

Recreation Facility Development Policy

Corangamite Shire

September 2025



**CORANGAMITE
SHIRE**

Council Policy



Recreation Facility Development

Introduction

Sport, recreation and the natural environment form an integral part of the Corangamite Shire culture. Across the Shire a broad range of recreation and sporting facilities which provide active or passive, structured or unstructured and formal or informal participation opportunities are available including golf clubs, bowls clubs, recreation reserves which cater to football, netball and cricket, tennis clubs, equestrian facilities, indoor sports centres which offer a myriad of activities from squash and soccer to senior badminton and basketball. Recreation and open space facilities are recognised as important assets that encourage broad community use and opportunities for a well-balanced lifestyle with a range of physiological, mental, social and educational benefits. The facilities contribute to providing a social focus and influencing people's perception of their community. Quality facilities encourage broad community use, events, tourism and contribute to the overall economic sustainability of the communities in which they exist.

Purpose

This policy aims to detail Council's involvement in the development of sport and recreation facility capital projects across the Shire.

Scope

This policy applies to sport and recreation facilities in the Corangamite Shire which provide general public access and are used for community purposes on both Council owned land and land not owned by Council.

Definitions

Grant – an allocation of funds on a non-recurrent basis for the purpose of fulfilling the specified project.

Value for money - selecting the supply of goods, services and works taking into account both cost and non-cost factors.

References

Corangamite Shire Council Procurement Policy
Corangamite Shire Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2016-2026
Recreation Reserve Masterplans 2021-2031
Great South Coast AFL, Cricket and Netball Strategy 2019-2033
Lakes Recreation Reserve Masterplan

Policy Detail – Decision Guidelines

Council will consider requests for grants as a part of budget discussions in each financial year.

Each request will be assessed in accordance with specific criteria:

- The project scope has been clearly defined.
- Detailed project planning has been undertaken with evidence of designs (where appropriate) and quotation/s for cost of works.
- The project budget reflects consideration of other potential external funding opportunities, and a contribution from the Committee / clubs / community.
- Preference will be given to those projects that are identified or align with State Government priorities, Regional Strategies, Recreation Reserve Masterplans and Club and/or Council's policies, corporate or strategic plans.
- Preference will be given to those projects that have a demonstrated need whether for asset condition upgrade or renewal, sports development outcomes and/or community demand. This may be evidenced by strategic planning work undertaken by the state sporting body or the club itself.
- Ongoing operational costs as a result of the facility development have been considered.
- Consideration to the implementation of the Fair Access Policy, which aims to improve access to sport and recreation facilities to women and girls, will need to be assessed to ensure compliance with the Gender Equality Act 2020.
- Projects which are being undertaken by for-profit organisations will be ineligible to apply.

Implementation

- Council will consider financial contributions as a part of its annual budget development.
- If Council is providing funding, Council will disburse the grant directly to a Club or Community Group.
- Procurement based on best value for money will be the responsibility of the Club or Community Group.
- The project will be managed by the Club or Community Group directly with a representative from Council to sit on the project management team as required.
- Where appropriate Council will enter into a Funding Agreement with the Club or Community Group which will encompass their obligations including milestone obligations and payment schedule,

- The Club or Community Group will be required to provide an acquittal to account for the funds at the completion of the project.
- Where a third-party organisation is providing funds and requires Council to manage funds on behalf of the Club or Community Group, funding recipients will be made aware of this policy and Council's Procurement Policy.
- In the event that Council's Procurement Policy must be observed then the minimum spend competition thresholds as specified will be adhered to.

Review Date

September 2029

It is considered that this Policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

It is considered that this policy does not adversely impact community members or employees of different genders and has been developed in accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.