change rooms needs to address all genders' needs, in line with Sport NZ's guidance on gender neutral change spaces.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Ongoing
Informal Play and Recreation	Consider development of spaces that incorporate natural elements for imaginative, self-determined age-appropriate play. This could be when developing new infrastructure or upgrading existing spaces and places.	All councils	Ongoing
	Place playgrounds near complementary natural elements to maximise self-initiated, imaginative environmental play.	All councils	Ongoing
	Incorporate wider recreation and play infrastructure when upgrading or developing new sporting facilities (such as walking trails, basketball ½ courts, pump tracks and fitness trails). This will broaden the appeal of these spaces and places and offer low-cost options to participate	All councils	Ongoing
Process Recommendations			
	Organisations adopt this Plan and integrate the decision-making framework into decisions about play, active recreation and sport facilities.	All PSG Organisations	Short term
	That this plan is referred to as the He rā ki tua - Horizons Region Spaces & Places Plan for Sport and Recreation	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Establish Te Pae Whenua ki te Raki - Horizons North Steering Group, including iwi, councils, Sport Whanganui and community funders that oversees concepts and can look for collaborative opportunities and connections with other projects.	Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Establish Te Paewhenua ki te Tonga - Horizons South Steering Group, including iwi, councils, Sport Manawatū and community funders that oversees concepts and can look for collaborative opportunities and connections with other projects.	Sport Manawatū	Short term
	Co-ordination of the Steering Groups is to be overseen by Sport Manawatū and Sport Whanganui.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term

Opportunity	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeframe
Regional Enabling Recommendations		The lead organisation/s who oversee the recommendation	(Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-9 years, Long term 10 years plus, ongoing)
	Adopt the proposed decision-making process when considering project concepts and existing planned projects that are seeking further investment. Assess currently proposed actions using the decision-making process.	All PSG Organisations	Ongoing
	Promote the services of each RST as Spaces and Places Navigators available to help community groups.	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Short term
	Each participating council updates the Sport NZ Facility Planning tool on a bi-annual basis, to ensure there is an up to date central facility inventory for the region.	All councils	Ongoing
	Review this Plan in 3-4 years' time, with a focus on across boundary collaboration	Sport Manawatū Sport Whanganui	Medium term

# Appendix A: Survey Findings

## Summary of Survey Findings

### Survey Metrics

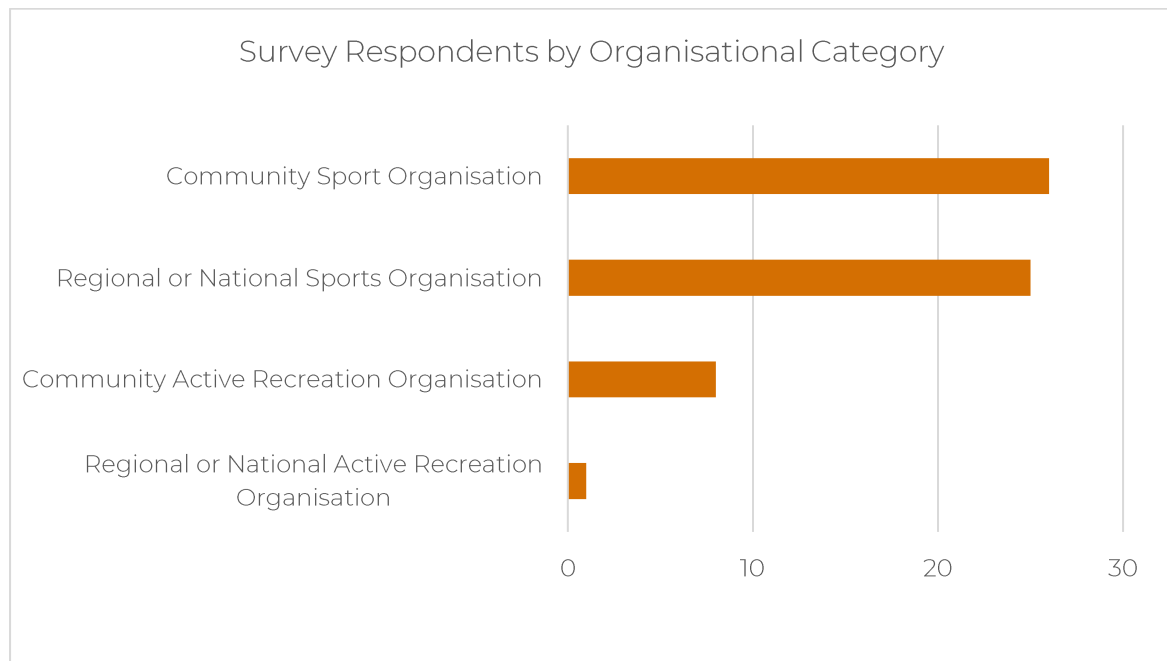
Survey opened on November 25 2022

Survey closed January 25 2023

Responses received – 68

Q4 Organisation Description:

- 26 community sport organisations
- 25 regional or national sports organisations
- 8 community active rec organisations
- 1 national recreation organisation
- There were 6 responses from other organisations. These included a community trust, a school, a community library and a youth development organisation.



Q5 – Number of respondents from each sport/activity

Sport/Activity	Number of respondents
Multiple Activities	5
Archery	1
Badminton	2
Basketball	4
Outdoor Bowls	5
Boxing	1
Canoe Polo	1
Canoe Racing	1
Cricket Indoor	1
Cricket Outdoor	3
Road Cycling	1
Track Cycling	1
Dance	2
Football Indoor	1
Football Outdoor	6
Golf	2
Gym/Fitness training	2
Gymnastics/Gym Sports	3
Hockey Outdoor	2
Martial Arts	1
Netball	5
Orienteering	1
Pilates/Yoga	1
Rowing	3
Rugby Union	3
Rugby League	3
Shooting	1
Softball	3
Squash	2
Swimming	2
Table Tennis	2
Tennis	1
Touch Rugby	4
Volleyball	4
Waka ama and Outrigger Canoeing	1
Walking/Power Walking	1
Wrestling	1
Other	7

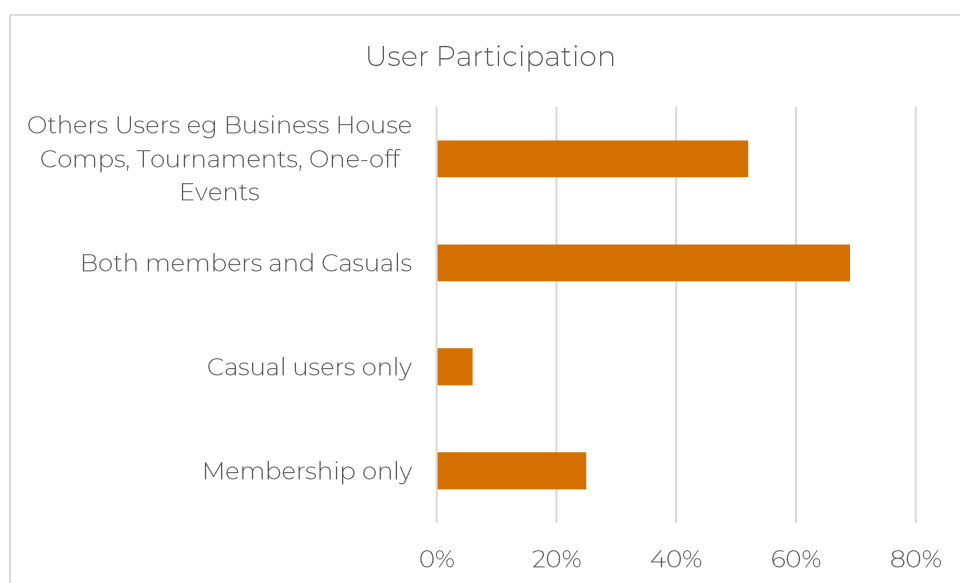
## Participation

Q6 – When do people normally participate in your activity?

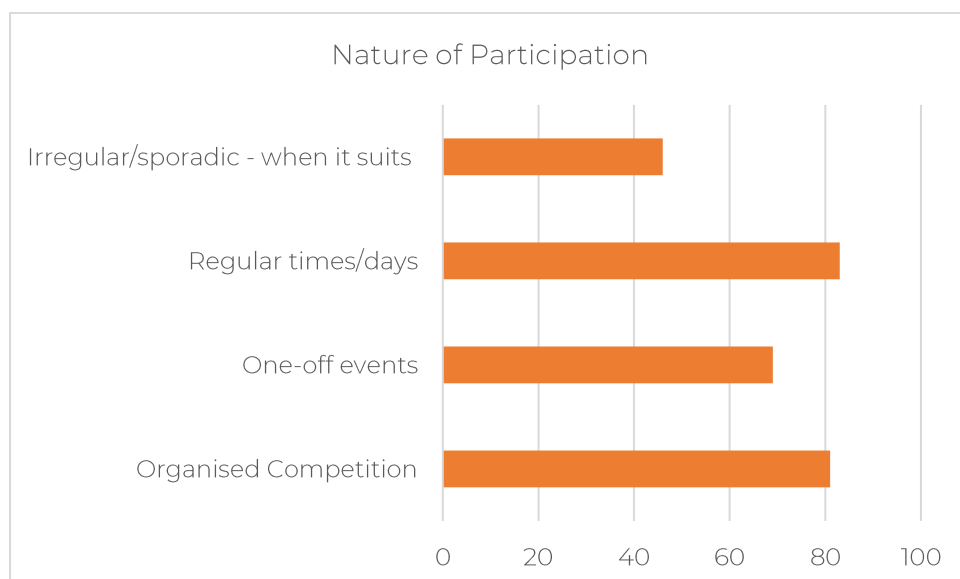
- 66% of respondents indicated year-round
- 19% summer
- 12% winter

Q8 – How do people participate in your activity?

- 69% of respondents indicated their users were a mix of casuals and members.
- 52% indicated participation by other users e.g. Business House Competitions, tournaments, one-off events..

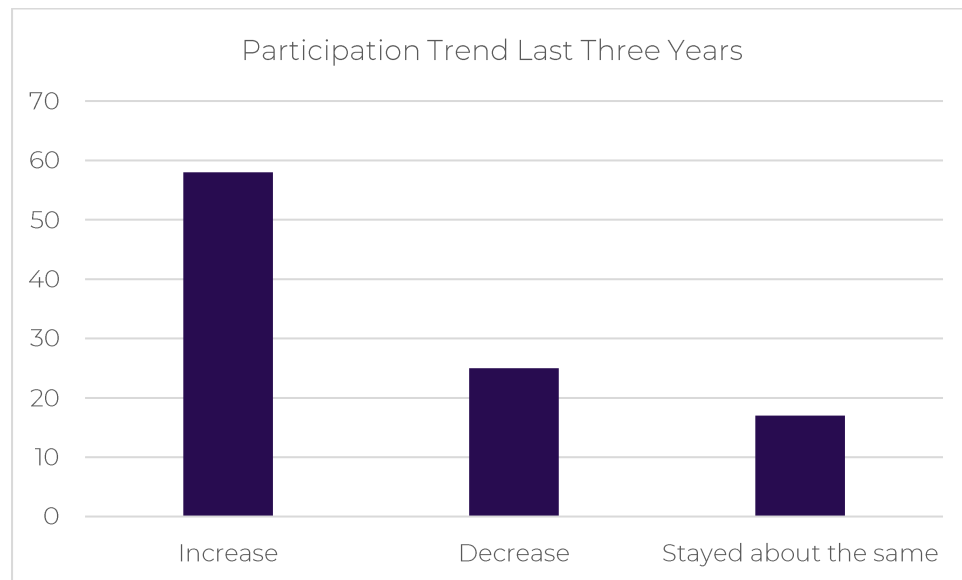


83% of respondents indicated that participants in their sport or activity participated on regular times/days while 81% indicated their participants were involved in regular competition. 69% indicated participants attended one-off events and 46% that users participated when it suited them.



#### Q14 Trend in active participation in the last three years

- 58% of respondents indicated participation in their sport or activity had increased in the last three years
- 25% indicated participation had decreased.
- 8% indicated it had stayed about the same



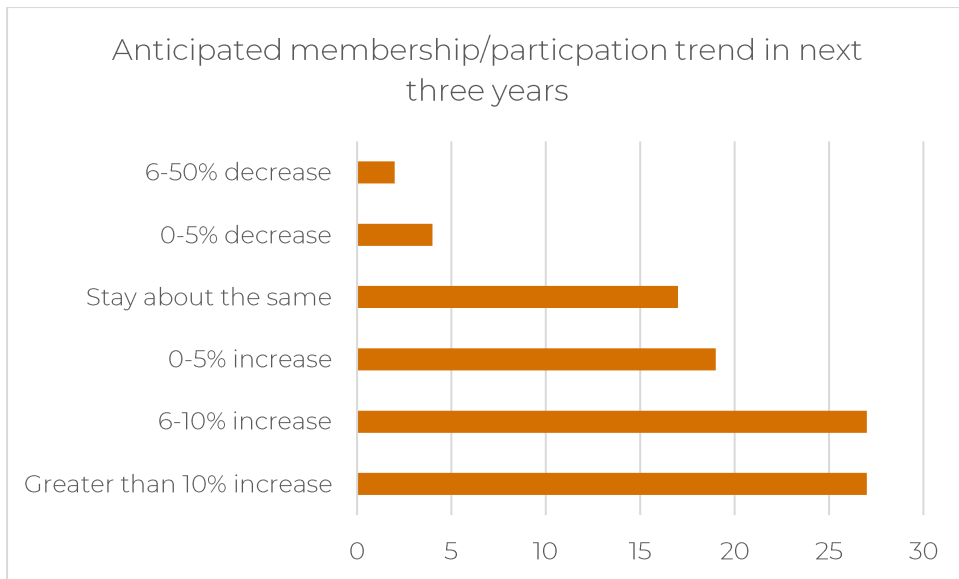
#### Q15 – Comments on participation trend

- Decreases usually to do with Covid, sometimes to do with reducing numbers of coaches/volunteers.
- Increases to do with offering more/different programmes or population growth.

#### Expected Membership/Participation Trends

##### Q16 - Anticipated participation trends in next 3 years

- 54% of respondents thought participation was likely to increase by more than 6% in the next three years.
- 19% thought it would increase by up to 5%.
- 17% thought it would stay about the same.
- 6% of respondents anticipated participation in their sport or activity would decrease.



Q17 – Reasons for future participation trend





## Facility Use

Q18 Please name the main facility you use.

Organisation Name	Main Venue	Alternative Venue(s)
Manawatū Regional Volleyball Association	Central Energy Trust Arena, Massey University	MRVA has used Cornerstone Christian School heavily in the past 3 years, however the school is considering closing gym to outside users
Volleyball Manawatū	Arena Manawatū	Cornerstone School - who are now going to stop access to external users. This is where we run majority of our elite programmes or trainings. Massey Uni- great relationship here and will use when we can. Takaro Beach Volleyball Lawn Bowls- this will become our hub and facility for beach volleyball and easy low cost access for users
Manawatū Badminton Association	CET Arena	PN Intermediate Normal School - weekly training, club play, school training Cornerstone Christian School - weekly training, school/youth programmes, tournaments Feilding Civic Centre - weekly training, leagues, tournaments Massey Rec Centre - training sessions, club, casual court hire, tournaments Springvale Stadium, Whanganui- Central Regions tournaments throughout the season
Red Kiwi Orienteering	The Esplanade, Palmerston North	We use parks all around Palmerston North, Feilding and Whanganui, once a month. We use Massey University grounds about every 6 months We use forests down to Otaki and up to Whanganui, every 6 months
Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club	Freyberg Pool, Palmerston North and The Chalet, Hokowhitu Lagoon	Freyberg Pool, Palmerston North, All levels of play (beginners, intermediates, advanced), 3-5 days every week all year. Hokowhitu Lagoon (Palmerston North city reserve), All levels of play and hosting tournaments, 7 days every week all year. Makino Pool, Feilding, All levels of play, 1-3 days every week all year. Some tournaments held here.
The HND Community Trust (The House Next Door)	125-127 Vogel St	N/A
Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club	208 Somme Parade, WCS Boatshed (answered below questions regarding this facility) also the Whanganui River.	We have Strength & Condition facility and Ergo area at School.

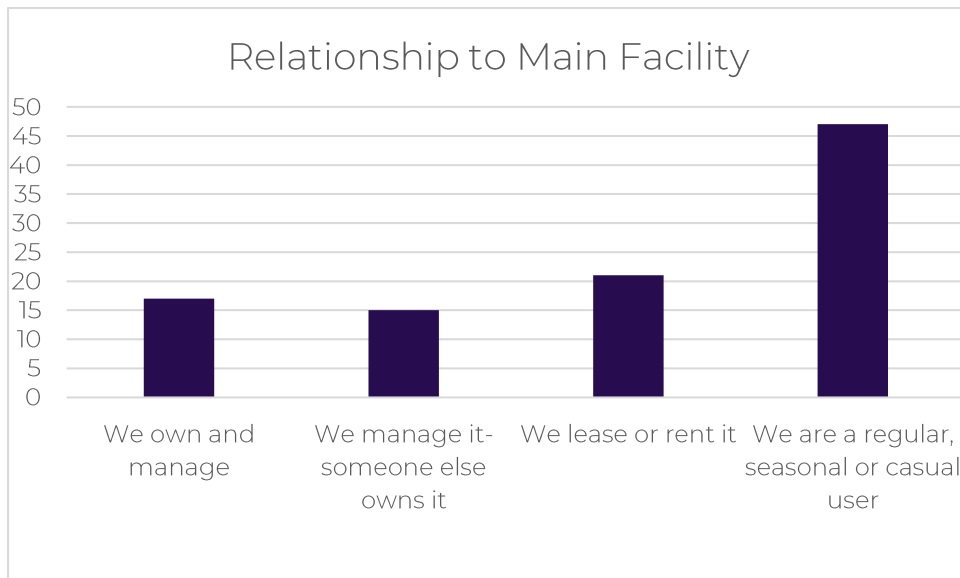
Organisation Name	Main Venue	Alternative Venue(s)
Whanganui Rowing Association	Whanganui River/Awa & Association Buildings	We own 2 Buildings along the Whanganui Somme Parade riverbank & lease the land from WDC. 3 of our clubs have Clubrooms along the river & Clifton RC is based in Waitara.
Whanganui Softball Association	Whanganui Ballpark	
Manawatū GymSports	Manawatū GymSports, 93 Malden Street	
Aramoho Whanganui rowing Club Inc	Whanganui River Bank	N/A
Badminton Whanganui	Springvale Stadium Extension (Badminton Hall)	n/a
The Hunterville Bowling Club Inc.	Hunterville Bowling Club	
Taihape Netball Centre	Taihape Netball Centre	
Manawatū Tararua Disc Golf (Incorporated Society 2022)	Linklater Reserve	
Manawatū Rugby	CET Arena	
Netball Manawatu	Vautier Park	We also use CET Arena, but it is hard to get access due to other bookings and new commercial bookings
Basketball Manawatū	Arena 4, CET Arena Palmerston North	Several School gyms, PNBHS, St Peters, FAHS, Cornerstone, QEC, Freyberg. Linton Army Camp IPU CrossRoads Church Hall
Manawatū Rugby Football League Inc	Coronation Park, Tremaine Ave and Building facilities at Fitzherbert Park.	Fitzherbert Park - Bruce Turner Pavilion use only, due to partnership with <b>Manawatū</b> Cricket
Wanganui Archery Club	Wembley Park, Whanganui East	N/A
Central Football	Celaeno Park	Monrad Park, Juniors, Skoglund Park, Seniors Papaioea Park, Juniors Colqhoun Park, Youth
Feilding United Softball Club	Victoria Park, Feilding	Colqhoun Park, Palmerston North - we play there every Saturday
Wanganui Golf Club	Our course Belmont	

Organisation Name	Main Venue	Alternative Venue(s)
Altitude Pole & Fitness	29 Bisley Street Palmerston North, and 17 Taupo Quay Whanganui.	
Pahiatua Junior Football Club	Bush Multisport	Woodville Hockey Park - football fields Dannevirke football fields (behind swimming pool) most Saturdays over the season there would be a Pahiatua Football team playing at these grounds plus a home games too.
Tennis Whanganui	Whanganui Tennis Club	
Cricket Whanganui	Victoria Park and Springvale Park	
River City Boxing Clun INCORPORATED	Kaiwerau rugby club & River City boxing club training complex	None
Te Kaihau o Kupe Waka ama Inc	1 Wharf Street Castlecliff	No other facility but having out own waka trailers allows us to move them where we need them.
Jill Woods Pilates	Bush Multisport Hockey Pavilion	
Bike Manawatū Inc	Johnston Park Velodrome & Rural Roads across the Manawatū	(Road Cycling) Multiple Rural Roads (Track Cycling) Johnston Park
Awapuni Library	Awapuni Library	
Bush Multisports Trust	Bush Multisport Stadium	
Feilding Squash Club	Feilding Squash Club	
Feilding Gymnastics Club	Manfeild park	
Feilding Junior Touch Module	Victoria Park, Feilding	
Johnston Park Bowling club	Johnston Park Feilding	
Manakau United Football Club Incorporated	Manakau Domain	
Target Shooting Marton	Our on premises on French Street Marton	N/a

Organisation Name	Main Venue	Alternative Venue(s)
IUVENTUS & Highbury Whānau Centre	HWC & Monrad Park	Coronation Park & Human Movements Gymnasium
Levin Association Football Club	Donnelly Park	
Feilding Junior Cricket	Kowhai Park	Feilding High School - They have new practice nets that we sometimes use
New Zealand Red Cross	Queen Elizabeth College, P/North- GYM 1 - GYM 2, Outdoor fields	
Wai Splash	Wai Splash	
Bush Senior Hockey	Pahiatua turf	Hockey Manawātū weekly for games
Foxton Rugby Club	Easton Park Foxton	The Club rooms Easton Park - Club owns - all functions Easton Park - HDC owns - manages the field and grandstand
Foxton Golf Club	Foxton Golf Club	

#### Q 19 What is your relationship to the facility? (47 respondents)

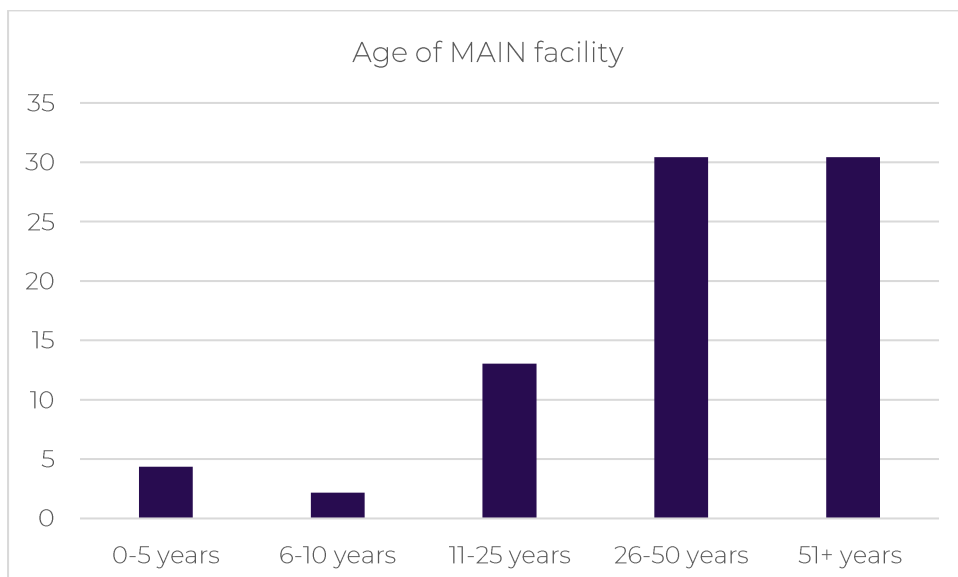
The majority of respondents (47%) were regular, casual users of the main facility they used for their sport or activity. 21% indicated that leased or rented the facility, 17% said they owned and managed their main facility while 15% said they managed the facility but someone else owned it.



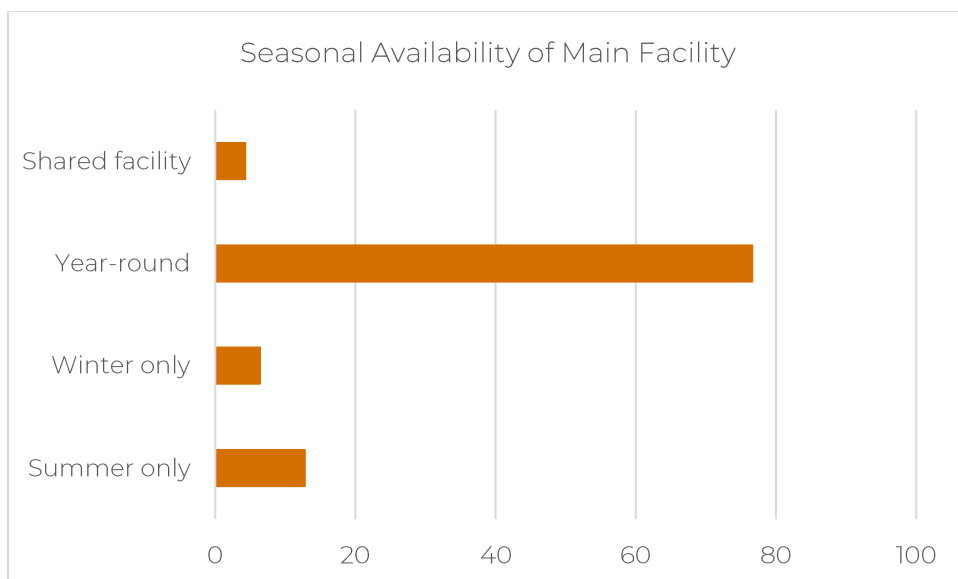
#### Q 20 – How old is your Main Facility? (46 respondents)

60% of respondents indicated that the main facility they used was older than 25 years.

(9 respondents were unsure)



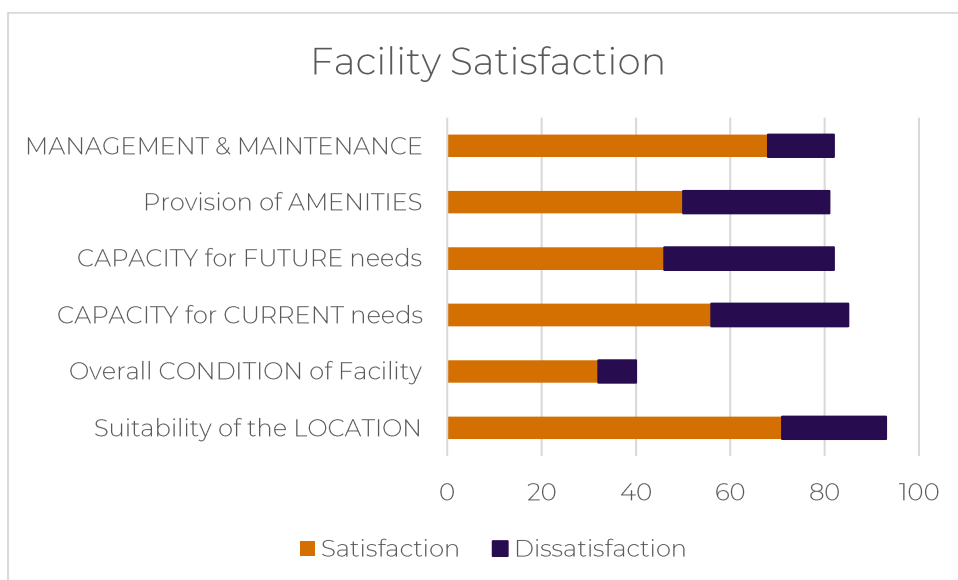
#### Q21 Seasonal availability of facility for sport/activity (47 respondents)



## Overall Facility Satisfaction

Q24 – Satisfaction with facilities across the Horizons Region (45 Respondents).

Respondents expressed the greatest satisfaction (where respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied) with the management and maintenance of facilities (68%) and the suitability of location (71%). The greatest dissatisfaction with facilities were in the areas of capacity for future needs (46%) and the provision of amenities (50%).



## Q25 Reasons for Dissatisfaction (27 Respondents)

Organisation	Reasons for Dissatisfaction
Manawatū Regional Volleyball Association	Central Energy Trust Arena has great capacity for volleyball however the accessibility is very limited. Participant needs have already surpassed availability.
Volleyball Manawatū	ALWAYS need more space and access to indoor spaces especially competing against the other codes and being a new association we seem to be the lower end. Although our participation is high.
Manawatu Badminton Association	Our hall hire days/times in CET Arena are very specific during the winter and therefore there is very little flexibility to extend or expand our current programmes as we are at capacity; we already need to modify our tournament game structure to fit in the times offered by the Arena. We are increasingly finding it difficult to book the venue for extra tournaments we want to run and this is mainly due to other bookings - some from other codes and some from commercial entities. The cost or availability of hire can also be prohibitive in some instances - e.g. for smaller clubs, small groups, individuals unable to book pay and play. We have a great relationship with the operations staff who do a good job with what they have to deal with. We also feel fortunate to have access to so many badminton courts in one venue and that this venue is a well-known place of local sport and activity; which gives administrators, participants, parents and families a place to congregate, participate, and feel part of a big community.
Red Kiwi Orienteering	We are keen to use more forests for orienteering events.
Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club	Our canoe polo club is getting by with what we have available. We clearly need bigger and better facilities in order to grow
Whanganui Rowing Association	Reliant on WDC, HRC, Iwi etc to ensure our riverbank facilities are accessible etc. Excellent work has happened recently lead by active WRA members& the entities mentioned.
Manawatū GymSports	Parking at our venue is dangerous due to the number of children we have coming and going, the space is not large enough to cater for the number, or the skills we coach.
Manawatu Tararua Disc Golf (Incorporated Society 2022)	Due to the large increase of the sport, more courses would be a great way to offload the increased traffic at Linklater. The current proximity of our only course is also well away from suburbs such as Takaro, Highbury, and Awapuni

Organisation	Reasons for Dissatisfaction
Manawatū Rugby	Car parking is always an issue at the grounds where we have high activity. Such as Bill Brown (currently being sorted), Ongley Park, Coronation Park.
Netball Manawatū	We are in a very exposed location with no sun or rain cover for players or spectators. It is a barren place, that adds nothing to the user experience. We are very keen to cover a third of the courts in a roof and have submitted to Council a number of times with a multi-code proposal with support from 5 sport organisations and three educational facilities all backing it.
Basketball Manawatū	Given the push by the PNCC to promote PN as the Event Capital of NZ this then means that sports and other community users will be pushed out of the Arena. Thats why our 12 week season has to be run over 19 weeks (to allow us to fit in 12 rounds of games).
Manawatū Rugby Football League Inc	The facilities are a shared space between rugby league, cricket and rugby. Out of all codes we are only allocated 2 fields, however from rugby league lead discussions we have made various partnerships with the other codes. In the last couple of years, we have accepted Manawatū Touch to utilise the facilities grounds as well.
Central Football	We have 5 playing Fields at Celaeno Park however only 2 Changing rooms available. With the space around the current facilities a larger building with more change rooms and up to date facilities would be ideal.
Altitude Pole & Fitness	Finding affordable large spaces (200-300m <sup>2</sup> ), clean and without leaks, with carparking, and high stud heights (4m+) is very difficult. We would love to move to larger premises in Whanganui but have been hunting for 2+ years for a new suitable location and have resigned ourselves to trying to stay where we are and improve the current space.
Tennis Whanganui	Limited to only 12 courts - affects tournaments and rep fixtures.
River City Boxing Clun INCORPORATED	We don't have running water or toilets so have to use the rugby clubs, they are becoming blocked and it not suitable for ladies and young children to be hopping through bar or disable people to use. Winter time is the worst.
Bike Manawatū Inc	It would be great to have a covered velodrome to allow riders to train year round. Many events can not proceed with rain or wind as it becomes far too dangerous. There is no shelter available at our velodrome.
Awapuni Library	There is a lack of public play space in the vicinity of the Awapuni shopping centre for use of our play equipment. We rely on good relationships with our neighbouring churches to share their outdoor space.

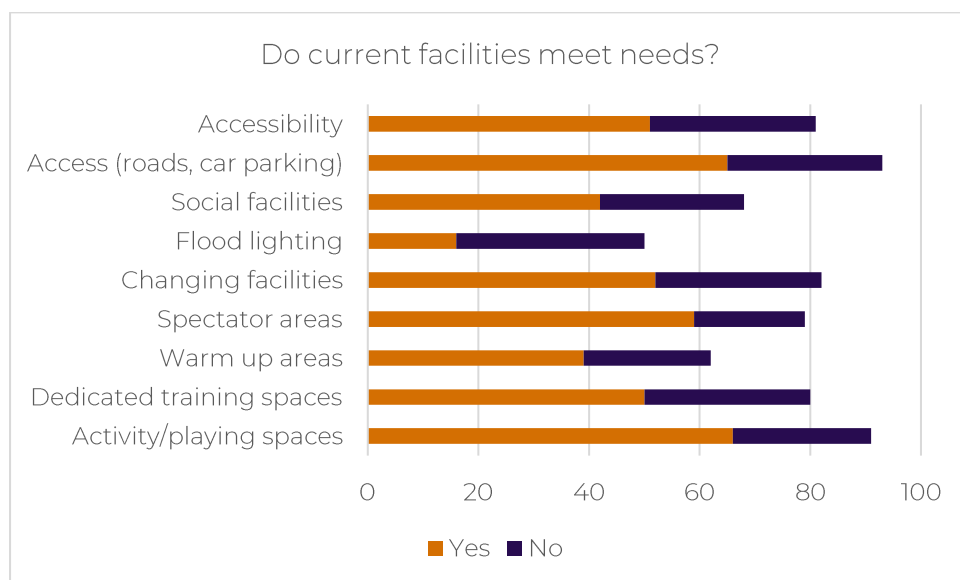


Organisation	Reasons for Dissatisfaction
Feilding Gymnastics Club	We share our facility with tractors with a barrier between. Manfeild workers enter the shed and leave door open all day so have bird and dust issues. One side of the facility floods in rain events. The roof leaks. One toilet we pay extra rent to use as others are shared with outside facility so can't be used. No gate access into facility so limit access. Unable to sublease to other clubs due to access cost after hours. Lights need replacing. Space is limited so all equipment cannot be used. Access difficult during Manfield events.
Manakau United Football Club Incorporated	Manakau Domain is the only park/reserve that is not administered by the council in the region. It has been maintained by the football club for the past 13+ years. Need serious investment to bring up to current standards especially toilets / showers and changing facilities. Also needs a lighting upgrade
Target Shooting Marton	Parking is on the street which during heavy rain, or oversized vehicles becomes SH1
Levin Association Football Club	Donnelly park is a multi use facility, used by several different codes, year round. Cricket largely use the fields over summer, football uses them in the winter. Netball has the courts and hockey has its own turf which HHA own and manage. Both cricket and football have "off season" programmes also. Cricket has grown and through funding was able to build a new building to suit their needs. There is the aspiration and the backing of NZ Cricket to bring 1st class cricket to Donnelly Park-great for Levin. The issue with this is where the planned space for the #1 cricket pitch is where footballs #1 and #2 pitches are, right in front of LAFC clubrooms. LAFC's growth haven't we are at our facilities capacity. But we cannot move, we rely on our clubrooms to entertain and host visiting clubs, if our pitches were to move without our clubrooms also doing so, our operation will be put under further strain. LAFC is not against moving, we are onboard with the proposed future plan for Donnelly, we just need a timeframe which takes all parties into account. The movement of football and Netball would allow the space for cricket to be fully utilised without anyone being inconvenienced by another's activity. The current changing facilities are not meeting the demand. In winter, football often has to utilise not only its own changing room (single) but also crickets changing facilities in addition to the council changing block at the park. It's simply not big enough anymore. Netball has had issues with its courts recently which HDC has had to urgently address, Netball facilities barely meet their needs and do not allow for growth. The current parking situation is sub par. During winter, junior football runs at the same time as Netball. Almost every Saturday morning in winter, all parking facilities are crammed full beyond capacity, cars are on any available patch of grass surrounding the carparks,

Organisation	Reasons for Dissatisfaction
	Adkin Ave and its surrounds streets are full. Its truly a jam up. Lighting has just been upgraded on the Netball courts and the football training pitch, this brings us up to a stage we really should have been 5 years ago. We are very grateful for the upgrades, they will just not meet our needs for long. The current grounds maintenance contractor is amazing and top tier, council contacts are also good.
Feilding Junior Cricket	Change rooms are to small and nets at kowhai park are old and need to be upgrade. there is only two nets and this limits the amount of team that can use them at the same time.
Wai Splash	Not a lot of space available in Dannevirke, council do not drive to help things get done let alone support (un-financially)
Bush Senior Hockey	Turf in Pahiatua needs upgrading, not able to get games from Palmy teams due to quality of turf. Limited changing rooms available at turf in Pahiatua Turf in Pahiatua needs regular maintenance for moss Massey turf in Palmy has no toilets or changing rooms close by
Foxton Rugby Club	Due to the increase in numbers at our club we don't have enough changing rooms or facilities to cater for our current growth. We have 2 changing rooms but have 4 senior teams each week for rugby plus 150 junior members. We provide Netball but have no courts and have to pay to use the college.
Foxton Golf Club	Horizons not spraying their relevant drains as regularly as they should

## Q26 Do current facilities in Horizons Region meet EXISTING needs? (45 Respondents)

Respondents indicated that facilities were mostly meeting their needs in the areas of access (65%), activity/playing spaces (66%) and spectator areas (59%). The main areas where needs were not usually being met are floodlighting (34%), changing facilities, dedicated training spaces and accessibility (all indicated by 30% of respondents).<sup>34</sup>



Q 28 – General comments (16 Respondents).

**Volleyball Manawatū (R#66)** - Lack of Indoor space

**Manawatū Badminton Association (R #65)** - Badminton surfaces not up to scratch. Badminton needs quite specific grip on the wooden courts or rubber mats. Multi use facilities gather lots of dust.

**Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club (R # 59)**- Appalling access to Whanganui River

**Basketball Manawatū (R #41)** Lack of seats

**Altitude Pole and Fitness (R#35)** - Need studio space – hard to come by

**Tennis Whanganui (R#31)** - Need more artificial turf surfaces and club courts in Marton.

**Feilding Gymnastics Club (R#19)** - No wheelchair suitable toilets

**IUVENTUS and Highbury Whānau Centre (R# 12)** -Need for better parking, roading access and toilet facilities.

**Foxton Rugby Club (R#2)** – Club floodlights are a health and safety risk. Need more changing rooms and netball surface.

<sup>34</sup> Remaining responses were either “not sure” or “not applicable”

## Facility Gaps

Q29 Are there facilities/spaces that your organisation needs that are not provided in Horizons Region?

Yes 48%

No 52%

Q30 – What facilities are not provided and why are they needed? (27 respondents)

- **Manawatū Regional Volleyball Association (R#68)** Beach volleyball facility
- **Volleyball Manawatū** - Own hub area
- **Manawatū Badminton Association (R#65)** - Badminton-specific hall
- **Red Kiwi Orienteering (R# 63)** - Access to a large area for running in open ground and forests be helpful for orienteers
- **Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club (R#62)** - Canoe polo needs a 4 court dedicated facility for daily use and to host tournaments. Also a 50 metre pool!
- **Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club (R #59)** - Safe access to Whanganui River
- **Whanganui Softball Association (R#57)** - Training areas and aids
- **Manawatū Tararua Disc Golf (R#44)** Courses that are more accessible to other suburbs of PN.
- **Netball Manawatū (R#42)** - Covered netball courts accessible throughout the year.
- **Basketball Manawatū (R#41)** - More court space dedicated to basketball
- **Manawatū Rugby Football League Inc (R#40)** - More changing sheds due to increasing number of females in sport
- **Altitude Pole and Fitness (R#35)** - A 500 seat venue for dance/recitals/performances
- **Tennis Whanganui (R#31)** - More indoor training courts (Tennis) in Whanganui so we can keep our coaches in full employment
- **Te Kaihau o Kupe Waka ama Inc (R#28)** - We need to be able to erect cover for our waka but have been told this will incur ongoing cost.
- **Bike Manawatū (R# 24)** - A facility to run road races without traffic management. A cyclocross track for our region.
- **Feilding Gymnastics Club (R#19)** -There is a great need for gymnastics in Feilding. Numbers have tripled in last 3 years. Pay high rent but venue not ideal. Would love to share a facility. But with limited access this is not an option. Issues with bird poo, dust and leaks damaging mats.
- **Manakau United Football Club (R#15)** - Artificial playing/training surface
- **IUVENTUS and Highbury Whanau Centre (R#12)** - Floodlights and toilets, parking.
- **Levin Association Football Club (R #10)** There is a turf in PN but it is not usable for those in Horowhenua. Weather unpredictable and user growth puts pressure on grass playing surfaces.
- **Feilding Junior Cricket (R#9)** - Fielding requires an indoor sports centre. If weather wet trainings have to be cancelled as no indoor accommodation for cricket in Feilding.

- **NZ Red Cross (R#8)** – More indoor recreational facilities are needed. Those available are hugely expensive for hire for youths- and their group.
- **Wai Splash (R#5)** - Outdoor areas for people to eat when visiting the pool.
- **Foxton Rugby Club (R#2)** Netball/basketball court

Q31 Does your organisation use facilities outside of Horizons Region? (45 Respondents)

Yes 27%

No 73%

Q32 Which facilities are used outside of Horizons Region, what for, how often, and why? (13 respondents)

- **Red Kiwi Orienteering (R# 63)** - Members participate in orienteering events in HB, Taupo, Akl, Taranaki, WGTN and Hutt Valley.
- **Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club (R#62)** -Our canoe polo players use the purpose-built 4 courts at Mitre10 Sports Park in Hastings for small events, large tournaments (local, regional and national) and national trainings. We also use the Kilbirnie pool (Wellington) for 3-4 weekends each year since it has a 50 m pool and can host tournaments (regional and national), training and regional trainings. We use the courts (2-3) in Auckland, Lake Pupuke for tournaments (local, regional and national). We use the courts (2) in Christchurch, Lake Roto Kohatu for tournaments (local, regional and national). These courts are being expanded to 4. We use the Moana Pool in Dunedin for tournaments (national).
- **Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club (R #59)** Lake Karapiro, Lake Ruataniwha, Waitara River - Rowing Regattas
- **R#56** -We attend competitions throughout NZ. We also go to Wellington and Whanganui clubs to train in a pit as we don't have one and its a current safety issue for the level of gymnast we have.
- **R# 55** - Lake Karapiro. Rowing
- **Manawatū Tararua Disc Golf (R#44)** - Disc Golfers often travel for competitive events/tournaments. A larger 18 hole course in Palmerston North would also attract out of town players especially for organised "PDGA" tournaments
- **Manawatū Rugby (R#43)** Bush Multi Sport Trust facility.
- **Basketball Manawatu (R#41)**We have teams that play here at the Arena from Taihape, Dannevirke, Pahiatua, Masterton, Feilding, Marton and Levin. So many have school gyms we could potentially use BUT many schools refuse to travel to them as "they are too far away".
- **Manawatū Rugby Football League (R#40)** CET Arena
- **River City Boxing Club INC. (R#29)** - Other boxing clubs for sparring
- **Fielding Squash Club (R#20)** Squash clubs for tournaments
- **Manakau United Foot Club Inc. (R#15)** - Otaki College Gym for training maybe 15 times a season when playing surface is too wet to play on without damaging it
- **Fielding Junior Cricket (R#9)** - the Manawatū Cricket Centre - for preseason . this is in Palmerston North and means more travel. in the season this is heavily

used and we can just book it when the weather is poor. We need something similar in fielding that could be use by multiple sports

### Facility Development, Maintenance and Upgrades

Q33 If you own, manage, lease your facility do you have financial ability to operate, maintain and upgrade facility as you would like to? (29 respondents)

Yes: 52%

No: 48%

Q34 Does your organisation have any plans to upgrade, renew or dispose of any existing facilities/spaces or to develop any new ones in foreseeable future? (39 respondents)

Yes: 44%

No: 36%

Maybe: 20%

Q35 – What is planned, by whom, when, why and cost. (22 respondents)

**Manawatū Regional Volleyball Association (R# 68)** - Beach volleyball court space has begun development by Mana Beach in conjunction with Takaro Sports Club

**Volleyball Manawatū (R# 66)** - Working with Manawatu Volleyball Club and Takaro Lawn Bowls to use their space as our own as we now have two beach courts there and an office space that needs money on it to make it functional. We plan to add more sand courts and indoor spaces.

**Red Kiwi Orienteering (R# 63)** - We would support the use of a large area for orienteering.

**Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club (R# 62)** - Our canoe polo club plans to develop a 4-court outdoor canoe polo facility in the **Manawatū**. We are working with Sport **Manawatū** and a representative from the Palmerston North City on how we might proceed with our plans.

**Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club (R #59)** - Boatshed needs some waterproofing maintenance.

**Whanganui Softball association (R# 57)** - We have recently upgraded 2 of the 3 skin diamonds, including the surrounding areas. We would like to upgrade the clubrooms and the facilities inside this including the bathrooms. Develop storage sheds and spectator areas.

**Manawatū Gymsports (R #56)** - We are working on a new building project - currently working on the Feasibility study with a consultant.

**Taihape Netball Centre (R#51)** - Multipurpose amenities building currently being built at Taihape Memorial Park. Council funded. (\$2m +). Playing surface/courts upgrade and lighting upgrade. Split between Taihape Netball and Taihape Tennis. Cost \$100,000 total. Hoping to get lighting upgrade funded by Rangitikei District Council.

**Netball Manawatū (R #42)** - Happy to share our proposal on this. Please let me know where to send it. Multi-code proposal with multiple sport and education partners.

**Basketball Manawatū (R #41)** - We are always keen to look at moving into our own facility. We could potentially co-locate with the Jets NBL team and play basketball seven days a week; and only use the Arena for large tournaments.

**Manawatū Rugby Football League Inc (R #40)** - Upgrading of the existing Parks Flood lights that are currently no working due to bulb replacements.

**Altitude Pole and Fitness (R #35)** - We are looking at re-developing our Whanganui studio space (landlord approval permitting) which will cost around \$20k to enable us to continue to grow in that space.

**Tennis Whanganui (R #31)** - Whanganui Tennis Club is resurfacing 4 courts within the next 6 months, dependent on funding applications. Approx cost \$100,000 Turf courts are worn out and the sub-base needs to be repaired.

**River City Boxing Club Inc (R#29)** - Looking for our own building. Not good shearing with a rugby club

**Bush Multisports Trust (R #21)** - Lights - CET, Security Cameras - Trust House, Pool, Netball Courts.

**Feilding Gymnastics Club (R #19)** - We have been to the council with a plan to build a facility shed on council land. We are now waiting to hear from Manfeild as to what they might offer but we have waited a year and no plans got another year so a bit stuck where we are as no other option,

**Manakau United Football Club (R #15)** - Currently installing a new training pitch (grass) Plans to install bollards around carpark and domain perimeter instead of barb wire fence (\$1000 materials or \$5000 installed) Lighting upgrade (costs not known yet) New toilet / changing block (costs not known yet).

**Wai Splash (R #5)** - New Changing Rooms, New Outdoor Area, Putt Putt Area,

**Foxton Rugby Club (R #2)** - We would like to help provide more facilities in Easton Park and are keen to apply for funding and raise money to help.

Q 36 Will new/upgraded facilities be available for community use? (23 respondents)

Yes:78%

No: 9%

Maybe: 13%

## Future Facility Provision

Q37 Do you think the facilities provided will meet your organisation's needs in 10 years? (44 Respondents)

Yes: 36%

No: 50%

Unsure: 14%

Q 38 Please explain answer to Q37 (32 Responses)

Organisation	Explanation of why facilities will/will not meet needs in ten years' time
<b>Manawatu</b> Regional Volleyball Assn	Indoor facility needed
Volleyball <b>Manawatu</b>	As we grow we need more space, more staff and more availability. Perhaps a half indoor/outdoor space that is not concrete
<b>Manawatu</b> Badminton Association	Professional Delivery will continue and an increase in player base will put pressure on facility demand
Red Kiwi Orienteering	We need access to large areas for running
<b>Manawatu</b> Kiwi Canoe Polo Club	No, we get by with using small indoor pools and outdoor water reserve space. The current available water areas have limited our future possibilities.
Whanganui Collegiate School Rowing Club	River access is deteriorating monthly
<b>Manawatu</b> GymSports	We will not be able to grow if we don't relocate to a bigger space, we also have concerns over safety in our current venue, especially in terms of parking.
Aramoho Whanganui rowing Club Inc	More flooding, higher water due to global warming
Taihape Netball Centre	Figures hard to predict for small rural area.
<b>Manawatu</b> Tararua Disc Golf (Incorporated Society 2022)	due to the massive increase of players, both casual and competitive
Netball <b>Manawatu</b>	We need higher spec environment which means a third of courts covered, better spectator facilities, and more parking. Happy to talk more in detail about the many needs we are facing here at Vautier Park and in PN. Change needs to happen or our sport will miss a significant opportunity.
Basketball <b>Manawatu</b>	Nationally our sport is growing by 6 -8% year on year and we see this trend growing. So to keep up with demand we shall need more space or willingness from our community to play elsewhere and not rely on the Arena.
<b>Manawatu</b> Rugby Football League Inc	The space has the field capacity of 6 reasonable size playing fields
Wanganui Archery Club	The ground is specifically set up for us (e.g.: fencing, planting & bank surrounds)
Central Football	Hopefully our numbers increase and we are already stretched in some areas so I believe development especially to the change facilities and possibly even the playing surfaces is important.
Wanganui Golf Club	Its in our hands
Altitude Pole & Fitness	Pole dance has skyrocketed in popularity since Altitude opened in Whanganui in 2014. We have 80 students in Whanganui with a current capacity of 100, and 160 students in Palmy with a capacity of 220 (Palmy only opened start of 2020 just before the first lockdown).
Tennis Whanganui	Facilities need to be upgraded to more turf courts, Marton needs a club, and Whanganui Club needs indoor courts and more than 12 courts.



River City Boxing Clun INCORPORATED	May close if no one suitable to take over. We have trouble finding volunteers
Te Kaihau o Kupe Waka ama Inc	The space is great. It allows us to store many waka.
Awapuni Library	Already outgrowing our space as a leisure facility
Feilding Gymnastics Club	We need to improve to meet the gymnastics sports needs. Health and Safety needs to be managed with a shared space. Not ideal having children in a shared carpark with racing cars. If we had separate access, the shed to ourselves with updated toilets and lighting the facility would be fine for us and other community users
Johnston Park Bowling club	Yes but could use some upgrades
Manakau United Football Club Incorporated	Manakau United Football Club Incorporated
IUVENTUS & Highbury Whānau Centre	Our population is growing & our services are meeting high demands... we do need to be future focused
Levin Association Football Club	All codes at Donnelly park are growing and have grown to a point where we now encroach on each other. The growth of sport in a region is limited to its facilities. Locals do not want to travel for to be able to enjoy such facilities.
Feilding Junior Cricket	With our continued growth and strong ties across high school cricket and the senior club cricket . I feel we need a indoor multisport complex in fielding to service the district.
New Zealand Red Cross	Due to increase number of youth participation and their interest in sports activities. I think the facilities/space will meet the needs of youths in years ahead.
Bush Senior Hockey	Will need upgrading before then at the turf in Pahiatua

## Play

Q 39 Does your organisation provide play opportunities? (42 respondents)

Yes: 64%

No: 36%

Q40 Describe play opportunities provided by your organisation: (31 respondents)

A real variety of answers here. Many refer to their sport as play. A few refer to more “pure” play. Some reference junior programmes within their sport e.g. Future Ferns, Rippa Rugby, 1<sup>st</sup> Kicks.

Q41 What spaces and places challenges need to be overcome to enable play? (30 Respondents).

cost Safety SafetyVolunteers  
CostFacilities

# Facilities Volunteers

## Big Picture Thinking

Q42 What does your organisation see as the future priorities for play, active recreation and sport in the Horizons Region? (36 Respondents)

See Word Cloud Below.

Notes to help explain it:

**Accessibility** includes comments around both physical accessibility e.g. car parking, toilets as well as financial affordability.

**Participation:** includes comments about encouraging people to be active e.g. through increased awareness of what's on offer, increasing membership as well as providing opportunities for sport and rec e.g. events/programmes

Growjuniors  
Accessibility  
flexible times  
Goodfacilities  
Participation  
CoachesVolunteers

#### Q43 How do you think these priorities can be achieved? (33 Respondents)

Notes to word cloud below:

Support refers to help

- to run events and activities,
- with facility management and maintenance
- with in school training and staff development
- with leadership of activities/sports
- from Community Orgs such as Sport Manawatū, Council

Collaboration:

- liaison/contacts/relationships with clubs
- Getting buy-in from all involved
- Collaboration between sports especially those that have similar needs
- Shared use of facilities

*“Supporting community organizations to build relationships and deliver easily accessible physical activities to their local communities”.*

*“Good contact and relationships with the clubs. Funding the correct projects”.*

*“Keeping the sport relevant and fun”.*

*“Fun and enjoyable activities in a safe environment”.*

Promotion  
Support  
Fun  
Funding  
Technology  
Collaboration

#### Q44 What things SUPPORT Play AR and Sport (30 Respondents)

*“An approach that is inclusive of the whole whanau, a type of play that everyone can get involved and at varying levels”.*

*“Networking with local providers and funding that allows organizations to provide accessible opportunities”.*

Notes to word cloud:

- Opportunities refer to things like providing events, activities that everyone can be involved in.
- Coaches includes volunteers
- Facilitation is about management, and coordination of activity/sport

Facilities Coaches  
 Opportunities Accessibility  
 Funding  
 Facilitation

Q 45 What are the things that HINDER Play AR and Sport? How can it be resolved? (33 Respondents)

*"We live in a society that now expects instant success, which with most sports isn't a guarantee, so overall encouragement and marketing around picking a new lifestyle rather than a 1-off event is helpful".*

*"Trying to find funding takes a lot of time away from doing activities".*

Notes to word cloud below:

Access includes time to play

Technology is to do with mobile phones/social media

Volunteers is about the shortage of volunteers

# Access Cost

Facilities  
Technology  
Travel  
Volunteers

Q 46 Any other comments? (16 Respondents)

*"If parents have to travel too far for kids sports the kids will miss out. We need to back grassroots local clubs to keep them running. Volunteer helpers are decreasing putting big pressure on clubs continuing especially with rising costs".*

Note – many responses were actually a n/a or no.

Two specifically about availability of indoor facilities:

- Netball **Manawatū** (R# 42) We need either invest in more indoor facilities for multi code use, or free up CET Arena from commercial use.
- Basketball **Manawatū** (R#41) - There is always a need to remember that just because there is a basketball court at a venue this does not always mean that it can be used. Many school facilities are now used by other codes/programmes as the school knows that all basketball is played at the Arena on a Friday night, so when we are kicked off (because a commercial user books the Arena) we cant always go out to schools and use their venues.

# Appendix B: Demographic Data Sources

The following data sources were identified in July 2023 for the development of community profiles for this Plan.

Council Area	Short term Projections	Long Term Projections	Approved
Ruapehu	Infometrics - High	Infometrics - High	<a href="mailto:Melissa.Jackson@ruapehudc.govt.nz">Melissa.Jackson@ruapehudc.govt.nz</a>
Rangitikei	Infometrics - High	Infometrics - High	<a href="mailto:carol.gordon@Rangitikei.govt.nz">carol.gordon@Rangitikei.govt.nz</a>
Whanganui	Nothing yet	Nothing yet	<a href="mailto:Elise.Broadbent@whanganui.govt.nz">Elise.Broadbent@whanganui.govt.nz</a>
Palmerston North	Census – High projections	Infometrics - Medium	<a href="mailto:stacey.bell@pncc.govt.nz">stacey.bell@pncc.govt.nz</a>
Manawatū	Infometrics - High	Infometrics - High	<a href="mailto:lisa.thomas@mdc.govt.nz">lisa.thomas@mdc.govt.nz</a>
Tararua	Infometrics - High	Infometrics - High	<a href="mailto:Malcolm.Thomas@Tararuadc.govt.nz">Malcolm.Thomas@Tararuadc.govt.nz</a>
Horowhenua	Sense Partner Projections 95% percentile	Sense Partner Projections 95% percentile	<a href="mailto:carolynd@horowhenua.govt.nz">carolynd@horowhenua.govt.nz</a>
Horizons	Infometrics – High	Infometrics - High	<a href="mailto:Robert.marshall@horizons.govt.nz">Robert.marshall@horizons.govt.nz</a>

# Appendix C: Horizons North and South Participation Information

## Manawatū Region

### Participation Levels

Young people (5-17 years old) in the Horizons South Region, are more active in 7 out of their top 20 activities than national levels and less active in 9. Their engagement in running/jogging at 62% is 11% more than the national level. Adults (aged 18 plus) in the Horizons South Region are less active in 17 of their top 20 activities than the national levels and only more active in 1. The tables below list the top 20 activities across both young people and adults for the Horizons South (Sport Manawatū Region) compared to the national levels for the same activities.

Table x: 20 most popular activities in the Horizons South Region

Source: Sport NZ Active NZ Survey 2021

Young People (5-17)		
Activity (Undertaken in last 7 days)	% National	% Horizons South
Running/Jogging	51	62
Playing (like climbing trees)	36	37
Walking	33	30
Games	32	32
Playing on Playgrounds	32	32
Cycling/Biking	29	27
Swimming	29	30
Trampoline	24	24
Scootering	21	28
Football	15	10
Dance	15	16
Workout	14	7
Basketball	11	9
Group Exercise	10	10
Netball	9	12
Touch	7	3
Rugby	7	2
Skateboard	6	5
Athletics	6	5
Hockey/Floorball	6	9

Adults (18 plus)		
Activity (Undertaken in last 12 months)	% National	% Horizons South
Walking	87	86
Workout with Equipment	43	41
Running/Jogging	41	38
Cycling (Inc. BMX & Ebikes)	34	31
Swimming	30	27
Playing Games with Children	29	27
Tramping	29	24
Group Fitness (CrossFit)	20	19
Yoga	20	18
Fishing	16	15
Golf	12	13
Canoe/Kayak	11	9
Dance	10	10
Table Tennis	9	9
Pilates	9	7
Surfing	9	5
Snow Sports	9	5
Tennis	8	9
Basketball	6	8
Football	6	7

## Whanganui Region

### Participation Levels

Apart from basketball, participation levels for young people across the region are higher than the national levels for the same activities and generally lower for adults than the national levels for the same activities. The tables below lists the top 20 activities across both young people (5-17 years old) and adults (18 plus) for the Horizons North Region compared to the national levels for the same activities.

Table x: 20 most popular activities for young people and adults in the Horizons North Region compared to all New Zealand young people and adults.

Young People (5-17)			Adults (18 plus)		
Activity (Undertaken in last 7 days)	% National	% Horizons North	Activity (Undertaken in last 12 months)	% National	% Horizons North
Running/Jogging	51	57	Walking	87	83
Playing (like climbing trees)	36	44	Workout with Equipment	43	37
Walking	33	41	Running/Jogging	41	34
Games	32	42	Cycling (Inc. BMX & Ebikes)	34	32
Playing on Playgrounds	32	41	Swimming	30	25
Cycling/Biking	29	43	Playing Games with Children	29	31
Swimming	29	38	Tramping	29	25
Trampoline	24	40	Group Fitness (CrossFit)	20	14
Scooter	21	29	Yoga	20	18
Football	15	20	Fishing	16	13
Dance	15	18	Golf	12	12
Workout	14	15	Canoe/Kayak	11	10
Basketball	11	7	Dance	10	10
Group Exercise	10	12	Table Tennis	9	5
Netball	9	10	Pilates	9	6
Touch	7	13	Surfing/ Body Boarding	9	5
Rugby	7	9	Snow Sports	9	6
Skateboard	6	7	Tennis	8	5
Athletics	6	15	Basketball	6	3
Hockey/Floorball	6	12	Football	6	5

Source: Sport NZ Active NZ Survey 2021





# Appendix D: 2018 RSFP Recommendations and Progress

## 13.1 Review of 2018 RSFP Recommendations

This section discusses progress made against the key recommendations within the 2018 RSFP. There were several relatively generic statements that were provided as recommendations in most of the various facility types applicable across the region. In particular:

- Monitoring for demographic changes
- Monitoring for increases or decreases in participation
- Assessing facility partnerships with schools and the university
- Looking to optimise existing spaces before the consideration of developing new
- Assessing facility rationalisation

The 2018 RSFP had a set of strategic recommendations for the project partners. The following table outlines those recommendations.

Recommendations	Progress
The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan is adopted as a high level strategic document to assist the optimisation of the Region's sport and recreation facility network.	Complete
The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan is reviewed every three years.	Complete
3. All local authorities, Sport Manawatū, charitable funders, and Sport New Zealand work together to determine the viability of establishing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A regional funding approach to assist with the development and operation of international, national, regional, and sub-regional status facilities,</li> <li>b) A regional facility partnership funding policy which has the support of local authorities, charitable funders, the MOE, and Sport New Zealand.</li> <li>c) A coordinated funding MOU/accord between local authorities, Sport Manawatū, charitable funders, the MOE, and Sport New Zealand. This accord would set out funding priorities for a set period (and should be regularly reviewed).</li> <li>d) Cross boundary facility partnerships between local authorities. This will likely require both capital and operational funding being transferred between authorities.</li> </ul>	Was attempted but not successful  Not complete  Not complete  In progress
4. Sport Manawatū is funded to offer additional facility optimisation support to partners, in particular through the provision of a Regional Facilities facilitator role.	Partially implemented
5. Asset owners are supported/encouraged to look at developing lifecycle models, maintenance plans and identifying future community needs to inform their planning decisions (prior to seeking grant funding).	Implemented

Table 12.1 Review of Facility Specific Recommendations from the 2018 RSFP

## 13.2 Palmerston North

Indoor Courts	
2018 RSFP Recommendations	<p>Undertake a programming assessment (e.g. aligning the right activities with the right facilities) to ensure optimisation of the current indoor court network, especially given any perceived capacity issues with Arena Manawātū.</p> <p>If demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options assessment for increasing indoor court capacity (e.g. accessing other court spaces or developing new space, potentially in partnership with high schools or the university).</p> <p>Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use (because of the aging population and sports participation trends).</p>
2022 Update	<p>Sport Manawātū facilitated several meetings with stakeholders during the first COVID lockdown (March – May 2020) to seek clarity around access and “Return to Play” guidelines<sup>35</sup>. This provided a platform for both users and facility management to share their challenges.</p> <p>PNCC has allocated funds in the long term plan in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to invest in an indoor courts preliminary feasibility study / needs assessment to address the recommendations outlined above. (#1912)</p>
Aquatics Sports Facilities	
2018 RSFP Recommendations	<p>Undertake a scheduling analysis across the local network. If demand at peak use periods remains then undertake an options assessment for increasing aquatic capacity (e.g. accessing new pool space, potentially in partnership). This would potentially free recreational use of Council pools and structured swimming/water sports into school partnership pools.</p> <p>Strategically review the overall network to identify long term infrastructure needs (this could include development of a ‘recreational pools’ plan that examines casual use of school facilities in across the city).</p>
Update	<p>Council took over and refurbished Splashhurst Community Pool (at Ashhurst School) and opened it to the public in 2019 in response to demand pressures. PNCC has allocated funds in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 budgets to complete a review of the aquatics network in Palmerston North (LTP programme #1899).</p>
Artificial Surfaces	
2018 RSFP Recommendations	<p>Undertake a needs analysis and feasibility assessment to investigate the need for and viability of multi-code artificial turf/s in Palmerston North.</p>
Update	<p>One multi-use artificial turf at CETA was developed and opened for community use in 2019.</p>

<sup>35</sup> Source of Information: Sport Manawātū.

PNCC allocated funds in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years to contribute to the development of an additional artificial turf. (#1133)

A Feasibility Report presented to PNCC in August 2022 recommended an additional turf be developed.

#### Cricket nets/ wickets.

2018 RSFP Recommendations	Complete current upgrades at Fitzherbert Park and Manawaroa/ Ongley parks
Update	Projects completed

#### Tennis Courts and Netball Courts

2018 RSFP Recommendations	Explore multi-use court opportunities at the time of renewals or when any new developments are proposed by tennis.
2022 Update	Recommendation not specific to a particular facility.  Proponent organisations have approached PNCC about the potential to cover some courts at Vautier Park. A Facility Concept Outline was received by PNCC in 2021 as part of the consultation on the 10-year plan.

#### Athletics Track

2018 RSFP Recommendations	As demand warrants it, undertake an options assessment for optimising Athletics Track capacity (e.g. accessing other spaces, times or developing new space, potentially in partnership).
Update	Not commenced as no demand issues are present at MCAT. <sup>36</sup>

#### Other specialised indoor venues

2018 RSFP Recommendations	Optimise gymsports facilities in line with Gymsports New Zealand's national facility strategy, which states 'explore developing a regional hub and a sub-regional hub in either Whanganui or Palmerston North (Whanganui Boys and Girls Gym Club facility and Manawatū Gymsports facility - Palmerston North).  Review and monitor the sustainability of community facilities. If required investigate changing the facility delivery approach. This will involve exploring the applicability of different delivery models.  As demand warrants, assess facility rationalisation / optimising opportunities, (including assessment of Bowls Centre options).
Update	Manawatū Gymsports has submitted a <i>Facility Concept Outline (FCO)</i> identifying the sport's need for a larger space. This provides evidence that membership has grown significantly over time and the current facility is not fit-for-purpose.

<sup>36</sup> The MCAT presented to PNCC on 17 August 2022 and identified their own priorities going forward as increased diversity on the Advisory Committee, ATV fundraising, field drainage works, exploring throws cage options, development of asset review and renewal plan.

The FCO outlines a timetable that includes facility planning in line with the current decision-making framework, with a 2025 completion.

PNCC has invested in a study to ascertain the need for and feasibility of developing a covered bowls complex in Palmerston North.

#### Sports Fields

2018 RSFP	To maintain and develop a sustainable and accessible facility network:
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Should capacity issues arise, form formalised facility partnerships with targeted schools to ensure enhanced quality community access to fields.</li><li>· Assess current facilities for potential future changes in use due to the aging population and sports participation trends.</li></ul>
Update:	Ongoing repairs and maintenance in line with agreed service levels.

#### Other Facility Types

No specific recommendations were developed for softball diamonds, golf, squash, equestrian, bike or shooting.

### 13.3 Manawatū District Council – Specific Recommendations

2018 RSFP Recommendations	As demand warrants, undertake an options assessment for optimising Netball Court capacity (e.g. accessing other court spaces, times or developing new space, potentially in partnership).
2023 Update	MDC has completed a Needs and options paper for additional indoor court space in the area and have progressed to feasibility stage.

### 13.4 Tararua District – Specific Recommendations

2018 RSFP Recommendations	
2023 Update	

### 13.5 Horowhenua District – Specific Recommendations

2018 RSFP Recommendations	No facility specific recommendations
2023 Update	

### 13.6 Ruapehu District – Specific Recommendations

Aquatics	
2018 RSFP Recommendations	No facility specific recommendations
2023 Update	

### 13.7 Rangitīkei District – Specific Recommendations

2018 RSFP Recommendations	Reroofing Taihape Swim Centre (in LTP) Assessing options for Taihape Memorial Park
2023 Update	Taihape Memorial Park has seen the development of a new sports pavilion

### 13.8 Whanganui District – Specific Recommendations

2018 RSFP Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Consolidate sport activity and management facilities at the Springvale hub towards creating a Whanganui 'home of sport'.</li><li>2. Upgrade the Whanganui East aquatics facility as planned, but consider options longer term.</li><li>3. Assess netball facility rationalisation and optimising opportunities, including potential court relocation from Laird Park to the developing Springvale hub.</li><li>4. Assess feasibility of velodrome covering at Cooks Gardens.</li></ol>
2023 Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ongoing</li><li>2. Change in priorities</li><li>3. Not progressed</li><li>4. Re-surfaced track.</li></ol>