

Community & Services Committee
18 May 2017

Report for Agenda Item: 3

Department: Finance & Regulatory

Sub-Regional Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is seek approval to develop a Sub-Regional Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy (the 'strategy') 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).

Recommendation

- 2 That the Community & Services Committee:
 1. **Note** the contents of this report;
 2. **Recommend to Council** to approve the development of a Sub-Region Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy in conjunction with Central Otago District Council, Sport Otago, Sport New Zealand, Sport Southland, Central Lakes Trust, Otago Community Trust and Community Trust of Southland;
 3. **Delegate** to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Queenstown Lakes District Council (subject to approval); and
 4. **Note** the inclusion of a budget of a \$34,000 placeholder in the Annual Plan 2017/18.


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8/05/2017

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Meaghan Miller
GM, Corporate Services

8/05/2017

Background

- 3 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.
- 4 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.
- 5 Council officers then approached 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 and this report has been tabled for further information and consideration.
- 6 If CODC do not wish to be involved in the Strategy the partners have indicated a desire to proceed irrespective as they believe the value of the information will help determine the future needs and potential investment required for the Queenstown Lakes area.

Comment

What is a Sub-Region Sport & Recreation Strategy?

- 7 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, regionals and sub-regional while capturing local level facility data.
- 8 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.
- 9 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.

Why do we need a Sub-Region Sport & Recreation Strategy?

- 10 The key drivers for needing a Strategy include:
 - a. The desire of district/regional/national investors to invest widely and well;

- b. An aging network of facilities needing refurbishment, expansion or replacement;
- c. Changing demographics within the Queenstown Lakes/CODC area, i.e. population growth;
- d. Changing sport and recreation trends requiring new types of facilities or different/new use of an existing facility; and
- e. A growing acknowledgement that there is a hierarchy of facilities across a region and a greater need for collaboration to ensure that investment of need and benefit are considered wisely.

How is the Strategy going to be developed?

- 11 It is proposed that Sport Otago will co-ordinate this project with their region-wide focus and already established working relationships with relevant parties including all participating councils, sport and recreation groups, tertiary and education sector, Sport New Zealand and local communities of interest and funding organisations.
- 12 Sport Otago has already commenced work with the Waitaki District Council on a similar project and has a commitment from the Dunedin City Council to embark on a Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan for the Dunedin City area. A Request for Proposal will be sent to the market for an independent consultant organisation to undertake the strategy.
- 13 Sport Otago oversight of each project allows for the coordination of an overall Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan for the whole Otago region.
- 14 Timing of the project is to complete an overview by mid-2017 and then have an in-depth report later in the year or early 2018.

Options

- 15 This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 16 Option 1 Approve the development of a Sub-Region Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy in conjunction with the other partners.

Advantages:

- 17 Provides a high level strategic framework for facility planning that Council currently does not have in place
- 18 Focusses thinking at a network wide sport and recreation facilities level.
- 19 Provides a stocktake of current assets, what you have, where, how and who utilises the asset, state and maintenance.

- 20 Ensures greater collaboration in facility planning and provision within the sub region.
- 21 Encourages collaboration in order to improve delivery and sustainability of sport and recreational facilities.
- 22 Facilitates and strengthens existing and new partnerships eg funders, private investors, Government agencies, national sporting organisations.
- 23 Improves the social and economic return on investment.
- 24 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.
- 25 Identifies lifecycle issues in regard to facility lifespan allowing for planned maintenance, replacement, rationalisation and potential partnerships eg schools.
- 26 Prioritising key projects and outcomes over clearly defined timeframes that relate to Council's 10-Year Plan.
- 27 Provides projections on anticipated changes in demographics and where future facilities/amenity infrastructure may be required and impact on existing infrastructure.

Disadvantages:

- 28 Financial investment of up to \$34,000 could be spent on other Council operational matters.
- 29 Option 2 Status Quo – Do not develop a Sub-Region Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy

Advantages:

- 30 No financial cost to Council.
- 31 Council will need to consider facility development anyway as part of the 10-Year Plan.

Disadvantages:

- 32 Lack of a cohesive framework to make decisions around current/new facility development.
 - 33 Missed opportunity to partner with key stakeholders and investment partners around new/current sport & recreation facility development.
- 34 This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter because a Strategy for the Queenstown Lakes and CODC area would provide a regular point of reference for Council planning and funding consideration. It would influence and guide annual and long term Council plans and provide hard data on what exists,

where, level of utilisation, and what if any issues are related to facilities across the district.

- 35 It provides a framework against which any new proposals/projects can be assessed as to need, location, scale, potential to hub sports together to achieve economies, likely cost of construction, and ongoing maintenance cost. It will also assist to articulate what the future users of facilities will look like, such as the demographic changes that will impact on participation.

Significance and Engagement

- 36 This matter is of high significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as it involves discussion of number of strategic assets and will require significant consultation with the wider community.

Risk

- 37 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 & recreation assets and consideration of existing assets and examines the operational level of service of these assets now and into the future.
- 38 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 & recreation assets.

Financial Implications

- 39 The cost to undertake a strategy has been estimated at \$80,000-\$120,000 to complete the strategy. All partners involved have indicated an estimated amount of funding to assist the appointment of a consultant to develop the strategy.
- 40 The cost to Council is estimated at \$34,000 pro-rata which has been included in the draft Annual Plan as a placeholder in the Sport & Recreation Budget for 2017/18.

Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws

- 41 Council does not have a relevant bylaw or strategy in this area.
- 42 This matter is not included in the 10-Year Plan/Annual Plan but the strategy was identified in the 2016/17 Chief Executive's work plan for delivery.
- 43 The recommended option:
- Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses

- by providing a strategy to enable Council to make good future decisions regarding sport & recreation facilities and their development;
- Can be implemented through current funding under the 10-Year Plan and Annual Plan; and
 - Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies.

Consultation: Community Views and Preferences

- 44 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the residents/ratepayers of Queenstown Lakes and CODC, funding organisations, Sport New Zealand and national/regional sporting organisations. Specifically local sport and recreation organisations/clubs and other recreation bodies will have a direct interest in the development of the Strategy.
- 45 The Council has not engaged formally with any individual or group at this stage but widespread consultation will be required to be undertaken if the development of the Strategy is to proceed.

Attachments

- A Draft Memorandum of Understanding and Terms of Reference
- B Final Northland Facility Report Summary 2014 (as an example)