

LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL

2023

SPORTING NEEDS ANALYSIS



Foreword

Livingstone Shire is an active, engaged community with a great variety of sporting groups, fields, courts, and facilities. It is the proud home of more than fifty sporting groups, with about eight in ten residents taking part in some physical activity every week. The Livingstone Community Plan: Towards 2050 demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to providing facilities and services to encourage healthy and active lifestyles, facilitate self-sustaining community associations, clubs, and provide and promote sporting events and festivals throughout the year for people of all ages and abilities.

The Sporting Needs Analysis provides information on which to base our decisions about future programs and facilities to cater to the needs of a growing and active community. Through comprehensive engagement with individuals, sporting groups, and regional representatives, this document provides insights into what our community is asking for to make this an even better community to live, work, and play in. The document will also benefit sporting groups and other agencies who are involved in planning for sport and recreation opportunities as it provides key insights into the status, issues, and aspirations of sports in Livingstone Shire.

On behalf of Council, I would like to thank all those who provided input into this document: 268 young people, 189 members of the broader community, seventeen sporting groups, and four regional sporting representatives. Livingstone Shire Council is dedicated to supporting, facilitating, and promoting local opportunities for people to get out and get active, whether through organised sports or use of our beaches, pathways, and community facilities. We look forward to working to help Livingstone Shire achieve its goal of a liveable, engaged, connected community.

Councillor Pat Eastwood

Portfolio holder of Healthy and Inclusive Community

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Introduction

Sport and recreation provide opportunities for people of all ages to make friends, get active, learn new skills, and enjoy themselves. Participating regularly in sport has been proven to:

- Improve physical health
- Promote mental wellbeing
- Boost self-confidence
- Develop teamwork skills
- Improve concentration
- Improve sleep quality, and
- Build problem-solving skills¹

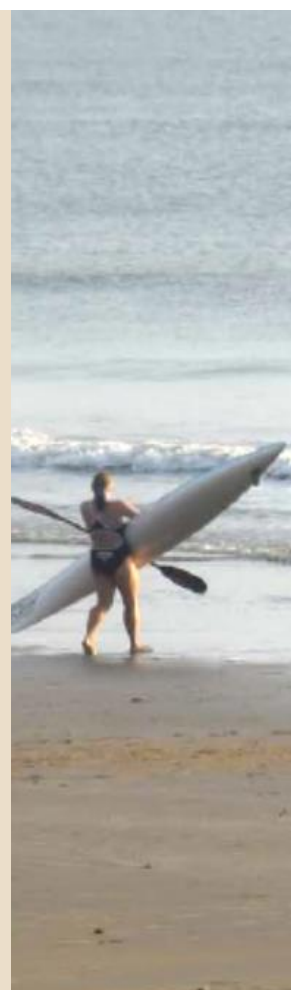
With a broad variety of sporting and recreation options available and a rapidly growing population, it is important for Council to understand the challenges, successes, and needs of our community to ensure future projects, programmes, and facilities cater for the sporting needs of the community.

Aims of the Sporting Needs Analysis

The Analysis has been developed to support Council in its decision making about sport and recreation in the Livingstone Shire community. As the first large-scale sporting needs analysis undertaken by Council, this document aims to:

- Identify and analyse the current strengths of Livingstone's sporting community
- Identify gaps in knowledge, resources, and other issues facing our sporting community
- Identify potential barriers to engaging in sport and recreation
- Develop strategies to address issues and barriers to encourage inclusive, self-sustaining sporting organisations in Livingstone Shire

The Sporting Needs Analysis is not intended to be used in isolation; rather it should be used as part of a suite of planning tools. Holistic project planning involves ongoing engagement with individuals and groups who will be affected by decisions.



Methodology

Four key methods were used to collect data for the Sporting Needs Analysis. These were:

1. An online survey targeting young people (under sixteen years)
2. An online survey targeting the wider community (open to those aged over sixteen years)
3. Surveys sent to all sporting and recreation groups which Council is aware of operating in the Shire
4. Interviews conducted with Queensland state sporting representatives

Other information, including statistics contained in the 2021 Census and material contained in Queensland state sporting reports, strategies, and assessments was also considered and included where appropriate. The combined information was then assessed and analysed to draw key themes and recommendations.

Evaluation

Several evaluation processes will be undertaken at the completion of this report, including:

- Presenting the report to Council for input and support
- Sharing the report with sporting groups and on Council's website and inviting feedback
- Ongoing opportunities for feedback from the sporting and general community to ensure the content of the Sporting Needs Analysis is relevant to the target group and meeting intended aim

DEFINITIONS		
RECREATION Something done for pleasure or to relax	SPORT A game, competition, or activity involving physical exertion and skill which is undertaken according to rules	INCLUSIVE Including everything, or all types of people
EQUITABLE Treating everyone in the same way	ACCESSIBLE Possible to approach, enter, or use	SELF-SUSTAINING Able to continue to exist without help from external sources



Limitations

Despite reasonable participation in the online survey, bias is present in all surveys and thus information contained should not be interpreted as representative of all sporting needs in the community.

Further, Council did not engage with every sporting group in Livingstone. This is largely due to staffing and time limitations, as well as the fact that new groups arise often and maintaining contact with every group is extremely labour intensive. While some sporting groups did not participate in the surveys or interviews, information is included in this needs analysis to summarise the anecdotal evidence Council officers have collated over time.

Sport in Livingstone Shire

Livingstone Shire covers approximately 11,776 square kilometres and is home to a vibrant and active community, with surveys indicating about four in five (78%) residents take part in some form of physical activity at least once a week. The Shire boasts a variety of sporting facilities and organisations including:



LIVINGSTONE SHIRE DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



Population growth

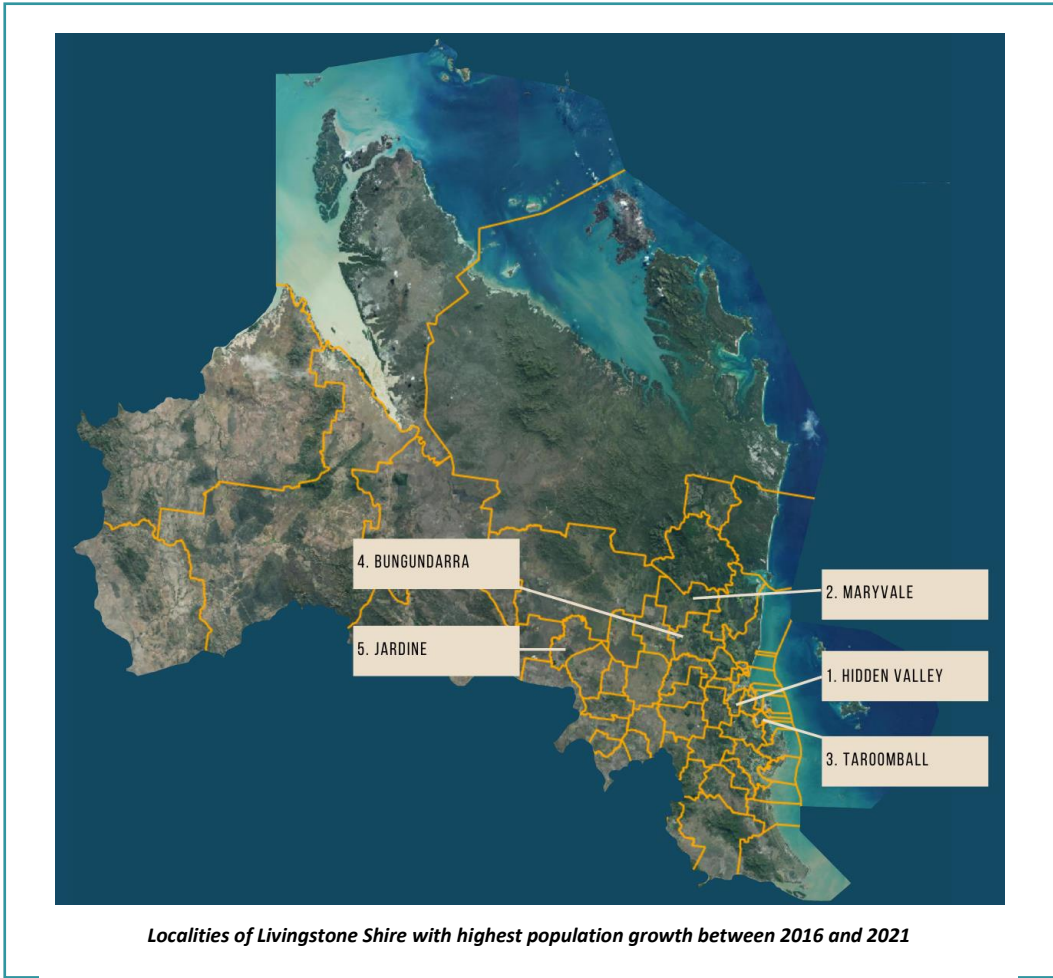
The population of Livingstone Shire is growing significantly faster than the Central Queensland region (3.3% growth over the same period) or surrounding local government areas:

Population growth of Livingstone Shire and surrounding local governments ⁱⁱ			
AREA	POPULATION (2016)	POPULATION (2021)	POPULATION CHANGE
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	36, 272	39, 398	8.6% increase
ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL	79, 726	81, 968	2.8% increase
GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL	61, 640	63, 515	3.0% increase
CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL	27, 999	27, 836	0.6% decrease
ISAAC REGIONAL COUNCIL	20, 940	22, 046	5.3% increase

The localities of most significant growth in Livingstone between 2016 and 2021 were:

1. Hidden Valley (108.8% population increase)
2. Maryvale (62.1% population increase)
3. Taroomball (34.4% population increase)
4. Bungundarra (24.4% population increase)
5. Jardine (22.1% population increase)ⁱⁱⁱ

Livingstone is expected to continue this rapid growth rate, with a population of over 50,000 predicted within fifteen years^{iv}.

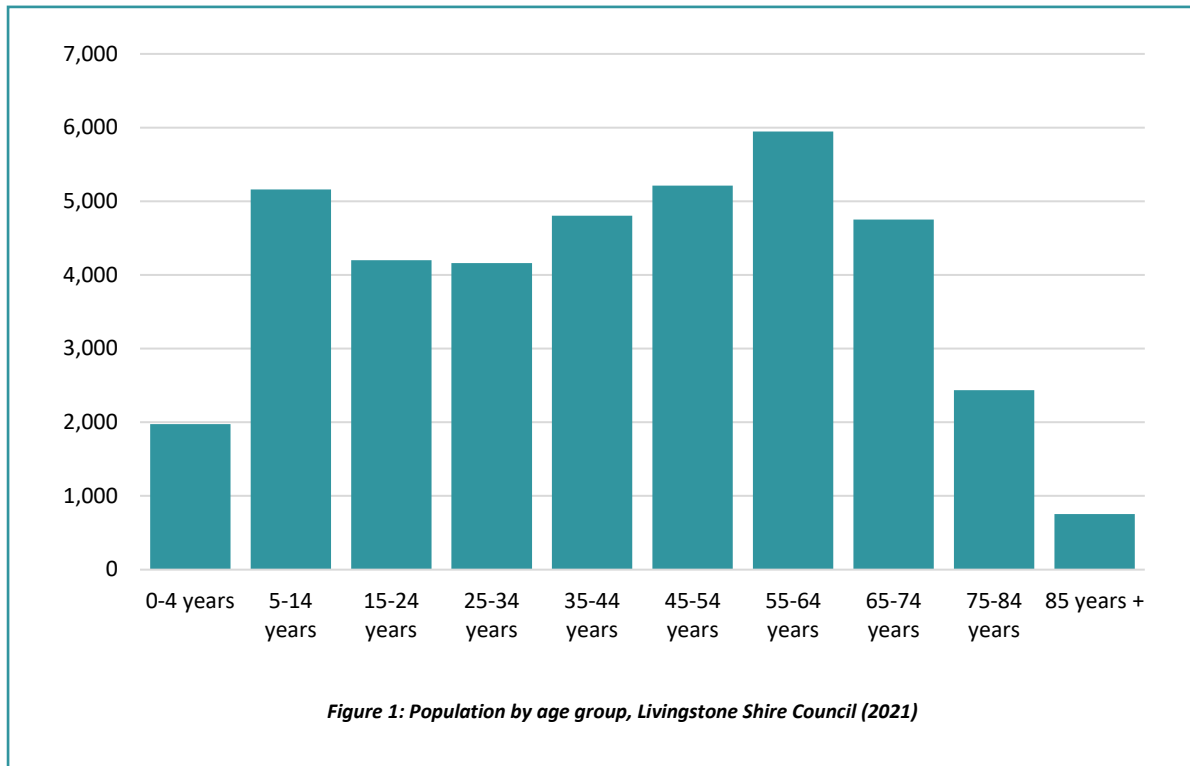


Livingstone’s growth rate in recent years has been among the highest in Queensland:

Ten fastest growing local government areas (Queensland) 2019 - 2021*			
QLD RANKING	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	ANNUAL GROWTH (%)	
		2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021
1	Ipswich City Council	3.2	2.7
2	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	2.6	2.3
3	Logan City Council	2.4	1.8
4	Fraser Coast Regional Council	1.7	1.8
5	Livingstone Shire Council	1.8	1.6
6	Moreton Bay Regional Council	2.1	1.5
7	Gympie Regional Council	1.1	1.4
8	Whitsunday Regional Council	2.4	1.3
9	Mackay Regional Council	1.6	1.3
10	Isaac Regional Council	1.8	1.1

Age^{vi}

The population of Livingstone Shire is slightly older, with a median age of 43 years, than the broader population of Central Queensland (median age 38 years). Livingstone's largest age groups are those aged between 45 and 64, though it is also noteworthy that the third largest age group is the 5 – 14-year age bracket:



The rate of population growth and age of the Livingstone Shire population indicate Council's focus should be on providing sporting opportunities for a rapidly growing community with opportunities for people of all ages. The large number of those aged 5 – 14 years indicates the need for opportunities for teenagers and young adults now and in the future, while the high number of those aged 45 or older similarly suggests Livingstone's sporting opportunities will need to cater for those with family and professional responsibilities, retirees, and seniors.

Gender^{vii}

The male to female ratio in Livingstone Shire is close to equal. This suggests Council should focus on equitable and accessible sporting opportunities for all genders.



Disability^{viii}

About one in every twenty residents (5.6%) of Livingstone Shire requires assistance with activities of daily living including self-care, mobility, and communication due to:

- A long-term health condition (lasting over six months)
- A disability (lasting more than six months)
- Old age

This indicates that Council should ensure equitable and accessible sporting opportunities to encourage participation for people of all abilities.

Health conditions^{ix}

Just under one third (29.3%) of Livingstone Shire residents report having at least one long-term health condition. The most reported long-term health conditions in Livingstone Shire are:

1. Arthritis (10.4% of population)
2. Mental health condition including depression or anxiety (8.4% of population)
3. Other long-term health conditions not listed (7.3% of population)
4. Heart disease (4.9% of population)
5. Diabetes (4.7% of population)

The prevalence of long-term health conditions indicates Council should continue providing and supporting opportunities to improve health and wellbeing.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples^x

Approximately one in twenty residents (5.4%) of Livingstone Shire identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or both. The percentage of residents identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander has grown since 2016 (4.4% of residents).

The percentage of people identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in Livingstone Shire is higher than the Queensland population (4.6% in 2021) and growing faster than the state population (0.7% increase between 2016 and 2021).

The strong and growing population of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents in Livingstone Shire suggests that Council should:

- Engage with local Traditional Custodians to identify and support opportunities for education and engagement about Traditional sports and recreation
- Work to ensure all sporting opportunities available in Livingstone Shire are respectful of and sensitive to the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which they are undertaken

Cultural diversity^{xi}

Ten percent of Livingstone Shire residents were born overseas, with about one in three residents (31.1%) having at least one parent born overseas. Both figures have increased since 2016, when 4.4% of Livingstone Shire residents were born overseas and 30.8% had at least one parent born overseas.

Five most common countries of origin for residents of Livingstone Shire (outside Australia) 2021	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	% OF LIVINGSTONE SHIRE POPULATION BORN IN IDENTIFIED COUNTRY
ENGLAND	2.7%
NEW ZEALAND	2.4%
SOUTH AFRICA	0.7%
PHILIPPINES	0.5%
GERMANY	0.3%

2.7% of Livingstone Shire’s residents speak another language, with the most spoken languages (after English) being:

- Afrikaans (0.30%)
- German (0.26%)
- French (0.14%)
- Tagalog (0.13%)
- Australian Indigenous Languages (0.12%)



Of the 1, 077 residents in Livingstone Shire who speak another language, the majority speak English fluently (90.1%). Of those who speak do not speak English well or at all, languages they rely on are:

- Chinese languages
- Thai
- Vietnamese
- Afrikaans
- Nepali
- Australian Indigenous languages
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Spanish

Livingstone Shire’s increasingly multicultural community suggests there are opportunities for promoting international sports and recreation. It also indicates sporting opportunities provided in Livingstone Shire must be sensitive to those of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Income^{xii}

The median personal income of Livingstone Shire residents in 2021 was \$765 per week, with a median family income of \$2,008 per week. This is lower than the central Queensland average of \$786 per week and the Queensland average of \$787 per week. The median family income is also lower than the Central Queensland average of \$2,035 and the Queensland average of \$2,024.

The number of families living below the poverty line (personal income of \$426.30 or less, or under \$400 for the purposes of this report as Census data is categorised in increments of \$100) in 2021 was 7,656, or about one in four counted (noting only those aged over 15 are counted).

These statistics indicate that there is a strong need for free, low-cost, or subsidised sporting opportunities in Livingstone Shire. It is well known that the costs of sports, including club membership fees, uniforms, and equipment can be prohibitive and often prevents people, particularly families with children, from participating in organised sports.

YOUTH SPORTING NEEDS



Physical activity for young people

The engagement strategy for the development of the Sporting Needs Analysis included a dedicated focus on young people (under 16 years of age). This focus is because:

**268 YOUNG PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED IN THE
SPORTING NEEDS
SURVEY**

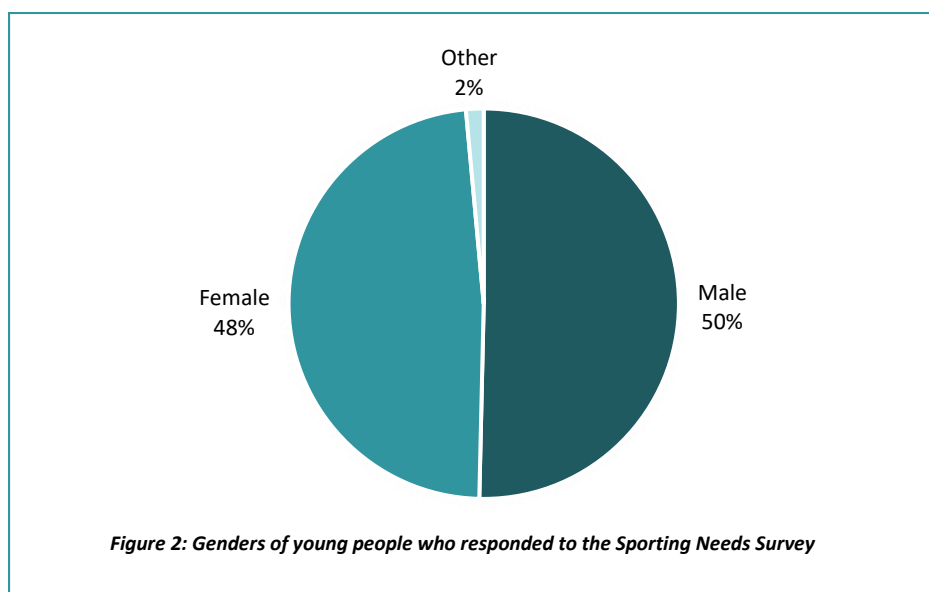
- Sport and recreation opportunities for young people comprise a large sector of all sport and recreation groups and organisations in Livingstone Shire (i.e., many sporting groups include junior teams)
- As highlighted previously, young people make up a large part of the Livingstone Shire community, with the 5–14-year age group comprising 13% of the entire Livingstone population and just under one third (28.8%) of residents aged 24 or under
- Engagement in sport and recreation in early life can promote lifelong wellbeing and improve health outcomes at all stages of the life cycle, including mental health outcomes.

Through an online survey promoted on a variety of platforms (including posters, social media, through schools, and through sporting groups and organisations), a total of 268 young people participated in a survey about sporting needs in Livingstone Shire. This survey revealed a great deal of information that should be used to guide Council’s decision-making regarding sporting and recreation facilities, programs, and projects.

About the survey respondents

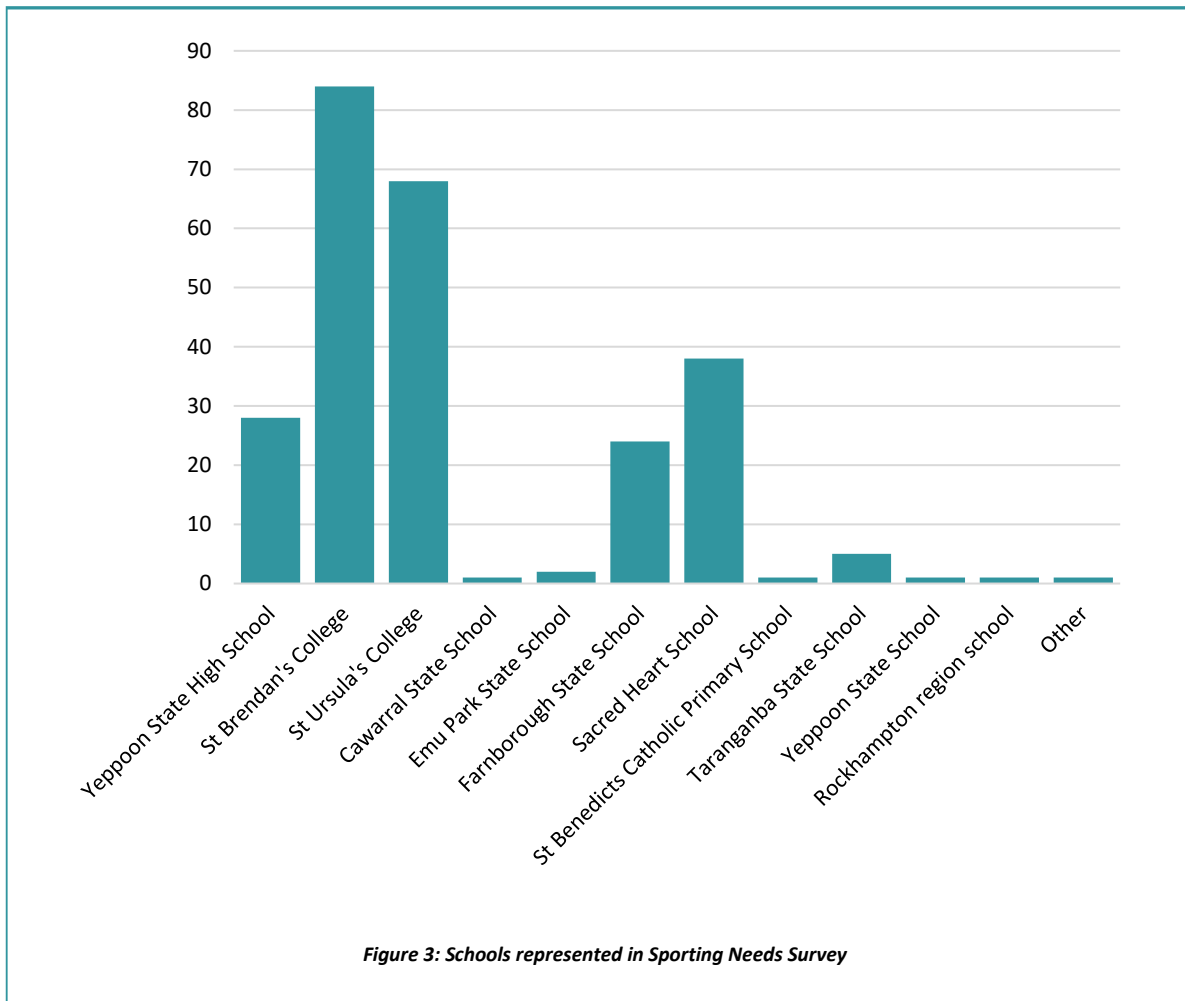
Gender

Of the participants, 138 were female, 132 were male, and 4 identified as another gender:



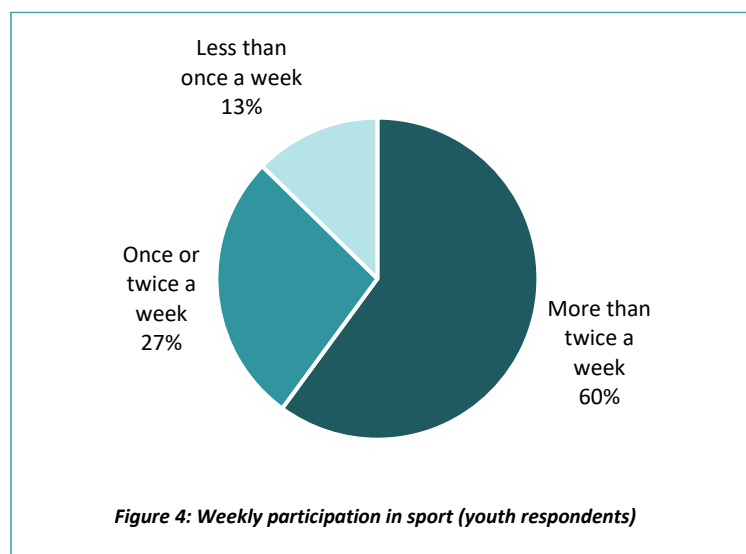
School

Most local schools were represented in the survey, with the highest response rate from St Brendan's (N=84) followed by St Ursula's (N=68):



Participation in sport

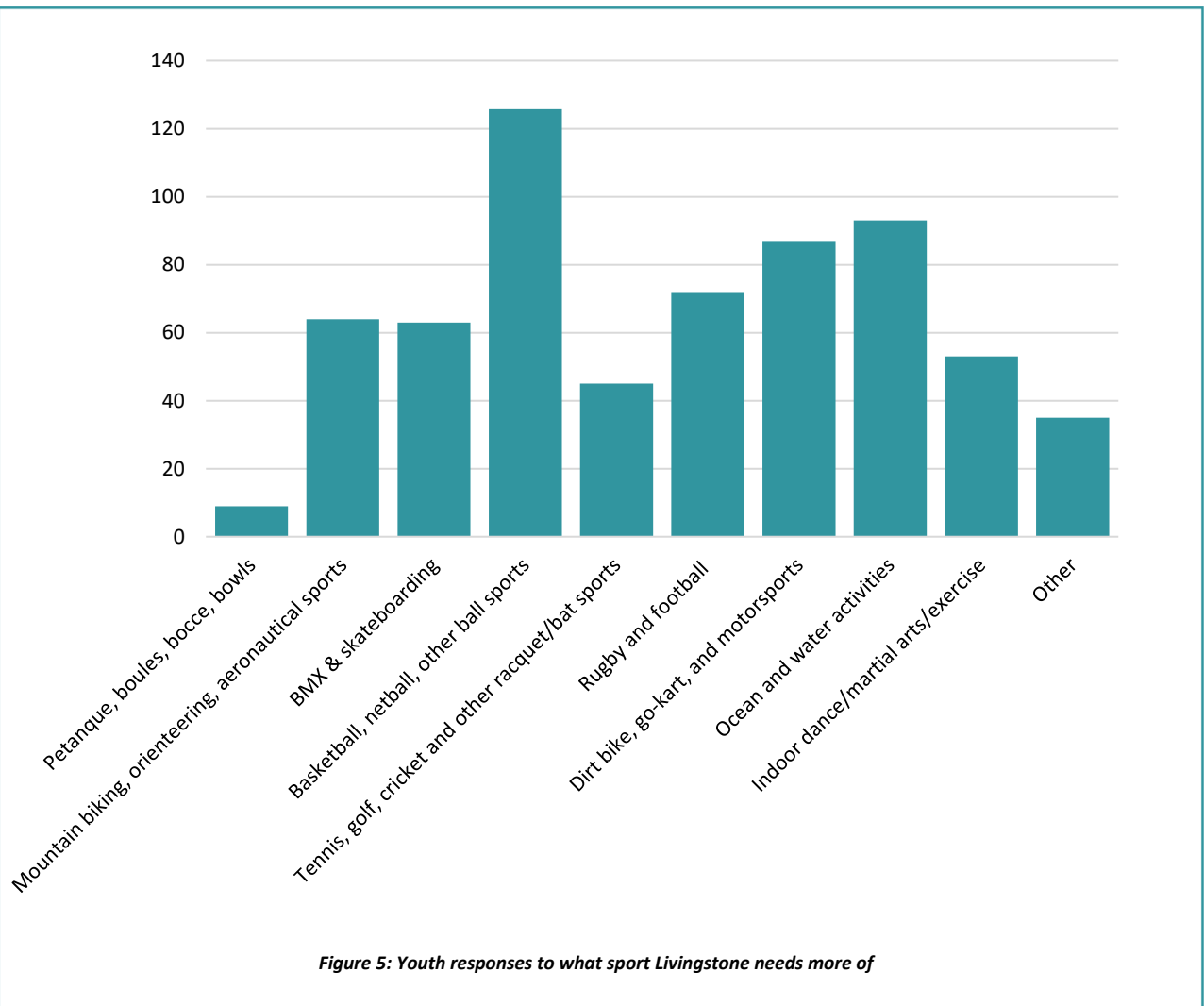
Most respondents indicated they participated in sport more than twice a week, with many others indicating they participated in sport at least once a week.



Sporting needs of youth respondents

What sport does Livingstone need more of?

The most common responses to this question were basketball, netball, and other ball sports (N=126), ocean and water activities (N=93), and dirt bike, go-kart, and motorsports (N=87):



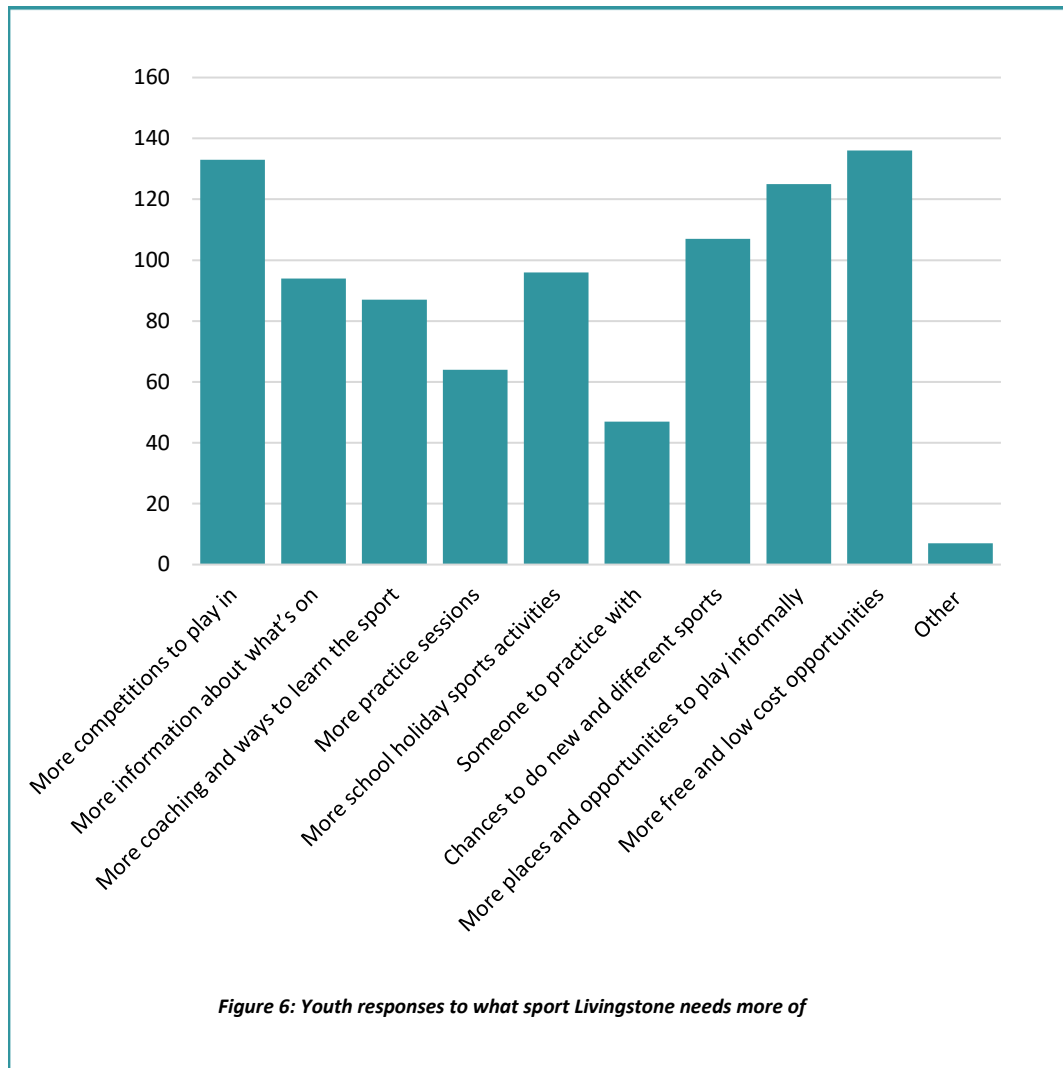
Of the 35 respondents who indicated other sports (i.e., those not listed) were needed, suggestions included:

- Horse riding (N=7)
- Bull riding (N=4)
- Hockey (N=3)
- Roller skating (N=2)
- Volleyball (N=2)
- Bowling (N=2)
- Rock climbing (N=2)
- Circus (N=1)
- Athletics (N=1)
- Squash (N=1)
- Fishing (N=1)



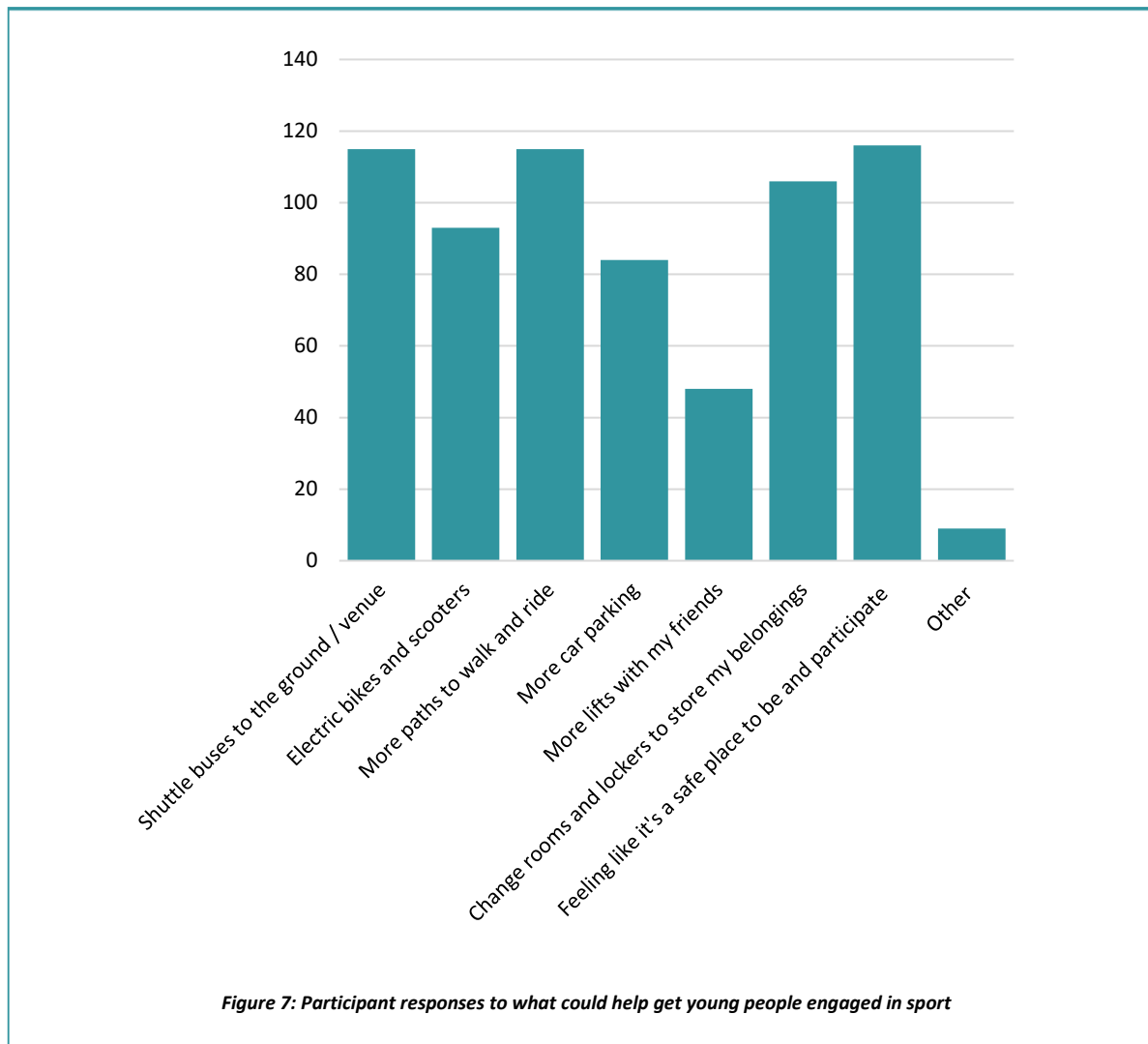
What services do young people need?

Several answers to this question elicited a strong response from young people, including the need for more free and low-cost sporting opportunities (N=136), more competitions to play in (N=133), and more places and opportunities to play informally (N=125):



What would help get young people to sport?

This question, which focused on ways to make sporting opportunities more appealing and accessible to young people, resulted in strong support for several suggestions:



Highlights: Youth Sporting Needs Survey

- Young people are keen to see more basketball, netball, and other ball sports, ocean and water activities, and dirt bike, go-kart, and motorsports
- Young people want more free and low-cost sporting opportunities, more competitions to play in, and more places and opportunities to play informally
- Young people said feeling like sports facilities are a safe place to be and more ways to get to facilities (like shuttle buses, scooters, and electric bikes) would encourage more participation in sport

COMMUNITY SPORTING NEEDS



Physical activity in the Livingstone Shire community

As well as engaging with young people, it was critical that the broader community was included in the data collection for the Sporting Needs Analysis. Their input is vital because:

**189 PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED IN THE
COMMUNITY
SPORTING NEEDS**

- People of all ages participate in sporting and recreation activities, both as participants and in supporting roles including coaching, fundraising, and more
- Livingstone Shire has a changing and increasingly diverse population (as shown earlier)
- Participation in sport and recreation contributes to a healthy, activated, connected community

Through an online survey promoted on a variety of platforms (including posters, social media, and through sporting groups and organisations), a total of 189 people participated in a survey about the community's sporting needs in Livingstone Shire.

This survey revealed some interesting and useful information relating to the community's perception of existing facilities and opportunities, as well as demonstrating where the perceived gaps and needs for improvement lie.

About the survey respondents

Gender

More females participated in the survey than other genders:

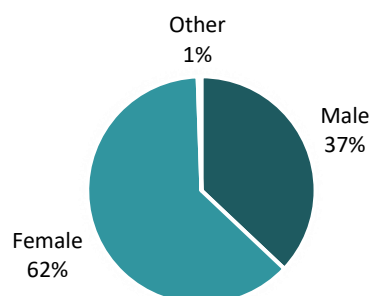
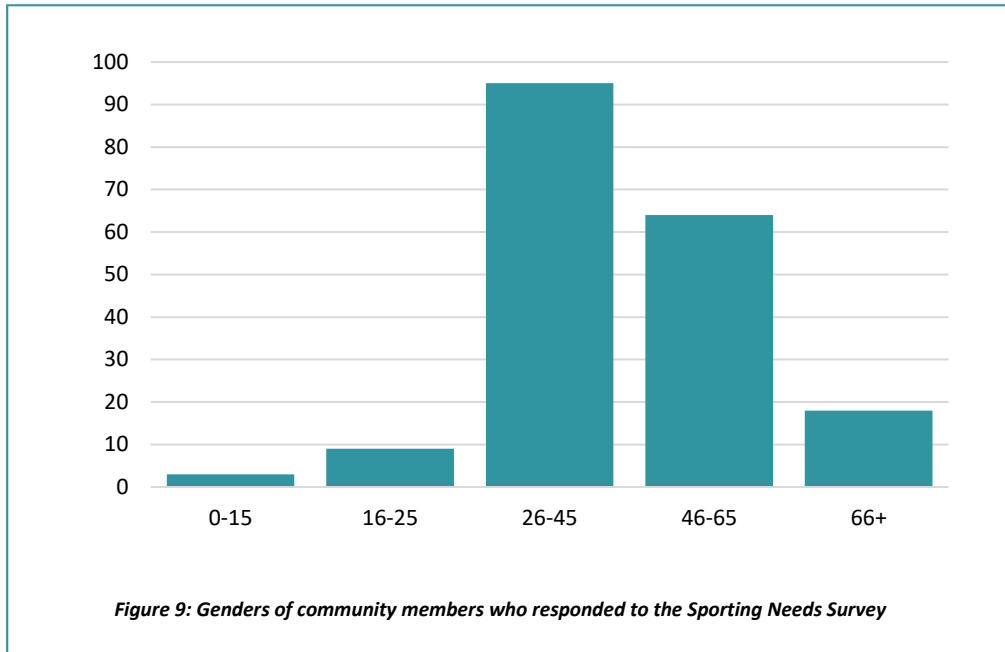


Figure 8: Genders of community members who responded to the Sporting Needs Survey



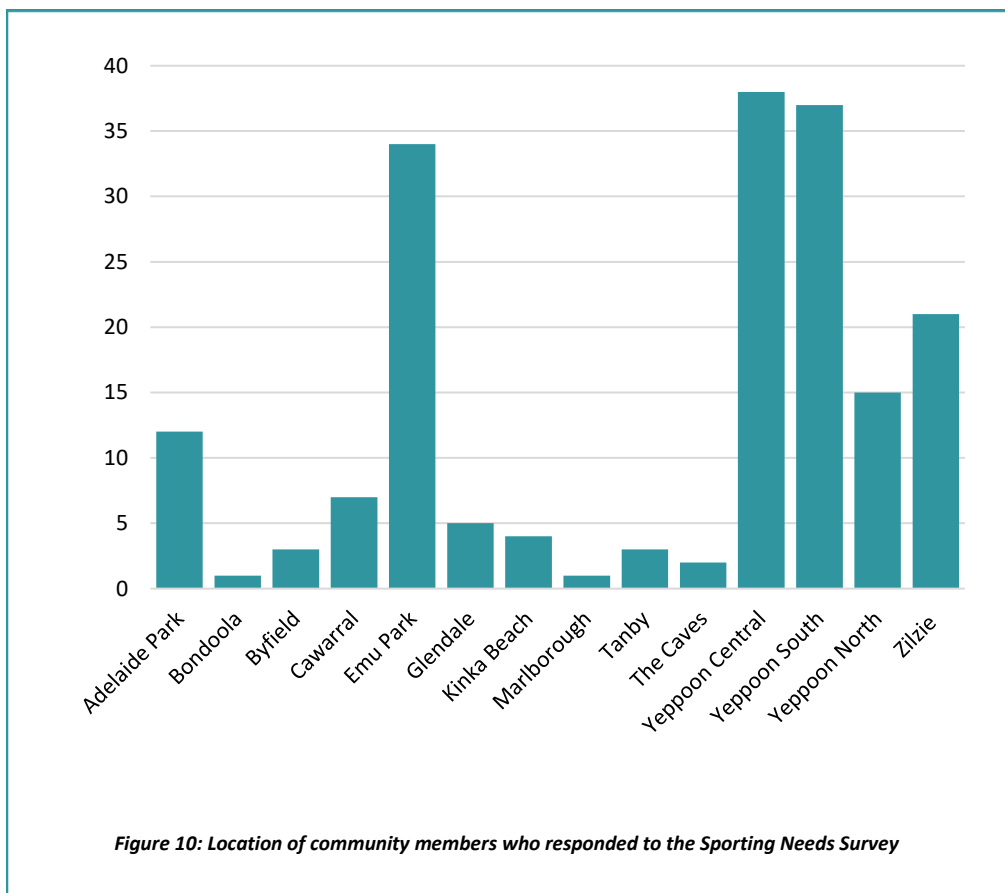
Age

People aged 26 – 45 years were most strongly represented in the survey:



Location

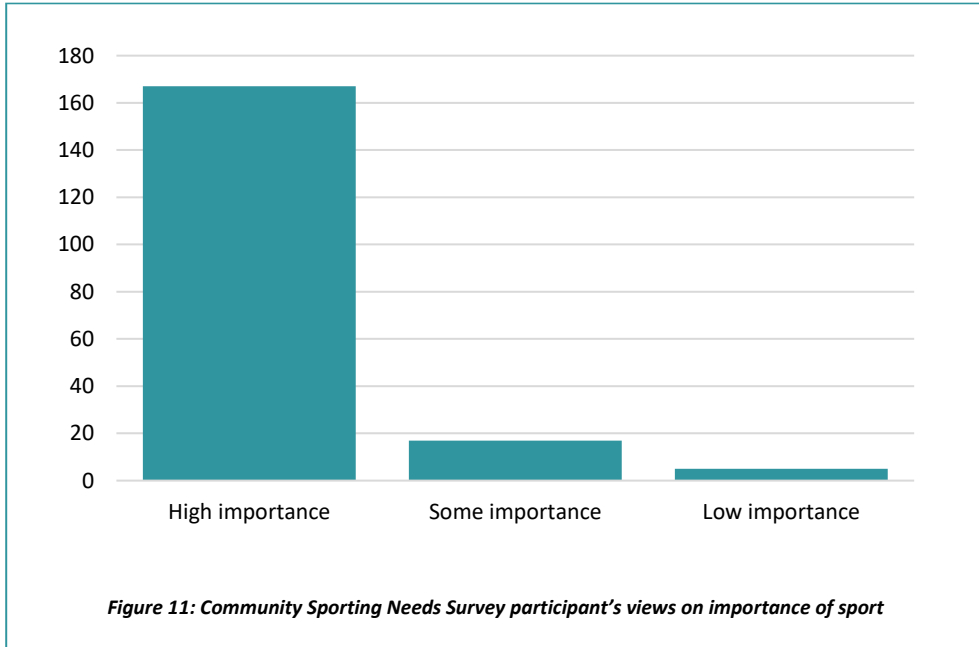
Most respondents were from Yeppoon and Emu Park:





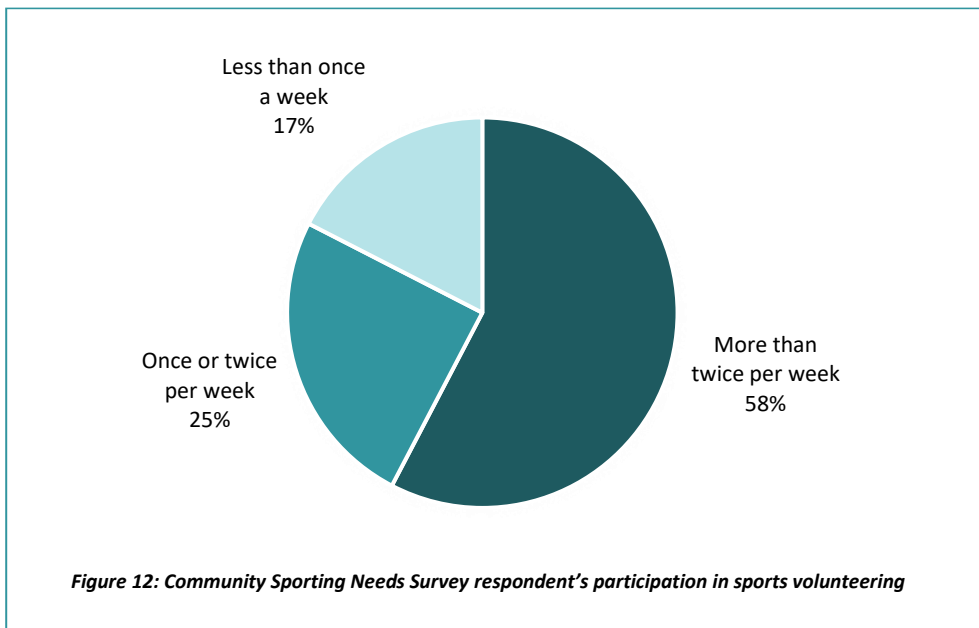
Importance of sport

Most respondents indicated they felt sport was highly important in achieving a Liveable Livingstone and encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle:



Participation in coaching, refereeing, or volunteering at sports events or activities

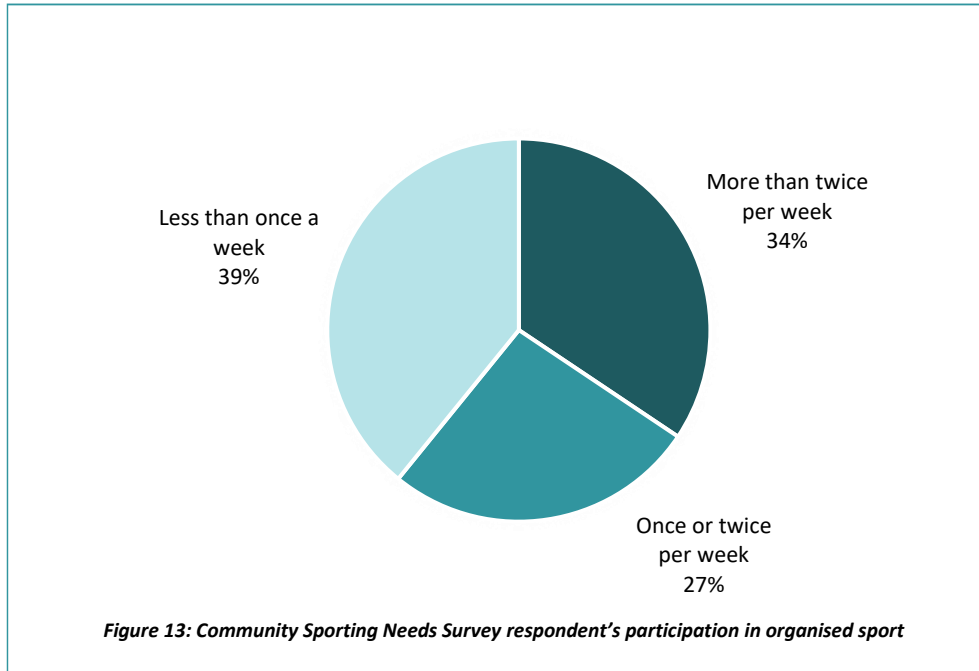
Most respondents reported participating more than twice a week:





Participation in organised sport

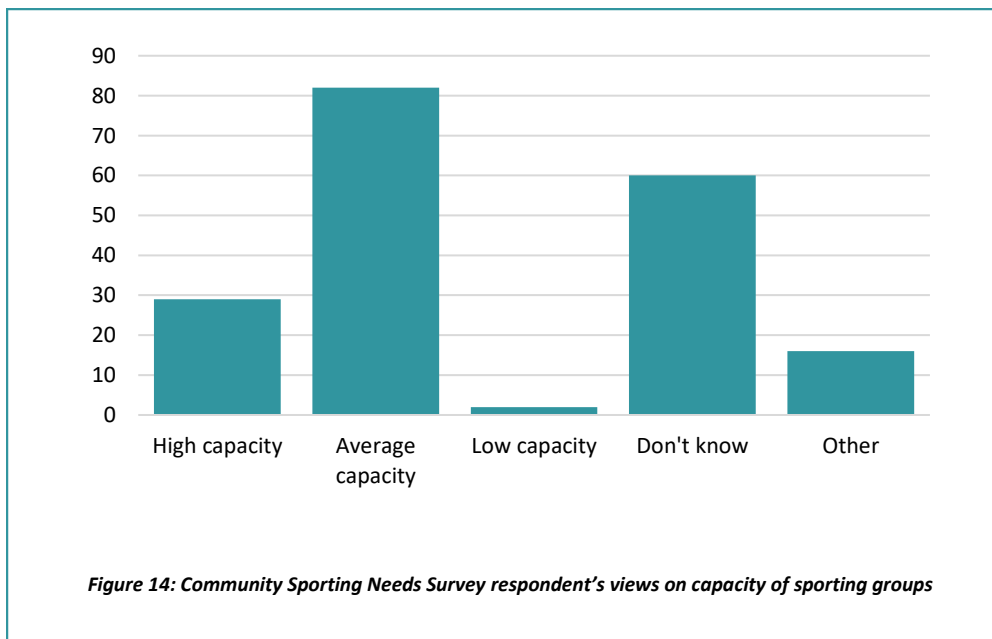
Over one in three (39.2%) participants indicated they participated in organised sport less than once per week:



State of sporting groups

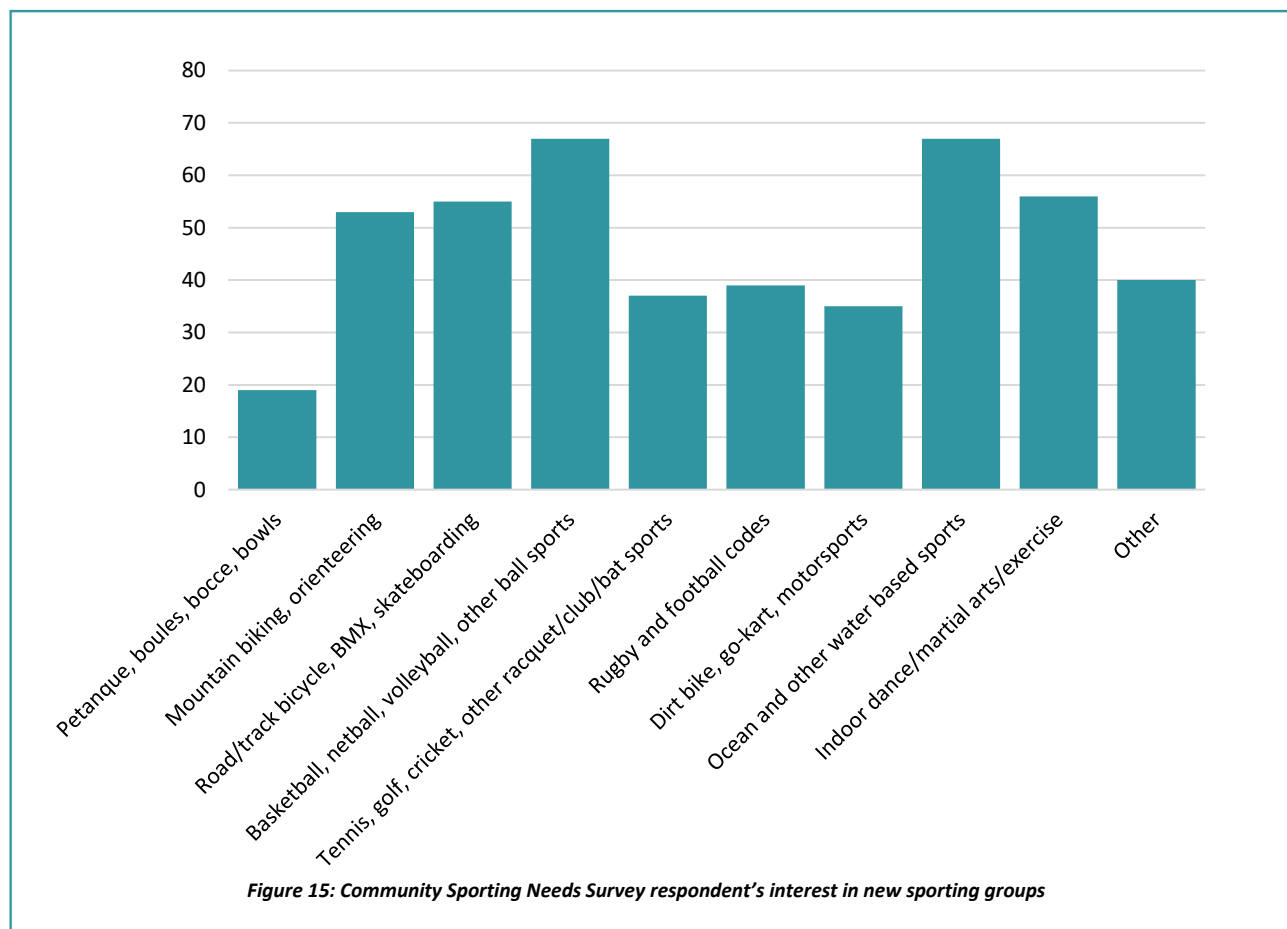
Are our sporting groups self-sustaining?

Just over forty percent of respondents indicated Livingstone's sporting associations had an average capacity to be self-sustaining:



Which new sporting groups are of interest?

Respondents expressed interest in a broad range of new sporting opportunities:



Of the forty participants who indicated interest in other new sporting groups (i.e., those not listed), responses included:

- More walking/running opportunities (N=6)
- Hockey (N=4)
- Drone and model aircraft sports (N=3)
- Indoor sports arena (N=3)
- Athletics facilities (N=3)
- Rock climbing (N=3)
- Water aerobics (N=2)
- Croquet facilities (N=2)
- Squash (N=2)
- Rowing facilities (N=1)
- Roller skating facilities (N=1)
- Ninja obstacle course (N=1)
- More bike paths (N=1)
- Horse riding facilities/tracks (N=1)
- Half and quarter basketball courts (N=1)
- Water polo (N=1)
- Triathlon (N=1)
- Pilates (N=1)
- Outdoor equipment at Glenlee (N=1)

Needs of clubs and volunteers

Club development needs

Participants identified several needs to support club development:

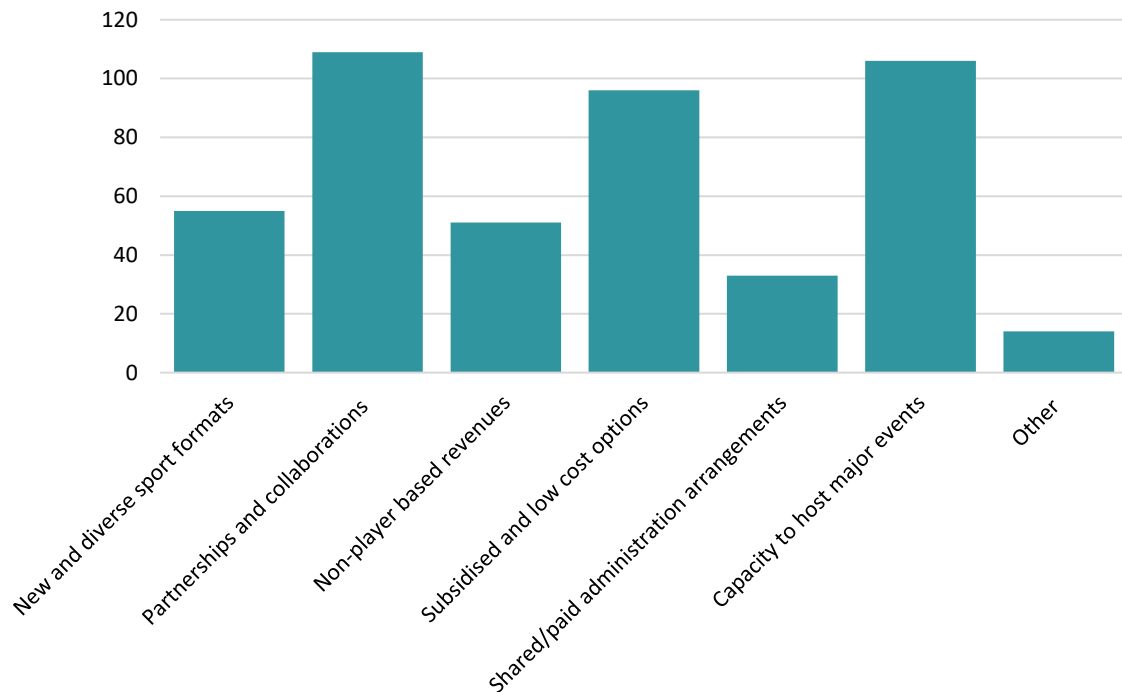


Figure 16: Community Sporting Needs Survey respondent's identified club development needs

Volunteer needs

The need for volunteer training in first aid/mental health first aid had strongest support:

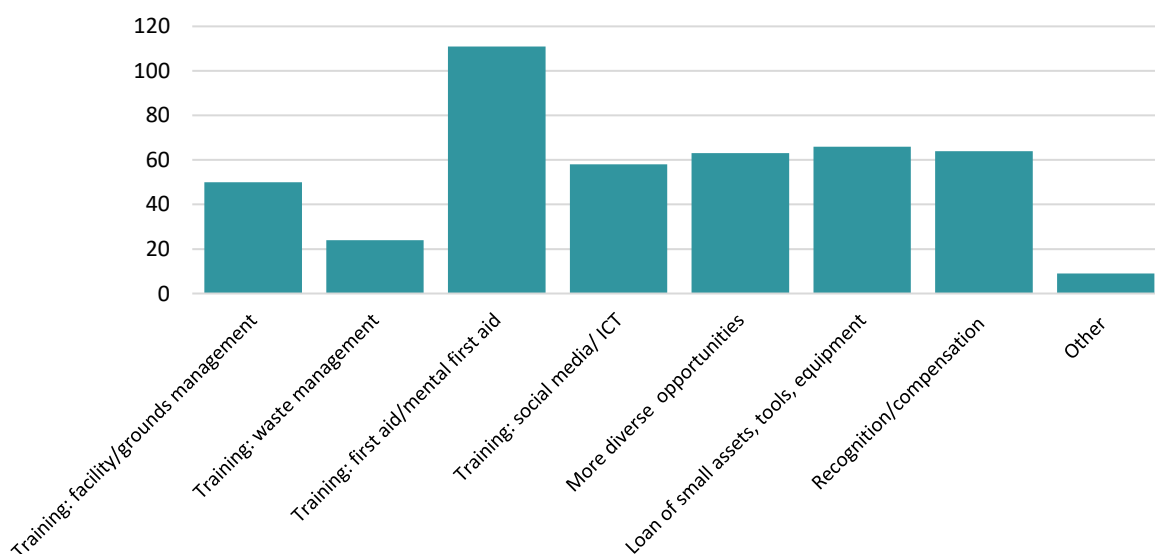


Figure 17: Community Sporting Needs Survey respondent's identified volunteer development needs

Community sporting facilities

What is the need for further public sporting/recreation facilities?

Half the community survey participants stated there was some need for further public sporting and play spaces and equipment in local parks and reserves to improve skills development and social play:

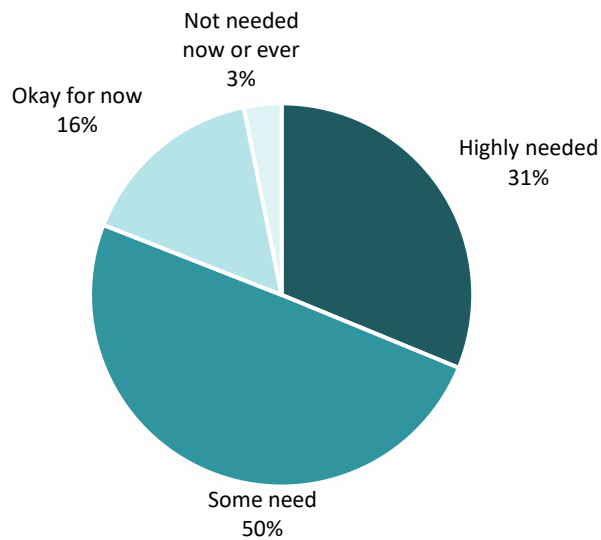


Figure 18: Community Sporting Needs Survey respondent's identified need for further facilities

What is the quality of current community sporting facilities?

Most participants stated they felt current community sporting facilities were average:

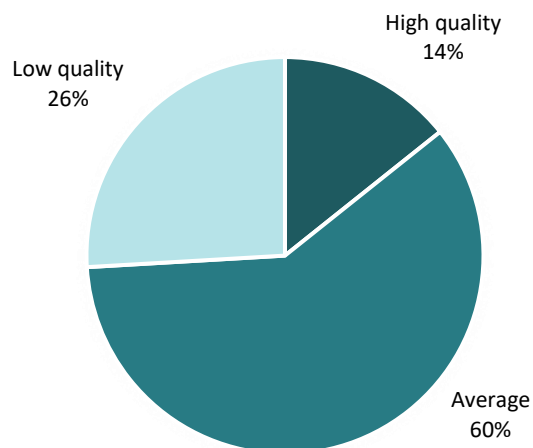
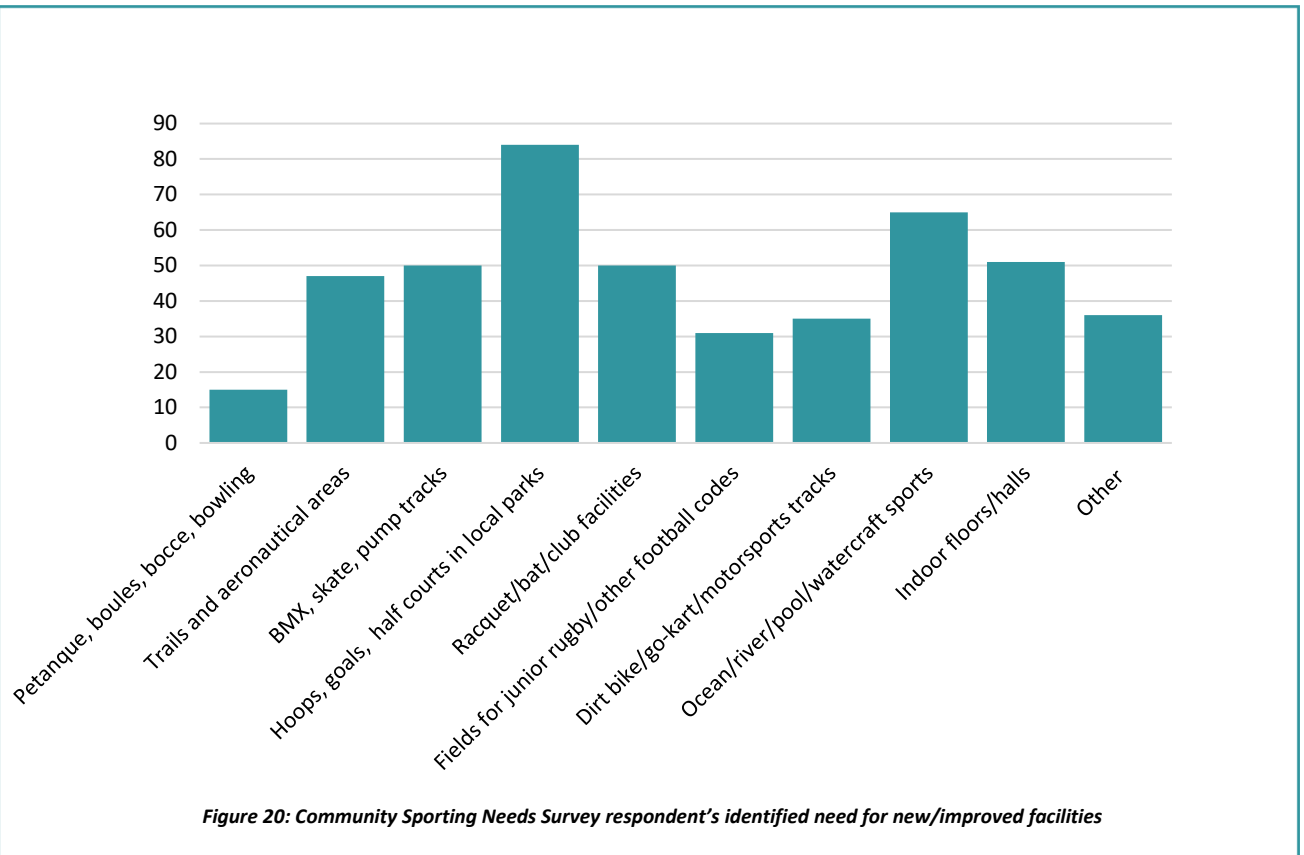


Figure 19: Community Sporting Needs Survey respondent's identified need for further facilities

What new or improved sporting facilities are needed?

Participants indicated highest need for hoops, goals, and half-court spaces in local parks:

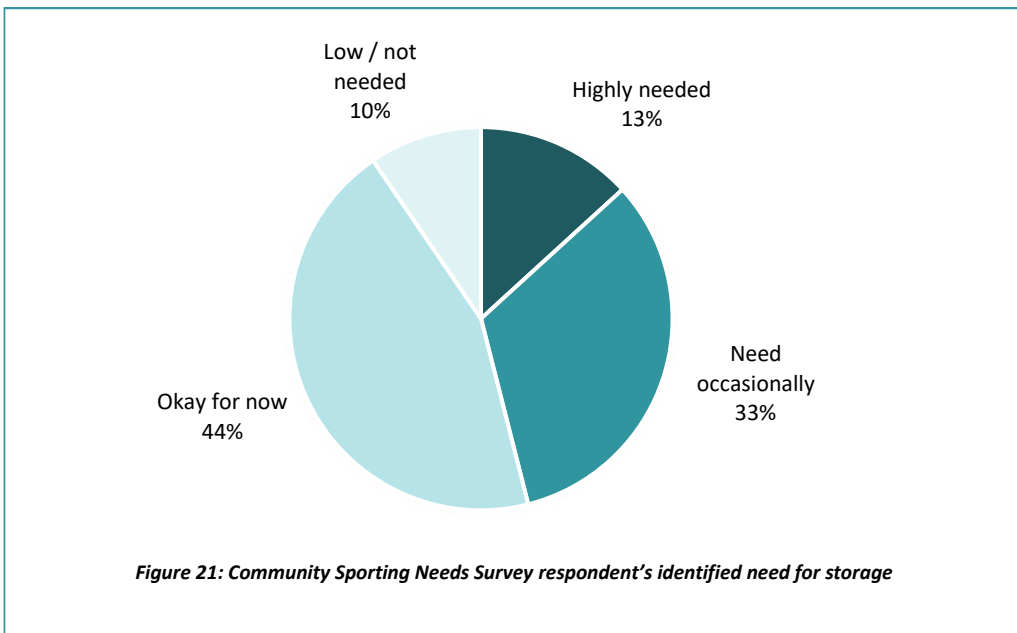


Of the 36 participants who indicated another new or improved facility was needed, responses included:

- More walking/bike paths (N=8)
- Beach volleyball venue (N=3)
- Improved road cycling (N=2)
- Outdoor basketball venue (N=2)
- Athletics facilities (N=2)
- Outdoor exercise equipment (N=2)
- Recreational horse-riding facilities (N=2)
- Indoor sports facility (N=1)
- Cricket complex with lights (N=1)
- Model aircraft flying (N=1)
- New and improved skate parks (N=1)
- Calisthenics bar area (N=1)
- Water aerobics venue (N=1)

What is the need for further storage for sports equipment?

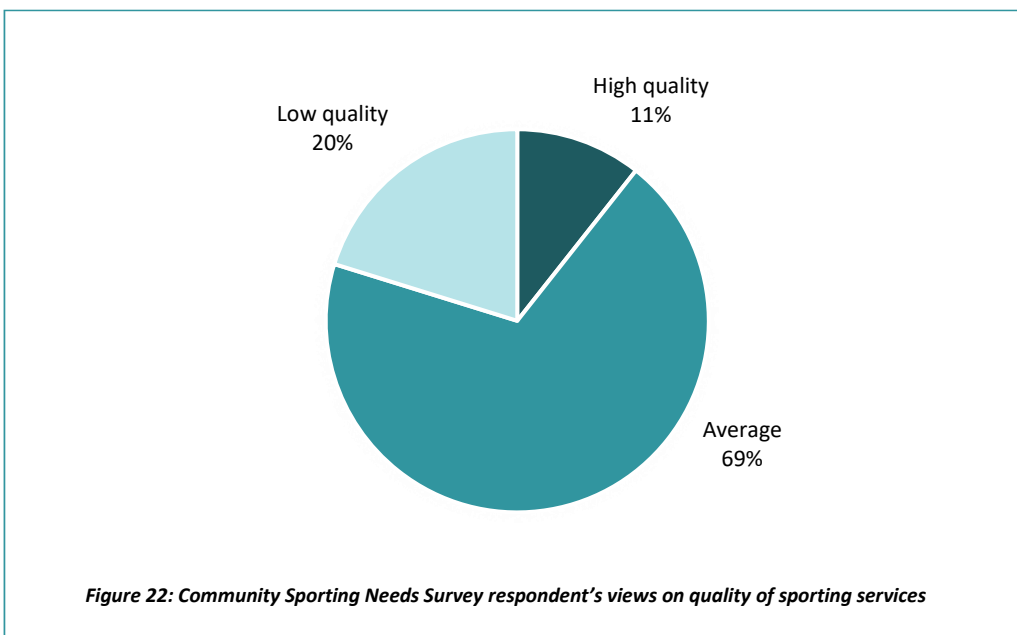
Most respondents indicated they felt current sports equipment was adequate:



Community sporting services

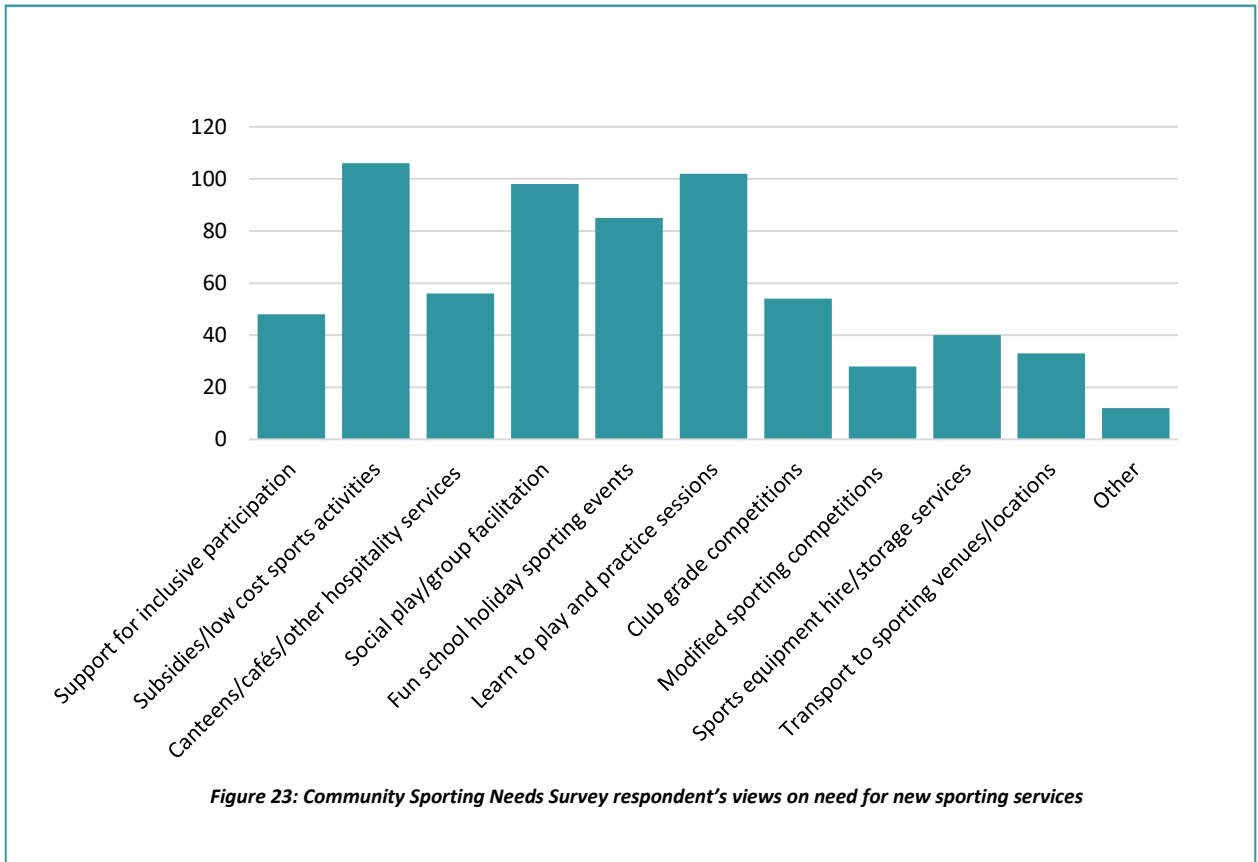
What is the quality of existing community sporting services?

Most respondents indicated they felt current community sporting services were average:



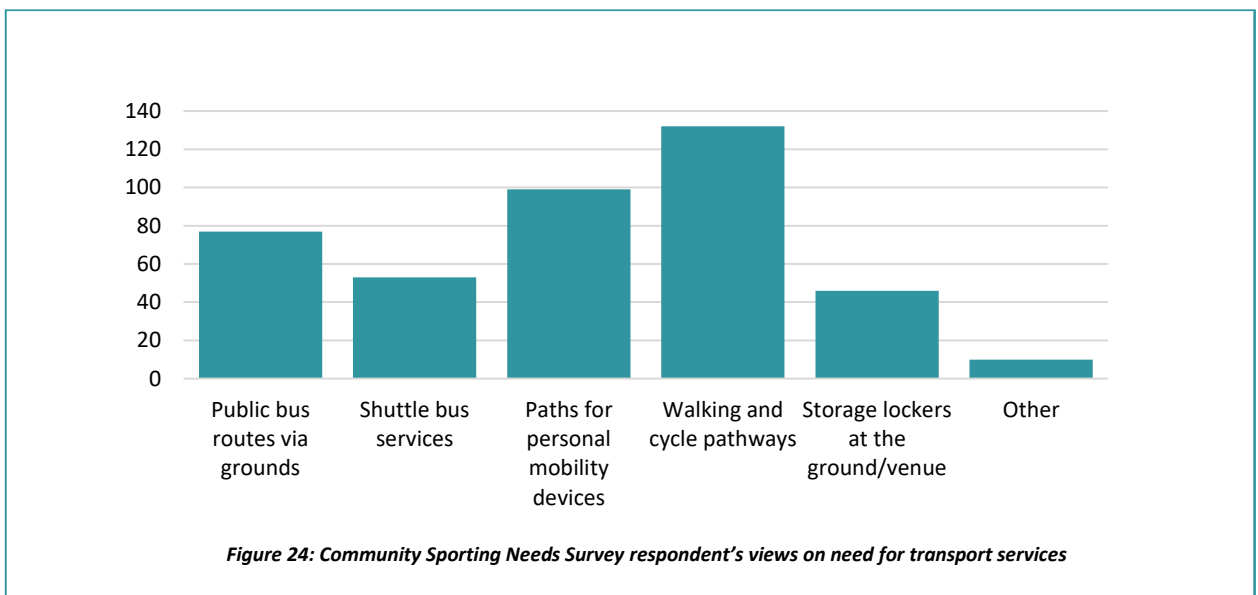
What new sporting services are needed?

The strongest support was shown for subsidies and low-cost sporting activities and learn to play/practice sessions:



What transportation services are needed to improve participation?

Respondents saw greatest need for more walking and cycling pathways:



What competition formats are needed to improve participation?

Support for social competition formats was significantly higher than other options:

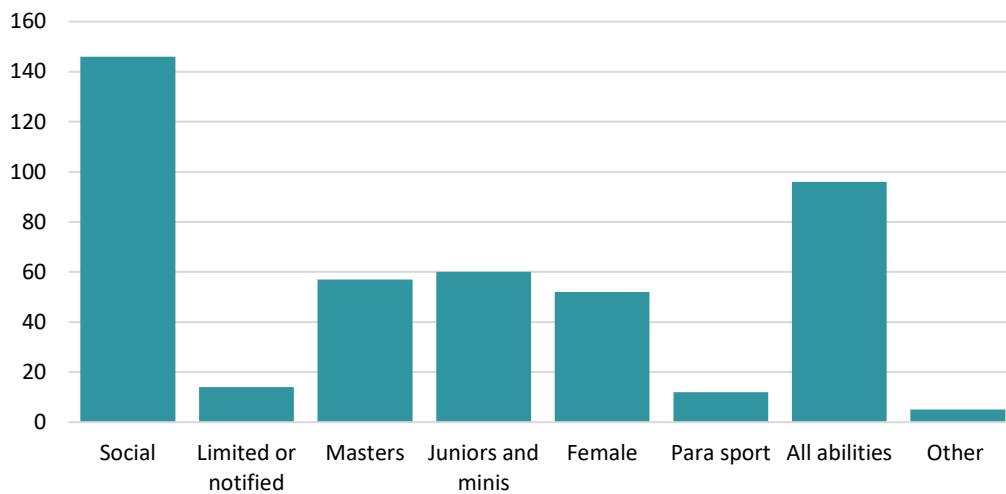
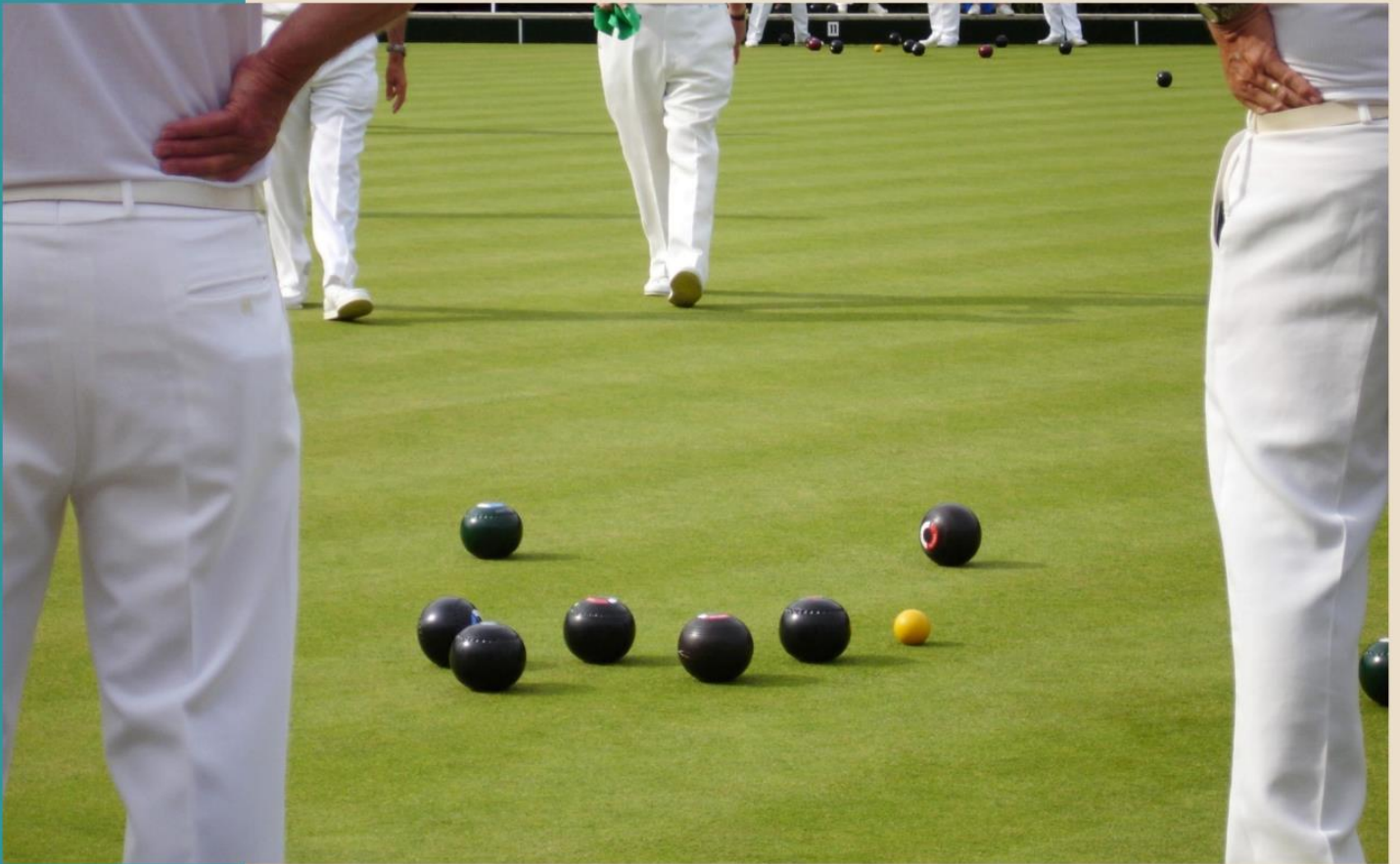


Figure 25: Community Sporting Needs Survey respondent's views on need for new competition formats

Highlights: Community sporting needs

- Community members are keen to see more opportunities for ball sports and water-based/ocean sports in Livingstone Shire
- Improved partnerships (with schools, businesses, and other clubs) as well as the ability to host major sporting events and carnivals were identified as the greatest need for clubs
- Respondents felt training in first aid and mental health first aid would be most beneficial for sporting volunteers
- Community members indicated current sporting services, facilities, and storage options were average – most participants didn't think there was a need for additional facilities or services
- Survey participants showed most support for more hoops, goals, and half courts in public places – interest in more formal facilities like football fields or courts was much lower
- Subsidised or low-cost sporting opportunities and learn-to-play sessions were all popular options for new sporting services
- Cycling and walking paths were well supported suggestions for improving access to sporting facilities
- Social competitions had much more support than any other new competition format

CLUB SPORTING NEEDS



Engagement with sporting groups

As well as online surveys targeting youth and the broader community, engagement was also undertaken to ensure the strengths, needs, and aspirations of Livingstone's local sporting groups were incorporated in this analysis.

Of the 72 groups who were given opportunities to participate, seventeen responded (26.6% response rate). These seventeen respondents were:

- Bicycle User Group
- Capricorn Coast Runners
- Capricorn Coast Parkana Cricket Club
- Central Queensland APDA Dance
- Crocs Rugby Union
- Emu Park Bowls Club
- Emu Park Surf Life Saving Club
- Fitzroy Frogs Triathlon
- Keppel Bay Sailing Club
- Keppel Coast Dirt Bike Club
- Swans Australian Football League
- The Caves Pony Club
- The Emu Park Swimming Club
- Yeppoon Golf Club
- Yeppoon Rugby League Football Club
- Yeppoon Swim Club
- Yeppoon Tennis Club

As with any engagement program, it is important to analyse the gaps in information to highlight where Council's ongoing engagement should be directed. With new sporting groups being established in Livingstone Shire regularly, it is difficult for Council to maintain engagement with every group operating.

Additionally, the Sporting Needs Analysis is intended to provide a 'point in time' insight into current trends, needs, and gaps in our community. As such, to ensure data included in the document (both from the Census and from the community and youth surveys) is still relevant at the time of collation, it was necessary for a 'cut-off' date to be selected after which engagement with groups (for the purposes of this document) had to end.

To try to remedy these gaps, Council has included an 'other identified priorities and goals' section within this document to try to capture the breadth of anecdotal evidence provided through ongoing engagement with sporting groups, including those who did not participate in the survey within the allocated timeframe.

About sporting groups who participated

Membership numbers

The average membership of respondent groups was 196, with the smallest membership being 17 and the largest over 600.

Asset base

Most respondents indicated their asset base was between \$20,000 - \$100,000:

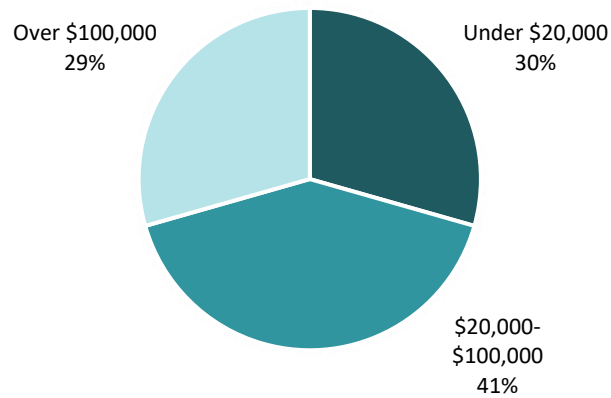


Figure 26: Asset base of respondent sporting groups

Growth in group membership

Most respondents indicated their group, club, or association was growing by 10-49% per year. No respondents indicated their group was growing by more than 50% per year:

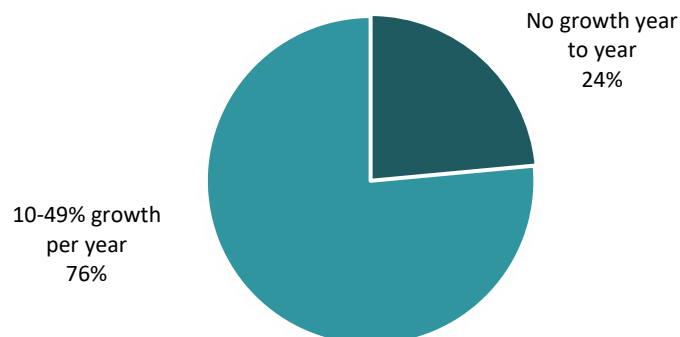
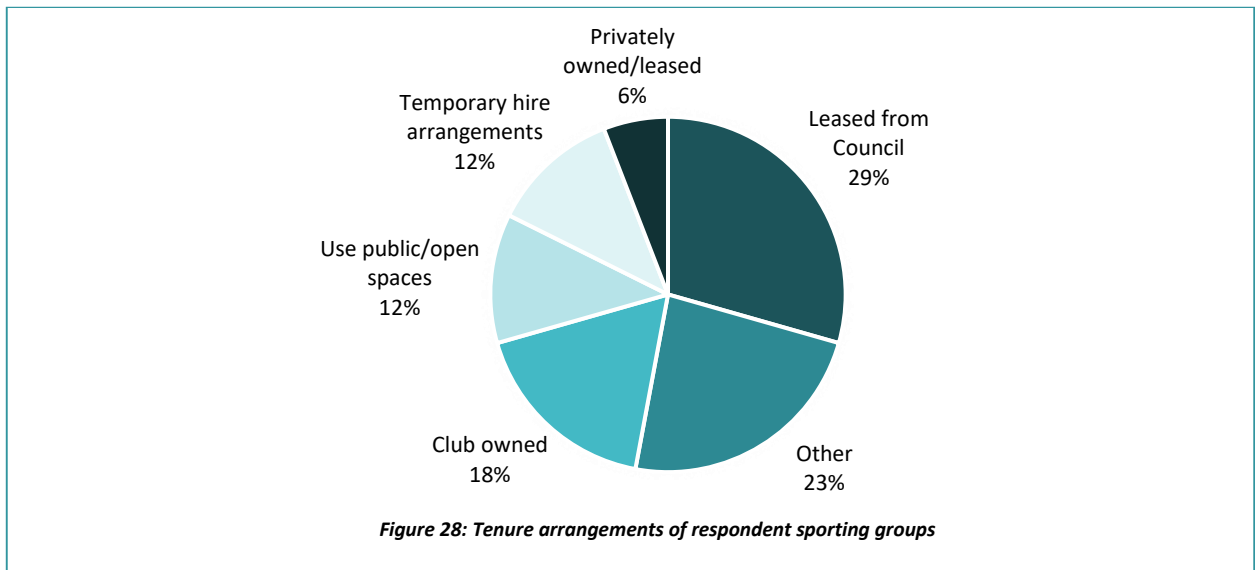


Figure 27: Growth in group membership of respondent sporting groups

Club facilities and venues

About one third of respondent groups leased their facilities or venues from Council:

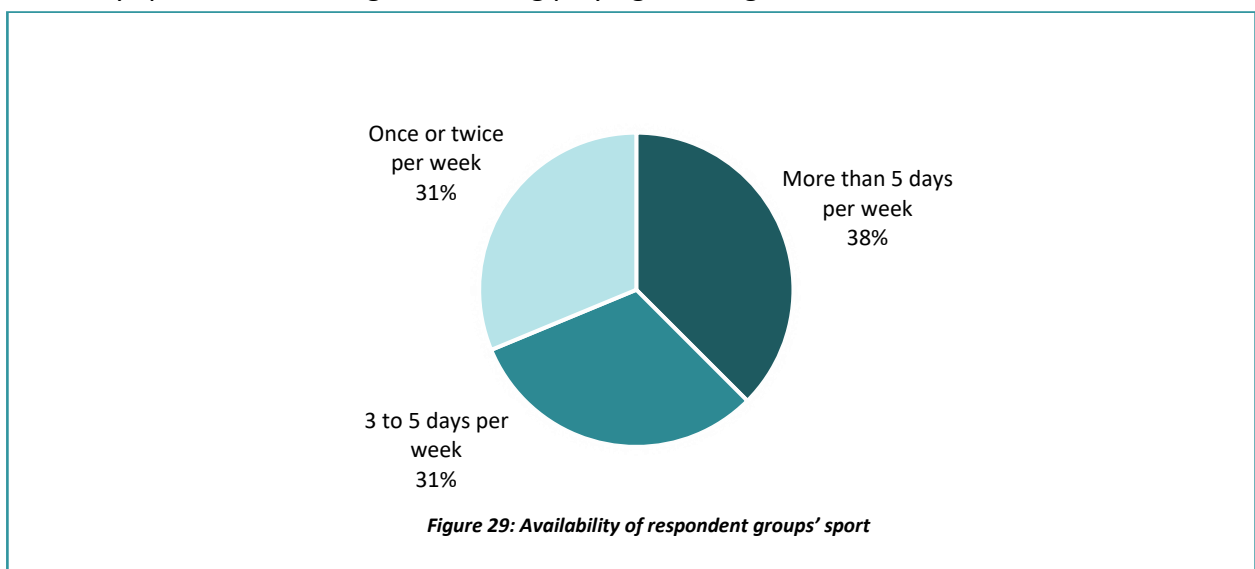


Of the four groups who indicated they had some other tenure agreement in place, these arrangements were:

- Land leased from Council, but facilities owned by Club
- Sub-leased from lessee (Council property)
- Leased directly from State Government
- Use facilities only for events and tournaments

Weekly availability of sport

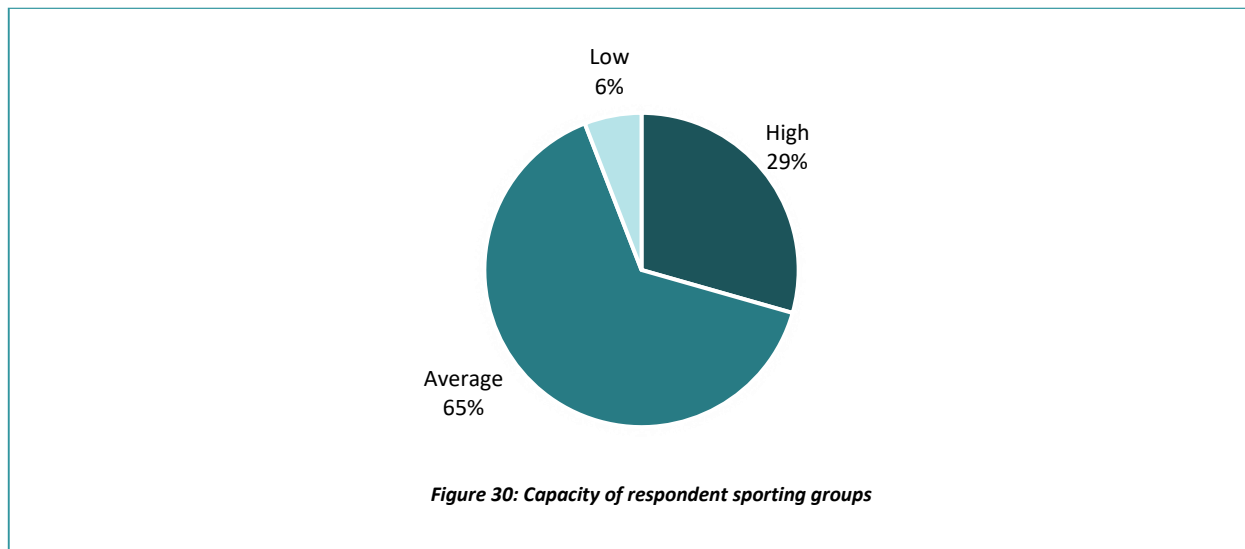
Over one third of respondents stated their club or organisation's sport was available five or more days per week in Livingstone during playing/training season:



Capacity of sporting groups

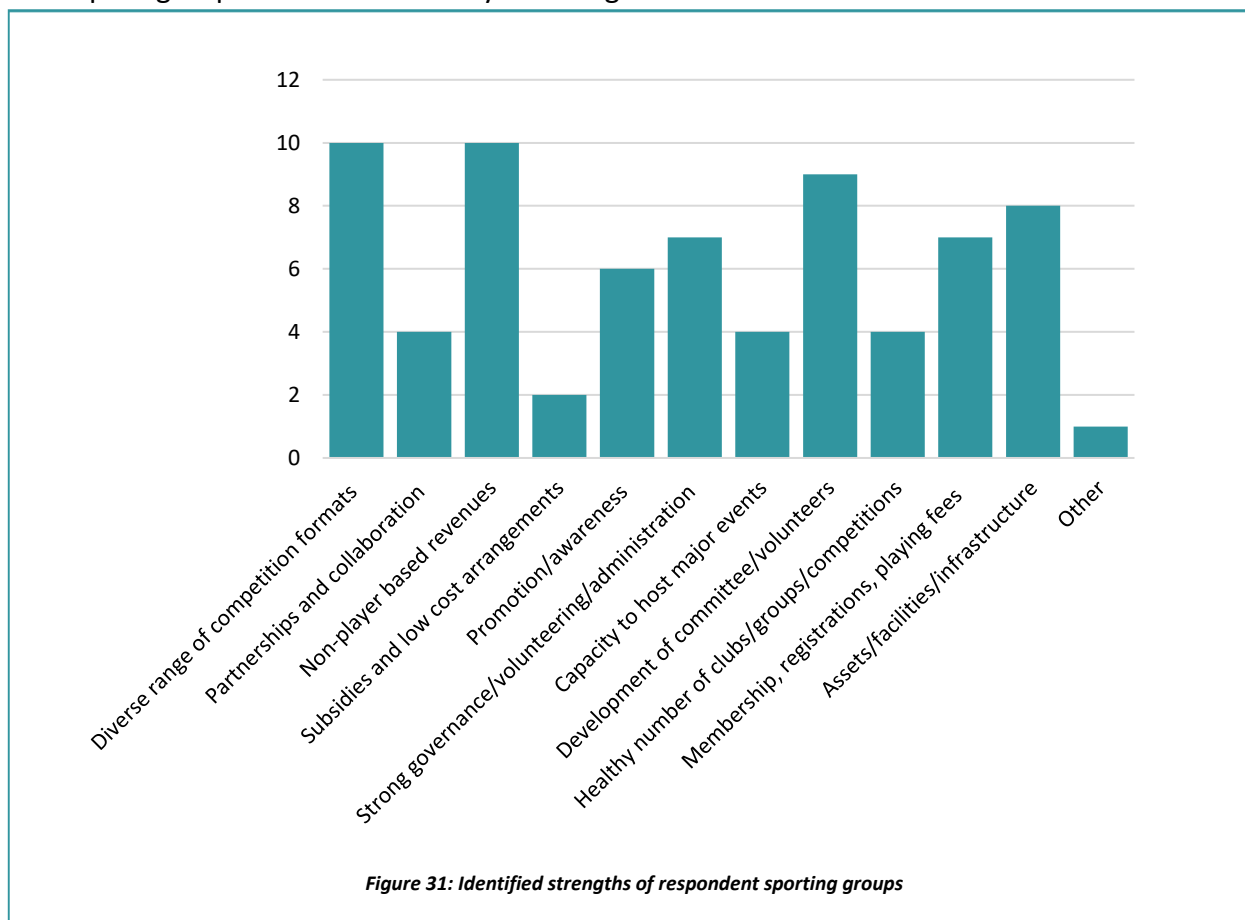
Capacity of sport to be self-sustaining

Most respondent groups stated the capacity of their sport to be self-sustaining was average:



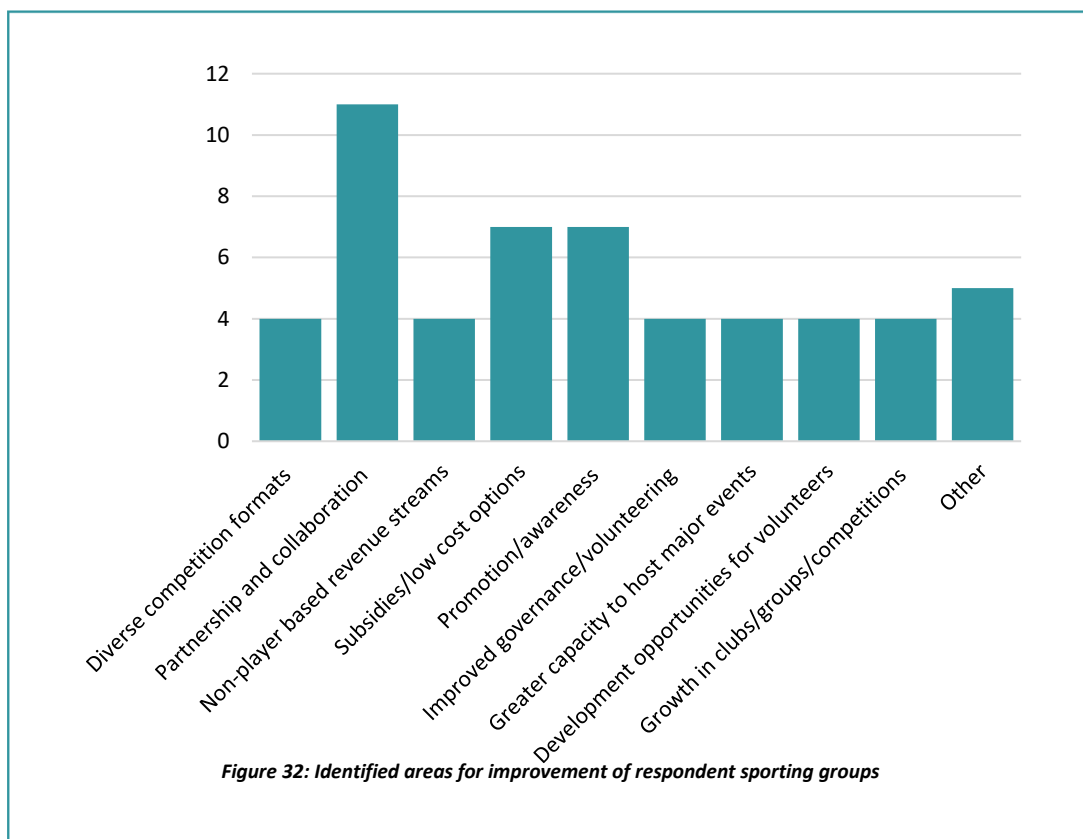
Identified strengths of sport

Participant groups identified a variety of strengths:



Areas for improvement

Respondent groups identified several areas for improvement, with improved partnership and collaboration with other community groups, schools, and businesses identified as the greatest area for improvement:



Of the respondent groups who stated some other need for improvement was required, suggestions included:

- Grounds maintenance support
- Improved facilities
- Increased player numbers
- Paid administrative staff

Strength of partnerships and collaborations

Strength of partnerships/collaborations with <u>other associations/clubs/groups</u> in Livingstone Shire		
Level of collaboration	# of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration	% of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration
High level collaboration	1	5.9%
Basic collaboration	10	58.9%
Need for improvement	6	35.3%
Strength of partnerships/collaborations with <u>schools</u> in Livingstone Shire?		
Level of collaboration	# of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration	% of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration
High level collaboration	2	11.8%
Basic collaboration	9	52.9%
Need for improvement	5	29.4%
Strength of partnerships/collaborations with <u>businesses</u> in Livingstone?		
Level of collaboration	# of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration	% of respondent groups who indicated level of collaboration
High level collaboration	3	17.7%
Basic collaboration	9	52.9%
Need for improvement	5	29.4%



Building capacity in club volunteers

Respondent groups indicated the strongest need for training in social media, website development, sound systems, and information technology:

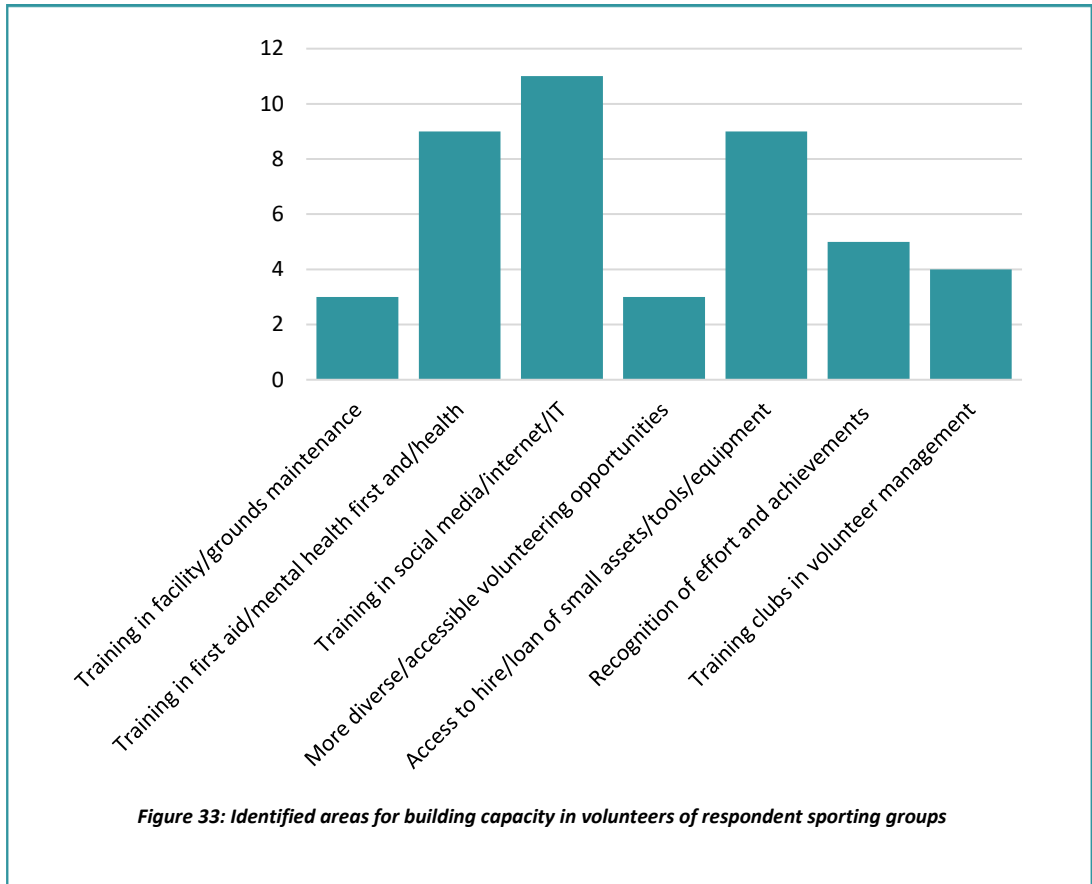


Figure 33: Identified areas for building capacity in volunteers of respondent sporting groups

Provision of community facilities

Quality of community sporting facilities and venues

Just under half of the respondent groups indicated they thought facilities available for their respective sports in Livingstone were high quality:

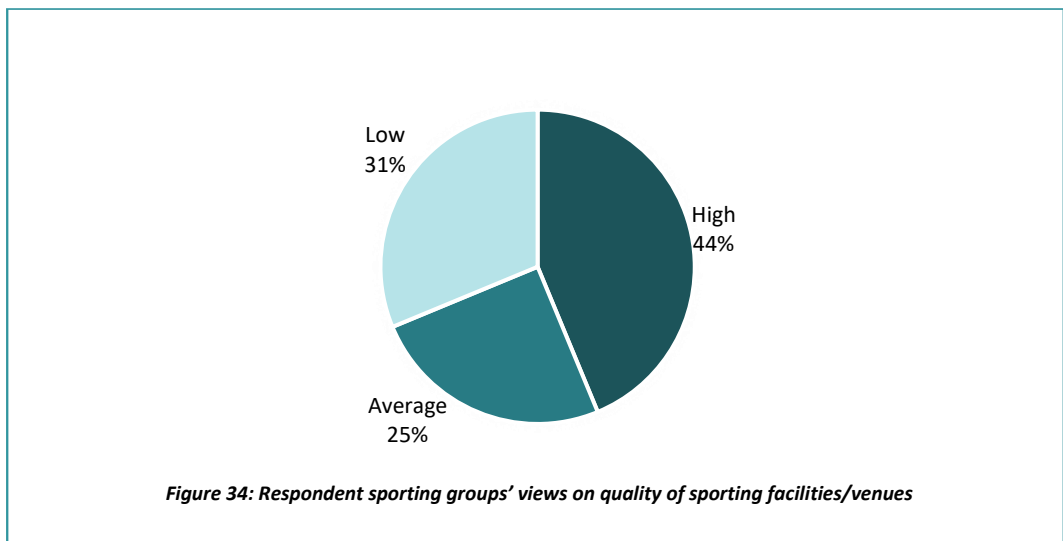
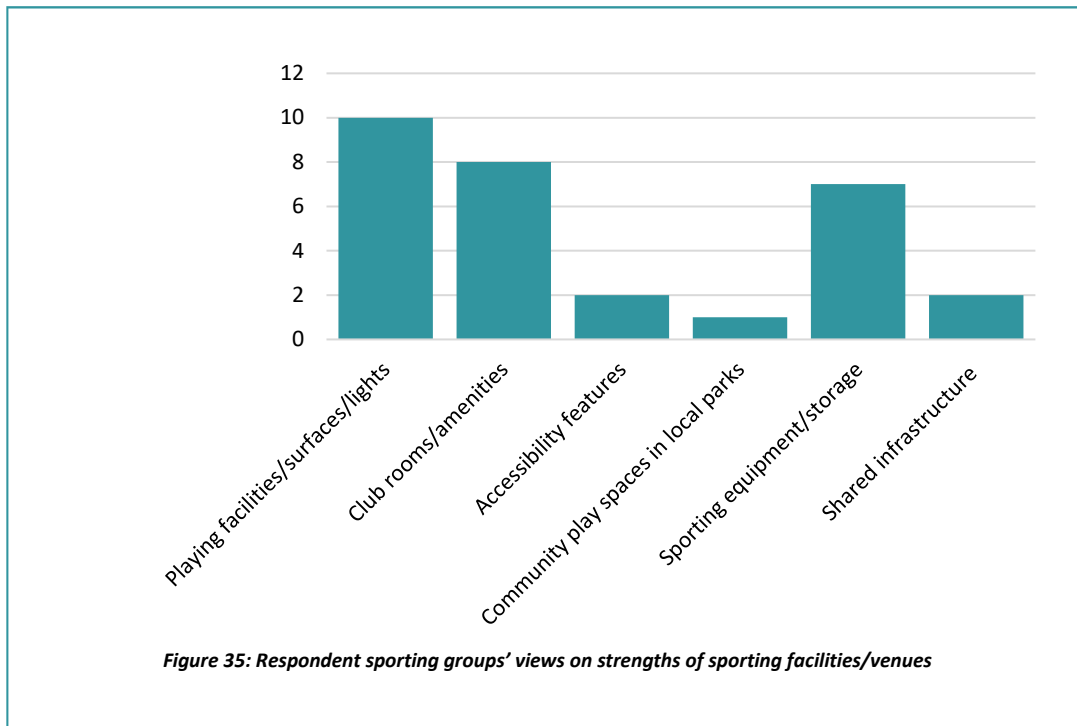


Figure 34: Respondent sporting groups' views on quality of sporting facilities/venues



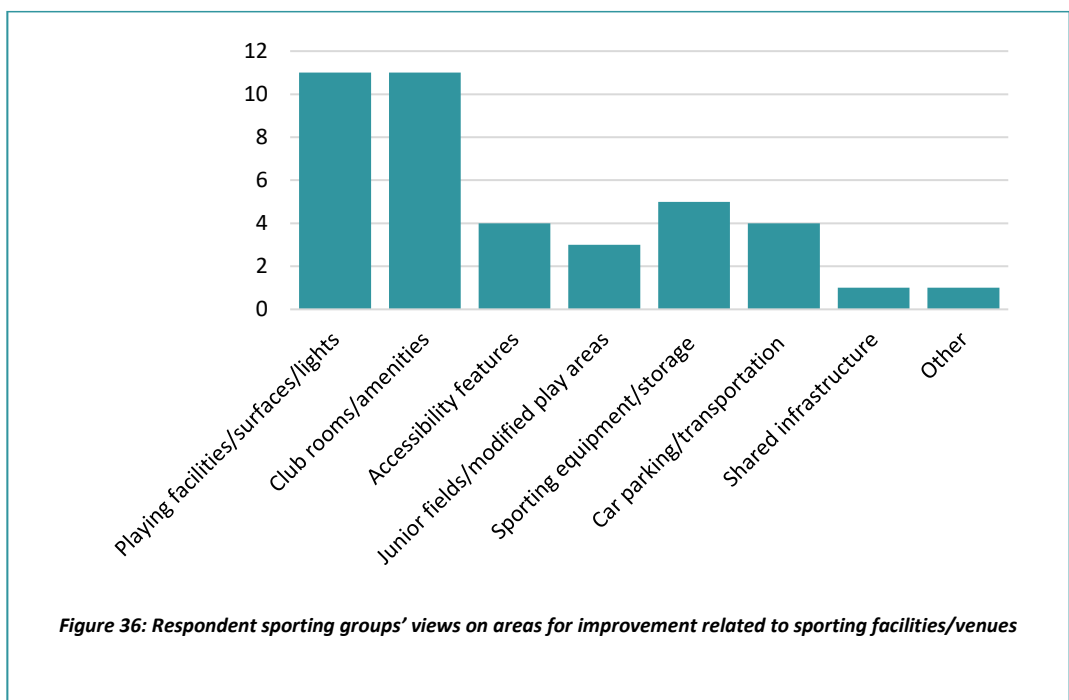
Strengths of sporting facilities and venues

Respondent groups identified a variety of strengths relevant to facilities and venues:



Areas for improvement (sporting facilities and venues)

Respondents indicated the strongest need for new and improved facilities, lights, and surfaces, and club rooms, showers, toilets, and change facilities:



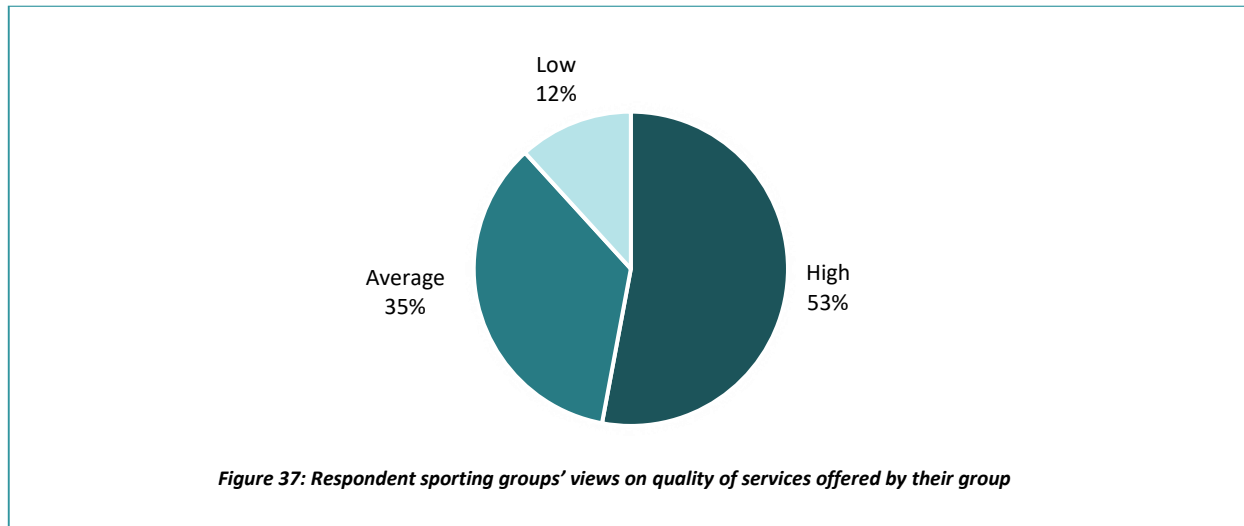
Need for additional facilities

Further public sporting play spaces and equipment in parks and reserves		
This is...	# of respondent groups who indicated level of need	% of respondent groups who indicated level of need
Highly needed	2	11.8%
Somewhat needed	8	47.1%
Okay for now	6	35.3%
Not needed now or in the future	1	5.9%
Purpose built juniors, modified, masters, para/all abilities playing facilities for your sport		
This is...	# of respondent groups who indicated level of need	% of respondent groups who indicated level of need
Highly needed	3	17.6%
Somewhat needed	7	41.2%
Okay for now	5	29.4%
Not needed now or in the future	1	5.9%
Additional, accessible, or improved shower, toilet, and change amenities at your sport's facilities and venues		
This is...	# of respondent groups who indicated level of need	% of respondent groups who indicated level of need
Highly needed	9	52.9%
Somewhat needed	6	35.3%
Okay for now	2	11.8%
Not needed now or in the future	0	0.0%
Equipment storage for your sport		
This is...	# of respondent groups who indicated level of need	% of respondent groups who indicated level of need
Highly needed	7	41.2%
Somewhat needed	4	23.5%
Okay for now	6	35.3%
Not needed now or in the future	0	0.0%

Provision of services by sporting groups

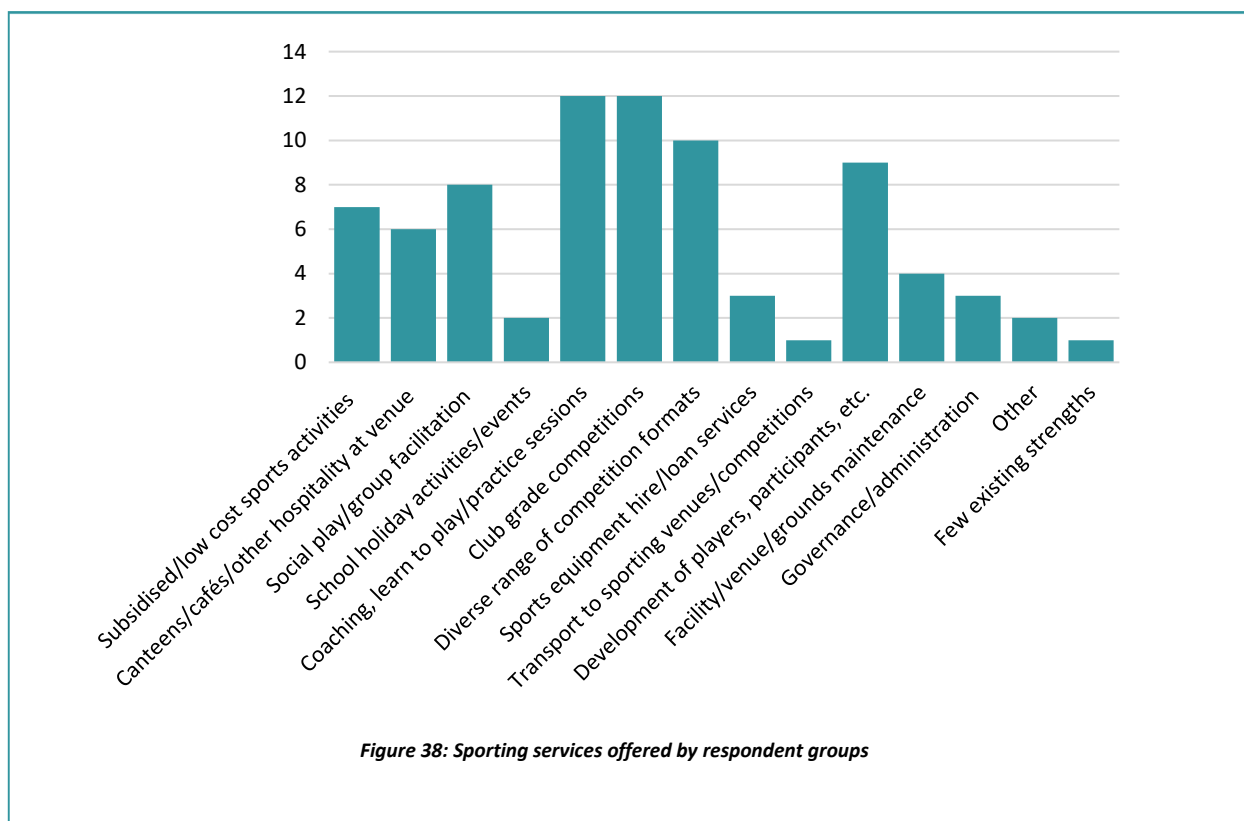
Quality of services delivered by your sport

Most respondents felt the quality of sporting services delivered by their respective group was high:



Services delivered by your sport

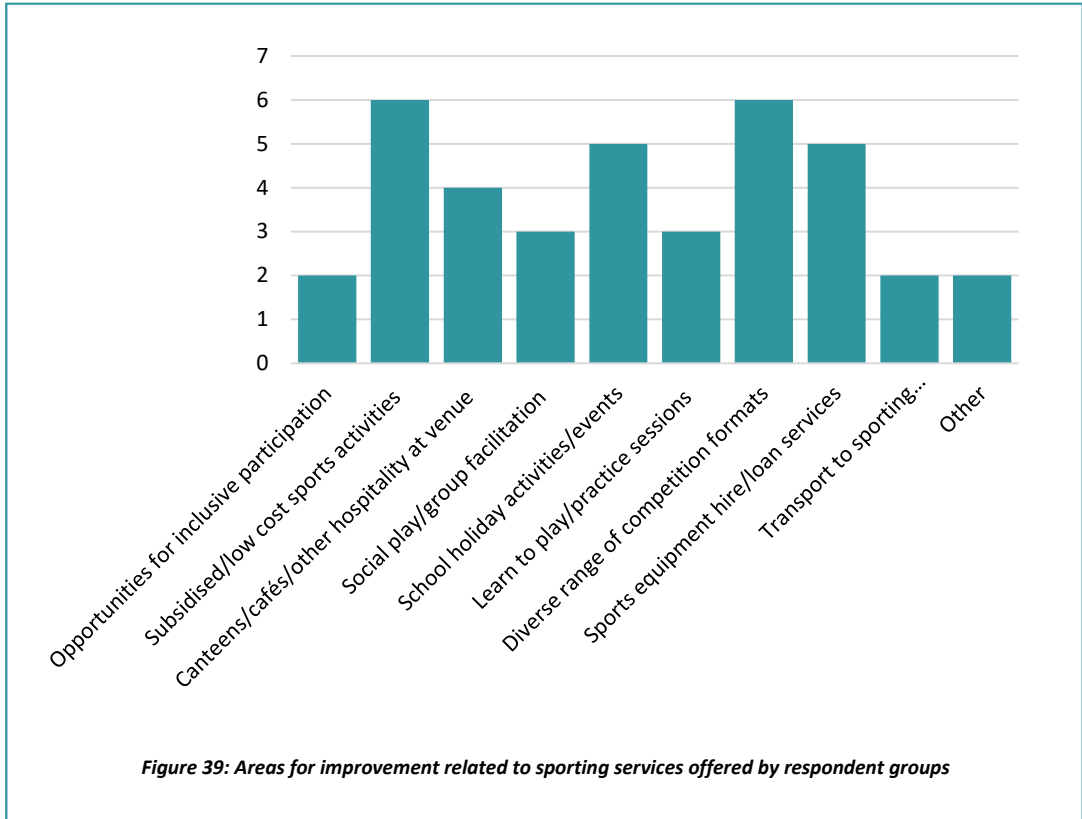
The most identified services were club grade competitions and coaching, learn-to-play, and practice sessions:





Areas for improvement

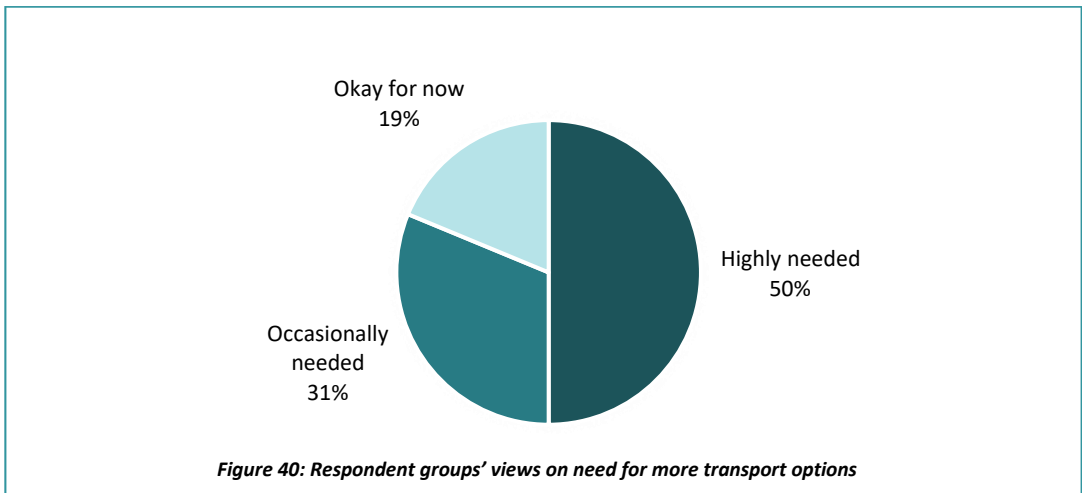
Sporting group representatives identified more subsidies and low-cost sports activities and more diverse competition formats as the most significant areas for improvement related to sporting services:



Transportation

Need for further transport solutions

About half of the respondent groups felt that more transport options were highly needed:



Areas for improvement

Respondents indicated preferences for shuttle buses and walking and cycle pathways to address issues with transport:

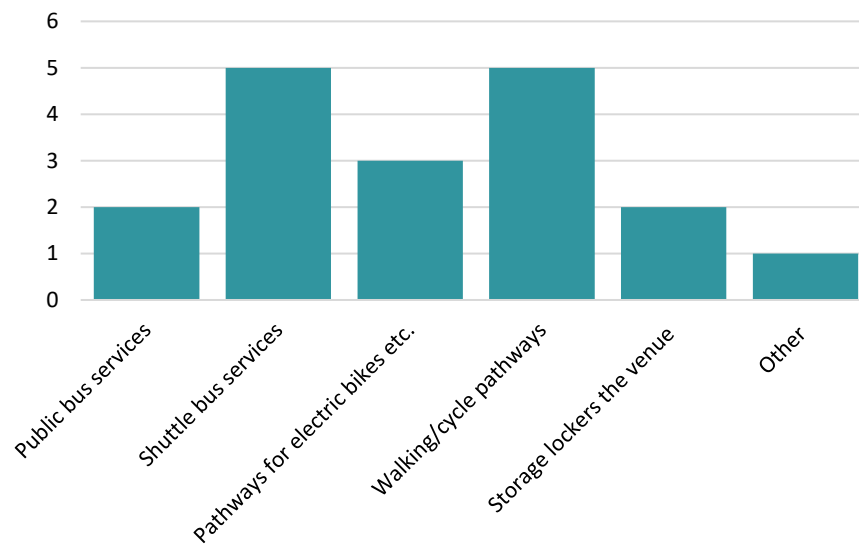


Figure 41: Respondent groups' views on areas for improvement related to transport

Highlights: Club sporting needs

- Participating groups were growing steadily, with most respondents indicating their club, or association was growing by 10-49% per year.
- Respondent groups thought partnerships and collaboration with other community groups, schools, and businesses were the greatest area for improvement in their operations.
- Groups indicated the strongest need for training in social media, website development, sound systems, and information technology. There was also an identified need for training in first aid and mental health first aid, and for access to hire or loan of small assets, tools, and equipment.
- Respondents indicated the strongest need for new and improved facilities, lights, and surfaces, and club rooms, showers, toilets, and change facilities.
- Groups identified more subsidies and low-cost sports activities, and more diverse competition formats as the most significant areas for improvement related to sporting services.
- About half of the respondent groups felt that more transport options were highly needed, with more walking and bike paths connecting to sporting facilities and shuttle buses put forward as options to improve transport.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE SPORTING NEEDS





Engagement with regional sporting representatives

To ensure the Sporting Needs Analysis incorporated the important insights of regional sporting bodies, Council engaged in one-to-one and small group interviews with local representatives, including:

- Golf Central Queensland
- Cricket Queensland
- Tennis Queensland
- Australian Football League Queensland

These interviews provided some rich and nuanced data.

Strengths of sports in the region

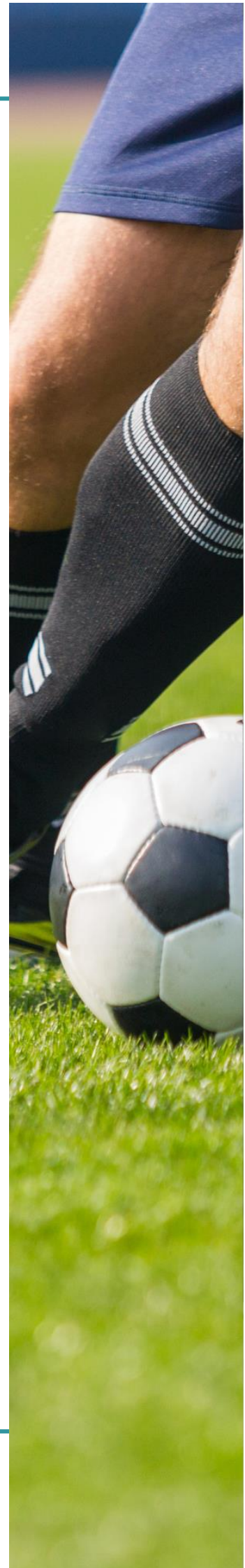
Representatives indicated a variety of strengths at a regional sporting level, including:

- Support from local businesses
 - High population growth rates are leading to more players, resulting in more income and expansion opportunities for clubs
 - Increased interest in junior and 'for fun' team events
 - Strong volunteer numbers
 - Good governance structures
 - Some engagement with schools:
 - Farnborough and Taranganba were involved with local Australian Football League clubs
 - St Brendan's and Yeppoon State High School were involved with Cricket Queensland and golf
 - COVID-19 has seen an increase in member numbers for golf as courses were able to stay open throughout the pandemic when other sports facilities were unavailable
 - Relationships between golf clubs in the region (including between Emu Park, Yeppoon, and Rockhampton) are growing
 - Strong interest in specialised veteran golf competitions locally
-

Gaps and challenges facing sports in the region

As well as numerous strengths, regional sporting representatives identified several gaps and issues facing their respective sports in the Central Queensland region:

- Australian Football League grounds (Swan Oval) has issues with salt flooding the grounds (oval is near an estuary)
- Population growth patterns and fluctuations present challenges: there is enough growth in Yeppoon to necessitate a second Australian Football League team, but growth in Emu Park is still too low to require a team – community perceptions do not necessarily align to these growth patterns
- Mixed engagement with high schools, particularly trying to recruit female Australian Football League players from Yeppoon State High School or female cricket players from either secondary school
- School engagement was also limited for regional tennis
- Junior membership in golf is low locally, despite Yeppoon having the largest junior golf membership in the country in 2000
- Several representatives spoke of the need for increased social (non-competitive) memberships and opportunities
- Several representatives also spoke of the need for more coaching
- A range of facilities were discussed, including:
 - All-abilities access and competition formats
 - Lights for night games (cricket)
 - Junior facilities
 - Female changerooms
- Respondents also shared concerns about volunteer burnout: while many clubs spoke of great volunteer support, there was worry amongst the representatives that a great deal of responsibility is often placed on a small group of volunteers (who are often also parents, working full time, coaching, etc.)
- While some representatives had positive experiences and good relationships with local businesses, others expressed the need for better working relationships and more sponsorship opportunities



Suggestions and potential future projects/programs

Regional representatives were able to offer useful and innovative suggestions about ways some of the identified gaps and issues could potentially be addressed, including:

- Bringing the Deadly Choices (an Indigenous working group who partners with National Rugby League, netball, volleyball, and other sports) to the region to promote, celebrate, and increase Indigenous participation in sport
 - Develop new Auskick (Australian Football Rules introductory program for children) programs, including the potential to partner with the local Surf Life Saving Club as has been done at the Sunshine Coast
 - Hosting an Australian Football League nines game (25 minutes) as part of Australia Day celebrations on the Yeppoon Main Beach
 - Facilitating a Sporting Expo inclusive of all local clubs:
 - Run from 9AM – 12PM
 - Offering 45-minute displays of each sport
 - Hold a 'battle of the codes' at the conclusion of the event
 - Develop ways to better recognise volunteer contributions
 - Facilitation of grounds and turf maintenance training
 - Facilitate of social media training
 - Development and education about member protection policies
 - Council-driven promotion and in-kind support for sporting activities, particularly on school holidays
 - Regular engagement with Council, particularly around tenure arrangements and 'check ins'
 - Improved engagement with schools for all sport, potentially through a junior Sports Expo or regular school visits
 - Activation of community shared spaces, particularly given most residents are not willing to drive more than 20 minutes to engage in sport and recreation
 - Investigate options for hosting a cultural golfing event – there is a special NAIDOC event held at the North Rockhampton Golf Club
-

OTHER IDENTIFIED ISSUES AND PRIORITIES



Ongoing engagement with the sporting community

In addition to the needs and goals identified by community members, sporting organisations, and regional representatives, there are some concerns and sporting aspirations which Council is aware of through ongoing engagement with groups and individuals, and as an effect of managing and maintaining multiple sporting facilities in the Shire.

Condition of sporting facilities

The primary concern raised by groups with current tenancy over Council owned/managed facilities relates to the condition of these amenities. Some Council facilities are meeting needs of those using them and thus the below facilities are only those where significant issues have been identified.

Barmaryee Multisport Precinct

Since construction in 2016, Barmaryee Multisport Precinct has become a central venue for netball, touch football, and junior rugby league in Livingstone Shire. The facility is used for training and games and over 2,000 people use the facility every week at the peak of use (when all three codes are using the area). While the facility has enabled each of these sports to thrive and grow in recent years, drainage issues have arisen which have impacted these sporting groups.

Drainage issues at the touch football and junior rugby league fields have progressively worsened and resulted in cancelled games and training sessions, particularly following periods of heavy rain. This issue is currently being investigated by Council in partnership with the Capricorn Coast Football Club.

Hartley Street Multisport Precinct

The Hartley Street Multisport Precinct is intended to provide facilities for a range of clubs and group in the Emu Park, Zilzie, and surrounding communities. While the Emu Park Junior and Senior Rugby League make good use of the space, with training and games taking place at the facility every week during the playing season, there has been limited uptake by other groups.

While current playing surfaces at Hartley Street only cater to Rugby League, further investment would help maximise use of the space. Further engagement

would be required to determine priorities of the community prior to seeking funding to expand the area.

Cooee Bay Sports Complex

The Cooee Bay Sports Complex is a popular and well-utilised facility current catering to several swimming lessons and groups, tennis, pickleball, and rugby union. Over time, the facility has become outdated and needs major improvements. Livingstone Shire Council is currently in correspondence with the Australian Government regarding significant investment which has been committed to upgrading the complex. Specifically, this funding will be utilised to:

- Demolish the Cooee Bay Hall, current outdoor pool, and current amenities and kiosk block
- Construct a 50 x 25 metre outdoor pool
- Construct a new and fit-for-purpose amenities block and kiosk
- Extend current car parking to improve accessibility and safety
- Install grandstand seating to accommodate up to 200 people
- Improve storage at the facility


These upgrades will greatly improve the experiences of people using the facility. The current tenancy agreements in place with Capricorn Coast Rugby Union and Yeppoon Tennis (including pickleball) will not be impacted by these upgrades.

Apex Park

Apex Park is used by the Capricorn Coast Football Club and supports training and games for both junior and senior teams. Concerns have been raised with Council about the condition of the fields, including drainage problems and worsening subsidence in the fields which are impeding training and games and posing safety concerns for players. The fields are situated on top of a former landfill site which is believed to be causing the problems. The Capricorn Coast Football Club has exclusive use of the facility at present and has requested support from Council as the problem is becoming too costly for the Club to address alone.

Capricorn Coast Recreation Centre (basketball facility – Cordingley Street)

Basketball has seen a significant increase in popularity in recent years. The Blazers Basketball Club has been utilising the Cordingley Street basketball facility and is now training 17 junior teams and using the facility six days a week. The current condition of the facility,



however, has prevented Blazers from hosting games and teams are still travelling to Rockhampton for games. Improvements to the floor, roof, and lighting would enable games to be played locally.

Making facilities 'competition ready'

There is a clear goal among sporting groups within Livingstone Shire to host large-scale sporting competitions and carnivals; however, many clubs feel they are limited in what they can offer as facilities are either not 'up to standard' or are too small to cater for the multitude of teams required for a carnival. Large sporting carnivals and other events provide a multitude of benefits, including:

- Connection and inter-regional learning through engagement with teams from across Queensland or further afield
- Economic benefits due to increased visitation (including benefits to tourism operators, accommodation, and small businesses including hospitality)
- Strengthened reputation of local sporting groups and facilities

Several sporting facilities in Livingstone Shire are appropriate only for training or small competition formats. Specifically:

- Netball requires a further 8 – 10 extra hard courts to cater for the number of teams wishing to participate in state-wide carnivals and competitions. Capricorn Coast Netball successfully managed a large carnival in August 2022 with 150 teams from across Queensland participating. Several teams were unable to participate, however, as the facility was not able to cater for the full number of teams wanting to participate. Additional hard courts would enable large carnivals to occur at Barmaryee Multisport Precinct. Improved (LED) lighting is also required to better cater for competitions at the facility.
 - Construction of a dedicated netball clubhouse (netball and rugby league currently share one clubhouse) would alleviate storage and other issues, including conflicting meetings and competing canteen requirements.
 - Yeppoon Junior Rugby League, currently operating at Barmaryee, require an additional two full-size fields (four total fields) to enable regional and state competitions. Other facilities, mostly in Rockhampton, are being utilised for these competitions at present and as such the Livingstone Shire community is unable to take advantage of the direct and indirect benefits of these competitions.
-

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- Limited carparking at Barmaryee Multisport Precinct has been noted by all user groups as an inhibitor to safely running competitions. Extended car parking is required to enable any regional, state, or larger-scale competition at the precinct.
 - Concerns regarding accommodation have also been raised with Council. Specifically, to cater to the number of families, coaches, and support staff or volunteers for a large sporting carnival would require accommodation which is expected to overwhelm existing hotels and motels. This may require further examination in the future as upgraded facilities are unlikely to be used if accommodation is not available.

Need for new sporting opportunities

As identified in the survey results, there is a strong desire in the Livingstone Shire community to see more water/ocean-based sports and more ball sport opportunities. Specifically, there has been a marked increase in interest for basketball from both youth and adults in Livingstone Shire, which has been raised with Council many times in the past two years.

Additionally, multiple individuals and groups have approached Council in the last twelve months to enquire about volleyball (specifically beach volleyball) facilities. The tides on Livingstone Shire's beaches would not accommodate beach volleyball on the shores, however given the increasing community interest in the sport it is worthwhile considering in future facility upgrades.

Facility audit

Currently, Livingstone Shire Council staff undertake regular checks to, and maintenance of, assets at sporting facilities are safe to use. This includes maintaining fields (through contractors), irrigation, line marking, toilets, signage, and other resources. Of note, there is no current 'facility audit' that has been undertaken by Council to ascertain whether facilities can cater to existing and predicted future populations.

Other regional local governments in Central Queensland have undertaken similar projects. Of note, Central Highlands Regional Council undertook the *Central Highlands Sport and Open Space Plan* in 2021. This comprehensive plan includes a detailed supply and demand study, as well as extensive analysis of issues involved. Sporting facilities, recreation areas (including parks and

reserves), and schools were all included in the plan. The plan was supported by Council staff, but it should be noted that a consultant was engaged, and the planning process required significant time and resources to complete.

Conducting a similar planning process would provide a clear 'moment in time' understanding of:

- a) Current facilities and their capacity to cater for existing demand
- b) What the current and expected future demand for facilities is and will be
- c) What upgrades, expansions, or new facilities are required to cater for these needs

External grants may provide funding to undertake a similar project in Livingstone Shire.

OTHER PLANS AND STRATEGIES



Activate! Queensland

The *Activate! Queensland 2019-2029* strategy was developed in consultation with the Queensland Government's Sport Minister's Advisory Council, whose members represent a wide range of sporting, community, and advocacy. The strategy seeks to embed activity into the daily lives of Queenslanders by focusing on where people live, learn, work, and spend free time. The strategy's aims include promoting gender equality in sporting organisations and increasing levels of physical activity in both adults and children.

TARGET	DELIVERABLES
Children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to physical activity for children before, during and after school including on school grounds • Support children and young people who face additional barriers to participate in physical activity • Create opportunities to develop the skills, knowledge and behaviours that give children, before school age, the confidence and motivation to be active for life
Women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to universally designed infrastructure and physical activity environments that suit the needs of women and girls • Condition our investment to drive equitable leadership and cultural change at all levels of sport and recreation
Regional and remote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide solutions that support communities in need to address barriers to physical activity • Ensure athletes are supported to live, train, and compete across Queensland
Supporting the most vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Queenslanders who need the most assistance to participate in physical activity are supported to do so • Connect access to the services people need in local communities including physical activity, health, and social services • Condition investment to ensure equity and quality are paramount
Infrastructure and jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct best-practice infrastructure designed for all Queenslanders from local through to elite levels • Provide schools and educators with the infrastructure and tools they need to deliver physical activity opportunities • Boost jobs in the sport and active recreation sector
Emerging and elite athletes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspire Queenslanders through athletes being positive role models and sharing their stories with the community • Strengthen and coordinate sporting pathways for high performance athletes
Active industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the active industry to provide participation opportunities to all Queenslanders • Foster collaboration both within the sector and with government to achieve community outcomes • Streamline funding and remove operational burdens from organisations, particularly those with volunteers • Build cohesive relationships that harness the potential for the active industry to respond to whole-of-government outcomes
Service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a more holistic and person-centred approach to sport, recreation, and physical activity, linking participants to the support they need to improve their wellbeing

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS





Our people

- Livingstone's population is growing rapidly and is projected to continue growing with a projected population of 46,480 within ten years' time . This suggests the need for Council to plan for future sporting and recreation needs of the community to ensure facilities cater to an active and growing population.
 - The population is highest in the 5-14, 45-55, and 56-64 year age groups. At these age cohorts continue to age and Livingstone's population continues to grow, it will be crucial that future sport and recreation opportunities and facilities are inclusive of young people and senior citizens.
 - Many people in Livingstone Shire live with disabilities and chronic health conditions. This clearly indicates the need for inclusive sporting opportunities that cater to all individuals. It also indicates the need for more passive recreation opportunities that are accessible to those with disabilities and health conditions who may want to improve their physical health without participating in organised sport.
 - Livingstone Shire is home to a significant and active Indigenous community. There are opportunities for Council to work alongside our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups and residents to promote Indigenous culture in sport and to encourage Indigenous participation in sporting opportunities through ensuring sporting groups and associations are inclusive and culturally safe spaces.
 - Livingstone's multicultural community is growing rapidly and is expected to continue growing in the future. Again, this presents Council opportunities to partner with groups and individuals to promote multicultural sports and recreation and support new Australians to engage in sport and recreation in the area.
 - Livingstone's median personal and household incomes suggest the need for free, subsidised, and low-cost opportunities to participate in sport. This is validated by responses from young people, the broader community, and sporting groups who all ranked this need as the most important area for improvement.
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Our sports, groups, and volunteers

- Basketball, netball, and other ball sports were the most popular options for new sport opportunities in Livingstone, with both youth and the general community showing strongest support for this option. The broader community showed equal levels of support for ocean and other water-based activities.
- Young people stated that they would be more likely to participate in sport if they felt it was a safe place to be and participate, had a shuttle bus to get to and from sporting venues, and had access to paths and walkways to get to and from venues.
- The broader community saw partnerships and the ability to hold major tournaments and sporting events in the area as the greatest areas for club development. Stronger partnerships and collaborations with schools, other clubs and groups, and businesses being the most significant areas for improvement identified by sporting groups, too. Regional representatives also identified engagement with businesses and schools as an issue, too.
- The community saw the greatest need for volunteer development was in training in first aid, mental health first aid, and health and safety. Similarly, the sporting groups engaged with rated the need for first aid, mental health first aid, and health and safety training for volunteers as the greatest need.
- The community saw the greatest areas for improvement as subsidised and low-cost sports activities, learn to play and practice sessions, and social play opportunities. Sporting groups similarly identified their greatest need for improvement as subsidised and low-cost opportunities, followed by a more diverse range of competition formats. This suggests that both the community and sports groups are keen to see more accessible, affordable options, as well as diversified and informal opportunities.
- Interestingly, sporting groups identified coaching and learn to play sessions as one of their greatest strengths. This could suggest these opportunities exist, but that the broader community (i.e., those not already involved in the organised sport) is unaware of them.
- When asked about new competition formats, community respondents overwhelmingly saw the greatest need for social formats.



Our facilities and transport

- Community respondents generally felt that the quality of existing facilities was average, and that there was some need for additional or improved facilities. Hoops, goals, and half-courts in existing parks was the most strongly supported suggestion for new facilities, with significantly less support for more formalised sporting facilities or venues. Alternatively, close to half of sporting group respondents thought current facilities were of high quality, with strong support for new and improved facilities, lights, surfaces, club rooms, and player amenities (specifically accessible amenities). All-abilities and female amenities were similarly identified as needs by regional representatives.
 - There is an identified need to expand and improve current facilities to support competitions and ensure our facilities can be used well into the future. It is also clear that a sport and recreation facilities audit is needed to better understand our current and future sporting needs.
 - Most community respondents thought current sports storage was adequate, but sporting groups identified a much higher need for equipment storage. This likely reflects the need for additional storage for only specific sporting groups.
 - Regarding transportation, the community saw the greatest need for walking and cycle pathways. Pathways and shuttle bus services were also identified as preferred options to address transport issues by sporting groups.
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Club membership and board members

Livingstone Shire Council is home to a range of dedicated and enthusiastic sporting groups for both junior and senior teams. As with all community and sporting groups, however, there are a range of issues facing these groups which can hinder development and have been raised with Council in recent years. These concerns include:

- Succession planning: there is a relatively high turnover of volunteers in sporting groups, often related to children ageing out of sports, families moving, and competing priorities for volunteers such as full-time work. The result of this turnover is that incoming volunteers often have limited or no handover with outgoing volunteers who held the position previously, and thus long-term plans, ongoing projects, or established relationships are often overlooked or recommenced and thus progress can be hindered. This impacts the club, as other volunteers can find these changes disruptive, as well as the relationships between the club and other groups and organisations, including Council.
- Capacity of clubs and volunteers: as well as concerns regarding succession planning, Council has been made aware of the varying levels of capacity within volunteers supporting sporting groups. For example, some clubs have volunteers with experience in financial or project management, while others have many members trained in first aid but almost no experience in preparing grant applications.

FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE



STRATEGY 1

Facilitate and promote Indigenous and culturally diverse sporting opportunities

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
1.1 Engage with local Indigenous groups to identify and support Indigenous cultural sporting events, including potential for a NAIDOC event	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 2.1.2)
1.2 Identify and facilitate opportunities for Indigenous cultural awareness training for sporting groups, volunteers, and members	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities Play by the rules 	Lead CDSR Support Events and engagement	Community Plan (1.3.1, 2.1.2)
1.3 Engage with Deadly Choices to determine potential projects in Livingstone Shire	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 2.1.2)
1.4 Work with local multicultural groups and representatives to identify and support culturally diverse and sensitive sporting events including potential events to align with Multicultural Queensland Month, Harmony Week, or other culture-specific celebrations (e.g. Chinese Lunar New Year, Eid al Fitr, Diwali)	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR Support Events and engagement	Community Plan (1.3.1, 2.4.1)
1.5 Identify and facilitate opportunities for cultural awareness training for sporting groups, volunteers, and members	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities Play by the rules 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)

STRATEGY 2
Support people to get active

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
2.1 Continue to develop partnerships with people with disabilities, carers, health workers, and ambassadors to identify and facilitate sporting opportunities for people with disabilities and those with chronic health conditions locally	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational budget • State and other grant opportunities 	<p>Lead CDSR</p> <p>Support Community Centre</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.3, 1.2.1, 4.3.3)</p>
2.2 Continue working with young people to develop plans/programs to get young people (high school aged) engaged in sporting activities that suit their needs and lifestyles	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational budget • Recurrent youth services funding • State and other grant opportunities 	<p>Lead CDSR</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.3, 1.2.1)</p>
2.3 Continue working with senior citizens to develop plans/programs to get seniors engaged in sporting activities that suit their needs and lifestyles	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational budget • State and other grant opportunities • Seniors Week funding 	<p>Lead CDSR</p> <p>Support Community Centre</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.3, 1.2.1)</p>
2.4 Continue developing pathways with focus on connection to sporting facilities/venues to enable people, including those without driving capacity, to participate in sport	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital budget • State and other grant opportunities 	<p>Lead Engineering services</p> <p>Support CDSR</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.2.1, 5.2.1)</p> <p>Active Livingstone Strategy (1.1 – 2.2)</p>
2.5 Develop a shared platform (e.g., a website, newsletter, or social media account) to help promote local sporting groups, events, and opportunities	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational budget • Club revenues 	<p>Lead CDSR</p> <p>Support Communications and marketing</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2, 4.3.2)</p> <p>Active Livingstone Strategy (9.1)</p>

STRATEGY 3				
Develop new sporting services locally				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
3.1 Seek and apply for grants and other opportunities to provide new competition formats locally, with a focus on 'come and try' and social formats for existing local sports	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)
3.2 Work with local sporting organisations to develop non-player fundraising capacity (e.g., canteens, events) to enable revenues to be used for subsidies and other low-cost opportunities for involvement	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget Club revenues 	Lead CDSR Support Environmental health	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)
3.3 Continue facilitating sporting opportunities as part of the school holiday program, including free or low-cost coaching, 'come and try', and social opportunities for local sports	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR Support Events and engagement	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)
3.4 Work with sporting organisations to develop social (i.e., informal, non-competitive) opportunities for involvement (consider organisations like Pickleball who are already successfully doing similar things)	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)

STRATEGY 4

Advocate for and support new sporting options locally

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
4.1 Actively seek community engagement and support to develop more basketball, netball, and other ball sports, specifically for social and non-competitive formats and ‘come and try’ opportunities	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2) Active Livingstone Strategy (4.1 – 4.3)
4.2 Actively seek community engagement and support to develop ocean-based and other water sports, specifically for social and non-competitive formats and ‘come and try’ opportunities	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities Club revenues (e.g., Keppel Bay Sailing Club) 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2) Active Livingstone Strategy (5.1 – 5.2)
4.3 Support community interest in beach volleyball and actively seek support from state and Australian government to expand the sport in Livingstone Shire	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR Support Properties Facilities	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2) Active Livingstone Strategy (5.1 – 5.2)

STRATEGY 5				
Volunteer and club development				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
5.1 Identify and facilitate opportunities (including working with Council's Youth Action Group) for cross-generational and other learning/training to ensure local sports/ facilities make young people feel safe and welcome	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities Play by the Rules 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3)
5.2 Facilitate partnership opportunities, including meet and greet sessions or networks, between clubs, schools, and businesses to enable stronger working relationships between local clubs and the broader community and boost junior player numbers for relevant clubs	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.3)
5.3 Provide regular free or low-cost training for local sporting groups and their volunteers, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid Mental health first aid 	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget State and other grant opportunities 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.1, 1.3.2)
5.4 Continue offering free capacity building workshops and invite sporting groups to address concerns regarding succession plan and skills gaps in volunteers	Short term / ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget 	Lead CDSR	Community Plan (1.3.2)

STRATEGY 6

Invest in new and improved facilities

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE	RESPONSIBLE TEAM	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
6.1 Identify and apply for funding opportunities for casual/informal sporting facilities including hoops, goals, and half courts in local parks	Medium to long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital budget State and other grant opportunities 	<p>Lead</p> <p>CDSR</p> <p>Support</p> <p>Facilities</p> <p>Engineering services</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1)</p> <p>Active Livingstone Strategy (4.1 – 4.3)</p>
6.2 Identify and apply for funding opportunities for upgrading or installing new accessible amenities at sporting facilities; this may include partnership or auspice applications with sporting groups	Short to medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital budget State and other grant opportunities Club revenues 	<p>Lead</p> <p>Facilities</p> <p>Support</p> <p>CDSR</p> <p>Engineering services</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.3.3)</p> <p>Active Livingstone Strategy (4.1 – 4.3)</p>
6.3 Identify and apply for funding to upgrade or install new sporting facilities including new surfaces, buildings, and storage options	Short to medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital budget State and other grant opportunities Club revenues 	<p>Lead</p> <p>Facilities</p> <p>Support</p> <p>CDSR</p> <p>Engineering services</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1)</p> <p>Active Livingstone Strategy (4.1 – 4.3)</p>
6.4 Seek funding for undertaking a 'Sport and Recreation Audit and Strategy' or similar document to better understand current and future demands on sporting facilities and outline steps to ensure growing and changing communities are catered to	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational budget 	<p>Lead</p> <p>CDSR</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1)</p>
6.5 Support clubs in improving and upgrading facilities to make them 'competition ready', including:	Short to medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital budget State and other grant opportunities Club revenues 	<p>Lead</p> <p>CDSR</p> <p>Support</p> <p>Facilities</p>	<p>Community Plan (1.3.1)</p>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extending netball and rugby league facilities at Barmaryee• Extending carparking at Barmaryee• Improving lights and drainage at Barmaryee• Addressing drainage concerns at Apex Park• Working with local sporting groups to update the Capricorn Coast Recreation Centre (basketball facility)• Support Capricorn Coast Rugby League to move to Barmaryee, including development of new fields and clubhouse• Support Cricket Club to relocate to Barmaryee | | | | |
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CONCLUSION





Livingstone Shire is home to a great array of sporting groups, venues, and opportunities. Our residents are active and as our population continues to grow and diversify, it is critical that Council keeps abreast of sporting needs in the community. Throughout 2022, Council officers undertook extensive engagement with individuals, groups, and regional sporting representatives to determine their strengths, issues, and aspirations.

This document is the culmination of these results. As demonstrated, many residents and groups feel current facilities and sporting opportunities are adequate for the time being. There are, however, gaps that have been identified and issues that need to be addressed.

Council is uniquely placed in Livingstone to identify, support, facilitate, and advocate for the sporting needs of our residents. With the wealth of information provided through the Sporting Needs Analysis, Council will be well equipped to make sound, evidence-based decisions about future projects, programs, and facilities. The Sporting Needs Analysis will enable Council to continue supporting our local groups as they expand and change in the future.

APPENDICES



Appendix one: Livingstone Shire Council's priority sport and recreation projects (2023-2024 financial year)

The below projects have been identified using weighted criteria. Highest importance has been given to projects that:

- Council has received formal requests to support or undertake;
- Could not reasonably be undertaken by an existing incorporated sporting group;
- Align with Livingstone 2050 and other Council strategies, policies, and plans;
- Provide benefit to the broader community; and
- Are necessary to improve public access to sport and recreation.

The priority projects list will be reviewed every twelve months to align with budget cycles. This review is expected to be completed in February of each year.

Priority	Project description	Project type	Estimated cost	Funding options
1	Yeppoon Aquatic Centre Project	New asset Asset improvements	\$13 million	Federal Government approved funding; agreement to be finalised by April 2023.
2	Install and upgrade casual 'turn-up-and-play' sporting assets (e.g. basketball hoops and half-courts in parks and public spaces)	New asset Asset improvements	\$200,000	Combination of capital budget and external funding (including Dept. of Tourism, Innovation, and Sport Minor Infrastructure Grants program)
3	Continue developing pathways with focus on connection to sporting facilities/venues to enable people, including those without driving capacity, to participate in sport	Infrastructure	Site dependent	Combination of capital budget and external funding (including Cycle Network Local Government Grants program)
4	Develop resources (e.g., website, newsletter, social media, flyers, signage) to help promote recreational facilities, local sporting groups, events, and opportunities	Information technology Physical resources	\$30,000 (for website/app) plus ongoing maintenance costs	External funding for website / app development; operational budget for other resources

5	Support community interest in beach volleyball by developing project scope and identifying potential locations	New asset Infrastructure	Project is at scoping stage only – no costs at this stage	Operational budget (to be met with existing resources)
6	Identify and apply for funding opportunities for upgrading or installing new accessible amenities (including female facilities) at sporting facilities; this may include partnership or auspice applications with sporting groups	Asset improvements	Site dependent	Combination of capital budget and external funding
7	Seek funding for undertaking a 'Sport and Recreation Facilities Audit' or similar document to better understand current and future demands on sporting facilities and outline steps to ensure growing and changing communities are catered to	Strategy development	\$50,000	Operational budget (2023-24 budget)
8	Making improvements to the Capricorn Coast Recreation Centre (basketball facility) including repairs to ceiling, flooring, and external courts	Asset improvements	\$100,000 - \$300,000 depending on scope of works	Combination of capital budget and external funding (including Dept. of Tourism, Innovation, and Sport Minor Infrastructure Grants program)
9	Addressing drainage concerns at Apex Park	Asset improvements	\$115,000	Partner with Capricorn Coast Football Club to seek external funding
10	Support Capricorn Coast Cricket Club to relocate to Barmaryee	New asset	Unknown	Partner with Capricorn Coast Cricket Club to seek external funding

Appendix two: Sporting assets in Livingstone Shire

Sporting groups

- Aussie Cheer
- Barmoya Community Sports and Recreation Association Inc.
- Blazers Basketball
- Bondoola Golf Course and Driving Range
- Cap Coast Cruising Yacht Club
- Cap Coast Football
- Cap Coast Netball
- Cap Coast Outrigger Club
- Cap Coast Parkana Cricket Club
- Cap Coast Runners
- Cap Coast Sharks Cricket
- Cap Coast Touch
- Capricorn Coast Bicycle Users Group
- Capricorn Coast Mallet Sports Club
- Capricorn Coast Outriggers
- Capricorn Coast Rugby Union Inc
- Capricorn Coast Sailing Club
- Capricorn Equestrian Group
- Caves Pony Club
- Cawarral Cricket Club
- Devine Drama and Dance
- Emu Park Bowls
- Emu Park Golf Club
- Emu Park Pool
- Emu Park Rugby League
- Emu Park Surf Life Saving Club
- Emu Park Victory Tennis Club
- Fitzroy Frogs Triathlon
- Football Queensland
- Golf Central Queensland Inc.
- Junior Rugby League
- Keppel Bay Karate-do
- Keppel Coast Athletics Club
- Keppel Coast Dirt Bike Club
- Keppel Islands Swimming Association
- Marlborough Pony Club
- Queensland AFL
- Queensland Cricket
- Sailability
- Sandhills Community Sports and Social Club
- SeaQ Boardriders
- Tennis QLD
- Yeppoon Australian Football Club (Swans)
- Yeppoon Bowls
- Yeppoon Golf Club
- Yeppoon Gymnastics and Movement
- Yeppoon Hack and Pony
- Yeppoon Park Run
- Yeppoon Pickleball
- Yeppoon Rugby League
- Yeppoon Sharks
- Yeppoon Surf Life Saving Club
- Yeppoon Tennis
- Yeppoon Triathlon
- Yeppoon Turf Club

Multisport precincts

- Barmaryee Multisport Precinct
 - Location: 214 Barmaryee Road, Yeppoon
 - Home to the Capricorn Coast Netball Association, Capricorn Coast Touch Football Club, and Yeppoon Seagulls Junior Rugby League Club
- Hartley Street Multisport Precinct
 - Location: 48 Hartley Street, Emu Park
 - Home to the Emu Park Junior and Senior Rugby League Clubs
- Cooee Bay Multisport Precinct
 - Location: 160 Matthew Flinders Drive, Cooee Bay
 - Home to the Yeppoon Aquatic Centre, Yeppoon Sharks Swimming Club, Yeppoon Tennis Club (including Pickleball), and the Capricorn Coast Crocs Junior and Senior Rugby Union Clubs

Fields, courts, and facilities

- Apex Park
- Bicentennial Park
- Bondoola Golf Course and Driving Range
- Capricorn Coast Recreation Centre (basketball court)
- Cawarral Recreation Reserve
- Emu Park Bowls Club
- Emu Park Golf Club
- Marlborough Pool
- Maurie Webb Oval
- Swan Park
- Victory Tennis Court
- Yeppoon Bowls Club
- Yeppoon Golf Club
- Yeppoon Showgrounds, including
 - Equestrian facilities
 - Gymnastics facilities
 - Cricket facilities
- Yeppoon Tennis Court
- Yeppoon Racecourse

Swimming pools

- Yeppoon Aquatic Centre
 - Location: 160 Matthew Flinders Drive, Cooee Bay
 - Includes 50 metre outdoor pool, 17 metre heated indoor pool, disability access, and covered wading pool
 - Swimming lessons, junior and adult squads, and water aerobics offered
- Emu Park Aquatic Centre (Don Ireland Swimming Complex)
 - Location: Pattison Street, Emu Park
 - Includes 25 metre heated pool and wading pool
 - Swimming lessons and junior and adult squads offered
- Marlborough Swimming Pool
 - Location: 21 Railway Street, Marlborough
 - Partially shaded 15 metre pool

References

ⁱ Livingstone Shire Council (2018) *Active Livingstone Strategy*. <https://www.livingstone.qld.gov.au/your-council/publications-and-media/plans-strategies-and-reports>

ⁱⁱ Australian Government (2022) *Community profiles*. <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area>

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid.

^{iv} Queensland Government (2018) *Population projections*. <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-projections/regions>

^v Queensland Government Statisticians Office (2022) *Population growth, regional Queensland 2020-21* www.qgso.qld.gov.au/issues/3106/population-growth-regional-qld-2020-21

^{vi} Australian Government (2022) *Community profiles*. <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area>

^{vii} Ibid.

^{viii} Ibid.

^{ix} Ibid.

^x Ibid.

^{xi} Ibid.

^{xii} Ibid.