**Capital Grants to Sporting Clubs**

**KFA** Community Development

**Status** Council

**Responsible**

**Division** Community Development

**Objective** To provide guidelines for the grants Council provides to sporting clubs to develop or upgrade sporting facilities.

**Context**

Council supports community wellbeing by partnering with local sporting clubs to provide sporting facilities.

The intent of this policy is to achieve the following in relation to local sporting facilities:

* Ensure maximum usage of facilities;
* Improve the standard of sporting facilities;
* Ensure the City’s recreational infrastructure meets the current and future needs of the local community;
* Target Council funds to avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities and achieve maximum community benefit;
* To fund facility development that is planned, equitable, consistent and responsive to changing trends in recreation;
* To support the financial sustainability of local sporting clubs.

**Scope**

This policy applies only to the provision of grants to sporting clubs for capital purposes (i.e. to develop or upgrade their facilities).

This policy does not apply to the tenancy of Council owned facilities by sporting clubs. A separate policy, Use of Council Facilities for Community Purposes, governs the hire or lease of Council facilities by sporting clubs.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible to apply for a sporting club capital development grant, the applicant must be:

* An incorporated sporting club;
* Based on a reserve vested in the City. While Council may provide in principle support to applications for projects based on reserves that are *not* managed by the City, no Council grant funding will be provided to these projects;
* Viable: the applicant club must be able to demonstrate that it is well-managed, has a sustainable membership level and is able to fund its share of the project.

Eligible projects must:

* Be for capital development of a sporting facility (i.e. a building, grounds or infrastructure such as sports lighting). Grants will not be provided for maintenance or operational purposes.
* Support participation in physical activity;
* Provide basic sporting facilities. For clarity, facilities such as playing surfaces, sports lighting, toilets, change-rooms and basic level club-rooms are considered to be basic sporting facilities. Bars and function rooms are *not* considered to be basic sporting facilities, nor are any part of a facility used for profit making purposes. While sporting clubs may include non-basic level facilities such as bars and function rooms in their planned development, Council will not contribute to these aspects of the facility.

To maximise opportunity to attract state government funding and to ensure equity of opportunity for sporting clubs, applications for Council support will only be considered as part of the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) process.

**Priorities**

To ensure the financial support it provides to sporting clubs is effectively targeted to achieve maximum community benefit, Council will consider the following key priorities:

1. *Multi-use*: priority will be given to developing facilities that will be used by more than one sporting club or type, particularly where such clubs are not yet sharing facilities. This is to facilitate the intent of maximising efficiencies and encouraging clubs to share some facilities while still retaining each club’s separate management and identity.
2. *Recreation Plan rating*: priority will be given to supporting sports identified as a high priority in the City’s Strategic Recreation Plan. The Strategic Recreation Plan provides a rating for each sport type, based on two factors: the demand to play that sport type and the facilities already provided for that sport type. These two factors result in a rating for each sport type as high, medium or low priority for facility development. Sport types with a high level of demand (growing membership) and a low level of existing facilities receive the highest rating.

*3. Other funding*: priority will be given to projects that are eligible for funding for other government bodies such as the Department of Recreation’s Community Sport and

Recreation Development Fund (CSRFF) or LotteryWest funding. This is to facilitate the overall financial viability of the project and contribute most effectively to the upgrade of community facilities.

4. *Level of community benefit*: priority will be given to projects that demonstrate a high level of benefit to the local City of Nedlands community. This will include, but is not limited to, City of Nedlands resident membership of the applicant sporting club (total and proportional), support for junior sport and the level of community access (i.e. by non-club members and by community groups and organisations).

**Council Support**

Council may endorse a sporting club’s capital development project without providing funding support. Council may also provide funding support.

If Council provides funding support, it will generally be on the basis of providing a grant of up to 1/3 of the cost of providing the basic funding facilities included in the project.

**Related documentation**

Procedure – Capital Grants to Sporting Clubs.

**Related Local Law/legislation**

Nil.

**Related delegation**

Nil.

**Review History**

26 June 2012 (Report CP27.12)

27 March 2007 (Report CM6.07)

13 December 2005 (Report CP36.05)

23 November 2004 (Report C67.04)

25 November 2003 (Report C70.03)

23 June 2015 (CPS14.15)