CENTRAL HAWKE'S BAY
DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLACES AND SPACES
FOR A THRIVING FUTURE

Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan 2022



Together we Thrive! E ora ngātahi ana!

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1. Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan (2022)

1.1 Purpose

This Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan guides future planning and investment in Central Hawke's Bay's sport and recreation facilities. It recognises the important role of Council and the community in influencing health and wellbeing through facilities that help people to be active and healthy and build strong communities. As the district continues to grow, it is important that we have good quality facilities providing a range of sport and recreation opportunities to our community.

Sport and recreation can occur in a variety of settings. The focus of this plan is on sport and recreation, parks, swimming pools and indoor sports facilities - as they require clear direction on future planning and investment, have some form of direct link to Council and are essential services for the wellbeing of our community.

Historically Council hasn't always been equitable or future-focused in its investment or support for clubs or activities. We know we've got several facilities that need investment and others that will need upgrading in the future.

Over the last five years, our community has sent us a clear message to focus on making the most of what we have, through improving the quality, function and accessibility of sport and recreation facilities. We recognise that historical inequities cannot all be resolved but that we can be a lot clearer on Council's role, responsibilities, and levels of service to provide clarity and to reduce the potential for inequities in the future.

This plan outlines:

- Why sport and recreation facilities are important
- Objectives and principles to guide planning and investment
- Overview of the current provision of sport and recreation facilities
- Key facility gaps
- Council's role, responsibilities, and level of service guidelines
- Sport and recreation facility action plan
- Specific sport and recreation park and facility information

Facility	What is included
Sport and Recreation Parks[1]	Russell Park, Waipukurau Coronation Park, Waipawa Takapau Sport and Recreation Parks Otāne Recreation Ground White Domain, Pōrangahau Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga Council also owns some areas occupied by golf courses. These are included in the draft Reserve Management Plan. There are also sport and recreation parks that are privately owned such as Central Park in Waipukurau and the memorial sportsground in Tikokino.
Swimming Pools	Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool Centralines Sports Complex - Swimming Pool
Indoor Sports Facilities	Centralines Sports Complex - Stadium

[1] *Generic policies outlined in Council's Reserve Management Plan are also relevant to sport and recreation parks.*

1.2 Why sport and recreation facilities are important

Sport and recreation facilities have a critical role in delivering on our aspirations for Play, Active Recreation and Sport. They provide spaces and places that enable physical activity, recreation, sport and leisure at all levels, reflection of cultural identity and social hubs for the community. This leads to improved wellbeing through the development of strong, proud, and connected communities.

Central Hawke's Bay is well known for its outstanding sportspeople across the spectrum of sport from rugby to cycling and bowls. Sport and recreation facilities provide places for us to build pride in our recreation and sport achievements, and support and celebrate local talent and excellence.

1.3 What we want to achieve

Objectives

A network of sport and recreation facilities that encourages our community to be more active, more often through focusing on:

- Supporting a wide range of sport and recreation opportunities available to all in our community,
- Making the most of what we have, to encourage high levels of use, enjoyment, and pride
- Meeting the needs of the community now and into the future.

Principles

Over time we will work towards a sport and recreation facilities network that is:

Principle	What this means
Fit for purpose	Providing facilities that accommodate changing community profiles and sporting trends and needs over time. As a community we are also growing and need to be prepared for this and look to the future. Good long term outcomes are achieved by designing facilities that can be adapted, developed and extended in response to future demands. Accessibility (and shade) audit outcomes are included when developing master plans, or undertaken through the master plan process if this occurs prior to the network audit.
Sustainable	Recognising the significant role of the community in sport and recreation facilities and the need to support good asset planning practices including consideration of the 'whole of life' costs of facilities. Creating multi-use facilities or hubs, or co-locating with other sport and recreation, community, or education facilities and infrastructure is also an effective approach. Acknowledging a historic lack of investment in some facilities and identifying funding opportunities to address this. Ensuring investment provides longer term certainty of access to the sport and recreation facilities network.
Inclusive	Recognising the sport and recreation preferences of all our community, considering the diverse make-up of our communities including different ethnicities, ages, abilities, and socio-economic status. An objective of this Plan is that opportunities are available to all our community. This requires us to understand barriers and provide opportunities that are accessible by all our community with dignity, including physical access, affordable access, and access to information.
Collaborative	The best outcomes are achieved when partnerships are developed. This increases the likelihood that facilities will be used to their full potential, maximising the return on investment and use, and strongly aligning with funding opportunities. We are fortunate to have many great examples of community partnerships on which we can continue to build. This assists in the affordability of provision for Council and the community. Council will always seek external funding contributions for the capital development of sport and recreation facilities through partnerships with community funders, central government agencies and the wider community.

1.4 A bit more about working together

'E ora ngatāhi ana – together we thrive' is a fundamental way we work as a district. This plan encourages those involved in the sport and recreation sector to work collaboratively to achieve common goals and target resources more effectively. This includes:

- Council
- Local clubs and community groups
- Regional and national organisations
- Mana whenua and hapū organisations
- Schools
- Community providers and funders
- Sport Hawke's Bay and Sport New Zealand
- Volunteers
- Central and local government

By focusing our collective efforts, we will have healthier communities, stronger clubs and organisations, fit-for-purpose facilities and more opportunities for everyone. This will help us all to Thrive!

1.5 Sport and Recreation Facilities in Central Hawke's Bay

Sport and recreation facilities are provided in a range of ways with a significant amount of community involvement in the provision, management, funding, and use of these facilities.

Sports and recreation facilities can either be:

- Provided by Council
- Provided by community organisations with Council having a role in supporting this through land or a contribution to development, management, or operational costs
- Provided by community organisations with no Council involvement

Sports and recreation facilities include:

- Land primarily provided for this purpose (e.g. Sport and Recreation Parks)
- Facilities on sport and recreation parks including sportsfields, turf and hardcourts. Ancillary facilities such as toilets, storage and changing rooms are also recognised
- Indoor courts and swimming pools

There are also tennis and squash clubs, bowling clubs, and other sport and recreation facilities all with various ownership models. Most sports clubs and recreation activities are run by volunteers.

Central Hawke's Bay sport and recreation facilities typically service the local community, where users are drawn from across the district or from within a local community catchment. It is considered that this level of provision is appropriate for our population and size, particularly in terms of affordability and proximity to larger regional facilities in Napier and Hastings. Some recreation activities attract users from far and wide such as the Tukituki Trails, which is now one of our key visitor attractions with a key access point located within Russell Park.

Regional facilities draw users from a much larger catchment and tend to have higher levels of service. For example, an aquatic centre may have a 50m pool rather than a 25m pool. Mitre 10 Park is a good example of a regional facility for Hawke's Bay. It is described as a sporting and recreational hub that is a catalyst in improving the region's social, cultural and economic outcomes and promotes sporting excellence. Members of our community often travel to Mitre 10 Park to play sport, take part in competitions or to experience higher levels of service in facility provision. It is, however, recognised that accessibility influences participation. Difficulties in getting to or accessing facilities and events/competitions lead to reduced levels of activity or enjoyment. The cost of travel and time that it takes are real barriers to participation in sport within and outside of our district.

Development of a regional play, active recreation, and sport strategy in 2022, will further recognise the role of Central Hawke's Bay sport and recreation facilities within the wider Hawke's Bay region, and will identify opportunities to improve collaboration and accessibility to regional sport and recreation facilities.

1.6 Key facility information gaps

Condition of sport and recreation facilities

Sport and recreation facilities are provided by a range of entities including Council, charitable trusts, the Ministry of Education (via schools), community groups, and sport providers. Maintaining ageing assets, current service levels and facility sustainability will become increasingly difficult due to a historical lack of investment in these facilities. Duplication and underutilisation of sport and recreation facilities will become increasingly unaffordable over time.

A survey of clubs in 2022 identified the majority have buildings that are more than forty years old and in average to poor condition. Meeting facility needs was one of the four highest key concerns reported by clubs. Most facilities are likely to require investment at some point or the club already has plans to upgrade. Kitchens, changing rooms, toilets, storage, and fit-for-purpose facilities present the main issues.

Other facility issues include

- Lighting – fields and outdoor courts to support training and night games
- Accessible facilities and catering effectively to disability access, older people, and young people
- Quality playing and training facilities surfaces (fields and courts) – quality in terms of drainage, irrigation, lighting, storage, changing rooms

Having a plan in place to respond to these issues enables opportunities for wider consideration of the future of these facilities, so it's not necessarily a straight like-for-like replacement. Factors to consider include demand trends and growth, rationalisation, and multi-use or shared opportunities, accessibility and inclusiveness. We also need to ensure any investment secures longer term access to these facilities so our communities today and tomorrow can benefit from this.

Demand, capacity and information gaps

Due to the continually changing and diverse nature of many sports in the district and the range of groups involved in providing and managing sport and recreation facilities, there is limited comprehensive information on usage and participation trends over time. This makes it difficult to establish a clear picture of capacity of existing facilities, how this is meeting demand and what the impact of future growth will be. Improved booking systems could benefit both the user and the organisations responsible for managing these facilities, potentially providing centralised information on demand and use across facility networks. This information is key to providing evidence for further facility investment.

We need to recognise the unique geographic distribution of our communities and what this means for the delivery of recreation and sport opportunities, understanding that the cost and time of travel are real barriers to participation in sport and recreation activities. Taking a network approach to facility provision means that we look at how these facilities function as a whole, to provide a balance between locality, accessibility and economies of scale. This can help us understand where there are gaps in the network, assess the consistency of levels of service across the network, spot opportunities to reduce duplication and enhance collaboration, and ensure reasonable accessibility to opportunities across the district.

We also need to recognise that the distribution, use and management of sport and recreation facilities varies across the district. Central Hawke's Bay is made of towns and villages each with its unique set of characteristics. It is important to Council that local issues are addressed by local solutions, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. For this reason, actions are grouped into network actions, and park and facility specific actions.

Changing sport participation preferences

Changing sport and recreation participation trends indicate a greater reliance on access to a wider range of opportunities, rather than traditional sports typically provided for in a community.

Secondary school student involvement in sport has plateaued over the last few years, with higher participation trends in lower decile schools. Rugby and touch rugby have had significant losses in participation but sport participation rates in codes like basketball and softball have increased. Netball participation levels have varied over the last ten years with a significant increase in 2015, followed by a decline and now growth in participation. The data seems to indicate that participation levels, while remaining fairly static, are being spread over a wider range of sports rather than the 'traditional' sports like rugby and netball. This can be seen as a positive, as Sport NZ have been pushing very hard to reduce school age sporting seasons and to encourage kids to participate in several different sports, reducing early sporting specialisation.

Statistically, Central Hawke's Bay has a higher rate of inactivity compared to the national average (1.5% higher) and a higher rate of cycling, perhaps due to the district offering more cycle paths than the national average (4.8% higher).

We need to ensure facilities are flexible enough to cater to changing demands and support inclusiveness of all our community. We also need to recognise that there are priority groups within our community that we need to focus on to increase participation levels.

Key target groups:

Māori participation	Sport New Zealand supports Māori wellbeing by improving participation and growing leadership through play, active recreation, and sport. The He Oranga Poutama investment is strongly centred on Māori ways of being and knowing. It's about supporting and growing community leadership and participation in play, active recreation, and sport as Māori. Te Whetū Rehua is the framework that articulates the 'as Māori' concepts and principles which collectively define Māori leadership and participation in sport and active recreation. We need to better understand the opportunities that exist around implementation of this framework in Central Hawke's Bay.
Older population	An ageing population often requires access to informal, social, and less strenuous active recreation opportunities such as walkways, bike trails and warmer water for swimming. Masters sport is also increasingly popular.
Youth	Our Youth Action Plan identifies the need for activities, programmes and facilities that are appealing to youth and easy for them to access. Sport New Zealand's Balance is Better approach is a philosophy to support quality experiences for all young people, regardless of ability, needs and motivations. It's about young people staying involved in sport for life and realising their potential at a time that's right for them. It's been developed to support a culture change needed to provide quality sport opportunities for tamariki and particularly rangatahi, given the decline in teenage participation.
Young Women	The needs of young women are unique and different when it comes to sport and recreation. Factors like time pressure and lack of confidence mean they gradually participate less and drop out of structured activity at a faster rate than young men. Sport New Zealand's It's my move campaign has been developed to address declining physical activity levels in teenage girls and is focused on helping young women feel confident, be part of the conversation and empowered to participate on their terms.
Code specific - Basketball	Sport New Zealand participation data and local community input into this Plan indicates significant growth in basketball, yet there are limited indoor facilities available to enable this growth. Several schools provide marked basketball courts and hoops have been set up in some parks (not with a full-size court though).
Individuals with a Disability	Sport New Zealand's Disability Plan for Play, Active Recreation, and Sport aims for a system where disabled people can be as active as non-disabled people. Our Disability Action Plan, via the Social Development Strategic Framework, recognises that we have a proportion of our community with some level of impairment and that Council has an important part to play in enabling access and participation in sport and recreation. This can be done through the built environment and other inclusive measures.

2. Sport and Recreation Facilities – Council's role and levels of service

2.1 Sport and Recreation Parks

The following tables outline the proposed role and levels of service this plan seeks to achieve for each of the functions identified in this plan.

	Description	Parks	Roles and responsibilities	Types of Council support[2]
District Hub	• Hub for many different sport and recreation activities • Used by people from across the district, not just the local area • Greatest number of users and frequency of use in network • Home of specialised destination facilities (multi use turf, pool and indoor courts) • Hub for destination play and active recreation experiences • Competition base for some sports (hockey, netball, rugby) • Used for competition and training • Used for large scale events • Provides the most community benefit of the wider network due to the combination of factors above • Owned/managed/operated by a few different organisations	Russell Park	Council-led planning, development and management of park. Council works with the community to identify aspirations and development plans. Council seeks to ensure long term certainty of access and development of quality facilities and supporting infrastructure.	Provision of storage, and accessible changing facilities and public toilets. Provision of public infrastructure required to support use of the park. This includes walkways, cycleways, public carparking, play features, external and internal road access, signage, landscaping, and services. Provision of irrigation and drainage as determined by Council with a view to getting the most efficient performance from the grass sportsfields. Provision and maintenance of cricket wickets for local level cricket. Provision and maintenance of sportsfields. Provision of long-term leases where the community have provided significant investment in development of sport and recreation facilities. Support provided through Council's partnership agreement with Sport Hawke's Bay, includes capability and capacity building, facilities planning and funding advice. Provision of a centralised online booking system. Ensure ongoing availability of the Rural Travel Fund recognising the reliance on this fund for access to sport opportunities. No user fees and charges for training or competition undertaken by local sports clubs. Council's role in the provision of specialised facilities will be considered on a case-by-case basis and subject to full feasibility analysis of demand and funding.
Local	• Hub for many different sport and recreation activities • Predominant users are within the local area • Provision of play and active recreation experiences for local community • Competition base for some sports • Used for competition and training • Used for community events • Combination of factors above often make these parks the hub of the local community and make a strong contribution to local identity • Local management approach - Community developed, managed, and operated parks through a sports club or sports association	White Domain, Pōrangahau Coronation Park, Waipawa Takapau Memorial Sports Park Otāne Recreation Ground Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga (premier cricket ground) Tikokino tennis/ netball courts	Community led planning, development and management of park. Council facilitates and enables. Supports community to identify and realise their aspirations and development plans.	

[2] *These are the things that are considered important to the effective and efficient operation and use of sport and recreation parks.*

Sport and recreation facilities

Facility		Council roles and responsibilities
Swimming pools	General	• Provision of two public swimming pools for the district based in our two larger urban areas. • Swimming pools are district-wide facilities. This means that rather than having swimming pools distributed throughout the district, there are two facilities located in our largest urban areas. These facilities service our whole community (including future growth) and become destinations that people in our rural areas travel to access. • Recognition that there is a wider network of outdoor water-based experiences that includes our beaches, rivers, school swimming pools and private swimming pools • Provide swimming pools that service district needs first and foremost, recognising proximity to larger regional aquatic facilities in Napier and Hastings
	Centralines Swimming Pool	• Provision of land • Ensuring long term certainty of access to Centralines Swimming Pool as the premier pool facility for the district. Capital funding contributions to be determined as part of this process • Service level agreement for operational funding contributions • Year-round access, variety of pools and experiences, wide range of programmes
	Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool	• Provision of land • Provision of facility • Contract for management and operations • Capital funding (in partnership with the community) • Operational funding • Seasonal (rather than year-round) access primarily providing for family friendly fun and leisure.
Indoor courts (stadium)	Centralines Stadium	• Provision of land and ground lease • Ensuring long term certainty of access to Centralines Stadium as premier indoor court facility for the district.

3. Sport and Recreation Facilities - Action Plan

Sport and Recreation Facilities - Network Actions	Timeframe
1. Adopt Council's roles and responsibilities and level of service guidelines for sport and recreation facilities as the key levers in the development of the 2024 Asset Management Plans for activities.	2022
2. Use sport and recreation facilities as a key way to deliver on objectives outlined in Council's play, active recreation and sport strategy. Connect to delivery of town centre plans and community plans, and other relevant Council strategies such as the Environment Strategy.	Ongoing
3. Participate in Hawke's Bay regional planning for sport facilities including the Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy and assessment of sportsfields' demand and supply. This will help to clearly position sport and recreation facilities in Central Hawke's Bay within the regional network of facility provision and identify any further opportunities for improved collaboration and partnerships.	2022/2023
4. Establish a coordinated booking system that is user-friendly, promotes participation and supports the efficient reporting on the use of sport and recreation parks and facilities. Consider including access to both Council and non-Council facilities through this booking system.	2022/2023
5. Partner with Sport Hawke's Bay and Sport New Zealand to provide access to tools and resources available to guide facility development and increasing capacity and capability of sport and recreation sector.	Ongoing
6. Identify opportunities for the range of sport and recreation facility providers and managers to collaborate and share information and access support, particularly through Council's partnership with Sport Hawke's Bay. For example, to maximise opportunities for young people to participate in sport and not have to choose between one code or another.	Ongoing
7. Through the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, consider potential for a contestable fund for sport and recreation facilities. Assist organisations to leverage funding from community funders and others to give them a kick start and create awareness that this is available. There is advantage as well in collecting club information through this process, to demonstrate sustainability of investment and/or leading to other more strategic discussions – e.g., ways to increase membership, partnerships with other codes/clubs.	2024 - 2034 LTP

Sport and Recreation Parks - Specific Actions		Timeframe
Russell Park (and Central Park)	Lead and facilitate a collaborative process to develop a master plan for Russell Park. The master plan will help to complete and secure the future of Russell Park as Central Hawke's Bay's District Hub sport and recreation park. It will also: • Provide the opportunity for everyone to input - Russell Park sports precinct users and the wider community • Consider everything from developing an aspirational vision for the Park through to what can be achieved on the ground and the why, where and how that supports delivery and investment • Provide something visual that people can easily engage with and understand • Help different user groups understand each other's needs on the Park and identify opportunities for collaboration, avoid duplication and identify options for moving forward • Better understand the role and contribution of the Park to the wider network and regional facilities • Assist with prioritisation of investment and ability to access external funding opportunities • Identify and agree on quick wins, as well as medium to long term requirements	2022/2023 for decision making in 2024 - 2034 LTP
Coronation Park	Park-specific considerations: • Recognise the significant role of the clubs in management and development of the Park and support community-led processes to determine future aspirations for the Park • Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Waipawa • Council to continue to provide maintenance support – mowing, toilets, rubbish bins, inspection of the grandstand, cleaning, painting, and regular infill and grading of the parking area • Identify options for improvement of irrigation, drainage and grass to maximise use of sportsfields and facilities • Identify opportunities for improved utilisation of eastern and western areas of the Park • Identify opportunities to address anti-social behaviour and improve security • Monitoring and eradication of the Chilean Needle grass • Dog Control Policy - The eastern unfenced part of Coronation Park is declared an off-lead exercise area while it is not used for any organised activity (sporting or otherwise) • Recognise the area as a popular dog walking area and facility • The landfill and transfer station occupy the area of reserve: Plan to minimise the long-term effects of these facilities through screen planting or similar Wider considerations: • Implementation of Integrated Spatial Plan – improve connections to town centre • Improve connections to Waipawa River for walking, cycling, dogs etc	Ongoing

Takapau Sport and Recreation Parks	Park specific considerations: • Recognise the significant role of the Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association and Takapau sports clubs (eg tennis and golf) in the management and development of these sport and recreation parks, and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the park • Continue as the local sport and recreation parks for Takapau • Council to work with association and clubs to resolve lease issues across both reserves • Council to continue to provide an operational grant to the Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association for the Takapau Memorial Sports Park (and they also use grazing for field maintenance) • Council contractors manage vegetation along the road frontage. Skateparks and furniture in the surrounds are inspected monthly • Determine options for use of undeveloped areas and an appropriate management approach • Plan for repairs and a longer term replacement/upgrade of the skatepark and courts area on the Takapau Memorial Sports Park • Ensure future facilities for sport, play and active recreation are in visible areas, with passive surveillance from the road • Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph - Potential future site for public dump station Wider considerations: • Role of golf course in contributing to the sport and recreation hub for Takapau (Council-owned land and lease in place with Takapau Golf Club)	Ongoing
Otāne Recreation Ground	Park specific considerations: • Recognise Otāne Sports Club's significant role in management and development of the Park, and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the Park. • Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Otāne • Council continues to provide maintenance assistance – mowing, toilets, tree inspections and grading of the driveway and carpark area • Recognise potential for residential growth around the park and protect park values and future use e.g. potential for reverse sensitivity with sports facilities (e.g. lighting), activities and events, potential to secure land if additional demand impacts current capacity, protect greenspace values and interface with surrounding areas Wider considerations: • Improve connection to the park as part of the Integrated Spatial Plan implementation • Support basketball growth (full court) and provision of additional play features – on this site or elsewhere. Location to be determined through the community plan process • Collaborate with youth to develop facilities – support/expand youth facility, potential for skateparks, pump track, enhancements to basketball courts, play experiences	Ongoing
White Domain, Pōrangahau	Park specific considerations: • Recognise Pōrangahau Sports Club significant role in management and development of the Park, and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the Park • Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Pōrangahau • Explore and understand hapū aspirations for the site in the long-term • Council continues to provide maintenance assistance – mowing, toilets, playground • Clarify the occupation arrangements of the drop off centre and the associated internal levels of service Wider considerations: • Any further development to consider future of courts located behind the Pōrangahau Memorial Hall and netball demand for training, and to be complementary to facilities provided by Pōrangahau Country Club	Ongoing

Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga	Park specific considerations: • Recognise the significant role that the Domain Board Committee and clubs based on the Domain have in the management and development of the Domain, and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the Domain • Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Ongaonga and recognise the status as the Central Hawke's Bay's premier cricket ground • Council continues to provide an operational grant to the Domain Board Committee • Plan to renew lease and agreement into the future recognising standalone nature and success of operation	Ongoing

Sport and Recreation Facilities – Specific Actions		
Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool	Complete Phase 2 upgrade. Ensure asset management is appropriately sophisticated so sufficient renewal funding is planned for	2024
Centralines Pool	Develop a long term sustainable solution to position Centralines Pool as the district's only indoor pool facility	2022/2023 for decision making in 2024 - 2034 LTP
Rural Pools	Consider support options to increase accessibility to school swimming pools across the district. This could include a contestable fund to assist with maintenance and development costs of these pools where there is a clear community benefit or consideration of other forms of operational assistance.	2022/2023 for decision making in 2024 - 2034 LTP
Swimming Pools	• Consider ways to maximise participation for the community that do not currently utilise these facilities or the programmes they provide, particularly regarding learn to swim. Focus on affordability and accessibility • Ensure swimming pools continue to be actively managed to encourage high levels of use and enjoyment for the community, ensure sound management including asset management that optimises operational and maintenance costs, and meet best practice health and safety requirements • Work with Sport Hawke's Bay and Water Safety New Zealand to identify opportunities to improve access to training for learn to swim instructors, with a view to increasing the number of learn to swim qualified instructors available • Work together with Councils across the region to achieve a common understanding on water safety messaging and common practices	Ongoing

See specific facility section for further information.

4. Site Specific Plans

The following site specific plans have been developed in the following sections:

Section	Location
Section 1	Coronation Park , Waipawa
Section 2	Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga
Section 3	Otāne Recreation Ground
Section 4	Russell Park, Waipukurau
Section 5	Swimming Pools (Centralines, Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pools, and districtwide)
Section 6	Takapau Memorial Sports Park and area reserves
Section 7	White Domain Pōrangahau

Section 1
Coronation Park

5. Coronation Park, Waipawa

5.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to Coronation Park to recognise its role as the local sport and recreation park for Waipawa and surrounds.

The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for Coronation Park.

5.2 Background

Coronation Park is home to the Waipawa Country United Men's Rugby Club (WCUMR) and Waipawa Country United Junior Rugby. The Club was established in 2017 by a group of locals who were keen to see rugby grow in the Waipawa community. From the ground up (with a lot of support from local business and individuals) they did what was needed to make this new club prosper.

Coronation Park is bordered by Tikokino Road to the north and Waipawa River to the south.



Reserve category	Sport and Recreation Park
Reserve location	Tikokino Road
Area	10.96 ha
Reserves Act classification	Fee simple
Facilities and use	• 4 grass sportsfields (rugby and rugby league) • Grandstand • Public toilets • Waipawa United Incorporated Hall – home to WCUMR and WCUJR, gym, used for functions (owned by Waipawa United Incorporated) • The Green Shed • Old netball courts • Walking, cycling, dog walkers – access to Waipawa River trails • Waipawa transfer station (recycling centre) • NZMCA use for motorhome/caravan rally
Agreements	• Waipawa United Incorporated own hall on Council land. There is no formal lease agreement. They pay rates and WCUMR hire the building from Waipawa United. WCUMR do some maintenance e.g., cleaning of grandstand • Historical Lease: League was asked to vacate due to not keeping payments up. The club still stores belongings in The Green Shed

5.3 User information (as of February 2022)

- Waipawa United Incorporated manage hall bookings
- Council manages all bookings and use of the sportsfields
- Senior club membership is 50 + members, cricket club has 30+ members and junior club has 100 + members.
- Wider active recreation role with access to river trails
- Recent addition of a cricket wicket due to growing interest from the local area

5.4 Role in the wider sports and recreation network

Coronation Park is Waipawa's local sport and recreation park, providing a hub for sports, events and activities undertaken by the local community and surrounding areas

5.5 Key challenges and opportunities

- No adequate lighting for night games and training
- Clubroom needs upgrading (roof, toilets, changing facilities and heating)
- An improved irrigation system is needed, as the fields are too hard when season kicks off. Waipawa River provides irrigation, however, when flow is low and/or there are water restrictions, the fields are affected. This is impacting the ability to play cricket due to the condition of the outfields. Grass condition is also an issue
- The club is very self-sufficient
- There are ongoing maintenance and operational challenges.
- The eastern and western end of the Park are underutilised, so there is potential to consider facilities that support growth of existing and new sports, play, events, and active recreational needs
- Ongoing work is required to eradicate Chilean Needle grass present on eastern fields which are now closed. This typically closes fields 2 months late in the year (October to Christmas) and could easily go on for 50 years. This is an invasive species that is prevalent on properties across the river from the Park
- Conflicts arise between walkers/dog walkers and motorbikes accessing the river area. Response is coordinated with Hawke's Bay Regional Council who manage the Waipawa River corridor
- Possible site for a motor caravan dump station
- Hawke's Bay Cricket Association identified further potential to grow cricket in Waipawa, particularly with women and rangatahi, and to attract cricket training camps with participants from the wider region.

5.6 Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise the significant role of WCUMR in management and development of the Park and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the park
- Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Waipawa
- Council to continue to provide maintenance support – mowing, toilets, rubbish bins, inspection of the grandstand, cleaning, painting, and regular infill and grading of the parking area
- Identify options for improvement of irrigation, drainage and grass to maximise use of sportsfields and facilities
- Identify opportunities for improved utilisation of eastern and western areas of the Park
- Identify opportunities to address anti-social behaviour and improve security
- Monitoring and eradication of the Chilean Needle grass
- Dog Control Policy - The eastern unfenced part of Coronation Park is declared an off-lead exercise area while it is not used for any organised activity (sporting or otherwise)
- Recognise the area as a popular dog walking area and facility
- The landfill and transfer station occupy the area of reserve. Plan to minimise the long-term effects of these facilities through screen planting or similar

5.7 Wider considerations:

- Implementation of Integrated Spatial Plan – improve connections to town centre
- Improve connections to Waipawa River for walking, cycling, dog-walking, etc

Section 2
Forest Gate Domain

6. Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga

6.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to the Forest Gate Domain to recognise its role as the local sport and recreation park for Ongaonga and surrounds, and Central Hawke's Bay's premier cricket ground.

The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for this Park.

6.2 Background

In 1980 Councils were asked to accept responsibility for their local Domain Boards. In the case of Forest Gate, the existing Domain Board decided to accept Council's control by way of vesting the Domain in the Waipawa District Council in trust for recreation purposes.

Although the land has been vested in Council, the Domain Board Committee is responsible for the day to day running of it, and receives an annual Council grant for mowing and management. The Domain is split into a Golf Course run by the Ongaonga Golf Club, a small farm run by a Farming Committee, and a cricket ground run by the Central Hawke's Bay Cricket Club. An agreement between the Domain Board Committee and the Farming Committee is in place. Any profits from the farm are split between the Farming Committee, Golf Club, and Cricket Club, with rent being paid to the Domain Board.



Reserve category	Sport and Recreation Park
Reserve location	State Highway 50
Area	42.5 ha
Reserves Act classification	Recreation Reserve
Agreements	Forest Gate Domain Board MOU
Facilities and use	• Cricket pitch and oval, training nets • Cricket pavilion (Club owned) • Carpark and access • Public Toilets (Council owned) • Golf course (9 holes) and clubrooms (Club owned facilities)

6.3 User information (as of February 2022)

- CHB Cricket Club has 40 senior members, 20 youth members and 60-70 junior members. They work closely with schools and have a foundation skills programme fully funded by the club through grants and fundraising
- Ongaonga Golf Course membership – 110 senior members and 5 youth/junior members

6.4 Role in the wider sports and recreation network

- Forest Gate Domain is a local sport and recreation park for the Ongaonga community. It is the premier cricket ground for the district and the location of the Ongaonga golf course

6.5 Challenges and opportunities

- The Cricket Pavilion is 20-30 years old and in average condition
- The Golf Clubrooms are over 40 years old and in average condition

6.6 Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise the significant role that the Domain Board Committee and clubs based on the Domain have in the management and development of the Domain and support community-led processes to determine future aspirations for the Domain
- Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Ongaonga and recognise the status as Central Hawke's Bay's premier cricket ground
- Council continues to provide an operational grant to the Domain Board Committee
- Plan to renew lease and agreement into the future recognising standalone nature and success of operation

Section 3
Otāne Recreation Ground

7. Otāne Recreation Ground

7.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to the Otāne Recreation Ground to recognise its role as the local sport and recreation park for Otāne and surrounds.

The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for this Park.

7.2 Background

Otāne Recreation Ground was donated to the community by a local family. The Otāne Sports Club has developed the ground into a sport and recreation hub for the local community.

The clubrooms were relocated to the park in the 1980s and the ground floor was built in later years. An old grandstand was previously located here. There are mature heritage trees (some protected in the District Plan) along Rochfort Street frontage. The tennis courts at the main entrance were funded by the club and community and are also used for netball. The tennis club was previously located at Miller Street but disbanded in 2015. The Otāne Sports Club worked with Centralines and Council to install lights for early winter evening play on the courts. Public toilets near the clubrooms are provided by Council.



Reserve category	Sport and Recreation
Reserve location	Rochfort Street
Area	3.12 ha
Facilities and user groups	• Otāne Sports Club (rugby, netball, touch rugby, basketball) base and clubrooms (owned by the club) • 2 x grass sportsfields (and floodlights that are owned by the club) • 3 x tennis courts, 1 x netball (astroturf and floodlights) owned by the club • Established trees • Public toilets (Council)

7.3 User information (as of February 2022)

- Otāne Sports Club manages all bookings and use of the Park
- Inter-generational families are involved. Whānau club days and activities are held, e.g. mixed games, amazing race events. Usually preseason and wind-down events held. Strong manaakitanga values (hosting and looking after members and visitors).
- Rugby train Tuesday and Thursday, junior Tuesday afternoon. Rugby – one senior men's team with up to 35 players. Junior rugby has seven teams and 90 kids registered with mix of boys and girls. With another senior rugby team they would struggle with capacity, but ok for now.
- Netball train Sunday and Monday and play Wednesday. Netball has two senior teams and a development team that plays in Waipukurau
- Touch rugby in summer
- Basketball team has huge growth but limited facilities
- Clubrooms are used for meetings, functions, Te Reo classes and available for general use. Annual prizegiving has outgrown the premises so the Otāne Hall is used for this purpose
- Club membership is 120 adults/seniors, 12 youth and 92 juniors (11yrs and younger)

7.4 Role of Otāne Recreation Ground in the wider sports and recreation network

Otāne Recreation Ground is Otāne's local sport and recreation park, providing a hub for sports, events and activities undertaken by the local community and surrounding areas.

7.5 Key challenges and opportunities

- Noticeable growth of Otāne with residential development and changes to the community makeup. Further growth anticipated under the Integrated Spatial Plan.
- New changing rooms are needed. Currently located in basement of clubrooms and not in a good state. Looking at options to either provide a new facility or upgrade existing. If new facility, then existing toilets and change rooms would become much needed storage.
- The club is very self-sufficient. Its main goal is to keep facility running with no other issues reported other than the kitchen space which needs to be more user-friendly and tidied up. There is potential to achieve a better indoor - outdoor flow, shelter in wet weather and better use of indoor space.
- There are ongoing maintenance and operations challenges (e.g. driveway grading, trees)
- There is a lack of adequate lighting for night games and training

7.6 Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise Otāne Sports Club's significant role in management and development of the Park and support community-led processes to determine future aspirations for the park
- Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Otāne
- Council continues to provide maintenance assistance – mowing, toilets, tree inspections and grading of the driveway and carpark area
- Recognise potential for residential growth around the park and protect park values and future use e.g. potential for reverse sensitivity with sports facilities (eg lighting), activities and events, potential to secure land if additional demand impacts current capacity, protect greenspace values and interface with surrounding areas

Wider considerations:

- Improve connection to the park as part of the Integrated Spatial Plan implementation
- Support basketball growth (full court) and provision of additional play features – on this site or elsewhere. Location to be determined through the community plan process
- Collaborate with youth to develop facilities – support/ expand youth facility, potential for skateparks, pump track, enhancements to basketball courts, play experiences

Section 4
Russell Park

8. Russell Park and surrounds

8.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to Russell Park and surrounds.

It provides a summary of key issues identified by the community and Council regarding the future use, management and development of Russell Park and the surrounding areas of Central Park and A & P Showgrounds. For ease of reference, we call the combination of these areas a 'sport and recreation precinct' although we recognise there are different ownership models in place.

This document includes a proposed way forward to respond to these issues and provides clarity on the short-medium, and long-term priorities for Russell Park and surrounding areas.

8.2 What is provided at Russell Park (including Central Park and A & P Showgrounds)



Size	13.033 ha (not including Central Park and A & P land)
Park Category	Sport and Recreation Park – District Hub
Location	River Terrace, Waipukurau
Land	Russell Park (CHBDC) Central Park (CHB Rugby Trust) A and P showgrounds (A and P Society)
Facilities	Russell Park (CHBDC) – Sportsfields, cricket pitch, public toilets and changing rooms, fitness facilities, splash pad, playground, skatepark, BMX track, Scout Hall, Waipukurau Memorial Hall, memorial cenotaph. Russell Park (CHB Community Trust) - Centralines Sports Complex – multi use turf and asphalt courts, swimming pool, indoor stadium. Central Park (CHB Rugby Trust) – sportsfields, grandstand, clubrooms. Waipukurau Lawn Tennis and Squash Club (WLT&SC). A & P showgrounds (A & P Society) – meeting rooms, equine facilities, corrals, grazing pasture/ junior sportsfields.
Leases	CHB Community Trust – ground lease for pool and stadium expires 30 June 2022. Central Hawke's Bay Agricultural and Pastoral Association – Lease 50 Dated 23 August 2001 Term from 1 May 2001 for term of 21 years Expires 1 May 2022 for purpose of A & P Show No rent – just pay all outgoings including tree management. Lease subject to Reserves Act 1977
Use (across wider sports precinct)	Rugby, touch rugby, football, netball, hockey, tennis, squash, walking, cycling, swimming, Parkrun, fitness, play, leisure, dog training and activities, skate/scooter activities, scouts, indoor courts use, Tukituki trails entrance, events e.g. Christmas Parade, Little Easy and Matariki fireworks, school sports days, after school programmes, running.

8.3 What role does Russell Park have in the wider sports and recreation network?

Russell Park is Central Hawke's Bay's district hub sport and recreation park. District hub reflects that the park and facilities are for many different sports, events and activities, and used by people from all over the district.

The wider sport and recreation precinct will continue to be a base for district-wide sport and recreation facilities catering to a variety of sporting codes, and provide for community activities, events, active/passive recreation and play opportunities.

There are several issues and opportunities identified through Thriving Places and Spaces and the Long Term Plan that need to be responded to so that this Park continues to meet the sport and recreational needs of the community.

8.4 What we have heard to date

We received feedback on Russell Park and Central Park through the following processes:

- 2021/2022 feedback through the Thriving Places and Spaces survey
- 2021 Sports Club Survey
- Site visit and facility tour with Aqua Management (July 2021)
- 2021-2031 LTP submissions on Russell Park
- Russell Park User group meeting and survey
- Russell Park user group walkover (February 2022)

From this we have identified the following issues relating to demand and sports club growth, and facility and land provision.

Increasing demand	The growth of several sports that currently use Russell Park and vicinity and the need for facilities to service this growth (i.e. some clubs do not have a base to operate from, no changing facilities, ageing facilities, small facilities that clubs have outgrown, lack of quality facilities to attract and retain members). Identified potential for a multi-use sports facility (clubrooms, toilet, change facilities, storage) to service growing demand and provide a quality, fit-for-purpose facility for a variety of codes and clubs. There is also potential to provide wider community benefit outside of sports use e.g. meeting spaces, events, functions and conferences. There is demand for additional court space in the future as a potential extension to the Indoor Stadium, and to extend the gym area and include spaces for Pilates. Demand for the multi-use turf: there are issues with user access to indoor court change facilities, and a need for changing facilities, toilets and storage adjacent to the turf. The population is projected to increase by 9,100 people from 14,850 in 2019 to 23,980 by 2051, with an additional 3,000 people living in Waipukurau. Access to quality sports and recreation experiences is needed to provide opportunities for new people to the district to be active and connected with the community. There is no comprehensive understanding of use and demand across all codes and trends over time. Council provides basic sportsfield maintenance and manages bookings for the Russell Park sportsfields, while the operator of the Centralines Sports Complex manages bookings for the outdoor turf complex and indoor stadium and pool. Regional sports organisations identified growth across all sports – rugby, netball, hockey, cricket, tennis, basketball and football, and a greater need for collaboration and coordination across codes.

Facility issues	A 2014 concept plan for Russell Park resulted in several projects delivered over the last eight years. Projects include the multi-use turf provided by CHB Community Trust, playground, splash pad, skatepark, exercise and fitness trail, and various other upgrades to lighting, parking, toilets etc. This concept was never fully implemented and much has changed since it was first developed. Waipukurau Memorial Hall is an earthquake-prone building and currently operating with capacity limits until a decision is made on its future. This decision links with the potential for a civic and community hub within the Waipukurau town centre and the potential for a multi-use sports facility that provides for wider community use. There are issues with existing toilets, storage, clubroom and changing facilities, and a need for upgrades plus new provision. Support to further develop Russell Park to make it more accessible with amenities and changing rooms that are fit for purpose, continual footpath and regular seating, and the potential for a multi-sports facility servicing several codes and clubs. There are carparking and pedestrian safety issues in both main carpark and newer turf carpark. Issues include irrigation and lighting restricting use of the Park and sportsfields. There is a lack of suitable accommodation options for sports tournaments and programmes.
Land, management and development issues	There are four separate landowners that contribute to the 'sport and recreation precinct' with different funding, management, and operational structures, some of which have long term sustainability challenges. Land leases are in place with the CHB Trust for Centralines Indoor Stadium and Pool on Russell Park, and with the A & P Society. Waipukurau Bowling Club is located nearby and is privately owned and operated. There are also areas of underutilised land that have the potential to cater to future growth and require a clear plan in place to determine future use and development. The different ownership and management models reflect the significant role the community has played in providing the land and facilities, and present opportunities to our community. They also present a significant challenge in ensuring long-term security of access for the community, given the role these facilities have in the district. There is a need to identify the optimal model to ensure ongoing sustainability and community benefit.
Impact on volunteers	Sport relies hugely on volunteers to manage facilities, run clubs and sporting programmes. This places significant pressure on these groups to operate in a sustainable way, now and into the future. Issues include the ability for volunteers and coaches to continue to administer clubs due to time and cost involved, lack of succession plans for when key people are no longer able to volunteer, lack of youth coming through, ageing membership, and need for greater access to skills/ training opportunities for volunteers and all aspects of club operations.
COVID impacts	Sport was the most compromised domain in terms of ability to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to other forms of physical activity like walking and cycling. Impacts include lost revenue, cash flow difficulties, reduced capacity, and change of membership. All these things have hit the sector hard and will present ongoing challenges.

8.5 Proposed Approach

Council will lead a collaborative process to develop a masterplan for Russell Park. This will help to complete and secure the sport and recreation precinct for the future and recognises the district hub status of this park and the benefits to our wider community.

A masterplan process is a good way to:

- Provide the opportunity for everyone to input - Russell Park sports precinct users and the wider community
- Consider everything from developing an aspirational vision for the Park through to what can be achieved on the ground and the why, where and how that supports delivery and investment
- Provide something visual that people can easily engage with and understand
- Help different user groups understand each other's needs on the Park and identify opportunities for collaboration, avoid duplication and identify options for moving forward
- Better understand the role and contribution of the Park to the wider network and regional facilities
- Assist with prioritisation of investment and ability to access external funding opportunities
- Identify and agree on quick wins as well as medium to long term requirements

The key factors that could help shape the masterplan, and the recommended process for its development are outlined below.

8.6 Key factors in planning for the future of Russell Park and surrounding area

The biggest consideration across all the issues identified is that of funding constraints. This supports the need for a collaborative approach to problem solving, working together to achieve the best outcomes for the Park and District, and planning together for the future.

The key factors to assist in driving a collaborative approach include:

- Multi-use and shared facilities providing opportunities to achieve efficiencies and collaboration and reduce the impact of buildings on the Park
- Catering to a wide range of users and types of use, recognising the district hub status of the Park
- Levels of service that reflect the status and extent of use including maintenance, lighting, toilets and change facilities, fit for purpose and future proofed facilities
- Development of strong, successful, and sustainable sport and recreation groups that are meeting our community needs
- Provide for growth of sports codes and clubs recognising benefits of an active and connected community
- Recognise wider values of the Park including green space, amenity, active recreation, culture and history, play and passive use, and the connections to the Waipukurau town centre and other amenities
- Accessible and inclusive facilities and experiences
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities in the approach to ownership, management, utilisation, funding, operations, and promotion.

8.7 Masterplan Process (2022-2023)

1. Key stakeholder meetings – outline proposed approach (CHB Trust, CHB Sports and A & P)
2. Agree key roles and responsibilities with key stakeholders on process
3. Align key recreation and community facility decisions and other relevant work with this process – swimming pool, memorial hall, town centre plans
4. Plan to incorporate provision of shade areas in master plan process and widening of the gate entranceway and adding bollards to ensure this is included for consideration in the masterplan process
5. User group co-design workshops – recognise all inputs to date, workshop collective vision and values for park recognising its key role as a district hub park, understand relationship between Russell Park and Central Park, identify challenges, opportunities. Use to gather any additional user information (eg membership, growth etc)
6. Develop and adopt draft masterplan (options) - Include projects required to achieve masterplan and prioritisation approach to these. This needs to also provide realistic picture of growth and demand for additional facilities (eg cricket pitch, additional courts, artificial turf)
7. Agree key roles and responsibilities with key stakeholders on implementation, with a combined approach to funding
8. User group workshop and wider community engagement on draft masterplan
9. Adopt final masterplan and include in Long Term Plan

8.8 Attachment 1 – User group participation in surveys

Ruahine Cadet Club	Junior Motocross
CHB Athletic Club	Waipukurau Skate Park Development Team
CHB Touch Rugby Club	Waipukurau Cubs and Scouts
Central Sports	CHB Kennel Society
Waipukurau Tennis and Squash Club	Aqua Management Ltd
Central Hockey Club	CHB District Community Trust
CHB Rugby Club	Rotary River Pathway Trust
CHB Hockey Association	Central Hawke's Bay Dog Training Club
CHB Junior Rugby	
Cycling CHB	
CHB Rugby and Sports Club	
CHB Swim Club	

8.9 Attachment 2 - Additional feedback from surveys

What is working well:

- Great space with plenty available all at one stop. Splash pad is great, as is the park
- So many options for different ages and abilities
- Youth use it all the time and it suits their needs

What could be improved:

Maintenance	• Keep the lawns mowed over summer holidays • Inability to water/maintain sportsfields • Drivers doing donuts in the back carpark destroys the surface as well as flings shingle onto the sports turf. Locking the gates has mitigated this to a certain extent. However, it can occur in the daytime at low usage/no or minimal passive surveillance • Repair all old floodlights • Complete area outside Memorial Hall • Mow motocross area for greater use than grazing • Irrigation to keep park looking green for amenity
Shade	• Need more shade especially around splash pad, skateparks and playground
Pathways	• Complete the park and footpath • More formed pathways (to assist in maintenance of the turf and courts)
Carparks and access	• Carparks - issues with sealed carpark being used by boy racers and need lines painted on northern parking area, more carparking needed and loop with one-way traffic • Signage to encourage traffic to slow down • Speed bumps to slow down traffic
Toilets and change facilities	• Toilets and change rooms near the trail carpark and signage letting people know it's there • Storage building for equipment
Bookings	• Online booking system • Easy to access and flexible booking system
Cycle trails	• A pump station for bikes at the beginning of the bike track or the swing bridge
Skatepark	• Maintenance of the Waipukurau Skateparks due to cracking and damage • Add lights and a water fountain • Connect skatepark to the footpath • Development of stage 2 of the skatepark and include youth in this • Emergency access near skateparks • Lighting of the skatepark
Sports hub	• Sports hub at either Waipawa or Waipukurau. Have multiple sports clubs under one. Fields not used should be sold and money used on other areas or to support ongoing projects
Funding	• Insufficient funding to 'complete' past projects
New facilities	• Half-court basketball/streetball court with decent hoop setup • Outdoor cooking area • Building with kitchen for clubs holding events • Open up BMX track as a children's biking facility • More trees in some areas • Additional lighting for rugby fields

8.10 Feedback received from Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan Consultation for consideration in development of the Masterplan

Central Hawke's Bay Dog Training Club	Dog training club aspirations include fit for purpose grass turf in the back sportsfields, electricity supply, maintained driveway and clubrooms for meetings, etc. The club is interested in development of a multi-use building. Other issues include maintained fence, signs to pick up dog droppings and improving foot traffic access to the riverbank. Note different entity to kennel society who use the A & P Society grounds.
Parkrun	Use of the Park for 5 km park runs each Saturday morning. Suggested improvements: • Provide shelter or shade • Signpost and communicate where the Park is so that it is visible • On Page 31 of the Plan, Section 8.2, under Users in the table add that parkrun use the park and/or on that they are also one of the User Groups • Marked 5km Run/walk course - A 5km start and finish marker and markers on the way would offer an opportunity for anyone to 'follow the trail' - also safety in terms of access in an emergency • Entrance between Russell Park and Stopbank by skate ramp near SH2 - entrance is quite narrow
CHB Trust **CHB Rugby Football Trust** **Central Rugby and Sports Club**	Submissions raise issues/opportunities regarding: • heavy reliance on sponsorship, funding, and volunteers • facilities that are not fit for purpose • support for the consideration for a multipurpose facility or sports hub to service several codes and support development and growth of sport • asking Council to assist with organisations that are currently servicing the needs of the community and have a passion and already invested • recognising growth of sports on the park • advocating for assistance to ensure the longevity of this and prepared to work with Council for a mutually beneficial outcome for development of sport and the community • previous request of assisting with feasibility assessments to apply to the Lottery foundation is still the preferred method • current ownership model is not sustainable • time for BIG Picture futuristic thinking – integration and sustainability
Aqua Management	Urgent need for toilets and changing rooms for the netball courts and turf Maintenance of Russell Park and Coronation Park needs clear and long-term direction and planning. Irrigation of both parks needs to be planned before more money is spent on spraying and re-grassing
Central Hawke's Bay District Community Trust	Maintenance of Russell Park and Coronation Park needs clear and long-term direction and planning. Irrigation of both parks needs to be planned before more money is spent on spraying and re-grassing Imperative for turf work to be completed and facilities provided for users into the future. Need for consistent and regular irrigation and spraying. Carparking and traffic management is a major concern and needs to be a top priority before someone is seriously injured. Support for a one-way traffic system, painted carparking, completion of sealed areas and speed bumps. Carparking layout needs to be improved as well as traffic flow through the park and peak time traffic management. Floodlights need to be operational. Additional shade is needed in summer for health and safety. Additional security such as CCTV is needed. The competitive swimming and fitness markets are strong in Central Hawke's Bay and need to be considered in any future development of the swimming pool.

Section 6
Swimming Pools

9. Swimming Pools

9.1 Purpose

This document sets out the proposed management and investment approach for Central Hawke's Bay's two community swimming pools located at Waipukurau and Waipawa.

While we have an amazing outdoor environment for water-based activity, we need a good plan in place for the future of our swimming pools. The community is growing, and it is important that we plan and think ahead for this growth.

This document includes a range of actions to support improving accessibility to swimming pools and other initiatives such as water safety and learn to swim. Wider considerations of access to rivers, lakes and the ocean is included in Council's Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy.

9.2 Background

Central Hawke's Bay has two swimming pools that are an outcome of significant community fundraising efforts. Swimming pools are a significant investment both in terms of development and ongoing operations, so it is important that we make the most of our existing facilities.

Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool

The Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool is located on Madge Hunter Park, Waipawa. It was built in 1965 and the pool was replaced in 2019. Council owns the pool and administers the land it is located on. The pool is managed and operated through a contract with Aqua Management Ltd. Up to 12,000 people access this pool over the five-month period that it is open.

The pool is outdoors and open from November through to March each year. The Waipawa Pool upgrade is being progressed with the support of community fund raising, and is providing accessible reception and family change rooms, additional storage, and family-friendly facilities.

Centralines Pool

The Centralines Pool is part of the Centralines Sports Complex located on Russell Park, Waipukurau. It was built in 1997 and previously known as the AW Parsons Pool. The Central Hawke's Bay Community Trust owns the pool and contracts Aqua Management Ltd to manage and operate the facility. Up to 75,000 people access this pool every year. Council provides an annual operational grant to the Trust to recognise the important role of this facility as the only indoor pool in the district, and the range of programmes and services it provides to the community year-round. Major investment in the Centralines Pool in Waipukurau will be required in the near future.

School Pools

There are several school pools located throughout the district. Known primary school pools are located at St Joseph's, Pōrangahau, Waipawa, Tikokino, Otāne, Flemington, Takapau, Pukehou, Argyll East, Elsthorpe, Sherwood and Ongaonga. However, there is limited understanding of the use and condition of these facilities.

9.3 Why swimming pools are important to our community

Our water-based location with outstanding beaches, rivers, and lakes, amplifies the importance of water safety education for our community. Too many people lose their lives due to preventable drowning each year in the Hawke's Bay region.

Swimming pools provide opportunities for people to feel safe and confident in the water, keep fit, play, and have fun, or become competitive in swimming. Swimming is a healthy, low impact activity that can be continued throughout a lifetime.

There are many benefits of having swimming pools in our community including:

- Spaces for families and friends to play and interact in a fun and safe environment
- Places and services for our community to learn safety and confidence in and around water, a fundamental skill for tamariki and rangatahi
- Recreational swimming promotes health and relaxation. Swimming is identified as one of the most 'heart healthy' exercises and can also help with mental health, improving mood, and easing joint ailments
- Training spaces for swim clubs, multi-sport and other water-based activities
- Water-based exercise has multiple advantages over land-based exercise; it is low impact, creates more resistance training, and water disperses heat more efficiently

It is recognised that the CHB Swim for Life Committee makes a considerable contribution to reducing barriers to participation and in learn to swim programmes.

The key theme from community feedback we received through the Thriving Places and Spaces Survey in 2021/2022 was the importance of learn to swim and creating opportunities for more people to access existing facilities to increase confidence in the water. Feedback supports making the most of what we have through the upgrade of existing facilities.

9.4 Key challenges and opportunities

Investment and ongoing costs

The cost of operating and maintaining swimming pools is high compared to other community facilities like indoor courts and community halls. Most aquatic facilities operate at a loss and a subsidy is provided, usually by councils. Users do not pay the true cost of providing the service.

The Centralines Pool complex requires increased investment to ensure the facility continues to provide a safe environment and meets the needs of the community. A better understanding is needed of the condition of assets, funding and required programme of improvements, including short, medium, and long-term priorities. Major costs include replacement of the ceiling tiles, seismic strengthening work in the main pool and the wider renewal of the facility as access to community funding for maintenance and renewals becomes more difficult.

Long term security of access and investment

The current provision operates under two different ownership models which have worked reasonably well to date. However, as the facilities age and levels of maintenance and health and safety requirements increase, clarity on future levels of service, asset, and funding responsibilities is needed.

A long-term sustainable solution is required to position Centralines Pool as the district's premier indoor pool facility. This needs to consider the most optimal model for ownership, asset management, development, operations and funding, that delivers on the key objectives outlined below.

Rural pools and access

Schools traditionally play a critical role in the provision of swimming pools, particularly in large rural areas with a greater distribution of small towns, and the main community swimming pools are typically located in urban areas. Challenges for rural communities include:

- An unclear funding mechanism from the Ministry of Education, which provides for some maintenance but not school pool replacement or upgrades
- The relative distance that people must travel from rural areas to access the two main pools in Waipukurau and Waipawa

We received mixed feedback through the community survey about whether Council should have a role in supporting rural school pools. Those in support stressed that learn to swim is an essential life skill for all and a priority for tamariki. Rural pools can provide safe, controlled facilities to build water confidence and have fun in the water. Those who didn't support Council having a role were of the view that this is a central government responsibility through the Ministry of Education.

Water safety

Water safety is very important to the community given the many rivers we have and our proximity to beaches. Hawke's Bay had an increase from two preventable drowning fatalities in 2019 to seven in 2020, and back to two in 2021. Nationally, rivers and beaches are the most common areas where preventable fatal drownings occur. On a per capita basis, the preventable fatal drowning rate is represented as 1.62 per 100,000 people in New Zealand. This rate has been steady for the past five years. Māori and men were both over-represented in the national statistics provided by Water Safety New Zealand.

Swimming pools play a key role in providing opportunities for all ages to build confidence in the water and learn to swim, so it is important that they are accessible by all our community, especially those in high-risk groups. The Active NZ survey by Sport New Zealand identifies swimming has had one of the largest declines in participation across all surveyed activities, with tamariki and rangatahi participation showing a 22% decline and adult participation declining by 26% over the last three years.

More recent data indicates that the drop in swimming participation was maintained in 2021, and that swimming participation has not returned to pre-pandemic levels.

9.5 What we want to achieve

Key objectives for swimming pools are:

- Meet the needs of a diverse range of users and encourage lifelong participation to support a physically active, happy and healthy community
- Provide fun for all our community
- Provide a safe and controlled environment to improve water safety and confidence, given our proximity to natural water areas including rivers and beaches
- Promote water safety education through the development of confidence and skills gained from both recreational play and learn to swim programmes
- Provide swimming pools in the most cost-effective way, considering the whole-of-life costs of facilities, so it is financially sustainable for the community and operators
- Reduce barriers to access for people with physical and intellectual abilities, people on low incomes, people who have limited transport options, and those in high risk groups identified in water safety statistics

9.6 Action Plan

This outlines the steps that Council will take to achieve the key objectives and levels of service, and includes a mix of short and longer term actions.

Topic	Action	Timeframe
Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pool	Complete Phase 2 upgrade. Accessible reception and family changing rooms and additional storage. A family-friendly dry play area is planned with BBQ, seating, and shade on the grass area. Solar heating and covers will extend the season and improve use on cooler summer days. Strengthen the identity of the pool and connection to the town centre, schools, other community and recreational facilities and rural communities as part of town centre planning.	Phase 2 delivery funding in current LTP (2024).
Centralines Pool	A long-term sustainable solution is required to position Centralines Pool as the district's only indoor pool facility. This needs to consider the optimal model for ownership, asset management, development, operations and funding, which delivers on the key objectives outlined below: Council will work together with CHB Community Trust to: • Address short term renewal issues • Complete technical review of the facility • Agree key facility values and optimal model to support this • Determine short-, medium- and long-term investment and funding options • Plan to meet unmet learn to swim demand • Meet its legislative and best-practice responsibilities, including Section17a of the Local Government Act 2002 and Pool Safe • Identify "quick win" opportunities and identify how Council and the Trust can support each other to achieve these through to the 2024 – 2034 Long Term Plan	High priority action – commence 2022 Issues and options for future of the facility developed and consulted on through 2024-2034 LTP.
Rural school pools	Consider options to provide support for rural school pools' upgrade, maintenance, and operations to assist with accessibility and distribution of swimming pools across the district. Gather information to assess the ongoing viability of these pools. Note there was mixed feedback from the community survey on whether Council should have a role in supporting rural school pools.	Gather rural school pool information - asset condition, operation, and use (2022). Option analysis and decision on supporting the upgrade, maintenance, and operation of rural school pools (2024-34 LTP).
Affordability and accessibility	Consider ways to maximise participation for the community that do not currently use these facilities or the programmes they offer, particularly learn to swim programmes. Focus on affordability and accessibility.	Ongoing
Management and operations	Ensure swimming pools continue to be actively managed to encourage high levels of use and enjoyment for the community. Ensure sound management, including asset management, that optimises operational and maintenance costs and meets best practice health and safety requirements.	Ongoing
Learn to swim	Work with Sport Hawke's Bay and Water Safety New Zealand to identify opportunities to improve access to training for learn to swim instructors, with a view to increasing the number of learn to swim qualified instructors available. It is recognised that the CHB Swim for Life Committee make a considerable contribution to reducing barriers to participation and in learn to swim programmes.	Ongoing
Water safety messaging	Continue to work together with Councils across the region to achieve a common understanding on water safety messaging and practices that support families who visit pool facilities throughout the region, e.g. identification of children under eight, and a zero tolerance breaches of pool alone policies. Note there is currently a swimming pool operator's group that discusses water safety messaging and common practices, especially around pool safety.	Ongoing

9.8 Attachment 1: Community Swimming Pools

Swimming Pools	Role of Council	Facilities	Availability and use
Waipawa and Districts Centennial Memorial Pools (1965) **Pools were replaced in 2019**	Council owned and operated (via contract with Aqua Management) Council owned land (Madge Hunter Park	Outdoor pool: • 25 metre pool • Learner's pool • Grassed area Not heated. Note pool covers were approved in 2021/22 to ensure safe temperatures.	Open November through to March. Approx. 12,000 users each season. Good use from local schools. Disabled access ramp.
Centralines Sports Complex - Pool, Waipukurau (1998) **Formerly AW Parsons Indoor Pool**	CHB Community Trust owned and operated (via contract with Aqua Management). Council provides an annual operational grant to recognise services provided to the community. Crown owned land administered by Council (Russell Park).	Indoor heated pool: • 25 metre pool • Learner's pool • Beach/waterfall • Outdoor space • Meeting room • Therapy room	Open year round. Approx. 75,000 users per year. Programmes include learn to swim, masters, aqua jogging, school holiday, squad training, little flippers. CHB Swim Club base. Disabled access (ramp and chair lift).

9.9 Attachment 2: Swimming Pool trends

Swimming pools or aquatic centres today are designed as community hubs, bringing together complementary wellness activities with more traditional recreation, pool and fitness offerings under one roof. Facilities that offer places to eat, relax, play or be with others as well as places to swim and exercise are those with the most appeal across age, gender, culture, ability, and interests. Co-location with other community facilities and services also adds to the destination experience.

Research throughout New Zealand and overseas indicates that the recreation and leisure market will continue to be the largest user of swimming pools (60-70%) as it includes people of all ages, ability, types, interests, and genders and therefore has the greatest reach in our communities. Some pools are even providing specific 'manu' or 'bombing' areas within their facility.

The competitive/training/fitness market is a more specialist market including younger, fitter and more active people who make time to train and compete, usually in a structured way. Older (50+) age groups are a major growth area, and they have different expectations for aquatic facilities, including temperature, access, covered and water depth. They often require warmer water and activities or programmes associated with health and relaxation.

'Learn to swim' is an area which continues to grow, especially as schools move away from providing these opportunities. Public pools play an important part in building water confidence through these structured programmes as well as through informal recreational swimming.

Section 6
Takapau Memorial Sports Park

10. Takapau Sport and Recreation Parks

10.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to Takapau Memorial Sports Park and Takapau Reserve to recognise the role of these parks as the local sport and recreation parks for Takapau and surrounds. The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for this Park.

10.2 Background

The Takapau community supports several thriving sports clubs, including tennis, squash, rugby, and the Pony Club. In 2002, the Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association signed an agreement with Council to promote the use of the Takapau Memorial Sports Park for recreational purposes and oversee the maintenance of the grounds and facilities for Council.

The Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association represents rugby, netball, the Pony Club and squash, which are all located on the Takapau Memorial Sports Park. The Takapau Tennis Club is located on the nearby Takapau Reserve. The Takapau Golf Course is also located nearby.

10.3 Takapau Memorial Sports Park



Reserve category	Sport and recreation park – local
Reserve location	Charlotte Street
Area	5.10 ha
Reserves Act classification	Recreation Reserve
Agreements	Agreement in place with Takapau Sports Association
Facilities and use	• Skateparks half pipe • Takapau Memorial Sports Building and grandstand (Council owned) • The Takapau Squash Club owns the lounge and squash court attached to the end of Council's building. The Takapau Rugby Club owns the adjacent and standalone changing rooms. The "club rooms" as such are the main building. • 2 x asphalt courts (one good and one in poor condition) • 1 x grass sportsfield • Squash courts (see above) • Equestrian facilities • Used for rugby, squash, netball, pony club

10.4 Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph



Reserve category	Cultural Heritage
Reserve location	Charlotte Street
Area	1.75 ha
Reserves Act classification	Local Purpose Reserve
Agreements	Various historical agreements with sports clubs
Facilities and use	Takapau Tennis Club – clubrooms and 11 tennis courts, 11 courts; 3 astroturf, 6 grass, 2 hardcourts also marked for netball (Club owns all facilities). Site also includes: War memorial cenotaph Buildings for the RSA, Lions Club and Scouts (they own all buildings)

10.5 User information (as of February 2022)

Takapau Memorial Sports Park

- Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association manages all bookings and use of the park
- Rugby juniors strong. Last year no senior rugby team, but one has started practicing for this year
- Squash membership has experienced some decline
- Pony Club has 42 members

Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph

- Tennis Club membership is 48 + adults/seniors, five youth and 45 junior members. The grass and Astro courts and facilities are only available to club members (or by arrangement). Only the two new hard courts, also painted with netball lines, are open to the community all year around via a combination lock on the main gate. Tennis also serves Flemington, Tikokino, Waipukurau

10.6 Role in the wider sports and recreation network

Takapau Memorial Sports Park, Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph and the Takapau Golf Course are Takapau's local sport and recreation parks, providing a base for sports, events and activities undertaken by the local community and surrounding areas

10.7 Key challenges and opportunities

- The Takapau Community Plan includes an action to engage with Sport Hawke's Bay to ensure clubs are future-focused and sustainable, and to promote and encourage community ownership and support for clubs. The Plan also seeks to understand the local barriers people face, to inform how best to progress opportunities for young people to get involved within the community.

Takapau Memorial Sports Park

- Consider potential to add scooter track and basketball hoop to the skate bowl. Possible BMX and skateboard track and play facilities
- Ageing facilities - buildings and netball courts on the Takapau Memorial Sports Park
- Accessibility issues to the public toilets
- Lease arrangements need to be reviewed to recognise variety of different sports clubs involved
- Sportsground needs a water line to run out to the pony area of reserve with a few connections along the way. They currently borrow water from neighbouring farm
- Grandstand building is not fit for purpose including accessibility issues

Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph

- Potential for utilisation of old bowling green site
- Potential location for a dump station with access off Meta Street (Town Reserve)
- Review of lease with tennis club as required

10.8 Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise the significant role of the Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association and Takapau sports clubs (e.g. tennis and golf) in the management and development of these sport and recreation parks, and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the park
- Continue as the local sport and recreation parks for Takapau
- Council to work with association and clubs to resolve lease issues across both reserves
- Council to continue to provide an operational grant to the Takapau Memorial Park Sports Association (and they also use grazing for field maintenance)
- Council contractors manage vegetation along the road frontage. Skateparks and furniture in the surrounds are inspected monthly
- Determine options for use of undeveloped areas and an appropriate management approach
- Ensure future facilities for sport, play and active recreation are in visible areas, with passive surveillance from the road
- Takapau Reserve and Cenotaph – potential future site of a public dump station
- Plan for repairs and a longer term replacement/upgrade of the skatepark and courts area on the Takapau Memorial Sports Park

10.9 Wider considerations:

- Role of golf course in contributing to the sport and recreation hub for Takapau (Council owned land and lease in place with Takapau Golf Club)

Section 7
White Domain

11. White Domain, Pōrangahau

11.1 Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to White Domain to recognise its role as the local sport and recreation park for Pōrangahau and surrounds.

The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for this Park.

11.2 Background

Pōrangahau Sports Club are based at White Domain for their training ground and No. 1 field for competition. Floodlights have been provided by the Club. The rescue helicopter pad was built by locals in 2018 to improve health and safety for emergency callouts to the community. Pōrangahau Sports Club own their clubrooms and land which is located on Abercrombie Street. The Club recently added 'Sports' to their name to incorporate all sports in the community and attract more of the community.



Reserve category	Sport and Recreation Park
Reserve location	Dundas Street
Area	7.18 ha
Agreements	Hawke's Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust licence for landing area/equipment. Licence to occupy with Pōrangahau Rugby Club for changing sheds.
Facilities and user groups	• 2 x grass sportsfields used for rugby • Public toilets and changing sheds • Playground • Helicopter pad • Recycling containers • Pōrangahau netball courts are also used by the local community and are located behind the Pōrangahau Community Hall Privately-owned Pōrangahau Country Club is located nearby. Multisport facility with a nine-hole golf course, four astro-turf tennis/netball/hockey courts, bowling green, an arts club and a fishing club.

11.3 User information (as of February 2022)

- Pōrangahau Sports Club manage all bookings and use of the Park
- Players are locals however most don't live there on a permanent basis, but whakapapa back
- Used for rugby (and football in the past)
- Netball training and competition undertaken in Waipukurau
- Rugby home games played on White Domain
- Rugby training Tuesday/Thursday nights
- Rugby – 1 premier team, 8-9 junior teams and school teams
- Netball use clubrooms as well and travel to Waipukurau for netball training and competition (and further afield)
- Membership increasing, 40 players rotation and netball has 50 that play on rotation
- Club membership is 90 adults/seniors, 20 youth and 100 juniors (11yrs and younger).
- The school comes here to train as most rangatahi play sport. Competition is mostly played in Waipukurau. Children participate in Saturday sport such as netball, hockey, rugby, and soccer, mostly played in Waipukurau. The school participates in the Eastern Zone competition for swimming sports, cross country and athletics. During term time they also enter teams into Central Hawke's Bay competitions, such as Mini Ball, Indoor Hockey and Touch Rugby
- Sheep graze when the fields are not in use

11.4 Role in the wider sports and recreation network

White Domain is Pōrangahau's local sport and recreation park, providing a base for sports, events and activities undertaken by the local community and surrounding areas

11.5 Key challenges and opportunities

- Very self-sufficient club looking at opportunities for a multi-sport hub - rugby, netball, squash, gym – and exploring other groups that might be interested. Spatial plan being developed for White Domain
- Space is available to further develop and expand facilities
- Potential to consider sale of land where clubrooms are and move base to White Domain as there are building issues with the current site. This would also assist with funding development of a multi-sport hub on White Domain
- Ongoing maintenance and operations challenges. Sportsfields wet and boggy in winter – need for improved drainage
- Concerns about decreasing youth involvement in sport
- Impact of increase in population with holidaymakers on road safety and crossing with children coming to the Park from the school
- Rugby club travel costs are significant when playing away - $1200 for bus hire. The club sometimes travels as far as Wairoa. Utilise Council travel fund to assist
- Role of Pōrangahau Country Club - Multisport facility with a nine-hole golf course, four astro-turf tennis/netball/hockey courts, bowling green, an arts club and a fishing club. It is considered that these facilities are complementary in terms of the facilities provided, type of use and likely users

11.6 Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise Pōrangahau Sports Club's significant role in management and development of the Park and support community-led processes to determine future aspirations for the Park
- Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Pōrangahau
- Explore and understand hapū aspirations for the site in the long-term
- Council continues to provide maintenance assistance – mowing, toilets, playground
- Clarify the occupation arrangements of the drop off centre and the associated internal levels of service

11.7 Wider considerations:

Any further development needs to take into consideration the future of courts located behind the Pōrangahau Memorial Hall and netball demand for training, and be complementary to facilities provided by Pōrangahau Country Club.

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