

**QLDC Council
31 January 2019**

Report for Agenda Item: 3

Department: Community Services

Queenstown Lakes - Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Council on the Queenstown Lakes–Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. **Direct** Council officers to consult with the public on the final draft Queenstown Lakes–Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy and report back to Council before 30 June 30 2019.

Prepared by:



Simon Battrick
Sport and Recreation
Manager
14/01/2019

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Thunes Cloete
GM Community Services

17/01/2019

Background

- 1 Sport New Zealand has developed a National Sporting Facilities Framework as part of their 2015-18 Community Sport Strategic Plan to enable better planning and decision making, encourage investment around identified priority projects that are sustainable, fit for purpose, future-proofed and well-used and to provide support and tools for the sector.
- 2 In mid-2016 Sport Otago as part of its mandate to assist Councils with the development of a regional sporting facilities plan approached Council around the development of a strategy specific to the Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago area. This strategy would then form part of the overall Otago Regional Facilities Strategy.

- 3 Council officers then approached Central Otago District Council (CODC) to see if they wished to be involved from a strategic perspective across the region and considering the geographic nature of both regions. CODC Councillors received a report regarding the development of a combined strategy from CODC officers in late March 2017 and this report was tabled for further information and consideration. Funding from CODC was declined towards the study but approval given for CODC staff to be involved with the preparation of the study.
- 4 On 18 May 2017 the Council's Community and Services Committee approved a report seeking approval to develop a Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy (Attachment A) in conjunction with Central Otago District Council (CODC), Sport New Zealand, Sport Otago, Sport Southland, Central Lakes Trust (CLT), Otago Community Trust (OCT) and Community Trust of Southland (CTOS).

Queenstown Lakes - Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy

Purpose

- 5 The purpose of the strategy is to provide a high level framework for regional sport and recreation facility planning. The strategy is designed to focus thinking at a network wide sport and recreation facilities level with an emphasis on national, regional, and sub-regional, while capturing local level facility data.
7. The strategy provides a stocktake of current assets and analysis of national, regional and sub-regional strategies and local issues to help determine potential priorities. It will also consider influencing factors including population and demographic changes, behavioural and future trends, changes and needs of participants.
8. The strategy also provides a tool to assist the coordination of sport and recreation facility provision along with optimisation e.g. co-location, multi-use, hubbing of sports, shared facilities. This provides a robust guide to reflecting actual community needs versus wants.

Consultation

- 9 Following the Council's approval to develop a Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy, Sport Otago were appointed project managers and engaged Global Leisure Group to undertake the development of the strategy in consultation with a Project Governance Group of the partners and community representatives who oversaw the development and a Project Steering Group who provide input in the strategy.
- 10 A facility users' survey was then sent to all sporting and recreation groups in November 2017 to gather data to assist with the strategy and also the development of the QLDC 2018-2028 ten year plan.
- 11 In March 2018 two sporting forums were held in Queenstown and Wanaka to gather further feedback from sporting and recreation groups. Following this specific areas were identified where no data had been received and the project group and

consultants followed this up to ensure a wider range of consultation and views were sought over the next three months.

- 12 A final “working draft” of the Sub-Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy was then completed and presented to the Project Governance Group on 16 October 2018 for discussion regarding the next steps and recommendations.

Key recommendations

- 13 Recommendations included in the strategy are those of the authors (Global Leisure), on the basis of their research and knowledge of the sport and recreation sector nationwide. Their inclusion does not commit either QLDC or CODC, private providers, clubs or funders to providing or funding them. Such decisions must be made in the context of each group’s broader strategic and funding parameters.
- 14 The strategy does not depart from the intent of the current 2018/28 Ten Year Plan but provides a robust justification for further investment into community facility projects into future Council planning mechanisms. It should be noted that there are immediate needs for some sporting and recreation groups that have not been addressed for a long period of time.
- 15 A collaborative approach is essential to ensure the support and implementation of the strategy. One of the recommendations supported by Council officers is to put a mechanism (Governance Group) in place to:
- a. Oversee the implementation of the strategy.
 - b. Annually review and update Strategy (full review every 3 years to inform LTPs).
 - c. Promote the strategy within the region and through key stakeholder organisations.
 - d. Monitor, review and provide regular updates on the progress in implementing the Strategy to all partners.

Options

16 Option 1

Council officers to consult with the public on the final draft Queenstown Lakes–Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy and report back to Council before 30 June 2019.

Advantages:

- a. Allows the public to provide further feedback on the proposed strategy.
- b. Provides a high level strategic framework for facility planning that Council currently does not have in place.
- c. Focusses thinking at a network wide sport and recreation facilities level.
- d. Encourages collaboration in order to improve delivery and sustainability of sport and recreational facilities.

- e. Provides a context Otago wide in considering need, location, size and scope of any facilities (including retro fit of existing facilities) and/or relocation of sporting activities.
- f. Prioritises key projects and outcomes over clearly defined timeframes that relate to Council's Long Term Plan.
- g. Provides projections on anticipated changes in demographics and where future facilities/amenity infrastructure may be required and impact on existing infrastructure.

Disadvantages:

- a. Significant capital and operational financial investment would be required to implement the recommendations of the report.
- b. The public may not agree with the suggested short, medium and long term recommendations.
- c. Ad hoc project investment occurs which may not have a wider strategic view.

17 Option 2 Council does not consult on the strategy.

Advantages:

- a. Limited capital and operational investment into sporting and recreation facilities required by Council.
- b. Council can choose on an individual basis which projects to support or not without a wider framework.

Disadvantages:

- a. Lost opportunity to partner with other funders and stakeholders regarding future community services growth requirements.
- b. Does not provides a high level of strategic framework for facility planning.
- c. Does not encourage collaboration in order to improve delivery and sustainability of sport and recreational facilities.
- d. Does not improves the social and economic return on sport and recreation investment.

This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter.

Significance and Engagement

18 This matter is of high significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because there will be a potential financial impact on Council facilities and grounds and potential changes in level of service provided in the Community Services area.

Risk

19 This matter relates to the strategic risk SR1 - Current and future development needs of the community (including environmental protection) and SR6b - Third

party damage, performance management, project and financial management capability, security and safety measures, data as documented in the Council's risk register. The risk is classed as moderate. This matter relates to these risks because it involves the development of future sport and recreation assets and consideration of existing assets.

- 20 The recommended Option 1 considered above mitigates the risk by providing a framework for effective decision making regarding strategic assets and operational service delivery for the community for sport and recreation assets.

Financial Implications

- 21 There are minimal financial considerations in the further development of the strategy. Any further work will be developed within the existing sport and recreation budgets. However significant financial implications, both capital and operational, will need to be considered on a programme or project basis for each of the projects should Council proceed with the implementation of the strategy. This programme will form the basis for the 2021/2022 Ten Year Plan review but will not preclude Council from funding priority projects in the 2019/20 or 20/2021 annual planning cycle.

Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws

- 22 The Council does not have a relevant bylaw or strategy in this area.
- 23 This matter is included in the 10-Year Plan/Annual Plan
- The Strategy was identified in the 2016/17, 2018/19 Chief Executive's work plan for delivery.

Attachments

- A. Queenstown Lakes - Central Otago Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Strategy