

CHRISTMAS ISLAND SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGIC PLAN

**A strategic direction for the development and
implementation of sport and recreation facilities
and support services within the Shire of Christmas
Island 2013 – 2018
UPDATED MARCH 2014**



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PROLOGUE

The production of this Strategic Plan together with the comprehensive community consultation process has been made possible and funded through a Service Delivery Arrangement (SDA) with Commonwealth Government's, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (DIRD). The Western Australian Government's, Department of Sport (DSR) through this SDA was engaged to carry out the study and report.

The objectives of the SDA are to;

- 1 Encourage more Indian Ocean Territories (IOT) residents to be physically active
- 2 To strengthen the capacity of IOT sport and recreation organisations.
- 3 Promote sound infrastructure planning and sustainable facilities and
- 4 Assist DIRD and the Territories' communities in their strategic recreational planning process, including undertaking the five year strategic plan.

Since the completion of the study and report the Commonwealth Government through the IOT Administrator's Capital Projects Fund a number of recommendations within the plan have been completed and others are under way or planned.

Priorities will change from time to time and funding may not always be available to meet community expectations. This Strategic Plan therefore needs to be viewed as visionary in its essence, should always be considered as a living document to be used by existing and future governments as a resource to guide them in the decision-making process to make their future determinations. Recognising the inherent limits of the Plan's visionary nature, the Plan must be subject to re-examination and modification; thus, elevating it to a living document.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND 5 YEAR SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGIC PLAN

1.0 Executive Summary

Overview

Whilst there have been some changes to Sport and Recreation service provision and delivery since the adoption of the first 5 year plan in 2009, improvements have been minimal. This has largely been due to the lack of a Department of Sport and Recreation presence on the Island and no one to action and drive the 29 recommendations in the plan. The Shire of Christmas Island however has been instrumental in a number of changes and improvements, the most significant being the appointment of a Manager for Recreation Services. They have also extended after-school activities for the youth, commenced refurbishing the Basketball court in Poon Saan and commenced the process for installation access for people with disabilities to the Community Hall also in Poon Saan

There are consequently still many gaps in all areas of the study brief including;

- provision of physical activity opportunities,
- improving community capacity,
- developing sustainable community structures and
- developing essential infrastructure.

This review and further 5 year plan has identified additional gaps and proposes a number of short, medium and long term recommendations which will guide sport and recreation planning over the next five years.

Since the completion of the first draft of this report the Administrator, Jon Stanhope through his Administrator's Capital Projects Fund has been instrumental in addressing a number of the recommendations by providing urgently needed funds. Subsequently several projects and programs have been completed, are in progress and others planned.

Key findings

- CI is a safe place to live.
- **CI has been neglected for many years – there is a lack of facilities and many of those available are in a bad state of repair or unusable**
- Apart from one small unserviceable light pole at the Vagabond Road Sports ground there is no other lighting across the Island for sport and recreation during the cooler part of the day which restricts physical activity and competitions. Note: As an interim measure two portable light towers were purchased in late 2013 through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund.
- There are no serviceable Tennis courts on the Island. One school court was resurfaced through excess school funds remaining at the end of financial year.

- The Kampong lacks basic facilities. A Basketball half court was funded through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013.
- CI has a significant proportion of Chinese and Malay people living on the island. It is essential to recognise the important, unique and sensitive culture of the Chinese and Malay communities, and their special needs, in all planning areas.
- The 'boom and bust' economy of CI continues to have a significant bearing on sport and recreation planning.
- Currently the economy is booming with the services surrounding the asylum seekers. This however has a major impact on community capacity and availability of volunteers.
- SOCI Recreation Centre is under-utilised through lack of qualified staff and ongoing maintenance issues.
- Opportunities exist for a variety of physical activities utilising the natural environment.
- Many reports have been done on Christmas Island with minimal outcome
- The building index figure in Christmas Island is an extremely high at 2.6

Key needs and issues to emerge from further consultation

- That all agencies involved continue to make a long term commitment to the SOCI and the community. A whole of Government approach is required going forward.
- There is a need for an integrated CI Master Plan particularly in the human services area. This should reflect all agencies strategic plans and prioritise needs and recommendations.
- Federal Government contribution to assist with the management and maintenance of facilities is not meeting current needs and demands. This needs to be investigated.
- There is a need to appoint an officer to manage the Strategic plan, action recommendations, assess funding applications, manage the Coach in Residence program and conduct an annual review of the Plan.
- Annual professional development opportunities need to be arranged for the Manager of Recreation Services and could include visit to Dept of Sport and Recreation, local government recreation centres, other facilities and attendance at conferences.
- Shire managed Community Recreation Centre also requires assistance with obtaining and training staff.
- The Rec Centre Gym is in demand
- Urgent need to upgrade and refurbish the Recreation Centre including extensions to the Gym which now has a membership of over 300 and is insufficient for current demand.
- Additional upgrades for programming also required including, installation of a Climbing Wall and realignment of main indoor court to accommodate 2 courts increasing programming opportunities. The longer term is to extend the centre on the Southern wall to include an additional court
- Lighting maintenance within the Centre is creating additional expense and an alternative retractable lighting system needs to be investigated.

- Floor surface to the main indoor court is in a poor state of repair and needs replacing/relaying.
- There is a requirement to heat the pool to provide an all year around facility.
- Constant requests from the community to extend the Gym and provide additional equipment
- Swimming is a popular activity
- Rec Centre operating hours inconvenient ie opens at 9am
- Current lighting to outdoor playing field at the Vagabond Road Sports Ground is inadequate and requires upgrading. . Note: Two portable light towers were purchased in late 2013 through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund. These are being used and managed by the Cricket club.
- Kampong – “still waiting, waiting, waiting – lots of talking, consulting and no action”. This is being addressed through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund.
- Agencies and leaders are not listening to the community
- There is no duty of care - Kampong is still desperately waiting for basic facilities. Again, this is being addressed through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund
- Kampong – Basketball/Volleyball court urgently require, with lights – perhaps 3 on 3 (half court) on small grass are behind Kampong and adjacent to large soccer area. Been waiting for over 10 yrs. Half court completed through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013.
- Kampong - Current Takraw area is dangerous (large drop off concrete playing surface) and in sacred area. This is a temporary area developed voluntarily by the community.
- Kampong - Portable Soccer goals required for large grass area, with protective netting and lights
- Kampong - Music and dance is popular but only takes place in the Malay club which is not always available. The old CI Club would be ideal if redeveloped and attract a lot of use. Also the old Tennis court would be used if refurbished. Multi-purpose should be considered. Malays did use the old Club many years ago for pool, music, dancing, etc
- Kampong - Martial arts conducted on grass area opposite Mosque – not satisfactory and again could utilize old CI Club building if redeveloped
- Kampong - Malays miss their swimming opportunities and this needs to be addressed
- Kampong - Gym is popular (old Gym is unserviceable and dangerous) and should consider an outdoor fitness facility (similar to the Drum site) on the foreshore.
- Kampong – Seniors: Nordic walking poles would be popular and have been requested to commence walking activities similar to the programs on HI in the CKI. Note: Equipment purchased through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013

- Kampong - also Bocce would be popular with Seniors and has been requested. Again, sets of Bocce purchased through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013
- Kampong - Motocross popular with youth – require a track or area to ride.
- Kampong - Water fountains required around the Kampong.
- Poon Saan Community Hall – most seniors from the Kampong struggle with transport to attend programs.
- Need for training for volunteers to deliver Seniors programs. This is currently being addressed by DSR
- Lack of programs for children across the Island. In late 2013 and early 2014 this has improved with junior cricket and junior golf programs offered.
- Urgent need to implement a staged development of the Phosphate Hill Sports Precinct plan which includes a multi-purpose, rectangular playing field with lighting to both training and competition standards, relocation of Skate park and Cricket wicket and extension and refurbishing of the existing Cricket clubrooms. **Note:** The Cricket Club through its own resources and assistance through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund has undertaken much needed renovations to the clubrooms. Two portable light towers also funded through the same program are used and managed by the Cricket Club.
- There is a need on CI for a bank of outdoor courts for the sports of Tennis, Netball and Basketball
- There is a need for the Commonwealth to provide funds for the management and maintenance of the School sports oval and facilities.
- Basketball/Multi-sport court in Poon Saan requires upgrading - used daily from 4pm by youth.
- A need to build the capacity for coaches, especially in the area of skill development. This is being addressed by DSR.
- A need to continue after-school programs (to also include secondary students) and the DSR Coach in Residence program. Both have been the biggest factors in promoting participation, improving local coaching standards and both need to continue. The DSR have re-commenced funding and arranging visiting coaches programs through their SDA with the Commonwealth Government and are also investigating after-school opportunities and a community coaching program.
- Lack of volunteers due to the large number of FIFO workers. This has resulted in a lack of leaders, coaches and programs. A need to expand the volunteer base to relieve the pressure on the 'few'. In late 2013 and early 2014 this improved with a number of juniors sports operating.
- Opportunity to conduct certificate training courses for potential leaders, trainers and coaches through IOT Training Group.
- Consideration needs to be given for the appointment of a Club Development Officer to be shared with CI and CKI
- Golf club requires urgent assistance with power upgrade.
- The Golf clubhouse is also almost 60 years old and requires refurbishing. Golf course maintenance/mowing issues are currently beyond the clubs resources and need to be addressed. Note: The golf club have sourced

batteries for solar power storage and some renovations of the clubrooms have commenced. Purchase and installation of solar panels is due to be completed before the end of June 2014

- Need to review findings, within the C I Walking Track Strategy and re-prioritise recommendations
- An option worthy of consideration to assist with management and maintenance of proposed trails is for local groups to adopt a trail or section of a trail.
- Volleyball is a popular sport and Soccer popular with the Malay community
- There is a lack of opportunities and programs for young girls on the Island.
- There is interest and opportunities to developing the sport of Yachting
- Opportunity to upgrade and utilise existing outdoor playing field in the kampong for the popular sports of Takraw and junior Soccer
- Opportunity to utilise old Tennis Courts adjacent to former CI Club in the Kampong for Tennis and/or Takraw
- Poon Saan- Priority, more Seniors activities - Need Community Hall to be A/C - This would not only assist seniors activities but also provide a venue for small kids programs”.
- Poon Saan/Drumsite – “No after-school programs for kids and no one to run them!! – A/C to Community. This is being addressed by DSR.
- Poon Saan/Drumsite - Youth take part in Rec Centre Basketball, Volleyball and Futsal
Poon Saan/Drumsite - No shade to the 3 playgrounds in the area and this needs addressing. Note: The Administrator's is considering funding the installation of shade sails to some of the children's playgrounds through his Capital Projects Fund. To be completed by June 2014
- Transport to Rec Centre is an issue for many families
- If school Tennis courts were operational and open to the community they would get a lot of use. One of the courts has been resurfaced through excess school funds remaining at the end of financial year.

Recommended Broad Strategies

The shire adopts the following broad strategy statements that provide a framework for this five-year action plan:

- A ‘whole of Government’ approach is adopted.
- Develop additional Sport and Recreation facilities, in keeping with existing and future needs.
- Provide safe, convenient and assessable Sport and Recreation facilities.
- Maximise utilisation of Sport and Recreation infrastructure through encouraging multi-use of facilities and collocating compatible activities.

- Ensure provision of a range of quality Sport and Recreation opportunities suitable for young people.
- Ensure Sport and Recreation facilities are appropriately managed and maintained.
- Optimise Sport and Recreation opportunities associated with the Islands unique natural assets.
- Encourage community involvement in the planning, development, management, and maintenance of their Sport and Recreation opportunities.
- Ensure the contents of the Sport and Recreation plan are regularly reviewed and updated.

The shire, in their endeavours to implement the findings of this plan, adopts the following “Guiding Principles for Sport and Recreation Provision”:

- Effective planning for Sport and Recreation opportunities - Council will ensure that provision of Sport and Recreation opportunities accurately reflects community needs and council resource constraints.
- Effective use of Sport and Recreation facilities - Council will encourage and assist with maximum utilisation of Sport and Recreation infrastructure.
- High quality Sport and Recreation opportunities - Council will ensure that all Sport and Recreation facilities are designed and maintained to a high quality, commensurate with the nature and use of that facility.
- Resourcing the provision of Sport and Recreation opportunities - Council will identify and allocate resources for the provision of Sport and Recreation opportunities in an efficient and effective manner.
- Effective management of Sport and Recreation facilities, programs and events - Council will ensure that Sport and Recreation facilities, programs and events are managed in the most efficient and cost effective manner that will enable the community to enjoy safe well maintained and managed resources.

The shire adopts the recommended initiatives to build community capacity and sustainable facilities as detailed in the body of the report under RECOMMENDATIONS and summarised below.

Recommendations

(Operational – Training, Education, Community Structures, Participation and New Initiatives)

- 1.1 SOCI Manager of Recreation Services to manage the Strategic plan, action recommendations and review annually.
Provide professional development training for Recreation Centre staff and potential staff to help develop sport and recreation programming. There is interest in Badminton and consideration should be given to operating competitions from the Recreation Centre.
Use participation in sport, recreation and leisure as a vehicle to connect all sectors of the community.
- 1.2 Continue the Active After-School program and the DSR Coach in Residence program. This is being addressed by DSR
- 1.3 Establish a mentoring program between high school and primary school age children.
- 1.4 Provision of equipment for Seniors activities in the Kampong. Note: some equipment purchased through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013
- 1.5 That access issues at the community hall are addressed and Seniors programs developed.
- 1.6 Provide training for volunteers and others delivering Seniors programs. Staff training being address by IO Health Services, Shire and DSR.
- 1.7 The CI Tourism Association investigates selection and follows up on the accreditation of the island's premier walk trails for inclusion in the Top TrailsWA branding initiative.
- 1.8 Consolidate the administration of the various sporting clubs on Christmas Island.

Recommendations Cont'd

(Facilities/Infra-structure)

- 2.1 Update Recreation Centre asset management plan and conduct an on-site comprehensive facility condition audit
- 2.2 Upgrading to Recreation Centre - Extensions to the Gym and Installation of a Climbing Wall and realignment of main indoor court.
- 2.3 Installation of solar heating to provide optimum pool temperature.
- 2.4 Refurbish CI School Tennis courts. **One court completed in early 2014**



Rec Centre Air condition units, gutters, down pipes and flashing showing signs of deterioration



Rec Centre Male toilet - water damage to ceiling



Main Hall surface lifting

- 2.5 Vagabond Road Sports Precinct Development.
Commence staged implementation of precinct plan for sports activities.
Priorities for this development include;
 - **Relocation of the Skate Park.**
 - Extensions and refurbishment of existing Cricket clubrooms. **Club carried out some upgrading in late 2013 early 2014**



Vagabond Road Cricket clubrooms in a bad state of repair



Vagabond Road oval and Cricket clubrooms

2.6 Poon Saan and Kampong facility upgrades

- Construction of a concrete half-court Basketball/Volleyball court Kampong. Completed with funding through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in early 2014
- Provision of portable goal posts Kampong.
- Construction of light tower on grassed area at rear of Kampong. Two portable light towers funded through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013
- Provision of shade shelter over existing Gym in Kampong.
- Upgrade existing Basketball infrastructure including lighting in Poon Saan

2.7 Vagabond Road Sports Precinct Development Stage 2

- Commence stage two, development of rectangular playing field and relocation of central Cricket wicket.
- Development of additional change rooms.
- Develop a bank of outdoor courts for the sports of Tennis, Netball and Basketball.
- Appointment of a consultant to develop a precinct lighting plan. (Alternative consider portable light towers)



Poon Saan Basketball facility requiring infrastructure upgrade



Poon Saan Basketball court surface cracking



Kampong grass playing field requiring upgrade



Old Christmas Island Club Tennis Courts adjacent to Kampong

- 2.8 Redevelopment of the old Tennis Court adjacent to former CI Club in the Kampong.
 Conduct an engineering and building facility audit of the old CI Club

2.9 Community facilities

- Develop plans for shade structures over some of the play equipment in parks. Funding is being considered through the Administrator's Capital Projects fund in 2014 to commence installing shade sails
- Develop a significant meeting area/ town centre at Police Padang
- Develop a BBQ facility at the rear of the Kampong

2.10 CI Golf Club considers the following;

- Investigates options and seeks funding for sustainable energy.
 - Develops plans and seeks funding for extensions and refurbishing of their clubrooms
 - Investigates formalising a lease with the Federal Government to establish tenure.
 - Developing a business plan for an onsite ground keepers accommodation.
 - Investigate fairway management and maintenance options.
- Note: The Golf club have sourced batteries for solar power storage and some renovations of the clubrooms have commenced. Purchase and installation of solar panels is due to be completed before the end of June 2014



Christmas Island Golf Club



Golf clubhouse infrastructure damage



Golf clubhouse

- 2.11 **Review** the CI Walking Track Strategy and re-prioritise recommendations .

Establish a Walking Track Advisory group under the guidance of National Parks as the lead agency.

Work collaboratively to develop an integrated approach to all aspects of Trails and in particular to develop consistent design standards and budgets for the maintenance and upkeep of the trails.



Walking Trail Ethel Beach



Walking Trail Territory Park and Blow Holes viewing platform

- 2.12 Extend Recreation Centre main sports hall on the southern side to accommodate an additional court

2 Introduction

(Former) Manager of Regional Services for DSR, Ms Andrea Mitchell, visited CI with the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) Contract Manager, Eddie West, from Monday 12 March 2007 returning on Friday 16 March 2007. The purpose of the visit was to conduct a needs analysis on the current and future provision of sport and recreation opportunities on CI.

During the visit, meetings were held with the SOCI and a range of community groups. As a result of the interviews and observations made, it was recommended that:

- The SOCI develop a five year strategic sport and recreation plan.
- The SOCI restructures the positions within the organisation to include a senior position to oversee sport and recreation on the island, and not limited to the work undertaken in the Recreation Centre.
- The SOCI access and support the experience and abilities of all personnel on the island to maximise the opportunities for persons to participate in sport and recreation.
- The recreation staff of the SOCI undertakes training in customer service, program development and delivery to provide a greater sport and recreation experience at the Centre.
- Assessment of grant applications utilising the DSR criteria be undertaken and recommendations made to the RA for financial support.

The focus of a strategic plan was to:

- Encourage CI residents to be more physically active.
- Strengthen the capacity of CI sport and recreation organisations.
- Promote sound infrastructure planning and sustainable facilities.

DSR's Great Southern Manager, Mr Chris Thompson, was appointed on a short-term (four week) contract to:

- Commence development of a five year strategic plan.
- Make recommendations to strengthen the capacity of CI sport and recreation organisations.

The officer initially visited CI for a one-week orientation period from Monday 31 August to Monday 7 September 2009. He completed the second visitation from Wednesday 16 September to Friday 25 September 2009. The third visitation, which related to tabling the draft report to the SOCI occurred from Monday 7 December to Friday 11 December 2009.

The Christmas Island Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan was adopted by Council in October 2009.

Gary Clark, (former) DSR Mid West Manager was appointed in June 2012 to review progress, develop a plan and implementation strategy for the next 5 years. He conducted an orientation visit from 19 to 22 June 2012, returning on 23 October to the 13 November and again 7 to 15 March 2013 to review the 2009 plan, revisit the recommendations, consider additional gaps and develop and prioritise an action plan. This report is the outcome of these 2012-13 visits.

3.0 Background

Sport and recreation has been regarded as a very successful vehicle for promoting healthy life styles through improving physical activity opportunities and developing capacity building in rural and remote communities.

It was identified in an earlier report in 2007 that planning for sport and recreation in Christmas Island needed to be improved across all areas. The challenge was to develop a sustainable solution that addressed all areas including; participation rates, community capacity levels, community structures and infrastructure.

It was also recognised there was an urgent need to fast track planning to establish programs and throughout the 2007-08 period, during the development of the Strategic Plan, a number of programs were commenced to improve physical activity opportunities and address many of the challenges highlighted above. These programs included the introduction of the Coach in Residence program, Active After School Community visits and a number of shire initiatives.

Further background information on Christmas Island can be found in the 5 Year Christmas Island Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan adopted by Council in October 2009.

4.0 Purpose of the review

The Christmas Islands Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan is now entering its fourth year and whilst very few of the recommendations have been addressed, due to a number of factors, they all need to be revisited and reviewed.

All recommendations listed also need to be prioritised, additional recommendations included and action plans developed for each of them.

A complete review of the plan has been undertaken and an updated plan developed for a further 5 year period, 2013 – 2018.

The existing plan should still be used as a reference point in conjunction with the new version as much of the current plans background information will still be relevant. A number of sections have been updated and a thorough consultation process conducted to consider gaps in provision and develop strategies for the short to medium term.

Consultation methodology included further literature research, data collection through surveys, interviews with key people and community forums. Considerations included, how successful the initial plan has been, what worked and what did not and what gaps were evident that will require attention going forward.

The review also considered contemporary issues, immediate future changes within the community and trends and issues and how these should be addressed. Critical tasks within a 3-5 year timeframe were also considered.

The process is for a first draft to be developed for the Commonwealth, Council and the wider community for consideration and comment and following feedback adjustments will be made before the final draft is presented to the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (DIRD) and Council for their approval and adoption.

5.0 Desired Project Outcomes

The basic aim of this review and second strategic plan is to identify the sport and recreation needs of the Christmas Island community for the period 2013/14 to 2018/19 and develop strategies to address these.

The following desired outcomes were developed from earlier reports, the previous plan and additional research and consultation.

- In consultation with the Community develop strategies to address barriers to participation in sport and recreation across all age groups,
- With the Community facilitate the formation of sport and recreation plans which address identified needs and gaps in provision of sport and recreation programs,
- Develop a further five year plan and funding strategy for the implementation of sport and recreation including; infra-structure development, people and organisational development,

- Implementation and action plan for key strategies contained in the plan and
- Shire appoints a council officer to be responsible for implementation and management of the plan and for ongoing evaluation.

6.0 Consultation Methodology and Techniques

The project was broken into three phases;

- 1) Literature search for previous planning work carried out,
- 2) Data collection through surveys and
- 3) Community and key stakeholder interviews and community forums.

6.1 Literature Search

The following documents, reports and statistical information for all previous planning work and research were studied to assist in developing an accurate community profile;

- 2009 Christmas Island Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan
- Shire of Christmas Island Strategic Plan
- 2011 Christmas Island Walking Track Strategy
- Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010 Census
- Christmas Island National Parks Management Plan

6.2 Questionnaires

Two questionnaires were developed; one for the Christmas Island District High School (CIDHS) and the second for the wider community. These were basically to:

- 1) Identify the current sport and recreation activities available and those that individuals participate in.
- 2) Consider the gaps:-
 - Facilities individuals would like to see provided and
 - Activities and programs they would like to see introduced.

The surveys were distributed through upper primary and high school at the CIDHS and through supermarkets and by hand to all localities across the Island.

6.3 Consultation with community groups and key stakeholders.

Attendance at meetings, forums and face to face interviews were conducted with numerous community groups and key stakeholders during visits in June, October-November 2012 and again in March 2013. The interviews were focused on determining the current provision of sport and recreation activities and programs and perceived barriers to participation. Options and strategies to enhance or improve provision were also discussed.

7.0 Results from consultation

7.1 Literature Research

7.1.1 Shire of Christmas Island Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015.

The Shires 2018 vision within the plan is;
‘A place for everyone, without exception.’

- Challenges

At the outset of this project many in the community indicated that Christmas Island was over consulted/analysed and under-implemented. This sentiment was echoed in the community survey.

Many people indicated that even if the Plan included all the relevant actions, they were skeptical that implementation of projects would occur.

- Opportunities

Developing Infrastructure to support ageing/ retirement on the island
Developing precinct plans, including the beautification of public spaces;
Developing a program of community capacity building projects; developing more recreational activities for youth; and embracing/enhancing the arts and cultural elements of the Island.

- Community Infra structure planning

Develop a significant meeting area/ town centre on Christmas Island (**High 2011/12**)
Improvements to existing open spaces and parks to ensure families, groups and individuals can use these appropriately (**Medium 2015**)

Develop a multi-purpose, rectangular playing field and 400m athletics track on Phosphate Hill with lighting to both training and competition standard. (**High 2011**)

Develop a fenced play area for children and safe play equipment. (**High 2011**)

Develop a BMX track, open air skating park and other active recreation areas and spaces for children and youth. (**Medium 2015**)

Community capacity, health and well-being

Establish a mentoring program between high school children and primary school children (**Medium 2015**)

Develop and implement an Island Induction program for all workers coming to Christmas Island. Specifically target all fly in /fly out contractors to the Island. (**High 2011**).

Lobby and encourage DIAC to lengthen contract timeframes to at least 3 years for detention centre workers.

Encourage DIAC workers and other community members to have joint activities. **(High 2011)**

Develop a calendar of festivals and events **(High 2011)**

Investigate the establishment of community markets-food, art and culture **(High 2011)**

Establish and market the Indian Ocean Games sporting festival. **(Medium 2015)**

Develop and implement a sport and recreation development plan with an emphasis on ensuring the provision of a range of quality sport and recreation opportunities suitable for young people and the elderly in accordance with these specific gaps in provision identified by the 2009 Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan **(High – Ongoing)**

In developing opportunities seek to optimise the unique natural assets existing on the island. **(High 2011)**

- Consolidate the administration of the various sporting clubs on Christmas Island.

Utilise the Recreation Centre as a one-stop-shop for all sporting inquiries whilst ensuring that existing clubs maintain their independent management. **(Medium 2015)**

Build the capacity for sports coaches, especially in the area of skill development **(Medium 2015)**

Investigate the requirements and level of interest in providing further after-school programs **(High 2011)**

Employ a community garden coordinator and establish a community garden. **(High 2011)**

Implement a Community Leadership program **(High 2011)**

Update the Community Directory **(High 2011)**

7.1.2 Christmas Island Walking Track Strategy

This plan was completed in November 2007. It is a comprehensive report that provides the following;

- an inventory of existing and potential trails,
- identifies priorities,
- includes maps,

- includes preliminary cost estimates,
- identifies management methods,
- identifies funding opportunities,
- identifies marketing and promotion opportunities,
- includes guidance on signage and
- information on the development of interpretive information.

A staged approach to construction was recommended and all trails were ranked. The following in priority order were recommended;

- 1 Visitor Centre to Cemetery
- 2 Cemetery to Grotto
- 3 Territory Park to Jetty
- 4 Grotto to Resort
- 5 Resort to Pink House (via Margaret Knoll)
- 6 Pink House to Sport and Rec
- 7 Sport and Rec to Territory Park
- 8 The Incline (Silver City)
- 9 Overnight node to Pink House
- 10 Pink House to Winifred Beach
- 11 Resort to Ethel Beach
- 12 Winifred Beach to West White Beach carpark
- 13 Overnight at Ethel Beach
- 14 Overnight at Winifred Beach
- 15 Winifred Beach to Pink House
- 16 Ethel Beach to South Point
- 17 South Point to Circuit Track

A further trail listed in the Strategy and recommended for future development was a Snorkel Trail. The popular Flying Fish Cove presents an ideal site suitable for extended and interpretive snorkelling.

7.1.3 Christmas Island National Park Draft Management Plan 2012-2022.

Stake Holders and Partnerships

Issues:

- Many park management and island-wide conservation and tourism issues can only be effectively addressed through island-wide and whole-of-government approaches.
- Many stakeholders and the community want to be consulted about, contribute to and learn more about the park's management and the island's conservation issues.

Policy:

- Productive and effective working relationships will be maintained with the community and other stakeholders.
- Government agencies should perform functions and exercise powers in a manner consistent with this plan.

Actions:

- Share information with the community and other stakeholders in relation to park and island-wide conservation issues and other issues of mutual interest. This may include:
 - (a) establishing or participating in consultative and advisory groups or forums
 - (b) establishing or participating in awareness raising and information sharing forums.
 - (c) consulting the community and other stakeholders in relation to specific issues.
- Work with relevant stakeholders and organisations to develop partnerships and whole-of-government approaches for implementing this plan and addressing island-wide conservation issues and other issues of mutual interest (also see Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 6.1 and 8.7).
- Implement strategies to increase community and stakeholder involvement in contributing to the management of the park, including employing island residents and supporting appropriate volunteer activities.

7.1.4 Population Profile

The following demographics have been obtained from the ABS 2010 Census.

There were 2,100 usually resident on Christmas Island. However with 'Irregular Maritime Arrivals' and associated service support staff the island's population varies on a daily to weekly basis. At the time of developing this report there were 1,286 people in immigration detention on Christmas Island.

Figures and details pertinent to this review include;

- Currently 43.4 per cent of the resident population is female.
- Given that 19.6 per cent of the population is Muslim, providing appropriate sport and recreation opportunities for Muslim women needs special consideration.
- More than 23 per cent of the population is under 15 years of age, well above national figures.
- 49.7 per cent of the population is between 25 and 54 years of age. This represents a large portion of the population who would normally be expected to be active in sport and recreation.
- Planning for the predicted ageing population of CI will also require special consideration.
- CI does not have a retirement village or seniors home although within both the Malay and Chinese community the extended family support is evident.
- There are low figures compared to the national average in the 15-24 year age group and this can be attributed to students leaving for university studies, further education or apprenticeship opportunities on the mainland.

When considering the demographic, social, and economic information of the Christmas Island, the following key issues are most important

and must be taken into account when planning sport and recreation programs and facilities.

- Christmas Island is a young community growing at a rate well above the National average. Approximately 23% of the population is under 15 years of age, well above national figures and increasing at a rate also above the national average. It is important that the provision of programs and facilities be addressed to ensure that provision is consistent and relevant to the size and nature of demand.
- With over 43% female population, consideration needs to be given to the current and future provision of programs and facilities in terms of gender, specifically opportunities for equal participation and availability for both male and females. Cultural considerations will also need to be addressed when planning and developing women's activities.
- Over 40% of the population is between 25 and 54 years of age. This represents a large portion of the population who would normally be expected to be active in sport and recreation. A priority will be to continue to provide programs and planning to address this need.
- Planning for the predicted ageing population of the CI still requires special attention to ensure provision of appropriate programs and facilities to allow for the changing uses and provide adequate flexibility to meet the needs of older people in the community.
- CI has a significant proportion of Chinese and Malay people living on the Island. It is essential to recognise the important, unique and sensitive culture of both communities and their special needs.

7.2 Data Collection

7.2.1 Christmas Island High School Sport and Recreation Survey

In October 2012 a participation survey was conducted through the Christmas Island District High School to establish physical activities young people were involved in outside school time, gaps in the provision of programs and facilities and suggestions on how we can improve sport and recreation opportunities.

A total of 110 students took part in the survey with an even split of males and females with ages ranging from 8 to 17 years.

The popular sports and physical activities they currently participated in after-school included;

Walking/Running, Soccer, Volleyball, Swimming and Fishing.

Sports or activities they would like to participate in after-school not currently provided for include;

Skating, Basketball, Netball, Tennis, and Gymnastics

Are the current facilities adequate?

Generally the majority were happy with current facilities, however a number of students wanted better skate facilities

Facilities they would like to see provided or upgraded included;

A better skate park, lighting of grounds, Netball court and a BMX track

Other gaps or suggestions on how to improve sport and recreation opportunities on Christmas Island included;

Opportunities for Dancing, Gymnastics, Skate Park and Tennis courts.

7.2.2 Community Survey

In March 2013 an additional community questionnaire was developed to drill a little deeper to identify how many people participate in sport and recreation activities and what facilities and programs they would like to see provided. The survey was specifically designed to identify suburb by suburb requirements and age group needs. The questionnaire was delivered through households and supermarkets and was translated to Malay and Mandarin where required.

The initial close-off date was extended to gain a larger return and in the final analysis a total of 65 questionnaires were completed and returned. Whilst this is only just over 3% of the community, in many cases the responses were family views and a more accurate figure would be around 10%. Add to this the school survey above and returns represent a 15% sample of the community.

The returns were as follows;

Settlement 20%,

Silver City 20%,

Drumsite/Poon Saan 29%,

Resort 18% and

Unknown 13%.

Age categories from the returns included;

12 to 19 years - 20%,

20 to 54 years - 47% and

Over 55 years – 33%.

A total of seven questions on activities, facilities, volunteers, opportunities and gaps were included in the survey and a summary of the results are listed below.

- 1 *Sports they currently participate in.*
 - Weights/Cardio/Gym50%
 - Swimming 36%
 - Basketball30%
 - Volleyball27%
 - Soccer13%
 - Running.....13%
 - Cricket13%
 - Cricket13%
 - Walking11%
 - Netball11%
 - Touch11%
 - Snorkelling7%
 - Yoga7%
 - Football7%
 - Golf7%

- 2 *Sports or activities they would like to participate in that are currently not available.*
 - Tennis22%
 - Basketball.....13%
 - Indoor/outdoor Soccer....13%
 - Circuit training11%
 - Squash11%

- 3 *Do the current facilities meet the standards required for local participation?*
 - No vote registered71%
 - Yes vote.....15%
 - Did not indicate either way.....14%

 - Rec Centre under used40%
 - (leaking and poor maintenance)
 - Tennis courts all unserviceable.....22%
 - Courts and court lighting 7%
 - Swimming pool – not open at convenient times7%
 - Walking trails - foreshore and others7%

- 4 *What other facilities should be provided?*
 - Tennis / hard courts22%
 - Lighting - Cricket, Soccer, Football oval.....11%
 - Kids facility trampolines, etc11%

- 5 *What other programs, activities or equipment should be provided?*
 - Extend Gym and more equipment49%
 - Maintenance Rec Centre7%

Rock climbing wall	7%
More afterschool sport.....	7%

6 *Would you be interested in assisting as a volunteer?*

No.....	35%
Yes	27%
Coaching	18%
Officiating	18%
Administrator.....	16%

7 *Do you have any other suggestions*

Open Rec Centre earlier	44%
Better managed Rec Centre	17%
Clubs to work together - coordinate kids after-school sport	17%
Train up Rec Centre staff for umpiring and running activities	9%
Kids sport expensive – needs to be subsidized	7%
Fed Govt and Shire need overcome funding disagreements and work together	7%

Priorities and gaps requiring urgent attention include;

- The Rec Centre Gym is in demand
- Requests to extend the Gym and provide additional equipment
- Swimming is a popular activity
- Concern there is no operational tennis courts on the Island
- Rec Centre is under used due to maintenance issues
- Rec Centre operating hours inconvenient ie opens at 9am

7.3 Needs Assessment

The research data outlined was used to develop a contemporary profile, assist in gaining knowledge on barriers to participation and identify gaps in provision.

The research was also used as a guide to establish principles for future planning and develop strategies and actions to determine future facility and program needs. These planning principals were included in the 2009 Strategic Plan, have been updated and are extremely important going forward.

The following Guiding Principles were developed from the research data and the key findings are listed under sections 9, 10 and 11 in this report.

8.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SPORT AND RECREATION PROVISION

1) Effective planning for sport and recreation opportunities.

Guiding principle.

Council will ensure that provision of sport and recreation opportunities accurately reflects community needs and council resource constraints.

Council will:

- a) Adopt the 2013 - 2018 Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan and incorporate relevant sections into council's corporate and operational plans and annual budgets;
- b) The development and planning of sport and recreation facilities, programs and opportunities to be undertaken based on identified community need and taking into account available resources and community support.
- c) Liaise closely with other agencies/organisations i.e. Education, Health, National Parks and CI TA etc. to where possible/relevant adopt common strategies in addressing the issues of infrastructure design/development, innovation, technology, environment, etc.
- d) Regularly review the implementation priorities contained in the action plan for sport and recreation opportunities and adjust as required; and
- e) Establish appropriate performance measures, regularly monitor the effectiveness of the Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan and adjust as required.

2) Effective use of sport and recreation facilities

Guiding principle

Council will encourage and assist maximum utilisation of sport and recreation infrastructure.

Council will:

- a) Require that any new sport and recreation facilities be designed to allow compatible multi-use;
- b) Not support proposals that duplicate existing sport and recreation facilities and services unless it can be demonstrated that:
 - Existing facilities are at or nearing capacity
 - No viable alternatives exist.
- c) Liaise with education authorities to develop and implement systems that support community use of sport and recreation facilities in school grounds outside of school hours.

3) High quality sport and recreation opportunities

Guiding principle

Council will ensure that all sport and recreation facilities are designed and maintained to a high quality, commensurate with the nature and use of that facility.

Council will:

- a) Require that all new sport and recreation facilities be designed to comply with relevant Australian Design standards;
- b) Regularly review the condition of council owned/managed sport and recreation assets, and upgrade as required.

4) Resourcing the provision of sport and recreation opportunities

Guiding Principle

Council will identify and allocate resources for the provision of sport and recreation opportunities in an efficient and effective manner.

Council will:

- a) Seek funds from the full range of available sources to assist with the timely development and improvement of sport and recreation opportunities;
- b) Allocate funds and other resources for the development and improvement of sport and recreation opportunities based on the provision of the sport and recreation plan;
- c) Support sport and recreation organisations who demonstrate initiative for the development of new or improved sport and recreation facilities and activities.

5) Effective management of sport and recreation facilities, programs and events

Guiding principle

Council will ensure that sport and recreation facilities, programs and events are managed in the most efficient and cost effective manner that will enable the community to enjoy safe well maintained and managed resources.

Council will:

- a) Identify sport and recreation facilities, programs and events that have the capacity to be managed more efficiently and effectively, and assist with appropriate administrative arrangements;
- b) Provide support for sport and recreation organisations where they demonstrate sound planning, structures, volunteerism and management of sport and recreation facilities, programs and events.

- c) Encourage and promote the development of sports structures and clubs and support training to assist in the development of high quality sport and recreation opportunities.
Create opportunities for partnerships between Council and the community in pursuit of higher quality sport and recreation outcomes.

9.0 SPORT AND RECREATION STRUCTURES, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND NEW INITIATIVES

Apart from a few initiatives sport and recreation opportunities have not improved greatly over the last 4 years. The SOCI have appointed a Manager of Recreation Services (MRS) whose role is to manage the Recreation Centre but to also plan, develop, promote and implement sport and recreation projects, programs and activities as identified in the Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan. This is a relatively new role, has already had a role-on effect and is expected to improve service delivery in the coming years.

The SOCI has also commenced a number of activities and programs since the recent opening of the main hall in the Recreation Centre again following much needed repairs to the roof. The water leaking through the roof is still however an issue that needs addressing. After-school programs have commenced at the Recreation Centre for school age youth and various short term corporate competitions are proving popular.

The Vagabond Road Sports Precinct Development plan has also been completed and the proposed staged implementation of this will have major implications to the future development of sport and recreation on the island.

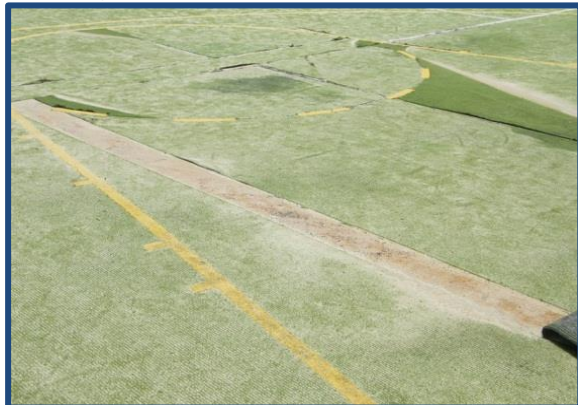
The success of the Coach in Residence program has been important in turning around community interest and involvement and responsible for improving community capacity through the skill development sessions for existing coaches, potential coaches and parents. It has also assisted in increasing participation rates, the development of sport structures and sustainable programs and competitions.

It should be noted that since the completion of the first draft of this report the Administrator, Jon Stanhope based in Christmas Island has been instrumental in addressing a number of the recommendations by providing urgently needed funds through his Administrator's Capital Projects Fund. Subsequently several projects and programs have been completed, are in progress and others planned.

One of the aims of this review is to develop a second 5 year plan by identifying further sport and recreation needs of the Christmas Island community and developing strategies to build on the success of the above.

Following further consultation with the community, some of the key issues identified from this research included:

- CI has been neglected for many years – there is a lack of facilities and many of those available are in a bad state of repair or unusable
Apart from one small unserviceable light pole at the Vagabond Road Sports ground there is no other lighting across the Island for sport and recreation during the cooler part of the day which restricts physical activity and competitions. Note: As an interim measure two portable light towers were purchased in late 2013 through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund.
- There is no serviceable Tennis courts on the Island. . One of the courts has been resurfaced through excess school funds remaining at the end of financial year.
- The Kampong lacks basic facilities. . A Basketball half court was funded through the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund in late 2013.
- Recreation Centre is under-used
- Opening times and hours of operation unsuitable for work force and community
- Gym needs to be extended
- Urgent need to upgrade, refurbish and extend the Recreation Centre.
- There is a requirement to heat the pool.
- Urgent need to implement a staged development of the Phosphate Hill Sports Precinct plan.
- A need on for a bank of outdoor courts for the sports of Tennis, Netball and Basketball.
- Commonwealth funds required for the management and maintenance of the sports oval and facilities at the CI District High School.



CI High School Tennis/Basketball court one - requiring urgent up grade



CI High School Tennis/Basketball court two – showing mould build up and unusable

- A need to continue after-school programs (to also include secondary students) and the DSR Coach in Residence program. DSR is addressing these two areas.
- Lack of volunteers due to the large number of FIFO workers.
- Consideration needs to be given for the appointment of a Club Development Officer.
- Many reports done on the Island with minimal outcome.
- Golf club requires urgent assistance with power upgrade, fairway maintenance and refurbishing of clubhouse. Note: The Golf club has sourced batteries for solar power storage and some renovations of the clubrooms has commenced. Purchase and installation of solar panels is due to be completed before the end of June through funding from the Administrator's Capital Projects Fund
- Need to review findings, within the C I Walking Track Strategy and re-prioritise recommendations
- There is interest and benefits for CI in developing a Snorkel Trail.



Flying Fish Cove provides ideal snorkeling opportunities



Flying Fish Cove provides ideal snorkeling opportunities

- Need to upgrade and utilise existing outdoor playing field in the kampong for Takraw and junior Soccer.
- There is interest and opportunities to developing the sport of Yachting.



Yachting on Flying Fish Cove

- Planning for the predicted ageing population of the CI still requires special attention to ensure provision of appropriate programs and facilities.
- The sport of dancing is a popular activity and there are requests for additional opportunities.

Whilst CI has developed structures most sports experience difficulties from time to time with individuals and families leaving. This has at times seen the demise of a sport or activity and an alternative system/structure is important and requires investigation to protect the small number of volunteers and guarantee continuity.

10.0 BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY

Through an extensive consultation process outlined previously the following proposals are recommended initiatives some of which were highlighted as a priority by the community and essential if we were to continue to improve community structures and opportunities.

- The DSR CIR visiting coaching program is important to the CI and needs to be continued. Essentially it extends opportunities available to communities on the mainland to CI and has been most successful offering coaching clinics/forums for athletes, coaches, potential coaches and parents in a variety of sports. It has been one of the biggest factors in promoting participation, improving local coaching standards, is seen as a high priority and needs to be continued. **Note:** The DSR have recommenced funding and arranging visiting coaches programs through their SDA with the Commonwealth Government.

At the same time there is also a need to continue the Active After-School Communities program in some form. An option may be to combine it with the DSR Coach in Residence program. The program also needs to extend to secondary school age students. **Note:** The DSR are investigating after-school opportunities and a community coaching program.

There is potential to develop a partnership with the IOT Training Group on CI to conduct certificate training courses for potential leaders, trainers and coaches.



Junior cricket clinics at Vagabond Road oval

- A program that needs to be investigated and was recommended in the 2009 Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan is the provision of a Club Development Officer (CDO) through the statewide DSR CDO Scheme. The CDO would work across and be shared by both CI and CKI to provide support and assist with the development of volunteer capacity. The officer would focus on engaging the various cultural and community groups to become involved in supporting local clubs and groups, and benefit from the rewards derived from community volunteerism. This position could be full or part time.
- Consideration needs to be given to offering professional development training opportunities for Recreation Centre staff, potential staff and volunteers to help develop sport and recreation programming at the Recreation Centre.
- Community surveys and consultation indicated there is interest in the community to be involved in Coaching, Officiating and Administration. Opportunities for appropriate training need to be investigated. Note: This could be combined with the DSR visiting coaching program.
- Consideration be given to operating Badminton competitions from the Recreation Centre where there is more than one court to facilitate fixtured games.
- Access issues at the community hall need to be addressed if the facility continues to be utilised as a community facility and especially with reference to senior activities. There may be opportunities to conduct extended and ongoing seniors program at the facility.
- Equipment for Seniors in the Kampong urgently required
- Provision of training for existing and potential volunteers, nursing staff and other interested people involved in delivering Seniors programs. Note: The DSR will be conducting training workshops for all staff and volunteers early in 2014
- Use participation in sport, recreation and leisure as a vehicle to connect all sectors of the community.
- The CI Tourism Association investigates the selection and follows up on the accreditation of the island's premier walk trails for inclusion in the Top TrailsWA branding initiative

11.0 FACILITIES

The unique nature and structure of Christmas Island community i.e. only one island with a relatively small population of 2100 permanent residents and 1000+ 'Irregular Maritime Arrivals' and associated service support staff has made research and the needs analysis much easier than we would normally expect.

It has been possible to consult the majority of the community to establish a community profile and consider the gaps in facility provision through meetings with local groups, interviewing community leaders, attending club meetings and conducting school and community surveys.

So the majority of the community has had the opportunity of being involved and had input allowing us to make informed decisions on options and alternatives for the island.

As part of the facility planning on CI an audit of existing facilities was conducted to ascertain condition, usage, possible upgrades and gaps in provision.

The following section presents a collation of the research data collected to determine existing and likely future upgrading of Sport and Recreation facilities.



Recreation Centre Swimming Pool requires heating

FACILITY ASSESSMENT

Facility	Condition	Current needs	Future development	Value	Comments
Recreation Centre Management <i>Note: SOCI receives an annual grant from the Federal Government (administered through the DIRD) for the operation of the Centre.</i>	Constructed 2005	General maintenance	Maintenance and asset management plan required	Asset value \$8m	Through lack of resources and a maintenance budget has been neglected
- 25 m lap pool, leisure pool	Good	Shade Heating	For optimum use solar heating is required and shade for main pool	\$50k (heating)	Due to the chill factor the pool is not utilized all year round
- Single court multi-use sports hall	Average	Flooring in bad state of repair	Requires replacing. Also limited storage	\$100k	Flooring was not the ideal surface for CI. It has stretched, is lifting, gets very slippery and can be dangerous
- Gymnasium	Excellent	Too small	Needs to be extended	\$35k	Gym membership is now almost 300. There is an opportunity to extend the area on the Eastern side
- Crèche,	Good	Nil			
- Multi-use function centre	Good	Moisture and mould build-up	May require ceiling or extractor fans	\$10K	
- Kiosk	Good	Nil			This facility is leased out and is very popular asset to the Centre
- Supporting amenities (change rooms/storage etc.).	Average	Moisture and mould build-up in male ablution	May require ceiling or extractor fans	\$5k	The main cause is the height above sea level (310m) and the impact of low level clouds This is in a bad state of repair and will require repairs to ceiling and repainting

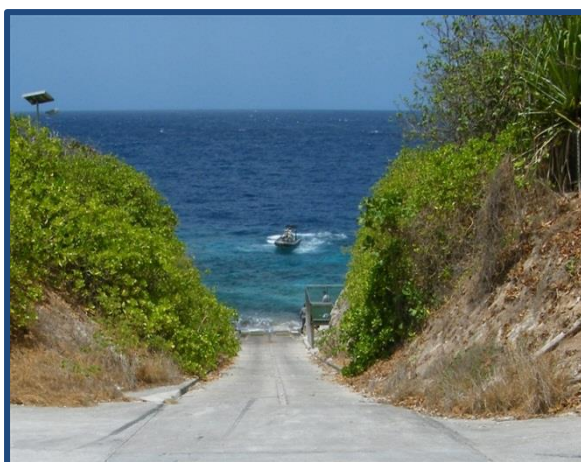
Facility	Condition	Current needs	Future development	Value	Comments
Cricket & Sporting Club — Phosphate Hill - Oval	Good	Additional Rectangular pitch to reduce load	Precinct strategy completed and now needs to be implemented	TBA	The CI Cricket & Sporting Club manages and maintains the oval, which has a reasonable turf surface
- 2 x Light towers	Average	Unsuitable for night sport – suitable only for some training programs	Urgently need replacing . As an interim measure the Administrators office has funded 2 portable light towers	TBA	These towers are very low and inadequate for evening activities. New light towers will offer more opportunities for sports programs
- Cricket wicket. Concrete with outdoor carpet	Very good	Nil	Needs to be relocated between grounds when new rectangular pitch developed	\$10k	The wicket is currently in the centre of the oval and is a hazard for most other sports
- Cricket practice wickets. Concrete with synthetic grass and fencing	Very good	Nil	Nil	\$30k	The 2 wickets are located at the southern end of the oval and can remain with proposed precinct redevelopment
- Floodlit, fenced, single, multi-marked hard court	Average	Court surface in poor condition	Requires refurbishing	TBA	Located within the construction workers' compound (now utilised by DIAC)
- Playground with a variety of equipment, rubber flooring and shade sail	Very good	Nil	Nil	TBA	
- Clubrooms 13m x 11m Small a/c 11m x 9m function area (carpeted) with low ceiling, kitchen and storage.	Average	White ants have eroded much of the outside and inside paneling and framing.	Requires a complete refurbishment and extension	TBA	The facility is far too small for current needs. Note:The Cricket club has commence refurbishment
- Outside Male and Female toilets.	Average	Too small for current needs	Need to be replaced	TBA	Outside toilets are inconvenient and inadequate
- Outside servery, equipment storage (10m x 4.5m) and 10m x 6m covered spectator area	Good	Storage area is too small	Storage area will need to be expanded	TBA	Extensions to this area need to be included in the plans to extend the Clubrooms

Facility	Condition	Current needs	Future development	Value	Comments
Outdoor Basketball Court – Poon Saan Concrete surface, lighting, fencing and stepped spectator viewing area.	Poor	Some cracking to concrete surface and backboards need to be replaced	Upgrade surface, replace backboards and hoops	TBA	The outdoor basketball court needs to be retained for street/casual basketball.
Golf Club - Two story steel framed Clubrooms facility with covered upstairs viewing area and no power source	Average	Facility is almost 60 years old and requires refurbishing and a power supply	Upgrade and extend to meet current needs and investigate power alternatives	TBA	Club has a membership of 70 and attracts many visitors – 200-300 per week. They have also just commenced a junior program. Power is a major issue and solar and other options should be investigated. . Note: Solar power and renovations of the clubrooms have commenced.
- Fairways	Good	Assistance with maintenance Now beyond the clubs limited resources	Club volunteers are struggling to manage and maintain the course and urgently require support.	TBA	In order for this popular facility and sport to continue, ongoing maintenance of the course and recurrent costs needed to be addressed
CI District High School Approx 250 students with a range of sporting facilities in various levels of condition. - Junior sized grassed oval and change room and toilets. It has community use ie soccer training	Average	Maintenance program	Require assistance with ground maintenance	TBA	The school is currently responsible for all the maintenance and upkeep and does not have the resources to maintain in a satisfactory condition
- 2 x synthetic grass floodlit Tennis courts, one multi-marked	Poor	Both courts are currently unsuitable for use	Both courts require resurfacing and a maintenance program developed to remove algae and mold growth from the synthetic grass surface.	TBA	The courts also require an ongoing maintenance program to restrict weed growth around the courts. Note: One of the courts resurfaced in early 2014 through excess school funds.

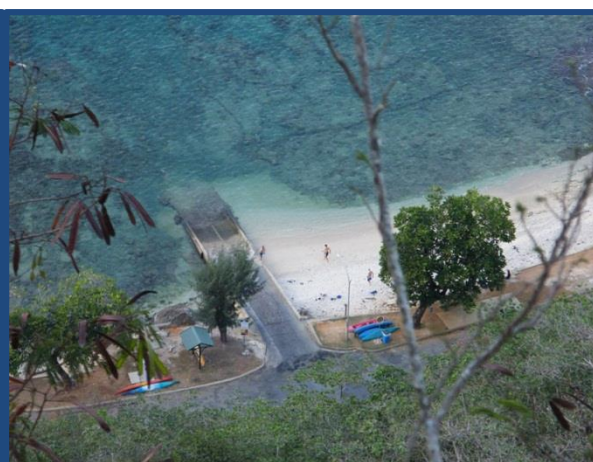
- Under cover multi- use court	Good	Nil	Nil	Part of school infra-structure	This is the size of one basketball court and cannot cope with school demands
CI Community Hall – Located in Poon Saan and built in 1969	Good	Operated and maintained by the SOCI	No provision for disabled access And this needs to be addressed	TBA	Used mainly by the Chinese community for a range of activities
Old CI Club - Dis-used old building in a poor state of repair	Poor	Complete redevelopment and refurbishment required	Will require Structural Engineer and Building Surveyors inspection and report	TBA	Due to the condition of the building redevelopment may not be cost effective
- Old Tennis Court 50m east of CI Club	Poor Overgrown and will require a major cleanup	Redevelopment possibilities. 40m x 21m concrete pad in average condition, with 3 x 7m light poles, some existing fencing and poles	The concrete pad has some cracking but very repairable. Will require a new synthetic surface, new fencing, power and new lamps to poles	\$127k	This facility has historical value to CI, is well positioned overlooking Flying Fish Cove and given the concrete pad is in reasonable condition funding to upgrade would be a worthwhile investment. It is also close to the Kampong which has very limited Sport and Recreation facilities.
Kampong Grass area behind Kampong – 42m x 34m . Some fencing and sloping grass to one side.	Good condition	Requires some top dressing to develop even surface.	Lighting, portable goals and protective netting to one side	TBA	Portable lighting could be an economical option
Small grass area 20m x 15m Adjacent to and above larger area. Partly fenced and 2m retainer wall to one side	Good	Ideal for hard court development	Lighting, bitumen, plexipave or similar surface for half court basketball and one set of goals	TBA	No additional lighting would be required. Could run off the same portable light tower. Note: Half court area and 2 x portable light towers funded through Administrators Capital Projects Fund (ACPF)
Playground between the two above grassed areas with rubber protective base 10m x 6m	Average	Requires shade and maintenance	Recommend provision of a shade sail and will also require minor maintenance	TBA	

Other Passive parks and playgrounds There are a number of passive parks located in the various residential areas					
Drumsite Exercise stations	Good Well maintained	Has some protective tree shade and gazebo with seating adjacent	Additional shade cover may increase useage	TBA	Cyclonic conditions will need to be considered when designing structure for sails with consideration to dismantling and erecting throughout the wet season. Note Administrator's is considering funding the installation of shade sails to some of the children's playgrounds through the ACPF to be completed by June 2014
Drumsite playground	Good Well maintained	A range of play equipment all in good condition some tree shade with seating	Additional shade cover to 6m x 5m would increase useage	TBA	
Poon Saan playground 1	Good Well maintained	A range of play equipment all in good condition some tree shade with seating	Will require 2 x small shade sails	TBA	
Poon Saan playground 2	Good Well maintained	Very open area and no shade to seat or structures	Will require a large sail	TBA	
Boat ramps CI is serviced by two public boat ramps.					
- A single lane boat ramp located at Flying Fish Cove	Good.	There are no current needs. Maintained by the DIRD	Nil	TBA	Fishing is a popular recreation amongst all cultural groups on the island
Ethel Beach ramp is a steep Recreational boat access point	Good	There are no current needs. maintained by the SOCI	Nil	TBA	Centrally located and used for the majority of the year Alternative ramp used during summer months when NW swells are frequent
Pontoon Flying Fish Cove		Nil	Nil		This is a popular facility for casual swimmers in the Cove and particularly the youth

Trails and dual use paths (DUPs) CI boasts some of the best nature-based walk experiences in the world. There are a range of walk trails across the island that are either managed by the National Parks and/or SOCI.	Various levels of repair	Development of new walk trails and upgrading of existing walk trails	Christmas Island Walking Track Strategy' was prepared in November 2007. The report has not progressed to an implementation stage.	There is huge tourism potential and recreation alternatives for locals. Considering the easy access to the reef and its diverse marine life at Flying Fish Cove, there is also potential to develop a world class snorkeling trail.
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Alternative Boat Ramp Eastern Side of Island



Flying Fish Cove Boat Ramp



Vagabond Road Basketball/ Tennis court used by asylum seekers and small toilet block for all user groups



South Point disused railway facility - recommended commencement of proposed rail trail and nominated area in the Settlement for proposed community park

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS *(Operational – Training and education, community structures, participation and new initiatives)*

RECOMMENDATION

1.1 SOCI Manager of Recreation Services (MRS)

- SOCI Manager of Recreation Services (MRS) to manage the Strategic plan, action recommendations in association with other agencies, manage visiting coaches in program and conduct an annual review of the Plan in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer, Council, all stakeholders, community and DSR's IOT Manager.
- SOCI to provide annual professional development opportunities for the MRS and other staff as required which could include; Visits to the State office of Dep't of Sport and Recreation, local government recreation centres, other facilities and attendance at conferences.
- Professional development training for Recreation Centre staff and potential staff is undertaken to help develop sport and recreation planning and programming.
- There is interest in Badminton and consideration should be given to operating competitions from the Recreation Centre where there is more than one court to facilitate fixtured competitions.

- Use participation in sport, recreation and leisure as a vehicle to connect all sectors of the community through Volleyball, Futsal, Basketball competitions and other physical activities/events.

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$10k

RECOMMENDATION 1.2 Active After-School Communities Program (AASC) and visiting coaches program

- There is need to continue the AASC and the DSR visiting Coaches program. Both have been the biggest factors in promoting participation, improving local coaching standards and skill development and both are seen as a high priority.
 There is a lack of capacity and volunteers across the Island and funding for the visiting coaches program is seen as critical to support the development of local coaches, leaders, potential leaders and their respective participation base and be shared with CKI. This would also be beneficial in training Recreation Centre staff and after-school community activity leaders.
- There may also be an opportunity to conduct certificate training courses for potential leaders, trainers and coaches through the IOT Training Group on CI
- There is a lack of opportunities and programs for children, particularly young girls and this needs to be addressed when planning and developing activities. The DSR have recommenced funding and arranging visiting coaches programs through their SDA with the Commonwealth Government and are also investigating after-school opportunities and a community coaching program.

FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/13
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$60k
 (Aust Sports Commission and DSR)

- May include program design, use of exercise equipment, resistance exercises, stretching, yoga, pilates, exercises using fit balls and light weights and the provision of resources.
- This training is being provided by the Dept of Sport and Recreation and will include resource material and a certificate of recognition for all who participate in and complete the workshops

FINANCIAL YEAR	2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$NIL

RECOMMENDATION 1.7 Trails Accreditation

- The CI Tourism Association investigates selection and follows up on the accreditation of the island's premier walk trails for inclusion in the Top Trails WA branding initiative.

FINANCIAL YEAR	2014/15
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$ NIL

RECOMMENDATION 1.8 Sports Association

- Consolidate the administration of the various sporting clubs on Christmas Island.
Investigate the option of forming a Sport and Recreation Association/Federation.
- Develop a calendar of festivals and events.

FINANCIAL YEAR	2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$ NIL

NOTE: WHILST NOT PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION'S BRIEF, BUT RELATED IN TERMS OF A WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT APPROACH TO FUTURE SERVICING, IS ANOTHER CRITICAL ISSUE THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY IN CI AND THAT IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED MASTER PLAN FOR ALL HUMAN SERVICES.

THIS SHOULD REFLECT ALL AGENCIES STRATEGIC PLANS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, COMMUNITY NEEDS ACROSS THE ISLAND WITH PRIORITISED RECOMMENDATIONS AND INCLUDE AN ACTION PLAN FOR DELIVERY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND MANAGEMENT.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONT'D (*Facilities/Infra-structure*)

RECOMMENDATION 2.1 Maintenance to Recreation Centre

- This facility was 9 years old in March 2014 and due to its location and the harsh environment is showing signs of deterioration.
 - Update Recreation Centre asset management plan, conduct an on-site comprehensive facility condition audit, attend to maintenance recommendations and in the longer term put in place an annual maintenance program.
 - The audit should attend to but not necessarily be restricted to the following;
 - Refurbish/replace roof over main sports hall,
 - Rectify leaks to other sections of the building,
 - Replace/upgrade flooring to main sports hall,
 - Replace existing lights to sports hall with retractable lights,
 - Treat and paint all exposed steel,
 - Treat and repaint exposed lintels,
 - Replace/refurbish gutters and down pipes,
 - Replace/refurbish all exterior flashings,
 - Replace/refurbish all exterior cladding,
 - Replace/repair concertino door to function room,
 - Develop a cleaning policy for the Centre,
 - Develop a long term maintenance plan and attend to other maintenance and management issues identified in the facility audit.
- Estimated Mainland cost for all of above
\$600k to \$800k and with 2.6 CI index
\$1.56m to 2.08m

FINANCIAL YEAR	2013-14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$1.56m \$2.08m

RECOMMENDATION 2.2 Upgrading to Recreation Centre

- Extensions to the Gym on Eastern side with steel frames, insulated 'solarspan' roof, 'multiwall' infill, concrete floor and 'Ziptrack' Blinds.
Meets Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Funding (CSRFF) and Department of

*Infrastructure and Regional Development
(DIRD) guidelines*

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$42k

- Develop low cost sport and recreation amenities at CI Recreation Centre including, installation of a Climbing Wall and realignment, of main indoor court to accommodate 2 junior sized courts including portable goals.
Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$22k

RECOMMENDATION 2.3 Pool Heating

- Installation of solar heating to Swimming Pool to provide optimum pool temperature.
Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$50k

RECOMMENDATION 2.4 School Courts

- Refurbish CI School Tennis court and develop an ongoing maintenance program. Note: One of the courts resurfaced in early 2014 through excess school funds

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$70k

RECOMMENDATION 2.5 Vagabond Road Sports Precinct Development

- Urgent need to implement a staged development of the Phosphate Hill Sports Precinct plan which includes a multi-purpose, rectangular playing field with lighting to both training and competition standards, relocation of Skate park and Cricket wicket, extension and refurbishing of the existing Cricket clubrooms, construction of a change room/amenities facility and longer term the provision of a synthetic Bowling green.

- Stage 1 development of precinct plan for the sports ground including;
- Relocation of the Skate park
Both eligible for CSRFF and RA funding

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$50k

- Extension and refurbishing of the existing Cricket clubrooms. Note: The Cricket Club have commenced upgrading through their own resources. Lights have also been upgraded.
Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$80k

RECOMMENDATION

2.6 Kampong and Poon Saan

- Construction of a concrete half-court Basketball/Volleyball court to the small grass section at the rear of the Kampong. (Est. \$50k)
Completed with funding provided through the Administrators Capital Projects Fund in late 2013
- Provision of portable goal posts and protective netting to carpark side of larger grass area at the rear of the Kampong. (Est. \$5k)
- Construction of light tower on grassed area at rear of Kampong with lamps to service both the smaller and larger grassed areas. (Est. \$75k)
Note: As an interim measure two portable light towers were purchased in late 2013 through the Administrators Capital Projects Fund.
- Provision of shade shelter over existing Gym in Kampong. (Est. \$25k)
All eligible for CSRFF and RA funding
- Upgrade existing Basketball infrastructure including lighting in Poon Saan to accommodate casual-use outdoor basketball and other hard court activities. (Est. \$20k)
Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$175K
(Estimated)

RECOMMENDATION

2.7 Vagabond Road Sports Precinct (cont'd)

- Stage 2 development of precinct plan for the sports ground including;
- Development of multi-functional, rectangular playing field, relocation of Cricket wicket with a central cricket.

Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR

2014/15

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:

TBA

- Construction of a change room/amenities facility
- Develop a bank of outdoor courts for the sports of Tennis, Netball and Basketball

Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR

2015/16

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:

TBA

- Appointment of a consultant to develop a precinct lighting plan and installation of lighting. (Note: An alternative worthy of consideration is the purchase of 10m portable light towers. These are available from \$18k excluding freight and would provide options/flexibility)

Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR

2015/16

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:

TBA

RECOMMENDATION

2.8 Tennis Court and Club Redevelopment

- Investigate redevelopment of the old Tennis Court adjacent to former CI Club and the Kampong for Tennis and/or Takraw. Concrete pad and some fencing still in place. Will require site clean-up, synthetic surface to existing slab, fencing and lighting. Power, water and light poles available on site.
- Conduct an engineering and building facility audit of the old CI Club building with a view to refurbishing the facility. This redevelopment would provide a much needed facility for the

Kampong functions and activities including Dance, Martial Arts and other community programs. (Est. \$60k)
Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines

FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$200K

RECOMMENDATION

2.9 Community facilities

- Develop plans and install suitable shade structures over some of the play equipment in community parks of Poon Saan and Drumsite. (Note: Consideration will need to be given to fixed structures versus shade sails. The short life span of sails and the need to dismantle and erect during the cyclone season may not be cost effective)
 Note: The Administrator's is considering the installation of shade sails to some of the children's playgrounds through the Administrators Capital Projects Fund to be completed by June 2014.
- Develop a significant community park/meeting area in Town Centre at Police Padang
- Develop a BBQ facility at the rear of the Kampong

FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/13
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$TBA

RECOMMENDATION

2.10 CI Golf Club facilities

- Investigate options and proceed with power upgrade and provision of sustainable energy
- Plan and commence extensions and refurbishing of clubrooms
Eligible for CSRFF and RA funding
- Formalise a lease with the Federal Government to establish tenure.
- Develop a business plan for ground keepers accommodation
- Investigate course maintenance/mowing options which are currently beyond the clubs resources.
 Note: The Golf club has sourced batteries for solar power storage and some renovations of the clubrooms commenced.

Purchase and installation of solar panels is due to be completed before the end of June 2014

FINANCIAL YEAR	2013/14
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	TBA

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|-----------------------|---|
| RECOMMENDATION | 2.11 Implementation of CI Walking Track Strategy |
|-----------------------|---|
- Under the direction of National Parks review the Walking Track Strategy and re-prioritise the recommendations .
 - Establish a Walking Track Advisory group under the guidance of National Parks as the lead agency.
 - Develop a Memorandum of Understanding between all agencies and partners.
 - Work collaboratively to develop an integrated approach to all aspects of Trails and in particular to develop consistent design standards and budgets for the maintenance and upkeep of the trails and boardwalks
 - Clarify/prescribe roles for each organization for specific trails
 - An option also which has merit to assist with management and maintenance of the proposed trails is for local groups to consider adopting a trail or section of a trail.
- Meets Trailswest and DIRD guidelines*

FINANCIAL YEAR	2014/15
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$130k

- South Point to Circuit track
- Meets Trailswest and DIRD guidelines*

FINANCIAL YEAR	2015/16
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:	\$TBA

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| RECOMMENDATION | 2.12 Recreation Centre |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
- Extend Recreation Centre main sports hall on the southern side to accommodate an additional court and 2x indoor cricket pitches. This could follow the contour of the existing roof or be dropped to the level of the northern end to reduce costs.
- Meets CSRFF and DIRD guidelines*

FINANCIAL YEAR
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST:

2015/16
\$3m

13.0 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND INDICATIVE COSTINGS FOR PRIORITY INFRA-STRUCTURE PROJECTS.

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 Community Recreation Centre

The surface to the main sports hall flooring in the Recreation Centre is in a poor state of repair and needs replacing/relaying.

The synthetic vinyl playing surface has stretched, lifted off the concrete floor and there are sections around the entire court area where the corrugations of vinyl are up to 50 cm high. The flooring has been down since 2006 has become a safety hazard and needs replacing.

The surface is also subject to changes in friction co-efficiency (slippery when damp). This is due in part to the location of the centre at approximately 310 m above sea level and the impact of low level clouds. The hot tropical environment also accelerates growth of mould and fungus and hence causes problems with maintaining reasonable slip resistance.

There is a range of flooring types available for sports halls at various pricing levels, however given the conditions due to the height above sea level and moisture problems it is recommended a Multi-purpose Sport Hall Flooring Waterborne seamless polyurethane be considered.

There are a number of companies providing suitable seamless polyurethane products and one Australian Company, Sherwood Enterprises has a very good Shock pad base flooring available manufactured from Recycled rubber. They have factories and distributors in most Australian states.

The alternative would be to try and relay the existing surface by cutting and stretching, however this is not recommended as it would only

be a short term fix. The existing flooring was not a good choice for the Christmas Island environment according to flooring consultants.

Indicative costs;

Polyurethane flooring	\$100,000
Freight	<u>\$20,000</u>
Total (Estimated)	\$120,000

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 Cont/d)

Installation of an alternative retractable lighting system to main sports hall.

Current lighting within the main hall is inaccessible without hiring a 'Cherry Picker' making general and ongoing maintenance extremely costly.

Retractable lighting will reduce recurrent maintenance cost substantially and improve lighting within the main sports hall.

Indicative costs;

18 x new lamps @ \$1,000	\$18,000
18 x lamp extensions @ \$500	\$9,000
6 x retractable systems @ \$2,500	<u>\$15,000</u>
Total (Estimated)	\$43,000

RECOMMENDATION

2.2 Upgrading to Recreation Centre

8.77m x 4.75m extensions to the Gym on Back (Eastern side), using 75 x 75 RHS columns, 150 x 50 x 2 RHS perimeter beams and 100 x 50 x 3 RHS pitching plates.

Roof to include 75mm Solarspan insulated panels and walls Multiwall infill.

Indicative costs;

All of above	\$14,500
7 x Ziptrack blinds (Easy lift).	\$8,700
Concrete	\$2,800
Preparation for footings and excavation	\$5,500
Freight	\$10,000
Index loading @ 15%	<u>6,225</u>
Total	\$47,725

RECOMMENDATION

2.2 Cont'd

Develop low cost sport and recreation amenities at CI Recreation Centre including, installation of a Climbing Wall and realignment, of main indoor court to accommodate 2 junior sized courts including portable goals.

Indicative costs;

Installation of Climbing wall	\$10,000
Court realignment/markings	\$2,000
Additional removable goals	\$5000
Freight	<u>\$5000</u>
Total (Estimated)	\$22,000

RECOMMENDATION

2.3 Swimming Pool

Installation of solar heating to Swimming Pool to provide optimum pool temperature.

The pool temperature is below optimum comfort level for both lap and leisure swimmers.

To improve all-year-around patronage the pool water temperature needs to be increased and maintained at between 28–31°C for leisure pool users and 26–27°C for lap swimmers.

Inquiries have indicated estimate costs using solar power to be around \$50,000. This cost could be recouped inside 2 years with anticipated increased patronage.

Total (Estimated cost)	\$50,000
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RECOMMENDATION

2.12 Recreation Centre

Extend Recreation Centre main sports hall on the southern side to accommodate an additional multi-purpose court.

This extension could accommodate 2 x Indoor Cricket pitches and allow for multiple games of indoor Basketball, Netball, Tennis, Volleyball, Football and Badminton.

The extension could follow the contour of the existing roof or be dropped to the level of the northern end to reduce costs.

Whilst this would be an expensive extension it has the potential to overcome the many issues

that confront the current sporting groups offering outdoor activities, including the high annual rainfall and oppressive heat throughout the year.

Total (Estimated cost) \$3,000,000