

Thames Coromandel District Sport and Active Recreation Plan

Summary document

(Please refer to full plan for further detail)



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Summary document

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Sport, recreation, play and physical activity has a crucial role to play in building connected, healthy and vibrant communities. New Zealanders', individually and collectively, value the role physical activity plays in their lives. More specifically in the Thames Coromandel District 83% of adults (18 years and older) feel that being physically active in the great outdoors is an important part of New Zealanders' lives.

Thames Coromandel District has a strong Sport and Active recreation sector, where opportunities are provided for the resident population of the district and also a large influx of summer visitors into the area. Thames Coromandel has a unique combination of future challenges including rising water levels, significant and increasing proportion of the resident population of retirement age and large fluctuations in seasonal populations. All of these factors contribute towards the need for considered planning to ensure future provision of sport and active recreation opportunities meets the future needs of the community.

Thames Coromandel District Council and Sport Waikato work together to support the provision of sport, recreation, play and physical activity opportunities for the Thames Coromandel community. Working together, both organisations recognise a need to deliver a coordinated, collaborative and clear plan to lead, enable and guide future provision of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities for the people of the Thames Coromandel District. The Thames Coromandel District Sport and Active Recreation Plan (The Plan) is designed to provide direction for future investment and focus for both the Thames Coromandel District Council, Sport Waikato and providers of sport in the district. Given the reliance on data from third parties and a survey response rate from sport providers of 76%, it is likely that some data emissions do exist. The Plan represents the most comprehensive data source available at the time of writing and prioritises the following projects for investment, both financially and through staff time.

Existing assets

- There needs to be a focus on optimisation of use, refurbishment or rationalisation of facilities.
- There is potential for existing facilities to be redeveloped to optimize use and maximise community benefits. Sports should consider working together or hubbing to maximise outcomes and combine resources.
- In some cases the ongoing repair and maintenance cost of an aging facility may begin to exceed the use of the facility. This is especially true in the instance of local facilities who may only be used by one community. In these cases rationalization of facilities needs to be considered.
- Asset management plans will be an important feature of future plans and facility management.
- The Thames Coromandel District has an ageing network of facilities with limited lifecycle asset modelling. This is particularly true of many of the club buildings on Council land.
- Many of the existing facilities in the Thames Coromandel District are unable to be adapted for different functions. This is something that will need to be considered as buildings and other facilities reach the end of their useful lives.
- It will become increasingly important for all stakeholders to work collaboratively in order to improve delivery of sport facilities.
- Engage with clubs to ensure that they have asset management plans (which take into account the buildings lifecycle). Encourage co-use of existing assets and / or amalgamation of clubs when warranted.

- When investigating capital investment into the renovation of clubrooms older than 20 years of age, carry out an independent building condition assessment: quantity survey of refurbishment / repair costs and a cost benefit analysis and sustainability / feasibility analysis (this work should be scaled appropriately to the capital investment being considered).
- Where global warming and rising sea levels are affecting existing assets, rationalization of ongoing repair and maintenance on these properties and possible alternatives should be considered.

Growth of older population

- Projected growth in the older age groups, will require a stronger focus on facility use/needs suitable for older users. Planning will be needed for new facilities, administration and programs to target changing demographics and provide appropriate opportunities that are available in local settings. Investment in sport facilities will necessitate a strategic business approach.

Partnerships

- It will be important to engage RSOs (and NSOs where appropriate) when considering sub-regional and regional projects in the Thames Coromandel District.
- There are considerable opportunities to partner with schools, particularly secondary schools, in the provision of facilities for community use. Within Thames Coromandel some communities have existing community/school partnerships. The continuation and optimisation of these partnerships is crucial in provision of sport facility.
- Rationalisation of existing assets and proposals for new facilities must take into account local secondary school provision and potential community-school partnerships.
- Partnerships with schools, neighbouring Councils, DOC and local Iwi offer opportunities to provide adequate community spaces and places.
- Sports clubs should consider hubbing with existing co-located clubs and additional clubs to maximise utilisation of existing facilities.

Financial sustainability

- Affordable facility solutions are important to smaller local clubs to enable the affordable delivery of programmes to the community.
- Where clubs are finding it difficult to fund ongoing repairs and maintenance, with declining or small membership, opportunities should be investigated for clubs to come together in facilities and rationalisation of facilities to occur.
- Whilst Council assists clubs/organisations occasionally through grants, it seems that resources overall are decreasing whilst maintenance and other costs rise. This makes discussions regarding planning for the future very important.
- Include provision in LTP to support the delivery of 1-3-year objectives; including the introduction of funding for facility developments /feasibilities/investigations and the continued funding of the existing District Coordinator role for Service Delivery Support and Facilities Advisor role to support facilities guidance.

Future facilities

- Sound planning and pre-feasibility should be applied to determine needs of the community for new facilities before any budget for construction is conceived.
- There is a need to establish a district wide approach to accurately capture membership of clubs and community use in each ward as evidence for future facility development.

- Full whole of life costing models (capital and 10 year operational) consideration should guide investment costing logic.
- Facility design and modification will need to focus on multi-purpose use and be flexible to allow for future adaptation.

Facility investment priorities (view full details in document)

Cross boundary partnership projects

Sourced from Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan (2018).

Cross boundary partnership projects	
Project	Timeframe
Indoor 25m community pool (potential Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki and /or Matamata-Piako District Councils partnership).	4-10 years

Local facility investigation /development projects

The plan has identified 11 priority projects, with the provision for these to be considered in LTP and annual planning processes of Thames Coromandel District Council.

Local facility investigation /development projects	
Project	Timeframe
Continued investigation and development of business case for the Sub-regional swimming facility in Thames	Year 1-3
Investigation into the redevelopment of Mercury Bay Sports Park	Year 1-3
Investigation into relocation of clubs from Rhodes Park	Year 1-3
Development of Mercury Bay Skate Park	Year 1-2
Investigation into potential options and locations for skate path in Tairua	Year 1-2
Investigation of community swimming pool needs in all wards	Year 1-2
Monitoring progress of Tairua Rugby and Sports Club's upgrade of the pavilion and netball court facilities	Year 2-3
Investigation into use and current provision of field space in Coromandel with potential for additional field and upgrade of current field	Year 2-3
Monitoring progress of redevelopment of current facility for Hot Water Beach Surf Life Saving Club	Year 3
Monitoring progress of redevelopment of current facility for Tairua Surf Life Saving Club	Year 3

There are a number of clubs that have planned for ongoing upgrades, installations or maintenance costs that may seek funding from Council; where the improvements are considered essential to the club undertaking its activities it is recommended that the project must be fully self-funded. It is recommended that such projects and clubs apply for grants from other funders and or self-fund.

Current provision in 2018-2028 Long Term Plan (LTP)

Please refer to section '9.4 Current provision in the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan' for full details of provision in the 2018-2028 :LTP. An asterisk has been included where an LTP item relates to a local facility project listed above.

Current provision in 2018-2018 LTP		
Project	Timeframe	Budgeted expense
District - Sub regional aquatics facility*	2021/22; 2022/23; and 2023/24	\$21,091,000
Thames – Rhodes park grandstand and clubrooms*	2019/20 and 2020/21	\$3,133,000

Current provision in 2018-2018 LTP		
Project	Timeframe	Budgeted expense
Thames – Waiokarake to Karaka connector trail	2018/19	\$21,000
Thames – Te Puru skate area	2018/19	\$57,000
Coromandel -Premier netball courts	2018/19 and 2020/21	\$346,000
Coromandel – Bike park	2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21	\$633,000
Mercury Bay – Whitianga sports ground*	2018/19; 2019/20; 2020/21; and 2021/22	\$756,000
Mercury Bay – Sands corner tennis courts refurbishment	2018/19	\$72,000
Mercury Bay – Matarangi walk to village	2022/23	\$160,000
Mercury Bay – Skate Park*	2018/19; 2019/20; and 2020/21	\$493,000
Mercury Bay – Purangi Upper Harbour walkway	2026/27	\$1,100,000
Mercury Bay – Taputapuataea walkway and footbridge	2018/19 and 2019/20	\$326,000
Mercury Bay – Wigmore stream walkway and bridge	2023/24	\$235,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Tairua Skate park*	2019/20 and 2020/21	\$184,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Kennedy Park fitness equipment	2019/20	\$53,000
Tairua/Pauanui –Pauanui playground equipment replacement	2018/19; 2019/20; 2020/21; and 2021/22	\$481,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Pauanui skatebowl upgrade	2019/20 and 2020/21	\$116,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Kennedy Park tennis courts	2020/21	\$147,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Manaia Road Hub	2021/22	\$223,000
Tairua/Pauanui – Manaia Road tennis courts	2022/23	\$57,000
Whangamata – Boardwalk extensions	2019/20; 2020/21 and 2025/26	\$557,000
Whangamata – Skatebowl upgrade	2018/19 and 2019/20	\$339,000
Whangamata – Aicken Road Floodlights	2021/22	\$65,000

Service Delivery priorities for Sport Waikato and Thames Coromandel District Council

Thames Coromandel District Council and Sport Waikato have a strong partnership that focusses on the delivery of quality opportunities for the Thames Coromandel communities. Alignment to both partners vision and delivery will be key to maintaining the partnership moving forward.

The Thames Coromandel District Council currently partners with Sport Waikato in the following strategies and initiatives:

- Moving Waikato 2025 – Key Partner
- District Coordinator role – Funding Partner
- Facilities Plan – Key Partner and Funding Partner

The following projects have been identified as service delivery assistance within the plan. It is anticipated that these projects will run alongside the Sport Co-ordinators current workplan as contracted by Thames Coromandel District Council. For further detail on the projects please refer to section 9.6 of the full report.

Local facility investigation /development projects	
Project	Timeframe
Develop user groups to support redevelopment and/or relocation projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercury Bay Multi Sports Park • Rhodes Park 	Year 1-2

• Coromandel Domain	
Acquire a new location -assist Mercury Bay Motorsport Club, Mercury Bay Athletics, and Mercury Bay Equestrian Academy in seeking new facility	Year 1-2
Facilitate discussion between Coromandel Netball and Coromandel Swimming Club to move to shared clubroom arrangement	Year 2
To discuss potential inclusion of Thames Squash Club, Thames Tennis Club, and Thames Croquet Club Inc in Rhodes park move investigations	Year 1-2
To discuss potential options and optimised approach for indoor space use with Mercury Bay Gymnastics, Mercury Bay Boars Basketball and Coromandel Gymnastics Club	Year 2
Facilitate discussion with Thames Pony Club and Council regarding parking extension project	Year 1
Facilitate Pauanui Sports & Recreation Club discussions and self-funded upgrade of Pauanui Bowling Club facility	Year 1
Assist Whangamata Croquet Club with optimisation of current facility use to provide more capacity	Year 2
Discuss potential light grants as funding option for Whangamata Netball Club, Whangamata Tennis & Squash Club	Year 1
Monitor Coromandel Bowling Club funding application	Year 1-2
Discuss optimisation of field space use at Whangamata area school and Aickin Road reserve to provide more capacity	Year 2
Direct Bike Mercury Bay and Whangamata MTB Club to strategy for cycling and discuss other potential partnerships	Year 1
Engage Te Whānau Waka Ama O Whangamata in discussions around location	Year 2-3
Facilitate discussions with Mercury Bay Tennis Club about need for resurfacing with astro court surface	Year 3

Local club support

The following clubs have been identified by Sport Waikato with a focus on building club capability and providing support.

Thames Gymsports	Whangamata Rugby and Sports Club
Coromandel Golf Club	Whangamata Croquet Club
Tairua Surf Life Saving Club	Coromandel RFC
Thames Aquarobics	Health Groove Ltd
The Fitness Co-Op	Whangamata Ocean Sports Club
Coromandel Croquet Club	Mercury Bay Equestrian Academy
Whangamata Tennis & Squash Club	Tairua Rugby and Sports Club
Thames Squash Club	Mercury Bay Pony Club
Mercury Bay Swimming Club	Thames Croquet Club inc
Coromandel Netball	Thames Golf Club
Thames Athletics Club	Hoterini Rugby League Club
Pauanui indoor bowls club	Purangi Golf and Country Club
Pauanui Golf Club	Whangamata Golf Club
Whānau Whanau Waka ama o Whangamata	Coromandel Flying Club
Mercury Bay Skate Park Trust	Thames Junior Football Club
Mercury Bay Boars Rugby League	Whangamata senior football club
Tai Chi Thames	