



## **10. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Policy 10.8

SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES – LITHGOW LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AREA  
Guiding Principles Policy

Version 1

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### **10.8 SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES – LITHGOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA - Guiding Principles Policy**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To set out Council's policy position with respect to location, provision, maintenance and capital upgrading of sport and recreation facilities in the local government area.

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

Lithgow City Council's policy position with respect to location, provision, maintenance and capital upgrading of sport and recreation facilities in the local government area is as set out in this policy. Lithgow City Council recognises that recreation and leisure form a valuable component of peoples' lives and therefore warrant a high priority as respects to provision and support of quality sport and recreation facilities.

#### **POLICY PRINCIPLES**

The guiding principles for sport and recreation facilities on land within the local government area are as follows:

1. Community consultation should be given a high priority in all planning and development of sport and recreation facilities.
2. Community consultation with sporting organisations should be made through Council's Sports Advisory Committee.
3. Council should encourage dual and even multi-use of and shared access to existing facilities and should consider including multi-use conditions for all future leases, licenses and occupancy agreements of Council owned facilities
4. Recreation and sporting facilities should be conveniently located and accessible to all members of the community
5. Flexibility should be incorporated into the design of recreation and sporting facilities in order to accommodate a wide range of community needs.
6. Council should ensure that funds for facility provision, maintenance and capital upgrades are allocated equitably.
7. Council acknowledges that recreation and leisure form a valuable component of peoples' lives and therefore Council should place a high priority on the provision and support of quality sport and recreation facilities
8. Sport and Recreation facilities should be managed in a manner which, whilst maximising useability and amenity of asset, aligns with the limited resources of Council and the assessed priority of the asset.

9. The principle of user pay and /or contributions/ payments, by various sporting and recreation groups and their ability to pay should be incorporated into management of sport and recreation facilities
10. Planning for sport and recreation facilities should be an ongoing process in order to continually meet the changing needs of the community.
11. Sport and Recreation planning should also occur at a regional level to minimise duplication, enable joint sharing of resources, skills and information and to optimise funding opportunities
12. Areas of open space will be maintained according to their respective priority and available resources to facilitate both structured and unstructured recreational activity. Where identified within a relevant strategic planning document, open space areas may be developed to link walking trails and cycle ways, where appropriate.
13. The development of sport and recreation facilities should be sensitive to the natural features of the locality and site to minimise impact on the natural surrounds.
14. The management of sports and recreation facilities will be based on environmental sustainable development principles.

### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all Council officials (including Councillors, Council staff and consultants engaged by Council) who are involved, directly or indirectly in decision-making (including preparatory and recommendatory decision-making) with respect to the subject-matter of this policy.

Insofar as land is concerned, this policy applies to all land within the Local Government area that is used or is capable of being used for the siting, development and operation of sport and recreation facilities.

### **DEFINITIONS**

See the Dictionary at the end of the Local Government Act 1993 for definitions of various terms and expressions used in this policy. Pg. 352 <sup>i</sup>

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Regular compliance with this policy, relevant legislation and Lithgow City Council policies and procedures will be undertaken and documented by the responsible officer for this policy.

Breaches of this policy are considered to be breaches of the Lithgow City Council Code of Conduct and therefore invoke the relevant sanctions outlined in that Code. Persons in breach of any legislation may be subject to relevant criminal action.

### **REPORTING**

No specific reporting is required by this policy.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

This policy is subject to regular review at a maximum interval of two (2) years.

For the purposes of carrying out and giving effect to this policy, the General Manager may from time to time prepare, adopt or vary, and otherwise issue to Council staff, guidelines and directions relating to any aspect of this policy.

Any recognised change to relevant legislation; or directives or guidelines issued by agencies including NSW Ombudsman and the Division of Local Government; or to Lithgow City Council related guidelines and procedures will activate an immediate review of this policy to ensure it remains current and aligned to best practice policies.

## **RELEVANT REFERENCES ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION**

*Local Government Act 1993*

*Local Government (General) Regulations 2005*

*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

*Lithgow City Council Local Environment Plan (LEP) 2014*

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